

2023 CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC SUMMIT

October 11-13, Coachella and Imperial Valleys

PLAYBOOK

BRIDGE-BUILDING IN ACTION

CAFWD



**CALIFORNIA
STEWARDSHIP
NETWORK**

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HOW TO USE THE PLAYBOOK AND STAY ENGAGED AT THE SUMMIT

This Playbook is your program for the 2023 California Economic Summit and an important tool to help you maximize your experience.

Included in this Playbook is the program, details about each working session, a map of the Summit venue space, WiFi information and more.

Want to stay connected? Sign up for the [CA FWD newsletter](#) and engage with us on social media to stay involved in our year-round work!



SUMMIT PROGRAM

Wednesday, October 11

All Regional Tours require pre-registration and vary in fees.

[VIEW & DOWNLOAD
VENUE MAP](#)

7:00 AM	TOUR Enjoy the Fruits of Our Labor: Exploring the Vibrant Agricultural Landscape of the Coachella Valley	Meet outside in front of the hotel by the flagpole 30 minutes prior. Lunch will be provided. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes for outdoors.
8:00 - 11:00 AM	19th Annual CVEP Economic Report <i>All welcome; tickets available at Registration Desk</i> <i>Breakfast included</i>	Esmeralda Ballroom
8:00 AM	TOUR Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians – Indian Canyons Tour	Meet outside in front of the hotel by the flagpole 30 minutes prior. Lunch will be available for purchase during the tour. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes for hiking.
10:30 AM	TOUR Lithium Valley: The Intersection Between Renewable Energy, Innovation, and Environmental Stewardship	Meet outside in front of the hotel by the flagpole 30 minutes prior. Lunch will be provided. Wear comfortable shoes for walking.
10:30 AM	TOUR Frontline and Colonia Communities of the Salton Sea	Meet outside in front of the hotel by the flagpole 30 minutes prior. Lunch will be provided. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes for outdoors.
11:30 AM	TOUR Healthcare Workforce Crisis: Employer Led Solutions to Talent Development & Hospitality Intersect	Meet outside in front of the hotel by the flagpole 30 minutes prior. Lunch will be provided. Wear comfortable shoes for walking.
5:00 - 7:00 PM	Welcome Reception hosted by CA FWD & California Stewardship Network <i>All welcome</i> Opening remarks by State Assemblymember Greg Wallis, (AD-47)	Olive Grove (Outdoors near Tennis Courts)



SUMMIT PROGRAM



For speaker affiliations, visit cafwd.org/2023summit/speakers

Thursday, October 12

7:00 AM	BREAKFAST	Rose Lawn (Outdoors)
	PLENARY 1: How Bridge Building in a “Regions Up” Approach Gets Things Done	
	<p>Welcome Remarks: Ismael Herrera, Interim CEO, CA FWD; Donna Griffith, Mayor of Indian Wells; Michelle Decker, President and CEO, Inland Empire Community Foundation and California Stewardship Network (CSN) Co-Chair; and Plenary 1 Chair Evan Schmidt, CEO, Valley Vision and California Stewardship Network (CSN) Co-Chair</p> <p>Land Acknowledgment: Kawiya Bird Singers</p> <p>Keynote: William D. Eggers, Executive Director, Deloitte’s Center for Government Insights and author of <i>Bridgebuilders: How Government Can Transcend Boundaries to Solve Big Problems</i>, will discuss collaboration, prioritizing community needs and partnerships with the private sector</p> <p>Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) Panel: Creating Equitable Regional Planning through Collaboration</p> <p>Moderator: Derek Kirk, Assistant Deputy Secretary of Climate Economy, Labor & Workforce Development Agency, State of California</p> <p>Panelists: Amanda Peçanha Hickey, Director of Research and Policy, California Center for Rural Policy, Cal Poly Humboldt; Yolanda Meraz, Chief Strategy Officer, Stanislaus Equity Partners CDC; Quinn Brady, Project Director, Uplift Central Coast Coalition; Jesse Ben-Ron, Vice President of Business Initiatives, Orange County Business Council; and Jessica Grimes, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Career Education & Workforce Development, Kern Community College District; Matthew Mena, Executive Director, Inland Growth & Opportunity</p> <p>Infrastructure Panel: Infrastructure, Implementing Strike Team and Investment</p> <p>Moderator: Daniel Acosta, Managing Director & Senior Partner, Boston Consulting Group</p> <p>Panelists: Gayle Miller, Senior Counselor to the Governor on Infrastructure and Clean Energy Finance; Stewart Knox, Secretary, California’s Labor & Workforce Development Agency; Dee Dee Myers, Senior Advisor to the Governor and Director of the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz); Samuel Assefa, Director, Governor’s Office of Planning and Research</p> <p>Creative Economy: How California’s Creative Economy Is Staged Right</p> <p>Moderator: Gustavo Herrera, CEO, Arts for LA and CA FWD Leadership Council Co-Chair</p> <p>Panelists: California State Senator Anthony Portantino, Senate District 25; Tara Lynn Gray, Director of the California Office of the Small Business Advocate (CalOSBA); Julie Baker, CEO, Californians for the Arts; and Kristen Dolan, Executive Director, California Desert Arts Council; Yaya Ortiz, Co-founder, Culturas Music & Arts, Creative Corps Inland SoCal grantee</p> <p>Closing Remarks: Plenary 1 Chair Evan Schmidt</p>	
8:30 AM		Esmeralda Ballroom (Doors open at 8:15 AM)
10:25 AM	BREAK <i>Join us in the Innovation Showcase for refreshments</i>	Valencia Ballroom
	CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS	
10:45 AM	Advancing Inclusive Regional Economies (Going Beyond CERF) Child Care, Early Learning and Economy Housing and Homeownership Resilient and Productive Landscapes	Esmeralda Ballroom Crystal Ballroom (ADG) Crystal Ballroom (EFHI) Crystal Ballroom (BC)

