



Local Government Commission



2014 ANNUAL REPORT



2014 was a landmark year for the LGC thanks to our hardworking staff, innovative members, distinguished board, visionary funders and diverse partners. Together we held the first Statewide Adaptation Forum in California; rolled out CivicSpark - a new Governor's Initiative AmeriCorps program; and provided inspiration and implementation support. We expanded our membership, increased our services and helped local governments across the state improve their communities.

WHO WE ARE

Members

678 Innovative Leaders

Staff

17 Full Time
15 Part Time

5 Program Areas

Community Design, Healthy Communities, Climate Change, Energy and Water

2014 ACHIEVEMENTS

Improved Health, Safety and Mobility in Over 25 Communities

- Design charettes and Statewide Energy plan development in **16** communities
- Funding applications for **9** communities
- Street design and recreation access support: **25** workshops and trainings
- Supported advancement or adoption of:
 - **31** Complete Streets policies
 - **3** design guidelines
 - **2** joint use agreements
 - **1** parklets policy

Increased the Capacity of Over 800 Leaders to Address Climate Change

- 1st CA Adaptation Forum - over **800** attendees
- New CivicSpark Governor's Initiative:
 - **47** AmeriCorps members
 - **9** regional teams
 - **75** local projects
 - Over **5,000** service hours completed
- Influenced State Policy: **5** state documents and **2** presentations to legislators

Increased the Capacity of Over 400 Leaders to Reduce Energy Use

- Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) - forum reached over **400** local leaders
- Statewide Energy Coordinator:
 - Technical assistance to over **10** communities and **50** local government staff members
 - Guidance to over **1,000** energy and climate change leaders
- Currents - regular updates to **670** local energy leaders

Created a Foundation for Strong Sustainable Water Management Support in 2015

- **1** water manager hired
- **4** proposals submitted - would total over **\$2.7M**
- Low Impact Development (LID) feasibility study
- Over **20** meetings with state and local water leaders

Grew a network of sustainability champions and practitioners

- Reached over **2,000** sustainability leaders through all events
- Connected with over **230** local elected officials

LOOKING FORWARD

In 2015 we will be focusing on increasing community resilience through a wider reach, stronger services and deeper investments for deeper community results.



2015 GOALS AND STRATEGIES

- **Peer Leadership Support:** LGC will have a wider reach across the state with light touch services such as networking events, guiding documents and communications. In 2015 we will:
 - Grow our statewide infrastructure
 - Increase our membership
 - Improve communications

- **Directed Community Assistance:** LGC will provide stronger implementation assistance by increasing the number of medium touch services we provide. In 2015 we will:
 - Increase active transportation assistance
 - Increase planning and project implementation support

- **Pathways to Significant Sustainability Results:** Invest deeper in strategic communities- developing strategic, long-term, phased approaches to achieve deeper reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, energy use, air pollution and vehicle miles traveled. In 2015 we will:
 - Pursue pilot funding
 - Conduct need assessments and inventories
 - Develop cross program services
 - Increase state support of deep transformation

COMMUNITY DESIGN



LGC is a Community Design team that is changing communities! Over the last year staff helped eleven communities increase active transportation and improve community design (Richmond, San Pablo Planada, Franklin/Beachwood, Clearlake, Williams, Livingston, San Mateo, Baldwin Hills, Turlock, Bakersfield and Rohnert Park); held dinner forums on increasing infill development in three communities (Bakersfield, Fresno and Stockton) and started new projects in five additional communities (Huntington Park, Holtville, Corning and Hopland). We also helped nine communities prepare applications for 2015/2016 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants. We continue to provide direct planning assistance and education through charrettes, workshops, assistance with proposals, frequent presentations, fact sheets and guidebooks.

COM. DESIGN STATS

LGC provided implementation support to

16 communities

and helped

9 communities

apply for transportation planning grants

CURRENT COMMUNITY DESIGN PROJECTS

RICHMOND

LGC worked with the City and Pogo Park, a local nonprofit, on the Yellow Brick Road, a community-driven walking and bicycling network to safely connect parks and schools in the Iron Triangle Neighborhood. In early May we conducted three days of meetings, walk audits and strategy sessions with residents, City staff and a team of experts. In October, LGC, Pogo Park, the City and consultants transformed a segment of the Yellow Brick Road around a newly renovated park

with temporary traffic calming, community art and landscaping to visualize and test proposed changes. The final plan will be taken to the City Council in February 2015.

