

Workshop Series Key Findings

Overall Key Takeaways



Cross Workshop Recommendation Highlights

1. Support Workforce Development

- a. Create pathways for training programs to transition into full-time, permanent jobs with thriving wages
- b. Upskill LA youth through mentorship and training programs
- c. Work with nontraditional workforce pools, including immigrants and formerly incarcerated individuals, to build out a green workforce

2. Build Capacity

- a. Allocate funding to increase organizational capacity to amplify and scale existing work; current organizations working on sustainability issues are at capacity
- b. Train community members through trade programs, corps/fellowships, promotoras, and other initiatives to accelerate implementation and data collection and fill capacity gaps

3. Analyze Communication Strategy

- a. Analyze communication strategies, who is being reached, and how
- b. Tap into trusted and socialized forms of communication, such as WhatsApp and Facebook, to reach community members
- c. Develop materials about programs, resources, and trainings in multiple languages for all County programs
- d. Create shared definitions around resilience, nature-based, etc., to have clear paths forward
- e. Amplify storytelling and sharing of success stories to create cultural approaches to normalizing sustainability

4. Increase Public Awareness & Education on Existing Programming and Resources

- a. Create a one-stop shop for resource and education dissemination
- b. Promote the use of 211 and include additional information related to the OurCounty Plan Update and existing and new resources
- c. Use CSO staff as a liaison between the community, CSO, and other County departments to share and access resources
- d. Develop a streamlined way to share information across County departments, to cities, and local organizations and communities

5. Enhance Community Involvement in Planning, Funding & Policy

- a. Require agencies to integrate more robust community engagement into project planning and continue CBO partnerships through implementation and evaluation
- b. Community involvement should be a priority, funded at the project's onset, not as an afterthought
- c. Create spaces for multiple departments to facilitate engagement, rather than calling in the community to single department events

- d. Expand outreach efforts, surpassing handing out flyers, to include multilingual outreach on existing laws/policies, programs, and resources via Youtube, social media, door knocking, and print
- 6. Improve Data Collection & Transparency**
 - a. Support community-driven data collection efforts and ensure their validity is recognized in policy-making
 - b. Refine “trusted” data; data collected by the community is often not seen as viable at the state/federal level
- 7. Coordinate Across Agencies & Reduce Silos**
 - a. Establish cross-agency systems to focus on multi-benefit projects
 - b. Establish a County point person at different departments to liaise with the community
 - c. Support intentional collaboration across the community, government, agencies, and businesses
- 8. Plan Proactively**
 - a. Include budget and plans for infrastructure maintenance to ensure the long-term sustainability of projects
 - b. Embed climate resilience and sustainability into existing and future funding and implementation programs
- 9. Improve Funding Practices**
 - a. Integrating equity in scoring criteria for grant applications
 - b. Providing Technical Assistance (TA) to smaller cities on ZEVs, regional training, equitable decarb programs, and agriculture programs
 - c. Require applicants to define project beneficiaries during the application process and have their buy-in
 - d. Implement the Polluter Pays principles, so polluters can fund environmental restoration projects rather than using public resources, as well as extend producer responsibility to fund sustainability measures
- 10. Uplift Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Native Practices**
 - a. Following Indigenous ways of soil remediation, wildfire resilience, plantings around transportation sites, and looking to Native partners during all stages of project planning and implementation
 - b. Changing codes related to cultural burns, as they are not currently permitted
- 11. Change Local Government Structures/Process**
 - a. Reduce funding barriers for local organizations to access grants by reducing the application process and materials required, providing technical assistance, amplifying partnerships and ensuring local organizations receive priority
 - b. Changes in term limits for elected officials to allow for scalable change
 - c. Establish leadership training programs to educate elected officials on local environmental challenges
 - d. Establishing long-term land leases with organizations to support ongoing, community-led environmental work, for example on district or school property
 - e. Identifying other avenues in addition to public comment to elicit feedback from community members

12. Partner with Schools

- a. Creating K-12 education content and materials to teach students about community-based nature solutions (i.e., community/urban farms, pollution reduction, waste conversion)
- b. Developing partnerships with universities to cover tuition in return for service in the environmental sector with the County, modeled after Master of Social Work at UCLA

Cross-Cutting Themes

High-level takeaways tied to the three lenses of focus that were further assessed in Workshop B

Environmental Justice

1. Remediation & Polluted Lands

- a. Address contamination at legacy pollution sites (Del Amo, gas stations, freeway-adjacent lands)
- b. Calls for corporate accountability—polluters should fund environmental restoration projects
- c. Demystify the remediation/restoration process. Explore opportunities to establish a County lead on restoring polluted lands into parks and green spaces
- d. Concerns about housing developments near freeways and oil drilling sites; need for clearer, science-based zoning policies
- e. Ensure green infrastructure projects are maintained long-term, rather than one-time efforts

2. Equitable Infrastructure & Social Resilience

- a. Calls for community-centered urban planning rather than top-down decision-making
- b. Issues with County and City funding processes—too complex for small orgs, leaving communities out of decision-making.
- c. Need for social infrastructure (community centers, public restrooms, hygiene stations, cooling centers)
- d. Public spaces should be designed with dignity in mind—hygiene is a fundamental human right
- e. Equitable funding of energy infrastructure, as well as education on new technologies, such as hydrogen

3. Air & Water Quality

- a. Call for more community-driven air monitoring
- b. Expand access to clean water and stormwater management solutions (rainwater capture, permeable pavement)
- c. Concerns about lead contamination and poor drainage in some neighborhoods

- d. Understand the sustenance fishing communities and the threats to their ability to access food from coastal resources
 - e. Call to understand long-term impacts of harmful algal blooms on coastal recreation
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Green Economy

4. Localizing the Green Economy

- a. Community organizations should be involved in the stewardship of sustainability projects
- b. Local hiring and workforce development—ensuring the economic benefits of sustainability projects stay within the community
- c. Opportunities for green workforce development in remediation, electrification, stormwater infrastructure, maintenance, urban greening, and composting/waste diversion
- d. More long-term funding for decentralized projects, rather than billion-dollar centralized infrastructure, invest in neighborhood-scale solutions
- e. Contractor certification, upskilling, and capacity building for growing needs in the environmental sector
- f. Uplifting youth via leadership development and creating pathways to sit in roles in nonprofit, government, and industry sectors

5. Housing & Anti-Displacement Strategies

- a. Tenant protections and closing loopholes in housing policies (e.g., “substantial remodel” evictions)
- b. Concerns about loss of community identity in new developments—affordable housing shouldn’t contribute to gentrification
- c. Calls for stronger rent control enforcement and affordability mandates
- d. Interest in social housing—permanently affordable, community-supported housing
- e. Importance of multi-generational and mixed-use housing models
- f. If new housing is built, increase the amount of allowed affordable units on the property

