



Steering Committee Monthly Meeting October 2024

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Summary Notes

The LA County Collaborative Partners Meeting, led by Charles Johnson, commenced with welcome remarks and introductions from new partners. Paul provided a fiscal update pertaining to the project's planning phase, followed by Maria discussing the RFP process for Sector Investment Coordinators. Insights from the California Economic Summit highlighted the significance of regional collaboration, with input from Libby Williams on enhancing industry perspectives in project development. Armand presented an updated project timeline and plans for 27 public convenings, addressing concerns raised by Luis. Updates were shared regarding the project ideas portal, currently hosting 29 LA County projects, and Charles committed to uploading sample presentation decks for pitches. The meeting also included a detailed overview of the Regional Plan Part Two, emphasizing community ownership models and financial strategies. Concluding with next steps, participants were encouraged to review the Regional Plan and submit project ideas, while the Steering Committee was tasked with finalizing equity criteria for the projects.

Welcome and Introductions (00:26 - 12:37)

- Charles Johnson welcomed attendees to the LA County Collaborative partners meeting

- New partners introduced themselves: Leona Smith DeFaustino, Alonzo Hill, Ben Garcia, Alicia, Audrey, Michael Smith, Michelle Crispin, Jackie Barcos, Salvador Vasquez, Stacy, Michael Mason

CCF Fiscal Agent Update (12:37 - 19:56)

- Paul provided an update on the closeout of the planning phase
- Maria discussed the Sector Investment Coordinators RFP process
- Introduced new staff member Estefania Lopez Perez as Program Officer

California Economic Summit Update (19:56 - 33:17)

- Charles Johnson shared insights from the California Economic Summit
- Key focus: Importance of regional collaboration
- Investor Exchange highlighted the need for strong project presentations
- Libby Williams emphasized the need for more industry perspective in project development

Timeline and Project Updates (33:17 - 41:43)

- Armand presented the updated timeline for the project
- Discussed the 27 convenings to be held for public feedback on projects
- Luis raised concerns about the process for these convenings

Project Portal and Regional Plan (41:43 - 50:26)

- Armand provided an update on the project ideas portal
- Currently 29 projects for LA County in the portal
- Charles Johnson to provide sample presentation decks for project pitches

Regional Plan Part Two Presentation (50:26 - 59:51)

- Armand presented an overview of the Regional Plan Part Two
- Covered regional goals, target sector strategies, and sector-neutral strategies

Detailed Regional Plan Discussion (59:51 - 01:11:11)

- Further explanation of the Regional Plan Part Two contents
- Emphasis on community ownership models and financial strategies

Next Steps and Closing (01:11:11 - 01:20:35)

- Reviewed upcoming meetings and next steps
- Clarified distinction between Catalyst phase and Implementation phase

- Encouraged partners to review the regional plan and use the project portal

Meeting Transcript

05:08

Speaker 2

Good morning, Los Angeles County Collaborative. Well, thank you for attending the partners meeting today. We're going to give a few more minutes to allow people to come in and then we'll get started. Happy Friday to everyone. I am Charles Johnson. Charles Johnson, the director of California Jobs first for LA County. A little on the sluggish side today. A few of us just got back from the California Economic Summit up in Sacramento. I got back late last night. There was a few, two of our steering committee chairs attended as well. It was packed, very packed. House up there was actually co sponsored by Go Biz this year, so it was especially loaded. But we'll go over that in a second. Thank you again for attending this early on Friday morning. We'll go down actually before we get started.

07:36

Speaker 2

Are there any new partners who joined the collaborative in the last month? If you are a new partner, feel free to jump on and introduce yourself quickly. We'd love to hear from you.

07:55

Speaker 3

I can jump on really quickly. I don't know if we're a new partner per se, but I'm a new person within our partnership with you all. I'm Leona Smith DeFaustino. I'm the interim executive director at Worker Education Resource center. And we're re engaging in being involved in the work that you all are doing. So thank you for having us.

08:17

Speaker 2

Well, thank you for being here. Leona. Is that, did I pronounce it correctly?

08:22

Speaker 3
It is Leona.

08:23

Speaker 2
Okay. All right. Thank you for attending and yeah, we appreciate all the efforts you're going to be bringing to us. So good morning. Good morning.

08:34

Speaker 3
My name is Alonzo Hill and I'm a strategic partnerships manager for Western Governors University. I'm based here in Southern California. Just really excited about this initiative and see how we can be a good partner.

08:54

Speaker 2
Glad to have you, Lonzo. I spoke with Rick quite a bit up in Sacramento and you guys are doing great work. Keep it up.

09:05

Speaker 1
Good morning, everybody. Ben Garcia, executive director of the Apprenticeship Readiness Fund. I am replacing Eddie Alvarez from the Los Angeles and Orange County Building and Construction Trades Council.

09:18

Speaker 2
Thank you, Ben. Oh, I see people are raising their hand. So that's, we can go that way. Thank you, Ben. Glad to have you. And we appreciate your work and we certainly want to try to work with Orange County as well. So. Yeah, yeah. So I'm just going to go into order that I'm seeing Alicia.

09:39

Speaker 3

Yeah. Hi. Good morning. I'm in the same boat as a previous speaker. I don't think our organization, the Energy Coalition, is new But I'm a new person attending these meetings. I'm the director for funding and research at the Energy Coalition and we work with local governments and communities to advance the clean energy transition in an equitable way. So very excited to be here. Thank you.

10:08

Speaker 2

Thank you, Felicia. It was a lot of talk about clean energy up in Sacramento, especially for California Jobs first. So we look forward to your leadership in that space.

10:18

Speaker 3

Good morning, Audrey and Tarantonians as previous speakers. Our organization is not new to this committee. I am from hospitality training Academy, training arm of local unite here, local 11. I am new to this meeting. Director of. My title is director of workforce system. And happy to be part of this meetings.

10:43

Speaker 2

Glad to have you. Thank you very much. I see Michael Smith. Yeah, Michael Smith. So in a noticing a trend here.

10:52

Speaker 3

I'm also new to this meeting. Senior vice president of finance and accounting for Operation Hope. We are a national non profit that teaches financial literacy through a few different arms.

11:02

Speaker 2

Small credit, money management, small business development, homeownership, disaster preparedness and a few others.

11:08

Speaker 3

Just here listening in, seeing how we can collaborate.

11:12

Speaker 2

Thank you, Mike. Hey, quick question for you. Is it for non profits? Is it for small businesses? What's the scope?

11:20

Speaker 3

Literally anybody, any person that you know can go to our website and sign up for services for free.

11:27

Speaker 2

Oh, wow.

11:27

Speaker 3

We do have a few strategic alliance partners where maybe they may teach, you know, youth or prison reform and then.

11:35

Speaker 2

But they're like, well, we teach these.

11:37

Speaker 3

Parts, but we don't teach the financial literacy part. So they'll refer them to us.

11:40

Speaker 2

But then also just people in any community.

