

# Interagency Recovery Coordination

Community Planning and Capacity Building Quarterly Webinar

June 20, 2024

Source: Plumas County

# Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Responsible Party	Notes
3:00 PM	Introduction and Housekeeping	Sasha Jones	
3:02 PM	CalOES Updates	Megan Walton	
3:05 PM	EPA Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities	Chip Gurkin	Planning Assistance for Smart Growth Solutions and Strategies
3:20 PM	City of Bishop	Elaine Kabala/ Ana Budnyk	Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Partner 2017
3:35 PM	Eastern Sierra Council of Government	Elaine Kabala	Inyo + Mono Regional Planning and Economic Resilience
3:50 PM	Q&A	All Speakers	
3:58 PM	Closing Comments	Sasha Jones	





### Heat and Wildfire Preparedness Hot Topics

### Heat Preparedness Resources

- Ready.Gov Extreme Heat
- NIHHIS Heat Resources
- LISTOS Resource Hub
- HUD Extreme Heat Quick Guide
- U.S. EPA Heat Islands Equity Tools & Planning

### Wildfire Preparedness Resources

- CAL FIRE Ready for Wildfire
- CAL FIRE Fuels Reduction Projects
- OPR's Wildfire Technical Advisory Planning Guidance

### CA-Recovery Support Functions Upcoming Events & Resources

- Economic RSF Bi-Monthly Statewide Partner Meeting July 9<sup>th</sup> 1-2pm
- Community Planning & Capacity Building Monthly Bulletin
- CA-RSF Website <u>www.caloes.ca.gov/RSF</u>
- Contact us! <u>LongTermRecovery@caloes.ca.gov</u>





### Office of Community Revitalization

### Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities: An Approach Towards Environmental and Public Health Solutions

Supporting locally led, community-driven development strategies that protect human health and the environment, expand economic opportunity, and revitalize neighborhoods

### EPA Office of Community Revitalization



- In EPA's Office of Policy, we work across all EPA programs and regions.
- We work on cross-cutting environmental issues, helping communities grow in ways that protect the environment and human health.
- Recognizing that land use decisions are made at the local level, we help communities explore smart growth strategies to achieve multi-benefit solutions to interconnected challenges related to design and development.
- We conduct research and policy evaluation and create publications and tools.
- We help convene and bring together partners:
  - Within EPA
  - With other federal agencies
  - With tribal, state, regional, and local governments
  - With the nonprofit and private sectors
- We provide technical assistance on planning, policy, and/or design (mostly to communities, sometimes to states, tribes, regional entities).

### Background





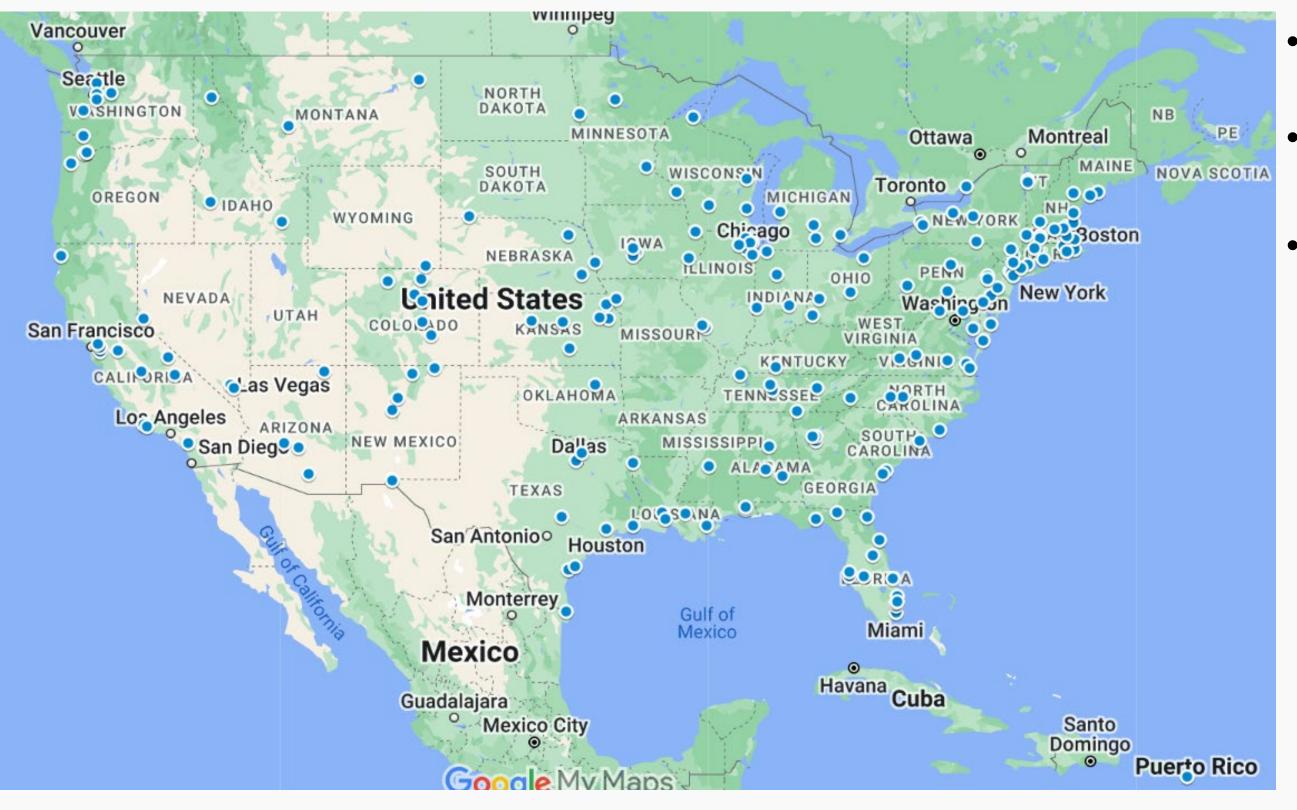
### Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities:

- Provides quick, targeted technical assistance to selected communities;
- Helps communities assess their policies, programs, and regulations against best practices and then prioritize key areas to address so that local policies support desired goals; and
- Facilitates the creation of partnerships with Federal, State, and Local stakeholders.

As a result, these tools and actions stimulate:

- Discussion and action around growth and development
- An implementable plan to achieve a community vision
- Local capacity to implement sustainable approaches.

# Building Blocks Communities 2011-2021



- A total of 212 TA projects have been completed
- Projects in various communities, large and small.
- Projects have spanned 47 states across the nation, including the U.S Virgin Islands
  - > 2011 32
  - > 2012 56
  - > 2013 42
  - > 2015 22
  - > 2016 16
  - > 2017 25
  - > 2018 4
  - > 2019/20 6
  - > 2021 9

### Types of Building Blocks Topic Areas



Bikeshare Planning	Strategies for Neighborhood Reinvestment	Green and Complete Streets	Flood Resilience for Riverine and Coastal Communities
Building Regional Disaster Resilience	Leveraging Cultural Anchor Institutions	Linking Land Use and Water Quality	Neighborhood Planning for Healthy Aging
Creating Equitable Development	Preferred Growth Areas	Equitable EV Infrastructure	Addressing Emerging Mobility
Sustainable Strategies for Small Cities and Rural Areas	Sustainable Land Use Code Audit	Using Smart Growth to Produce Fiscal and Economic Health	Walking Audit

### Technical Assistance Model

- Understand context
- Refine the problem statement
- Customize agenda and materials
- Assemble relevant case studies
- Coach community on stakeholder participation

Assess

### Convene

- Conduct community tour
- Affirm vision
- Assess assets, challenges
- Brainstorm what needs to happen to realize the vision
- Set specific goals/objectives
- Establish manageable short term and long term action steps to meet objectives

- Write action plan
- Follow up calls
- Mobilize resources
- Align funding

Implement

### Snapshot of BB TA Impacts



# Physical Infrastructure, (Kingston, NY)

### Mayor Noble Announces Citywide ADA Curb Ramp Project Has Begun

KINGSTON, NY – Mayor Steven T. Noble is pleased to announce that the Citywide ADA Curb Ramp Project has begun. The bid was awarded to Callanan Industries, Inc. and construction will begin in June.

The Citywide ADA Ramps Project will install 136 ADA-compliant curb ramps at intersections and crosswalks throughout the City of Kingston. The project is expected to begin on June 26, and be completed by November 2023.

Curb ramps will be installed Uptown on N. Front, Main Street, Pearl Street and Elizabeth Street; in Midtown on Stephan Street and Clifton Ave, and Downtown on McEntee, Walnut, Hunter and Abeel Streets. A map of the locations for the ADA-compliant curb ramps can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

"This project will improve the safety of our streets and provide much-needed access for all mobilities across the community," said Mayor Noble. "I want to thank the City Engineering staff who conducted research, did the design work and will see this project to completion."

