



Sierra Region

SIERRA INDUSTRY **SHINDIG**

WELCOME

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

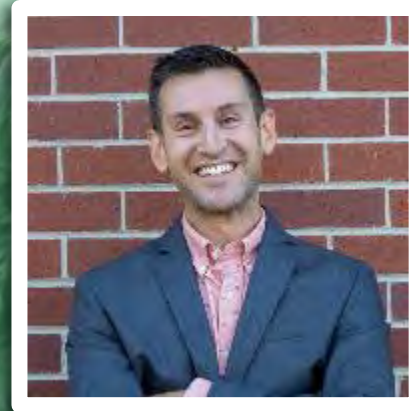
We acknowledge that the lands we live, work, and gather on—including the counties of Amador, Alpine, Calaveras, Inyo, Mono, Mariposa, & Tuolumne —are the ancestral homelands of many Indigenous peoples who have stewarded these places since time immemorial. These lands hold creation stories, sacred sites, and cultural lifeways of Tribal Nations who were displaced, harmed, or erased through colonization—and who continue to remain rooted and resilient here today.

Tribes with ties to this region include, but are not limited to, the Miwok (including Central Sierra, Plains, and Southern Sierra bands), Mono, Kootzaduka'a (Mono Lake Paiute), Nüümü (Owens Valley Paiute), Newe (Western Shoshone), Washoe, Yokuts, Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute, Timbisha Shoshone, and Ahwahnechee. These communities, both federally recognized and non-federally recognized, carry forward living traditions, languages, and relationships with the land.

In the Eastern Sierra, the Nüümü word Payahuunadü—"The Place Where Water Flows"—and Pamidu Toiyabe—"Western Mountains"—remind us that these places are not just landscapes, but homes, histories, and sources of life and meaning.

This acknowledgment is an invitation to all organizations, residents, and visitors to recognize the way this history has shaped the present as all parties work together in anticipation of a better future.

INTRODUCTIONS



Alex Bloom

Economic Development Manager
CSDD/MLJT



Elaine Kabala

Executive Director
ESCOG

GROUND RULES

1. ASSUME GOOD WILL.
2. LISTEN WITH AN OPEN MIND AND TAKE AN ACTIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING APPROACH.
3. AVOID EDITORIALS AND ENGAGE WITH RESPECT.
4. USE CONVERSATIONAL COURTESY.
5. HONOR TIME AND SHARE THE FLOOR.
6. APPRECIATE HUMOR, BUT NOT AT OTHERS' EXPENSE.
7. BE HONEST AND CANDID WHILE TREATING EACH OTHER WITH RESPECT.
8. THINK INNOVATIVELY AND WELCOME NEW IDEAS.



SIERRA INDUSTRY SHINDIG

AGENDA

9:00 am

Meet & Greet

10:00 am

Welcome & Opening

10:20 am

Project Updates

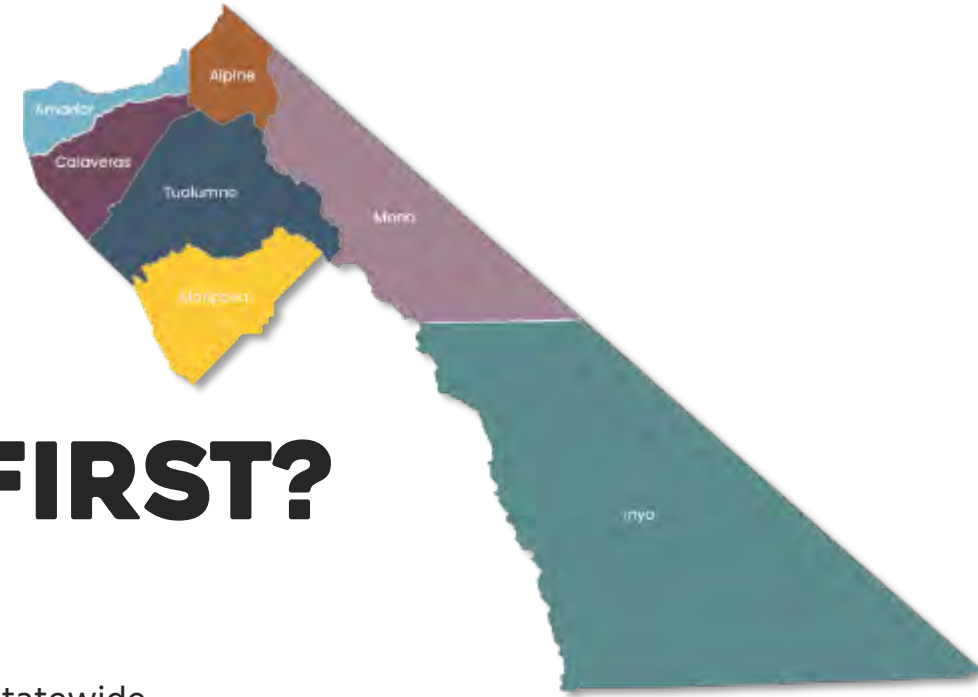
11:00 am

Future State Conversation

WELCOME

Now for some quick introductions and
a little background information.

SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND TOURISM NATURAL
WORKING LANDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND
MS CLEAN ENERGY AND ENERGY RESILIENCE
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND



WHAT IS SIERRA JOBS FIRST?

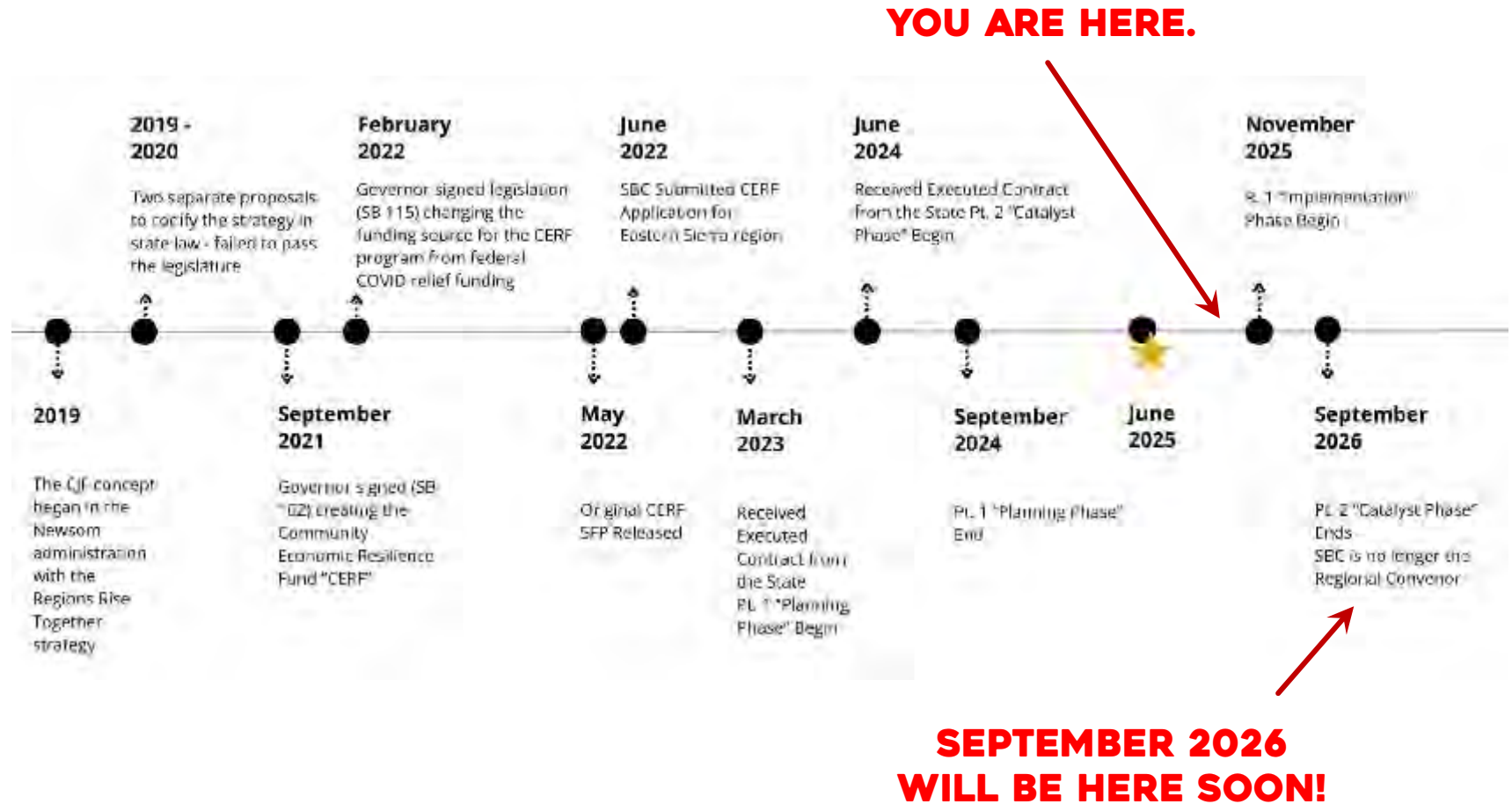
Just a quick recap...