11:42

Speaker 3

Like we're in 45 plus states, plus.

11:45

Speaker 2

Puerto Rico plus D.C. Wow, that's fantastic.

11:50

Speaker 3

Great work.

11:50

Speaker 2

All right, thank you very much. Michelle Crispin.

11:57

Speaker 3

Hi there. Again, like everyone else, it sounds like our organization is not new, but I am. I've replaced Jessica Acomando as president and CEO of the Hermosa Beach Chamber of Commerce. And I'm happy to be here.

12:12

Speaker 2

Thank you for. Thank you for attending. Is there anyone else who would like to introduce themselves?

12:20

Speaker 3

I would.

12:21

Speaker 1

My name is Jackie Barcos. I'm the founder of Salon for global Content.

12:26

Speaker 3

I'm a writer, producer, and I have a collective of writers, producers, directors, basically the entertainment sector based in Los Angeles.

12:35

Speaker 1

And I'm a good friend of Sasheen.

12:37

Speaker 3

Artists who invited me to join your wonderful organization. Thank you so much for putting this together.

12:44

Speaker 2

Oh, thank you for attending, Jackie. We would need more representation in the video production and distribution area. So we really appreciate you being here.

12:54

Speaker 3

Of course.

12:54

Speaker 1

And can I go Next.

12:57

Speaker 2

Sure.

12:58

Speaker 3

Yeah.

12:58

Speaker 2

Salvador Vasquez.

12:59

Speaker 3

I'm the president of the Machinist Union here in Long Beach. We service multiple employers from San Diego all the way up to St. Louis Obispo. Public sector, private sector, nonprofit manufacturing and aerospace. So I'm also honored and privileged to.

13:14

Speaker 1

Be part of this committee.

13:16

Speaker 2

Oh, thank you for. Yeah, glad to have you. So, yeah, you cover quite a bit of what we're doing here at California Jobs first. So thanks for attending. Is there anyone else who'd like to introduce themselves? I can.

13:31

Speaker 3

Hello.

13:33

Speaker 2

Hi.

13:34

Speaker 3

Hi. I'm Stacy with Brotherhood Crusade. As with previous speakers, we are no stranger to CCF and California Jobs First. I'm an executive vice president here and just sitting in for Charisse Breemon Weaver, who I'm sure many of you know.

13:52

Speaker 2

Thank you for attending. Yeah, we do know the name. So we appreciate you all your efforts.

13:58

Speaker 3

Glad to be here.

14:00

Speaker 2

And I see a hand in. Mason.

14:08

Speaker 3

How you doing? My name is Michael Mason, head of the chair of Gift International Foundation. I'm not new to California. Job First. I'm just sitting in the meeting. I'm a Department of labor entity for apprenticeship program with class A trucking. Also, I'm working to renovate Compton landfill.

14:31

Speaker 2

Thanks for attending, Michael. Anyone else like to introduce themselves? All right, so let's go down the agenda pretty quickly. We're going to have an update from ccf, our fiscal agent. I'll talk a little bit about what happened at the economic summit and then we'll have some of our usual updates from our team. The timeline, project portal ideas, the regional plan, the status on that and the upcoming meetings. So Maria, Paul or Jose if you're on, you have the floor.

15:25

Speaker 3

Thank you, Charles. This is Maria. Hi everyone. Pleasure to be here with you this morning. I'll have my colleague Paul do the update first on the closeout of the planning phase. Then I'll provide an update on the sector investment coordinators, rfp and we'll introduce a new staff member with us, Paul.

15:49

Speaker 2

Great.

15:49

Speaker 1

Thanks, Maria. Yeah, Just a few quick notes. We're closing out this last bit of phase one.

15:57

Speaker 3

We're down to the final invoice.

15:59

Speaker 1

So we've been running some budget analysis.

16:03

Speaker 3

Know finding any deficits, finding any savings.

16:07

Speaker 1

One of our big final projects here.

16:11

Speaker 3

Is working to close out and recover.

16:13

Speaker 1

Funding from the sub regional table leads.

16:16

Speaker 3

And see if we have any savings there. Fortunately, it looks like we're not going to have very much. It's looking right now like we're going to meet right on the nose on this final invoice and be probably within less of a percent of the total.

16:30

Speaker 1

Remaining funds on phase one once we close this out. So we shouldn't have any curveballs here. We're past the point of being able to administer any new contracts or any projects. So unfortunately any savings that we do have, we'll have to just be returned to the state at this point. But that's about it on the closeout.

16:53

Speaker 3

For the planning phase. Thank you, Paul. And I see we do have a question from San Gabriel Valley. Yeah, this is, yeah, this is Luis. I was curious. So how much are we returning of the 5 million we got for the planning grant? How much are we returning back to the state?

17:12

Speaker 1

So I'm still in the process of recovering from the sub regional tables. If I, if I were to take.

17:19

Speaker 3

A swing at it, I would say.

17:21

Speaker 1

Under 40k right now is what it's looking like.

17:24

Speaker 3

It's going to be relatively minimal.

17:27

Speaker 1

So we do have a couple deficits and some line items and we have.

17:32

Speaker 3

Some where we have savings just within our own budgets.

17:36

Speaker 1

So that's going to be, you know, that'll change the numbers. Obviously I wouldn't know that until we finally we submit this final invoice. But at least from the sub regional.

17:45

Speaker 3

Table side, that's going to be where most of our savings ends. It's not going to be very much. Thank you, Paul. Are there any other questions before we move on? Okay, so I'll provide an update on the Sector Investment Coordinators rfp. As you all know, we issued a solicitation calling for Sector Investment Coordinator proposals so that we can bring up to five sics onto the team and help us in the Catalyst program. We received. The deadline to apply was September 30th at 5pm and we received a total of 13 applications, nine of which were submitted timely. Finally, four were submitted after the deadline. Those will not be reviewed.

18:37

Speaker 3

The review committee is in the process of reviewing the nine applications and we hope to be able to complete that review in the next couple of weeks so that the review committee can then deliberate and make a recommendation to the steering committee on their selections or their recommendations. And then we do hope to have this whole process finalized no later than November 22nd next month so that we can bring on board our Sector Investment Coordinators. Any questions? All right, seeing none, I'll move forward to introducing a new staff member we have as part of our team. I wanted to introduce Estefania Lopez Perez, who's going to be our new Program officer overseeing the California Jobs first program. She will be Joined by a program associate this coming Monday.

19:39

Speaker 3

So we're really excited to have Estefania on board and wanted to introduce her to the group. Estefania, if you can please introduce yourself to everyone. Sure. Hi everybody, my name is Estefania, I.

19:54

Speaker 1

Also go by SF for short.

19:55

Speaker 3

Very happy to be joining this team.

19:57

Speaker 1

It looks like we have a lot.

19:59

Speaker 3

Of great partners, so looking forward to working with all of you. Thank you. And that completes our fiscal agent update. Charles.