6. Decarbonization & Utility Affordability

- a. Increase funding to support low-income households in electrifying their homes
 - b. Reduce barriers to accessing clean energy rebates (complex applications, eligibility restrictions)
 - c. Need for rate reform and advocacy at the utilities commission level
 - d. Provide technical assistance to smaller cities and community-based organizations
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Climate Resilience

7. Sustainable Mobility & Active Transportation

- a. Expanding multi-use bike and pedestrian lanes to promote alternative transit
- b. E-bike incentives (Santa Monica's \$2000 vouchers) empower low-income communities to reduce reliance on cars
- c. Frustrations with Metro's funding and planning process because it is time intensive—community projects struggle to access transportation dollars as costs keep rising
- d. Green alleyways, community gardens, and public park restoration have potential, but often get stuck in red tape, inconsistent funding, and lengthy planning processes
- e. Calls for increased urgency in implementing transit projects, especially ahead of the 2028 Olympics
- f. Employ local residents to carry out work tied to LA28

8. Urban Greening & Heat Resilience

- a. Expand tree planting and green infrastructure, particularly in heat-vulnerable communities, and establish funding streams to ensure maintenance over time
- b. Schools as hubs for green projects (shade trees, native plants, permeable pavement)
- c. Concerns about vegetation removal post-wildfires and the need to balance fire prevention with cooling benefits
- d. Strengthening fire debris management to protect water and air quality
- e. Rebuilding sustainably to increase resilience and be proactive rather than reactive
- f. Expanding cool roofs and cool pavements as a mitigation strategy to reduce the heat burden in communities
- g. Ensuring coastal resilience plans promote equitable beach access

9. Disaster Preparedness & Community Resilience Hubs

- a. Air quality monitoring needs to be more localized and community-accessible
- b. Need for "resilience hubs" (libraries, churches, community centers) to serve as permanent resources, not just emergency shelters
 - i. Questions around defining "resilience"
 - ii. Ensuring resilience hubs are tailored to local needs—some residents (e.g., undocumented workers) may not feel safe in certain locations
- c. Infrastructure disparities in disaster recovery—some communities rebuild faster than others.
- d. More access to air filters and climate-adaptive retrofits for older homes
- e. Partnering with LAUSD to scale impact
- f. Training for community members based on disaster preparedness

Barriers to Implementation

1. **Funding Access:** CBOs and small organizations struggle to access sustainable funding due to complex applications and bureaucratic hurdles. Programmatic costs

in disadvantaged communities can be higher due to the level of need (e.g., poor-quality roofs with solar installation)

2. **Interagency Coordination:** A lack of communication between departments hinders implementation (e.g., transportation and housing not aligning)
 3. **Political Will & Public Awareness:** Need stronger leadership to push for ambitious reforms and better community education on sustainability issues
 4. **Long Timelines:** Many public projects take over a decade to implement—calls for faster action on infrastructure, green infrastructure, including food waste reduction, transit, and housing
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Opportunities for Progress

1. **Leverage the 2028 Olympics:** Utilize the event to drive long-term investments in public transportation, housing, and green infrastructure while ensuring current residents are not displaced
 2. **Participatory Budgeting:** Shift funding models to be more community-driven rather than top-down
 3. **Multi-Benefit Projects:** Ensure projects provide environmental, economic, and social benefits (e.g., combining tree planting with job training)
 4. **Decentralized Resilience Strategies:** Invest in neighborhood-scale solutions (localized water capture, energy microgrids, hyperlocal food systems)
 5. **Holistic Housing & Transit Planning:** Rethink zoning and parking minimums, support dense, walkable, and affordable communities
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A-1 Summary

OurCounty Plan Update



A-1 Key Takeaways

Green/Blue Space & Food - Ecosystems, Parks, Waterways and Coastlines, Food Systems and Food Waste

Wednesday, March 5 · 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Japanese American Cultural & Community Center

Workshop Goals

1. To spur connection between cross-sectoral leaders from across LA County
2. To understand what progress has looked like to regional leaders over the past five years
3. To listen for potential strategies and actions that can strengthen the OurCounty Plan
4. To value people's perspectives and encourage their continued participation in Workshop B
5. To (re-)orient people to the OurCounty Plan

Topic Summaries

1. Biodiversity

- Need for local groundwater recharge to enhance biodiversity and reduce reliance on imported water
- Protection of wildlife corridors is essential for maintaining plant and animal interconnectivity. Suggestions include having micro corridors with pollinators in urban areas
- Education and policy integration are necessary to protect existing habitats from development
- Combat invasive species, which threaten biodiversity and require significant resources to remove
- Balancing housing development and green space
- Mapping biodiversity corridors can help track progress and inform decision-making. Need a stronger data argument, especially for ecosystems and biodiversity health
- Data collection and accessibility are critical for securing funding and demonstrating the value of ecosystem services

2. Park Access

- Maintenance funding is insufficient, resulting in parks falling into disrepair. Long-term, sustainable sources of maintenance funding are crucial
- Put funding toward the care and development of existing parks as many parks—including pocket parks—lack basic amenities like restrooms, shade, lighting, and programming, leading to underuse
- Need for multi-benefit projects that incorporate green space into urban development
- The vision for an ideal park encompasses safety, accessibility, pet-friendly areas, adequate lighting, and engaging programming

- Park planning must involve community-led design and ongoing engagement, not just a top-down vision—with opportunities to include the youth in this process and create a strong connection to nature
- Green alleyways and safe routes to parks initiatives are opportunities to increase accessibility, connectivity, and public health benefits

3. Sustainable Recovery After Wildfires

- Concerns over fire-related waste disposal in impacted communities like Sylmar
- Improve fire debris clean up, do not bring debris into neighborhoods
- Above-ground powerlines pose a fire risk, requiring a shift toward resilient infrastructure
- Using post-fire debris for ecological restoration instead of discarding it could be beneficial
- Need for community hubs to facilitate gathering and recovery after disasters
- Forest bond resilience is a new model of investing that quantifies the benefits of these solutions
- Need a collaborative on Tribal engagement in discussions on prevention and our rebuilding response
- Updating fire standards to be defensible to the environment

4. Local Food Production

- Community gardens serve as community hubs but often lack irrigation support and maintenance funding, relying on volunteers
- Policy barriers (e.g., lack of food donation infrastructure for SB1383 compliance) prevent food from being redirected to those in need, including schools
- Restaurants with excess food could help, but there is no streamlined system for donation and infrastructure to facilitate this
- Education is crucial—even people with food access may lack time, resources, or knowledge of resources
- Promoting pathways to land ownership, long-term lease agreements, and rezoning for food sovereignty
- LA County's Food Equity Roundtable is a major opportunity
- Small cities can struggle with managing food waste

