

## 4C October 2021 Membership Meeting

October 5, 2021

### Attendees:

#### Central Coast Climate Collaborative (4C)

- 13 Steering Committee members
  - Sharyn Main - Community Environmental Council
  - Heather Allen - County of Ventura, VCREA (*not present*)
  - Tiffany Wise-West - City of Santa Cruz
  - Juliano Calil - Middlebury Institute of International Studies, Virtual Planet
  - Garrett Wong - County of Santa Barbara
  - Teresa Romero - Santa Ynez Band of Chumash
  - Rachel Couch - State Coastal Conservancy
  - Kirsten Liske - Ecology Action
  - Nancy Faulstich - Regeneracion Pajaro Valley
  - Kristin Cushman - MBRCAC and Blue Strike Environmental (*not present*)
  - Ashley Paulsworth - County of Monterey (*not present*)
  - Alex Yasbek - City of Watsonville
  - Adrienne Greve - Cal Poly SLO (*not present*)
- Jenn Fields - Sea Grant Climate Ready State Fellow at State Coastal Conservancy
- Sascha Landry - Support Staff Central Coast Climate Collaborative
- Julian Nesbitt - CivicSpark Fellow at State Coastal Conservancy

#### Members

- Ted Terrasas, Monterey City Disposal Services
- Maya Hayden, Point Blue Conservation Science
- Jessica Perez
- Laura Tugwell, Carmel Building Design
- Rebecca Verity, GEI Consultants
- Lacey Raak, CSU Monterey Bay Sustainability
- Amaury Berteaud, Association of Monterey Bay Area Gov'ts
- Lynn Rodriguez, Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County
- Danielle Brown, CA Marine Sanctuary Foundation
- Doug Kern, Gaviota Coast Conservancy
- Connor Jandreau, California Central Coast Joint Venture/American Bird Conservancy

## Presenters

- **Monterey Bay Economic Partnership** – Ashley Gauer, Monterey bay Economic Partnership
  - **Project Funding Charette for Monterey Bay** – Tiffany Wise-West, City of Santa Cruz
  - **State Budget** – Juliette Finzi-Hart, OPR
  - **State-Regional Coordination** - Michael McCormick, Farallon Strategies
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## Action/Sharing Items

- Events coming up:
  - **[State of the Region Summit](#): Friday, October 29, 2021 9:00 am-1:00 pm.**
  - [IRWM Roundtable of Regions](#) NOV. 15, 16 & 17, 2021 9:00–11:30am
  - **[California Economic Summit](#): November 9th-10th in Monterey, you may join virtually on November 10th.**
- Resources shared:
  - **[Climate Change Funding Programs search engine page](#)**: MBEP developed a rudimentary “search engine” page to help easily navigate and identify funding opportunities. Please share feedback to Ashley [agauer@mbep.biz](mailto:agauer@mbep.biz) on what types of filters they should add.
  - CEC and County of Santa Barbara’s [Wildfire project Opportunity Matrix](#) and website
- If you would like to join a committee with in 4C, please email [centralcoastclimate@gmail.com](mailto:centralcoastclimate@gmail.com) and cc the contact person with the committee you would like to join:
  - Governance- working on updating 4C’s bylaws based on strategic plan and other collaborative structures. **Contact: Heather Allen ([heather.allen@ventura.org](mailto:heather.allen@ventura.org))**
  - Equity-working to operationalize equity within 4C and support equity initiatives with the Central Coast and beyond. **Contact: Juliano Calil ([julianocalil@gmail.com](mailto:julianocalil@gmail.com))**
  - Federal Partnership - working with County staff and federal partners to prioritize projects and align with federal funding. **Contact: Rachel Couch ([rachel.couch@scc.ca.gov](mailto:rachel.couch@scc.ca.gov))**
  - Sea level rise/Coastal Resilience - technical assistance and coordination on and development of coastal resilience projects in the Central Coast **Contact: Rachel Couch ([rachel.couch@scc.ca.gov](mailto:rachel.couch@scc.ca.gov))**
  - Other ideas?
    - *Interest was expressed in exploring a GHG Inventory Committee*

- If you will like to present something you're doing at the December Membership meeting, email [centralcoastclimate@gmail.com](mailto:centralcoastclimate@gmail.com) & Rachel Couch ([rachel.couch@scc.ca.gov](mailto:rachel.couch@scc.ca.gov))
  - Review draft strategic plan by October 14th (attached to email); email comments to [centralcoastclimate@gmail.com](mailto:centralcoastclimate@gmail.com)
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### **Strategic Plan Update from Michael Armstrong and Rachel Couch**

