



KEY UPDATE AND DESIGN PROGRAMS TO ACHIEVE TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE FROM THE BOTTOM UP

Following their development of the framework and clear guidelines, administering agencies should receive incentives to update or expand their programs to achieve the Justice40 objectives. **Justice40 can set a precedent for creating a powerful ecosystem that empowers and uplifts communities** and leverages community-based partnerships to connect community members to needed resources.

CALIFORNIA PROGRAMS THAT INCENTIVIZE PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

PROGRAM	OVERVIEW	PROS	CONS
Transformative Climate Community Program	Place-based investments in climate action include holistic programming, cross-sector partnerships, self-governance processes, and capacity-building opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowers the communities most affected by pollution to choose their own goals, strategies, and projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and local air pollution, and achieve other community-defined goals Provides a direct community-driven approach toward positive change Encourages partnership development, community capacity building, and new models for governing collaboratively 	Under-resourced communities have a limited capacity to apply, manage, and meet leveraged fund, reporting, and governance requirements.
Sustainable Transportation Equity Program	A new transportation equity pilot launched in 2020 that takes a flexible community-based approach and aims to address residents' mobility needs beyond the scope of public transit and addresses other critical challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants must show how community-identified needs and community partners are engaged throughout the program's development and implementation Provides flexible projects and funding that support community involvement, including participant incentives, outreach, and efforts to reach diverse residents Offers advanced pay instead of a reimbursement approach to address the capital limitation 	Requires communities to have significant capacity in order to apply and implement because of an extensive application process, and the need to source public or private funding.
Climate Investment Technical Assistance Program	The program is designed to prepare jurisdictions and community institutions to access CCI funding by working alongside state agencies to benefit under resourced communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A streamlined approach directs and tailors assistance, creating a pipeline for eligible communities to plan, apply for, receive, and implement grants The approach is designed to increase capacity and identify and augment existing assets and strengths 	The program does not focus on implementation as much as on preparing, planning, and proposing phases for grant programs.
Partners Advancing Climate Equity Program	The pilot program is designed to address the need to invest in local leadership and bottom-up community development by engaging local leadership in capacity building programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes monetary investments in training and mentoring individuals and community-based organizations via cross-sector partnerships Best practices for community engagement include meaningful, uplifting collaboration uplifting and transparency every step of the way 	Lacks measures to ensure diverse participation and requires a long time to achieve capacity.

CALIFORNIA PROGRAMS, continued

PROGRAM	OVERVIEW	PROS	CONS
Clean Cars 4 All	The program directly helps low and moderate-income households replace their vehicles with fuel-efficient, cleaner vehicles and alternative mobility options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benefits include multilingual outreach through community partnerships, direct assistance to low and moderate-income households, and a streamlined application process that makes it easier for households to navigate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Car dealership staff have an insufficient knowledge of the program to meet the needs of low-income households. Geographic distribution of funding is unequal Agencies are unbound by statutory requirements to adopt an approach in which communities self-determine solutions
EmPOWER Program	This private-public Initiative has a community-based approach to reach underserved households and connect them with government and utility programs that save households money while reducing negative effects on the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A streamlined process for eligible households and individuals describes the various programs offered by government agencies and utilities A high percentage of funds are dedicated to on-the-ground outreach by community-based organizations with established networks and relationships of trust in the community Reports of expenditures are transparent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires extensive documentation to apply for the programs Distrust of government agencies based on experiences of discrimination or neglect may result in reluctance to provide personal information for program applications

COMMUNITY-LEVEL EXAMPLES

Justice40 Accelerator

Justice40 Accelerator

A cohort of more than 50 community-based organizations with philanthropic support to provide capacity-building resources in preparation for applying for and driving Justice40 investments.

ReGenesis Health Care

ReGenesis Spartanburg, South Carolina

A grassroots nonprofit whose multi-decade efforts to address how communities are challenged by the interconnections of poverty, lack of economic opportunity, inadequate access to services like health care and transportation, and outsized pollution burdens.



Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund

The nation's first climate fund created and led by communities of color. At PCEF, Black and Indigenous people and other disadvantaged and marginalized groups address the climate crisis and advance racial and social justice.



Image: Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Invest in programs that **build power** for frontline communities.
- Invest in systematic **technical assistance and capacity building** for frontline communities.
- Leverage the strengths** of community-based organizations to reach households that are eligible for financial and health benefits.
- Update grant application and program requirements to **remove barriers** for participation from the communities most in need.

DON'T

Ignore lessons from state programs that are equity-oriented and community-centered.

DO

To achieve true equity, consider new programs or update existing programs to ensure community leadership in the decision-making processes—from program inception through implementation and evaluation.

For more information visit www.thejustice40.com