



**Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)
Joint Powers Authority Agenda**

Thursday, December 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

Dual Locations: Bishop Council Chambers and Mammoth Lakes Council Chambers

Bishop Council Chambers 377 West Line Street, Bishop, CA 93514

Mammoth Lakes Council Chambers 437 Old Mammoth Rd., Ste Z Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Members of the Board

Inyo County Supervisor Jeff Griffiths - Chair, Mono County Supervisor Bob Gardner - Vice Chair,
Inyo County Supervisor Trina Orrill, Mono County Supervisor Lynda Salcido,
Town of Mammoth Lakes Mayor John Wentworth,
Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember Chris Bubser,
City of Bishop Councilmember Karen Schwartz, City of Bishop Councilmember Stephen Muchovej

NOTE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Assistant Clerk at (760) 965-3615. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 13.102-35.104 ADA Title II)

NOTE: Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Town Offices located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 230 during normal business hours. Such documents are also available on the ESCOG website at www.escog.ca.gov subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

NOTE: You may watch this meeting on the Town of Mammoth Lakes' (TOML) website at <https://pub-townofmammothlakes.escribemeetings.com/?Year=2023>, via Zoom or on TOML's local government cable channel 18.

Public comments may be submitted to the ESCOG Clerk at clerk@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov before and during the meeting or may be made via Zoom or in person.

ZOOM INFORMATION

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Please click this URL to join. <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/92421427651>

Or join by phone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799

***To raise your hand press *9, To Unmute/Mute press *6 Webinar ID: 924 2142 7651**

International numbers available: <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/92421427651>

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Notice to the Public: This time is set aside to receive public comment on matters not calendared on the agenda. When recognized by the Chair, please state your name and address for the record and please limit your comments to three minutes. Under California law the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board is prohibited from generally discussing or taking action on items not included in the agenda; however, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board may briefly respond to comments or questions from members of the public. Therefore, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board will listen to all public comment but will not generally discuss the matter or take action on it.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 19, 2023.

4.2 Adopt a Resolution for an Updated Conflict of Interest Code

5. POLICY MATTERS

5.1 Introduce Aaron Wilcher, UC Extension Economic and Community Development Coordinator

5.2 Receive a Presentation on the Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Initiative Final Deliverable

5.3 Receive an Update Regarding the Community Economic Resiliency Fund (CERF) from Stacy Corless, Sierra Business Council Government and Community Affairs Director

5.4 Adopt 2024 ESCOG Meeting Calendar

5.5 Discuss ESCOG JPA Core Competencies and Strategic Priorities

5.6 Inyo Mono Broadband Consortium Activities Report Provided by Eastern Sierra Regional Broadband Coordinator Scott Armstrong

5.7 Executive Director Update Report

6. BOARD MEMBER/AGENCY REPORTS

Informational reports from Member Agency representatives on committees, commissions, and organizations; general reports on Board Member activities

7. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8. ADJOURNMENT

The ESCOG will adjourn to the Buttermilk Restroom Ribbon Cutting, following which the ESCOG will adjourn to the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on February 15, 2024.



Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) - Joint Powers Authority (JPA)

Minutes of Regular Meeting

October 19, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes

Members Present: Chair Jeff Griffiths, Vice Chair Bob Gardner, Board Member Trina Orrill, Board Member Lynda Salcido, Board Member John Wentworth, Board Member Chris Bubser, Board Member Karen Schwartz, Board Member Stephen Muchovej

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Jeff Griffiths called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes.

Legal Counsel Grace Weitz reported that Board Member Stephen Muchovej had requested to attend the meeting remotely under the "just cause" provisions of AB 2449.

There was discussion between Ms. Weitz and members of the Board.

It was moved by Board Member Bob Gardner, seconded by Board Member John Wentworth, with Board Member Stephen Muchovej absent, and carried by a 7-0 vote to approve adding an item to the agenda to allow Board Member Stephen Muchovej to attend today's meeting remotely under the "just cause" provisions of AB 2449.

It was moved by Board Member Karen Schwartz, seconded by Board Member John Wentworth, with Board Member Stephen Muchovej absent, and carried by a 7-0 vote to approve Mr. Muchovej's attendance at today's meeting remotely under the "just cause" provisions of AB 2449.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Member Trina Orrill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments given at this time.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Jeff Griffiths requested that Item 4.2 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Board Member Lynda Salcido

Seconded by Vice Chair Bob Gardner

Approve the Consent Agenda as amended to include only Item 4.1.

For (7): Chair Jeff Griffiths, Vice Chair Bob Gardner, Board Member Trina Orrill, Board Member Lynda Salcido, Board Member John Wentworth, Board Member Chris Bubser, and Board Member Stephen Muchovej

Absent (1): Board Member Karen Schwartz

Carried (7 to 0)

4.1 Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 17, 2023

4.2 Approve Amendment No. 1 to Professional Services Agreement with Alta Planning and Design for the Provision of Conceptual Recreation Planning Services for the Buttermilk Infrastructure and Planning Initiative

Board Member John Wentworth recused himself from this item.

Executive Director Elaine Kabala outlined the information in the staff report and the revised Alta Amendment No 1 Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning (BIRPI) Extension Budget Amendment.

There was discussion between Ms. Kabala and members of the Board.

