



Local Government Commission



ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY – DECEMBER 2015

WHO WE ARE

MEMBERS

707 Innovative Leaders

STAFF

19 Full Time
15 Part Time

4 PROGRAM AREAS

Healthy Community Design,
Climate Change,
Energy and Water

2015 ACHIEVEMENTS

CONNECTING LEADERS

- In addition to connecting our 700+ members with other like-minded leaders and a range of resources, in 2015 LGC supported approximately 6,000 local leaders and community members across the nation through large conferences (such as our National New Partners for Smart Growth conference that brought almost 1,200 people together in Baltimore), regional workshops, community events, policymaker dinner forums, trainings and webinars.

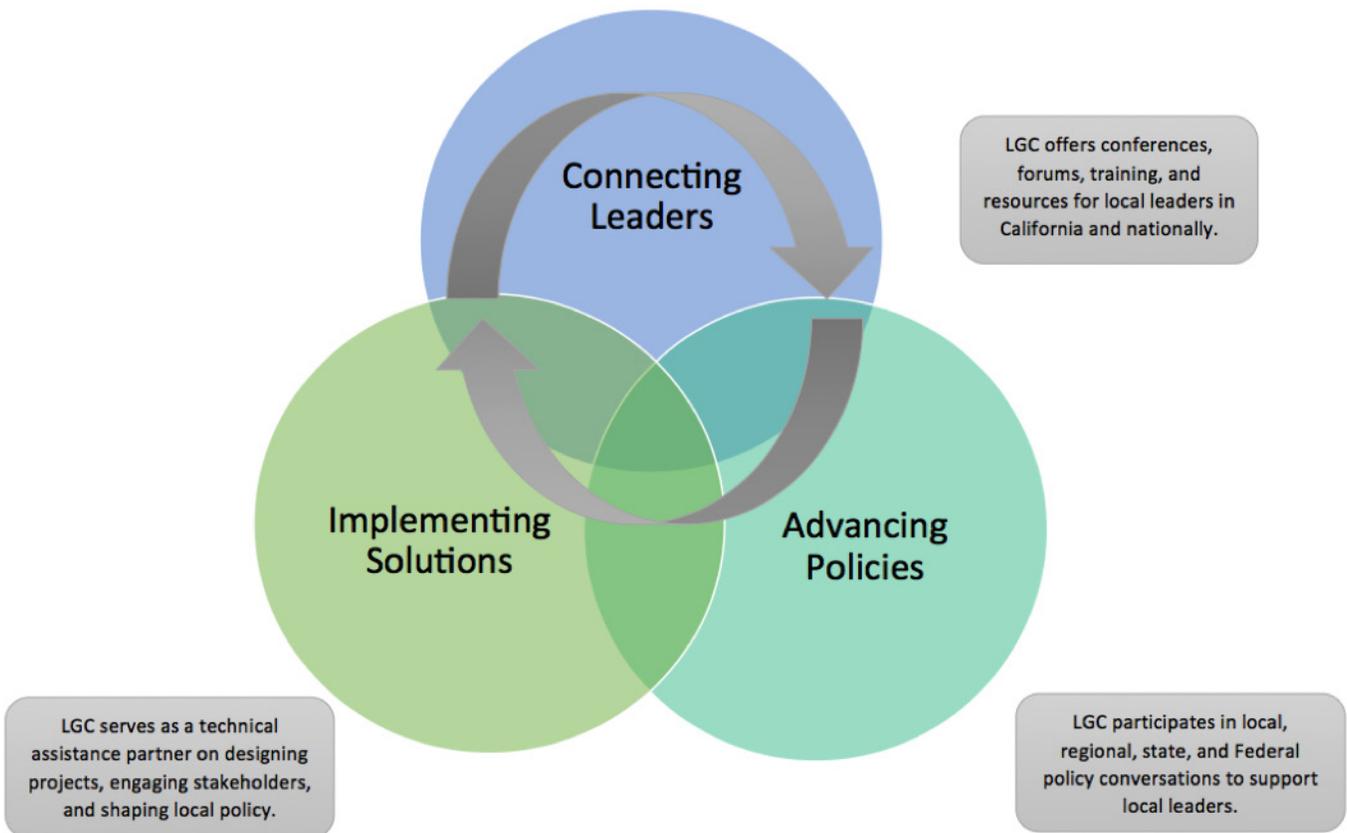
IMPLEMENTING SOLUTIONS

- LGC provided support to 85 local and regional jurisdictions through charrettes, community design workshops, walkability assessments, trainings and direct assistance by LGC staff and CivicSpark members (75,000+ hours of service). Projects included:
 - 100 energy assessment reports
 - 31 community workshops
 - 17 climate action policies
 - 15 local government staff certified as US EPA “Qualified Water Efficient Landscapers”
 - 13 community design charrettes
 - 12 greenhouse gas inventories
 - 10 vulnerability assessments
 - 8 climate or energy action plans
 - 4 energy benchmarking assessments

ADVANCING POLICY

- All five of the climate-smart state bills that LGC supported passed, keeping California out in front in the fight against climate change.
 - **SB 350** (De Leon and Leno) will spur innovation and investment in a sustainable California and improve public health by setting targets of 50% utility power provided by renewable energy sources and a 50% increase in energy efficiency in existing buildings by 2030.
 - **SB 246** (Wieckowski) establishes the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (within the Office of Planning and Research) to coordinate regional and local efforts with state adaptation strategies to address climate-change impacts. It also establishes a central hub for information and tools to help avoid duplication of efforts as we fight extreme climate events.
 - **SB 379** (Jackson) requires cities and counties to include climate adaptation and resiliency strategies in the safety elements of their general plans to enhance community safety and climate protections.

- **AB 1482** (Gordon) requires state agencies to promote the use of climate-adaptation strategies to inform planning decisions and ensures that state investments consider climate-change impacts when developing infrastructure to address adaptation.
- **AB 744** (Chau and Quirk) will help implement SB 375 initiatives by lowering parking maximums and encouraging infill development.