MERCED COUNTY

PLANADA AND FRANKLIN/BEACHWOOD – LGC has worked in the two unincorporated communities of Planada and Franklin/Beachwood on plans to improve safety and access to the local schools. Over 80 residents attended the workshop in Planada in early April. The final plans for the two communities were adopted by the Merced County Board of Supervisors on December 16.

LIVINGSTON – LGC presented a draft plan to the City Council for a more walkable, vibrant Livingston. The plan was a result of input gathered during a charrette conducted in June 2013. Based on the discussions during the charrette, the City applied for a grant to build a roundabout — that was modeled during the charrette — at the main downtown intersection and is in the process of adding diagonal parking to Main Street.

ROHNERT PARK

LGC staff brought in Dan Burden of the Walkable and Livable Communities Institute on May 7 to provide staff and elected officials with input on how to best approach a new development project that’s being proposed on a site adjacent to a future light rail line. Based on the presentation and discussions, staff presented a plan that included roundabouts and other pedestrian-friendly treatments at a Council meeting.

SAN PABLO

LGC, in partnership with the City, Contra Costa County Health Services, and Fehr and Peers, organized and facilitated a walk and design workshop with over 70 residents, businesses, property owners and other stakeholders to identify changes along the 2 mile Rumrill Boulevard that connects San Pablo from Contra Costa Community College to the Iron Triangle Neighborhood in Richmond.



Walk audit in Richmond



Mayor Tom Butt of Richmond, CA



Dan Burden in Rohnert Park

LGC MESSAGE SPREADS TO SOUTH AMERICA

LGC Associate Director Paul Zykofsky conducted a series of workshops and public presentations on Smart Growth and Sustainable Development for planners, architects and city officials in La Paz and Santa Cruz, Bolivia organized by the U.S. State Department speakers program. In both cities Zykofsky conducted workshops in Spanish for about 20 staff from the city, transit agency and schools of planning and architecture on a wide range of topics including the Ahwahnee Principles, Smart Growth, Health and the Built Environment, Complete Streets, Sustainable Transportation and Public Participation in Planning processes. On Tuesday, Dec. 2 in the evening, Zykofsky gave a keynote address at the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés — the largest public university in La Paz — to over 250 students, faculty and interested residents on “Smart Growth or How to Create Livable Communities.” Zykofsky reminded the audience that towns and cities were built at a human scale in order to maximize the exchange of goods, services, friendship and knowledge and that developing countries like Bolivia could avoid some of the sprawling, automobile-oriented patterns of development in North America by re-focusing on designing cities for people and a transportation system based on walking, riding a bicycle and an efficient and reliable transit system.

In spite of very chilly relations between the U.S. and Bolivia — and the fact that Zykofsky’s speech was sponsored by “la embajada de los Estados Unidos” at a public university known for its left-leaning activism — the response to the presentation was universally positive with many students asking for additional resources and information on how to create livable cities. The same occurred two days later in the fast-growing eastern city of Santa Cruz at the Universidad Autónoma Gabriel René Moreno with an audience of 125 students and faculty.



Residents at the San Pablo Workshop



Paul Zykofsky in La Paz, Bolivia



Paul Zykofsky in Santa Cruz, Bolivia

While in Bolivia, Zykofsky was interviewed by several local newspapers. The articles (in Spanish) can be found at: http://www.la-razon.com/suplementos/financiero/expansion-mancha-urbana-riesgosa-ciudades_0_2174782624.html and <http://www.paginasiete.bo/sociedad/2014/12/3/esta-buen-camino-para-ciudad-maravillosa-40045.html>

UPCOMING COMMUNITY DESIGN PROJECTS

HUNTINGTON PARK

LGC will be conducting a charrette in January 2015 to develop a Complete Streets plan for the city, a predominantly Latino community south of downtown Los Angeles. Events will include temporary installations to illustrate changes.

HOLTVILLE

LGC will be developing a Complete Streets and Safe Routes to School Plan in this small Imperial County city.

HOPLAND

LGC is leading public outreach, workshop development and facilitation as part of consultant team on behalf of the Mendocino Council of Governments to help the unincorporated community of Hopland identify strategies for turning the Highway 101 main street corridor into a more walkable environment for residents, visitors and businesses.

CORNING

LGC is leading public outreach and facilitation as part of a consultant team to produce the City's first pedestrian and bicycle master plan.