The Citywide ADA Ramps Project is funded with the City of Kingston's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding and the City's NYSDOT CHIPS allocation.

# Policies, Codes, Zoning, etc (Hartford, CT)

#### Hartford - Green Infrastructure Specialist for a More Resilient and Sustainable Future

#### **Projects by Topic**

**All Projects** 

Coastal Flooding and Waves

Critical Infrastructure

**Inland Flooding** 

Green Infrastructure/Living

<u>Shorelines</u>

Policy & Planning
Sea Level Rise

#### **Project Summary**

The City of Hartford received grant assistance from CIRCA to hire a Green Infrastructure Specialist for 12 months. The Specialist assisted the City of Hartford with its rigorous, comprehensive climate resiliency effort – the <u>Climate Stewardship Initiative</u> (CSI) – which aims to improve quality of life through environmental stewardship, while advancing the economy, improving public health, and promoting social equity. Through the CSI, Hartford has collaborated with corporations, private foundations, and government agencies to make strides in five action areas (energy, land, transportation, waste, and water). Of these five areas, the city has the least expertise and the most need in the area of water – specifically in managing stormwater. The Green Infrastructure Specialist helped Hartford not only respond to threats of flooding, but also strategize proactively for the future by evaluating and advancing green infrastructure projects. This Municipal Resilience Grant award was for the amount of \$100,000.

#### **Products**

<u>Hartford Project Poster - March 2017</u>

Hartford Final Report - July 2018

Retain the Rain flyer

Green Infrastructure Handbook

#### **Project Description**



The Climate Stewardship Council is the citizens' sustainability task force for the City of Hartford.



One of Hartford's finalists.



### Snapshot of BB TA Impacts



Placemaking Strategies (Apache Junction, AZ)

Partnerships and Networks (Saukville, WI)



#### 3.1 Introduction

#### **Overview of Goals and Objectives**

Building upon the guiding principles of the City's Downtown Redevelopment Implementation Strategy (DRIS), this plan aims to establish a town center, reestablish the grid system while maintaining a view of the Superstition Mountains, and create an identity and sense of place for the downtown area. These goals are realized through the development of a Vision Plan containing design standards, a roadway circulation plan, and development designs for vacant tracts in the Downtown Core District.

This Vision Plan focuses on establishing a Downtown Core District. In order to create streetscape designs that embody residents' values, the proposed designs, which will promote and adhere to the suggested design standards, will focus on bringing a community gathering place back to the downtown without disrupting Apache Junction's small town feel. Detailed designs for future developments in areas identified by community members as being the center of downtown are included as examples of the proposed design standards. The main focus of the designs for future developments will be on commercial and open space. Design standards were chosen over design guidelines because standards will more effectively create a cohesive downtown from which a unique identity can develop.

An updated road map with street connections that promotes a walkable town center and reestablish a grid network accompanies the proposed development designs and District standards. This circulation plan also proposes creating a pedestrian-only zone with temporary event space. Including commercial space with entrances facing both the street and downtown trail system will further attract and accommodate a variety of people.



#### 9 Years

of partnering with rural communities to create healthier ecosystems and communities

# 5 HEALTHY RIVER COMMUNITIES

The Villages of Newburg, Saukville, Grafton, Kewaskum, and Fredonia



# Quick Overview of the Toolkit

- Aligns with different plan requirements
  - FEMA Local Hazard Mitigation Plan requirements
  - EDA Community Economic Development Strategies
- Addresses different hazards
- Applies to different assets
- Emphasizes the need for action, not process.
- Integrate various plan or efforts to bring partners to the same table and create a common action plan.
- Coordinates local action to amplify disaster resilience within a regional context.

