

Item available for public inspection in the Clerk's office during regular business hours (Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 5 PM)

February 6, 2024

Regular Meeting

**Item #7a. - Updated
presentation**

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments

Mono County Board of Supervisors

February 6, 2024



What is a Council of Governments?

Councils of Governments (COGs) are voluntary associations that represent member local governments, mainly cities and counties, that seek to provide cooperative planning, coordination, and technical assistance on issues of mutual concern that cross jurisdictional lines. In this sense, COGs serve to develop consensus on many issues that need to be addressed in a subregional or regional context. If properly structured, COG duties complement and do not duplicate jurisdictional activities, and serve to unify jurisdictions and agencies on matters of mutual concern, but independent of the responsibilities traditionally exercised by the individual members within their own communities.



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

From the New Mexico Association of Regional Councils

ESCOG JPA Formation

- Joint Powers Authority established January 2020
- Each member agency contributes 25% of operating budget
 - Additional budget for staff and operational expenses contingent on grant and contract services revenue
- Staffed through member agencies
- Board comprised of two appointed representatives from each Member Agency
- Quorum constitutes representation from each member agency +1

ESCOG JPA Purpose

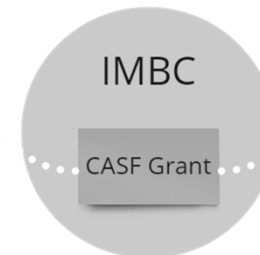
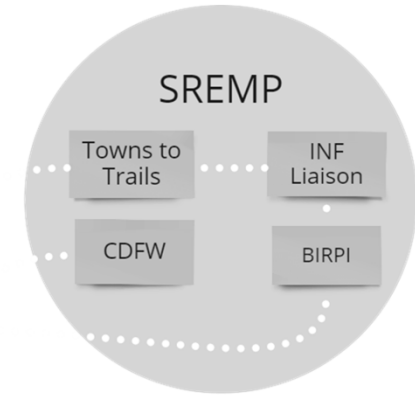
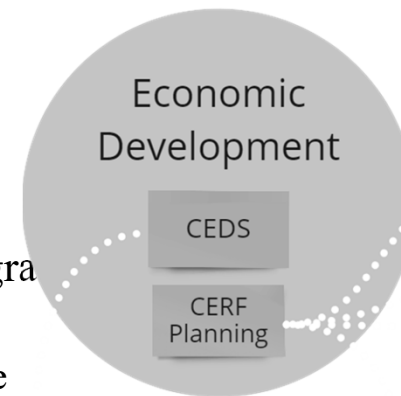
II. Purposes

- 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 Approved Programs of Work

- Regional coordination
 - Member agencies
 - State agencies & Federal agencies
 - Tribal communities
 - Incubate new initiatives
- 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)
- Inyo Mono Broadband Coalition
- Grant writing and administration