- The strategic plan process sought to update the mission for 4C and articulate the core roles and guiding principles
  - Proposed update to the mission:
    - 4C is an organizing platform that bridges across sectors and scales
    - Focused on equitable climate solutions
    - The goal is a resilient, equitable Central Coast
  - Specific investments over the next few years:
    - Invest in equity
    - Broaden participation
    - Build organizational capacity
  - We have a draft to send to membership in a word doc this week. We'll incorporate the comments and send out a version with graphics by the end of the month.
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### **Presentations**

**Ashley Gauer**, Program Manager, Special Projects at Monterey Bay Economic Partnership (MBEP): [agauer@mbep.biz](mailto:agauer@mbep.biz).

- **Upcoming Events:**
  - **State of the Region Summit: Friday, October 29 9:00 am-1:00 pm.** The 7th Annual State of the Region includes cross-sector conversations covering a range of topics from childcare to housing, systemic racial bias in our education system, and how state and federal relief funds are being deployed to benefit our region.
  - **California Economic Summit: November 9th and 10th in Monterey, you may join virtually on November 10th.** Produced by California Forward in partnership with the California Stewardship Network, the Summit influences CA FWD's ongoing movement to make the government and economy work for everyone. The two-day Summit is designed to create a shared economic agenda known as the [Roadmap to Shared](#)

[Prosperity](#) and strengthen the Summit network, setting the stage for collective action in 2022

- [Climate Change Funding Programs search engine page](#): MBEP developed a rudimentary “search engine” page to help easily navigate and identify funding opportunities. Please share feedback on what types of filters they should add.

**Michael McCormick**, Founder and President at Farallon Strategies:

[michael@farallonstrategies.com](mailto:michael@farallonstrategies.com)

- **Trailer budget bills** recently passed outlining 3.7B for resilience
  - \$50B of climate and resilience funding is more about dealing with the climate change impacts we’re feeling right now, rather than long term planning
  - A lot of general language in the trailer bills which means that staff at state/federal agencies are still understanding what the need is, and they’ll develop grant guidelines based on what the defined needs are
  - Due to the pace, there wasn’t a lot of time to develop a lot of detail for these bills. This gives staff a lot of flexibility to develop guidelines which support the needs that are identified, but if the legislature hasn’t defined clearly what has been funded then it can create challenges in how the funding is spent.
- **Federal Funding**: We don’t yet know how much money will come from this. Think about what we could do if we had the resources, but also be prepared if the funding doesn’t come.
- In general, the agencies that have been given funding will be spending several months trying to understand how to spend the money in the most impactful way, and then develop the grant guidelines several months after that. Those will be released as RFPs which will add another six months.
  - Some of the coastal agencies have existing programs that may be able to access this money sooner
  - The Coastal Conservancy has been included in a \$500M budget trailer bill, but must go through a guidelines development process which will require a lot of input from stakeholders and must actually be appropriated to the agency in next year’s budget. Please sign up on the Coastal Conservancy email list to stay informed.

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**Juliette Finzi-Hart**,

- **State Adaptation Strategy update**: The California Natural resources agency is mandated to update the State Adaptation Strategy every three years. It’s close to being able to release that for public comment and review. There will be a webinar at the beginning of the comment period and 3 regional workshops

- **Budget:** Just like the State and Federal money, there will be a whole guidelines process for the money that comes through OPR.
  - Community resilience: \$420M over three years to go to transformative climate communities
  - Regional Climate Collaboratives: \$20M over two years. Not necessarily for ARCCA Climate Collaboratives, it's actually more for technical assistance and capacity building programs.
  - \$5M in actionable climate science: this is to support the development of vulnerable communities platform through ICARP
  - \$25M over three years for local planning grants
  - \$250M regional adaptation planning grants
- Please have patience, part of the funding goes to staffing up so that these program can be shaped to best serve the entire state
- Sign up for listservs here: <https://opr.ca.gov/e-lists.html>

Q: Would a group like 4C need to partner with a regional agency or local government to apply for these grants?

A: Still being hashed out through the process. Are seeking to include flexibility in guidance.

Q: Can you speak to interagency coordination on definitions, applications, timing?

A: Not at this time, but we do hear that's a concern and are working on it

Q: Many of the initiatives in the budget are focused on adaptation and resilience. I was wondering where you see opportunities for some of these sources to also fund mitigation work.

A: Variety of programs are being funded on mitigation side, as well. Many resilience projects are satisfy both adaptation and mitigation objectives.