Moved by Vice Chair Bob Gardner

Seconded by Board Member Lynda Salcido

Approve Amendment No. 1 to Professional Services Agreement with Alta Planning and Design for the Provision of Conceptual Recreation Planning Services for the Buttermilk Infrastructure and Planning Initiative.

For (7): Chair Jeff Griffiths, Vice Chair Bob Gardner, Board Member Trina Orrill, Board Member Lynda Salcido, Board Member Chris Bubser, Board Member Karen Schwartz, and Board Member Stephen Muchovej

Abstain (1): Board Member John Wentworth

Carried (7 to 0)

5. **POLICY MATTERS**

5.1 **Receive an update on Regional Air Service from Ashley Helms, Inyo County Public Works Deputy Director**

Inyo County Public Works Deputy Director Ashley Helms provided an update on regional air service.

Board Member John Wentworth requested that a Mono Inyo Airport Working Group (MIAWG) meeting be scheduled.

Inyo County County Administrative Officer Nate Greenberg said that he, Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML) Town Manager Dan Holler, TOML Administrative Services/Finance Director Rob Patterson and Mono County County Administrative Officer Sandra Moberly had discussed the structure of MIAWG and the need to reevaluate it, and to improve governance around air service in the region. Mr. Greenberg said that there was a desire to formalize the decision making abilities of the Eastern Sierra Air Alliance (ESAA).

Vice Chair Bob Gardner requested that a status report on the ESAA be added to future ESCOG agendas.

There was discussion between Ms. Helms, Mr. Greenberg, and members of the Board.

The Chair called a recess at 9:38 a.m.

5.2 **Discuss Regional Parks and Athletic Fields Capacity**

The Board reconvened at 9:49 a.m.

Chair Jeff Griffiths introduced City of Bishop Community Service Manager Dan McElroy. Mr. Griffiths and Mr. McElroy outlined the information in the staff report.

TOML Town Manager Dan Holler spoke about the regional partners TOML had for some of their facilities, announced the partnership with Mammoth

Unified School District (MUSD) for the Town's Pickleball Courts, spoke about funding restrictions on revenues, gave an update on upcoming recreational facilities in Mammoth, and discussed the sentiment of the residents in the community. Mr. Holler said that a Regional Park District would need to be created through a voter initiative and discussed the financial challenges related to maintaining recreation facilities.

MUSD District Superintendent Annie Rinaldi Gonzalez spoke about the athletic scheduling challenges the district had faced last winter.

Inyo County CAO Nate Greenberg reported that there would be a strategic planning effort coming to the Inyo County Board of Supervisors to discuss possible use of one-time funding for recreational purposes.

Executive Director Elaine Kabala said that as a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), the ESCOG had the authority to serve as a forum for regional conversations, and discussed the value in doing a needs assessment across the region to look at the current assets, usage, and fee structures of the existing recreation programs in the region.

There was discussion between Mr. McElroy, Mr. Holler, Mr. Greenberg, Ms. Kabala, and members of the Board.

5.3 Receive an Update Regarding the Community Economic Resiliency Fund (CERF) from Stacy Corless, Sierra Business Council Government and Community Affairs Director

Sierra Business Council Government and Community Affairs Director Stacy Corless outlined the information in the Community Economic Resiliency Fund (CERF) PowerPoint presentation.

There was discussion between Ms. Corless and members of the Board.

5.4 Adopt a Resolution of Eastern Sierra Council of Governments JPA Approving the Eastern Sierra Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Alpine, Inyo and

This item was taken out of order.

Moved by Board Member John Wentworth
Seconded by Board Member Lynda Salcido

Adopt a Resolution of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments JPA Approving the Eastern Sierra Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Alpine, Inyo and Mono Counties as Prepared and Authorizing

the Strategy to be Submitted to the U.S. Economic Development Administration, contingent on approval by all member agencies.

For (8): Chair Jeff Griffiths, Vice Chair Bob Gardner, Board Member Trina Orrill, Board Member Lynda Salcido, Board Member John Wentworth, Board Member Chris Bubser, Board Member Karen Schwartz, and Board Member Stephen Muchovej

Carried (8 to 0)

5.5 Discuss ESCOG JPA Core Competencies and Strategic Priorities

This item was tabled until a future meeting.

5.6 Inyo Mono Broadband Consortium Activities Report Provided by Eastern Sierra Regional Broadband Coordinator Scott Armstrong

This item was taken out of order.

Eastern Sierra Regional Broadband Coordinator Scott Armstrong outlined the information in the ESCOG Broadband Update PowerPoint presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Baron asked about the type of data that was collected in the speed test that was presented.

There was discussion between Mr. Armstrong and members of the Board.

5.7 Executive Director Update Report

Executive Director Elaine Kabala provided an update on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF), the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Grant for the Pace and Scale Accelerator, the Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning (BIRPI), and Towns 2 Trails. Ms. Kabala reported that she had submitted an application on behalf of the ESCOG for the Caltrans Highways to Boulevards Grant with assistance from Caltrans staff, and said that the ESCOG's member agencies had requested increased communication from the ESCOG.

There was discussion between Ms. Kabala and members of the Board.

6. BOARD MEMBER/AGENCY REPORTS

Board Member John Wentworth reported that the Town of Mammoth Lakes Town Council approved a 45-day moratorium on the issuance of new certificates for Short Term Rentals (STRs).