California Jobs First (formerly the Community Economic Resilience Fund or CERF) is a Statewide Investment in job creation, industrial strategy, and economic development initiatives to create a greener and more equitable economy.

The state is divided into thirteen separate regions, each with its own process. Sierra Business Council (SBC), a Sierra-based nonprofit, was selected as the convener for what the state defined as the Sierra (formerly "Eastern Sierra") region, comprising the seven counties of Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, and Tuolumne.



JOBS FIRST TIMELINE



FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS

Foundational Elements of Sierra Jobs
First Economic Strategy

- **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION**
- **SOCIAL AND CIVIC INFRASTRUCTURE**
- **SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
- **PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**
- **HOUSING & PLACEMAKING**
- **LAND USE & TENURE**



INDUSTRY SECTORS

- **SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND TOURISM**
- **NATURAL AND WORKING LANDS**
- **SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS**
- **CLEAN ENERGY AND ENERGY RESILIENCE**
- **COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE**

SECTOR COORDINATORS

Industry Sector Coordinators are Sierra Jobs First's boots-on-the-ground specialists, deeply knowledgeable about the industries and communities they serve. They help guide, connect, and support projects aligned with the Regional Strategic Plan as they form collaborative partnerships and seek additional funding for implementation.



SIERRA CATALYST PROJECTS

1. **Viability Study for a Tree and Native Plant Nursery** - Alpine Biomass Collaborative
2. **Tri-County Economic Impact Analysis of Recreation in Inyo, Mono and Alpine Counties** - Alpine County
3. **Pathways to Prosperity Initiative** - Amador Trail Stewardship
4. **Local Food Feasibility and Development Project** - Blue Heron Project
5. **Hybrid EMS Training Program** - Beyond Limits Education
6. **Sierra Compost** - California Alliance for Community Composting
7. **Keep Sierra Green Project** - CalAsian Chamber
8. **Building Climate Resiliency in the Central Sierra Region** - Calaveras County Resource Conservation District
9. **CHIPS Expansion** - Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (C.H.I.P.S.) & Chicken Ranch Me-Wuk
10. **Sierra Founders Academy** - CSEDD
11. **Entrepreneur Center of the Sierras** - City of Sutter Creek
12. **Regional Training Center Feasibility Project** - Columbia College
13. **Business Catalyst Program** - ESCOG
14. **Chipmunk Canyon Trails Existing Conditions Analysis** - ESCOG
15. **Eastern Sierra Regional Capacity (ESRC) Incubator** - ESCOG
16. **Remaking the Eastern Sierra Food System** - ESCOG
17. **Investing in Our Shared Future: A Vision to Strengthen Nonprofits and Grow Local Giving in the Eastern Sierra** - Eastern Sierra Foundation
18. **Long Valley Ecovillage** - Eastern Sierra Investment Group
19. **Sierra Arts Organization Collaborative Network** - Mariposa County Arts Council Inc.
20. **Eastern Sierra Region Campground Improvements** - MLTPA Foundation
21. **Eastern Sierra Education and Recreation Jobs Creation** - MLTPA Foundation
22. **Eastern Sierra Regional Trail System and Jobs Creation** - MLTPA Foundation
23. **Water and Wastewater Apprenticeship Program** - Mother Lode Job Training (MLJT)
24. **Arnold Power & Water Biomass Plant** - Phoenix Biomass Energy, Inc.
25. **Sierra Jobs First Industrial Arts Training Program** - Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)
26. **Sierra Region Community Health Worker/Promoter Program** - Resilient Public Health Services
27. **Collaborative Sustainable Recreation Assessment** - Sierra Nevada Alliance
28. **Sierra Nevada Alliance's Natural and Working Lands Careers Initiative** - Sierra Nevada Alliance
29. **Wildcat Ranch Regional Training Site** - Sonora Union High School District
30. **Sierra Sourced** - Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce
31. **Creative Reuse Community Arts Center of Tuolumne County** - Tuolumne County Arts Alliance
32. **Tuolumne County Programmatic CEQA Development for Wildfire Fuel Management** - Tuolumne County Administration Office
33. **TIHP Mobile Dental Clinic** - Toiyabe Indian Health Project
34. **Developing an Innovative Biomass and Timber Inventory and Predictive Growth and Yield Model for the Central Sierra Nevada Region to Foster Forest and Bioeconomy Development** - Yosemite Clean Energy

PROJECT OVERLAPS

Regional Economic Impact Studies



REC & TOURISM EXAMPLES

Workforce Development & Small Business in Recreation



Environmental & Climate Resilience in Creation



Regional Trail Systems & Infrastructure



Arts, Culture & Placemaking



Industry Sector Coordinators are working towards grouping projects together based on overlap and the ability to share resources.

This chart here is an example of that effort in the Recreation & Tourism sector.

QUESTIONS

Now for some quick questions from the audience.

SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND TOURISM NATURAL
WORKING LANDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND
COMMUNITY CLEAN ENERGY RESILIENT
HEALTHCARE SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND

CATALYST PROJECTS

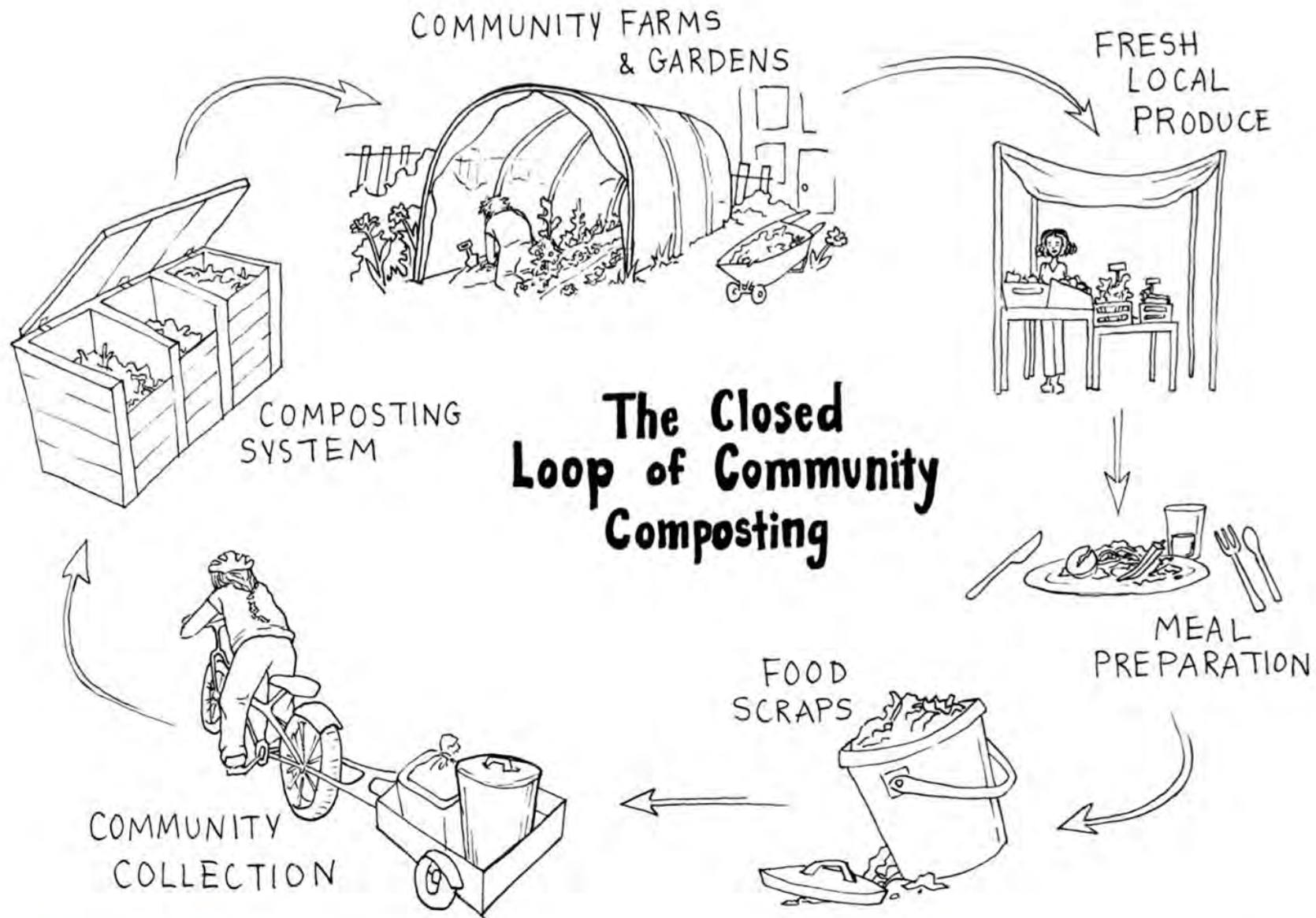
Now that we've set the stage, we're excited to hear about real-world projects that demonstrate the potential of these industry sectors in action.

SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND TOURISM NATURAL
WORKING LANDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND
MS CLEAN ENERGY RESILIENT
UNITY HEALTHCARE SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND



**SIERRA
COMPOST**







EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

CLOSING THE CARE GAP IN THE SIERRA

THE CHALLENGE

Your child isn't breathing. 911 is called. Help is 45 miles away. The local volunteer fire department? One EMR. One EMT. Both are out of town.

**That's not hypothetical.
That's the Sierra!**





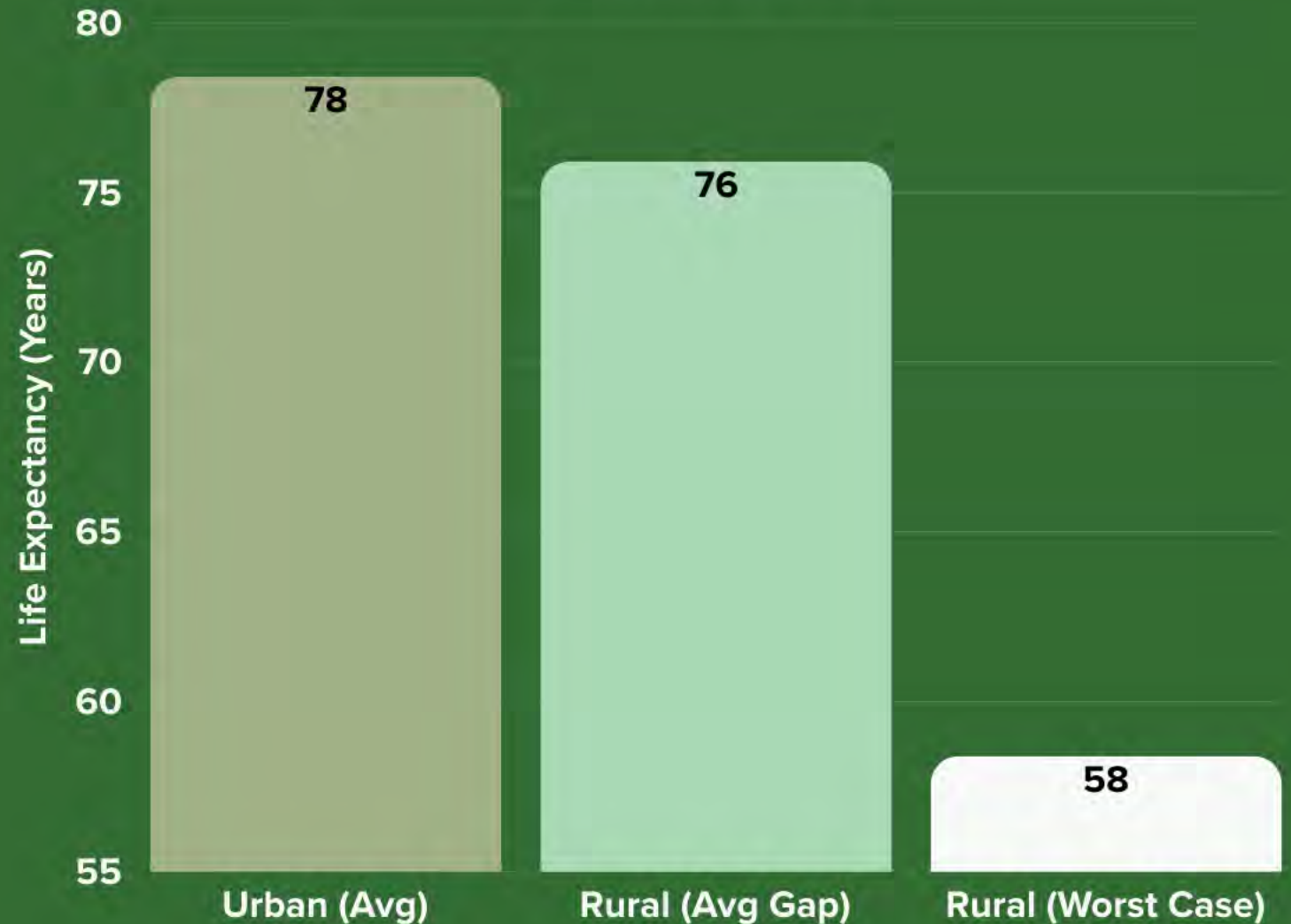
BROKEN EMS EDUCATION

- Broken equipment & outdated materials.
- Inconsistent skill outcomes - agencies hesitate to hire grads.
- Cost barriers: tuition, books, medical/background checks, travel.
- Inaccessible schedules: 5:15pm-10:30pm exclude working adults.
- Poor communication, limited support, and community mistrust.
- Weak faculty training & retention.

THE COST OF RURAL GAPS IN CARE

Lower life
expectancy!