- LGC also influenced state policies and guidance including the Cap and Trade Investment Plan, Climate Change Research Plan, ARB Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Guidelines, Safeguarding California Implementation Plan and OPR’s General Plan Guidelines
- At the local level LGC assisted 12 municipalities in updating their low impact development (LID) codes and ordinances



HEALTHY COMMUNITY DESIGN



LGC's Community Design team continued to change how we build communities through direct planning assistance to cities and counties, and through education, training and technical support. In 2015 we helped thirteen jurisdictions increase active transportation and improve community design. We also conducted 21 workshops and meetings across the state on innovative funding strategies for smart growth projects, implementation of complete and green streets, advancing bicycling policies, programs and infrastructure, improving access to parks and schools, and developing successful proposals for the Caltrans Active Transportation Program.

DIRECT PLANNING ASSISTANCE

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. LGC conducted walk audits and strategy sessions with residents, Pogo Park and technical experts, followed by a living preview of the Yellow Brick Road around a newly renovated park with traffic calming designs, community art and landscaping to visualize and test proposed changes. The City Council adopted the plan and the California Transportation Commission awarded a \$6.2 million Active Transportation Program grant in Fall 2015 to construct a large portion of the plan. For a short video of the living preview:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9vPny2ldjQ>

HOPLAND

LGC organized and facilitated a charrette and series of meetings and workshops last winter-summer on behalf of the Mendocino Council of Governments to help the unincorporated Hopland community turn the Highway 101 main street corridor and State Route 175 into more walkable and bicycle-friendly places for residents and visitors. The MCOG Board approved the plan in October which includes converting a wide, signalized intersection to a roundabout, adding landscaped medians, new gateways to slow cars through town, and high visibility crosswalks.



Toody Maher, Executive Director of Pogo Park, speaks at the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference

SAN PABLO

LGC, partnering with the City, Contra Costa County Health Services, and a transportation consultant, organized and facilitated a walk and design workshop and community meetings 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. The community chose a lane reduction, or road diet, combined with the addition of protected bike lanes (“cycle tracks”) on both sides of the street. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission approved \$4.3 million in Regional Active Transportation Program funding for construction of the first phase of the plan.