COMMUNITY DESIGN GUIDANCE

LGC's upcoming Crime Prevention guidebook will highlight built environment strategies that planning departments and developers can implement to create safer communities. A guidebook and a shorter fact sheet will be finalized in the next few months.

LGC researched examples and case studies on the economic impacts of complete street projects such as increased property values, new business, sales tax and the like, and will be preparing a new factsheet in early 2015.

COMMUNITY DESIGN LOOKING FORWARD

LGC's Community Design team is committed to increasing their capacity to facilitate local implementation of smart growth and sustainability strategies and deepening their knowledge of innovative funding/financing approaches, and ready-to-implement projects that communities can undertake immediately to start realizing local goals. By leveraging in-house health, climate change and water expertise the Community Design team can provide integrated implementation services.

2015 PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Increase staff knowledge of funding and financing tools
- Identify and promote innovative short-term approaches to revitalize corridors, neighborhoods and downtowns
- Integrate economic development and green infrastructure strategies into community workshops and walk audits
- Utilize new charrette approaches including temporary installations and pop-up demonstrations and web-based public outreach tools
- Expand social equity work to assure that community revitalization efforts support all community members especially those with the greatest housing and transportation challenges

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



LGC's Health team is helping local jurisdictions improve conditions for walking, bicycling and recreation across the state. During 2014 we conducted over 25 workshops and meetings focused on safe streets and improved access to parks. We ended the year with four Complete Streets workshops in the Central Valley that engaged over 20 cities and counties. LGC also supported the advancement or adoption of 31 Complete Streets policies, in addition to 3 design guidelines, a zoning code update, a transportation master plan, a pedestrian safety improvement plan, a corridor study, two joint use agreements and an urban agriculture ordinance. Earlier in the year we conducted nine meetings throughout Merced County with county supervisors and health department staff to discuss increasing access to parks and other recreational spaces. Staff also helped the City of Sacramento approve a new parklets program.

CURRENT HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROJECTS

COMPLETE STREETS IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY

In an effort to support the adoption of Complete Streets policies in Central Valley jurisdictions, we conducted workshops during December in partnership with the COGs for Stanislaus, Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Kern counties. The four all-day workshops — organized with assistance from CivicSpark members — engaged staff from over 20 cities and counties. The goal was to help each jurisdiction develop draft language for a Complete Streets policy. The workshops were facilitated by Associate Director Paul Zykofsky and traffic engineer Michael Moule and were based on the National Complete Streets Coalition's Policy Development workshop. During 2014 we also provided assistance to the cities of Bakersfield, Arvin, Oakdale and Citrus Heights to adopt street design standards that support active transportation.

MERCED COUNTY

Earlier in the year, LGC staff conducted nine meetings throughout Merced county — in partnership with the health department and the five county supervisors — to discuss ways to improve access to parks and other recreational spaces. In each case, representatives from local government, schools and community-based organizations discussed how to create environments in which residents can be more physically active. In 2015 we will work with the County Health Department to support these efforts and explore the possibility of joint-use of school facilities or access to funds for park improvements. We are already in the process of helping the school district in Winton establish a joint use agreement with the County and have been trying to find ways to improve after-school access to schools in the unincorporated communities of Beachwood/Franklin.

WORKING WITH HOSPITALS

LGC partnered with Clovis Mayor Lynne Ashbeck who is also Vice President of the Hospital Council of Northern and Central California to bring together hospital CEOs and local elected leaders, city managers, county administrative officers, and county public health officials. This first time event held in Fresno focused on new trends in health care and public health, with presentations and peer to peer exchange on ways to share and use information across sectors, combine resources and forge innovative partnerships and strategies to advance the health and economic competitiveness of the San Joaquin Valley region. LGC and Mayor Ashbeck are planning to hold another forum in Bakersfield in the first half of 2015.

CITY OF SACRAMENTO

In October 2013, the City of Sacramento adopted a parklets program as a result of a 10-month process that began with an LGC dinner forum for Sacramento region local policymakers. The dinner featured an actual parklet and presenters from the design firm Rebar and the City of San Francisco. This was followed by a daylong parklets tour to Davis and San Francisco that was organized by LGC. Tour participants included 30 city staff, business and property owners and non-profit organizations from the Sacramento region. Early in 2014, LGC helped organize a workshop for local businesses on how to design and install parklets and provided assistance to the City on developing and implementing policy for local businesses to convert parking spaces to parklets. In March, the Sacramento City Council approved guidelines to establish a two-year pilot program for the installation of parklets, which will provide more outdoor gathering places for residents.

