



SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

****DRAFT****

October 24, 2022

1:00 P.M.

To slow the spread of COVID-19, in lieu of a public gathering, the meeting will be accessible via Zoom to all members of the public as permitted by Government Code section 54953(e).

Supervisor Federal D. Glover, Chair

Supervisor John Gioia, Vice Chair

Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

Present: Federal D. Glover, Chair
John Gioia, Vice Chair

Staff Present: John Kopchik, Director, Dept. of Conservation and Development;
Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator, Dept. of Conservation and Development;
Jason Crapo, Deputy Director, Dept. of Conservation and Development;
Alyson Greenlee, Economic Development Manager, Dept. of Conservation and Development;
Will Nelson, Principal Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development;
Adam Scarbrough, Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development;
Luz Gomez, Building Healthy Communities Manager, Dept. of Health Services;
Robert Sarmiento, Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development;
Emily Groth, Climate Corps Fellow, Dept. of Conservation and Development;
Susan Parsa, Green Business Program Manager, Dept. of Health Services;
Brendan Havenar-Daughton, Energy Manager, Dept of Public Works;
Monica Nino, County Administrator,
Lara DeLaney, Senior Deputy, County Administrator's Office
Emily Warming, Dept. Health Services, Demian Hardman-Saldana, Senior Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development;
Nicole Shimizu, Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development

Attendees: Marti Roach, Jan Warren, Sunflower Alliance, Shoshana Wechsler, BlueGreen Alliance,
Justine, Mike Moore, Betty Lobos, Chuck Leonard, Mike Coody, Randy Thomas, Will McGarvey, Fran Gibson, Sonia Bustamante, Lisa Jackson,

1. Introductions
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

One person requested clarification on how many opportunities there would be to provide public comment on the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan presentation and budget.

3. RECOMMEND that the Board of Supervisors AUTHORIZE the Director, Department of Conservation and Development, or designee, to submit Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan Draft Grant Materials to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

John Kopchik from the Department of Conservation and Development provided a brief overview of the County's next steps in receiving a \$750,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to fund a high-level Just Transition planning project. Kopchik requested direction on refining the scope of work for the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan (JTERP) and bringing the JTERP Draft Grant Materials to the Board of Supervisors. Given that the project scope provides a general description of the JTERP, Kopchick noted the federal government's recommendation for developing a flexible scope as the Board of Supervisors will later determine the exact direction of the project.

Kopchik also addressed several edits staff made to the JTERP Project Narrative prior to the Committee meeting. Several places in the document made reference to the targeted industry clusters identified in the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative 2019 Strategic Action Plan and mistakenly listed "advanced transportation fuels" as one of the industry clusters. This language was changed to "advanced transportation technology," which includes zero-emission vehicles, batteries, and charging technology, to match the language in the Strategic Action Plan. The changes were made in three locations throughout the document. Kopchik noted that the JTERP covers areas beyond the Northern Waterfront and includes other industries related to the green energy economy. An updated version of the Project Narrative is attached.

The Committee requested that language be added to the Project Narrative that reflects the State's goal of shifting to a zero-emission transportation sector. Staff added this language in the description of industry sectors covered by the JTERP.

Alyson Greenlee, County Economic Development Manager, reviewed the Project Narrative and Budget. The three-page Project Narrative describes the long-range strategic planning process, the initiative's priority industry sectors, and the importance of the effort to frontline and impacted communities. The JTERP will include a study of the economic impacts of transitioning away from fossil fuels and specialized studies focused on land use, using lessons from regions experiencing a similar type of transition. Greenlee outlined the proposed activities on which the funds will be spent. These will include community engagement, particularly in disadvantaged communities; economic analysis of impacts on the current workforce and economy, in addition to workforce retraining opportunities; specialized studies, including environmental and land use analyses related to business attraction and retention in priority sectors; and staffing for 18 to 24 months. The result of these efforts will be a Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan that will identify scalable projects to be implemented with other funding sources. Projects could include but are not limited to workforce development and training programs, programs to attract family-sustaining jobs, clean energy installations that benefit impacted neighborhoods, and community improvement.