5. Soil Health

- Composting programs have the potential to improve soil health; however, access to composting infrastructure is limited
- Need for better use of organic waste to enrich soil rather than contributing to landfills
- Toxic site remediation via natural, safe processes, and not by use of further chemicals
- Mistrust by the community when a site is deemed 'safe'
- Composting programs that involved organic waste from local homeowners

6. Coastal Waterways

- Measure W was designed to improve stormwater capture and water quality, but some communities, such as Long Beach, have not seen the benefits
- Concerns over coastal erosion, sea level rise, and loss of beach access will necessitate integrated, multi-jurisdictional planning efforts in both coastal and inland communities

- Public transit gaps make beach access inequitable, especially for low-income communities/community members with disabilities
- Trash and safety issues along waterways and bike paths (e.g., Griffith Park to the river)
- Pilot projects like Marina del Rey's trash interceptor have shown promise in improving water quality
- Education on stormwater systems and water conservation is lacking in public schools and communities

Key Themes

- Increasing stormwater capture systems, prioritizing nature-based solutions
- Need for alternative funding mechanisms for multi-benefit infrastructure maintenance
- Creating spaces for community cohesion and ensuring long-term funding for its continuation
- Considerations around building and de-building, for example, depaving efforts
- Promoting local development and distribution as it relates to supporting local food
- Assist communities that live in food deserts, fast food should not be the only available option for food
- Ensuring Indigenous voices are present at planning tables where policies are shaped
- Scaling up food waste management infrastructure and compliance with SB 1383

A-2 Summary

OurCounty Plan Update



A-2 Key Takeaways

Built Environment & Air Quality - Land Use, Housing, Transportation, and Pollution

Wednesday, February 26 · 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Natural History Museum (South Community Room)

Workshop Goals

1. To spur connection between cross-sectoral leaders from across LA County
2. To understand what progress has looked like to regional leaders over the past five years
3. To listen for potential strategies and actions that can strengthen the OurCounty Plan
4. To value people's perspectives and encourage their continued participation in Workshop B
5. To (re-)orient people to the OurCounty Plan

Topic Summaries

1. Housing

- There is a strong need for permanently affordable housing, not just temporary solutions
- Social housing models that integrate community services and climate resilience are a priority
- Eviction loopholes continue to threaten housing stability
- Stronger policies are needed to prevent displacement and ensure that vulnerable residents are protected.
- Provide educational material based on tenants rights
- Future housing developments should integrate energy efficiency, electrification, and weatherization measures to reduce long-term costs for residents
- Many vacant lots remain underutilized due to complex regulations and environmental remediation concerns. Simplifying the process for community groups to own and develop vacant lots could improve local resilience

2. Walkable Communities

- Expanding bike lanes, pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, and public transit options can improve mobility and reduce car dependency
- Walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods should be prioritized to connect housing, jobs, and essential services without requiring long car trips
- Trees, shaded bus stops, and cooling infrastructure must be integrated into walkability projects to ensure they are usable, especially in historically disinvested areas. Long-term funding for maintenance is critical
- Infrastructure changes, such as adding bike lanes, need strong community engagement to avoid resistance and ensure projects meet local needs

3. Pollution Impacts

- Air and water quality remain major concerns, particularly for communities near freeways, warehouses, and industrial zones. Stronger regulations and mitigation measures are needed
- There is ongoing frustration over the slow cleanup of contaminated sites
- Corporate accountability measures should ensure that polluters fund cleanups, rather than relying on public resources
- Equitable investments in air filtration, green buffers, and monitoring programs are needed

4. Fossil Fuel-Free County

- While there is momentum toward phasing out urban oil drilling, progress has been slow
- Ensuring that oil workers have access to green jobs is essential for a just transition
- High costs remain a barrier to transitioning homes and businesses away from gas
- Policies should ensure that incentives and financing options are accessible to low-income resident
- Investments in solar, wind, and battery storage should be community-driven to ensure that benefits stay within local neighborhoods rather than being controlled by large utilities
- The county and local governments should lead by example, ensuring all public buildings and vehicle fleets transition to clean energy as soon as possible

Key Themes

- Funding to be inclusive of opportunities for community engagement
- Promoting a pipeline for youth development in the environmental sector
- Being strategic with land spaces and understanding who owns the land and how it can be of benefit to the community
- To understand what progress has looked like to regional leaders over the past five years
- Decentralized and local projects that are led by the community can support increasing trust and having projects that are tied to community needs
- Need for community spaces such as resilience hubs
- Need for healthy, environmentally just development with protections against displacement

A-3 Summary

OurCounty Plan Update



A-3 Key Takeaways

Core Infrastructure - Buildings, Energy, Water, Waste, and Transportation Decarb/EVs

Thursday, March 6 · 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Los Angeles Trade Tech College

Workshop Goals

1. To spur connection between cross-sectoral leaders from across LA County
2. To understand what progress has looked like to regional leaders over the past five years
3. To listen for potential strategies and actions that can strengthen the OurCounty Plan
4. To value people's perspectives and encourage their continued participation in Workshop B
5. To (re-)orient people to the OurCounty Plan

Topic Summaries

1. Renewable Energy

- There is a strong need for funding infrastructure surrounding EVs, hydrogen energy, and solar along with maintaining this infrastructure once in place. Consider underground utilities and more equitable distribution of renewable energy sources
- Adding microgrids that are self-sustaining can help communities hold their own energy instead of it going to the utility. We heard mixed responses about the benefit/effectiveness of microgrids, which could be something to explore further
- County to provide support to reduce time it takes to connect a source of energy to the grid.
- Programmatic funding to support challenges around solar installations, particularly with roofs that are costly to repair

2. Building Decarbonization

- Need for a one-stop shop for resources and information on building decarbonization from residents to contractors to organizations/businesses
- Calls for a campaign in local areas such as information on printed postings and door-to-door outreach around what decarbonization means, household level swaps, and more. In these campaigns, it is essential to address the ongoing misinformation about decarbonization efforts, especially related to the green job workforce
- County to provide no-cost Technical Assistance (TA) to support regional training and equitable decarb programs. Opportunity for County to use County facilities as case studies to highlight associated savings, outcomes, opportunities and create a model for implementation
- Leverage the Council of Governments across Los Angeles to provide TA and provide educational resources. Collaborate with healthcare industry partners to advance building decarbonization through funding and outreach, as well as with community-based organizations (CBOs) in the space, such as LARC, LAANE, and LACI, to enhance decarbonization efforts and outreach

- Incentives, rebates, and taxes to fund decarb efforts. The current system is costly, and many do not have the upfront funds to implement it