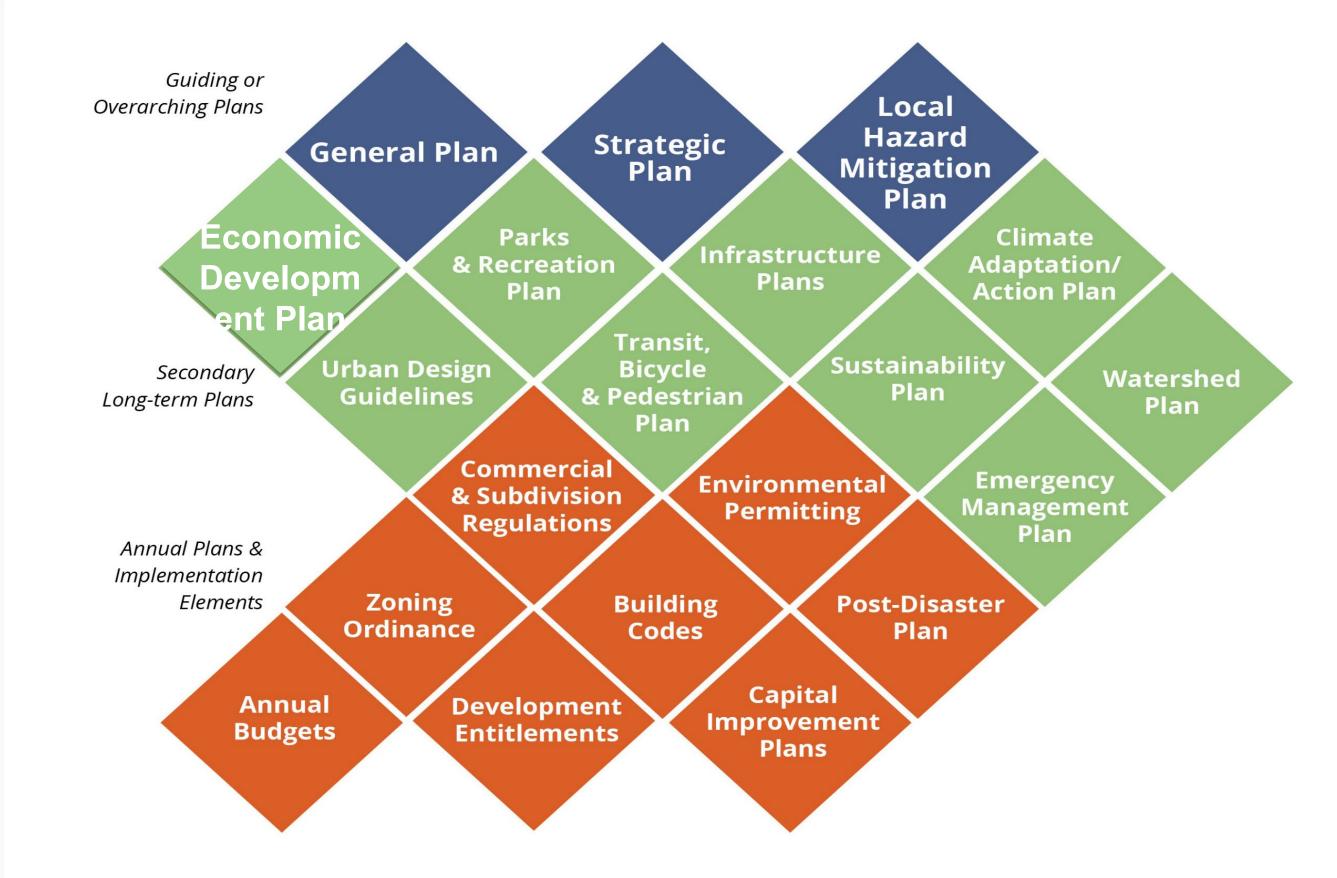
### Multihazard Approach



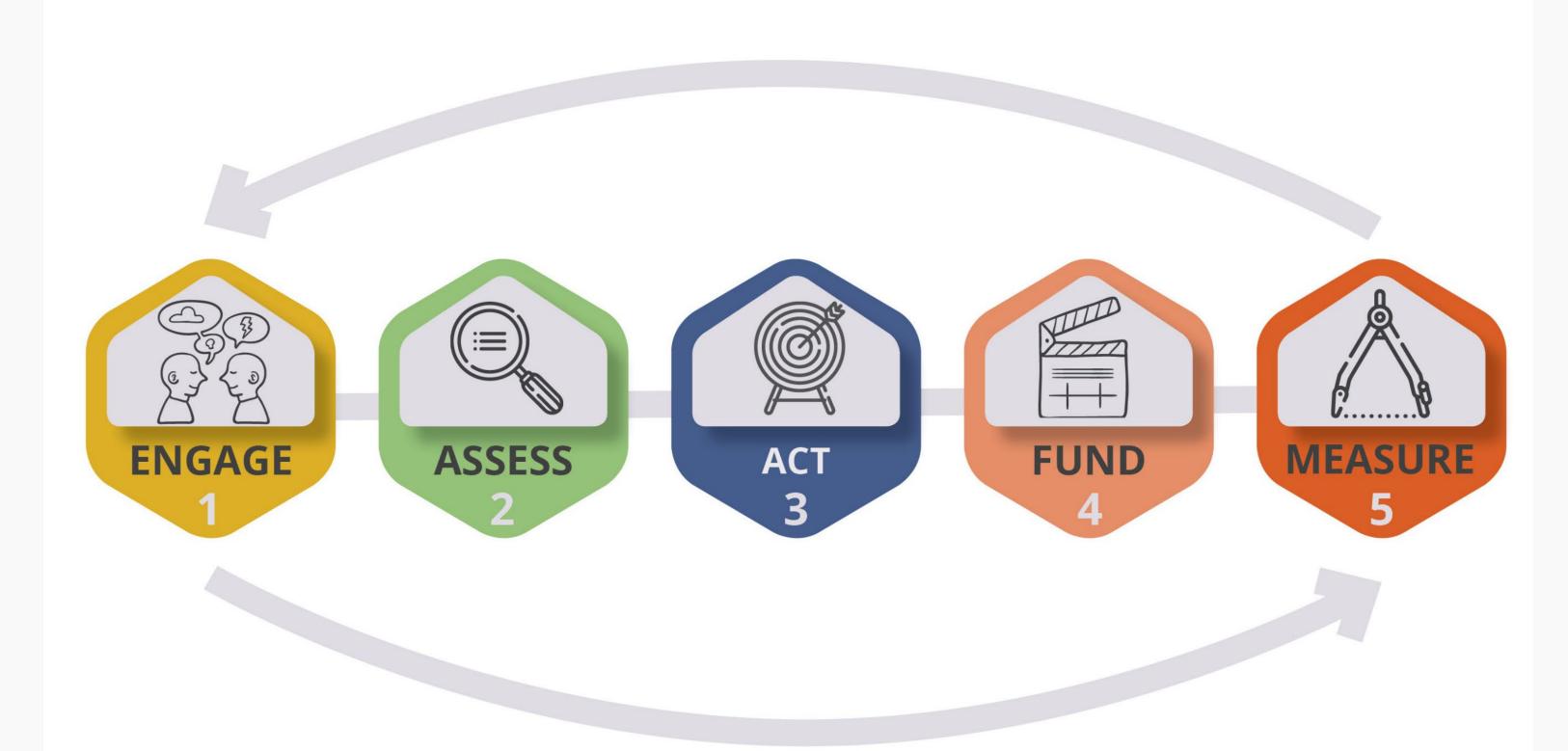


### Multijurisdictional Approach









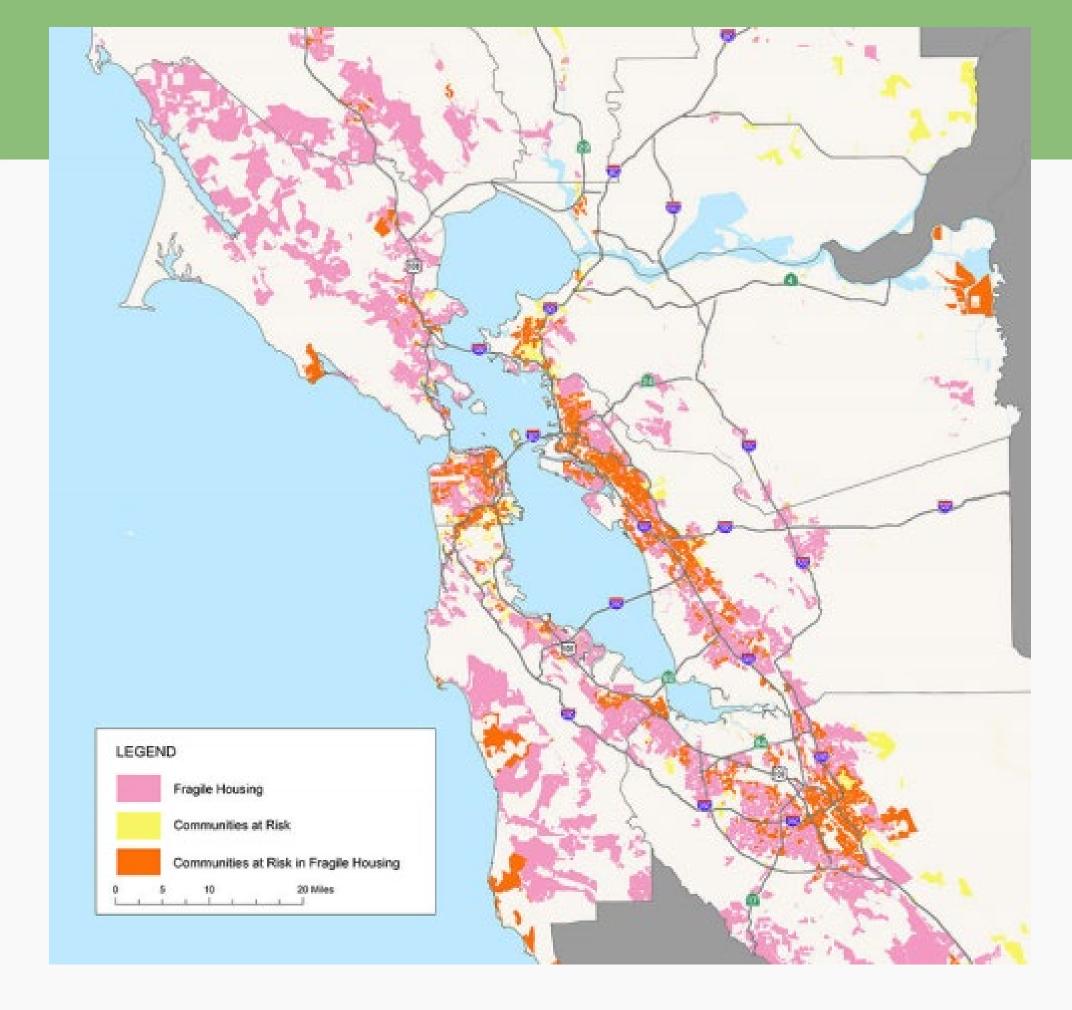
# STEP 1: ENGAGE

- Change your mindset
- Budget for engagement
- Be authentic and design a process that community members can guide
- Inclusivity and equity are key
- Be careful with words



### STEP 2: ASSESS

- What's Your "Trigger"?
- Set Resilience Goals
- Map Hazards
- Prioritize Hazards
- Select Assets
- Conduct Assessment



# STEP 3: ACT

- Develop and prioritize strategies
  - Plan updates, new regulations, projects, outreach, policy, internal operations.
- Pick strategies you can pull off!
- Write implementation plans
  - Short term actions
  - Long term strategies

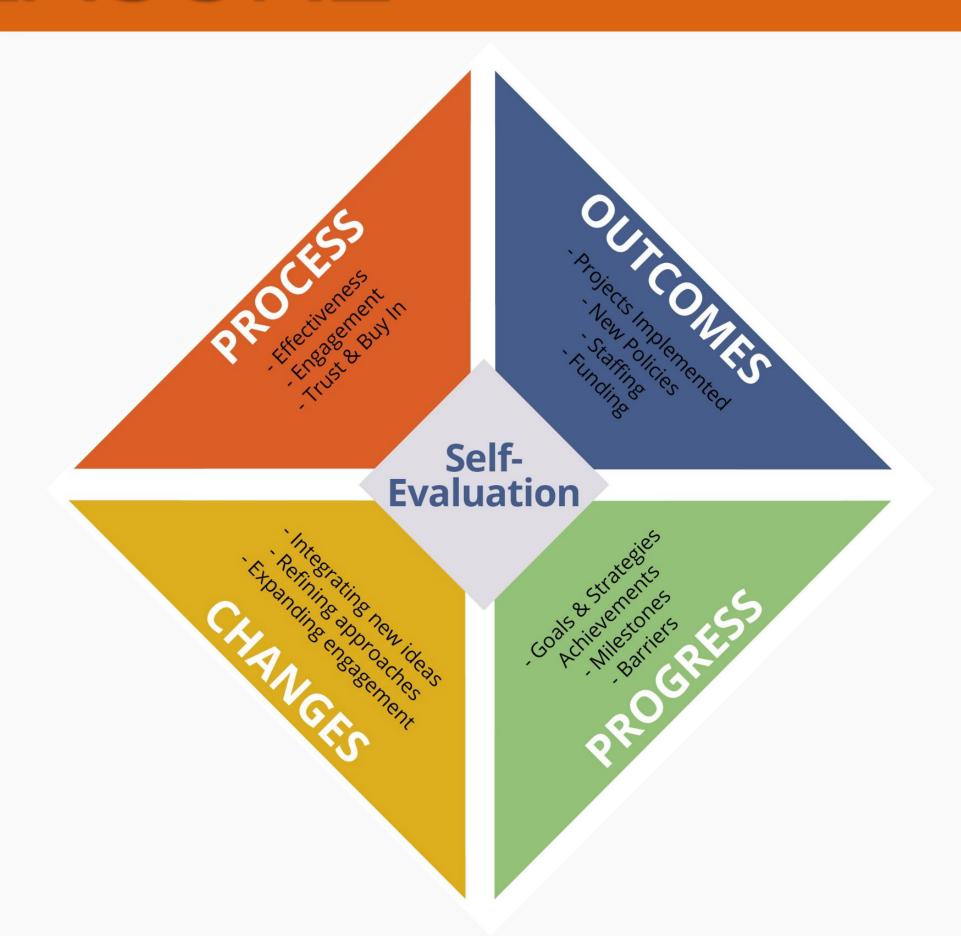
STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION										
Problem statement	Upstream dam failure poses great risk to this asset and the entire town, as well as nearby post offices. All infrastructure on ground floor in flood zone. This post office is dependent on relationship with two other post offices, both 20 minutes away, and both also on the French Broad River. A single bridge access point into town, so if that went out, the PO would be isolated. All local residents, businesses and government rely on this post office as the primary form of communication and package delivery. Unique situation with private owner + public function. Elevates risk to public.									
Strategy name	Regional flood mitigation approach for French Broad River.									
Strategy summary	Watershed-side mapping that quantifies risk. Develop a regionwide flood mitigation plan that would benefit small towns with similar risks all along the river.									
Hazard(s) addressed	Flood ri	Flood risks from large rain events and dam failure								
Strategy type	Operational Programmatic Plans, Regulations, and Policy Development Project Capital Improvement/ Infrastructure Project Education/ Outreach/ Coordination Evaluation								Evaluation	
Process/ implementation mechanism	Long Range Planning Planning Range Planning			Emerg an Haza Planr	d rds	Project Planning and Design	New Initiatives			
Responsible agency	LOSRC, Madison County, DEQ Dam Safety Program									
Partners	State of Tennessee (upstream), Environ.NGOs for planning and data analysis support									
STRATEGY IMPLEM	MENTATION INFO	RMATION								
Priority (evaluation score)										
Actions/ activities	Need to understar	nd what is in	the curre	nt HMP	for this co	unty. This	could be	come	a regional priority a	cross county
Staff lead	Land of Sky to follow up									
Cost estimate										
Benefits (losses avoided)										
Potential funding sources	FEMA HMP, RiskMAP, BRIC, Recovery \$, USDA-RD, EDA/CEDS, USACE Silver Jackets, NOAA									
Timeline										