The Committee clarified that the JTERP is a county-wide initiative not limited to the Northern Waterfront and supported staff's addition of language clarifying this scope. The Committee directed staff to add language to the Project Narrative about creating a stakeholder group, like a steering committee, with a list of the stakeholders involved in the Just Transition process, as discussed during previous Sustainability Committee meetings. Additionally, the Committee expressed a desire to include stipends for community members in the budget. An updated Project Narrative with the changes made during this Committee meeting is attached.

Public Comment:

Multiple members of the public expressed appreciation for the clarification regarding the "advanced transportation fuels" language and requested corrected versions be made available to the public. Questions and concerns arose regarding the role of biofuels during the transition and the environmental impact of renewable diesel. Suggestions on this topic included adding language to the Project Narrative about investigating the role of renewable biodiesel in the transition to a net-zero economy through special studies; clarifying whether new biofuel efforts will be supported in the Just Transition initiative; and not using public funds to support biofuels. Multiple members of the public expressed support for putting public funds towards technologies that will support a zero-emission future. To support this technology, members of the public suggested partnering with the local scientific community, pursuing algae biofuels and electrolytic hydrogen technology, and supporting STEM-related programs in schools in disadvantaged communities.

The Committee clarified that biofuels are an interim fuel according to the State's plans and the role of biofuels depends on sector. The Committee also clarified that the scientific community would be considered an academic group in the list of stakeholders that was added to the Project Narrative.

Other concerns included the national security impacts of transitioning away from fossil fuels and the pace at which the County is moving forward on economic development efforts, with a desire to support workers currently looking for jobs. Dominic Lucero from the Boilermakers Local 549 noted that the Boilermakers' apprenticeship program already has the infrastructure in place to prepare workers for high-skill, high-wage careers described in the Just Transition documents and suggested that efforts be made to ensure new infrastructure is built by Californians under project labor agreements. Suggestions for specific Just Transition projects included a controlled retreat from polluted shorelines and funding, training, and employment opportunities related to hazardous waste clean-up.

Members of the public expressed support for a transformational Just Transition process, submitting the materials shared during the meeting to HUD before the end of the year, and increased community engagement via a stakeholder group as part of the plan. Mike Moore expressed the Sustainability Commission's interest in continuing to support Just Transition work through the development of the JTERP, especially with community engagement activities. Josh Sonnenfeld from the BlueGreen Alliance expressed support for continued collaboration with the County on Just Transition planning, offered to share information and resources to guide the creation of the stakeholder group, and encouraged openness to additional economic sectors that could help with the transition. Justine Burt, project manager for the Richmond Green-Blue New Deal, offered to share information regarding the project's community engagement efforts. Members of the public suggested including faith leaders and local nonprofits in the stakeholder group, and 350 Contra Costa proposed creating a community board made up of representatives of community groups in addition to the stakeholder group. An additional public comment submitted via email is attached.

The Committee requested that the BlueGreen Alliance and County engage in more discussions to align initiatives. Additionally, the Committee provided some examples of current local and state efforts in transitioning away from liquid fuels and noted that the Committee will be spending more time discussing the specifics of community engagement efforts in the JTERP. After a discussion with Jody London and Will Nelson regarding the stakeholder lists included in the environmental justice policies of the draft updated General Plan, the Committee directed staff to make sure the stakeholder lists in this document and the JTERP Project Narrative are aligned and inclusive of all stakeholders.

The Committee unanimously approved the recommendation to bring Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan Draft Grant Materials to the Board of Supervisors.

4. The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Committee is currently scheduled for November 28, 2022.

5. Adjourn

The Sustainability Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Sustainability Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Sustainability Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 651 Pine Street, 1st floor, during normal business hours.

Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact:

Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator
Phone: (925) 674-7871
Jody.London@dcd.cccounty.us

Project Narrative

Short Project Description:

The Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan (Economic Revitalization Plan) Project is a long-term strategic planning process that will result in (1) a roadmap for workforce training and land uses changes to attract and accommodate businesses in the industry clusters identified in the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative (the Initiative), and (2) an implementation strategy. The Economic Revitalization Plan will help Contra Costa County anticipate and plan for the transition from a historically petroleum-based economic sector to an economy that is driven by the industry clusters identified in the Initiative including advanced transportation fuels, biomedical/biotech, food processing, clean tech, and transportation technology.