20:11

Speaker 1

I'd just like to add one.

20:12

Speaker 3

Thing in regards to those savings as well.

20:16

Speaker 1

Louis, you brought up a good point.

20:20

Speaker 3

So a portion of that funding that we're going to recover from regional tables.

20:25

Speaker 1

We've been approved from the state to utilize any gift cards that are returned.

20:30

Speaker 3

On a future project on phase two.

20:32

Speaker 1

So I just want to highlight that.

20:34

Speaker 3

Before we move on.

20:38

Speaker 2

Okay. Thank you Paul. Thank you team ccf. Appreciate the updates and all the work you guys been doing. So as I was stating earlier, the California Economic Summit that is hosted by California Forward and this year co sponsored by Go Biz was in Sacramento was from Tuesday to Thursday. And as state it has speakers from federal, from the federal, state and local government. Actually last minute even Newsome popped up on stage and gave a little talk to in one of the plenary. But one of the, well a few things that happened there, they had tours on advanced manufacturing, agriculture, agtech as they call it, agriculture technology, which is for some of the other regions, but urban planning for housing. Jermaine Hampton and myself attended K through 16 education collaborative. Well he was actually on panel and there were other breakout sessions for transportation.

21:57

Speaker 2

Clean energy was a huge point of discussion up there, broadband future of water. And one area that I was happy that they discussed is getting regions to collaborate within, getting collaboratives to collaborate and then getting regions to collaborate with one another within the state. And so it was a lot of talk about investors and how funding is generally distributed to entities to the regions who collaborate more. So that's going to be our focus as we move into the catalyst phase to make sure that we really stressed the importance of collaborating. One of the major points throughout the entire event was this investor exchange.

23:03

Speaker 2

And it was an opportunity where we got to listen to all of the regions, got to listen to investors, VCs, venture capitalists, bankers, philanthropists, policymakers into figuring out a way to fund California Jobs first from initiatives projects that the state and financiers are really interested in working with. So there were a couple of presentations that have been actually previously given from the community of practice meetings that were giving at the investor Exchange that seemed to go over pretty well. And it was essentially like a pitch competition where the two regions presented ideas, where the investors got a chance to listen to it and give feedback on it. And it was really eye opening for a lot of the regions who were not as far as long as those regions to see that collaboration really is the key.

24:25

Speaker 2

Working the nonprofits within a region working together towards one common goal, whatever that strategic project is, working toward a common goal, finding out ways to generate revenue from that project, finding out ways to create job opportunities from that one project, and of course, finding out ways to get a return on that investment and keep it sustainable for years to come. So in the future, I'm going to be helping out, making sure that I supply resources to the steering committee, sharing it with you guys as well, of different tactics that you can use to collaborate to really kind of zero in on coming up with ideas that really work well for Los Angeles county so we can secure the funding that we need in order to execute these potential projects. Any questions about the California Economic Summit? But I can answer. Okay.

25:39

Speaker 3

Well, actually, Charles, before we move on, if you don't mind, I would like to just share. This is Libby Williams, the second vice chair. I also attended and I think the biggest takeaway I walked away with, especially from the forum where we had the opportunity to listen to investors share what they're looking about investing in, is that we need to have more industry perspective at the table with us as we generate our projects and the opportunities that we want to have funded. That's really what I saw was the difference between the projects that were presented as examples from what I saw, from what our conversations have been or at least the involvement thus far. And I just, that was a stark reality to me that I want to make sure that we brought back.

26:34

Speaker 3

But I'm also hopeful that we can share the slide decks from those two that presented their projects so we can get a chance to see what the state is looking at as an ideal pitch. Because I really want us to be on point as we move forward and we bring our projects. And of course, I'm not saying that everything has to be controlled or led by industry. I just really walked away feeling that Linda street has to, excuse me, industry needs to be more involved and part of the creations of our projects because again, we're trying to make this sustainable in Evergreen. We don't want this to be yet another program that the state has funded that, you know, gets a Little bit attention for two or three years and then it falls off and we're back to square one again.

27:27

Speaker 3

You know, we're hopeful that this statewide collaborative that they have put in place and especially with the governor's enthusiasm that he declared while he was speaking, really showed that we want to make this one for once sustainable and evergreen. And in order to do that, we need all the partners on board. So thanks for letting me just chime in, Charles.

27:48

Speaker 2

No, absolutely, that's what you're here for. Olivia, I really appreciate you chiming in, giving a different perspective. And you're right. The fact that the California Economic Summit had these breakout sessions on transportation, on clean energy, on broadband, on Water or AgTech, which is for us, water, that's essentially kind of nudging us, letting us know what type of things that the state is looking to invest in. We can always go our own way. But if we want to increase our chances of securing the maximum amount of

funding that we want to strengthen our region for some of the challenges that we have in the region, we won't, we may want to pay attention to those things. So you're right, Libby, that industry is very important and we need to engage them more as much as possible.

28:39

Speaker 2

I saw that Nicole Charlene from DTI put something in a chat. Nicole, if you want to come off the off mute and just give a brief summary of what DTI does, be greatly appreciated. If not, then we can just move forward.

28:58

Speaker 3

No, absolutely. Hi. Thank you. Hi everyone. I'm Nicole Charlene, I'm the founder of dti. We are partnered with the US Space Force Venture and Innovation Armed Spaceworks and we help the allocation of 457 million this year. It'll be 550 million next year non dilutive capital through our signature program on record called i2a. So basically we're a commercialization government readiness accelerator and platform. We look for dual use technology solution that we are able to gear towards national defense. We are also at the helm of Newsom and Dede Myers, California Space Industry Task Force. And so the chat that I put, the message that I put in the chat, Charles, is just to say we are here to really bring a lot of collaboration around cross sector environments regarding hydrogen or whatever other pain point that you guys noticed during your meetings in Sacramento.

30:02

Speaker 3

We have a 17,000 square foot space in El Segundo. Those are our headquarters and that is where we help do all of our work. That's where we help companies, I'll say bridge the Valley of death. So that's a quick overview. And I'm sorry if I sound like I'm rambling, but anyone interested in collaborating.

30:29

Speaker 2

Thank you, Nicole, Charlene, we really appreciate that. I want to go to some of the questions, see some hands raised. I'm going to go in the order that I see them. Sashim, you have the floor.

30:40

Speaker 3

No, I just had a quick question. I think Libby touched on it a little bit. Do you guys have the notes or slide decks or any of the presentations from the economic summit that you can share?

30:53

Speaker 2

No, unfortunately, were, you know, relegated to screenshots with our cell phones. So that's as close as we have. Jermaine has put something in there now that may be able to help out once we, you know, get a little bit more settled in and unpack all the information that we all gather. But for right now, no, we don't. We don't. We have nothing to share.

31:22

Speaker 3

And the other question I have is, was there any representatives or any representation from the entertainment industry at the economic summit?