3. Water

- Campaign to end misinformation around clean water and recycled water, and to see utility workers as helpful resources. Additionally, incorporating water education across LA County school curricula
- Creating the infrastructure for regional availability of grey water systems in development properties, and for direct use of potable recycled water
- Incentives for grey water infrastructure and retrofits for existing and new developments. Changes to code will be required to allow for this
- Adding hydration stations across LA County—especially in parks and public spaces—and splash pads
- Implementing additional measures, such as Measure W, to fund multi-benefit projects that incorporate educational and recreational components

4. Circular Economy

- Creating subsidized programs to support how we create clothes with materials at low cost, so sustainable clothing can compete with fast fashion
- Creating pathways for training on item repair to disincentivize waste creation, as well as uplifting knowledge on recycling centers and what can be recycled. The County connects with existing networks such as Suay Sew Shop which prides itself around creating a culture of community and reuse
- County should offer pickup for textile recycling
- Promoting businesses to “go green” via microgrants that are tailored to localized needs

5. Zero Emission Transportation

- While there are Zero-Emission fleets, consideration needs to be given to what vulnerable communities require: safe, reliable, and affordable transportation. In planning processes, thinking about where communities are and where they need to go
- Promote Safe Pedestrian Infrastructure. Support walking as a public health and mental health strategy, a way to foster personal connections to nature, and an essential transportation mode
- Prioritize local manufacturing and increase this to meet the needs of expanding public transportation and rail lines
- Beyond the gas tax, the County to explore new opportunities around congestion pricing and a Climate Super Fund as done in New York and Vermont

6. Building Design

- Working with developers and businesses to incorporate rain water harvesting, ground water capture, and grey water systems
- Utilizing Light Colored Class A roofs and cool roofs to mitigate heat, amplifying the benefits of passive designs, and promoting water capture systems
- Educating homeowners and renters about what can be done at an individual level to increase water capture, landscaping biodiversity, and access to resources

- Ensuring insurance companies are liable during climate disasters and the rebuilding phases with a focus on equity. Our current systems only allow for wealthy homeowners to rebuild with resilience, which can have systemic impacts

Key Themes

- Increase education on what resources currently exist and how to access them
- Mobilize communities to be trained and upskilled to take on new jobs
- Increased partnership with LACI and LAUSD to develop pathways for green jobs
- Funding mechanisms in the form of a carbon tax or resilience bond to support infrastructure and programmatic funding across topical themes
- Creating standards around recycling and building decarb

B-1 Summary

OurCounty Plan Update



B-1 Key Takeaways

Green/Blue Space & Food - Ecosystems, Parks, Waterways and Coastlines, Food Systems and Food Waste

Tuesday, March 18 · 10:00am – 12:00pm
Natural History Museum (South Community Room)

Workshop Goals

1. Encourage connection and collaboration between cross-sectoral leaders from across LA County
2. Brainstorm new and updated Actions by linking feedback shared in Workshop A with current OurCounty Plan Strategies and Actions
3. Specify how the County can address environmental justice, green economy, and climate resilience

Topic Summaries

1. Enhancing Coastal Resilience

- Partner with LA County Fire through the Junior Guard program to provide early access to swimming lessons, free field trips, and coastal camping nights to underserved communities and rural communities to ensure diversity and representation in the interested party group
- Developing multilingual materials on the issues causing impacts to coastal resilience
- Provide adaptation education, e.g. what will the County Coast look like in 10 years of sand loss, ocean acidification, harmful algal blooms if we don't adapt
- Partner with The Bay Foundation on zip code study to identify which beaches currently provide recreation to inland impacted neighborhoods. Prioritize long-term access planning to ensure resource longevity.
- Partner with LA County SCWP workforce development program to upskill LA youth via training programs and mentor programs on climate and coastal resilience
- Increase efforts to build out, restore, and preserve coastal wetlands
- Partner with the Bay Foundation and LACBH to maximize dunes to protect infrastructure and coastal communities from SLR
- Partner with Fish Contamination Education Collaborative on long-term study to quantify and protect the sustenance fishing community from threats to seafood abundance and or health impacts of Harmful Algae Blooms and DDT on local fish stocks
- Phasing out offshore drilling
- Work with Sanitation Districts to support the elimination of wastewater treatment plant nutrient-rich discharge into LA County coastal waters to prevent ecosystem collapse from ocean acidification
- Establish biodiversity baselines in LA County coastal waters
- Develop resilience in the intertidal zone through sea grass and kelp restoration to maintain or increase levels of local coastal biodiversity

- Establish protocols for protecting riparian habitats when rains come after wildfires. E.g., dams to keep metals from entering creeks and reaching coastal waters
- Partner with LACBH to include watersheds/inland beach users in the coastal resilience conversation
- Increase agency education on the relationship between coastal armoring and down current sand loss
- In the same way, cities have to do a 5-year plan for water supplies, the County should convene coastal cities to help or require them make 5-year plans for sand replenishment and maintenance
- Test a more extensive set of toxic parameters for water quality so as to protect public health but also to establish a baseline to measure impacts of ocean acidification and impacts of climate disasters such as wildfires
- Protect beachgoers and coastal dwellers from worsening impacts from harmful algal blooms (HABs), including events impacting local marine life or plankton die-offs causing severe odor issues
- Connect with the LA County Office of Education to leverage climate education on methods to mitigate and adapt to local impacts of climate change mandated in AB 285

2. Improving Soil Health

- Preserving CEQA, making sure there is participatory decision-making
- Funding is needed for people who live in the community to be able to do the testing of soil health, as this empowers the community as well as improves testing times
- Continue to invest in and scale up existing community science programs/partnerships
- Promote education and outreach opportunities through gardening workshops, community science training, food waste reduction and compost events, etc.
- Systematize school curricula to ensure students learn more about soils, plants, and the circularity of waste
- Utilizing Magic Johnson Park as a model going forward
- County to uplift the Healthy Soils Program as it has been underfunded
- Conduct an internal analysis on park processes to decrease red tape and the time it takes to develop green space in disadvantaged areas
- Providing at-home soil testing kits to residents
- Develop and share best practices related to soil removal and remediation

3. Partnering for Green Space Opportunities

- Updating zoning and plans so all new development and repairs are funding OurCounty Action #71
- Include residents in the planning and implementation of action, as they are currently not listed under OurCounty Action #74
- Creating green schoolyards to be models and promote access to green space
- Support the generation of sub-plans in the County to account for nuances across the area
- Help park-poor communities identify and study vacant lots for their suitability for park development or community gardens
- Prioritize connectivity for pedestrians, bikes in green ways, and habitat connectivity to keep areas safe from vehicles, protect wildlife, and encourage connection to nature
- Implement a 5% for Green Space program, similar to 1% for Arts, where 5% of the infrastructure budget is for projects dedicated to expanding and restoring green spaces
- Utilize Pearls Premium Grass Seeds, which are fire-resistant, low-water, and hardy roots
- Donate public land to CBOs and local organizations