As the home to four of the five oil refineries in the San Francisco Bay Area, Contra Costa County is at the forefront of a larger movement in California to revitalize our economy as we move away from fossil fuels during the shift to a zero-emission economy. Contra Costa County is home to 25 census tracts that the State of California considers “disadvantaged” using its CalEnviroScreen criteria. Many of these census tracts are clustered in areas near oil refineries and related industrial uses. The residents of these areas experience higher rates of asthma and other illnesses and have historically been underserved by our government at every level. Contra Costa County is committed to addressing this historic injustice and is looking for every opportunity to do so in this work by providing special attention to helping develop new opportunities for frontline and impacted communities, including soliciting meaningful input from these communities into the development of the Economic Revitalization Plan and improving the health and job opportunities for residents in these communities.

The Economic Revitalization Plan is a time-sensitive priority; in 2020, two of the four oil refineries in Contra Costa County submitted applications to manufacture renewable fuel in lieu of fossil fuels. Those applications were approved by the Board of Supervisors in May 2022. This will affect the entire industrial sector as many supply chain companies are in the county. To navigate this major shift in employment, revenue, and associated impacts, Contra Costa residents and workers as well as the County itself want to ensure that there are intentional workforce and land use transitions to support this monumental change. The intended use of Community Project Funding (CPF) grant is the long-term strategic planning process resulting in the Economic Revitalization Plan roadmap. Contra Costa County will support the remainder of the implementation strategy using existing County revenues, and/or seek additional grants or philanthropic contributions, not yet in hand.

Detailed Description of Intended Uses of CPF Grant:

The intended use of Community Project Funding (CPF) grant is the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan (Economic Revitalization Plan), a long-term strategic planning process resulting in a roadmap for workforce (re)training and land use changes to attract and accommodate businesses in the industry clusters identified in the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative (the Initiative), as Contra Costa County transitions from its historically petroleum-based economic sector.

The Economic Revitalization Plan will help Contra Costa County anticipate and plan for the transition from a historically petroleum-based economic sector to an economy that is driven by the industry

clusters identified in the Initiative including advanced transportation fuels, biomedical/biotech, food processing, clean tech, and transportation technology.

Using lessons learned from similar types of regions in transition-- such as Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in San Luis Obispo County, California, and coal plants in Appalachia--the Economic Revitalization Plan will create a framework for a uniquely Contra Costa just transition program that incorporates the concerns expressed by frontline and impacted communities. The CPF grant will jumpstart this work.

The Economic Revitalization Plan will be aligned with and build on the County's existing visions in the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative and the County's Envision 2040 General Plan update. It will provide special attention for developing new opportunities for frontline and impacted communities that realize economic, health, and other benefits. It will develop strategies to improve the health, safety, infrastructure, job opportunities, and revenue opportunities during the shift to a zero-emission economy. It will also respond to the County Board of Supervisors' declaration of a climate emergency.

The intended uses of this CPF grant—and the activities of the Economic Revitalization Plan—are to support a robust stakeholder engagement process, conduct specialized studies and economic analysis, and support county staff-- culminating in a Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan, which is a roadmap to move forward with a just transition in Contra Costa County. This roadmap will include the workforce transitions needed to support this pivot, and the land use changes to attract and accommodate businesses in the industry clusters identified by the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative, as the impacts trickle along the supply chain and existing workforce pipelines.

This is a plan to make Contra Costa the hub for production and employment in advanced transportation fuels, biomedical/biotech, food processing, clean tech, and transportation technology—with a trained workforce ready to go, and the land use needs of businesses met in industrial areas that were historically part of the petroleum-based economic sector that are now a long-term success in the transition to a zero-emission economy.

The detailed descriptions of the activities that are intended for the use of CPF funds are below:

1. **Community Engagement:**

The Economic Revitalization Plan will support a robust stakeholder engagement process. The communities closest to the refineries in Contra Costa County align with the State's disadvantaged communities map and are the intended main beneficiaries of the community revitalization planning effort in the Economic Revitalization Plan. The federal funds will be spent for community outreach and engagement (including meeting support services for translation, childcare, and community ambassadors) and will identify the Economic Revitalization Plan's implementation priorities.