31:33

Speaker 2

No, not that I saw, Sasheen. Unfortunately, no. But, you know, it's where the entertainment industry, like other industries, still crosses into a lot of different, other areas. For example, if you're not just building a set, but if there's a sound stage that needs to be built, that's still part of construction. So there are ways to integrate into transportation, obviously, is a big deal. The unions are for, like, I believe it's the Teamsters that's part of the driving unions. There's a lot of ways to integrate the entertainment industry into the industries that identified by the state. So I wouldn't worry so much about it. Just make sure that, you know, the constituents from the entertainment industry are involved so they can make sure that they understand how they can integrate into the projects that are selected.

32:34

Speaker 3

Can I actually jump in there? They actually did do a whole thing on arts and entertainment and culture on the last morning. Yeah. And so that actually addressed a

lot of the. It was actually a great panel and they had representatives from all the. From each of the major regions in the state. And they talked about how the arts, culture and entertainment industry actually adds value to the state economics, just beyond the tourism and Hollywood stuff. And it was. It was actually a phenomenal presentation.

33:15

Speaker 2

Thanks for, Andrea. You know, it's. I think the state is defining it as creative economy, and that's where for us is where we fall under there. I don't recall seeing that breakout session, but thanks for sharing that with us. Hypen Haypen sorry, I see that. Your hands up.

33:34

Speaker 3

Yeah. So I'm just kind of curious. In terms of the industry, you know, the presence and engagement of industry being very important, as Libby stated, are there examples of things that other groups are doing or that they're recommending that perhaps as an action step that we should consider as a group for LA region?

34:02

Speaker 2

Can you, I'm sorry, can you explain?

34:06

Speaker 3

Yeah, so basically what I heard Libby say is the big takeaway was the importance of industry folks being engaged in our efforts, table, etc. And so were there any specific takeaways of examples or things that we should be intentional in doing for our, you know, region that we're not currently doing that we should be considering, or are there some other action steps to even brainstorm to do that better if we're not already? Maybe we're already doing it, you know. Yeah. Oh, sorry, let me raise my hand.

34:50

Speaker 2

No, no, it's okay. My brain is processing answer. So if you have a better way, if Libby, if

you want to go ahead and answer, if you have answer off the top of your head, go for it. I don't want to stumble as I'm answering.

35:03

Speaker 3

Oh, sorry. This is Andrea. I would say innovation. Oh, no, it's okay. I would say innovation. That's something that we are lacking in the proposals that I've seen so far compared to what were being presented with. Innovation I think is going to be key. I was like, ooh, we really kind of need to step up our game. It's like one of the largest spaces at the table because there were some, I mean, really new technology ways of thinking about some of our old problems and solutions that, you know, these organizations have really looked at how to advance this beyond the ten year model. And so I would say innovation is key.

35:53

Speaker 3

I do actually have some notes that we're going to be presenting at the next meeting on some of the key points that they gave us, like how they're, you know, how they're going to be looking at these proposals and what we need to make sure, make them sellable. And so that was. This all just happened yesterday. So apologies for not having this ready for the meeting, but they really did give a lot of good insight and the conversations were very healthy. And it was, like I said, it was very enlightening to see what was happening in a lot of the other regions just as far as the innovation and the ideas that were coming forward, especially in the sustainability model area. And honestly just kind of, I think Libby Will agree. Blew us out of the water.

36:47

Speaker 3

I'm just wondering if that's the case again, perhaps whether we bring speakers or you guys just share examples. I'm not saying do it this second. Right. Examples of kind of what are some of those innovative ideas that really blew your mind? And on top of that, then what are those groups doing that we're not doing and how are they engaging industry? If industry is the takeaway or maybe some other takeaway that we could make sure to incorporate in our region so that we're also going to be blowing other people's minds at the next convening. Thank you, Jermaine. I was going to say the same thing. Just in the interest of time, we can pull together a list and make that available to everyone. It was a lot. It was, it was a lot. You know, one of the.

37:37

Speaker 3

If I can take just a second to give an example, there was a group that I'm trying to think of how to explain it where they were.

37:47

Speaker 2

Right here. Andrea, thank you.

37:50

Speaker 3

The bio.

37:52

Speaker 2

Yeah.

37:52

Speaker 3

Yes.

37:53

Speaker 2

An organization called Beam Circular and they are in Agriculture, technology and whatever region it's in. Excuse me, I can't remember.

38:04

Speaker 3

I think it was North San Joaquin.

38:07

Speaker 2

Okay, so I'll read What it says here is transforming waste into community, prosperity and a healthy environment for all. So essentially what they're doing is taking waste and

repurposing it to make it more to use it for other purposes. Turning waste into hydrogen plant based waste.

38:29

Speaker 3

So yeah, I just want to thank you for that. I just want to push back in terms of. These are really great examples. But is it like what is the action step that we could take as a region? For example, do we say we are calling out for innovative ideas that could be. I don't know, you know, I mean like action steps. Can I get an opportunity to talk there? I've just been waiting and I hear a lot of conversations back and forth. But I would like my input, Charles. That's an opportunity that I can get.

38:57

Speaker 2

Sure. I just wanted to finish up with Haepen first.

38:59

Speaker 3

Yeah. So my point is. And we don't have to. Yeah, my point is we don't have to have the answer right now. I'm just calling out whether it's creating a space or whatever so that we can have identify the action steps so that we could also attract some of those innovative ideas that I'm hearing was missing for our region that was. That was in other regions. That's it. So thank you.

39:27

Speaker 2

Sure. You're welcome. Okay. Oscar now you have the floor.

39:32

Speaker 3

I'm sorry, I didn't hear. What will be the action step or, like, you know, I mean, like, not the action step, but is there a future discussion or something?

39:46

Speaker 2

We'll supply. We'll supply examples that work that we saw in Sacramento, and it'll be

really up to the steering committee for you guys to start putting your thinking caps on for projects that work well for Los Angeles County.

40:01

Speaker 3

Thank you.

40:01

Speaker 2

Okay.

40:04

Speaker 3

Thank you, Charles. Good morning, everyone. I love what I'm hearing when we hear about innovation, when we hear about what other organizations are doing without the state, and as I'm hearing this, when we're talking about pitch competition, when we're talking about investors and things like that. I represent Conaccion. I'm one of the executive directors, and I'm located in South Central Los Angeles. And these are things that we already provide to the underserved community where we give them an opportunity to be able to develop a pitch deck. Okay? Start their business, take them through the whole process, develop a pitch deck and pitch it to the community. Whether you're doing something with mental health, something that has to do with innovation, creating a product, or any type of service. So that's happening here already in our community. Right.

40:55

Speaker 3

And one of the things that I identified is there's a lot of talent here where we're at in the underserved community. So much talent. The big problem is that we lack so much resources. When we talk about somebody has an innovation product, where is it that we can plug this person in to prototype their idea, connect them to other resources? So the talent is here. It's about how do we bring those resources into underserved communities. Because we're doing the pitch deck, we're connecting with other organizations. Right. We want to attract more investors. What we don't want to see is to have our community members to be leaving this area, or they can't leave because they don't have access to it. They don't know where to go. They don't have the funding for this.