- Increase contract procurement by 10% by 2030 with nonprofits with all County departments
- Partner with the County Assessor to identify mechanisms that protect residents from increases in pricing as parks are developed in underserved areas
- Update the 2016 *Parks and Public Health in Los Angeles County* report to document how green spaces relate to health
- Support emergency preparedness training for park staff

4. Local Food Production

- County to consider leasing land to grow food. For example, there have been farms on school district land operating on leases ranging from 5 years to a 99-year lease, with the latter providing long-term, stable food production.
- Advocate for empty lots to be used for community gardens or urban farming, as seen with UCLA City Lab, Cultiva, and in San Gabriel Valley
- Ability to access public lands; the biggest hurdle is getting permits/leases
- Increase funding support to existing local food organizations to increase capacity
- Increase composting bins in public spaces /restaurants with signage to aid in waste sorting
- Develop a partnership with Athens to distribute compost
- Support community-led sovereignty programs or collectives to empower local food production and reduce reliance on larger food companies by uplifting local vendors' presence at farmers' markets and County events
- County of LA to work with trash hauling companies (ex. Athens Sanitation SB 1383)
- Creating more community hubs, creating maps that highlight food resources across the County
- Advocating for more studies on underrepresented areas to bring more awareness and funding to them
- Conduct a study to understand better the sustenance fishing community and their reliance of local seafood to feed their families

5. Nature-Based Solutions in Stormwater Projects

- Need a high-level goal to reduce impervious surface across the County and increase green, multi-benefit solutions (de-paving goal)
- Public Works and Regional Planning should re-evaluate road standards, especially for rural communities, to reduce the need for impervious and paved roads and promote depaving, for example converting right of ways into trails and natural space
- Concerns over missing out on Measure W funding access based on the lack of training of LADWP staff
- Permanent positions for local Indigenous communities to build symbiotic relationships and make a more transparent and inclusive decision-making process
- Locally fund local water wells to maintain street trees and reduce water usage
- More stringent water regulations to prevent contamination of groundwater
- Incentivize multi-family property owners to implement stormwater capture systems and native plant landscaping
- Advocate for more representation at Watershed Scoring Committee, and at least one WASC seat should be for an Indigenous/Tribal representative
- Upskilling LA youth via mentorship and training programs to support operations and maintenance of multi use infrastructure projects
- Reinstating the tuition cost or implementing a loan forgiveness program to those who go into environmental work, particularly stormwater management

- More accurately capture social and environmental benefits under Measure W taxes to fund maintenance
- Map out jurisdictions and overlay these with water sources to promote agency coordination and streamline the permitting process
- Short-term project labor agreements, specifically in areas with generalized streams and depaving
- Support local workforce to do the physical remediation to retain economic power within the community

6. Waste Opportunities Towards a Circular Economy

- Funding for additional kitchen (e.g. dishwashers) needs for small businesses to be sustainable
- Local community engagement activities that are hands-on for residents and financial support by the County, such as “Fix it” and “Composting 101” workshops
- Create a policy for the enforcement of reuse and organics ordinances
- Create a mechanism (such as will be used by LA28) for tracking “cradle to grave” for all waste to ensure proper disposal
- Adopt a backup plan or SB54 for extended producer responsibility ordinances, especially for the most toxic products and packaging
- Create multilingual outreach and education programs on existing laws, programs, and resources via Youtube, social media, and print
- Create model ordinances for cities with high informal economy participation to incentivize participation in reuse economy

7. Habitat Restoration

- Needs judicious elimination of invasive species and funding of a workforce dedicated to this work
- County to have a partnership with universities; covering tuition in return for service in environmental sector with the County; modeling after Master of Social Work at UCLA, and other child development programs as well
- Pulling in the philanthropic sector and tax polluters rather than relying on just state/federal funding
- Establishing a Conservation Corps, looking at Rudy Ortega Senior Park and FTBMI as a model, to promote knowledge and awareness building to understand what habitat we are protecting
- LA County to prioritize habitat restoration in its greenways and owned lands
- Partnering with SCE around transportation sectors and parkways, as is being done with LADWP to address the protection of pollinators
- County parkways to be native drought tolerant and support biodiversity
- Analyze land/unused land, even if small spaces, to understand how to utilize it for environmental benefits
- Advance pocket parks as a strategy to increase biodiversity and habitat

Key Themes – high-level takeaways from the session

- Amplifying and scaling up existing programming by local CBOs and organizations
- Increasing workforce development opportunities from training programs to full time positions
- Training residences to do data collection and be active agents in their communities

- Fostering connections to nature to create a shift in priorities and increase resilience
- Increase multi-benefit project
- Engage Tribes in the decision-making process

B-2 Summary

OurCounty Plan Update



B-2 Key Takeaways

Built Environment & Air Quality - Land Use, Housing, Transportation, and Pollution

Wednesday, March 19 · 1:00 – 3:00pm
Magic Johnson Recreation Center

Workshop Goals

1. Encourage connection and collaboration between cross-sectoral leaders from across LA County
2. Brainstorm new and updated Actions by linking feedback shared in Workshop A with current OurCounty Plan Strategies and Actions
3. Specify how the County can address environmental justice, green economy, and climate resilience

Topic Summaries

1. Increasing Affordable Housing

- Find a way to address the level of influence of NIMBY folks have current public comment spaces via organizing, and capacity building with residents and housing organizers and get these voices at the table
- Lower the barrier to entry for renters to have a seat at the table
- Single Stairway reform as a potential model to implement in new building development
- County to a better job of bringing all departments to the table to understand who is doing what
- Promote upzoning paired with health-promoting infrastructure (e.g., ensure park development keeps pace with population growth in upzoned communities)
- Establish a missing middle ordinance like Sacramento's which allows multi-family buildings in all previously single-family zones
- Community training in urban planning, land use, and sustainability; understanding the differences and impact
- Create social housing that has community voices in design, incorporating their needs into development to ensure it matches and also maximizes a vision for the future and design
- Educational opportunities to connect community to resources and programs (inclusive of tenants/property owners)
- Implement green infrastructure into these developments (bioswales, water retention, etc)

2. Minimizing Community Impacts of Goods Movement

- Support SCAQMD in the development of regulations to reduce pollution
- Promote the adoption of electric heavy-duty vehicles and provide incentives
- Provide avenues for community input in the siting of EV infrastructure using GRID Alternatives E-Truck Program as a model