2. **Economic Analysis:**

The transition of two major refineries to manufacture renewable fuel in lieu of fossil fuels will affect employees and all of Contra Costa County, which is home to significant off-site refinery-supporting industry and employment, and the shift to a zero-emission economy will have even greater impacts on jobs and revenues. The Economic Revitalization Plan will analyze impacts on the current workforce and economy and will identify more specific economic development

opportunities for the affected areas. It will also identify areas for retraining the current workforce for future high-wage jobs and training the frontline and impacted communities who will be seeking employment close to home for jobs that have long-term economic benefit and grow the local economy and tax base.

3. Specialized Studies:

The Economic Revitalization Plan will rely on additional specialized studies necessary to inform the planning and public engagement process, likely including but not limited to environmental studies, land use analysis, and analysis of similar efforts in other areas. The Economic Revitalization Plan's specialized studies will align with and build on existing priorities in the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative and the County's Envision 2040 General Plan update to support this transition.

4. Staffing:

Developing the Economic Revitalization Plan will take an estimated 18-24 months. We anticipate the Economic Revitalization Plan will develop strategies that improve the health, safety, infrastructure, job opportunities, and revenue opportunities during the shift to a zero-emission economy. It will be of direct benefit in helping develop new opportunities for frontline and impacted communities that realize economy, health, and other benefits.

The outcome of this process is the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan, a long-term strategic planning process resulting in a roadmap for workforce (re)training and land use changes to support the economic transition that is unique to Contra Costa County.

Maximum Anticipated Scope of the Project:

The work of this project will continue beyond the usage of the CPF grant and will be sustained through the anticipated development of a detailed implementation strategy and the proposed hiring of an implementation coordinator to lead implementation of the Economic Revitalization Plan. Funding for this implementation phase of the project has not yet been identified.

The implementation strategy will identify scalable projects from the findings of the Economic Revitalization Plan's economic analysis, specialized studies, and community engagement process. The actual implementation priorities will be determined by the community engagement process. Examples of projects that could be part of the implementation strategy include but are not limited to:

- Workforce development: Partnerships to support workforce development training programs for the current workforce and frontline and impacted communities, including training opportunities in high schools and community colleges.
- Economic development: Programs to attract family-sustaining jobs consistent with the Economic Revitalization Plan and the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative.
- Clean energy: Installations to benefit impacted neighborhoods and specified income levels in affected community areas.
- Community improvement: Park, trails, and playground upgrades in affected community areas.

Environmental review will commence after the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan is completed and the pilot implementation project is identified. The pilot project will be consistent with the adopted [Five Year Consolidated Plan](#) of the Contra Costa County HOME Consortium. The Department of

Conservation and Development at Contra Costa County has multiple in-house National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) experts and is highly qualified to conduct the environmental review.

The implementation strategy will commence after the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan is completed. Implementation will take an estimated 12-24 months.

Attachments

Attached are the **Standard Form SF-424** and the **Budget**.

(There are no lobbying activities in association with this award. The Standard Form SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities has been reviewed and does not apply and has been omitted from these materials).

Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan (Economic Revitalization Plan) Project Budget

Expense	Amount	Funding	Cost Type
Stakeholder Outreach/Meeting Support (Translators, Childcare, etc.)	\$150,000.00	Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant	Activity Delivery
Economic Analyses	\$200,000.00	Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant	Activity Delivery
Detailed Studies (Environmental, Other Specialized Subjects)	\$200,000.00	Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant	Activity Delivery
County Staffing	\$150,000.00	Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant	Activity Delivery
Administration	\$50,000.00	Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant	Administrative
Implementation Strategy	\$200,000.00	Non-CPF	Activity Delivery
Implementation Coordinator	\$125,000.00	Non-CPF	Activity Delivery
Predevelopment Costs; Construction, Renovation, and Rehabilitation Costs; Acquisition, Demolition, and Site Preparation; Architectural and Engineering Fees; Initial Set Asides for Revolving Loan Funds	\$625,000.00	Non-CPF	Activity Delivery
Administration	\$50,000.00	Non-CPF	Administrative

Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan (JTERP) Project Budget

Row Labels	Sum of Amount
Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant	\$750,000.00
Administration	\$50,000.00
County Staffing	\$150,000.00
Detailed Studies (Environmental, Other Specialized Subjects)	\$200,000.00
Economic Analyses	\$200,000.00
Stakeholder Outreach/Meeting Support (Translators, Childcare, etc.)	\$150,000.00
Non-CPF	\$1,000,000.00
Administration	\$50,000.00
Implementation Coordinator	\$125,000.00
Implementation Strategy	\$200,000.00
Predevelopment Costs; Construction, Renovation, and Rehabilitation Costs; Acquisition, Demolition, and Site Preparation; Architectural and Engineering Fees; Initial Set Asides for Revolving Loan Funds?	\$625,000.00
Grand Total	\$1,750,000.00

Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan (JTERP) Project Budget

Row Labels	Sum of Amount
Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant	\$750,000.00
Activity Delivery	\$700,000.00
Administrative	\$50,000.00
Non-CPF	\$1,000,000.00
Activity Delivery	\$950,000.00
Administrative	\$50,000.00
Grand Total	\$1,750,000.00

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Using lessons learned from similar types of regions in transition-- such as Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in San Luis Obispo County, California, and coal plants in Appalachia--the Economic Revitalization Plan will create a framework for a uniquely Contra Costa just transition program that incorporates the concerns expressed by frontline and impacted communities. The CPF grant will jumpstart this work.

The Economic Revitalization Plan will be aligned with and build on the County's existing visions in the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative and the County's Envision 2040 General Plan update. It will provide special attention for developing new opportunities for frontline and impacted communities that realize economic, health, and other benefits. It will develop strategies to improve the health, safety, infrastructure, job opportunities, and revenue opportunities during the shift to a zero-emission economy. It will also respond to the County Board of Supervisors' declaration of a climate emergency.

The intended uses of this CPF grant—and the activities of the Economic Revitalization Plan—are to support a robust stakeholder engagement process, conduct specialized studies and economic analysis, and support county staff-- culminating in a Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan, which is a roadmap to move forward with a just transition in Contra Costa County. This roadmap will include the workforce transitions needed to support this pivot, and the land use changes to attract and accommodate businesses in the industry clusters identified by the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative and other sectors that support the green energy economy and the shift to a zero-emission economy, as the impacts trickle along the supply chain and existing workforce pipelines.

This is a plan to make Contra Costa the hub for production and employment in advanced materials & diversified manufacturing, biomedical/biotech, food processing, clean tech, advanced transportation technology, and other sectors that support the green energy economy—with a trained workforce ready to go, and the land use needs of businesses met in industrial areas that were historically part of the petroleum-based economic sector that are now a long-term success in the transition to a zero-emission economy.

Deleted: advanced transportation fuels

Deleted: and

The detailed descriptions of the activities that are intended for the use of CPF funds are below:

1. **Community Engagement:**

The Economic Revitalization Plan will support a robust stakeholder engagement process. The communities closest to the refineries in Contra Costa County align with the State's disadvantaged communities map and are the intended main beneficiaries of the community revitalization planning effort in the Economic Revitalization Plan. The federal funds will be spent for community outreach and engagement (including meeting support services for translation, childcare, and community ambassadors) and will identify the Economic Revitalization Plan's implementation priorities. The engagement process will include a stakeholder table that includes two members of Sustainability Committee, labor/workers, frontline environmental justice community representatives, local government, business/industry sector, workforce

development systems, education sector (junior college / County Office of Education) and academic partners.

2. Economic Analysis:

The transition of two major refineries to manufacture renewable fuel in lieu of fossil fuels will affect employees and all of Contra Costa County, which is home to significant off-site refinery-supporting industry and employment, and the shift to a zero-emission economy will have even greater impacts on jobs and revenues. The Economic Revitalization Plan will analyze impacts on the current workforce and economy and will identify more specific economic development opportunities for the affected areas. It will also identify areas for retraining the current workforce for future high-wage jobs and training the frontline and impacted communities who will be seeking employment close to home for jobs that have long-term economic benefit and grow the local economy and tax base.

3. Specialized Studies:

The Economic Revitalization Plan will rely on additional specialized studies necessary to inform the planning and public engagement process, likely including but not limited to environmental studies, land use analysis, and analysis of similar efforts in other areas. The Economic Revitalization Plan's specialized studies will align with and build on existing priorities in the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative and the County's Envision 2040 General Plan update to support this transition.

