

CAFWD

CALIFORNIA FORWARD

2023 ROADMAP TO SHARED PROSPERITY

BUILDING BRIDGES FOR AN EQUITABLE FUTURE



**CALIFORNIA
STEWARDSHIP
NETWORK**



**CALIFORNIA
ECONOMIC
SUMMIT**

**CAFWD ACTION
FUND**

CREATING THE ENERGY FOR ACTION

CA FWD celebrates its sixteenth year as a statewide nonprofit organization focusing on racial and geographic equity, environmental sustainability and economic growth for all.

The role of CA FWD is a unique one. We are a catalyst for action, bringing the right people together to get the job done. It's a role we don't take lightly. We understand that there are often difficult, yet necessary, conversations—something we do not shy away from.

Throughout the years, these conversations have resulted in the opportunity to advance issues critical to shared prosperity, including planning regional inclusive economic development; building a sustainable energy future; developing federal infrastructure spending priorities; creating generational wealth through more equitable housing and more.

Along with our partners, we've developed programs and calls to action resulting in tangible dollars for California, including CA FWD's **wildfire call to action**, which helped garner \$1.5 billion for wildfire resilience spending; the call to create a **shared appreciation homeownership program**, resulting in \$500 million in general fund dollars; and the **\$600 million Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF)**. In 2022, we published our **energy call to action** and look forward to championing this issue in 2023 and beyond.

Our most recent California Economic Summit in Bakersfield—the largest Summit we've hosted to date—resulted in new ideas to help bridge the divide and create inclusive, sustainable growth. We are proud that our annual Summit is a place where work truly gets done. As one Summit attendee said, "I have rarely seen a gathering that is more focused on actual action."

Our advocacy arm, the California Forward Action Fund, is poised to take on a more prominent role this year, engaging legislators and other policymakers on issues that are critical to people throughout the state.

Our California Stewardship Network, an alliance of regional leaders throughout California, continues to provide invaluable effort and insight into regions-up solutions that prioritize equity and inclusion.

We are excited for you to read this year's Roadmap to Shared Prosperity, which outlines the ways we are convening and collaborating to advance policies, programs and practices that help create a more equitable future for California.

Thank you for being on this journey with us.



2023 PRIORITIES

CA FWD is committed to creating inclusive and sustainable economic growth. We do this by supporting interrelated policy action areas that help all Californians across the state's regions prosper.

Our current action areas include Housing For All, Ecosystems & Climate Resiliency, Thriving Economies, Education Cradle to Career and Connecting California.

Below are our priorities for 2023 within each of these action areas. These priorities were drafted over the last year by our work groups and further refined in the working sessions at the 2022 **California Economic Summit**. These priorities will be moved forward through our collaborative approach, including through the **California Forward Action Fund**, our **California Stewardship Network** and our **Young Leaders Advisory Council**. We will measure the state's progress through our **California Dream Index**.



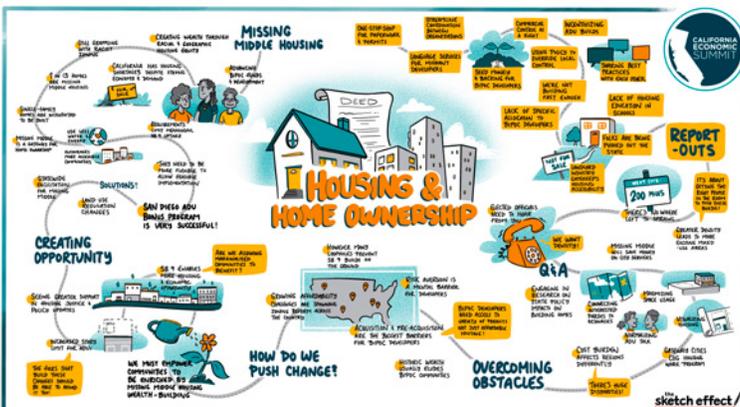
HOUSING FOR ALL

Housing and Homeownership Work Group

Building wealth through housing entrepreneurship and supporting small BIPOC developers

2023 Priorities

- Support and strengthen local capacity to maximize participation in middle density development
- Advocate for state-level solutions and legislation that enables middle density development
- Advance the creation of a BIPOC developer fund to add capacity and reduce barriers for small-scale developers of color



[Click to view full image](#)

These priorities were developed and finalized during the 2022 California Economic Summit working sessions. Live sketch artists digitally created this image, providing a dynamic visual summary of the working session discussion.