41:46

Speaker 3

So as we're thinking about being innovative and looking at these other organizations, we're here, we're in your backyard, we're in the community, in the underserved communities. Regarding ideas that were putting into the idea, when we talk about specific projects being innovated, if you look at the things that I put in there, I'm talking about the green economy, the blue economy, workforce development, entrepreneurship, creating sustainable products. So if you're able to go there, you can see a lot of the things that are going organizations are actually being innovated in there. It's just about digging in a little bit deeper, looking at all that. And if you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out. But we're being as innovated as possible because we know the economy is changing from the blue workforce to the green economy.

42:41

Speaker 3

And we got to be able to prepare the youth and young adults for the next 20 to 30 years. And that was a comment that I wanted to make sure to let everyone know that we're here, that we're in your backyard. Don't leave. Don't leave us behind. Don't go to other communities or other places where they have resources.

43:00

Speaker 1

Think about here, home, and that's it.

43:02

Speaker 3

Charles, thank you.

43:03

Speaker 2

Thank you, Oscar. We appreciate your words, man. Keep up the good work. We know what you're doing there. Okay. And for the sake of time, we need to move forward. So why don't we go ahead and start with some of our updates. I think, Armand, you may have this slide or whichever team members you have the floor.

43:24

Speaker 1

Yeah. Thank you, Charles. I'll be giving the update out here on the timeline. So you see here that we have changed the formatting of the time just slightly in the sense that the access has moved so we no longer have the regional plan stuff that was submitted on September 30. Some of the key things you'll find on the timeline is some of the deliverables for this project that we're currently aware of. So that includes a narrative report of projects which is due January 15th. That's a 5 to 10 pre development project, so that can be exploratory last mile and then a final list of 30 to 45 selected projects which is going to be due in June of 2025. Some of the other items on this timeline included the solicitation selection and contracting for 27 convenings which will be held over sometime next year.

44:23

Speaker 1

And so this is going to be three convenings per spa for the public to provide feedback on projects. Yeah, which is scheduled for April to May of next year. One key update is that implementation, of course, has been delayed the first round of implementation funding to January of 2025. We previously expected that to start in September, but yeah, that's going to hopefully take place in January. That's \$45 million of competitive funding. I don't know if anyone from the summit maybe has an update on that, but yeah, that's the latest I've gotten. We have the Catalyst project solicitation. So According to our current timeline, that will be developed in January and then the application period will be open in February.

45:11

Speaker 1

And then there's a few other steps that relate to that, such as the eligibility assessment and the public review, of course, which is part of those 27 convenings. And then finally the contracting and performance period. Then there's two more implementation funding periods which are going to take place. The fiscal year of 2526 and then the fiscal year of 2627 once again. So the implementation funding, that's competitive funding. We're the 13 regions. So LA county is its own region and there's 12 other in the state where we're going to submit projects and compete for that \$45 million. And then the catalyst is a \$9 million funding pool that is for LA county specifically. And then finally one last thing is just the Sector investment coordinator.

45:58

Speaker 1

The performance period for that is going to start in December and go all the way until the regional convener closeout date, which is September of 2026. All right, so I see Luis has his hand up. Go ahead, Luis.

46:12

Speaker 3

Yeah, question on two items. You mentioned that by January 15th there's a list of pre development projects that need to be submitted. What's the timeframe when those are going to. When we're going to announce a formal request for proposal, you know, application form that people need to fill out to submit those?

46:32

Speaker 1

Yeah, that's a great question. So the January 15th deliverable is not projects that are going to receive funding necessarily. It's more projects that our collaborative would like to highlight to just send in a report to the state. It's just 5 to 10 pre development. It's not like these 5 to 10 are going to necessarily receive funding at that moment. But it's just projects we want to highlight.

46:54

Speaker 3

But I mean, so, but again the process of how identifying those projects, what time frame is that on?

47:00

Speaker 1

Yeah, so were awaiting these, this economic summit to get a better idea of, you know, the ideas and thought process behind who's going to be funding the projects and what kind of projects they're looking for. So now that we've had this summit, we're going to have a debrief and then present this information to the steering committee. And then I mean you'll see like right here on the bottom left I have collaborative decides on and develops these five to 10 projects. So we do need to begin that. And so hopefully the next steering committee meeting will start that process.

47:31

Speaker 3

Okay, and then you mentioned there's 27 convenings that are going to be taking place, three per spa. Who is doing those and how is the funding coming from that? Because I want to avoid that. We get into the same situation we got last time with the ethnic outreach groups. I think if we have one central group getting all the funding for that, it's going to be a recipe for failure again. I think if we're going to be, if there's funding coming with that, we need to be working with local organizations that are located within spas that are housed there, that have those relationships. Otherwise this is going to be doomed to failure again.

48:08

Speaker 1

Yeah, so. And also I'd like to just clarify one thing because I know we have some new partners. So the spa that's referring to service planning areas, that's coming from the Department of Public Health in LA County. So there's the eight. And then for the purposes of this program, we have nine. Where we divided the south LA into two separate spots. So we have nine. When you, when you say that, I mean that's just something that, you know, I think we should take into consideration. Luis. We have the solicitation, selection and contracting beginning in December. And so I think just, you know, like in the steering committee discussion.

48:41

Speaker 3

Well, so I guess maybe that, so maybe you can clarify. So there's 27 committees. Who's right now, who's supposed to do those?

48:49

Speaker 1

We haven't, we haven't even begun the solicitation, selection and contracting for that.

48:53

Speaker 3

So there's going to be a contract that's going to be going out that we're going to be developing to do that.

48:58

Speaker 2

So, Luis, I'm sorry, let me jump in, Luis. We're going to work with the steering committee to find out the best process to make sure that those convenings are. First we have to find out how they're even going to be broken out. But it's going to be a decision the steering committee will need to make to figure out when those convenings should happen and who should be in charge of putting. Putting them on. Because at the end of the day, this is all dealing with outreach and engagement. So Chioma, we're going to be working with her because she has the expertise in it, but at the end of the day, the actual execution of it, which is what, I'm assuming what you're referring to more. So we're going to have to work with the steering committee to figure out the best process.

49:48

Speaker 3

So the number for 27 convenings, where did that, who came up with that number?

49:52

Speaker 2

The state is Given there is. So it's a mandate from the state or the. Under the budget, there are certain number of convenings that we have to do. Chioma, you can probably, if you're on, you can jump in and clarify. Clarify that. But it was a number from the state. My recollection.

