GAPP Toolkit

Sacramento Area PEV Collaborative

PEV DAC SUBCOMMITTEE

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What is the SacPEV DAC?

The Sacramento Area Plug-in Electric Vehicle Collaborative (SacPEVC) is a regional, multi-sector group of over 100 participants who have been working together since 2015 to increase the deployment of electric vehicles and related infrastructure across the Sacramento Region. The Collaborative prioritized working in disadvantaged communities as one of the key goals and established the Disadvantaged Community (DAC) subcommittee.

The PEV DAC Subcommittee is an extension of the Regional Sacramento Plug-in Electric Vehicle (SacPEV) Collaborative that focuses on projects and programs in underserved and under resourced communities. These projects and programs are designed with solutions for improving the quality of the community and the individual's life by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing access to socioeconomic goods and services.

Embedding racial equity into every project is a requirement, and this toolkit was created to ensure that racial equity is meaningfully addressed in every program and project.

What is Racial Equity?

The SacPEV DAC reviewed many definitions of racial equity and found the City of Sacramento definition aligns best with what we want to achieve. The City of Sacramento's definition of Racial Equity as adapted *from the Government Alliance on Race and Equity's (GARE) definition.* :

"Regardless of one's identity, equity is when all people have just treatment, access to opportunities necessary to satisfy their essential needs, advance their well-being and achieve their full potential while identifying and eliminating barriers that have prevented the full participation of some groups." [1]

The PEV Collaborative mission for Racial Equity:

*"Low-income communities and communities of color disproportionately feel the impacts of vehicle pollution and can benefit the most from the clean air and cost-saving benefits of EVs.
We need a fair and just transition from a fossil fuel economy to a clean energy economy. That means making sure our poorest and most polluted communities have access to cleaner, healthier, more vibrant neighborhoods and access to good, family-sustaining jobs. An equitable and inclusive economy is good for everyone.*

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[1] https://www.cityofsacramento.org/City-Manager/Divisions-Programs/Diversity-Equity

We need to remove systemic biased policies and create new policies and strategies to promote inclusion and diversity throughout the EV market and the larger clean energy economy.
We need to educate and inform our underserved communities and increase their knowledge, awareness and support of EVs and clean mobility – but first we need to listen and understand what the mobility issues are so we can mutually develop and deliver the best solutions."

Project Criteria

Proposed projects considered must meet the following criteria:

1. Organization and proposed project are in Sacramento County.
2. Low-income residents are the primary beneficiaries.
3. Proposed project meets important need of blighted communities by reducing disparities and/or increasing opportunities.
    A. Workforce opportunity exists.
    B. Is the benefit a significant one, rather than incidental to other primary benefits?
4. Proposed project reduces vehicle emissions and contributes to improving air quality.
5. Proposed project addresses public health issues through meaningful metrics without unmitigated consequences.
    A. Partner with public health professional (public, private, community-based)
6. Collaboration with SacPEV DAC committee.
7. Proposed project identifies measures for producing/influencing a sustainable racial equity plan.

Eligibility Requirements

Projects introduced into the SacPEV DAC must apply for consideration by meeting the essential criteria. Projects must address needs of blighted communities. The SacPEV DAC Subcommittee defines blighted communities as an area with:

- High levels of poverty in communities of color and underinvested communities
- Underrepresented voices (including language barriers)
- Little or no access to banks or ATM machines
- Located in a transportation and/or food desert
- Lack of inclusive economic development
- Has little to no investment from municipalities and government that is supporting community growth, redevelopment, or community block grants
- Reduction in public services and functions
- Significant and lower real estate appraisal gaps in these blighted communities

- High unemployment and displaced worker migration
- Negative effects from crimes rates
- Lack of transportation and access to education, safe routes to schools and parks, lower academic performance, higher truancy
- Lack of livable wage employment, health care access, digital access, affected by heat island
- Lack of access to parks, green space, entertainment

Projects approved will become part of the SacPEV DAC Subcommittee monthly meeting agenda for discussion on project milestones and happenings. Applicants will need to have at least one person from the project to meet every month that will speak and represent the project. Being part of the subcommittee, projects will have access to supporting services of individuals, community-based, local and state agencies, and other organizations that may assist in project needs. There is also allocated funding for assisting projects for infrastructure, administrative, or other needs.

Criteria Definitions

Project Location

1. **Organization and proposed project are in Sacramento County.**

Any individual or organization that operates program/project within Sacramento County is eligible to apply for funding and supporting services. Preference is for projects and organization to both be within Sacramento County, as one of the missions for addressing racial equity is to improve local conditions.

Application should define if project will start or continue on existing property. The project application should address any needs for property access or assistance in obtaining permit(s). SacPEV DAC can help assist, but applicant will need to get written approval and agreement from property owner.