- Prevent cut-through truck traffic in neighborhoods with multimodal improvements, traffic calming, green ways
- Expanding policies about which streets trucks are not allowed on
- Create incentives for businesses to do ride sharing for goods movement and support workforce training programs in green goods movement
- Pilot autonomous electric rail and road-to-rail technologies at ports
- Build awareness through education and public campaigns to teach people about the impacts of air quality, reporting process, and enforcement
- Increase advocacy at state/regional level with coordination with enforcement agencies

3. Monitoring Air Quality

- County to focus on air quality monitoring in school yards
- Expand monitoring beyond PM 2.5 to include temperature, VOCs, NOx, and other gases
- Establish community education strategies based on localized data
- Training residents to be a part of air monitoring
- Continue funding, and scale up, existing community science programs
- Support small businesses, for example, dry cleaners, to adopt safe technologies that will reduce emissions
- Develop a dashboard that displays accessible data and monitoring
- Create a data-sharing process with community clinics and emergency hospitals
- Develop actions and consequences when air quality targets are not met
- Stop oil drilling in LA County
- Place warning signs on blocks within 1000ft of freeways related to toxic air
- Prevent the development of housing and community sites within 1000ft of freeways

4. Sustainable Wildfire Resilience

- Need greater restrictions/plans about expanding in high hazard areas and account for externalities within cost estimates
- Support Tribal and Indigenous controlled burns and other traditional ecological practices
- Revisit pre-approved standard and sustainable rebuilding plans
- Create a planting guide, a neighborhood with min/max of plant flora/fauna to follow Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Provide financial support for cities to assist with implementing these ideas
- Require all-electric new construction
- Expand local rainwater harvesting and streamline codes related to rainwater harvesting
- Allow renters to generate their own power from balcony units by subsidizing the landlord's installment and allowing the landlord to retain some portion of the long-term cost savings
- Work with tenants/unions to ensure local policies are created/enforced to ensure their homes are properly remediated
- Increase allowable density where it is safe and sustainable to rebuild
- Require fire resistant measures be taken for all new builds of retrofits in fire prone areas and include landscaping in this, there are fire resistant plants that lower risk

5. Decarbonization Without Displacement

- Contract with and/or provide grants to hyper-local EJ nonprofits and community groups to share awareness on decarb mechanisms

- County to close renovation eviction loopholes to protect tenants from being displaced from the transition to electric buildings
- Create programs or grants to support tenants in the decarbonization process
- Promote solar on multi-family housing to reduce reliance on long-distance transmission lines and distributed batteries
- Pilot local microgrids
- Offer in person multi-agency enrollment days with staff to support residents in multiple languages
- Support landlords in decarb retrofits by providing direct, free of cost installation of electric stoves, AC, sealing, badge energy efficient rental, thermometer with alarm, water filter, and solar
- Promote mechanisms to create a good environment between tenants and landlords in the decarbonization process to help each other
- Create regulations to avoid landlords passing the cost of decarbonization to tenants
- Utilize County's purchasing power for bulk purchases of solar panels, electric appliances, etc.
- Update city codes to ensure window awnings are legal and provide micro grants for installation and purchase
- Increase tree plantings to reduce the Urban Heat Island effect, particularly around freeways, schools, and public spaces
- Support decarbonization with more information about trusted contractors.
- Promote workforce development around decarbonization, with fair payment and good labor conditions

6. Promoting the Use of Healthy and Sustainable Materials

- Accelerate the transformation of the County's concrete flood control channels to public greenways for public health, walking, biking, and access to nature
- Promote and implement green alleyways by creating policy for siting and use of natural materials
- Shift LA County's infrastructure from grey to green by investing in multi-benefit projects that support public health, active transportation, and climate resilience (e.g., San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network Plan)
- Accelerate public access and greening of all of LAFCD concrete wash network to open hundreds of miles of new, safe greenways
- Plant shade trees along flood control channels and create open access to previously gated areas
- Regulate foam disposal
- Host repair and reuse clinics at libraries and parks to foster a culture of recycling and sustainability
- Replace asphalt at all County schools, playgrounds, and play zones with natural materials
- Eliminate the use of asphalt and create porous surfaces to capture and divert water
- Incentivize renewables, see "Reusable LA" and tax single-use products
- Analyze key waste streams that County agencies can reduce immediately, such as with events with food services

7. Equipping Community-Led Resilience Hubs

- Creating a shared definition for resilience hubs: Community members have expressed wanting holistic community centers that also provide resources that will help people prepare for emergencies

- Conducting an analysis of existing County facilities (i.e., libraries) that analyzes existing capacity and potential to expand these facilities to provide other benefits, such as a resilience hub
- Identify gaps through a mapping analysis and commit to addressing them to ensure all communities have equitable access to resilience hubs
- Identify gaps revealed through the mapping analysis and commit to addressing them to ensure all communities have equitable access to resilience hubs.
- Partnering with CBOs who do not have resilience centers in their communities to lease space to create one
- Partnering with CBOs to support ongoing programming that is specific to community needs
- Training local residents on how to maintain/steward their infrastructure and other elements in their community

Key Themes – high-level takeaways from the session

- Expanding enforcement and regulation to uphold goals and standards set to reach climate goals
- Creating shared definitions that also allow for nuances and flexibility
- Creating spaces for community cohesion and ensuring long-term funding
- Analyzing existing structures that could act as resilience hubs and forming a gap analysis to identify areas for County intervention

B-3 Summary

OurCounty Plan Update



B-3 Key Takeaways

Core Infrastructure - Buildings, Energy, Water, Waste, and Transportation Decarb/EVs

Thursday, March 20 · 10:00am – 12:00pm

Japanese American Cultural and Community Center

Workshop Goals

1. Encourage connection and collaboration between cross-sectoral leaders from across LA County
2. Brainstorm new and updated Actions by linking feedback shared in Workshop A with current OurCounty Plan Strategies and Actions
3. Specify how the County can address environmental justice, green economy, and climate resilience

Topic Summaries

1. Equipping Community-Led Resilience Hubs

- Support bottom-up investments in communities/resources to establish resilience hubs
- Resilience centers should be run and owned by communities and CBOs
- Reference existing models such as American Legion in Culver City or Boyle Heights Arts Conservancy
- Ensure resilience hubs are accessible to all people, including communities that are monolingual/don't speak English
- Promote the development and use of space that is underutilized, such as parking lots/black top, or community spaces that are already in use and have community trust
- When developing resilience hubs, including planning around transportation needs for residents to get to the hub
- Develop a resilience hub mapping tool with a climate vulnerability index and outline the cost throughout CA referencing the UCLA Community Solar mapping tool
- Utilize resilience hubs as spaces to offer education to the community about extreme heat and climate-related events as well as a space to access resources to build resilience
- County should provide free CERT training in multiple languages, offer child care and food, stipends, and via hybrid platforms
- Create a "how to start a resilience hub" series and work with organizations by providing funding or taking on the administrative burden for the communities to provide resilience hubs
- Share available state funding opportunities for resilience hubs with community-based organizations and local governments