50:12

Speaker 3

Yeah, that's my recollection as well. It was, it's included in the Catalyst application that was submitted back in November of last year. But there may be room for. We do need to figure out like the. When whether it will be on the front end or the back end of the applications. But yeah, we will need to discuss this in the next steering committee meeting to finalize what the process will look like because I think it needs to be more on the front end so we can get the word out about the upcoming Catalyst funding. But yeah, that'll be a discussion for the steering committee to finalize that process. Thank you. And then final question and I'm done. How much is budgeted in our census parts? What was approved for our budget that we submitted to the state?

51:00

Speaker 3

How much is budgeted for that within our budget?

51:04

Speaker 2

I can't remember. I think it was \$75,000 over the two year period.

51:09

Speaker 3

That's for the 27th convening. \$75,000, that's correct.

51:15

Speaker 2

Okay, thank you.

51:17

Speaker 3

Thank you.

51:23

Speaker 2

Okay, go ahead, Armand. Sorry.

51:27

Speaker 1

Oh, yeah, I'm done with this slide. I think I have the next one as well. Okay. So yeah, just, you know, as always, advertising the project ideas portal. I'll put in the chat right here, so please check it out. It has a lot. It has information on the project, stage of project readiness, the criteria that we're currently aware of. It's a place for partners to upload their projects and review all this information. Also check out the FAQs. I'm kind of using that as like a place for miscellaneous information and there's a lot of information on the FAQs, so it's a good place to look. We're currently at 29 projects for LA county and so, you know, keep them coming. If you don't have a project, you may want to check out the collaborative partners tab.

52:15

Speaker 1

You want to collaborate on something, you don't necessarily know what, but you're open to collaboration. You can enter your organization's information there and you know, hopefully people that are going to be doing projects and they can connect with you and you.

52:31

Speaker 2

Can connect with them before you move on. I'm sorry.

52:34

Speaker 1

Yeah, yeah, go ahead, Charles.

52:35

Speaker 2

Yeah, before you move one of the things I'm going to do is I like to submit, I'm going to put a couple of sample presentation decks in there that are traditional to VCs and then of course one or two that reflect the types of projects that the state are looking for, like what we saw yesterday at the Investor Exchange. Oscar, if you're still on a call, this may be an opportunity for you to engage with the community of people organizations who are submitting ideas to maybe help them get their pitch decks in more geared towards what investors are looking for. But you and I can talk more about that offline just to make sure that we're in alignment with what the state is looking at, with how VCs are generally look at decks. But this would be a great opportunity.

53:43

Speaker 2

I think seeing something visual, it's going to help in a few ways. I'll get to you in a second, Jermaine. I just want to make sure I get to get this part out before I forget. Having a traditional like 10 slide presentation pitch deck will not only help investors see clearly what the regions are trying to achieve, but I think it'll help the collaborative, LA County Collaborative. You can look at each other's project ideas and start working together on certain things. So again, I'll make sure that at some point very soon that I get some sample pitch decks in that folder that you guys can look at. And, and Oscar, if

you're still around, I would like to talk with you at some point as well. Jermaine. Morning. Yeah, the only thing I was going to add. Thanks. Thanks Charles.

54:34

Speaker 2

And thanks everybody for the call this morning. The only thing I would add here, this is where collaboration really needs to be strong. We'll provide some examples from the summit and then really some other technical assistance in collaboration with the sector investment coordinators once they onboard. But the key here is really connecting your projects and ensuring that they're fully scoped out. And so what I mean by that is you have a research and development component potentially, right? So if you have a research and development focused project, how is that research and development and innovation connecting to the actual training, education and workforce development opportunities and then create and then actually connecting to industry who's actually going to have the essential jobs that these individuals can go into as you go through your continuum of services or your continuum of your project scope.

55:27

Speaker 2

And so that's really where you can really identify where the gaps are in your project and how you can collaborate and bring in a partner who maybe provides something or is a subject matter expert in something that you don't necessarily provide. And then just remember to look at not only the sectors of focus. We have everything obviously from healthcare to tv, film and media, bioscience, construction, transportation, clean and renewable energy, aerospace, manufacturing. We have these sectors that drive the overall LA economy in terms of GDP growth. But think about all of the sectors that cross pollinate with those. Right. Computer science and engineering is one that sticks out really heavy when you're talking about the K16 collaboratives. Right. That crosses over every single one of those different sectors that I mentioned. So there's opportunities in all of that.

56:19

Speaker 2

So you need to look at both in terms of term of your access points. And so we'll provide assistance with this so that we can make sure that we're bringing together projects that are fully scoped out that can get investments, but not just investments from investors like your venture capitalists and things of that nature. Right. But also from philanthropy as well. There's equal combination here. And so when we throw out words like return on

investment, I don't want that to discourage folks from putting forth projects that are person centric outcomes, meaning you are working to train and educate individuals in our underserved communities and put them into jobs. That's a person centric focus, meaning the return on investment is the fact that people are getting jobs. So those are the things I just wanted to just kind of highlight.

57:05

Speaker 2

We'll provide more information and then hopefully that will provide clarity and then obviously those technical resources as well. Thanks. Thank you, Jermaine. I see that. Libby, you have your hand.

57:20

Speaker 3

I was addressing. Felicia had a comment in the chat. Well, a question I want to make sure that we address before you move on. You may be planning to discuss, but can you clarify the relationship between the regional projects and the state level implementation funding? Will there be a requirement for regional approval for projects submitted for implementation funding? I did see that question. I was going to answer it at the end, but yes, there is a difference. I know we have a lot of new partners, so they haven't. They're not aware of the process. But keep in mind Catalyst is for the region to decide the projects. So there's \$9 million. The applications are expected to go out early 2025, February right now.

58:11

Speaker 3

And so that will come from here, from the region, from the convener LAEDC and our fiscal agency implementation applications will come from the state. Similarly to the economic development pilot projects that were released last year. The solicitations come down on EDD's website. The state decides implementation Shovel ready project funding. The state does the rubric, the criteria, they will select those projects. But in addition to that, applicants will need a letter of support from their collaborative. So that would come from us, from our steering committee. And so they would need to attach that to their application to the state. But that is for implementation. So there is a difference. The Catalyst application will come from the region, be evaluated by the region, implementation will be decided by the state. But you will need a letter of support from your region to attach to your application.

59:16

Speaker 3

And any further questions, just please email cerfedc.org or email one of us myself. I can do a 30 minute virtual meeting with any of the new partners who may have questions. But just email surf and we'll get back to you and help you out.

59:38

Speaker 2

Thank you for that. Chioma. If you're done with your questions, please lower your hands so I can make sure that I get to the other people. So I'm going to go with Sashin really quickly. We only have five minutes left. I want to make sure we get to everything else.

59:52

Speaker 3

Yeah, I just wanted to ask again, I know that there will be five sector investment coordinators chosen, but we have eight sectors that we're currently focusing on. So will they. Will those investment coordinators that are chosen cross pollinate across the sectors?