Learn more at: cafwd.org/housing22



ECOSYSTEMS & CLIMATE RESILIENCY

Building a Sustainable Energy Future Work Group

Cultivating energy strategies that lead California towards an inclusive, net zero economy

2023 Priorities

CA FWD is committed to fostering and supporting regions-up collaboration and decision-making on energy transition policies focused on the following priorities that arose from **our energy call to action** and input from stakeholders who attended the 2022 California Economic Summit:

- ➔ **We Must Act Urgently & Carefully:** California must more rapidly plan, permit and build new energy generation and transmission projects, while strategically calibrating its actions to ensure the energy system it creates is sustainable, reliable, affordable and equitable.
- ➔ **We Must Increase Renewable Energy Production & Be Technology Agnostic:** California needs an energy approach that embraces the full range of carbon-free sources of energy and reinvests in our domestic manufacturing sector to support their deployment.
- ➔ **We Must Address Baseload Energy Today & For the Future:** California needs a reliable grid, which will require a combination of dramatically increasing battery/long-duration energy storage systems, accelerating the deployment of geothermal power, reconsidering nuclear energy and/or a robust regional transmission grid.
- ➔ **We Must Invest in Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) & Non-Carbon Energies:** An array of carbon capture technologies will help us mitigate emissions from the imperfect-but-necessary energies/industries we still need today as we work to develop a diverse portfolio of zero-carbon energy sources for the future.
- ➔ **We Must Show Leadership & Share the Decision-Making:** State policymakers and regulators have to make some hard choices and trade-offs and must engage regional collaboratives and community-driven planning to equitably drive this change.



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These priorities were developed and finalized during the 2022 California Economic Summit working sessions. Live sketch artists digitally created this image, providing a dynamic visual summary of the working session discussion.

Learn more at: cafwd.org/energy22



THRIVING ECONOMIES

Advancing Inclusive Regional Economies (Going Beyond CERF) Work Group

Supporting California's unique demographics through inter-regional information sharing and advocacy

* 2023 Priorities

- Strengthen and support a regions-based Community of Practice to share learnings and generate promising practices
- Encourage state alignment of other resources and programs towards CERF regions to support regional inclusive economic strategy implementation
- Create opportunities and support for learning and alignment within regions
- Create spaces for philanthropic engagement and support

In 2023, this group will focus on the development of Inclusive Economic Development Educational Materials for various stakeholders.



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These priorities were developed and finalized during the 2022 California Economic Summit working sessions. Live sketch artists digitally created this image, providing a dynamic visual summary of the working session discussion.

Learn more at: cafwd.org/regions22



"I'm excited to be in a room where we're not being competitive with each other, where we're sharing information. The Summit provides that. It's a great opportunity to learn from others."

— Sonia Campos-Rivera, Senior Vice President of Policy and Public Affairs, UNITE-LA



Entrepreneurship and Small Business Ownership by Women and People of Color Work Group

Building a supportive ecosystem for the state's entrepreneurs and small business owners

* 2023 Priorities

- Support a small business ecosystem grounded in equity by:
 - Advancing solutions to capital access barriers and other persistent systemic inequities faced by women and POC owned small businesses, as outlined in the group's **2021 framework document**
 - Integrating small business voices into regional economic development and planning processes
- Identify barriers to equitable small business participation in the state's economy and leverage state policy and regional practice to foster greater inclusion



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These priorities were developed and finalized during the 2022 California Economic Summit working sessions. Live sketch artists digitally created this image, providing a dynamic visual summary of the working session discussion.

Learn more at: cafwd.org/smallbusiness22



"[The Summit] brings policymakers, small businesses, individuals, community-based organizations into one place to have these kinds of conversations where we can advance ideas you love."

— Tara Lynn Gray, Director, California Office of the Small Business Advocate

NEW IN 2023 Advancing Manufacturing Work Group

Strengthening California's manufacturing ecosystem and regional economies through a unified, strategic approach

Following a highly productive associated event at the 2022 California Economic Summit, the Advancing Manufacturing work group has been newly relaunched to actively promote the policy priorities below in the year ahead.