Attendees at the Hopland mini-charrette

CORNING

LGC, in partnership with a transportation consultant, conducted stakeholder meetings and site visits with agency staff, business groups, school representatives, and residents to produce the City’s first pedestrian and bicycle master plan. We organized and facilitated a community walk audit and design workshop in May and open studio in December to define the most important routes for walking and biking connectivity throughout this northern Sacramento Valley town in Tehama County. The plan is slated for adoption in early 2016.

HUNTINGTON PARK

LGC and a transportation consultant team conducted a design charrette in January 2015 to develop a Complete Streets Plan for the City, a predominantly Latino community south of Downtown Los Angeles. We co-organized and facilitated public workshops with California Center for Public Health Advocacy

HEALTHY COMMUNITY DESIGN

that included mapping exercises, walk audits, bicycle tours, and outdoor pop-up activities with mapboards at different locations in the City to address issues for improving safety and mobility for all users. The final plan is expected to be adopted in early 2016.

HOLTVILLE

LGC conducted a community design charrette to develop a Complete Streets Plan in this small Imperial County town to increase safety and connectivity. Events included public workshops with a mapping exercise, a walking audit, and other activities to engage the residents. LGC also organized and facilitated a Safe Routes to School workshop for the local elementary school during the charrette. The plan is slated for adoption in early 2016.

SACRAMENTO

LGC is part of a consultant team selected by the City of Sacramento to develop a complete streets plan for the Broadway corridor, a major commercial street and the southernmost edge of Downtown Sacramento. We assisted with an all-day mobile workshop and design meeting with stations at multiple locations to gather public input in the field. We also provided facilitation support at a workshop to review alternatives for a road diet and will assist with the final report. The plan will be taken to City Council in early 2016.

MERCED COUNTY AND SALINAS PARK REVITALIZATION PLANS

LGC conducted park revitalization workshops in the Merced County communities of Winton and Salinas. Led by LGC facilitators and a landscape architect, attendees participated in mapping and visioning exercises and provided insight on some of the challenges and concerns they have with the park. LGC staff will present the final plans to the elected leaders and staff in early 2016.

FRESNO

LGC worked with Fresno Metro Ministry, Fresno's Mayor, City staff and other local partners to conduct a weeklong series of community workshops, and one-on-one meetings with local leaders and small business owners to identify opportunities to revitalize Blackstone Avenue, one of Fresno's largest commercial corridors. LGC led a team that included an expert from Portland, OR on district branding and small business execution and a traffic engineer to prepare recommendations for bringing



Residents at the San Pablo Workshop



Paul Zykofsky in Huntington Park

Blackstone Avenue in line with the City's vision for bus rapid transit and a vibrant mixed-use corridor. A strategies document and checklist of immediate steps jurisdictions can take to revive auto-dominated, underperforming corridors will be available in 2016.

STOCKTON

LGC is part of the team led by a transportation consultant selected by the City of Stockton to prepare a Citywide Bicycle Master Plan. Our staff is in charge of outreach and visioning. Over one hundred residents and stakeholders participated in the first round of listening sessions, community workshops, and a Textizen cell phone survey conducted by LGC. The next round of workshops will take place in March 2016, followed by temporary installations of bike lanes and other facilities on selected streets to explore alternatives as part of the City's future city-wide bicycle network.

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND POLICY SUPPORT

CALTRANS ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP)

On behalf of Caltrans, LGC led a team that includes Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, California Walks and the California Bicycle Coalition to support low resource cities and disadvantaged communities with developing effective projects and programs for funding through the Active Transportation Program (ATP). We produced the curriculum and conducted one-day technical assistance workshops in all 12 Caltrans districts. Two hundred participants representing 142 jurisdictions and organizations attended the trainings. The team also supported Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission with the review of the nearly 500 applications that were submitted under disadvantaged community status.

COMPLETE STREETS IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY

As a follow-up to our 2014 series of Complete Streets Policy Development Workshops, LGC hosted two dinner forums for elected officials in Fresno and Modesto. Through our partnership with the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA), we brought experts on low impact development to add a green streets component to the discussion on how to create sustainable streets that work well for all types of travel and users. Elected leaders and staff from 11 cities and counties, 2 councils of governments, and representatives from several engineering firms attended. We also released our new factsheet at the event which highlights examples and case studies on the economic impacts of complete street projects such as health and safety cost savings, increased property values, new business, and sales tax.

http://www.lgc.org/wordpress/docs/events/growing_your_local_economy/ssjvc2015_complete-streets-factsheet-February.pdf

ADVANCING BICYCLING IN THE CAPITAL REGION WORKSHOP

LGC organized a one-day workshop in Sacramento to advance bicycling in the Capital Region in September which brought together nearly 150 local, regional and state transportation planners; local land use planners, public works staff, active transportation advocates, public health professionals, business representatives and other community leaders.