01:00:15

Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah, Great question. And yeah, it goes along with exactly what I was saying. Especially for video production, distribution, there would be a lot of cross. So construction and transportation can go hand in hand. Because you need to build, if you're building a railway or toll road, whatever it is, you're going to need construction for that. So, yeah, the sector coordinators, they'll be multidisciplinary experts, so to speak. Okay. Armand, was it you, Armand, that was still going?

01:00:55

Speaker 1

Oh, yeah. So I just wanted to give a presentation on the regional plan part two. This may run a little bit over. So for all the partners that got to leave at 10, you know, you could check out our website for the recording of this. And so I'm just going to give a brief overview of what is in this document. I'll put it in the chat right here. It's also on our website, laserf.org put that in the chat. I'm putting Lock News in the chat. All right. So I hope everyone is prepared for my monologue. This is the regional plan part two

presentation. So we submitted this to the state on September 30, the table of contents. So give you an idea of what's in this plan.

01:01:36

Speaker 1

We have our regional goals, regional snapshot the target sector strategies which makes up the bulk of the report, the sector neutral and economic mobility strategies. And then finally a section that's called Institutionalizing Community Led Climate Forward Planning. So we go to the next slide please. Okay, so the regional goals and regional snapshot as demonstrated by that quote in this section we have our vision and goals. So the quote says the vision of the California Jobs first program is to create investment opportunities through climate neutral initiatives that can produce high quality sustainable jobs for individuals and family within LA county to thrive. The map you see to the right, that is a map of disinvested communities in LA County. So we do see that it's heavily concentrated in certain areas. You know, Antelope Valley has a high percentage of disinvested communities.

01:02:28

Speaker 1

South Los Angeles, spot eight, that's the South Bay. So Long beach area and even San Fernando Valley actually has the highest total number of disinvested communities. Not percentage, but just total number. So in this section we review the structure of our 700 plus member collaborative. This is a meeting for that collaborative which includes the vast representation from various groups like labor worker centers, government agencies, private industry and community based organizations. Then we go into the goal of the regional plan part two and the program as a whole which is to develop concrete strategies that will lead to projects across the county that advance equity for disinvested communities and provide high quality, accessible careers and align with state climate goals.

01:03:15

Speaker 1

So there's six anticipated outcomes of the program and these involve outreach, financial strategies, partnerships between sectors, identifying and integrating underutilized resources in the county, addressing systemic barriers and creating opportunities for communities to participate and guide these projects. These outcomes are just, hopefully we get there through the projects that are submitted, you know, utilizing the strategies here in this document we have our community engagement

strategy in this section. This discusses how we have dedicated significant pools of funding to community engagement through the different tables, Sub Regional Affinity Hub and table Partner leads the findings section, reviews some of themes and key findings from these funded tables. And you know, just want to emphasize actually the vast array of information that we received connected to challenges that people and industry faces in LA County.

01:04:07

Speaker 1

You know, if you ask someone who's like the CEO of a large company what their struggles are to grow their business, that might be different than if you ask a community member just off the street, like what are your struggles? So we're trying to synthesize everything here in this document and find ways that we can get community involved in the economic development process. And so you can find links to the reports from the various table leads in this section as well. And so yeah, that's what you'll find in this kind of first part of the regional plan part two. Then we also have the regional snapshot that's reviewing information from the regional plan part one that's also on our website, which is very data heavy. And then a SWOT analysis of LA county as a whole. We can go into the next slide.

01:04:55

Speaker 1

So the next part of the regional plan part two is the target sector strategies. This makes up the bulk of the regional plan part two. We have our seven target sectors which we previously mentioned. The aerospace, manufacturing, clean and renewable energy, transportation and logistics, construction, bioscience, healthcare and video production and distribution. So in this section we'll see that we awarded grants to seven organizations that represent these target sectors to provide feedback. Sorry, I'm just looking at my notes to provide feedback on how we can further develop these industries inclusive and sustainable ways. So we selected these industries for a variety of reasons. Some are related to our infrastructure like construction and healthcare. Some are related to ways to increase wealth in our county by exporting ideas, products and services to other places such as aerospace, manufacturing, bioscience and video production and distribution.

01:05:50

Speaker 1

And some relate to both like transportation and logistics and clean and renewable

energy. And so in each target sector strategy you'll find a justification for the industry. So this is like why went forward with this industry. Some market signals, regional assets related to the industry, infrastructure for the industry and incoming investments. So maybe like federal investments like we see at the ports, there's a lot of large investments that are taking place. So we mentioned that in the transportation logistics section. Let me see. And then so you'll see this chart to the right. And so each section has a chart with the strategies for the target sector. And so you'll find this for all seven of the target sectors. And there's also tactics that kind of meet the specific strategies. There are three general goals that are there throughout all the different charts.

01:06:45

Speaker 1

And so these three goals are to enhance the small business and entrepreneurship ecosystem, build and align career pathways and transition industries into the carbon neutral economy. Okay, we can move on. And then the next section is the sector neutral strategies. So this section is heavy on the narrative. We worked with those three goals I just mentioned. And so to develop this section we engaged our strategy development sub committee from the steering committee, which was made up of volunteers, to offer their insights on strategies which may not fit into any one of the target sectors, but they're relevant to the county's Economic health. And so at the beginning of this section you'll find a multitude of tactics and strategies to meet those three goals that are on the screen right now that I previously mentioned.

01:07:34

Speaker 1

In this section you will also see a part that's authored primarily by our financial strategy table lead. So we granted money to an organization that reviewed all the findings from the table. Partner leads, worked with our writing team, met with representatives from philanthropy, other financial backers, you know, sources of funding for projects, and then they also presented at the steering committee. Maybe they also presented to our partners at some point, but these they just identified some overarching methods to maintain industry within LA county, encourage further growth and ensure benefits to communities, which often get left out of the equation when it comes to the financial aspects. And so you can find this in the Path forward slash, Tying It Together part of this section they discuss a few different models and variations of them to encourage further growth and ensure benefits to communities.

01:08:28

Speaker 1

One central idea they review is that of the community ownership model that allows a community based nonprofit or multiple to own and operate for profit businesses. They offer some different ideas on how this can work, either for example using tax credits or acquiring mature businesses. And so with this model, businesses can grow and ensure revenue streams, which is often a barrier for the nonprofit community based organization that may rely heavily on grant funding and to create an ecosystem that is sustainable, that guarantees, that also guarantees benefits to disinvest. Lastly, in this section you also find some additional strategies for community development.

01:09:06

Speaker 1

The state and their prompt for this report listed some fields that they wanted us to address which they felt may be beyond the scope of the program, which is debatable but nonetheless important, like housing and more general transportation infrastructure, like congestion management and increasing the public transit systems. And if we go to the last slide of this part right here. So finally, the report concludes with some steps that we identified which we believe are necessary for the work of the collaborative to continue into the next two phases or into the next phase and even beyond the Regional Investment Initiative, which is the current iteration of California Jobs first, which we're in. So that concludes September 2026. That's the regional convener closeout date. So this includes a five step action plan based off recommendations from our subcommittee and us, the regional convener.