2. Waste Opportunities Towards a Circular Economy

- Create an education and outreach campaign on how to reuse materials and uplift success stories on reusing materials

- Support the implementation of composting infrastructure in parks
- Support and invest in nontraditional workers, i.e., immigrants and formerly incarcerated, to build a green workforce
- Develop a long-term plan to maintain an LA Recycling Hub as a public space that allows for recycling, repurposing, and educating
- Supporting state policy that extends producer responsibility measures using waste characterization and additional analysis to identify where local policies make sense to be implemented
- Incentivize the return of containers at grocery stores for a discount at register
- Create a culturally specific and language-appropriate outreach campaign to teach people how to contribute to a circular economy
- Create local recycling infrastructure so where waste is produced it can be processed which also creates a form of sustainable job

3. Developing a ZEV-Ready Workforce

- Training programs for educators to train city council members, commissions, and decision-makers on what ZEV-Ready means
- Educating users of the vehicles on how to charge to ensure the longevity of batteries
- Coordinate with LACI's Green Jobs Regional Partnership program, which is publishing a roadmap on ZEV jobs
- Work with unions to support ZEV adoption and make EV charging installation and maintenance jobs more attractive
- Work with Metro to develop a feasibility study for public electrified transit versus private transit
- Provide funding/incentives to cities and local organizations for EV and charging implementation
- Engage with industries such as utility companies, start-ups, and large corporations involved in ZEV production and services to ensure there is an understanding of the skills needed to create workforce development programs
- Provide Technical Assistance to local cities to complete reporting requirements on ZEVs

4. Standardizing Distributed Energy Resources

- Investing in multifamily solar installation programs in disadvantaged communities with local training components
- Work with LADWP and SCE to generate jobs/training for repairing and maintaining the distribution grid in low income neighborhoods
- Need workforce that is unionized and cost-competitive with fossil fuel jobs to install and maintain distributed energy resources
- CSO can work with IBEW, BlueGreen Alliance, UAW, UA, and USW to transition workers to clean jobs
- Focus on SELA and Gateway Cities in south central LA County, especially smaller cities who often are not served by CSO and ISD program but who host lots of energy infrastructure
- Regulation on predatory solar companies or any for profit entity
- Solar installation at parks and expanding resilience hubs
- Covering parking lots, on rec buildings to promote shade and tackle Urban Heat Island effect
- Solar required in new building construction
- Mandate in partnership with CEC, LADWP, CPUC, to mandate microgrids and solar batteries on large facilities

- Invest in charging stations to provide technical and financial support to acquire EV vans to support programming resilience hubs
- Mandate a Transfer Switch to include in all solar installs so people can continue to power their own home business when grid is de-energized
- Conduct an analysis to identify ways forward within incorporated areas to phase out oil and ban new drilling, not just in unincorporated areas
- Focus solar locally (building roofs at parking lots, at transit stops, parks, and all home types) to decrease energy lost in long-distance transportation and transmission lines
- Expand Cool Roofs on all homes
- Research and support Energy Efficient Mortgages
- Invest in non-energy benefit modeling (NEBs)
- Provide training of contractors and construction workers on Energy Efficiency Passive design, Distributed Generation, and other resilience-building practices

5. Equitable Stormwater Projects

- Partner with plant nurseries for cross-training opportunities with community members on building bioswales and other stormwater projects that prioritize water infiltration
- Create apprenticeship programs and educating on natural resources and what is available in the lands (not concrete)
- Partner with organizations and schools to help clean up Dominguez Channel and other clean-up opportunities
- Pass an ordinance on a stormwater capture requirement
- Share insight on storm drain retrofits to exclude pollutants from the water supply
- Education on water runoff from washing cars and littering to demonstrate impact on water pollution
- Provide training and certification to landscaping companies and small businesses to implement green practices
- Prioritize smaller neighborhood-level projects with multiple benefits, ranging from rain gardens, bioswales, and urban tree planting to reduce runoff and promote groundwater recharge

6. Decarbonization Without Displacement

- Set up direct install programs coupled with apprenticeships that target local businesses and residences; look to LADWP's apprenticeship program as an example
- Establish a heat fit retrofit program with apartment maintenance folks to provide training on electric systems
- County should provide resources and education to help enact more rent stabilization ordinances across the County's cities, for example, sharing a template rent stabilization ordinances
- Increase education on stormwater systems and water conservation in public schools.
- Follow the approach of investment and anti-displacement as seen within the South LA EcoLab (Transformative Climate Communities)
- Create a tool library in each community to aid local stewardship and help residents create and maintain green spaces
- Provide funding to landlords to implement upgrades to avoid passing the cost onto renters
- Offer technical and financial assistance for decarbonization of existing buildings

7. Sustainable Wildfire Resilience

- Create 1-3 month plans for residents post-fire, including information residents need under a centralized hub with information on how to rebuild
- Increase speed of permitting to remove debris and develop a debris waste locator
- Create fire safe councils for at-risk areas
- Incentives and grants for low-income residents to access climate-resilient equipment
- Local hires and hiring of nontraditional workers for rebuilding efforts
- Forest clearing wood debris can be used to create restoration for watersheds, i.e., beaver dam analogs for watershed restoration and reuse trees cut down for wildfire management
- Invest more in green spaces and urban greening projects including native plants and trees, especially native oaks
- Promote home hardening and ensure LA County doesn't dilute building codes and chapter 7A
- Workforce training to rebuild with sustainable materials
- Support residential accessory dwelling units (ADUs) with solar and battery storage for rebuilding
- Ensure a diversified mix of utility delivery to minimize overexposure to any one harm
- Asset mapping to let communities find their community resources
- Ensure recovery efforts include upskilling on fire management and general ecological stewardship
- No CEQA streamlining; County to rebuild without compromising health and environmental safety and follow health protecting regulations
- Community stabilization policies
- Support Altadena's infrastructure (i.e., sidewalks and trees) and support their three local water agencies in rebuilding infrastructure

Key Themes - high-level takeaways from the session

- Harnessing community power and developing community channels to tap into during times of environmental crisis
- Enforcing environmental policies to ensure long term sustainability
- Creating various education and outreach campaigns to empower and increase agency
- Identifying avenues to provide local organizations with funding and technical assistance to scale impact
- Forging partnerships with local organizations to implement hyperlocal projects based on community needs

Virtual Workshops



Virtual Workshops Summary

Green / Blue Space & Food - Partnering for Green Space Opportunities and Ensure Local Food Production and Access