HEALTHY COM. STATS

25

workshops and trainings street design
and recreation access support

Supported advancement
or adoption of

31

Complete Streets policies

3

design guidelines

2

joint use agreements

1

Parklets Policy

Sacramento City Councilmember Steve Hansen noted “Parklets are a great addition to the community in a place where we might not have the real estate to create a public gathering place.” The first parklets in Sacramento will be built in 2015!

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES LOOKING FORWARD

LGC’s health team is committed to advancing innovative strategies that incorporate health into the built environment and ensure LGC continues to be recognized as experts and leaders in the field. The health team will bolster LGC’s health programs and expand in-house health-related expertise.

2015 PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Work with local governments and hospitals to conduct regional health needs assessments and to address identified needs focused on the social determinants of health and the built environment
- Diversify funding sources by partnering with large hospitals and other foundations
- Expand work to connect community design with access to healthy, affordable food
- Expand social equity work to assure that community revitalization efforts support improved health and wellness outcomes for all community members

“Parklets are a great addition to the community in a place where we might not have the real estate to create a public gathering place.”

– Sacramento City Council Member Steve Hansen

CLIMATE CHANGE



2014 was a banner year for LGC’s Climate Change efforts. From hosting the first California Adaptation Forum to launching our statewide AmeriCorps program CivicSpark, LGC has cemented its position as a leader in California’s climate response efforts, as well as an important voice in national conversations. Throughout the year, LGC climate team members participated in important local and state dialogue on emerging policy options and advanced programmatic solutions that empower local governments to rise to this important challenge.

STATEWIDE

DRAMATICALLY INCREASED THE CAPACITY OF CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPIONS

Through the deployment of specific programs, LGC has been able to empower local climate change champions throughout the state to build communities of practice and to take local action. In 2014, with the addition of Sierra CAMP, the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA) grew from 4 to 5 regional collaboratives (made up of over 50 public and private organizations in total). LGC provided the backbone operational support for ARCCA throughout the year, bringing members together 4 times to share information, sharing news and resources through regular newsletters, and by developing common ARCCA program resources (website, principles of operation). 2014 also saw the launch of CivicSpark – a governor’s initiative AmeriCorps. CivicSpark has already deployed 47 AmeriCorps members (selected out of 250 applicants) supported by 9 supervisors to work in 9 regions of the state where they are implementing capacity building projects for over 75 local governments. To date, CivicSpark has already provided over 5,000 direct service hours to California’s local governments. In our home region, LGC has supported the growth of the Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative, which now has 8 members, held monthly steering committee meetings and one community

meeting to inform the region about the latest drought and wildfire issues. The highlight of our work to increase capacity of climate champions was the California Adaptation Forum, which brought together over 800 people for 3 days to engage in a statewide conversation about climate adaptation through 35 breakout sessions and 4 keynote sessions. Participants were given a chance to build their own networks, and to identify strategies they could take home to address climate change more effectively in their own region. The success of the Forum has cemented our commitment to hosting the next Forum in 2016.

PROMOTED INNOVATION AMONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Within each of our Climate Change projects LGC has not only increased capacity, but has been an active force in promoting innovative approaches to addressing climate change at the local level. CivicSpark is engaged in over 75 forward-looking projects for local governments. From energy action planning for rural communities in the Sierras, to an urban heat islands pilot in the Sacramento region, to a resilient shorelines project in the Bay Area to an alternative commute programs in San Diego, CivicSpark is at the forefront of supporting the most innovative communities to step up and take action. With the Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative, LGC is supporting a unique initiative with Valley Vision to develop a template business continuity plan for small and medium enterprises and has further supported research on water managers perceptions of climate risk. Our work with ARCCA produced a unique adaptation collaborative “toolkit” designed to foster regional collaboration throughout the state. We are also working with the Georgetown Climate Center to create case studies of regional adaptation issues to better inform development of this approach among communities in California and beyond. Even the California Adaptation Forum provided an opportunity to showcase critical tools from the state and unique partnerships with the private sector that are moving climate change efforts forward.