Life Expectancy Gap: Urban vs Rural Communities



CDC, National Center for Health Statistics [NCHS], 2024 and King et al., 2018

FOUR PILLARS OF TRANSFORMATION



ONLINE LEARNING



HANDS-ON PRACTICE



TEACHING EXCELLENCE



SCHOLARSHIPS

250 slides later...

DEATH BY POWERPOINT

Passive Learning = Poor Outcomes

Students & communities deserve
better!

DEATH BY POWERPOINT

250 slides
later...



REPRESENTATION MATTERS

- EMS workforce = **85% white** (Rivard et al., 2021).
- Low diversity → barrier to equity (Rudman et al., 2023).
- Sierra region = up to **27.4% Hispanic/Latino & American Indian** (U.S. Census Bureau, 2023).
- Only ~**1 in 3 EMT providers are female-identifying** (Crowe et al., 2019).
- Training materials must reflect all communities.



1144
Hours



I Don't Remember Very Much

Review the information before going through the scenario.

REVIEW INFORMATION

I Remember A Lot

I am ready to go through the scenario.

TRY SCENARIO

WHAT LEARNING SHOULD LOOK LIKE

- Engaging
- Includes feedback
- Interactive scenarios → critical thinking
- Professional videos
- Illustrations, images, & videos that reflect diverse populations
- Preparing learners for the real world

FROM VISION TO ACTION

Developing a tiered
hybrid EMS training
program!

EMR/WFR/CPR
Entry Level

EMT
Core
Certification

AEMT
Advanced
Training

WEMS Upgrade
Specialty
Training





SKILLS THAT STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES

Training that reaches
beyond EMS!

- **Community Safety:** Prepared community members, volunteers, law enforcement.
- **Emergency Response:** Volunteer firefighters, SAR volunteers & staff, ambulance personnel.
- **Specialized Roles:** Wildland firefighters, ski patrol, lifeguards.
- **Healthcare Careers:** Hospital staff, nursing, pre-med, paramedic pathways.

BUILDING THE FUTURE, TOGETHER



FUNDING



**INSTRUCTOR
RECRUITMENT**



**PRE-HOSPITAL CARE
INFRASTRUCTURE**



**COLLEGE
PARTNERSHIPS**



*We're not just training EMS providers
— we're training lifelines for the Sierra.*





UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

UC Cooperative Extension

Eastern Sierra Community Economic Development Workshops

Fall 2025 Pilot Program
Oct 2 - Nov 13, 2025

*Building local leadership, skills, and
strategies for regional prosperity*

Contact:

Aaron Wilcher, CED Advisor. UCCE, Inyo-Mono
awilcher@ucanr.edu

Sept 10, 2025

Shindig, CA Jobs First / MLTPA



The background of the slide features a dark night sky filled with numerous stars of varying brightness. At the bottom of the image, a rugged mountain range is visible, with some peaks covered in snow and illuminated by a low light source, possibly the moon or a distant star, creating a silhouette effect.

Housing Affordability – 1,163

Housing and Urban Develop. – 817

Affordable Housing and Urban Plan. – 757



Economic Development – 1,006

Innovation & Economic Growth – 750

Workforce Development – 516

Tourism & Recreation – 482

Agriculture & Rural Development – 261

Water & Natural Resources – 166

Local Business & Entrepreneurship – 148

Infrastructure & Transportation – 97



Civic Engagement & Governance – 831

Youth Leadership & Education – 724

Professional Dev. & Capacity Building– 653

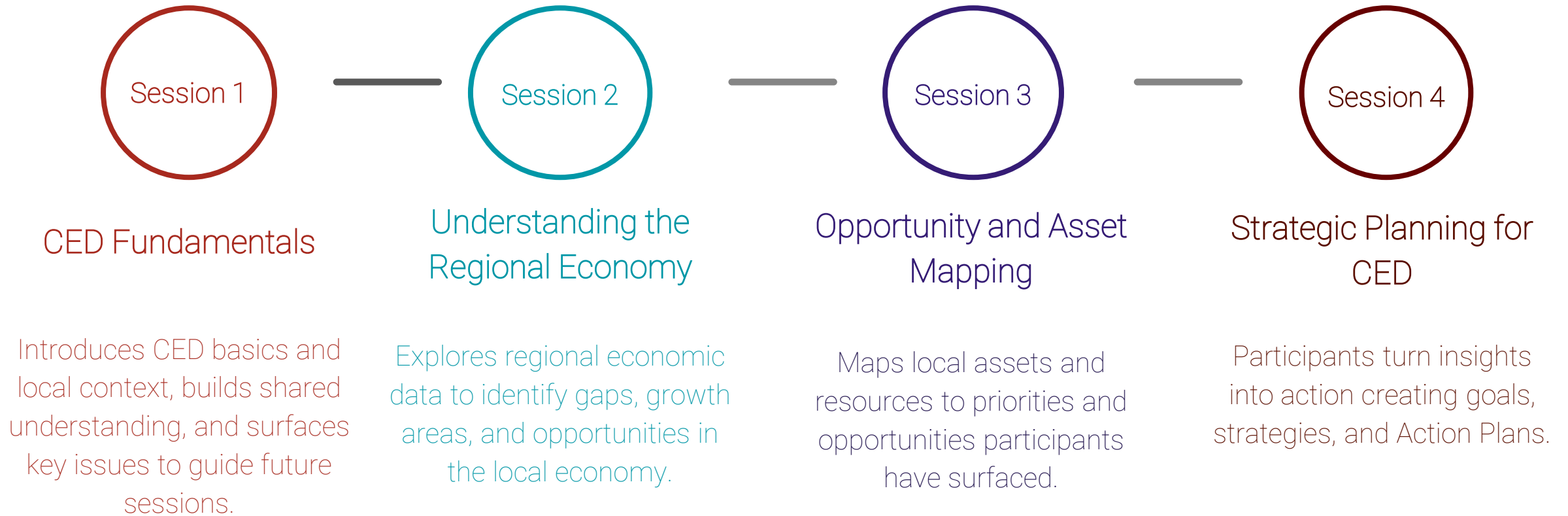
Civic Leadership & Participation – 591

Leadership & Training – 298

Education & Youth Programs – 266

Public Engagement & Outreach– 191

Workshop Series at a Glance



Audience



Local officials and staff

City, county, and tribal officials; agency and planning staff



Business and nonprofit leaders

Chamber staff, tourism (DMO) and recreation staff



Education & Workforce Partners

Districts, colleges, training providers, intermediaries



Civic & community Organizations

Neighborhood associations, service orgs, cultural and faith groups



Emerging leaders

Young professionals, new civic leaders and voices

What Participants Will Leave With



Understanding of

Regional data and CED concepts and terminology



Tools and frameworks

Methods to connect opportunities with assets and set goals



Hands-on experience

Working on planning and strategy



A starter action plan

Clear next steps for projects



Connections and peer network

New connections and partnership to to sustain collaboration

Session dates

Thursday lunch sessions 10:30a - 1pm

- 10/2 (Bishop BRC)
- 10/16 (Mammoth TBD)
- 10/30 (Bishop BRC)
- 11/13 (Mammoth - TBD)



<https://ucanr.edu/county/inyo-and-mono-counties/article/ced-workshops-2025>

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd9a4icg2kIINTLwokJPWZnEaHnjEKKVMnM5BA38YOIkLjUiA/viewform>