# STEP 4: FUND

- Learn how to "sell" your projects
- Build your network of funders
- Look at local budgets, bonds, and taxes
- Look at a range of funding sources
  - Public-private financing
  - Philanthropic and corporate grants
  - Regional funding programs
  - Federal and state grants

# STEP 5: MEASURE

- What to Measure and Why
- Outputs vs. Outcomes
- Self-Evaluation
- Measure and Refine



### Additional Resources

### **EPA Resilience Resources**

Building Blocks Regional Resilience
Toolkit

Resources on Extreme Heat

Resources on Planning for Climate

Adaptation

Community Change Grants

EJ Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers

Creating Resilient Water Utilities

### **External Supporters of OCR Projects**

**FEMA** 

**Economic Development Administration** 

**Small Business Administration** 

**USDA** Rural Development

**US Housing and Urban Development** 

Local/Regional Philanthropy

**Area Universities** 

State DOTs

RPOs/MPOs





# Ana Budnyk

City of Bishop, Assistant City Planner

Elaine Kabala

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments

# Bishop, CA





































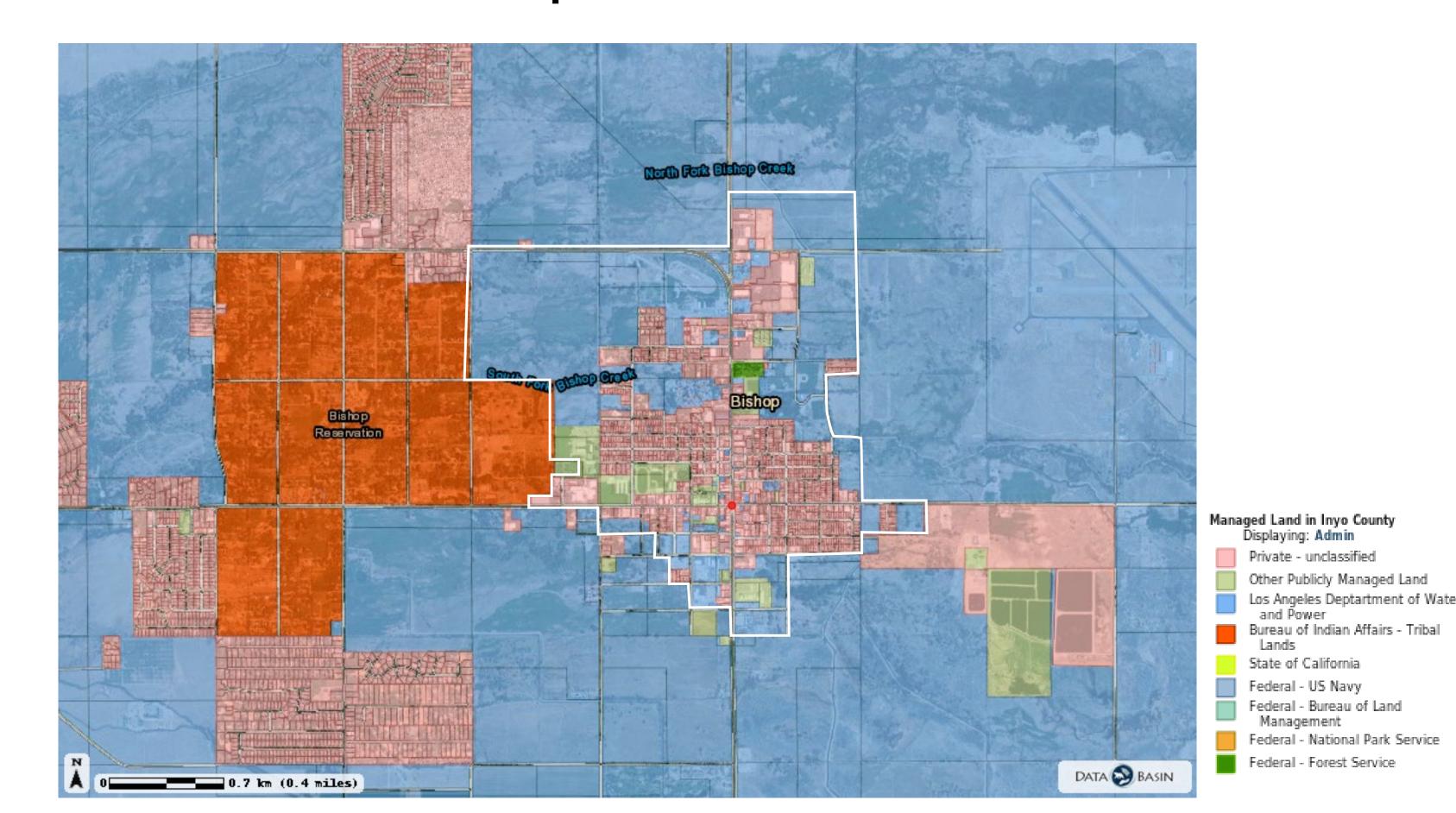








# LADWP Land Ownership



### THIS I BELIEVE...

- · Calmer, walkable, pedestrian friendly downtown
- More variety of businesses downtown
- More transportation options to/from and around Bishop
- More unobstructed views of nature
- Center of town as the center of civic activities
- More united community
- Warren Street redevelops as a vibrant walkable retail street
- More lifelong learning opportunities (adult education, older adult classes) and expansion of colleges
- Better, affordable and diverse housing stock
- Catering and fostering the remote worker population
- Higher end conference facilities
- An ecological center of excellence in desert preservation/management
- Diverse employment opportunities for all
- Parking issues resolved
- More transfers of LADWP lands to City

- A connected, citywide bike network
- Regular community events
- No vacant commercial buildings
- Strong arts community and artist venues
- A city with a high quality of life for all ages, incomes and backgrounds
- Stronger alternative energy base (solar power, electric vehicles)
- Unique character and historic charm of building exteriors preserved
- Thriving local, cottage industry base
- More green spaces and areas outside to sit in shade
- Mixed use in downtown commercial ground floor and housing on top
- Network of multiuse trails
- Reliable regional airport service
- Vertical growth sensitive to views
- Strong local food system (locally grown, locally sold)
- Less people living in poverty
- Youth engaged

### Revitalize Village and Town Centers

### Challenges

- Surplus vacant commercial property
- Fear of development/change
- Businesses close early/no night life
- No city center/gathering place/focal point
- Downtown parking limitations

### Opportunities

- Redeveloping vacant commercial sites into active use
- Downtown beautification / placemaking
- Involving residents in investing in Bishop
- Develop Warren Street with businesses

### Meet housing needs for different ages and incomes

### Challenges

- Lack of developable land
- Expensive to rent/purchase and renovate
- Limited diversity of housing options

- Allow mixed uses (housing + commercial + office in same building)
- Providing short-term housing solutions for newcomers "trying out" Bishop
- Short-term rental/Airbnb
- Turn empty commercial into housing

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- 4. Turn empty commercial into housing

### Invest in efficient public infrastructure systems and operations

#### Challenges

- Uncomfortable environment for pedestrians on Main Street
- High-traffic highway through center of town
- Inconsistent, disconnected bicycle infrastructure

- Green infrastructure, such as trees and vegetation, to help manage stormwater runoff and add aesthetic enhancements
- Low-cost, short-term improvements "paint and planters"
- Alternate truck route around Bishop
- Walk/bike network off of Main Street
- Commercial air service

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### Strategy #1: Revitalize downtown Bishop to achieve its full potential

Bishop's downtown has many opportunities for revitalization and a good base of buildings and businesses to build on. But there are additional steps that can be taken to reach their vision of a walkable, vibrant downtown that is full of people walking and biking safely to numerous cafes, coffee shops, and local businesses, providing opportunities for community interaction.