JOINT USE AGREEMENTS IN MERCED COUNTY

LGC worked with the Merced County Public Health Department on a 3-year Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "Partnerships to Improve Community Health" (PICH) grant. As a part of the grant, LGC

HEALTHY COMMUNITY DESIGN

worked with local partners who are interested in forming joint-use agreements for parks and schools throughout the County.

LGC staff and partners helped to facilitate an agreement between a local non-profit and the Winton Unified School District that allows residents to use the indoor facilities for after-school recreational activities. On September 9th over 80 residents attended the first Zumba class at the school. Read the write-up in the Merced Sun-Star here:

<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/living/liv-columns-blogs/article34982217.html>



Participants at the Advancing Bicycling Workshop

INNOVATIVE FUNDING STRATEGIES

LGC prepared the new guidebook, “Smart-Growth Money: New Funding Strategies for Community Improvements,” in partnership with Lisa Wise Consulting and with funding from The California Endowment. The guidebook includes funding tools and strategies, illustrative case studies, and resources. 5 workshops were held around the state to promote the guide collectively reaching 140 participants. To access the guidebook: <http://www.lgc.org/new-funding-strategies-guidebook>



Tony Leonard at Stockton Bikefest

GRANT DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

LGC staff prepared or helped prepare 2016/2017 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant proposals in partnership with cities and counties around the state. Proposals were due December 31, 2015, with announcements expected in May 2016. Jurisdictions LGC assisted include: Fresno, Albany, Ventura County, Sanger, Riverside County, Mono County, Salinas, Merced County, Sacramento Area Council of Governments, and Richmond.

OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA

We continue to share our expertise in other regions and states across the country, supporting community design initiatives nationally and expanding our range of knowledge and experience to bring back to California. Recent examples include:

WISCONSIN, POTAWATOMI TRIBE – In partnership with the National Charrette Institute we conducted

a mini-charrette with the Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC) on their Stone Lake campus to aid the FCPC in implementing sustainable communities strategies at the local and regional level.

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO – LGC worked with the Foundation for Puerto Rico to prepare a Community Image Survey tool for three neighborhoods in San Juan.

KANSAS – We conducted mini-charrettes with a consultant to identify the policy, systems and environmental changes that 5 distinct communities will pursue for the next 2½ years under the Kansas Health Foundation’s Community Engagement Initiative. The mini-charrettes were conducted in rural Allen County, a disadvantaged neighborhood in Hutchinson, with Wichita State University in a neighborhood adjacent to the campus, in a housing authority neighborhood in Topeka and in Kansas City, KS. Approximately 400 residents and stakeholders participated in the five 2-day mini-charrettes that identified priority actions for community revitalization.

QUITO, ECUADOR – In early October, Paul Zykofsky presented at the “First International Forum on Smart and Sustainable Cities: Towards Habitat III” in Quito, Ecuador. The conference was organized by the City of Quito in preparation for the U.N. Habitat Conference which will be taking place in Quito next year in October. (This is a conference that meets every 20 years and next year will focus on “Housing and Sustainable Urban Development.”) Paul’s participation was sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador.



Josh Meyer at the Wichita Charrette



Paul Zykofsky in Topeka, Kansas



Paul Zykofsky in Quito, Ecuador

CLIMATE CHANGE



Throughout 2015, LGC climate team members have been actively participating in important local and state dialogues and have advanced programmatic solutions that empower local governments to rise to the important challenge of addressing climate change.

INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPIONS

THE ALLIANCE OF REGIONAL COLLABORATIVES FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION (ARCCA)

In 2015, ARCCA continues to support its membership of 5 regional collaboratives (made up of over 60 public and private organizations). This year ARCCA led key adaptation conversations including participation in the National Adaptation Forum and the Climate Change Science Symposium; organizing an Urban-Rural Connection workshop; and hosting 3 “Learning Session” webinars for 242 individuals on the Economic Risks of Climate Change, the LA Energy Atlas, and Building Business Resilience. State agencies (including OPR, CNRA, CEC and CDPH) have continued to regularly seek out ARCCA’s input and assistance and ARCCA recently collaborated with the California Natural Resources Agency to host a series of listening sessions to gather regional input to the Draft Safeguarding California: Implementation Action Plans being developed. ARCCA also participated in two CalBRACE (California Building Resilience against Climate Effects) workshops, sponsored by the CDPH. Finally, ARCCA continues to advocate for the regional adaptation perspective through coordinated comments

“Inspiring, intelligent, interesting, fun, passionate. These are just a few qualities that all the 2015-16 CivicSpark AmeriCorps Fellows seem to share.”

*– Jill Sanford
2015-16 CivicSpark Fellow*

on state guidance including comments on ARB’s Greenhouse Gas Reduction Guidelines, Safeguarding California, the new general plan guidelines, and testimony to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

CAPITAL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE (CRC)

The LGC-organized Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative continues to grow. CRC now supports 14 members (recent additions include PG&E, the California Center for Civic Participation, Cool Davis and Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce). CRC recently embarked on an effort to develop adaptation and regional resiliency communications materials that use trusted community messengers, shared values and people-first principles. These resources will be ready in early 2016. CRC, in coordination with the Sacramento Air District, hosted a 3-day NOAA Adaptation Planning Workshop. CRC also supported the development of Valley Vision’s innovative Business Resiliency Toolkit and is now working to support their outreach efforts with small businesses. CRC is supporting a Regional Cool Roof Initiative being led by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) which will launch in 2016.



Secretary John Laird addresses the CivicSpark graduates



Kate Meis addresses the CivicSpark graduates

CALIFORNIA ADAPTATION FORUM

Planning has begun for the 2016 California Adaptation Forum, which will take place September 7th - 8th, 2016 in Long Beach, CA, with workshops and trainings taking place on September 6th. In an effort to enhance the Forum for participants, LGC is in conversations to integrate two other climate-related events into the Forum; the annual State Climate Science Symposium and the Mediterranean City Climate Science Consortium biannual conference.

CIVICSPARK

In the inaugural service year, the CivicSpark program provided over 62,000 direct service



CivicSpark fellows in Los Angeles

CLIMATE CHANGE

hours to California's communities, supporting a wide range of climate actions from resiliency to sustainable transportation to climate action plan development and implementation. The program's success was evident throughout the state. In the Inland Empire, CivicSpark Fellows worked with the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments to implement an Energy Assessment Screening for Your Home (EASY) program providing 800 project recommendations to 18 participating cities, reaching over 1,700 residents at 35 community events. In August, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments voted to approve the Climate Adaptation Plan developed by two CivicSpark Fellows. In Los Angeles, a water conservation cost-benefit analysis tool developed by CivicSpark Fellows identified a total potential savings of 195 - 280 million gallons of water annually and \$1.7 million in avoided costs. For CivicSpark's 2nd year 48 Fellows were selected from over 300 applicants. The Fellows will support local governments across the state on 43 projects.

SHAPING STATEWIDE POLICY

LGC has continued to lend its voice to state policy conversations around climate change mitigation and adaptation, and we have seen significant progress in this legislative session. The passage of SB 350 was a major step forward for mitigation efforts, and all three pieces of climate change legislation that LGC supported in 2015 — SB 246 (Weickowski), SB 379 (Jackson), AB 1482 (Gordon) — passed, providing an important legislative framework for adaptation in California. Looking forward, we are actively engaged with key partners in CNRA, OPR, SGC, and CEC on institutionalizing these climate adaptation and mitigation gains over the coming years, and using our programs (ARCCA, CivicSpark, LGSEC, CAF) as platforms to develop solutions and share solutions with local governments throughout California.

ENERGY



Throughout 2015, LGC's Energy Program continues to build partnerships and capacity by offering the premier local government annual energy conference. We are keeping local governments (elected officials and staff) up to date on current issues and best practices through regional meetings, webinars, workshops, newsletters and regular email updates. We are also serving as the local government voice in energy regulatory proceedings and providing valuable technical assistance to move energy initiatives forward.