M L T P A
T 2 T

MLTPA

MAMMOTH LAKES TRAILS • PUBLIC ACCESS

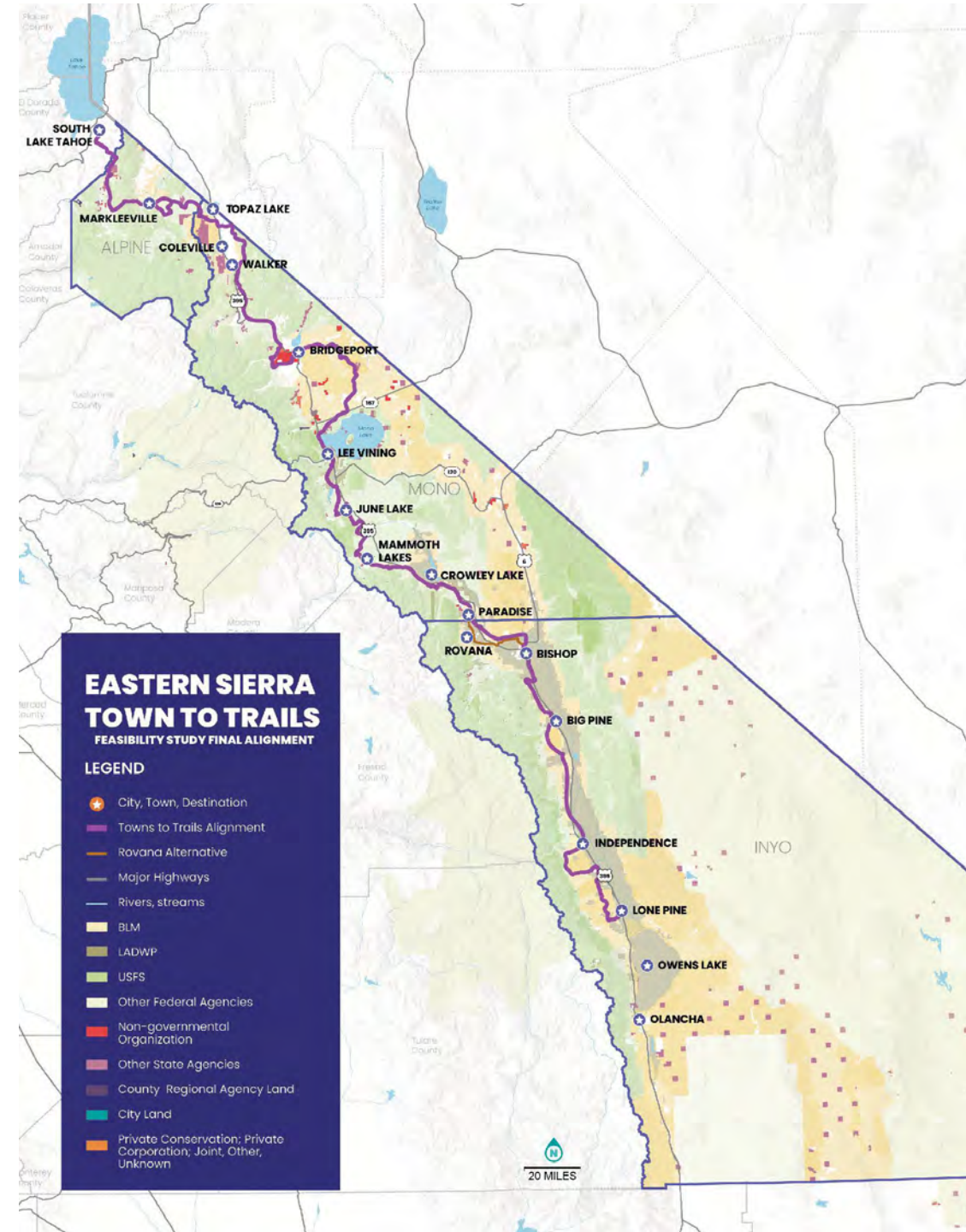


Trails are connection

Over a century ago, cartographers walked
ridgelines and valleys to map the Sierra. Trails
weren't just lines on paper—they were
connections across the continent. Each route
carried the stories of migration, trade, and
survival. Those stories are just as important as
the topography itself.

- Carved across the continent long before roads
 - Every trail carries culture, history, and
connection





In the Eastern Sierra, we've already seen what happens when we reconnect towns to trails. Access points begin in communities, not parking lots. Visitors spend time and money in town centers. Local history becomes part of the trail experience. It's a success story that proves this model works

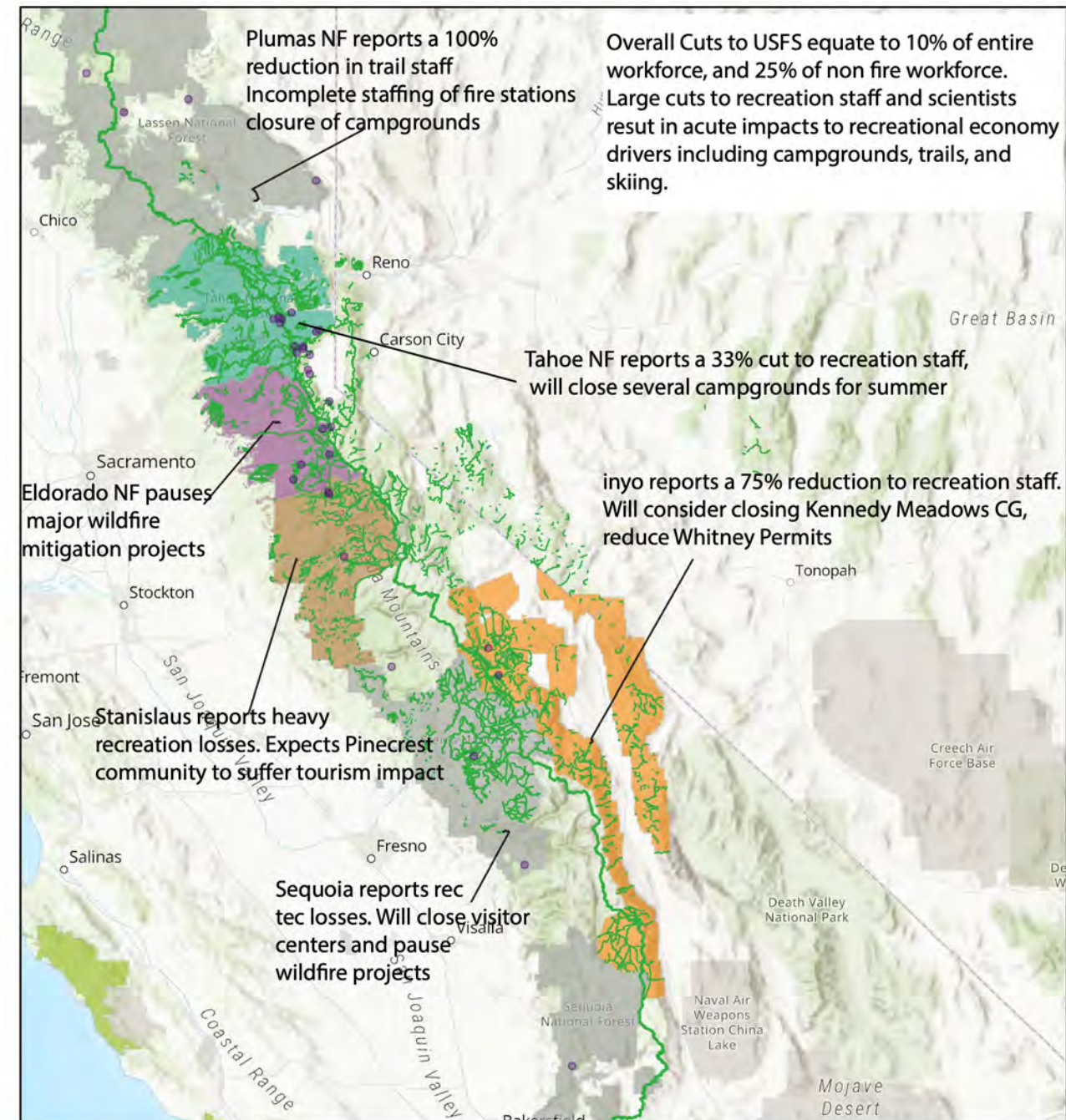
- Trails begin in communities, not parking lots
- Visitors support local businesses & heritage
- Proof of concept in the Eastern Sierra

A changing landscape

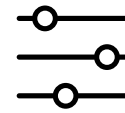
But today, the landscape is changing. Federal cuts to the U.S. Forest Service have left fewer staff, shrinking budgets, and deferred maintenance across California's public lands. Trails are deteriorating. Access is closing. Communities lose both connection and economic opportunity. That's why this project is urgent.