SHAPED STATEWIDE POLICY

Through our general engagement with state policy as well as specific activities related to planning for CAF, developing CivicSpark, and supporting ARCCA, LGC has been able to play a substantial role in contributing to state policy conversations around climate change mitigation and adaptation. During 2014, LGC staff provided input on the role of regionalism in adaptation through written comments on five formal documents; the Safeguarding California Plan; the Climate Change Research Plan; Governor Brown’s contribution to the President’s taskforce on Climate Preparedness and Resiliency; the SGC’s Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Cap and trade revenue program guidelines; and the Governor’s Environmental Goals and Policy Report. LGC also provided testimony to the Little Hoover Commission and public comment to the Select Committee on Sea Level Rise, as well as consulted with the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality, and met with legislators as part of a dedicated effort to support Assembly Member Gordon’s bill (AB 1970) to provide dedicated funding for local government climate mitigation work. Additional informal conversations have occurred with agency (Natural Resources, Transportation, OPR, SGC, Public Health particularly) and legislative stakeholders on topics including integration of resiliency into funding programs, the need for dedicated funding for local government and the role of regionalism in a strong climate response.



CLIMATE CHANGE LOOKING FORWARD

We anticipate the momentum to continue in 2015. For the first year of service, CivicSpark aims to provide complete almost 70,000 hours of support to almost 100 local governments by the end of September. We also will begin planning for the 2016 California Adaptation Forum, for which we anticipate an attendance of 1000.

LGC's Climate Change team will increase climate action as a "core service" for local governments in California by providing integrated and comprehensive local solutions. The climate change team will develop a level of climate program funding that will cultivate well coordinated and trained staff capable of delivering high-quality support while also keeping up to date with the latest developments in the field.

2015 PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Work with state and local agencies to incorporate climate resiliency into all grants and investments
- Work with state agencies to create an integrated funding source for projects to achieve deeper benefits by addressing multiple water, energy and transportation needs
- Partner with target communities to pursue available funding sources to put them on the path towards carbon-neutral
- Increase private sector partnerships (developers, insurers, large socially-minded corporations)
- Expand the scale of CivicSpark AmeriCorps program to offer implementation support to additional regions
- Work with adaptation collaborations to better define a sustainable fiscal model in each ARCCA region including pursuing federal funding and private partnerships to sponsor project and coordination support through CivicSpark
- Identify an organizational strategy to diversify adaptation funding
- Partner with social equity groups to assure that climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies support all community members especially those most vulnerable to climate change impacts

CC STATS

Conducted the first CA Adaptation Forum with over

800 Participants

Developed CivicSpark, which supports over

75

local government capacity building projects through:

- **47 AmeriCorps Members**
- **9 supervisors in 9 regions of the state**
- **Over 5,000 direct service hours to date**

Influenced climate change policy by commenting on

5

critical state documents, presented to the Little Hoover Commission and worked with legislators

ENERGY



LGC’s Energy team is growing a statewide network of energy leaders! LGC continues to build partnerships and capacity by offering the premier local government annual energy conference. LGC keeps local governments up to date on current issues and best practices through regional meetings, webinars, newsletters and regular email updates. Staff also provides technical assistance to help move energy initiatives forward.

STATEWIDE ENERGY EFFICIENCY COLLABORATIVE (SEEC)

SEEC, in partnership with the four CA investor-owned utilities, ICLEI, the Institute for Local Government and LGC is helping local government to implement the California Long-Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan, which connects energy efficiency with greenhouse gas reduction efforts.

5TH ANNUAL STATEWIDE ENERGY EFFICIENCY FORUM

Over 230 people attended the forum held in June in San Diego. “Sessions were fabulous! Thank you for this wonderful opportunity. This is very much needed in being able to communicate on ALL levels of government, public, private, and non-profits. We all have to work together to accomplish bigger goals.”

“Sessions were fabulous! Thank you for this wonderful opportunity. This is very much needed in being able to communicate on ALL levels of government, public, private, and non-profits. We all have to work together to accomplish bigger goals.”

– SEEC Forum Participant



Attendees at the 5th Statewide Energy Efficiency Forum

ENERGY MEETINGS

LGC organized several meetings, workshops, and webinars in 2014 reaching over 400 participants to provide information on energy and climate policies and best practices.

STATEWIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENERGY EFFICIENCY BEST PRACTICES COORDINATOR

The Statewide Local Government Energy Efficiency Best Practices Coordinator, Joseph Oldham traveled the State in 2014 meeting with local government energy program implementers and began to shift the position focus toward program implementation. A component of this effort to help with implementation was to gather information about market challenges local governments were facing and then bring that information back to staff at the CPUC and IOUs to better inform decision makers on policy and program design. Another component was to shift the focus of resources offered through the Coordinator’s Weekly Updates email service and fact sheets to contain more information directly related to overcoming program implementation challenges in the field.