Specific Actions/Initiatives	Why is this important?	Immediate Next Steps	How will we measure success?	Timeframe	Lead and Support Roles	Costs and Implementation Resources
Make downtown Bishop walkable and pleasant through traffic calming and aesthetic improvements	Creating more foot traffic means more money spent locally  People attract people	Public art  Consistent street signs  City logo  Expand to / connect Bishop Trails System  Close alleys to use for special events	Count pedestrians and bicyclists Survey businesses	Events: 6 to 12 months  Trees/signage: 1 to 2 months  Truck re-direct: 20 to 50 years	Inyo Council for the Arts  Chamber of Commerce  City  Caltrans	Smart Growth America  Renderings of possible affordable beautifications  Caltrans Complete Street program  CA SB 1 – Active Transportation Program  EPA Brownfields Area-wide planning grant
Update codes to allow a mix of uses and flexibility on parking restrictions to support	Diversity of uses means more people in downtown	Public outreach  Draft ordinance	Adoption of ordinance # of adaptive	1 to 2 years or ordinance 5 to 10 years for	City Public	Federal / state grant funding City match
new business models	Creates	Council adoption	reuses or constructions	construction	Building owners	,

### Strategy #2: Expand the diversity of housing options for a range of ages and incomes

The city's economic growth is stagnant due to the limitations in housing availability. Expanding housing through a diversity of options will support the growth of the local economy by bringing in new businesses and residents. A few short-term action items can be taken to begin to create opportunities for expanding housing.

Specific Actions/Initiatives	Why is this important?	Immediate Next Steps	How will we measure success?	Timeframe	Lead and Support Roles	Costs and Implementatio n Resources
Update code in downtown to allow for residential / mixed use. Expand downtown core toward the park and existing higher density areas to avoid gaps in housing in downtown	Creates space for new housing in downtown and Bishop without needing undeveloped land  Avoid non-congruent mixed uses in downtown	Research templates and examples for overlay district  Draft / California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)  Public hearings / community outreach  Adopt  Pilot / sample project	New homes created  More people living in downtown to increase business activities in downtown	2 to 3 years	City of Bishop	Caltrans – planning grants (SB1 money; SB 375 Environmental Justice planning grant)  AQMP – -Mitigation plan money  Reducing GHG/VMT  Infill Infrastructure Grant from the California Department of Housing and Community Development
Hold a showcase event to demonstrate a staged unit above	Demonstrates how it can look and fit with existing	Explore possible acquisition of old Kmart site	Improving on historical success	1 to 2 years	City of Bishop Economic Redevelopment	Intern – through city of Bishop

### Strategy #3: Strengthen Local Economy

Aside from downtown revitalization and expanding housing options, other steps can be taken to strengthen Bishop's local economy. This includes encouraging anchor institution offices (such as local government, community colleges, health or education partners) to locate downtown to "anchor" downtown, create foot traffic that supports businesses, and support the vibrancy of downtown. There are many natural and recreational assets in Bishop, but downtown Bishop also offers many opportunities for tourists to visit downtown and its businesses. Creating a plan that identifies those downtown assets and how to market them to the recreational visitors can help to keep visitors in Bishop longer and support the local economy. Connections from downtown to the surrounding recreational features can also support this idea by providing a safe connection, such as converting the former rail line into a multi-use trail. Completing the last mile of the high-speed internet is also an action that will help Bishop's economy move forward by providing high quality internet that attracts visitors and new residents.

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Encourage institutional/civic offices (such as county offices, community college, or health- related anchors) to infill downtown locations to support economic activity and drive foot traffic	Supports small business community via lunches, shopping, social connection, anchoring  Detracts from sprawl	Show the results of this discussion to local officials	New buildings Investment in infrastructure downtown	Next 5 years	City	Staff – plan city match of amenities USDA Community Facilities Grant
Create a cohesive plan for connecting and expanding attractions in the city aside from the natural and recreational opportunities	Bishop is great at attracting people for natural surroundings but needs them to stay/shop/dine for multiple days in downtown	Confirm inventory of things to do and places to go in Bishop and communicate it to residents and visitors  Identify new opportunities: trail on former rail road	Increase length of stay Sales receipts, etc.	Inventory: 3 to 6 months  Strategic destination plan and network: 1 to  2 years  Communicate strategies: 3 to 6	City with Chamber of Commerce	Staff time

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# GRANT FUNDING STACK

2015 CDBG funded Economic Development Plan

Identified goals and actions for downtown revitalization



2017 EPA Sustainable Communities Technical Assistance Grant

Established community and Council support for alternative housing solutions



### 2019 Caltrans Sustainable Communities Grant

Funded mixed-use overlay policy development to address housing needs



### 2020 SB2 and REAP funding

Funded Specific Plan elements & EIR to facilitate adoption and implementation



# Specific Plan & Mixed-Use Overlay

- Mixed Use Overlay
- Mobility recommendations
- Design Guidelines
- Signage Guidelines & Ordinance
- Streetscaping Recommendations
- Wayfinding Recommendations



### **VISUALIZING A NEW DOWNTOWN**

The following section illustrates the application and potential impact the DMU Zoning district can facilitate. The conceptual renderings examples describe the connection the application the new zoning would have on the highlighted area.

The following conceptual renderings help illustrate potential upgrades in Bishop. These are speculative images, intended to convey possible futures of development. The application of the overlay zone can regulate development that affects the urban realm, walkability, and the built form of buildings. These images are not direct representations of the Intensity Concept Tables in this document, elements from each Intensity Concept can be mixed-and matched.

### **Grove Street & Main** Street



Intersection of Grove St and Main St looking west.

