

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

REPORT OF THE CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADDRESSING UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES AND POPULATIONS

Introduction. The CEA CAC Subcommittee on Underserved Communities and Populations (the “subcommittee”) met for the better part of a year during 2023. The subcommittee prepared a report on its work, its finding, and its recommendations which is attached. This is an executive summary that can be used as a form of expanded table of contents. Each topic is addressed in more detail in the full report.

Goals:

- Identify communities and populations in need of extra assistance to achieve CEA’s 100% clean energy goals
- Identify funding and programs to meet these needs
- Assure equitable distribution of resources throughout CEA’s member cities in rough proportion to their electrical load as required by the CEA Joint Powers Agreement

Identifying Communities and Populations in need:

- As a starting point use the California Healthy Places Index to identify underserved communities and populations in each CEA member city
- Other strategies that may help to identify target communities and populations in CEA member cities may include identifying areas and populations with:
 - Low income status
 - Senior populations on fixed incomes
 - Geographic challenges limiting access to solar
 - Housing challenges including multi-unit rental projects, mobile home parks, and tribal communities, especially where there is the challenge of addressing the “split-incentives”¹ between tenants and landlords
 - Business communities with special needs or challenges
 - Non-profit organizations with special needs or challenges
 - CARE and FERA participants

Opportunities for Addressing the Needs of the Identified Communities and Populations

- Direct financial aid
- Federal and state grant programs
- Public Private partnerships
- Financing
- Club memberships with perks for upgrading to 100% clean energy
- Clean Energy Champion recognition for homeowners, tenants, landlords, and businesses
- School outreach programs
- Assistance to enroll in regional or statewide clean energy programs not administered by CEA
- Copying successful programs from other CCAs (The full report gives examples)

¹ “Split incentives” occur when capital improvements result in one party paying for improvements while the other party receives the benefits of reduced utility costs and/or cleaner energy sources.