2014 COORDINATOR IMPACTS

- Increased Weekly Updates email list service subscription by 25% over 2013.
- Meetings and presentations to over 1,000 energy and climate change stakeholders around California.
- Completed or updated 9 implementation-focused fact sheets

ENERGY STATS

Supported energy and climate leadership for over

400 people

through meetings, workshops and webinars

Provided technical assistance to over

- **10 Communities**
- **50 Local Government Staff Members**

Guidance to over

1,000

energy and climate change leaders

670

local energy leaders supported through weekly email updates and quarterly newsletters

- Sent Weekly Updates on 203 topics, an increase of 26% over 2013.
- Responded to over 10,500 emails from various energy stakeholders
- Edited and provided technical assistance for Local Government Energy Action Plan draft for CPUC.

2015 marks the beginning of a new era for energy efficiency program work in California as the beginning year of a 10-year “rolling portfolio” funding cycle for programs funded by the CPUC. The Coordinator position will continue to evolve as the needs of local government energy program implementers change with market conditions. Some of the evolutionary changes for 2015 are:

- Promoting a best-practices self-benchmarking tool that provides a performance score that can then be used to evaluate opportunities to improve program performance.
- Actively engaging non-traditional energy efficiency stakeholder groups such as schools, air districts, and private industry to locate opportunities to leverage energy efficiency programs with efforts to deploy renewables, energy storage, and PEV charging infrastructure.

ENERGY MOVING FORWARD

LGC will help energy action to move further towards “core services” for local governments in California by providing integrated comprehensive local solutions. LGC’s Energy team will assure program funding can sustain a team that is well coordinated and trained to be capable of delivering high quality support while also keeping up to date with the latest developments in the field.

2015 PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Diversify energy funding and programming beyond energy efficiency towards a Net Zero Energy approach
- Partner with a pilot community to pursue Net Zero Energy
- Develop energy readiness and reporting tools to justify support for long-term investment in Local Government Partnership programs and LGC’s role in the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC)
- Expand the SEEC footprint and provide additional implementation services for local and staff in the 10-year rolling cycle starting in 2016.
- Pursue private sector partnerships (including Solar City, KB Homes, HERO) to expand SEEC beyond energy efficiency and provide data on energy savings and solar opportunity areas
- Expand social equity work to assure that clean energy strategies support all community members especially those most vulnerable to extreme weather and least able to adapt to increasing energy bills

WATER



LGC is revitalizing our water work! This year, LGC achieved its near-term goal of hiring a full-time water manager. LGC currently has three grants from the State Water Resources Control Board focusing primarily on addressing barriers to utilizing Low Impact Development (LID) and other green infrastructure solutions to manage stormwater.

STATEWIDE

STATEWIDE LID DINNER FORUMS

LGC will be working with the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) to conduct forums addressing barriers to LID implementation present in the local and state codes, ordinances, and standards that regulate new and redevelopment projects.

AHWAHNEE WATER PRINCIPLES GUIDE UPDATE

LGC staff is holding three listening sessions in January 2015, updating the stormwater management portion of the guide and developing a fact sheet that will highlight new opportunities to address stormwater management at the neighborhood and/or district scale through the use of green infrastructure.

BUILDING STATE PARTNERSHIPS

LGC has been exploring ways to help local jurisdictions address the drought, growing uncertainty over water supplies due to climate change, challenges faced by disadvantaged communities and implementation of the groundwater sustainability act. Staff has been meeting with a number of agencies including DWR, State Water Board Members, OPR and UC Davis to discuss and explore funding and partnership opportunities.

RIVERBANK

LGC is working with AECOM and the City of Riverbank to develop a community-wide approach to LID. In October of 2014, the Riverbank project team presented their project to date to the Modesto Engineers Club. A LID workshop is scheduled for April 2015.

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Water team and Energy team staff collaborated on a \$2.5 million proposal to the Department of Water Resources "Water-Energy Grant Program." If funded, the project will provide outreach and technical support, as well as financial rebates, to residents of Fresno, Clovis, and Reedley, for turf removal and drought-tolerant landscape upgrades.

WATER MOVING FORWARD

LGC is committed to reclaiming our role as an expert in cutting edge responses to water management that focus on integrated, comprehensive local solutions. LGC will revitalize our water programs to peak levels (reached from 2007 to 2009).