STATEWIDE ENERGY EFFICIENCY COLLABORATIVE (SEEC)

Through the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC), LGC continues to catalyze local climate and energy action by providing tools and resources, opportunities for peer-to-peer networking and information sharing, and targeted implementation assistance. Through weekly updates and quarterly newsletters sent to over 700 local implementers and policymakers, we have continually promoted best practices for inclusion in local government policies, programs and strategies. We also developed a legislative update fact sheet, a strategic planning workbook, and a calendar of energy-related events.

This year, LGC held the 6th Annual Statewide Energy Efficiency Forum, bringing together 250 leading practitioners, private stakeholders, and utility and state partners to learn, share, and network together, making this year's forum the most attended event in SEEC history. In our efforts to advance LGC's 2015 Energy Program priorities, this year's forum focused on helping local governments implement, monitor and track their energy and climate efforts and included sessions on advancing energy efficiency among underserved communities and moving toward zero net energy in new and existing buildings. We also organized a number of technical assistance-focused workshops in the Central Coast region, the Los Angeles/Inland Empire region, Los Angeles, San Diego, and the San Francisco Bay Area.

ENERGY

Throughout the year, SEEC has been engaging stakeholders in strategic conversations about how to extend the range and depth of energy program impacts including: talking with PACE program providers about new financing approaches; engaging hard-to-reach and underserved communities; addressing energy storage; and EV deployment. All of these conversations and initiatives are designed to help SEEC move towards providing greater direct technical assistance to local governments.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COALITION (LGSEC)

Through the Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC) LGC is providing local governments with expert analysis and leadership in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, climate action, and community choice aggregation. In May, over 175 local government and other stakeholders from across California attended the LGSEC-organized Community Choice Aggregation Forum in Los Angeles. LGSEC is now working with the Center for Climate Protection to co-host the “Business of Local Energy Symposium” on March 4, 2016 in San Jose, CA. In 2015 LGC staff also supported a strategic planning process for LGSEC with Dig In Consultants which included restructuring and strengthening its current relationship with LGC. In this new relationship, LGSEC will function as a Coalition of the LGC and the entities will work together in an enhanced capacity to leverage each entity’s unique strengths and add value to the energy and climate field.



Attendees at the CCA Forum



Attendees at the SEEC Forum

WATER



LGC's water program continues to grow, and make a positive impact for sustainable watershed management across California. We officially launched our \$130,000 ETP Drought Response Training, with the first series of "Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper Certification" classes in the San Joaquin Valley. Our \$2.5 million WE CAN - SJV — San Joaquin Valley program (under a grant from the Department of Water Resources) is ready to launch as well. This project is providing outreach, incentives, and training to reduce water and energy use in Fresno County. We continue to build new partnerships and seek additional funding opportunities to further strengthen our water program.

STATEWIDE

WATER AMERICORPS PLANNING GRANT

LGC received a \$50,000 grant from California Volunteers to design a water-themed Governor's Initiative AmeriCorps Program, similar to our CivicSpark program. The purpose of this new project will be to build local government capacity in groundwater sustainability, drought resilience, and water/land use integration. We held a focus group in December with local government and water industry representatives to gain expert insight into program design and capacity building projects.

STATEWIDE LID DINNER FORUMS

LGC and the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) conducted forums to address barriers to LID implementation present in local and state codes, ordinances, and standards that regulate new and redevelopment projects. Four forums were held this past spring in the San Joaquin Valley and Central Coast. Two more forums are planned for Southern California in early 2016.