Vice Chair Bob Gardner reported that Mono County would bring their item regarding a STR moratorium back to the Board of Supervisors for approval at their next meeting because it was approved by a three-fifths vote, rather than the required four-fifths vote.

There was discussion among members of the Board.

7. **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no future agenda items requested.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m. to the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on December 14, 2023.

Angela Plaisted, Assistant Clerk



STAFF REPORT

To: ESCOG Joint Powers Authority
From: Grace Chuchla, ESCOG Counsel
Subject: Resolution Adopting an Updated Conflict of Interest Code
Meeting date: December 14, 2023
Prepared on: December 7, 2023
Attachments: A) A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Adopting Modifications to the Conflict of Interest Code as Proposed by the Fair Political Practices Commission
B) Redline version of current conflict of interest code

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

In July 2020, the ESCOG adopted a proposed conflict of interest code and forwarded it to the Fair Political Practices Commission for review. Per 2 Cal. Code Regs. § 18750, the FPPC serves as the code reviewing body for multi-county agencies, like ESCOG. In October 2022, the ESCOG adopted an amended conflict of interest code that contained edits requested by FPPC and forwarded that amended code to the FPPC for review.

The FPPC has now requested a second round of edits to the ESCOG's conflict of interest code. This modification requires the passage of a resolution to override the current conflict of interest code. Staff recommends adopting the resolution and modifying the conflict of interest code as requested by the FPPC. A redline version of the current conflict of interest code is included to show the changes, but generally speaking, the only modification is to remove the fiscal services position from the conflict of interest code.

As an important note, the adoption of this conflict of interest code does not impact the filing of Form 700s for Board members. Both before and after the adoption of any conflict of interest code, Board members must file Form 700s per Government Code § 87302.6. The only individuals whose Form 700s will be impacted by the adoption of the Conflict of Interest Code are staff members, such as the Executive Director or Legal Counsel.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

None.

LEGAL REVIEW:

ESCOG Counsel Grace Chuchla has reviewed this item and found that it complies with the law.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests the ESCOG Board adopt the attached resolution entitled “A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Adopting Modifications to the Conflict of Interest Code as Proposed by the Fair Political Practices Commission.”

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ADOPTING MODIFICATIONS TO THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AS PROPOSED BY THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2020, the Board of Directors of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (“ESCOG”) adopted Resolution No. 2020-01, in which the Board adopted a proposed Conflict of Interest Code for the ESCOG; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 2 Cal. Code Regs § 18750, following the required 45 day public comment period, ESCOG staff forwarded the adopted Conflict of Interest Code to the Fair Political Practices Commission (“FPPC”) for review and comment; and

WHEREAS, on October 14, 2022, ESCOG adopted Resolution No. 2022-16 amending the Conflict of Interest Code per feedback from the Fair Political Practices Commission (“FPPC”)

WHEREAS, the FPPC provided further feedback and edits to the Conflict of Interest Code that was adopted on October 14, 2022;

WHEREAS, staff recommends again modifying the Conflict of Interest Code in line with the edits that the FPPC has recently proposed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of ESCOG that the Conflict of Interest Code attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference is hereby adopted as the Conflict of Interest Code of the ESCOG. This version of the Conflict of Interest Code shall supersede any prior versions of the Conflict of Interest Code adopted by the ESCOG.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of December, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: _____
Secretary

Jeff Griffiths
Chairperson

Exhibit A

EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE

The Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 81000, et seq.) requires state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate conflict-of-interest codes. The Fair Political Practices Commission has adopted a regulation (2 California Code of Regulations Section 18730) that contains the terms of a standard conflict-of-interest code, which can be incorporated by reference in an agency's code. After public notice and hearing, the standard code may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission to conform to amendments in the Political Reform Act. Therefore, the terms of 2 California Code of Regulations Section 18730 and any amendments to it duly adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission are hereby incorporated by reference. This regulation and the attached Appendix (or Appendices), designating positions and establishing disclosure categories, shall constitute the conflict-of-interest code of the **Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)**.

Board Members and Alternates must file their statements of economic interests electronically with the **Fair Political Practices Commission**. All other individuals holding designated positions must file their statements of economic interests with the **ESCOG**, which will make the statements available for public inspection and reproduction. (Gov. Code Sec. 81008.)

**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE**

APPENDIX A

DESIGNATED POSITION CATEGORY	DISCLOSURE
Director	1
Board Members (and Alternates)	1
Executive Manager	1
Legal Counsel**	1
Consultants & New Positions	*

**Note: The position of Legal Counsel is filled by outside consultants but acts in a staff capacity.

*Consultants/new positions shall be included in the list of designated positions and shall disclose pursuant to the broadest disclosure category in the code subject to the following limitation:

The Legal Counsel may determine in writing that a particular consultant or new position, although a “designated position,” is hired to perform a range of duties that is limited in scope and thus is not required to comply fully with the disclosure requirements described in this section. Such determination shall include a description of the consultant’s or new position’s duties and based upon that description, a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements. The Legal Counsel’s determination is a public record and shall be retained for public inspection in the same manner and location as this conflict-of-interest code (Gov. Code Sec. 81008).

