



Innovation Task Force

Item #14-11-1A Information

November 6, 2014

Strategic Growth Council Round III Funding Award for Disadvantaged Communities

Issue: None, this is for information only.

Discussion: This February, the SACOG Board authorized staff to apply for Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Round III Funding for Disadvantaged Communities. In the SACOG region, the only eligible areas for funding were within Sacramento County and the City of Sacramento. Staff has been actively working with the SGC to assess the indicators and tools used to determine eligible areas for investment. The goal is for more areas of the SACOG region in our Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy environmental justice areas to be included by the state as eligible communities.

In the grant application, staff identified the Center for Public Interest Design (CPID) at Portland State University (PSU) as a planning and implementation partner. The CPID is within the School of Architecture at PSU. The application focused on resident-driven planning and reinvestment.

The CPID model for planning and implementation focuses on sustainable design and increasing community capacity. The philosophy is that the best solutions for addressing what is needed within an area exist within the resident base. The CPID has worked with disadvantaged communities across the United States and internationally.

Locally, staffs from the CPID and SACOG have worked with staff from the City and County of Sacramento to identify community partners and define project areas. In addition to the partnership development, staff has conducted on-the-ground observations and resident interviews. The CPID process of leveraging resident-defined needs and expertise is a proven model for success. The two project areas can be broadly described as Del Paso Heights and portions of South Sacramento that traverse the city and county boundaries. In addition to local staff, key community partners include La Familia Counseling Center and Mutual Assistance Network of Del Paso Heights.

Over the past few months, local staff and stakeholders have worked with the staff and students at the CPID to explore research topics in each community to inform new or existing development activity. The next phase of work includes research presentations to SACOG, local agencies, and partners. Following the research, local comments and direction, the CPID will develop a draft action plan. The action plan will be reviewed by multiple partners and stakeholders to identify near-, mid- and long-term implementation steps and funding resources or opportunities that match.

Approved by:

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Chief Executive Officer

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