- USFS budget cuts → fewer staff & closed trails
- Deferred maintenance threatens access
- Communities lose economic opportunity

fed management cuts impact map



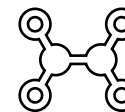
GOALS



Understand Landscapes and Connections

Restore historic routes that once linked people to place.

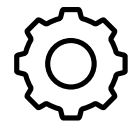
Connect Sierra towns directly to trail systems.



Instill Value

Build equitable, car-free access to public lands.

Strengthen local economies through recreation tourism.

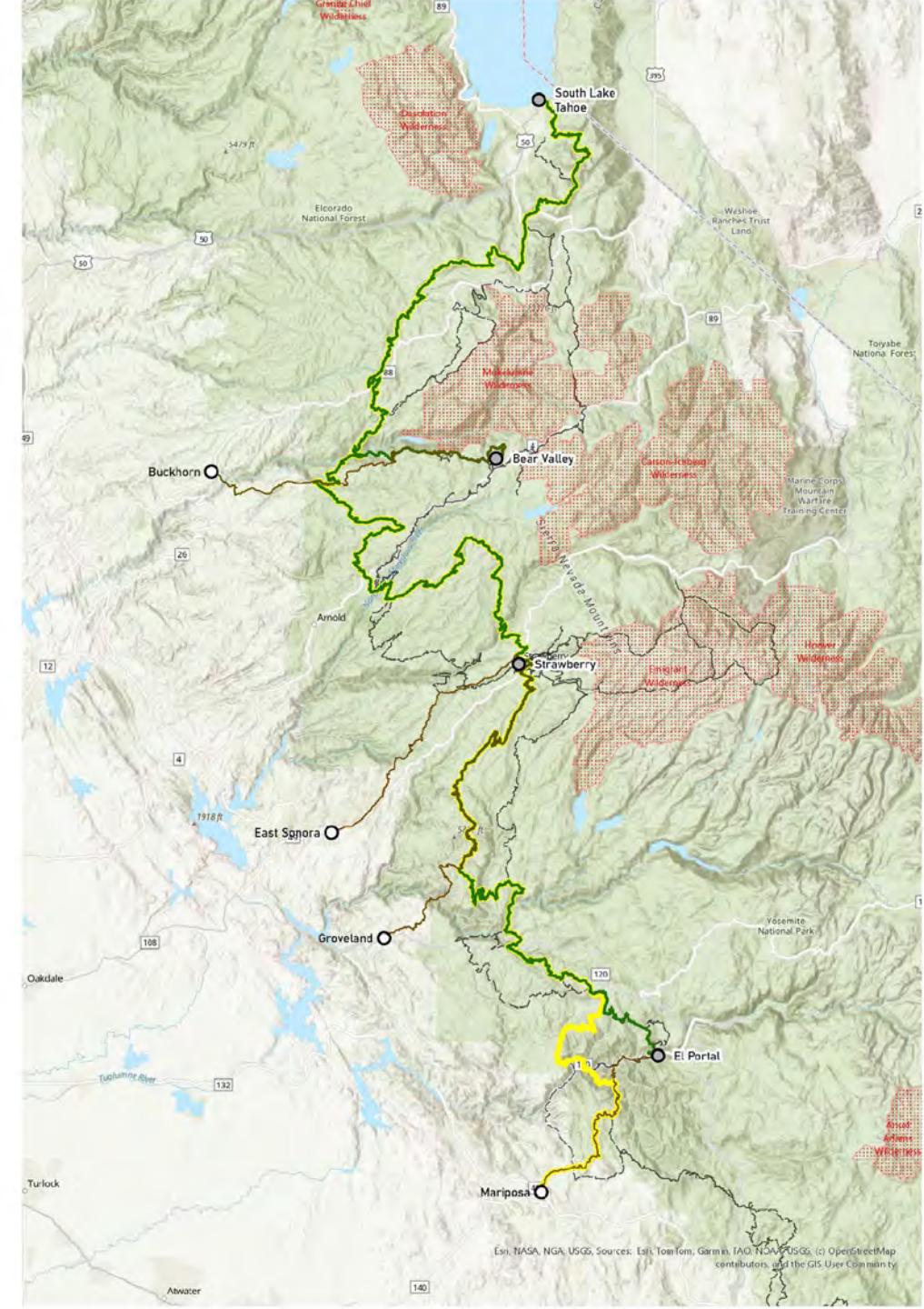
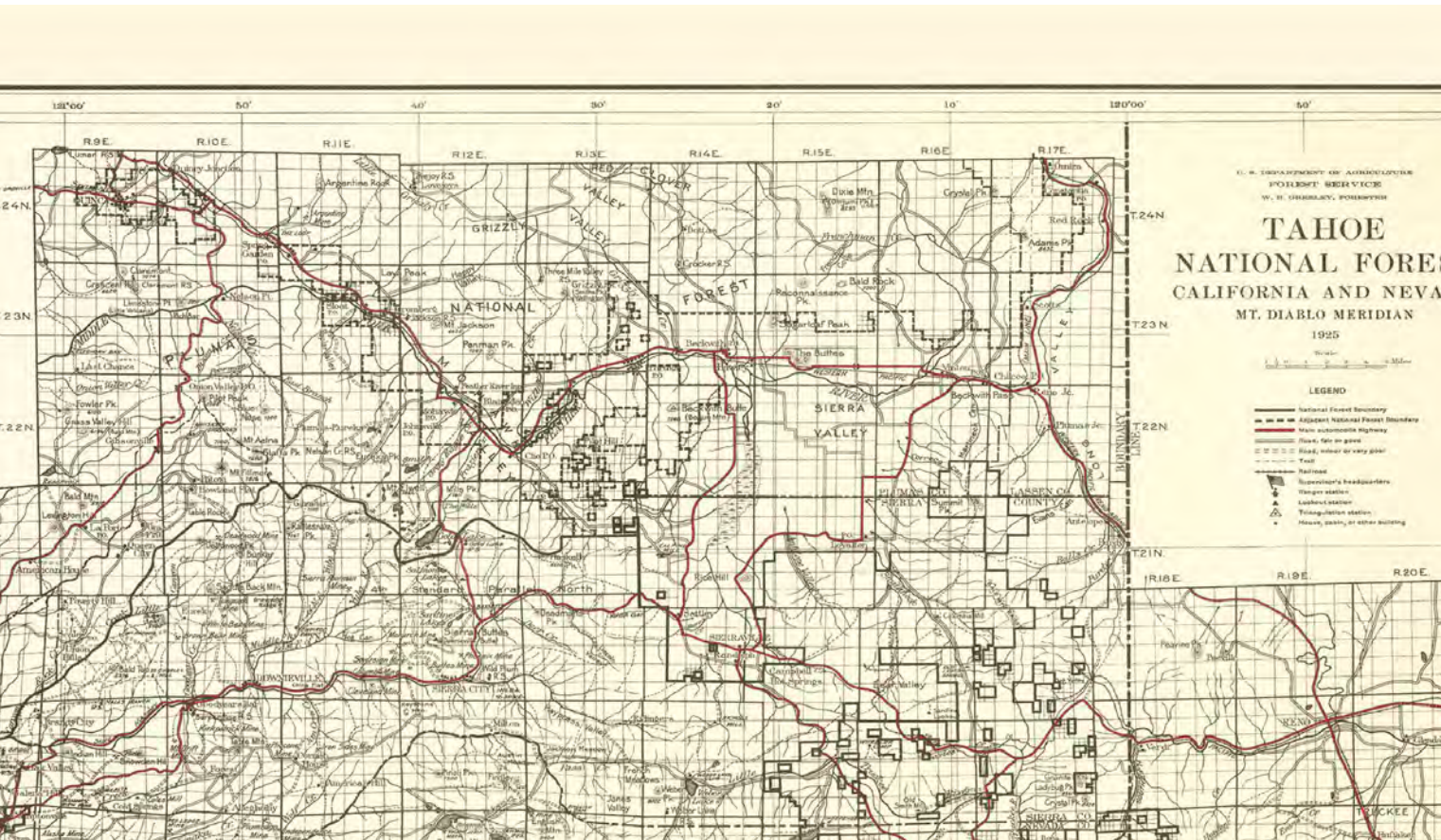