**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE**

APPENDIX B

DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES

1. Designated employees in this category must report all investments, business positions in business entities and sources of income (including receipt of gifts, loans, and travel payments), and real property located within the jurisdiction as well as real property within two miles of the real property used or the potential site.

EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE

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Board Members and Alternates must file their statements of economic interests electronically with the **Fair Political Practices Commission**. All other individuals holding designated positions must file their statements of economic interests with the **ESCOG**, which will make the statements available for public inspection and reproduction. (Gov. Code Sec. 81008.)

**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE**

APPENDIX A

DESIGNATED POSITION	DISCLOSURE CATEGORY
Director	1
Board Members (and Alternates)	1
Executive Manager	1
Legal Counsel**	1
Staff Advisor – Fiscal Services***	2
Consultants & New Positions	*

**Note: The position of Legal Counsel is filled by outside consultants but acts in a staff capacity.

~~***Note: The position of Staff Advisor – Fiscal Services is an employee of a member agency of ESCOG.~~

*Consultants/new positions shall be included in the list of designated positions and shall disclose pursuant to the broadest disclosure category in the code subject to the following limitation:

The Legal Counsel may determine in writing that a particular consultant or new position, although a “designated position,” is hired to perform a range of duties that is limited in scope and thus is not required to comply fully with the disclosure requirements described in this section. Such determination shall include a description of the consultant’s or new position’s duties and based upon that description, a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements. The Legal Counsel’s determination is a public record and shall be retained for public inspection in the same manner and location as this conflict-of-interest code (Gov. Code Sec. 81008).

**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE**

APPENDIX B

DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES

1. Designated employees in this category must report all investments, business positions in business entities and sources of income (including receipt of gifts, loans, and travel payments), and real property located within the jurisdiction as well as real property within two miles of the real property used or the potential site.
- ~~2. Designated positions assigned to this category must report investments and business positions in business entities and sources of income (including receipt of gifts, loans, and travel payments) if the business entity or source provides leased facilities, products, equipment, vehicles, machinery, or services (including training or consulting services) of the type utilized by ESCOG.~~



**Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)
Joint Powers Authority Agenda**

STAFF REPORT

To: ESCOG Joint Powers Authority
From: Elaine Kabala, Executive Director
Subject: Discussion and approval of 2024 ESCOG JPA Meeting Schedule
Meeting date: December 14, 2023
Prepared on: December 7, 2023
Attachments: A) None

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

In 2023, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Joint Powers Authority (ESCOG JPA) moved its regular bi-monthly meetings to the second Thursday of each month to accommodate Board schedules and Clerking staff. Meetings were previously scheduled to align with the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA) meetings, however, ESTA’s adopted 2024 calendar has moved their meetings to the second Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

Staff is recommending maintaining the Thursday morning meeting schedule to accommodate Clerking staff and has proposed the dates below to not conflict with ESTA’s adopted schedule.

The proposed meeting schedule for 2024 is included below.

Thursday, February 15	8:30 AM	Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber
Thursday, April 18	8:30 AM	Bishop City Council Chamber
Thursday, June 20	8:30 AM	Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber
Thursday, August 8	8:30 AM	Bishop City Council Chamber
Thursday, October 10	8:30 AM	Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber
Thursday, December 19	8:30 AM	Bishop City Council Chamber

BUDGET IMPACTS:

None.

LEGAL REVIEW:

ESCOG Counsel Grace Chuchla has reviewed this item and found that it complies with the law.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the ESCOG Board discuss the proposed 2024 meeting schedule, make modifications as needed, and approve.



**Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)
Joint Powers Authority Agenda**

STAFF REPORT

To: ESCOG Joint Powers Authority
From: Elaine Kabala, Executive Director
Subject: Discuss ESCOG JPA Core Competencies and Strategic Priorities
Meeting date: December 14, 2023
Prepared on: December 7, 2023
Attachments: A) ESCOG JPA Core Competencies Presentation

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

The ESCOG was established as a Joint Powers Authority in January 2020 and has had administrative staff in place since October 2020. The ESCOG operates under three authorized Programs of Work: The Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program, the Inyo Mono Broadband Consortium, and the Community Economic Resilience Fund.

Staff would like to review with the Board the organizational competencies demonstrated under the established programs of work, discuss the strategic priorities of the Board for existing and future regional collaboration, and consider the development of an organization strategic plan to be developed in 2024.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

None

LEGAL REVIEW:

ESCOG Counsel Grace Chuchla has reviewed this item and found that it complies with the law.

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss organizational core competencies and strategic priorities of the ESCOG and consider development of a strategic plan in 2024.

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Core Competencies

October 19, 2023



What do COGS do?