Built Environment & Air Quality - Wildfire Resilience and Decarbonization Without Displacement

Core Infrastructure - Standardizing Distributed Energy Resources and Equitable Stormwater Projects

Tuesday, March 22 · 2:00pm - 3:00pm & Monday, March 28 · 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Workshop Goals

1. Encourage connection and collaboration between cross-sectoral leaders from across LA County
2. Brainstorm new and updated Actions by linking feedback shared in Workshop A with current OurCounty Plan Strategies and Actions
3. Specify how the County can address environmental justice, green economy, and climate resilience

Topic Summaries

1. Partnering for Green Space Opportunities

- The Countywide Parks Needs Assessment (PNA) has been a powerful tool helping organizations and jurisdictions secure grant funding and provide a neutral, data-driven lens to highlight inequities across the county
- Evaluate ecosystem services provided by parklands to better assess resilience and whether parks are delivering equitable environmental benefits
- Partner with the Department of Parks and Recreation and other community-based organizations (CBOs) to activate underutilized park spaces for food forests, demonstration gardens, and other community-serving uses
- Support community ownership and stewardship by enabling residents to decide what features are included in their local parks
- Provide community education on regenerative farming practices through programs and demonstrations at County parks
- Expand resource distribution events at LA County parks by partnering with local organizations
- Promote awareness among CBOs of opportunities for reduced or rent-free leases (excluding insurance costs) to utilize County park space for community gardens, compost centers, farmers markets, demonstration gardens, and mobility hubs
- Partner with schools to integrate regenerative agriculture, organic farming to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to neighboring communities and food banks to teach students about sustainability

- Increase communication between County, elected officials, and COGs
- Collaborate with cities and Councils of Governments (COGs) to develop area-specific approaches (e.g., strategic tree maintenance in foothill communities)
- Collaborate with municipalities and state agencies to strengthen the green jobs pipeline, ensuring training programs lead to long-term, living-wage employment
- Evaluate the outcomes of Measure A and apply key lessons to future funding strategies, including metrics for co-benefits like green workforce development
- Identify parks and public lands near high wildfire risk areas and identify actions to mitigate potential hazards
- Integrate ecosystem recovery into post-wildfire rebuilding efforts in high-risk areas such as Altadena to enhance community resilience and ecological health
- Develop a comprehensive vision for a connected green transportation network that links bike trails, parks, and the LA River corridor
- Enhance public transportation access to green spaces by creating a user-friendly map of open spaces accessible via bus and rail
- Encourage local nurseries to stock at least 50% native plants to support biodiversity and habitat restoration efforts.
- Require a minimum square footage of native landscaping in new developments over a certain size
- Reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides in public green spaces to protect environmental and community health
- Ensure funds are distributed across NGOs and universities to mitigate challenges applying for and securing funding to increase park access

2. Ensure Local Food Production & Access

- Expand County support for nonprofits leading food access efforts, including mobile farmers markets that serve residents facing food insecurity or barriers to benefit access
- Develop a coordinated, Countywide food recovery strategy that connects existing networks, platforms, and apps into a more efficient, integrated system
- Partner with universities and their sustainability departments to scale innovative tools like Matabites at CSUN and support campus gardens and food recovery programs
- Upgrade infrastructure and data systems to support refrigerated food trucks delivering surplus food, and streamline administrative processes to incentivize food donations from businesses
- Partner with school districts to support school greening projects and explore community access models that enable public use of school gardens for education in regenerative agriculture
- Partner with school districts to modernize food service facilities and staff training to support fresh, farm-to-school meal preparation to improve scratch cooking capacity
- Reconsider zoning policies to allow micro-restaurants or Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations (MEHKO) in residences
- Establish goals, incentives, and partnerships to increase local food production, purchasing, and distribution, within a focus on equity and resilience leading to a target 30% localized food system
- Design and deploy accessible metrics and evaluation tools to help small farms demonstrate multi-benefit outcomes without excessive administrative burden
- Integrate agricultural land use priorities into General Plans, Community Plans, and zoning updates to boost visibility of agriculture's benefits in land use decisions, especially in the Antelope Valley

- Advocate for permanent funding and staffing for the USDA Farm Service Agency's urban agricultural initiatives, as current support is underfunded and temporary
- Establish partnerships with Indigenous leaders and organizations to inform and integrate Indigenous knowledge into sustainable agriculture and aquatic food systems
- Support cultivation and harvesting of finfish, bivalves, and seaweeds as part of a resilient, localized aquatic food economy to develop thriving aquatic food systems
- Investigate ways to safely move communities away from high-risk coastal areas due to climate change, working with local residents to test fair and effective relocation plans
- Plant food productive trees on public land and greenways
- Launch pilot projects and funding programs to promote community-scale anaerobic digestion as a method to generate renewable energy from composting

3. Wildfire Resilience

- Promote intentional botanical corridors with fire-adaptive plants and use fire-resistant composted mulches to support ecosystem health and fire resilience across public and private landscapes
- Partner with school districts and integrate wildfire resilient components into campus greening efforts
- Create a publicly accessible database to model environmental stewardship and offer educational programs tailored to the general population as well as specific age, language, or cultural groups

4. Decarbonization Without Displacement

- Target zero-emissions buildings (not just net-zero) and implement policies that require replacement of appliances (residential or commercial) with electric alternatives at the end of their lifespan
- Partner with affordable housing developers to incorporate community gardens as a core feature of new and rehabilitated housing projects, promoting climate resilience and local food access
- Increase funding, technical assistance, and land access to support community land trusts and cooperative housing models like LA Ecovillage, promoting stability and self-determination
- Integrate building and industry sectors in the future vision and strategies for a fossil fuel-free LA County

5. Standardizing Distributed Energy Resources

- Increase public education of benefits and distributed energy resource systems (DERs) for resilience to encourage adoption
- Streamline policies and plans that incorporate electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure with DERs
- Increase cooperation and collaboration between utilities and DERs providers

6. Equitable Stormwater Projects

- Prioritize acquisition or designation of sufficient land to create bioswales, parks, and stormwater management infrastructure that are both functional and aesthetically designed in disadvantaged communities
- Partner with community-based organizations to amplify the work around stormwater capture
- Add compost socks around storm drains to filter water and block pollutants

Key Themes – high-level takeaways from the session

- Forging partnerships with local schools, community-based organizations, municipalities, and Indigenous leaders to integrate climate resilience strategies into various sectors including education, the workforce, and land development
- Prioritizing strategies and policies that promote equity and benefit disadvantaged communities
- Promoting community ownership, stewardship, and self-determination by developing tools, providing guidance, and publishing evaluation strategies and metrics
- Connecting existing networks, platforms, and organizations to support building resilience and facilitating access to resources