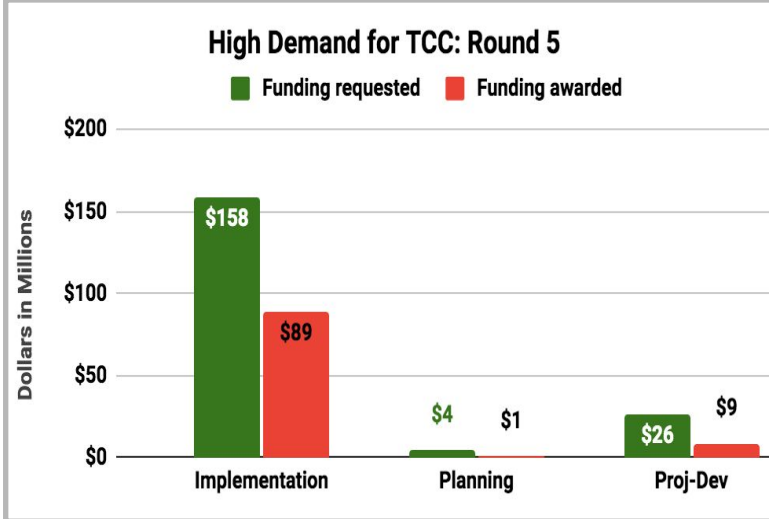




## Investing in climate equity despite budget uncertainty

April 2024  
Sneha Ayyagari  
(she/her)

# Transformative Climate Communities: Restore \$200M that was cut from the Final Budget Agreement in 2023

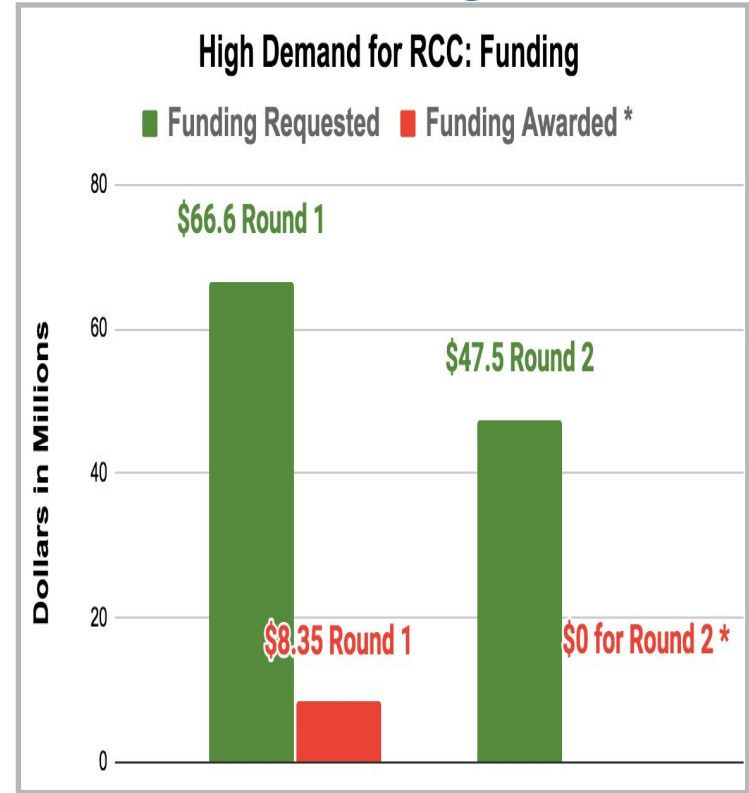


**“UCLA’s evaluation makes clear that the Transformative Climate Communities program is leading to transformative and equitable outcomes across California and can serve as a model for climate equity for state and federal program administrators tasked with implementing the goals of the Justice40 Initiative.”**

*~Strategic Growth Council*

# Regional Climate Collaboratives: Restore \$9.8M that was cut from the Governor's Jan. 2024 Budget

- The RCC program awarded **\$8.35 million** during Round 1 for capacity-building activities:
  - 6 climate collaboratives
  - Dozens of community climate action plans
  - 1 clean energy workforce dev. program
  - 2 Tribal capacity building toolboxes
- **Round 2 Applications: Zeroed out in proposed budget**
  - 273 organizations spent up to 600 hours and up to \$20k of their own resources applying for Round 2 RCC funding, but **Governor's proposal cut the \$9.8M for Round 2 a month before SGC was going to announce awardees in February**



# CEC Equitable Building Decarbonization (EBD) Program: Protect full \$922M that was originally allocated

- This first-of-its-kind, equity-driven program includes:
  - Direct install of remediation, health and safety repairs, weatherization, energy efficiency, and electrification
  - Strong tenant protections
  - Community-based organizations in the project team to support implementation
- EBD funding is at risk of being **cut by \$283 million** per Governor Newsom's 2024-25 budget proposal – a **30% reduction in program funding** that will limit who will have access to these much-needed health and affordability benefits.
- Federal funding is more restrictive and insufficient to meet the enormous need for the program



Photo credit: Department of Energy

**“Public money for decarbonization would be a rare lifeline to affordable housing developers with older housing stock. Existing funds for retrofits are hard to obtain and do not cover maintenance at buildings such as those owned by [affordable housing developer] Esperanza. “We are desperately looking for ways to keep our properties standing, and at the same time keep them affordable,” said Iris Alcantara-Reynolds, the asset management director at Esperanza”**

~On the Chopping Block: California's Climate Program for Low-Income Housing, Aaron Cantú, Capital and Main

# Summary



Photo Credit: Strategic Growth Council

**Transformative Climate Communities:  
Restore \$200M that was cut from the  
Final Budget Agreement in 2023**

**Regional Climate Collaboratives:  
Restore \$9.8M that was cut from the  
Governor's Jan. 2024 Budget**

**Equitable Building Decarbonization  
Program: Protect the full \$922M  
originally allocated to the program**