2008 COG PROGRAM MATRIX	EPCOG	MRCOG	NC NM EDD	NW NM EDD	SC NM COG	SE NM COG	SW NM COG
Federal / State Programs							
EDA Planning and Project Development	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
CDBG Administration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Growth Management Operations	x			x			
Workforce Investment Board	x	x			x	x	
Area Agency on Aging			x				
Census Depository		x	x	x	x	x	x
FEMA Fire Grant Assistance							x
Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)		x					
Rural Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Urban Transit Funds		x					
Rural Transit Funds		x		x	x	x	
Regional Transit District		x			x		x
Regional Water Planning	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Commuter Rail		x					
State Grant-in-Aid Program	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
State Clean Energy Grants						x	x
Infrastructure Capital Improvement Planning	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Legislative Capital Outlay Funding	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
State Special Needs Projects	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Weatherization Assistance							x
Business Loan Programs							
EDA Revolving Loan Fund			x	x			
SBA Small Business Development Center						x	
Department of Energy Revolving Loan Fund			x				
Regional / Local Programs and Services							
Comprehensive Planning	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Land Use/Zoning Ordinances		x	x	x			
Geographic Information Systems		x	x				
Housing Authority		x					
Housing Outreach and Homebuyer's Education						x	x
Public Administration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Grant Writing and Administration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Tourism	x	x		x		x	x
Recreation Planning		x		x	x	x	x
Public Works / Solid Waste		x	x	x		x	x
Criminal Justice Planning		x					
Historic Preservation Grants	x					x	
Teen Parent Program	x						
Water Association Technical Assistance	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Example from the New Mexico Association of Regional Councils

ESCOG JPA Purpose

II. Purposes

- 2.01 The ESCOG shall continue to be organized to: (1) provide a forum for discussion and study of regional issues of interest to the Member Agencies; (2) identify and plan for the solution of selected regional issues requiring multi-governmental cooperation; (3) facilitate actions and agreements among the Member Agencies for specific project development; (4) conduct other region wide functions as the Members deem appropriate.
- 2.02 In addition to the above, the ESCOG shall be organized to identify funding sources and to apply for and receive funding for the planning and implementation of programs of regional impact or significance, and to implement such programs, upon approval of the governing bodies of each Member Agency.

ESCOG JPA Purpose

II. Purposes

- 2.01 The ESCOG shall continue to be organized to: (1) provide a forum for discussion and study of regional issues of interest to the Member Agencies; (2) identify and plan for the solution of selected regional issues requiring multi-governmental cooperation; (3) facilitate actions and agreements among the Member Agencies for specific project development; (4) conduct other region wide functions as the Members deem appropriate.
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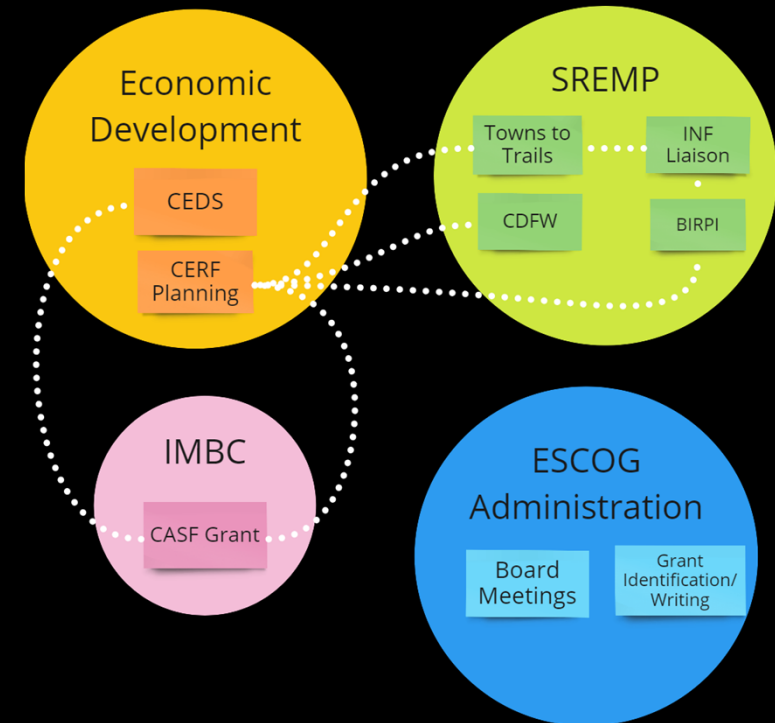
ESCOG Vision and Mission

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.

DRAFT

What do we do?

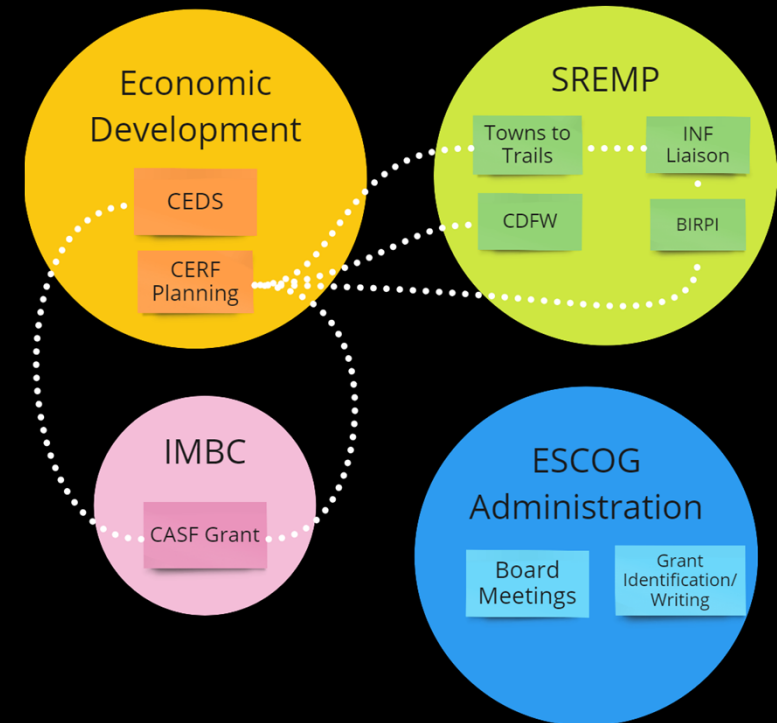
- Regional coordination
 - Member agencies
 - State agencies & Federal agencies
 - Tribal communities
- Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program
 - Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator
 - Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative
 - Towns-to-Trails
 - Inyo National Forest Liaison
- Community Economic Resiliency Fund
 - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
 - Community Economic Resiliency Fund (CERF)
- Broadband
- Grants
 - Highways-to-Boulevards
 - Biomass