AHWAHNEE WATER PRINCIPLES GUIDE UPDATE

LGC staff completed an update to the “Water-Friendly Site Design” section of the guidebook and developed a factsheet highlighting new opportunities for stormwater management at the neighborhood scale, using green infrastructure. These resources will further advance the Ahwahnee Water Principles’ statewide impact and are now available on LGC’s webpage at: <http://www.lgc.org/the-issues/water>

BUILDING STATE PARTNERSHIPS

LGC is actively assisting local jurisdictions to address the drought, growing uncertainty over water supplies due to climate change, challenges faced by disadvantaged communities and implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Staff continues to meet with state agencies (e.g., DWR, State Water Board, OPR, CalEPA) and participate in multiple advisory groups to explore funding and partnership opportunities, as well as to inform state-level policies that impact local governments. LGC has been active in the following discussions: urban greening messaging in the face of drought, the state’s updated model water efficient landscape ordinance (MWELO), drought impacts on public health, building partnerships to achieve the governor’s drought executive order requirements, water-energy nexus in the context of climate action, statewide impact of the Governor’s Water Action Plan, and implementing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). LGC is a member of the SGMA Implementation NGO Advisory Committee and the Land-use committee of the California Economic Summit, and is under consideration for the California Roundtable on Water and Food Supply (CRWFS). Through these initiatives, staff are actively providing input to DWR on SGMA guidelines and regulations. LGC is



Regional teams update the Ahwahnee Principles Guide



Participants at the Fresno QWEL Training



Participants at the Fresno QWEL Training

serving on the California Water Policy Conference Planning Committee, striving to make the state-wide conference more relevant to local elected officials and municipal staff.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Thanks to Wells Fargo sponsorship, LGC was able to provide a CivicSpark fellow to key water-sector partners in Southern California: Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) and Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA). This fellow is assisting SAWPA with implementing their Water-Energy Community Action Network (a sister-project to LGC's WE CAN - SJV), and assisting IEUA with County Community Action Partnerships in water-energy efficiency.



Participants at the LID Workshop

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

LGC secured two CivicSpark Fellows to support our water work, sponsored by Wells Fargo. These two fellows are supporting Water Program staff with local implementation of our Drought Response Training and WE CAN - SJV projects. The first training was held in November, certifying 15 local government and private sector staff as Qualified Water Efficient Landscapers.



Participants at the LID Workshop

RIVERBANK

LGC, in partnership with a consultant and the City of Riverbank, completed the Lower Stanislaus LID Alternative Compliance Plan. This report identifies options for implementing a community-wide approach to low impact development (LID), as well as significant challenges that are still needing to be addressed. LGC hosted an LID workshop for the greater community, and presented the Final Plan to the City. We hope this report serves as a model and resource for other small communities trying to meet LID requirements while promoting infill development.



Participants at the LID Workshop

NETWORKING



LGC’s new network team is promoting LGC’s services, successes and growing membership through our premier events! Through our national conference, our statewide events (including the annual Yosemite Conference, California Adaptation Forum and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Forum) and our regional forums we’ve reached over 3,100 sustainability leaders. Focusing on conducting special meetings for local policymakers has allowed us to connect with over 275 local elected officials.

2015 NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH CONFERENCE

JANUARY 29–31, 2015 – BALTIMORE, MD

The 14th Annual NPSG Conference had a significantly stronger emphasis on tools, training, innovative strategies and implementation. LGC raised \$290,000 in conference sponsorships for the general conference, the Poverty Simulation, and the pre-conference Food Systems workshop. \$135,000 was raised to support for the Diversity Scholarship Fund.

NPSG Conference highlights included:

- 14 Tech Tool Providers participated in the Tech Fair hosted by PlaceMatters
- A Poverty Simulation Experience facilitated by Kaiser Permanente with funding from Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Just under 1,200 participants attended from across the country — including delegations from both Thailand and Mexico
- Just under 200 participants attended the annual Equitable Development: Tools and Strategies for Making a Visible Difference in Communities Workshop, led by EPA’s Office of Environmental Justice

- Over 100 participants attended the Advancing Healthy and Equitable Food Systems 2.0 Pre-conference Workshop
- LGC partnered with Smart Growth America to produce the first Local Policymaker Pre-conference Workshop attended by over 30 local policymakers from across the country
- 333 participants attended at least one of the optional tours of model projects that were held in conjunction with the conference

2015 NPSG STATS

\$290,000

in sponsorships raised

\$135,000

in Diversity Scholarship support

6

interactive parklets installed

14

Tech Tool Providers
Participated in the Tech Fair

Just under

1,200

participants attended the conference

Over

100

participants attended the
Pre-Conference Workshop

333

participants attended at least
one optional tour

2016 NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 11-13, 2016 – PORTLAND, OR

The 2016 conference will have significantly stronger emphasis on tools, training, innovative strategies and implementation, including many more advanced sessions on the program. To date, LGC has raised \$252,000 in conference sponsorships for the general conference, and close to \$120,000 for the Diversity Scholarships Fund. To date, registration numbers show us on track to hit over 1,200 registrations by the dates of the conference.