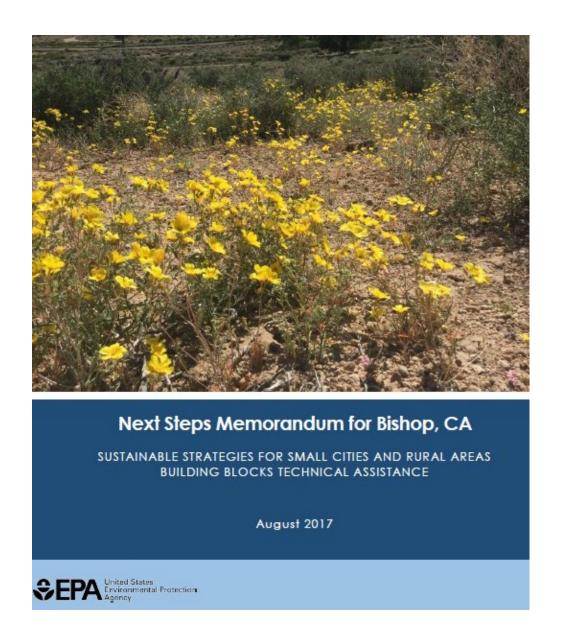


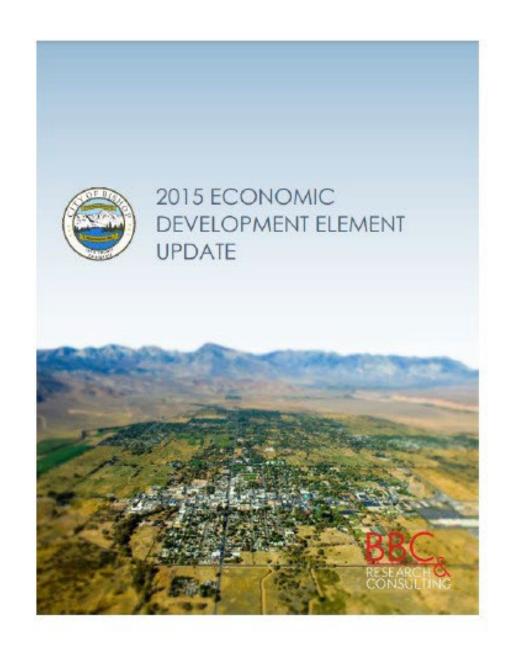






# Current Projects





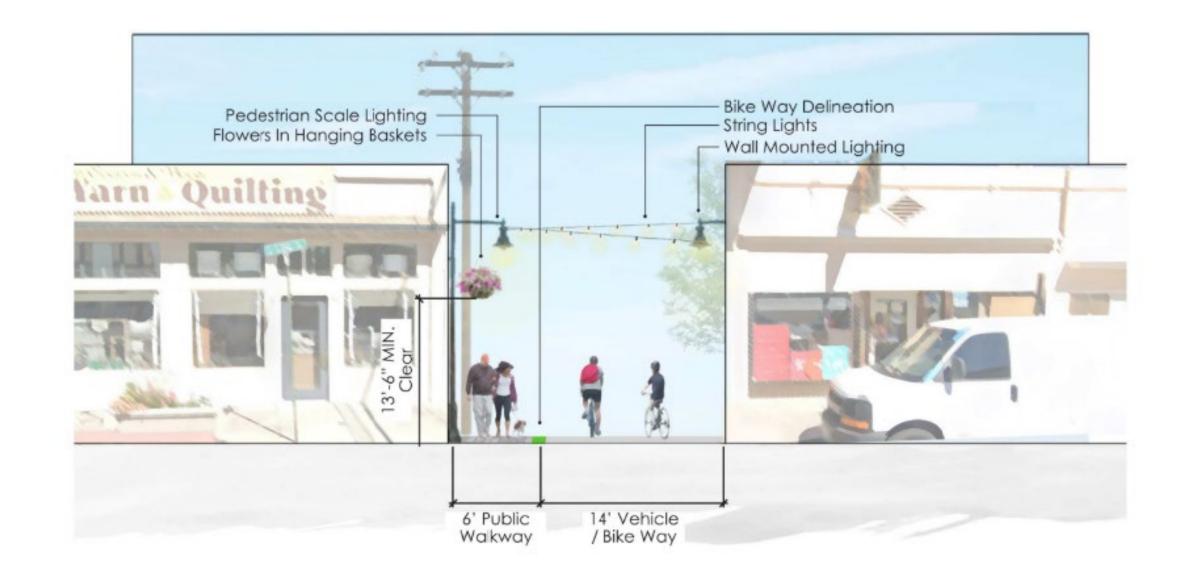


# Whitney Alley Improvement Project

**Location:** Whitney Alley and the surrounding parking lots and City easements, between Willow and Short Streets

**Funding:** Proposition 68 Grant from the California Natural Resources Agency

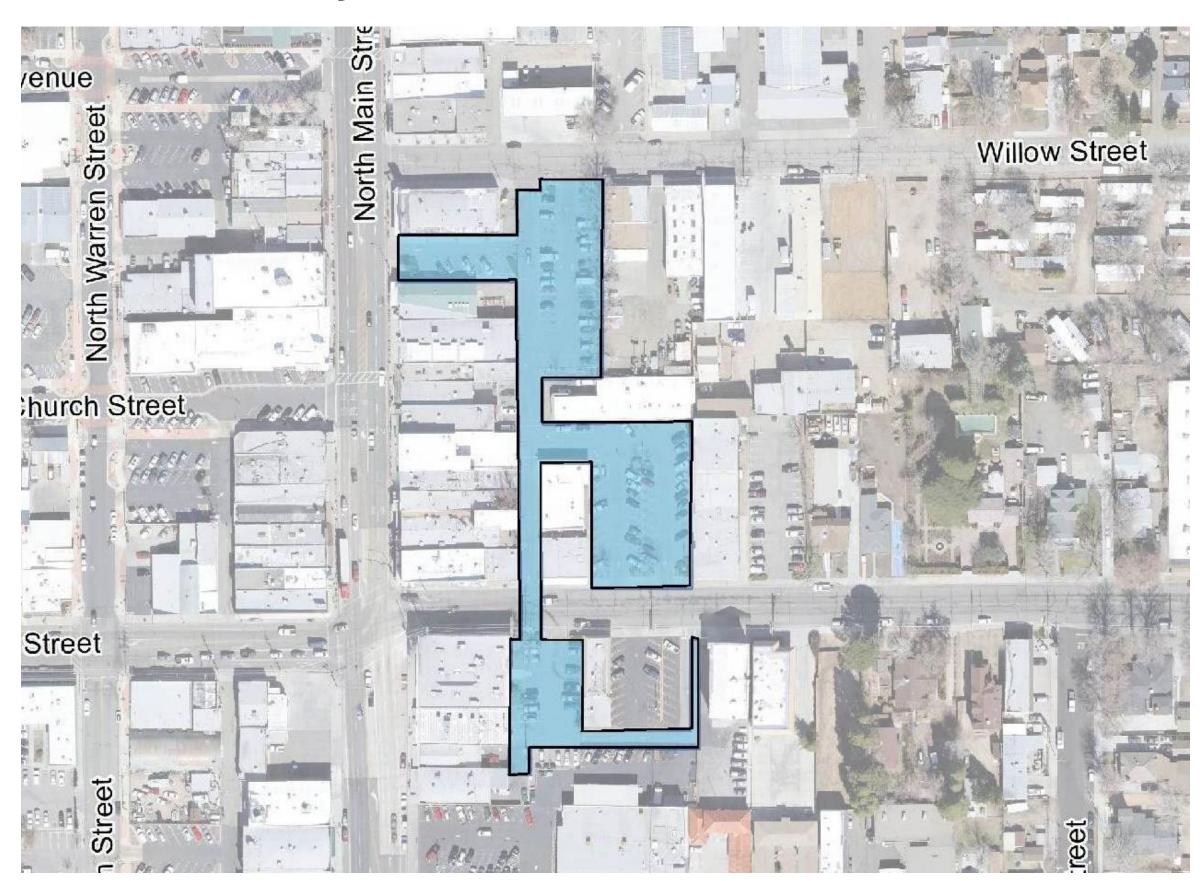
**Status:** 60% Designed Construction in 2025-2026



# Whitney Alley Improvement Project

### Goals:

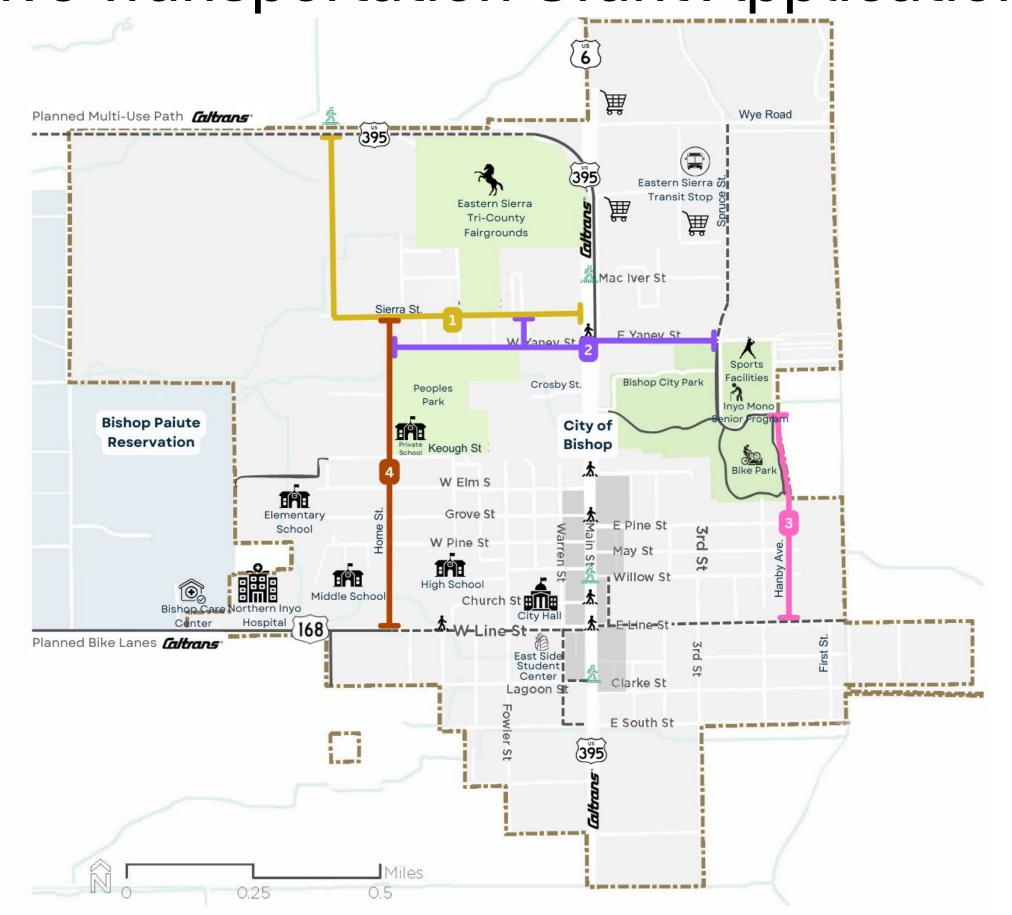
- Create, enhance, and expand community green spaces in downtown Bishop.
- Transform asphalt parking lots and alleyways into green corridors, pedestrian plazas, and paths.
- Create safe and efficient pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle traffic circulation.