What do we do?

• Incubate regional initiatives:

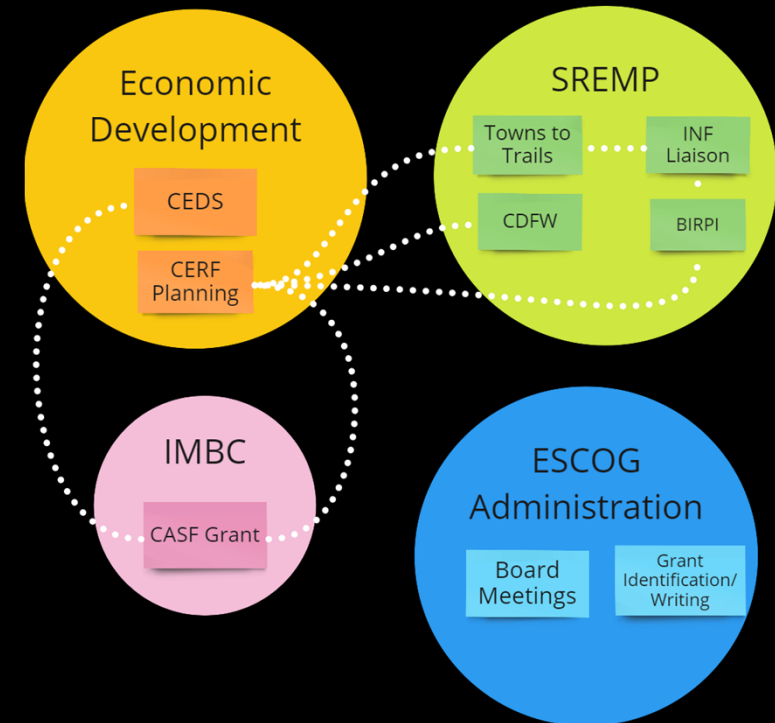
- Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator
 - Provided administration to support local environmental planning capacity
- Inyo Mono Broadband Coalition
 - Housed regional coalition
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
 - Served as local regional authority and point-of-contact on behalf of 5 jurisdictions
- Community Economic Resiliency Fund
 - Served as local regional partner to Sierra Business Council



What do we do?

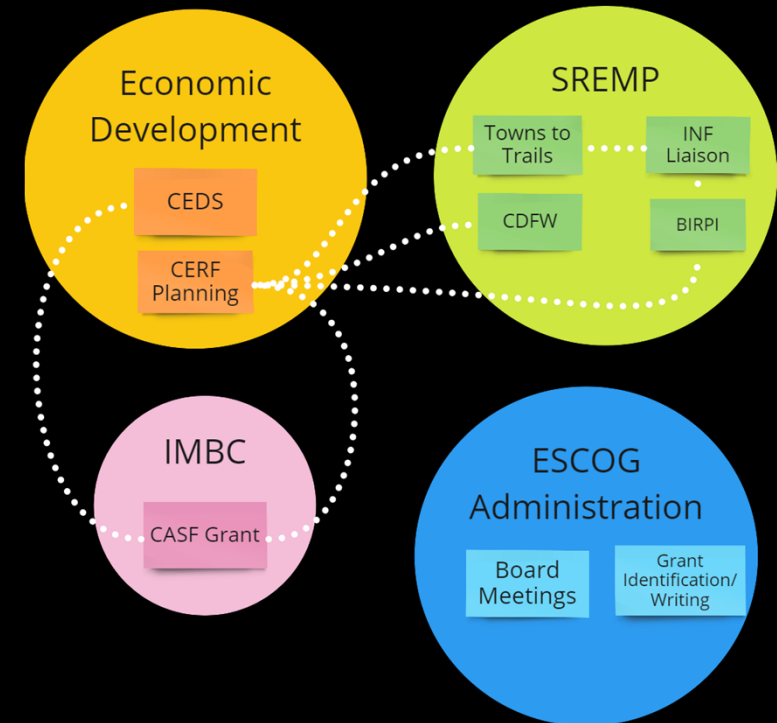
- Expand regional planning and economic development capacity:

- Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator
 - Supported wildfire resiliency planning capacity
- Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative Implementation
 - Received grants to plan for recreation management and opportunities
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
 - Supported regional planning efforts where dedicated economic development staff is not in place
- Community Economic Resiliency Fund
 - Provides regional outreach and communication representing local communities



What do we do?