The conference will also feature a new interactive Mobile App to give participants real-time information both before and during the event.

The LGC has also partnered with InfiniteEarth (formerly Equitable Opportunity Radio) to do a series of podcasts. The first episodes will focus on issues that will be addressed throughout the conference, featuring interviews with several conference speakers. The podcast series will launch on January 14, 2016.

Other NPSG16 Conference Special Features will include:

- Interactive Tech Fair hosted by PlaceMatters and the LGC
- Fifteen tours of local model projects, as well as a dynamic daylong pre-conference tour of the Columbia Gorge
- 3rd installment of the pre-conference “Healthy & Equitable Food Systems” workshop
- Five indoor interactive parklets, led by ASLA

NETWORKING

- A Thursday evening “Pub Crawl” and “Game Night”
- A networking luncheon specifically for local policymakers
- TriMet-sponsored FREE transit passes for all participants over the dates of the conference
- Continuing Education Credits for both AICP Planners and Landscape Architects for most of the conference sessions and tours



Portland, OR - the location of the 15th Annual NPSG Conference

2015 YOSEMITE CONFERENCE: BUILDING LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR CHANGING COMMUNITIES MARCH 19-22, 2015—YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

The 24th Annual Yosemite Conference had 115 participants from throughout the state. LGC raised \$51,100 in sponsorships and grants for the general conference and scholarships for elected officials.

Conference highlights included:

- A half-day discussion focused on racial equity with experts in the field, a dynamic panel of elected officials and roundtable discussions that covered topics such as Building Equitable Systems, the Racial Equity Tool, Participatory Budgeting, Health Inequities, and Gentrification
- Ron Sims providing a keynote about Closing the Racial Equity Gap
- A Saturday keynote session by Mark Mykelby calling for community leadership to advance walkability, smart-growth housing, regenerative and organic agriculture, and a productivity revolution focused on reducing resource intensity
- An address by California State Senator Bob Wieckowski



LGC Staff at the 14th Annual NPSG Conference

2016 YOSEMITE CONFERENCE: BUILDING LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

THINK LIKE A STARTUP: PRIVATE-SECTOR SOLUTIONS FOR PUBLIC-BENEFIT PROJECTS MARCH 10-13, 2016—YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

This will be the 25th anniversary of the conference. Sessions include:

- A half-day groundwater session, sponsored by the Department of Water Resources, addressing the community impacts of recent groundwater legislation and highlighting innovative local approaches to groundwater sustainability
- Emerging private sector solutions to sustainability challenges and public partnership opportunities with speakers including: Carl Guardino of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and Ian Parker of Goldman Sachs
- Discussing new mobility solutions with companies Lyft and car2go, and Assistant Director Steven Cliff of Caltrans

REGIONAL POLICYMAKER DINNER FORUMS

SACRAMENTO

LGC is in its 12th year of organizing educational dinner forums for elected officials, city managers and county administrative officials from the six-county Sacramento region. The 2015-2016 series kicked off in the Fall and topics to date have included strategies to advance bicycling in the region and innovative financing tools. Over 10 jurisdictions have been represented during the dinner forums.

BAY AREA

The LGC received funding from The San Francisco Foundation to support a six-part dinner series for elected officials, city managers and county administrative officials in the East Bay. The purpose of this series was to inspire and equip local elected

officials to implement the region’s Sustainable Community Strategy or “Plan Bay Area” and to build leadership around the plan. Over 30 elected leaders throughout the East Bay region attended at least one dinner forum.

“LGC dinner speakers have added depth and practical experiences to much of the work we do at ABAG (Association of Bay Area Governments) and in our local jurisdictions.”

– Dinner Participant

“Networking with others working in these fields is helpful too. The ability to cite actual experiences with some of our ideas adds to our local discussions.”

– Dinner Participant