




THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

TODD GLORIA
MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 21, 2022
TO: Honorable Members of the City Council
FROM: Mayor Todd Gloria 
SUBJECT: Call for recommended projects for the Climate Equity Fund

This memorandum serves as a call for each Councilmember to submit a list of recommended projects for the Climate Equity Fund for Fiscal Year 2023.

The creation of a Climate Equity Fund (CEF) was approved by the City Council on March 9, 2021. This fund dedicates targeted annual funding for infrastructure investments that will allow communities of concern to be resilient and adapt to climate change. The CEF is funded annually through allocation of the following revenue sources: Gas Tax, Transnet, and Annual Gas and Electric Franchise Fees.

The Climate Equity Fund is an equity-driven investment mechanism for the implementation of the City's Climate Action Plan through projects that address specific disparities within those census tracts identified in the Climate Equity Index as Communities of Concern. Each Councilmember is requested to submit project priorities located in a Community of Concern – an area that scores between 0 and 60 on the Climate Equity Index – or that directly supports residents within Communities of Concern, as per the requirements in Resolution R-314454 (attached).

To address the impacts of systemic racism and historic disinvestment in Communities of Concern, the Climate Equity Fund will address disparities through funding specific projects. In the context of this call memo, we want to distinguish equality from equity to guide the distribution of the Climate Equity Fund. Equality would provide each district, citywide, with exactly the same resources regardless of their current state. Equity is an outcome that can be achieved by addressing measured disparities between communities, as reflected in the indicators that make up the Climate Equity Index. When formulating your project list, we request that you submit project ideas that address clear inequities within the City, which may fall outside of your district.

The Climate Equity Fund can be used for projects that include, but are not limited to, increasing park acreage, constructing parks, acquisition and preservation of open space, roadway improvements to facilitate safe and convenient biking and walking for persons of all ages and abilities, installation of streetlights and other pedestrian-oriented lighting, enhancements to public transit related infrastructure, and expansion of greenspace and tree canopy.

Please submit your priorities by the close of business Wednesday, February 9, 2022. You may also contact Alyssa Muto, Director of Sustainability and Mobility at AMuto@sandiego.gov or Kim Desmond, Chief Officer of Race and Equity at KDesmond@sandiego.gov with any questions about this request.

I look forward to partnering with you to build a more sustainable and equitable San Diego for all of us.

cc: Honorable Mayor Todd Gloria
Honorable City Attorney Mara Elliott
Jeff Kavar, Interim Independent Budget Analyst
Elizabeth Maland, City Clerk
Jay Goldstone, Chief Operating Officer
Paola Avila, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Jessica Lawrence, Director of Policy, Office of the Mayor
Kim Desmond, Chief Officer of Race & Equity