4. Staffing:

Developing the Economic Revitalization Plan will take an estimated 18-24 months. We anticipate the Economic Revitalization Plan will develop strategies that improve the health, safety, infrastructure, job opportunities, and revenue opportunities during the shift to a zero-emission economy. It will be of direct benefit in helping develop new opportunities for frontline and impacted communities that realize economy, health, and other benefits.

The outcome of this process is the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan, a long-term strategic planning process resulting in a roadmap for workforce (re)training and land use changes to support the economic transition that is unique to Contra Costa County.

Maximum Anticipated Scope of the Project:

The work of this project will continue beyond the usage of the CPF grant and will be sustained through the anticipated development of a detailed implementation strategy and the proposed hiring of an implementation coordinator to lead implementation of the Economic Revitalization Plan. Funding for this implementation phase of the project has not yet been identified.

The implementation strategy will identify scalable projects from the findings of the Economic Revitalization Plan's economic analysis, specialized studies, and community engagement process. The actual implementation priorities will be determined by the community engagement process. Examples of projects that could be part of the implementation strategy include but are not limited to:

- Workforce development: Partnerships to support workforce development training programs for the current workforce and frontline and impacted communities, including training opportunities in high schools and community colleges.

- Economic development: Programs to attract family-sustaining jobs consistent with the Economic Revitalization Plan and the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative and other sectors that support the green energy economy and the shift to a zero-emission economy.
- Clean energy: Installations to benefit impacted neighborhoods and specified income levels in affected community areas.
- Community improvement: Park, trails, and playground upgrades in affected community areas.

Environmental review will commence after the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan is completed and the pilot implementation project is identified. The pilot project will be consistent with the adopted [Five Year Consolidated Plan](#) of the Contra Costa County HOME Consortium. The Department of Conservation and Development at Contra Costa County has multiple in-house National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) experts and is highly qualified to conduct the environmental review.

The implementation strategy will commence after the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan is completed. Implementation will take an estimated 12-24 months.

Attachments

Attached are the **Standard Form SF-424** and the **Budget**.

(There are no lobbying activities in association with this award. The Standard Form SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities has been reviewed and does not apply and has been omitted from these materials).

10-24-22

Dear Supervisors Glover and Gioia:

Here are my remarks from today for the public record:

My name is Marti Roach and I am with 350 Contra Costa Action. It is exciting that the County received \$750,000 to support Just Transition planning that also addresses the need for economic revitalization in climate friendly ways for our cities and the County.

I want to note four items that I think can be strengthened in this draft.

First, thanks for the clarification that alternative transportation fuels is not part of the Northern waterfront initiative. Still some language is unclear in the document as there is the implication in paragraph 3 that perhaps the new bio fuels efforts need to be supported in this JT effort. I hope that language can be cleaned up as you are saying that alternative transportation fuels is not a sector under consideration for economic revitalization.

Second, we have an opportunity to establish a strong community engagement structure into this process, not just town hall meetings at random. 350 Contra Costa Action asks that this scope include intent to establish a community board structure that will co-develop the strategy and provide support and oversight to implementation. This board should include community members, who should be compensated and representatives of community groups that are working on these issues in our County. This might fold into the Steering Committee recommended, but it might be good for there to be a separate place for more community voice. **I think that local non-profits working on these issues should be in the stakeholder steering committee Supervisor Gioia has put forward.**

Third, we need to move on economic development in our County now. Our northern waterfront initiative has sat for 7 years. Is it to go forward independent of this process? It is a good strategic plan. I would like to understand why we cannot build on some of the economic cluster ideas there and start to move on opportunity now, rather than lose two years. It was agreed that this grant would take on one chunk of JT planning, not try to do everything. Two more years of big picture planning is necessary? We have industry clusters and we have incredible timely opportunities to position the County and Cities for new industries including new post fossil fuel industries such as solar, batteries, and heat pumps. An avalanche of demand is coming for these technologies and government incentives as well. We should be exploring this now, not studying possibilities.

Fourth, the draft scope mentions more money is needed, It is vital that some of these funds be used to ensure we are securing additional funds. The NWEDI plan faltered in because there were no funds to move its ideas forward.

Thank you.

Marti Roach
350 Contra Costa Action
925-376-3853