2015 PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Provide local governments with strategies to deal with the drought, in the short term, and uncertainty over water supply/quality in the longer term especially disadvantaged communities at high risk for water supply/quality disruption.
- Help municipalities understand and implement the new Groundwater Sustainability Act.
- Partner with municipalities to respond to new funding sources (e.g., Proposition 1 Water bond).
- Work with the Community Design team to integrate green streets and low impact design into local projects.
- Work with the Healthy Communities team to integrate drinking water quality and water supply reliability into public health projects.

WATER STATS

1

full-time water manager hired

4 proposals

submitted, totaling more than

\$2.7 million

Low Impact Development (LID) feasibility study with concept project designs and in-lieu fee structure framework.

Participated in over

15 meetings

with leaders in state and local water management

Over 10

public meetings and forums on water issues attended

5 meetings

convened with strategic local partners for water-related projects

NETWORKING

LGC’s new network team is promoting LGC’s services and success and growing membership through our premier events! Through our national conference, our statewide events (including the California Adaptation Forum and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Forum) and our regional forums we’ve reached over 2,000 sustainability leaders. Focusing on conducting special meetings for local policymakers has allowed us to connect with over 230 local elected officials.

NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH CONFERENCE

JANUARY 29–31, 2015 – BALTIMORE, MD

The 14th Annual NPSG Conference will have a stronger emphasis on tools, training, innovative strategies and implementation. LGC has already secured \$290,000 in conference sponsorships, \$130,000 in support for the Diversity Scholarship Fund, and funding for the 2nd Healthy and Equitable Food Systems pre-conference. LGC staff convened Local and National Planning Committee meetings in Baltimore and D.C. and received more than 250 session and tour proposals through the CFSP process. For the first time in 2015, LGC has partnered with Smart Growth America to develop a local policymakers pre-conference workshop on Wednesday (1/28) and a local policymakers track for Thursday and Friday. LGC plans to continue to offer scholarships and networking activities for California elected officials.

FEBRUARY 13–5, 2014 – DENVER, CO

The 13th Annual NPSG Conference was a huge success. The conference included a dynamic mix of over 300 speakers, 80 sessions, 13 tours of model projects, and more than 1,100 participants representing all 50 states and including three-dozen international attendees from as far away as Russia and Thailand.

A special, pre-conference workshop on “Advancing Healthy, Equitable Food Systems” examined how food systems have become increasingly important to the smart growth movement in both rural and urban communities, with a variety of perspectives on fostering economic opportunities and community development through “good food” production, processing, distribution and access.

2015 NPSG STATS

\$290,000

in sponsorships raised

\$130,000

in Diversity Scholarship support

6

interactive parklets to be installed

14

Tech Tool Providers committed to Tech Fair

Over

1,000

participants expected

REGIONAL POLICYMAKER DINNER FORUMS

SACRAMENTO

LGC wrapped up its tenth year of organizing educational dinner forums for elected officials, city managers and county administrative officials from the six-county Sacramento region. Over 47 city/county leaders attended at least 1 dinner forum during this series. A new series will be starting in September.

LOS ANGELES

This dinner forum focused on the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) implementation actions that support healthy, vibrant, active communities from complete streets to approaches to extending the reach of transit. Dr. Richard Jackson from the University of California, Los Angeles was the guest speaker for the evening. Twenty elected and appointed leaders were in attendance. This dinner forum was held on the first night of the League of California Cities annual conference.

FRESNO

This dinner forum focused on new trends in health care and public health and included a discussion on innovative partnerships and strategies to advance the health and economic competitiveness of the region. Nineteen individuals participated in the forum including elected and appointed leaders, and health officials.

BAKERSFIELD

This dinner forum provided a discussion on the future of agricultural and economic development in the Southern San Joaquin Valley. Robert Tse with the U.S. Department of Agriculture spoke about how the changing technology, demographics, climate and workforce demands are impacting the economy and the food system in the region and opportunities to respond to the shifting landscape and increase regional competitiveness. Ten elected and appointed leaders attended this forum.

2014 NPSG STATS

\$268,800

in sponsorships raised

\$140,000

in Diversity Scholarship support

4

interactive parklets installed

12

Tech Tool Providers
Committed to Tech Fair

Over

1150

participants expected

250

people attended Equitable
Development Workshop

140

people attended Healthy
Food Systems Workshop