Connecting Bishop - Active Transportation Grant Application

# Goal to enhance safety and increase non-motorized travel by:

- Creating and Upgrading Multi-use Paths
- Building New Sidewalks
- Adding Bicycle Facilities
- Traffic Calming Measures
- Lighting
- Wayfinding Signage
- Educational Programming



# Mule Kick – Downtown Infill Mixed-Use Development

### 4 dwelling units with commercial space

Location: Downtown Mixed-Use Zone

**Funding:** Private Developer

**Status:** In Construction



# Bishop Apartments - Residential Development

Rezoning to Mixed Use Overlay allowed for the conversion of office space into 8 dwelling units

Location: Downtown Mixed-Use Zone

Funding: Private Developer

**Status:** In Permitting



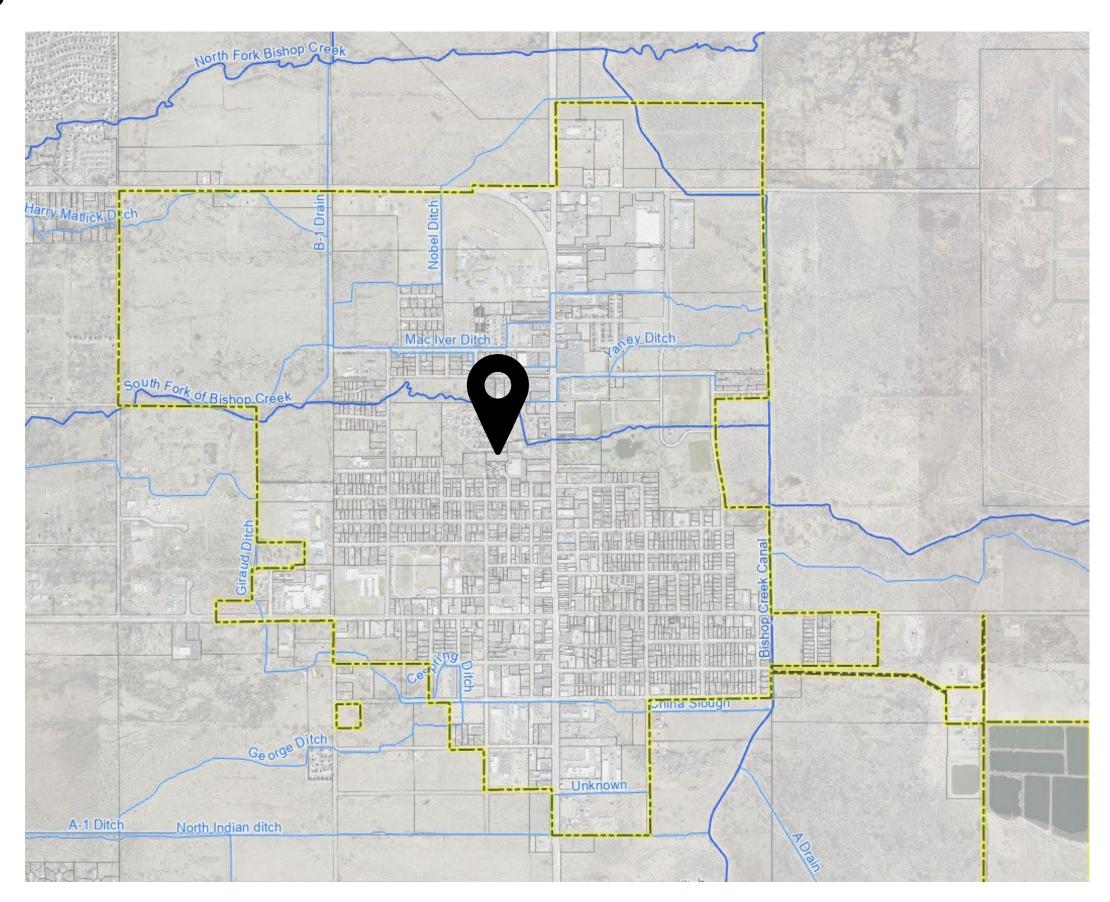
# Back Alley Apartments

Rezoning to Mixed Use Overlay allowed for 30-35 units development

Location: Downtown Mixed-Use Zone

**Funding:** Private Developer

Status: In Design



# Policy: Proposing Designation Application

Following housing policies in the Housing Element and Specific Plan the City of Bishop qualified for Proposing Designation