* 2023 Priorities

- Form a statewide Manufacturing Council to advise state leaders and coordinate manufacturing-related activities to maximize state and federal funding opportunities
- Elevate the role of manufacturing in meeting the state's decarbonization and economic development goals
- Identify specific needs to best position the state's manufacturing sector for growth (e.g., regulatory reform, funding, education and public awareness, workforce development and DEI goals, data/research)

Learn more at: cafwd.org/manufacturing22



EDUCATION CRADLE TO CAREER

Education and Workforce Work Group

Supporting equitable economic mobility through a more cohesive education and workforce system

* 2023 Priorities

- Advocate for a systems approach to education and workforce development that emphasizes collaboration over competition
 - Further develop, advocate for and implement state policies and regional practices to support seamless transitions between education and workforce segments (early childhood, K-12, post-secondary, workforce)
- Raise awareness of affordable, quality early childhood care and education as an equity and workforce issue and support efforts to reduce barriers to access



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These priorities were developed and finalized during the 2022 California Economic Summit working sessions. Live sketch artists digitally created this image, providing a dynamic visual summary of the working session discussion.

Learn more at: cafwd.org/workforce22



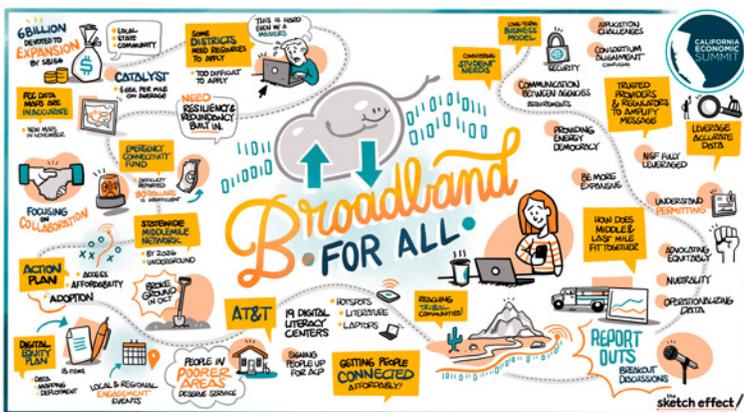
CONNECTING CALIFORNIA

Broadband for All Work Group

Bridging the Digital Divide

* 2023 Priorities

- Advocate for the state and federal governments' historic broadband investments, including SB 156, to be implemented swiftly, efficiently and equitably across California
- Ensure that the needs and priorities of the regions, as advanced by the Regional Broadband Consortia and other partners, are fully reflected in state digital equity planning processes



Click to view full image

These priorities were developed and finalized during the 2022 California Economic Summit working sessions. Live sketch artists digitally created this image, providing a dynamic visual summary of the working session discussion.

Learn more at: cafwd.org/broadband22

ADVOCATING FOR AN EQUITABLE FUTURE



The **California Forward Action Fund**, the 501(c)(4) advocacy arm of CA FWD, strives to improve the quality of life for all Californians by advocating for policies that create inclusive, sustainable growth and improved government at the state and local levels. The Action Fund is the vehicle that moves a number of policy recommendations forward to advance equitable, environmental and economic progress for the people of California.

THE ACTION FUND'S IMPACT

Since 2007, the California Forward Action Fund has worked to enact reforms that fundamentally improve how public dollars are spent and give Californians better tools to hold elected leaders accountable. Below are just some of the reforms the Action Fund has championed to reduce partisan gridlock and increase transparency and accountability:

✓ CITIZEN REDISTRICTING

The passage of Proposition 11 in 2008 took the decennial job of drawing political boundaries away from lawmakers and gave it to citizens to reduce partisan gerrymandering.

✓ CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE TRANSPARENCY ACT

Proposition 54, approved by more than 64 percent of voters in the 2016 general election, requires the Legislature to distribute and post legislation online in its final form at least 72 hours before a final floor vote by either house, as well as comply with other transparency requirements.

✓ RAINY DAY FUND

Proposition 2 in 2014 provided a mechanism for managing volatile revenue streams and saving money to provide essential services during economic recessions.

✓ TOP-TWO PRIMARY & TERM LIMIT REFORM

The Action Fund supported Proposition 14 in 2010, which gave every voter the right to vote for all candidates in primary elections, and Proposition 28 in 2012, which allowed state lawmakers to serve up to 12 years in either house of the Legislature.

For more information on how you can invest and partner with the California Forward Action Fund, please contact David Nelson at david.nelson@cafwd-action.org.



WORKING REGIONALLY TO ADVANCE SOLUTIONS FOR ALL



CALIFORNIA
STEWARDSHIP
NETWORK

CA FWD's **California Stewardship Network** (CSN) is a statewide coalition of regional civic leaders committed to creating prosperity for all.