ESCOG Activities: Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator

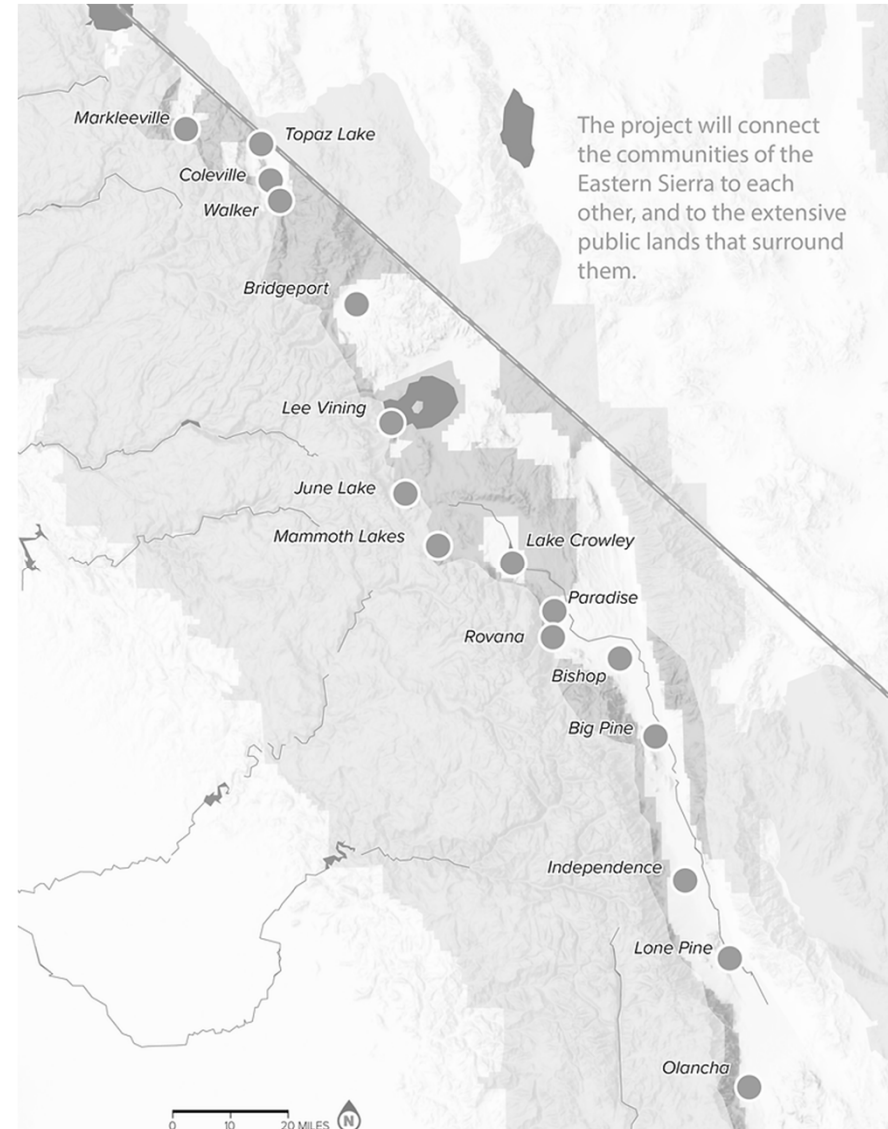
- Increase local capacity for environmental planning in the Eastern Sierra to increase pace and scale of wildfire mitigation projects in the Eastern Sierra
- Pilot project: 56,000 acre Eastern Sierra Communities and Climate Resilience Project
- Funded through a Proposition 1 CDFW Watershed Restoration Grant
- \$3.4 million
- Project completion 2026



ESCOG Activities: Towns-to-Trails Project

g trails and other soft surface infrastructure

- Identify existing trails and infrastructure for the development a trail network from Olancha to Markleeville
- Intent to support recreation, tourism and economic development by creating connections between gateway communities and recreation destinations
- Built on stakeholder and agency input
- Funded through a Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant
- \$370,000
- Project completion 2024
- Project identified in the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative Process



ESCOG Activities:

Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative

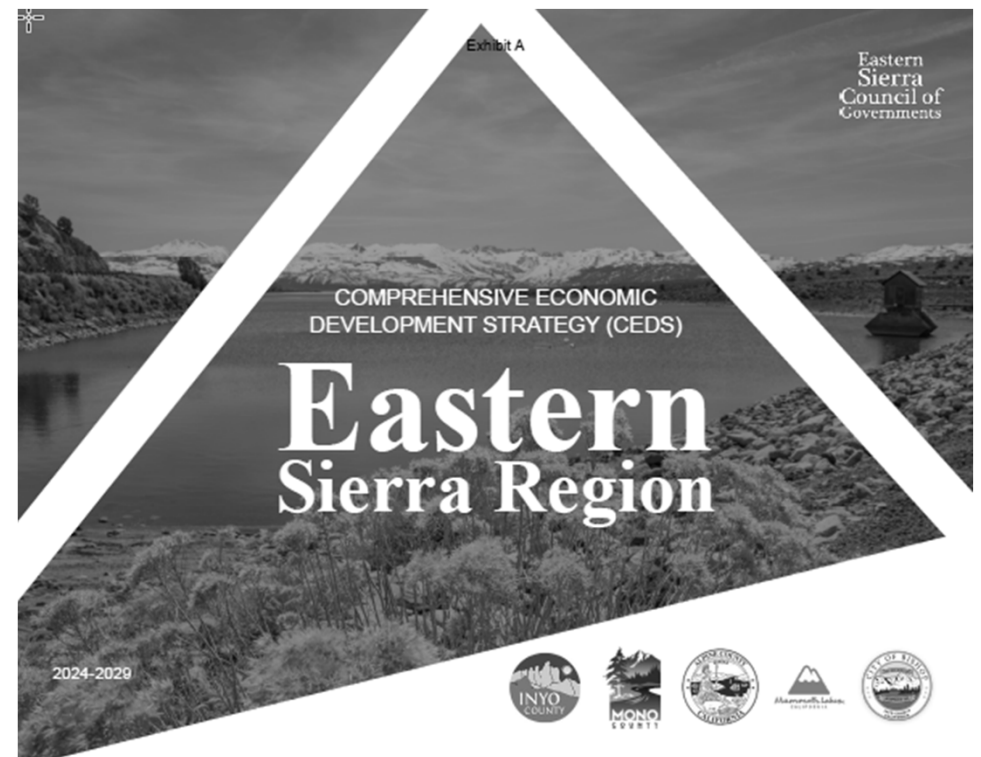
- 2 phase project:
 - Install vault toilet at bouldering area
 - Convene community to identify needs and gaps in recreation infrastructure and management
- Funded through a National Fish and Wildlife Grant
- \$230,000
- Project completion 2023
- Project identified in the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative Process



ESCOG Activities:

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

- Regional economic development strategy identifying regional needs and priorities
- ESCOG empowered with ongoing annual reporting on implementation
- 5 year updates required
- Funded by Rural County Representatives of California
- Accepted by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) January 2024
- EDA funding opportunities now available for the Eastern Sierra



ESCOG Activities: California Job First (formerly CERF)

- California Jobs First Convener Roles
 - Outreach to disinvested communities
 - Project identification that serve region
 - Serve as liaison between regional partners
 - Technical assistance to the Sierra Business Council
- CERF Catalyst Fund Sectors
 - Working Landscapes
 - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism
 - Healthcare
 - Clean Energy
 - Agriculture
- Funding for capacity building through July 2024



ESCOG Activities: Inyo Mono Broadband Coalition (IMBC)



WELCOME TO THE EASTERN SIERRA

THE EASTERN SIERRA IS NOW TRULY CONNECTED WITH THE WORLD

It used to be true that to have the best business opportunities, education, or jobs, you had to be in a city. Not anymore! Most communities in the Eastern Sierra now have access to internet service that is as good, or better than, what you would find in the metropolitan US. That allows our businesses and residents to connect and compete on a National and International level.



88.6% Served

MONO COUNTY: 88.6% of the households in Mono County currently have access to broadband Internet service at speeds of at least 25Mbps / 3Mbps.



11.3% Unserved

MONO COUNTY: 11.3% of the households in Mono County do not have access to broadband Internet service at speeds of at least 25Mbps / 3Mbps.



98.7% Adoption Rate

MONO COUNTY: 98.7% of the households in Mono County that are categorized as served have subscribed to broadband Internet service.



92.6% Served

INYO COUNTY: 92.6% of the households in Inyo County currently



7.4% Unserved

INYO COUNTY: 7.4% of the households in Inyo County do not



71% Adoption Rate

INYO COUNTY: 71% of the households in Inyo County that are

ESCOG Activities:

Grants and other regional opportunities

- Highways-to-Boulevards Caltrans grant
- Mono County Biomass applications
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) administration and initiatives

ESCOG Activities: 2024 and beyond

- Deliver current project activities
- Convene regional economic development priorities to implement the CEDS and inform California Jobs First
- Expand capacity
- Develop strategic plan for organization
- Identify regional priorities for future funding coordination and collaboration opportunities
- Identify future funding

Thank you

Elaine Kabala

ekabala@escog.ca.gov

www.escog.ca.gov

760-878-8800