Status: Submitted, in review by HCD

# **Prohousing Designation Program Application**

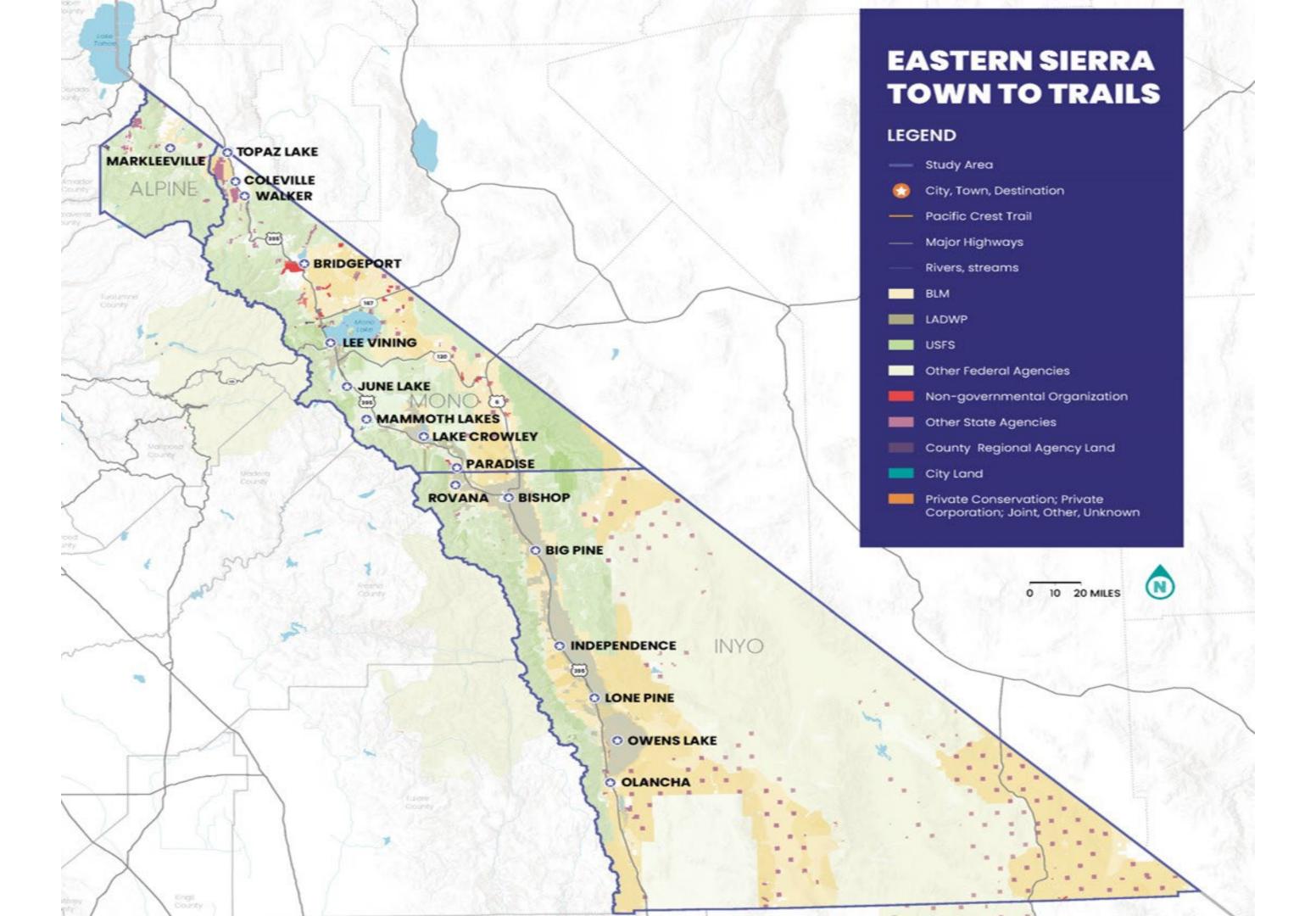


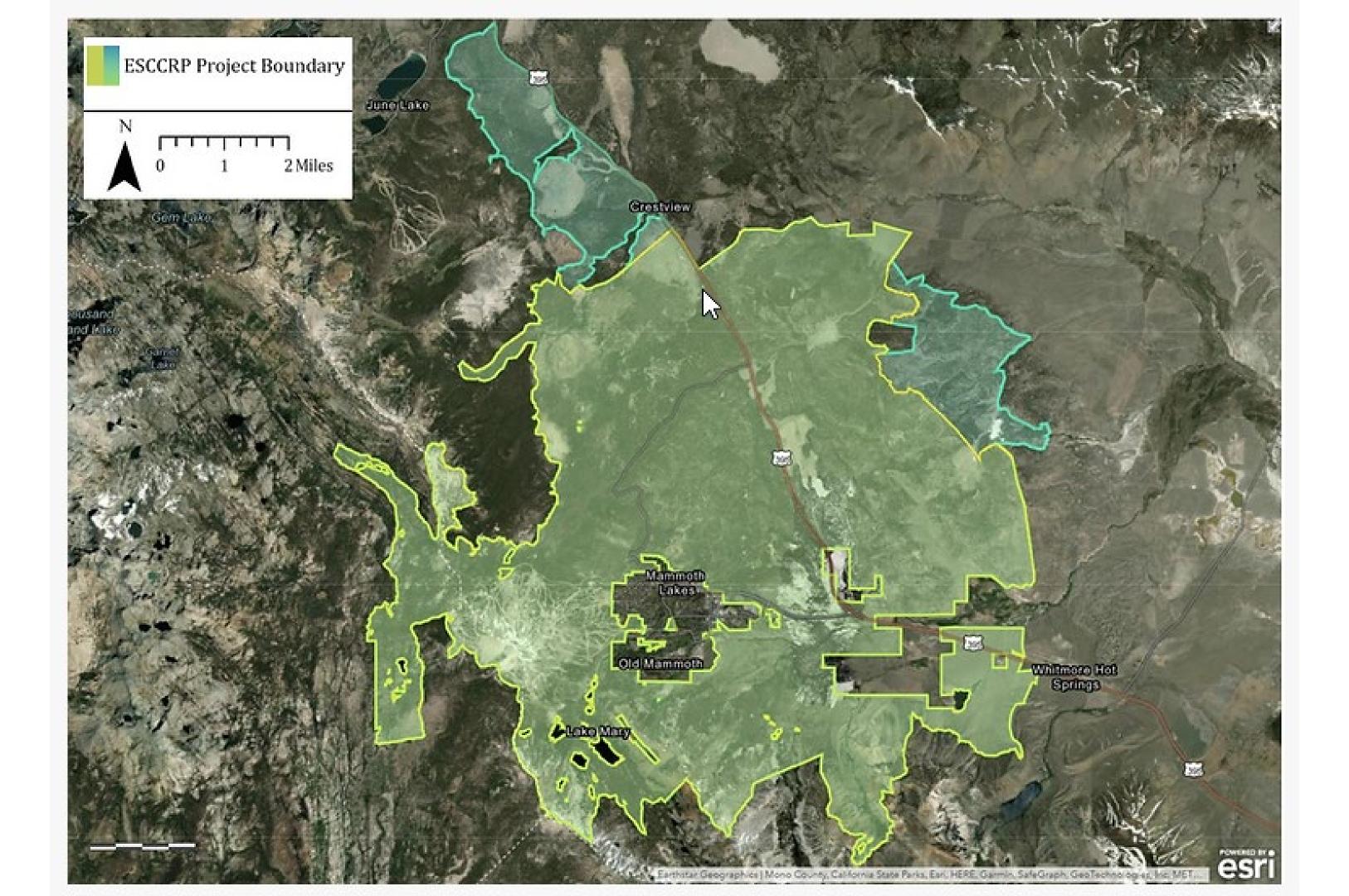
State of California Governor Gavin Newsom



# History

- Established as Joint Powers Authority in 2020 to build capacity to address issues of regional significance
  - Strengthen regional partnerships and collaboratives
  - Develop innovative finance to address Federal constraints
- Funded through combination of member agency contributions and grant funding
- Programmatic areas of focus:
  - Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program
  - Inyo Mono Broadband Consortium
  - Economic Development





















# WELCOME TO THE EASTERN SIERRA

### THE EASTERN SIERRA IS NOW TRULY CONNECTED WITH THE WORLD

It used to be true that to have the best business opportunities, education, or jobs, you had to be in a city. Not anymore! Most communities in the Eastern Sierra now have access to internet service that is as good, or better than, what you would find in the metropolitan US. That allows our businesses and residents to connect and compete on a National and International level.



### 88.6% Served

MONO COUNTY: 88.6% of the households in Mono County currently have access to broadband Internet service at speeds of at least 25Mbps / 3Mbps.



### 11.3% Unserved

MONO COUNTY: 11.3% of the households in Mono County do not have access to broadband Internet service at speeds of at least 25Mbps / 3Mbps.



# 98.7% Adoption Rate

MONO COUNTY: 98.7% of the households in Mono County that are categorized as served have subscribed to broadband Internet service.



### 92.6% Served

**INYO COUNTY**: 92.6% of the households in Inyo County currently



## 7.4% Unserved

**INYO COUNTY:** 7.4% of the households in Inyo County do not

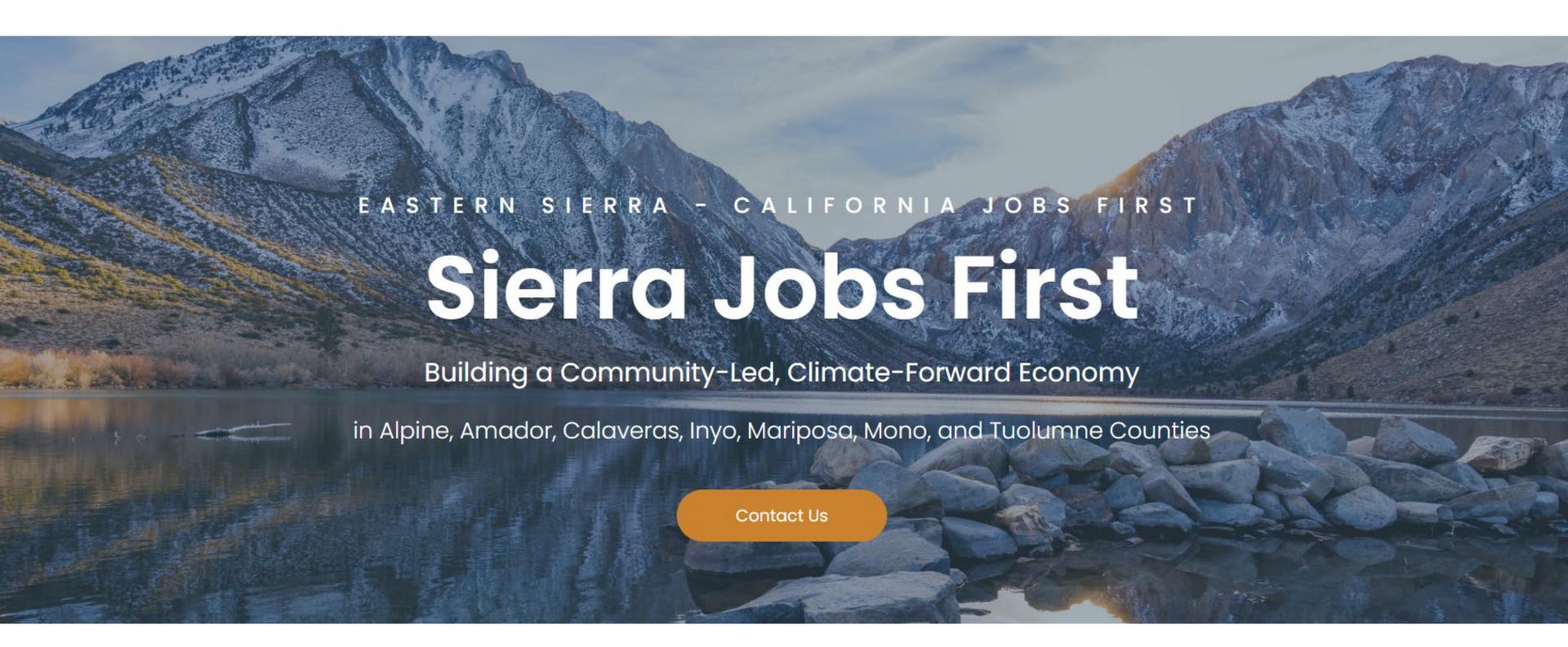


# 71% Adoption Rate

INYO COUNTY: 71% of the

households in Inyo County that are





# Thank you!



Elaine Kabala

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# Sasha Jones

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Recovery Support Functions

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