



## CIVICWELL POLICYMAKERS CONFERENCE AGENDA

*All conference sessions will be held in Merrill Hall at the Asilomar Hotel and Conference Grounds with the exception of meals served in Crocker Hall and the Firepit Chat Reception on Saturday evening.*

### Thursday, March 16

*The main conference program starts Thursday at 7:30 pm and runs until 9:00 pm in Merrill Hall. We are offering a Welcome Reception with heavy appetizers and one hosted drink per person from 6:00 pm until the 7:30 session. Additional drinks may be purchased if desired.*

#### **4:30 - 6:00 pm**

*Registration*

#### **6:00 – 7:30 pm**

*Welcome Reception*

#### **7:30 – 8:00 pm**

*Opening Remarks*

#### **8:00 – 9:15 pm**

##### **How to Build More Housing in Your Town**

- Stacy Atkins-Salazar, Council Member, City of Arcata
- Alexander Casey, Director, Housing Affordability Data Lab at the Turner Center for Housing Innovation
- Julia Kingsley, Senior Consultant, California State Assembly Transportation Committee
- Moderator: Anu Natarajan, Lead, Meta Housing Initiative

### Friday, March 17

*Breakfast is offered from 7:30 am until 9:00 am in Crocker Hall. Note this is the only time window when Crocker Hall offers breakfast. The conference morning program begins at 9:00 am in Merrill Hall, and ends with boxed lunches being served at noon. Participants can enjoy their lunch in the meeting room or take it to go. The program recommences in Merrill Hall at 1:00 pm and goes until 2:30 pm. Participants are then free to hike and/or relax and take in the coastal beauty of Asilomar (all are on their own for dinner).*

#### **7:30 – 9:00 am**

*Breakfast in Crocker Hall*

**9:00 – 10:15 am**

**Effectively Influencing State Climate Policy from a Local Level**

- Catherine Blakespear, California State Senator
- Das Williams, Santa Barbara County Supervisor
- Moderator: Roger Dickinson, Policy Director, CivicWell

**10:15 – 10:30 am**

*Coffee Break*

**10:30 am – 12:00 pm**

**Building Decarbonization: What Local Governments Can Do**

- Cindy Chavez, Santa Clara County Supervisor
- Bill Hayward, CEO and Chief Sustainability Officer, Hayward
- Garrett Wong, Board Member, Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition
- Moderator: Wendy Root Askew, Monterey County Supervisor

**12:00 – 1:00 pm**

*Boxed Lunch / Networking*

**1:00 – 2:30 pm**

**The Challenges and Promises of Offshore Wind**

- Eddie Ahn, Executive Director, Brightline Defense
- Siva Gunda, Vice Chair, California Energy Commission
- Arne Jacobson, Director, Schatz Energy Research Center
- Moderator: Mike Wilson, Humboldt County Supervisor

## **Saturday, March 18**

*Breakfast is offered from 7:30 am until 8:30 am in Crocker Hall. The program begins at 8:30 am and ends at noon in Merrill Hall. Lunch is offered from Noon - 1:00 pm in Crocker Hall.*

*At 5:30 pm, there will be a catered dinner with a no-host bar in Merrill Hall. The evening program starts at 6:30 pm. There will be a Firepit Reception with S'mores powered by SMUD outside at the BBQ Area & Firepit (located near Crocker Hall) from 7:30 - 9:00 pm. Beer and wine will be available during the Firepit Reception. This reception will include an opportunity for attendees from rural, suburban, and urban communities to connect and share best practices.*

**7:30 – 8:30 am**

*Breakfast in Crocker Hall*

**8:30 – 9:15 am**

*Keynote Address from CA State Senator John Laird*

**9:15 – 10:30 am**

**Solar, Battery Storage, and Grid Reliability**

- Jan Pepper, CEO, Peninsula Clean Energy
- Heidi Sanborn, Board President, SMUD
- Genevieve Shiroma, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission
- Moderator: Pam O'Connor, Vice-Chair, Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission

**10:30 – 10:45 am**

*Coffee Break*

**10:45 am – 12:00 pm**

**The Remote Workforce: Environmental and Equity Implications**

- Alberto Ayala, Executive Director, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
- Darcy Totten, Director of Communications, California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls
- Mitch Weiss, Executive Director, California Transportation Commission
- Moderator: Carl Guardino, Vice President for Global Government Affairs, Tarana Wireless

**12:00 – 1:00 pm**

*Lunch in Crocker Hall*

**1:00 – 5:30 pm**

*Free time*

**5:30 – 6:30 pm**

*Dinner*

**6:30 – 7:30 pm**

*CivicWell Remarks*

**7:30 – 9:00 pm**

*Firepit Chat Reception sponsored by SMUD*

## **Sunday, March 19**

*Breakfast is offered from 7:30 am until 9:00 am in Crocker Hall. This is the only window when Crocker Hall offers breakfast. There is no official programming on Sunday morning.*

**7:30 - 9:00 AM**

*Breakfast in Crocker Hall*

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

**The 32nd annual Yosemite Policymakers Conference will be held March 14-17, 2024.**