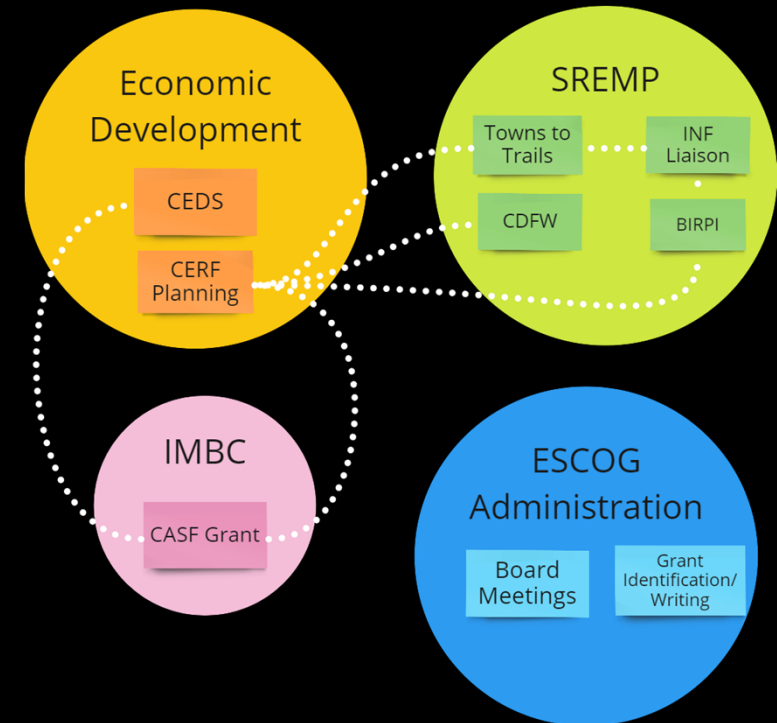
- Facilitate projects and partnerships:
 - Regional coordination
 - Member agencies
 - State agencies & Federal agencies
 - Tribal communities
 - Grant writing and administration
 - Leverage regional collaboration
 - Broadband Coalition
 - Caltrans Highways-to-Boulevards Grant
 - Biomass Applications
 - Identify future funding opportunities
 - Remain nimble for future funding opportunities



What do we do?

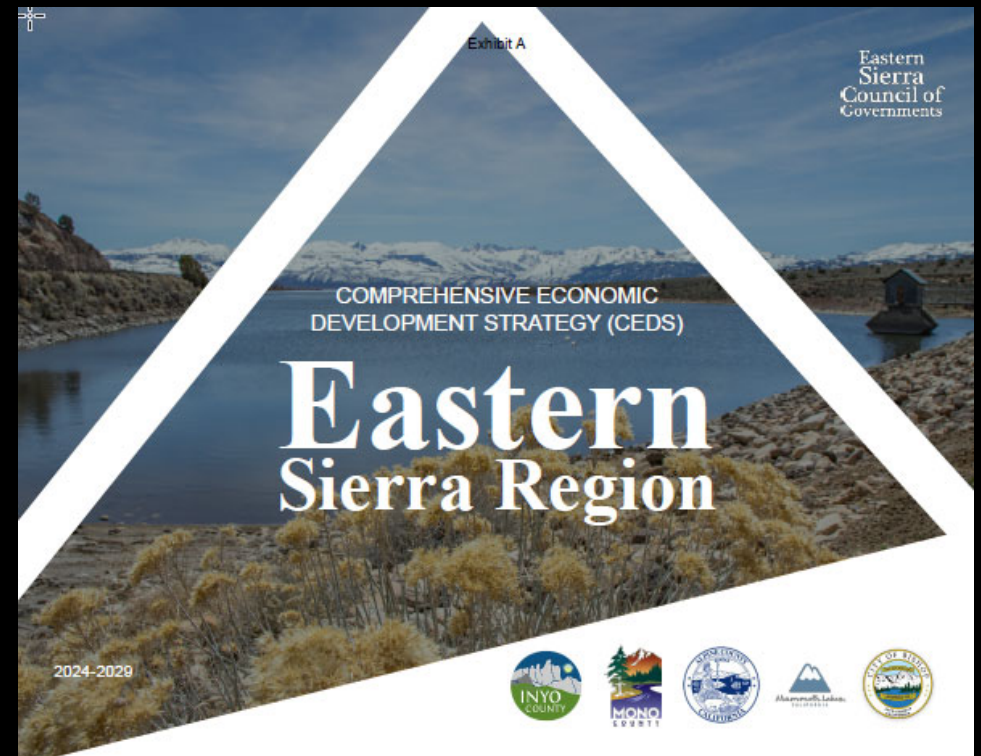
- **Core Competencies :**

- Environmental, economic development and other regional planning capacity
- Grant writing and administration
- Fiscal administration
- Nimble to accommodate new or unanticipated opportunities
- Regional coordination and collaboration with local, State and Federal agencies



CEDS Focus Areas

- Access and Connectivity
- Community and Culture
- Economic Expansion and Diversification
- Environmental Resilience and Sustainability
- Government Affairs and Advocacy
- Housing Availability and Land Use



