



## 2021 GRANT CHALLENGE

Disadvantaged communities throughout California are grappling with how to improve local resilience to climate-related natural disasters, including drought, extreme heat, contaminated drinking water, flooding, and wildfire. However, California lacks dedicated funding for comprehensive, statewide climate adaptation planning.

### SOLUTION

The California Resilience Challenge is a statewide effort, led by businesses and a diverse range of partners, to build local climate resilience and support a shared vision for a resilient California in the face of increasing climate threats. The Challenge is awarding grants to local California public entities and non-profit organizations for the development of diverse and replicable climate change resilience plans across California. The projects will reflect California's diverse geography and showcase leadership in climate change adaptation.

### WHAT'S NEXT

The Resilience Challenge seeks to release an RFP for its 2021 grant in June 2021 and announce grant winners in the Fall of 2021.

>> To learn more, please contact Anna Sciaruto at:  
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### DROUGHT

State officials estimate the Sierra Snowpack, source for over 1/3 of California's freshwater, will shrink up to 65 percent by 2100.

### FIRE

Up to 40% of California's landmass now has an elevated or extreme level of fire danger.

### FLOOD

Sea levels are projected to rise between 7-23 inches by 2050.

### EXTREME HEAT

2017 was the third hottest year on record and saw the hottest summer in state history, threatening vulnerable populations.

### DRINKING WATER

Over one million Californians lack access to safe and clean drinking water.

## ABOUT

The California Resilience Challenge is an initiative of the Bay Area Council Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization. The Challenge's 2020 grant program awarded over \$2 million to 12 communities across California to develop innovative and replicable climate change adaptation plans. To learn more about the winners of the 2020 Challenge, please visit [ResilientCal.org/winners](https://ResilientCal.org/winners)



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## CHALLENGE TIMELINE

08/01/20	Begin Fundraising
01/01/21	Build Advisory Committee
03/31/21	End Fundraising
05/15/21	Finalize RFP
06/01/21	Release RFP in coordination with state/private partners
07/15/21	Close RFP window
07/16/21	Begin proposal review
08/16/21	Advisory Cmte presents recommendations to Steering Cmte
09/16/21	Steering Committee finalizes final grants
Fall/Winter 201	Winning RFPs announced at public event



## INTRODUCTION

Climate Change is pushing California's already volatile climate to greater extremes—with increasingly severe droughts, floods, heat waves, and wildfires. In response, communities across California are thinking about how they can become more resilient to climate change. While California has become a global leader in climate change mitigation, California lacks dedicated funding for comprehensive, statewide climate adaptation (resilience) planning. California businesses, joined by a diverse array of partners, can help lead the way.

**“Climate change is an existential threat. Every nation, region and community has interest and agency in rising to the challenge.”**

— Governor Gavin Newsom

The California Resilience Challenge is a statewide effort to build local climate resilience and support a shared vision for a resilient California in the face of increasing climate threats. The Challenge is seeking contributions from the private sector, philanthropies, and utilities to raise funds to support diverse and replicable resilience projects. Qualifying projects will reflect California's diverse geography, and provide examples to countries around the world.



## **CHALLENGE GRANTS**

Contributions to the California Resilience Challenge will be awarded to public entities across California to support community-backed climate change adaptation projects. All qualifying projects will adhere to criteria determined by the Challenge's Steering Committee. The total amount raised through the Challenge, and final details on the Challenge's scope will be released with a Request for Proposals (RFP) in Fall 2019.

### **Two Types of Grants**

Funds raised by the Challenge will be distributed in two types of grants: Project Sponsor Grants, and At Large Grants. Top contributors to the Challenge will be able to directly award up to half the value of their total gift (minus administration) to a qualifying project(s) of their choice (Project Sponsor Grants). All other funds will be awarded by the entire Steering Committee to qualifying projects across California (At Large Grants).



## **SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS: RESILIENCE VISIONARY - \$1 MILLION**

The California Resilience Challenge is seeking financial partners to commit to a financial contribution by January 31, 2021. Sponsors at all levels will receive recognition for supporting innovative climate resilience projects across California, and gain front-row access to the best and brightest thinking in climate change adaptation across California.