With a focused approach on equity and inclusion, environmental sustainability and economic growth, CSN partners lead innovative regional solutions that can be scaled up to solve some of our state's most pressing challenges. The CSN collaborates with CA FWD in engaging the broader set of stakeholders needed to advance solutions that work for the diverse communities within each region.

The CSN's policy priorities are formulated each year after an extensive annual process that centers regional priorities and lived experiences and are reflected in the work of several Summit work groups. For 2023, priority areas include regional inclusive economic development; "missing middle" housing and homeownership; broadband, energy and other key infrastructure; education and workforce; and climate adaptation and resilience.

In 2023, several CSN partners across the state will also begin deploying activities related to the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) planning phase through regionally based cross-sectoral groups, further integration of data and meaningful community engagement.

The CSN will continue its commitment to the Becky Morgan Steward Leadership Program by identifying local leaders in their regions to participate in the program and help deepen their understanding of regional and statewide policy issues, hone their decision-making skills and unite with other leaders to learn, grow and change California.

For more information on the California Stewardship Network, please contact Ismael (Ish) Herrera at ish@cafwd.org.

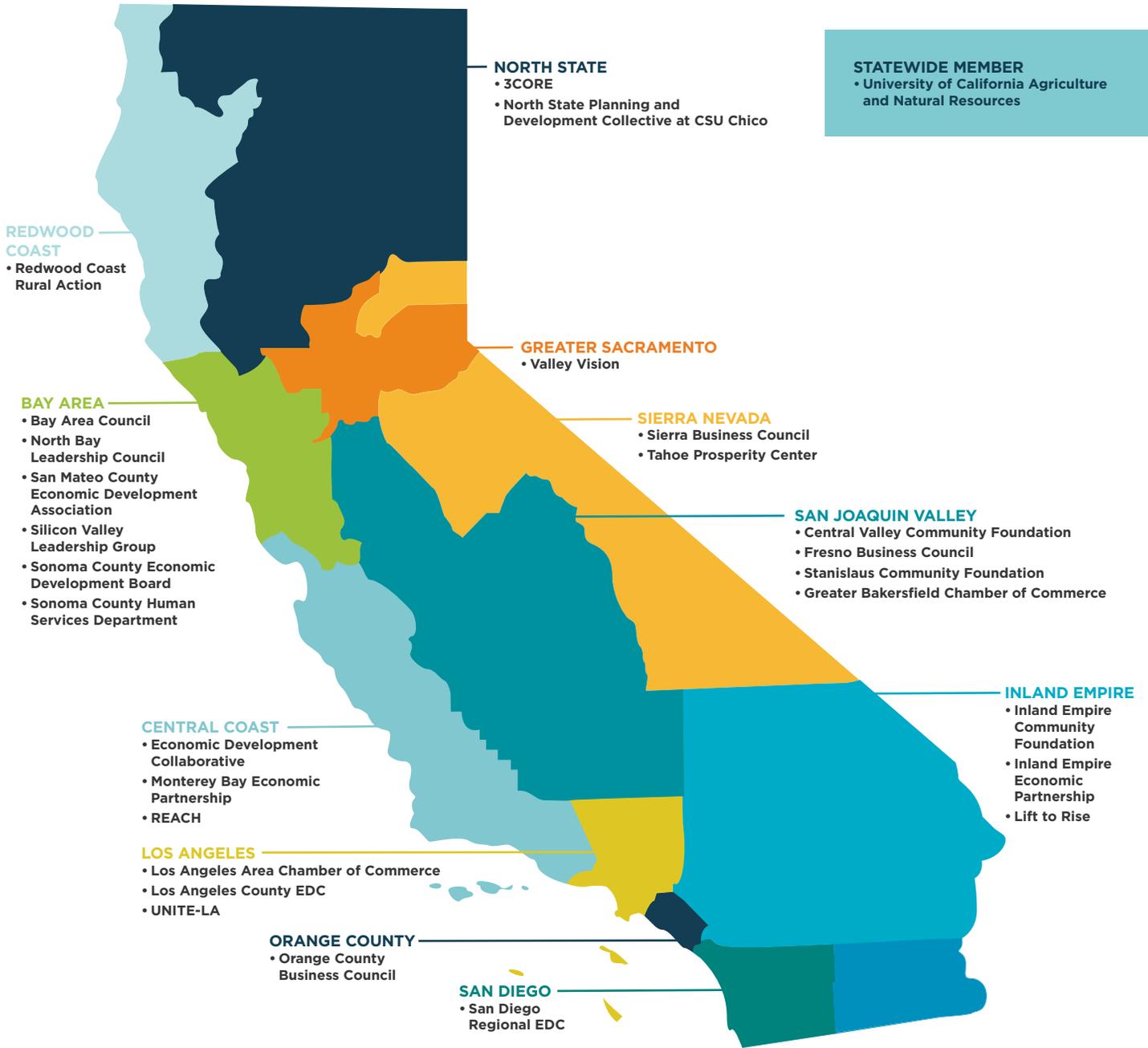


"The CSN is a valuable asset for me as a regional leader. All in one network, I am able to learn about and activate relevant policies and programs; connect with other leaders who are working through regional challenges and get support for our work in challenging statewide initiatives. I'm looking forward to participating in the network in 2023 as California takes on inclusive economic development through the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF), deploys infrastructure investments, and addresses critical community, environmental and economic issues."

— Evan Schmidt, Co-Chair, CSN and CEO, Valley Vision



CALIFORNIA STEWARDSHIP NETWORK PARTNERS



CA FWD, the California Stewardship Network and the Becky Morgan Steward Leadership Program would like to extend a special thank you to the following sponsors for core support:



LEADING FOR THE FUTURE



CA FWD's **Young Leaders Advisory Council** (YLAC) was born out of a need to address the growing rift in generational engagement and underrepresentation of young people (ages 17-24) in policy and decision-making bodies across the state.

As members of the generation who will inherit the outcomes of the policy decisions made today, YLAC recognizes the urgency of being part of policy discussions and actions impacting the state. YLAC is committed to developing intergenerational and sustainable policy solutions for the future. YLAC accomplishes its mission by leading and participating in policy development through CA FWD's work groups, purposeful representation in regional planning efforts, and legislative advocacy and education.

YLAC leads and participates annually in the California Economic Summit, as well as year-round conversations with policymakers and stakeholders to foster creative ideas and shared priorities.



"The ability of this Council to expand networks and build young leaders is just incredible. It's been an invaluable experience that has changed my career trajectory. It's so important to foster our young leaders of today, knowing that so many of the issues that we're dealing with in California are issues that will be passed from generation to generation."

— Mark Borges, Young Leaders Advisory Council member

Interested in joining YLAC? Email info@cafwd.org for more information and [sign up for our newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date on the application process, which opens in the spring!



PROVIDING THE DATA FOR PROGRESS



CA FWD's **California Dream Index** (CDI) measures 10 trackable indicators for economic mobility, security and inclusion. CA FWD built the CDI to hold policymakers, decision-makers and ourselves accountable for our policy work across 10 critical outcome measures, including:

- Affordable Rent**
- Homeownership**
- Incomes Above Cost of Living**
- Short Commutes**
- College and CTE Certification**
- Broadband Access**
- Prosperous Neighborhoods**
- Clean Drinking Water**
- Air Quality**
- Early Childhood Education**



“As a County Supervisor, I rely on my constituents to share their diverse perspectives to inform my decision-making. I supplement the insights I glean from their stories with the hard data the California Dream Index provides to get a fuller view of constituent issues.”

— Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, Monterey County



CALIFORNIA DREAM INDEX IN ACTION



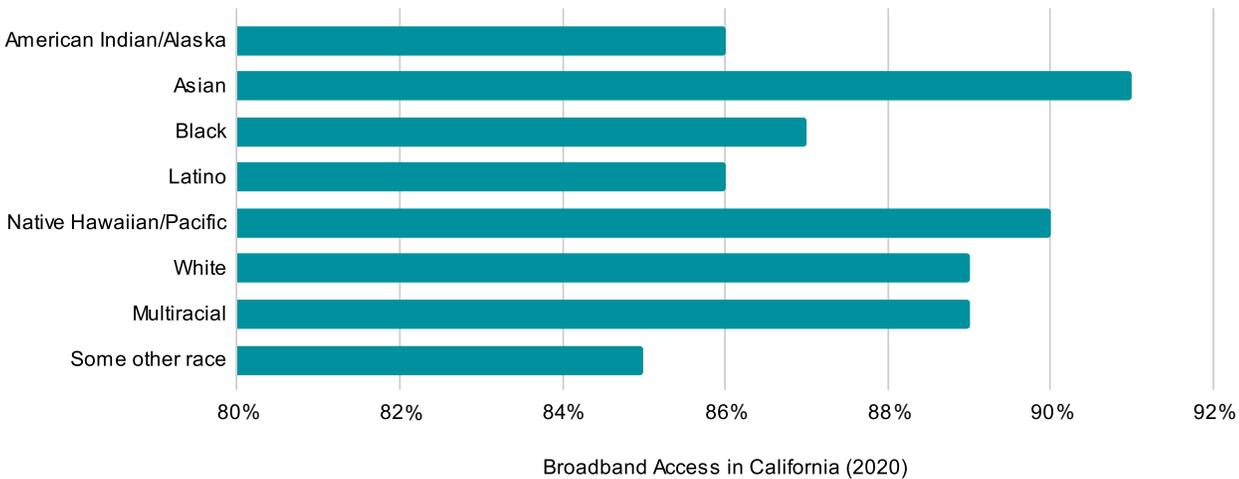
ADVANCING BROADBAND FOR ALL

The California Dream Index provided the data needed for our Broadband for All work group—along with other multi-sector partners—to successfully advocate for a historic \$6 billion investment to expand broadband infrastructure and improve internet access for unserved and underserved communities.

This investment in broadband was signed by Governor Newsom in 2021 and is already at work, with 19 projects for statewide middle-mile buildout scheduled for completion by December 2026.

The following shows 2020 broadband access broken down by demographic data:

Broadband access for Black, Latino and Native American Californians still lags behind access for other demographic groups



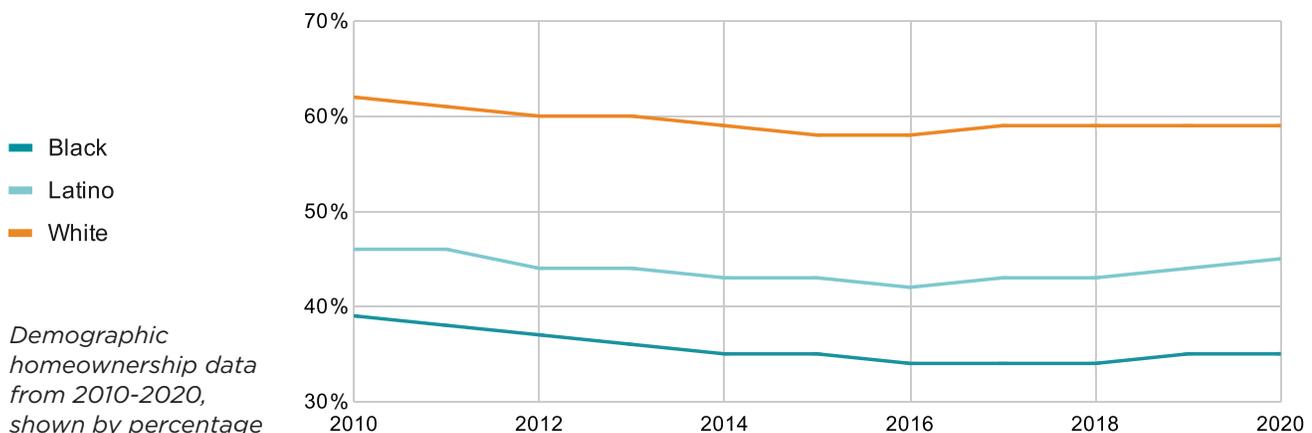
BUILDING ACCESS TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

One of our priorities from last year’s Roadmap to Shared Prosperity was, “Design the California Dream for All program framework to provide financing assistance for qualified homebuyers.”

We partnered with the State Treasurer’s Office on this priority by developing [a report](#) that set the framework for the California Dream for All program, which uses a shared appreciation model to help generate household wealth for low- and moderate-income homebuyers. The program was ultimately included in the 2022-23 state budget signed by Governor Newsom.

The report used data from the California Dream Index to make the case for why a homeownership program of this kind is needed. The following chart highlights some of the CDI data included in the report:

Homeownership has declined for Black, Latino and white Californians from 2010-2020





Join us for the Summit in 2023!

2023 CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC SUMMIT: COACHELLA AND IMPERIAL VALLEYS

October 11-13 | Indian Wells

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MICHAEL MCCORMICK

EVAN SCHMIDT

Resilient and Productive Landscapes

STEVE FRISCH

GLENDA HUMISTON

Advancing Inclusive Regional Economies (Going Beyond CERF)

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