Foster Landscapes

Create stewardship pathways where community members help monitor and care for trails.

Where we are

- Current draft corridors
- Routes tie travel to stories and culture
- Map as blueprint for history, equity, and access





Potential

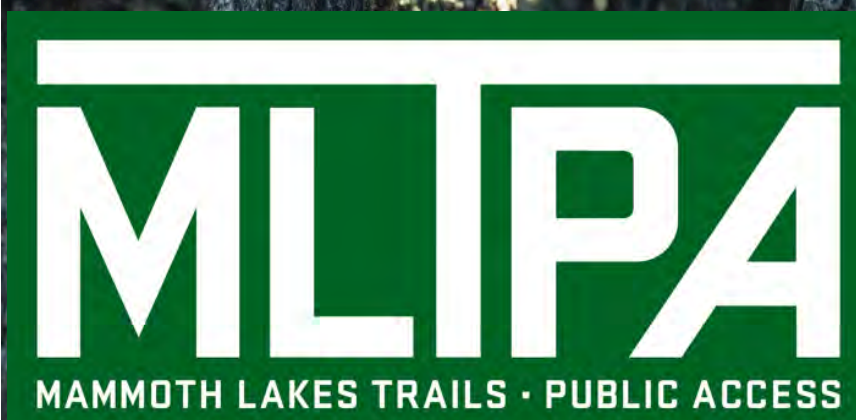
n e w r e c r e a t i o n e c o n o m y

- Bikepacking, hiking, cultural tourism
- Coffee shops, diners, & inns as trailheads
- Trails that sustain both people and land





dillonosleger@mltpa.o
ra



Regional Training Center

Feasibility Study





Driven to serve...rural California

- Intellectual, cultural, and economic growth
- Supportive and engaging learning environments
- Innovative, thoughtful, and life-long learners

Exploring opportunity

Meet critical regional needs

Collaboration Highlights

- Wildcat Ranch Plans
- College Master Plan Alignment
- Forestry Corps

Advancing skills



Emergency Medical Services

Community Healthcare



Wildland Firefighting

Natural and Working Lands



Fire Technology

Natural and Working Lands

Partners

All

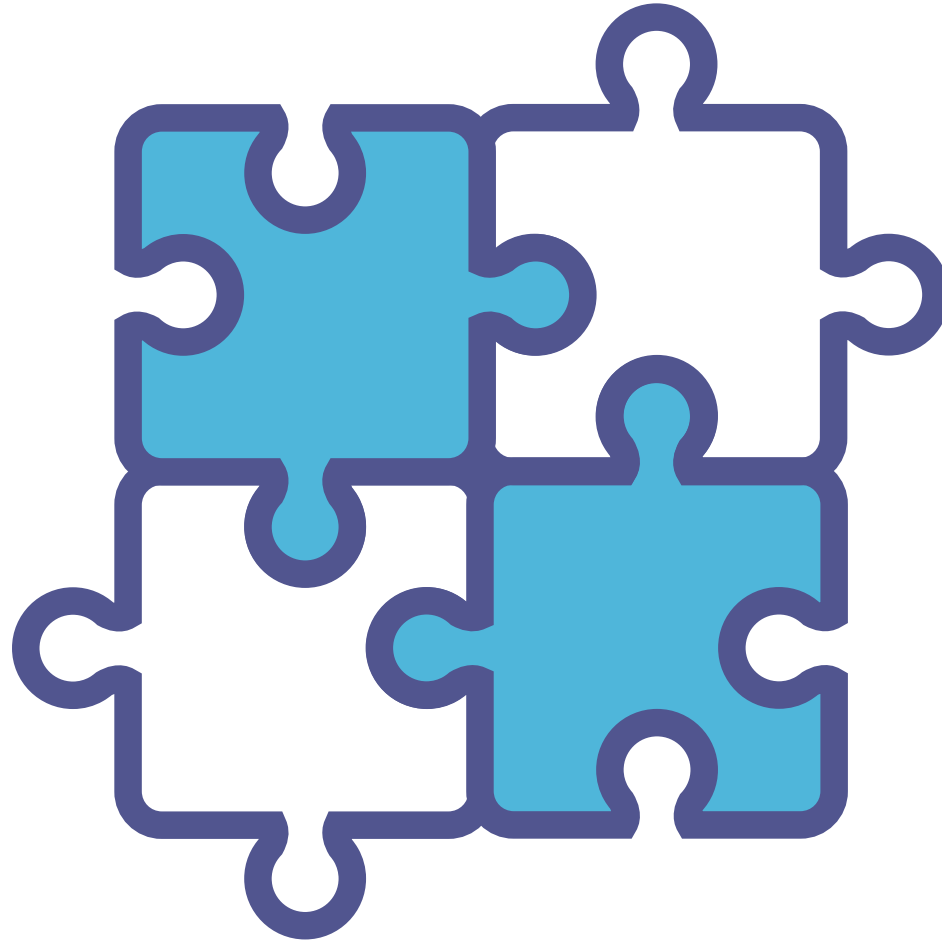
Employment and
Training Seekers

Students
Pre-Apprentices
MLJT

T, C, A

Schools/Training
Providers

Columbia College
Amador College Connect
Sonora High School



All

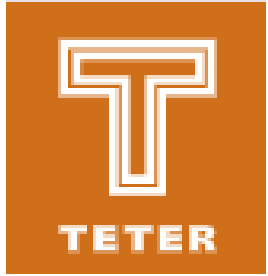
Communities

RCRC

All

Employers

CHIPS
MLJT



Deliverables by 9/30/26

Technical Assessment
Economic Assessment
Legal Assessment
Environmental Assessment
Project Assessment

Original Budget: \$300,000
AWARD: \$170,173



Project Update

Unique Partnership

1. Determine Terms with HS (lease, sale, development costs)
2. Conduct Feasibility (shared between HS and College)
3. Process Site Certification through CDE SFPD for HS (concurrent)
4. Develop Concept Design of RFTC (shortcut from FMP interviews)
5. Complete FMP for Columbia College (concurrent)



Contracted
architectural engineers
based in Fresno



Collaborating with Teter
and Sonora Union High
School District



- Includes requirements for Chancellor's Office and CDE OPSC (k12)
- Follows CDE and SFPD outlide for site acceptance process