- **Board of Directors Membership**  
Become a voting member of the Challenge's decision making body, and build relationships with other innovative private sector leaders. The Board will decide which RFP respondents qualify for all Challenge grants, and the projects and award amounts for At Large Grants.
- **Become a Project Sponsor**  
Directly award half the value of your contribution (minus administration), to qualifying project(s) of your choice, and elevate the visibility of your gift through the collective communications clout of Board members and the Bay Area Council. Project Sponsors will be specially recognized in all Challenge print and digital communications relating to the project.
- **Recognition for Projects Supported by At Large Grants**  
Brand prominence in Challenge materials and media outreach related to projects awarded At Large Grants by the Board.
- **Meetings with top state officials on climate resilience policy**  
Challenge staff will work with Visionary Sponsors to organize meetings with top state officials and experts involved in climate resilience.
- **Executive Inclusion in short documentary video memorializing the Challenge (subject to Steering Committee approval)**
- **Brand Prominence in all Challenge-related digital and printed materials**



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## **SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS: RESILIENCE CATALYST - \$750k**

The California Resilience Challenge is seeking financial partners to commit to a financial contribution by January 31, 2021. Sponsors at all levels will receive recognition for supporting innovative climate resilience projects across California, and gain front-row access to the best and brightest thinking in climate change adaptation across California.

- **Board of Directors Membership**  
Become a voting member of the Challenge's decision making body, and build relationships with other innovative private sector leaders. The Board will decide which RFP respondents qualify for all Challenge grants, and the projects and award amounts for At Large Grants.
- **Become a Project Sponsor**  
Directly award half the value of your contribution (minus administration), to qualifying project(s) of your choice, and elevate the visibility of your gift through the collective communications clout of Board members and the Bay Area Council. Project Sponsors will be specially recognized in all Challenge print and digital communications relating to the project.
- **Recognition for Projects Supported by At Large Grants**  
Brand prominence in Challenge materials and media outreach related to projects awarded At Large Grants by the Board.
- **Meetings with top state officials on climate resilience policy**  
Challenge staff will work with Visionary Sponsors to organize meetings with top state officials and experts involved in climate resilience.
- **Commensurate brand prominence in all Challenge-related digital and printed materials**



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## **SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS: RESILIENCE CHAMPION - \$500k**

The California Resilience Challenge is seeking financial partners to commit to a financial contribution by January 31, 2021. Sponsors at all levels will receive recognition for supporting innovative climate resilience projects across California, and gain front-row access to the best and brightest thinking in climate change adaptation across California.

- **Board of Directors Membership**

Become a voting member of the Challenge's decision making body, and build relationships with other innovative private sector leaders. The Board will decide which RFP respondents qualify for all Challenge grants, and the projects and award amounts for At Large Grants.

- **Become a Project Sponsor**

Directly award half the value of your contribution (minus administration), to qualifying project(s) of your choice, and elevate the visibility of your gift through the collective communications clout of Board members and the Bay Area Council. Project Sponsors will be specially recognized in all Challenge print and digital communications relating to the project.

- **Recognition for Projects Supported by At Large Grants**

Brand prominence in Challenge materials and media outreach related to projects awarded At Large Grants by the Board.

- **Commensurate brand visibility in all Challenge-related digital and printed materials**



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## **SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS: RESILIENCE LEADER - \$200k**

The California Resilience Challenge is seeking financial partners to commit to a financial contribution by January 31, 2021. Sponsors at all levels will receive recognition for supporting innovative climate resilience projects across California, and gain front-row access to the best and brightest thinking in climate change adaptation across California.

- **Board of Directors Membership**  
Become a voting member of the Challenge's decision making body, and build relationships with other innovative private sector leaders. The Board will decide which RFP respondents qualify for all Challenge grants, and the projects and award amounts for At Large Grants.
- **Recognition for Projects Supported by At Large Grants**  
Brand prominence in Challenge materials and media outreach related to projects awarded At Large Grants by the Board.
- **Commensurate brand visibility in all Challenge-related digital and printed materials**





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## **SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS: RESILIENCE SUPPORTER < \$200k**

The California Resilience Challenge is seeking financial partners to commit to a financial contribution by January 31, 2021. Sponsors at all levels will receive recognition for supporting innovative climate resilience projects across California, and gain front-row access to the best and brightest thinking in climate change adaptation across California.

- **Recognition for Projects Supported by At Large Grants**  
Commensurate brand visibility in Challenge materials and media outreach related to projects awarded At Large Grants by the Steering Committee.
- **Commensurate brand visibility in all Challenge-related digital and printed materials**

For more information, please contact:  
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