01:09:57

Speaker 1

And so you can see that this is the five step key actions that we have identified right here. So just continuing the work, securing ongoing funding, integrating with county resources, mapping our county's assets and initiatives and then evaluating projects to make sure that funding can be sustainable so that is the regional plan, part two. You know, I put the link in the chat, if anyone has any questions, you know, you can reach out to the email address we put there. I also put my email address in the chat.

01:10:26

Speaker 3

So.

01:10:26

Speaker 1

Thank you, everybody.

01:10:28

Speaker 2

Thank you, Armand. I really appreciate you guys sticking around here. But one thing first off, Armand, you worked your tail off on this report. It would not be possible if it wasn't for you. I greatly appreciate all the efforts that you did and I hope that everyone else here does as well. He really was, you know, the backbone making sure this report got out. But one thing that he mentioned in there is about community ownership. And that's a really big component of what we're trying to achieve here. For everybody here on this call, everybody in LA region to. We want to, you know, we want to aim towards generational wealth. You know, find ways where, you know, we're generating revenue from our hard work.

01:11:11

Speaker 2

And there was one person at the summit, he was a panelist, he was from First Nations Major Projects Coalition actually in Canada, but they were doing work down here in the States and they worked out a deal, essentially the Canadian Native American tribes, better way to put it, they averaged somewhere around 200 people per organization and they got it a coalition of people to present a project. And each project was no less than \$100 million. So were talking about one project that was, you know, 100 plus million, and they negotiated a 50%, 50% ownership state for one of those tribes. So it can be done. We just have to, Jermaine's point earlier, make sure that it's fully scoped out. Collaborate with one another. Look into those project folders, see the ideas that can integrate with your ideas. Don't wait for these meetings.

01:12:15

Speaker 2

Start reaching out and talking to one another offline to see where the interests lie and where the synergies are. That's the best way that I can do it. But as we move forward towards the catalyst and implementation phase, you want a strong infrastructure implementation project where you, through this catalyst phase, you can start finding ways to collaborate and really move toward that implementation. And at the end of the day, when you start working with these investors and financiers, it's called net, you can

potentially work out ownership stake for people within the region. So. So I'll get off my soapbox about that, but I think it's a very important component, not just for creating jobs, but also finding ways to create generational wealth for yourself. So I'll turn it over to Team Member so we can wrap up.

01:13:19

Speaker 3

Oh, here. Okay, I'll speak on this one. So first our steering committee members on the call. Your next meeting will be October 20th, 24th, the usual time, 1:00 to 3:30, 2:30. And then the next partners meeting as we are today here. The next one will be November 15th at 9am and then the next slide. We have here our next steps. Okay, so our next steps, take a look at their regional report. That regional plan is very important. That is the culmination of the planning phase and for our new partners on the call. And also this meeting is recorded so you can always find it on the website. So I always like to go over this last bit for those who may not be too familiar, but we just wrapped up the planning phase September 30th.

01:14:14

Speaker 3

And so we are now in the Catalyst phase, which we've been in since May. It does go on to 2026, but now we are in just the one phase instead of being in two. So catalyst phase is where each region received the \$14 million to develop pipeline of projects. So Catalyst is for pre development projects. For anyone who has questions about Catalyst projects, please email us. I can, I can go over it with you. Because Catalyst is not for a full project. Full shovel ready project and programs are for implementation phase. So I want to make sure our partners understand that. So when you enter your information or your overview of your project into the ideas portal, you'll see the information there. Armand has done a great job with their portal.

01:15:11

Speaker 3

So a lot of the things you'll see in my like now 40 slide deck, you'll see in the project portal. So please take a look at the portal, take a look at the report in detail. Because your project will need to be related to the report in some way. It will need to meet the objectives and so in the strategy. So please take a look at that as you are coming up with your project ideas. And again, Catalyst phase goes on to 2026. The expected solicitation release date as of today is February of 2025 implementation. Again, those solicitations will come from the state. They pushed it back from September to now,

early 2025. We do not have an exact date for you, but when the state releases that exact date, we will definitely share it with you as soon as possible.

01:16:10

Speaker 3

Hapen has a question. Yeah, just for clarification, on this chart, Catalyst phrase, it says RFP September 23rd March Award March 2024. So will you be updating that? Well, okay, so on the left side when you see catalyst phase, that is for the regions, not for RS specific catalyst funding. The \$9 million portion we're distributing out. So on the left, this slide deck, this came from a state slide deck. Right. So this is the overall serve now known as regional investment initiative plan. So when you see planning phase 65 million, that's because each of the 13 regions received 5 million. You'll see the economic development pilot projects and that is good to look at. Just get an idea of what this state is looking for. We can share those if you email us. That was similar to what the implementation funding will look like. Right?

01:17:21

Speaker 3

Because it was for all the regions to compete for that pot of funding. So that's what the implementation looks like. I do see to the right it says February 2025. So that's when the solicitation will begin. Is that. Yes, we try. Yes. And you know, it is a little difficult to try to make that distinction because when you see catalyst phase on million, that is what each of the 13 regions received was 14 million. On the right, when you see catalyst phase project solicitation, that is specific for the 9 million from our region. That is our region's date of when we will put out the expected date of when we'll put out our applications for the catalyst. 9 million region specific projects. Got it, got it. So thank you again.

01:18:10

Speaker 3

I know that the team is working really hard to try to clarify as for many of us, we're juggling 10 million things and so it's. Yeah, we need a little more handholding. So thank you. Got the. Got it, got it. Now. Yeah, no problem. Definitely understood. I know we're dealing with partners who are very busy and so that's why, you know, if you have specific questions we. I try to go through like a 30 minute meeting. Sometimes it goes over depending on the questions. But you know, we want to make sure you have a good understanding of all this information.

01:18:45

Speaker 3

And we try to condense it, but we can't condense it too much because we want your projects to be well thought out to be eligible to include all the criteria that's required by the region and the state because the region also has additional. We have additional requirements like for. We have our equity that we'll be sharing out our equity criteria that's additional to the state, but we'll be sharing that out soon when it's finalized by the steering committee. And so we do want to make sure we share all the information needed so that your Catalyst and your implementation projects are thorough, well thought out, and include all the needed materials. Thank you. Okay, well, that's all that I have. Charles, you want to take it home?

01:19:39

Speaker 2

Yeah. Sorry. We went 15 minutes over, but it seemed. I'm glad to see that the California Forward Summit sparked a lot of debate. Hopefully you guys start working together. Feel free to email us with any questions. Please start paying attention to the project Portals folder. We're going to, at some point, have some samples in there that you can look at, see how to maybe craft yours. And we'll continue to give as much information as we possibly can about different ways, suggestions for you to move forward on that, to make this successful. So I'm gonna go ahead and close this out. Thank you guys all for attending, and we see you at the next one. Enjoy your weekend.

01:20:26

Speaker 1

Thank.