CEDS Strategies for Implementation

- Increased access to **broadband**.
- **Improve partnerships and interagency collaboration for regional focused efforts.**
- Strengthen **tribal relationships**.
- Build a **uniform regional collaboration strategy** to share information for residents and visitors.
- Identify **additional data-informed opportunities** that may exist for **economic diversification** and expansion.
- Build upon and transform opportunities for businesses to convene by **industry sector** to better understand and address common issues related to supply chain, workforce, etc.
- Support **downtown revitalization** efforts.
- Expand **sustainable tourism** as an industry with workforce needs, entrepreneurial opportunities, and infrastructure.
- **Build capacity within ESCOG** and its partners for improved government affairs, prioritizing relationship-building with the key state and federal entities who directly impact the implementation of CEDS strategy recommendations
- **3-5 Years**

CERF Priorities for Regional Investment

- CERF Catalyst Fund Sectors
 - Forest Economy
 - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism
 - Healthcare
 - Clean Energy
 - Agriculture
- CERF Catalyst Fund Implementation Roles
 - Outreach to disinvested communities
 - Project identification that serves region
 - Serve as liaison between regional partners
 - Technical Assistance for funding opportunities
- Appropriate projects/roles for ESCOG?
 - **Expenditure horizon - 2026**

Where do we go from here?



Deliver on Existing Grants and
Projects



CEDS and CERF Project Priority
Identification



Develop ESCOG Strategic Plan



Advocacy – Re-establish Legislative
platform



Subcommittees – Economic
development, housing



Broadband Update ESCOG

December 14, 2023

<https://ConnectedEasternSierra.net/>



Overview

- Grants Update
- Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative
- IMBC Work Plan Updates
- *Public Outreach and Engagement*
- Other Activities
- Acronyms for Reference



Grants Updates

- CASF Consortia Grant
- CPUC FFA Grant
- CPUC LATA Grant
- BEAD
- CASF Infrastructure Account
- USDA RD Broadband Technical Assistance



Grants: Consortia Grant

- Grant Year 1 of 3 ends January 31, 2023
- Working on 2nd Semiannual Reporting and Audit



Grants: FFA

- Grant Applications Submitted for Our Region
- Currently in the [Challenge Process](#)
- CPUC May Allow Applicants to Amend Applications
- Expected Award Notifications in January
- Allocations: \$13,220,000 for Inyo, \$10,600,000 for Mono
- Second Application Window – 2024 Q1



Grants: LATA

- Current Status of Mono & Mammoth LATA Grants
 - Grant Activities are through the GSCA JPA
 - Low-Level Design In Progress
- Current Status of Inyo LATA Grants
 - Phase 1-A Designs Nearing Completion
 - Phase 1-B Contract Awarded, designs due January 25, 2024



Grants: BEAD

- NTIA BEAD Allocation for California: \$1.86B
- Five-Year Plan Submitted to NTIA on August 28, 2023
- Goal: [Broadband Service at 100Mbps/10Mbps for All](#)
- Next Steps:
 - NTIA Initial Proposal Approval in 2024
 - CPUC Selects Subgrantees
 - Final Proposal due One Year Later (2025)



Grants: CASF Infrastructure

- Next Grant Application Window is Not Yet Open
- Next Grant Application Window closes April 1, 2024
- Providers and Local Governments can Apply
- Allows Fixed Wireless for Last Mile



Grants: USDA RD

- USDA RD Broadband Technical Assistance:
 - Hammil & Furnace Creek Applications Awarded on November 13
 - Award Letters and Cooperative Agreements Signed December 5



Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative

- MMBI (the Project) & MMBN (the Network)
 - Current [MMBI Network Map](#)
 - Construction, Purchases, Leases and Joint Builds
 - Committed to all 10,000+ miles, 7,000 miles within the next 18 months
 - Interconnects every 2500 feet
- MMBI Purchase of Digital 395 Network
 - Asset Purchase Agreement Signed
 - NTIA Petition for Waiver Submitted September 29
 - Next Step: Membership and Class A Membership Board Approval
 - Closing requires NTIA Waiver, Membership Approval & Other Conditions



Work Plan Updates

- Service Issue [Escalation Tools](#)
- Updated [Unserved Data](#) for all Potential Project Areas
- Speed Test Reporting: Latency Data Fields for BEAD
- Added a [Resources](#) Page



Public Outreach & Engagement

- <https://connectedeasternsierra.net/broadband/get-involved/>
- Short Survey to Gather Input
- Speed Test Data – [Interactive Graphs](#)



Other Activities

- Participated in CPUC BEAD Workshop October 26



Acronyms

- ACP – Affordable Connectivity Program
- BEAD – Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (NTIA grant program)
- CASF – California Advance Services Fund (within the CPUC)
- CBC – California Broadband Cooperative (Digital 395 network)
- CDT – California Department of Technology
- CPUC – California Public Utilities Commissions
- FCC – Federal Communications Commission
- GSCA – Golden State Connect Authority (JPA – RCRC)
- GSN – Golden State Net – MMBI Third Party Network Administrator
- IMBC – Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium (ESCOG, CASF Consortia Grant)
- JPA – Joint Powers Authority
- MMBI – Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative (State of California project)
- MMBN – Middle-Mile Broadband Network (GSN-managed network)
- NTIA – National Telecommunications & Information Administration
- RCRC – Rural County Representatives of California
- USDA RD – US Department of Agriculture Rural Development