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**Tiffany Wise-West**, Sustainability and Climate Action Manager at City of Santa Cruz :

- **Monterey Bay Funding Charette:** at the last quarterly MBEP forum, 90% of all participants were interested in next step activities for positioning for Federal and State funding. Kirsten and Tiffany are putting together a Monterey Bay Funding Charette.
  - Sent out a survey to collect information about climate related projects, mostly government agency folks and asked them to list five prioritized projects that need to get funded over the next 18 months
  - In addition to individual jurisdiction projects we're asking about regional projects that could be a high priority, ex: Bright Action Platform

- We're taking all the data from the survey and plot out that project based information across the different funding opportunities. We'll review where we're in alignment on projects, where there are gaps, and identify next steps forward.
- Hoping to have the charette done by the end of the month

#### **4C Updates:**

- Welcome **Julian Nesbitt**, new Civic Spark fellow at the Coastal Conservancy. He'll work with 4C, the City of Santa Cruz, and the City of Watsonville.
- New member organization: **Integral** (Dave Revell)
- 4C participated in a few grant applications:
  - **Mosaic Grant:** Explore the potential for a climate justice network in the Monterey Bay region. Pull together environmental and social justice groups. 4C will have a role in that with digital storytelling if it's awarded
  - **EPA Environmental Justice Grant Program:** Support continued house meetings led by the Climate Justice Network to work with community based organizations in areas of need to collect information about what those community needs and help inform a Central Coast Green New Deal
- On Sunday, 10/3 4C organized and moderated a [Climate Solutions Now panel](#) for the Climate Solutions Conference hosted by Cal Poly. It featured local environmental justice groups (CAUSE, MBEP, Regeneracion Pajaro Valley Climate Action, Central Coast Climate Justice Network) that are actually doing the work of envisioning and building a just and equitable and resilient climate future for the Central Coast.
- **Governance Committee Updates**
  - Once the Strategic Planning process concludes we'll start the process to update 4C bylaws and governance documents
  - Will also nominate and elect a chair and vice chair for 2022
- **Federal Partnership Meetings**
  - Stalled except for Santa Barbara
  - We've been trying to work with Santa Cruz County to understand what their climate resilience needs are
- Committees: How to join? Descriptions of each?
  - Equity Committee: contact Juliano Calil: [julianocalil@gmail.com](mailto:julianocalil@gmail.com)
- The next member meeting is in December, let us know if you'd like to share what you're up to

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#### **Additional Updates from Membership:**

- **New member: Connor Jandreau, California Central Coast Joint Venture/American Bird Conservancy.** Trying to fill in the gap for joint ventures which are independent partnerships under the US Fish and Wildlife Migratory Bird program. Funded annually by Congress. The Central Coast is the only place left in the US that is not represented by a joint venture. Trying to fill that gap and develop an implementation plan through that process: identify conservation priorities through a bird focus, but centered on habitats, integrating human well being goals, objectives, and needs. Please reach out for information and ways to engage in the development of the California Central Coast Joint Venture, EMAIL: [cjandreau@abcbirds.org](mailto:cjandreau@abcbirds.org), PHONE: 505-470-3745. (Website is under development)
- Sharyn Main: **Santa Barbara County Wildfire Resilience Project.** 18 month process to look at overlapping forest health and fire resilience efforts. Going through all the project ideas coming from agencies and figuring out how to coordinate and centralize all that information.
- **Lynne Rodriquez**, Watershed Coalition Ventura County. [IRWM Roundtable of Regions](#) NOV. 15, 16 & 17, 2021 9:00–11:30A.M
- Amaury Bertrand: AMBAG is looking at the budget and trying to figure out where funding may be coming from. Also currently getting ready to contact jurisdictions with 2019 GHG inventories
- **City of Watsonville Updates:** 1. Our Council just passed an ordinance asking the governor to declare a climate emergency. 2. We are exploring ways to work with PGE in doing electrification (targeted gas line abandonment). There are some regulations that will need to change (obligation to serve with gas...). This is exciting because it could lead to a much faster and bigger transition to electricity compared to conventional approaches.
- **Maya Hayden, Point Blue Conservation Science:** Launched the New “[Our Coast Our Future](#)” website with groundwater update (the new groundwater update: <https://ourcoastourfuture.org/science-and-modeling/#groundwater> You can use the viewer to see sea level rise and groundwater rise. If you have questions about this, demo with scientists to your organization. Feel free to reach out [mhayden@pointblue.org](mailto:mhayden@pointblue.org)