Equity and long-term sustainability

Jobs projected 2030

Wage ranges from \$37,731 to \$83,259

790

Forest and Conservation Workers
Recreational Protective Service
Workers

17
0

EMTs and Paramedics

123
0

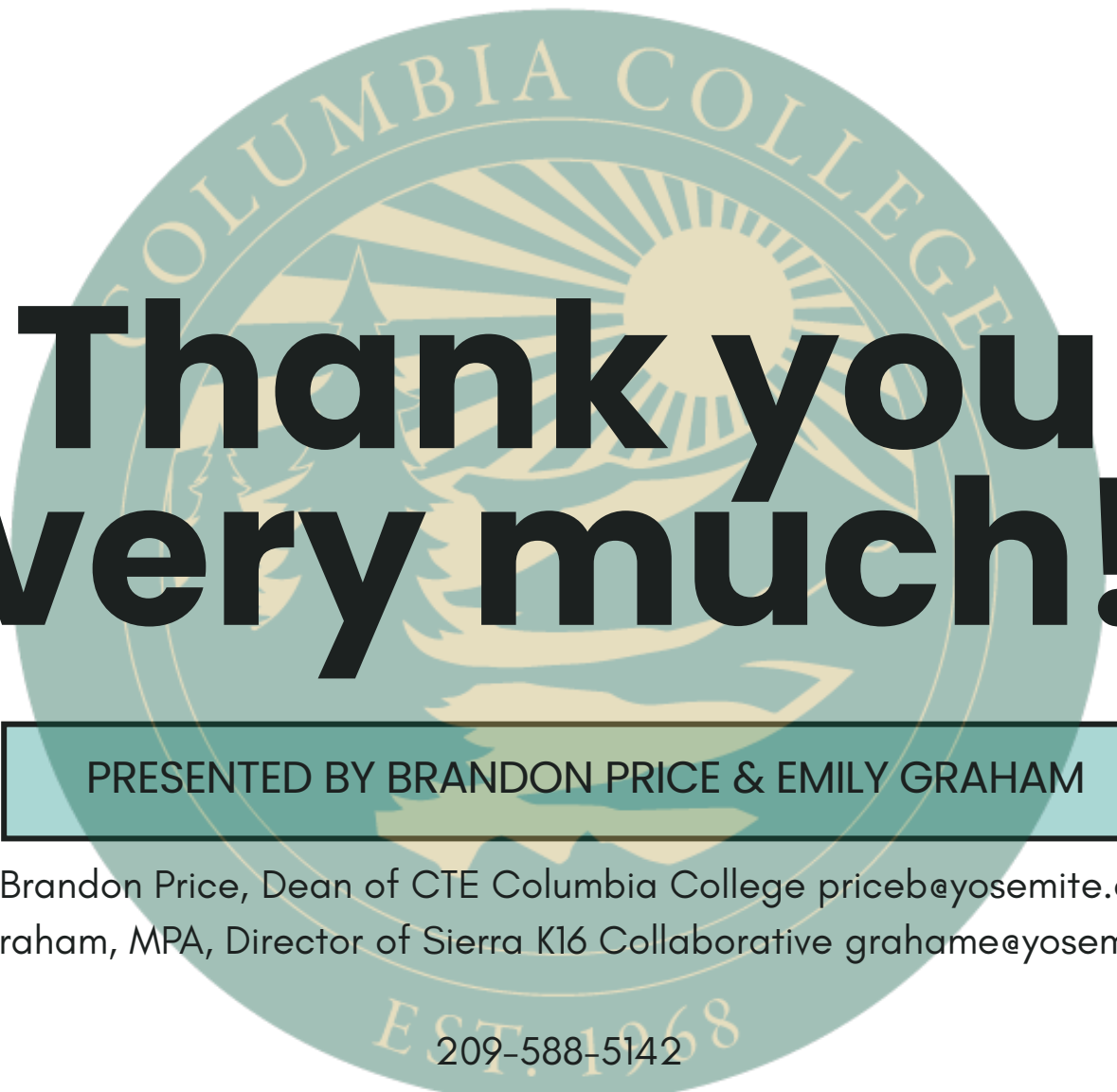
Firefighting Prevention Workers
Firefighters
Supervisors of Firefighters

Climate

Alignment

Direct mitigation of impacts of climate change
Natural resource protection
Carbon emission reduction
Climate-resilient economy



The background of the slide features a large, faint, circular seal of Columbia College. The seal is light teal and contains a central sunburst design with rays emanating from a central sun. The words "COLUMBIA COLLEGE" are written in a circular path around the top of the seal, and "EST. 1968" is written at the bottom. The text "Thank you very much!" is overlaid on the seal in a large, bold, black font.

Thank you very much!

PRESENTED BY BRANDON PRICE & EMILY GRAHAM

Dr. Brandon Price, Dean of CTE Columbia College priceb@yosemite.edu
Emily Graham, MPA, Director of Sierra K16 Collaborative grahame@yosemite.edu

209-588-5142

FUTURE STATE

Let's take some time to talk about what the future of collaboration in the Sierra Region looks like.

SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND TOURISM NATURAL
WORKING LANDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND
MS CLEAN ENERGY AND ENERGY RESILIENCE
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND

BACKGROUND

Mother Lode Job Training One-Stop Centers have a multitude of services designed to assist **job seekers** with job search and training, support **businesses** with hiring and retention, and connect **partners** with agencies and community resources throughout the Mother Lode region.

CSEDD is a five county Economic Development District that serves the Counties of Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa and Tuolumne along with the Cities of Sonora and Angels Camp.

CSEDD partners with MLJT and local economic development offices to bring workforce and economic development assistance to businesses and residents throughout the Mother Lode Region.



**CENTRAL SIERRA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT**



BACKGROUND

The Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agency made up of the following member agencies: City of Bishop, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Inyo County, and Mono County.

The ESCOG coordinates regional planning and economic development efforts throughout the Eastern Sierra, working cooperatively with local, state and federal partners to support community development, economic diversification, sustainable recreation, ecosystem management and climate resiliency for a more prosperous, sustainable, and resilient region.

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments



OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRANS-SIERRA COLLABORATION

- **REGIONAL, MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SCOPE.**
- **ESCOG AND MLJCT/CSEDD BOTH ACTIVE PARTNERS IN CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST.**
- **EMPHASIS ON COLLABORATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING.**
- **FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE.**
- **LOCAL FAMILIARITY AND RELATIONSHIPS.**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR POST-JOBS FIRST COLLABORATION

- **JOINT REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES BUILDING ON CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST GROUNDWORK.**
- **SHARED DATA, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING RESOURCES.**
- **COLLECTIVE PURSUIT OF FUNDING AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES.**
- **BRIDGING EASTERN SIERRA AND CENTRAL SIERRA FOR GREATER REGIONAL VOICE AT STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS.**





NEXT STEPS FOR POST-CAJF COLLABORATION STRATEGY



AGNEW
::BECK

QUESTIONS

Now for some quick questions from the audience.

SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND TOURISM NATURAL
WORKING LANDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND
COMMUNITY CLEAN ENERGY RESILIENT
HEALTHCARE SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND

WORKING GROUPS

Be sure to get plugged into one of our industry sector working groups. The conversation here today will continue via these groups over the course of the next year.

Please scan one of these QR Codes for more information about each sectors working group.

HEALTHCARE



REC & TOURISM



AGRICULTURE



WORKING LANDS



A large steam locomotive, numbered 3, is displayed in a dark, industrial workshop. The locomotive is covered in a semi-transparent green overlay. The background shows the interior of a large building with high ceilings, structural beams, and various mechanical parts and tools scattered around. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

LUNCH RECOMMENDATIONS

WHISKEY CREEK

MOUNTAIN RAMBLER BREWERY

GREAT BASIN BAKERY

LOONEY BEAN



SIERRA INDUSTRY SHINDIG

**THANK YOU
FOR
COMING**