Project location should have exact location(s) defined by zip codes or census tracts. Available maps for defining areas are included in low-income section below.

Low-Income Residents

2. Low-income residents are the primary beneficiaries.

Project must serve low-income residents that fall within the 200 to 400% Federal Poverty Level (FPL)[2] and/or location falls within the available map that pulls information from:

1. California Climate Investments Priority Populations 3.0 by Census Tract mapping tool[3]
2. CalEnviroScreen 3.0[4] (population falls within the poverty level percentiles of 75% or greater)
3. California Census 2020 Hard-to-Count Map[5]
4. SMUD Sustainable Communities Resource Priorities Map[6]
5. California Healthy Places Index[7]
6. Distressed Communities Index[8]
7. Neighborhood Atlas Disadvantaged Block Groups[9]

Applicants may use this mapping tool: https://www.auraplanning.com/seedhub.html

Reducing Disparities and/or Increasing Opportunities

3. Proposed project meets important need of blighted communities by reducing disparities and/or increasing opportunities.
   A. Workforce opportunity exists.
   B. Is the benefit a significant one, rather than incidental to other primary benefits?

Applicant should define needs of the community and how project may solve or offer solutions for meeting need(s). What are the intended results and outcomes that will directly or indirectly impact the community? What areas may this impact? Examples include:

- Children and youth
- Community engagement
- Contracting equity

- Health
- Housing
- Human services

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[2] https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines
[3] https://webmaps.arb.ca.gov/PriorityPopulations/
[4] https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30
[5] https://cacensus2020.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=48be59de0ba94a3dacff1c9116df8b37
[6] https://usage.smud.org/SustainableCommunities/?_ga=2.23524602.1170262105.1631047544-411cbaa8-23b1-4b48-b0d0-236161481712
[7] https://healthyplacesindex.org/
[8] https://eig.org/dci/interactive-map
[9] https://www.neighborhoodatlas.medicine.wisc.edu/mapping

- Criminal justice
- Economic development
- Education
- Environment
- Food access and affordability
- Government practices
- Jobs
- Planning and development
- Transportation
- Utilities
- Workforce equity

Emission Reduction and Air Quality Improvement

4. **Proposed project reduces emissions and improves air quality focused on clean, electric, and alternative transportation solutions.**

Most grant funding requires reporting for quantifiable and qualitative measures. Project applicant should define what quantifiable data is available and how data may be collected. If project is unable to define, applicant should state how data could be measured or collected that can provide proof that emissions are being reduced or otherwise contributing to reductions. Examples can include but not limited to clean transportation projects and strategies, air quality monitoring, vehicle mileage traveled by gas combustion vehicles replaced with alternative fuel vehicles, etc.

Addressing Public Health

5. **Proposed project addresses public health issues through meaningful metrics without unmitigated consequences.**

Project must have partnership with a professional public health entity at a public, private, or community-based level. Applicants may use free services offered through the county's public health department. Data may be represented through the collection by the Department of Public Health or through any organization such as a non-profit. Applicants may conduct a needs assessment and include as part of application. Example of resources for data collection include: SMUD, Healthy Places Index, Sacramento County Environmental Justice mapping tools, Senate Bill 535 communities, or CalEnviroScreen.

Meaningful metrics must be able to be determined within a year of applying. Unmitigated consequences are defined by: "Results of the project do not negatively impact the immediate and surrounding communities."

Collaboration Efforts

6. Collaboration with SacPEV DAC Subcommittee

Applicants and projects should have a designated individual who will represent the project on the SacPEV DAC Subcommittee by providing updates on project timeline and milestones. Meetings are held once a month on set dates. Updates will be given to the PEV Collaborative and Executive Committee.

Projects part of the SacPEV DAC Subcommittee will have access and reference to other local entities and organizations for collaboration and which can help address needs of a community and impacts to neighborhoods. Needs assessments can also be conducted through collaboration with members of the SacPEV DAC Subcommittee, but applicant should be able to identify community needs within their proposal.

Sustainable Racial Equity Plan

7. Proposed project identifies measures for producing/influencing a sustainable racial equity plan.

Sustainability ensures the project has merit and may be addressed by defining longevity plans for grants and funding opportunities[10]. Proposed projects should address how a sustainability plan can be implemented. What type(s) of quantifying and qualitative data will be measured for avoidance of perpetuating historical inequities (i.e., environmental, economic and/or health inequities)? Will project help to reverse and correct historical inequities? If so, how? This will identify how racial equity may be impacted by the project. Application should define any data gaps and how the impact will be documented or evaluated.

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[10] https://www.racialequitytools.org/resources/plan/action-plan/determining-action-and-strategy