SUMMIT PROGRAM

Thursday, October 12

12:45 PM	LUNCH	Valencia Ballroom and Rose Lawn (Outdoors)
	CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS	
1:45 PM	Broadband for All Economic Prosperity in a Changing Climate Education and Workforce Entrepreneurship and Small Business Ownership by Women and People of Color	Crystal Ballroom (ADG) Crystal Ballroom (EFHI) Esmeralda Ballroom Crystal Ballroom (BC)
3:45 PM	BREAK <i>Join us in the Innovation Showcase for refreshments</i>	Valencia Ballroom
	PLENARY 2: How “Bridgebuilders” Developed Private and Public Partnerships for Regional, State and Global Opportunities Welcome Remarks: Plenary 2 Chair Jeffery Wallace, President and CEO, LeadersUp and Vice-Chair of CA FWD Leadership Council and California State Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, District 36 and Chair of the Select Committee on California’s Lithium Economy discuss regional economic and workforce development Fireside Chat: Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis sits down with Stephen Cheung, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) to talk global affairs and trade Infrastructure Improvements and Investments in the Inland Empire: Trelynd Bradley, Deputy Director of Sustainable Freight and Supply Chain Development, Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) Energy Panel: The Future of California Energy Moderator: Tim Kelley, President and CEO, Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC) & California Economic Summit Co-host Panelists: Lars Carlstrom, Founder and CEO, Statevolt; Francisco Leon, President and CEO, California Resources Corporation (CRC); Erik Bartsch, President and CEO, Aera Energy; Jordan Cunningham, Partner, CM Public Affairs and former California State Assemblymember, 35th District Workforce and Education Panel: How Bridgebuilders Used a Co-Investment Model to Address Regional High Demand Workforce Issues Moderator: Amy Kaufman, Sr. Advisor, Talent Pipeline Development, OneFuture Coachella Valley Panelists: Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Regional Medical Center; Sheila Thornton, President and CEO, OneFuture Coachella Valley; Ken Wheat, Senior Executive Vice President/COO, Eisenhower Health; Jarrod McNaughton, CEO, Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP); Van Ton-Quinlivan, CEO, Futuro Health Closing Remarks: Glenda Humiston, Vice President, Agriculture & Natural Resources at University of California (UC ANR) and Luz Gallegos, Executive Director, TODEC Legal Center	
4:00 PM	Energy Panel: The Future of California Energy Moderator: Tim Kelley, President and CEO, Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC) & California Economic Summit Co-host Panelists: Lars Carlstrom, Founder and CEO, Statevolt; Francisco Leon, President and CEO, California Resources Corporation (CRC); Erik Bartsch, President and CEO, Aera Energy; Jordan Cunningham, Partner, CM Public Affairs and former California State Assemblymember, 35th District Workforce and Education Panel: How Bridgebuilders Used a Co-Investment Model to Address Regional High Demand Workforce Issues Moderator: Amy Kaufman, Sr. Advisor, Talent Pipeline Development, OneFuture Coachella Valley Panelists: Michele Finney, CEO, Desert Regional Medical Center; Sheila Thornton, President and CEO, OneFuture Coachella Valley; Ken Wheat, Senior Executive Vice President/COO, Eisenhower Health; Jarrod McNaughton, CEO, Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP); Van Ton-Quinlivan, CEO, Futuro Health Closing Remarks: Glenda Humiston, Vice President, Agriculture & Natural Resources at University of California (UC ANR) and Luz Gallegos, Executive Director, TODEC Legal Center	Esmeralda Ballroom
6:00 PM	Join us for “Date Night”: Networking reception celebrating local agriculture and the amazing fact that 95% of the nation’s date harvest comes from the area!	Olive Grove (Outdoors near Tennis Courts)

SUMMIT PROGRAM

Friday, October 13

7:00 AM	BREAKFAST	Rose Lawn (Outdoors)
8:30 AM	<p>SPECIAL PLENARY SESSION WITH REGIONAL ELECTED OFFICIALS</p> <p>Welcome by Special Plenary Chair Catharine B. Baker, Former California State Assemblymember, 16th District; Special Counsel, Hoge Fenton; and CA FWD Leadership Council Co-Chair</p> <p>Round table-style discussions with local and surrounding elected officials</p> <p>Bridge-builders Panel: How Local Elected Officials are Working Across the Aisle, Region and State</p> <p>Moderator: Paul Granillo, President and CEO, Inland Empire Economic Partnership</p> <p>Panelists: Jan Harnik, City Councilmember, City of Palm Desert and Past President, SCAG; Mayor George Nava, City of Brawley; Ryan Kelley, Supervisor, 4th District, County of Imperial; V. Manuel Perez, Supervisor, 4th District, County of Riverside</p> <p>Bring Your Own Chair to the Table: Young Leaders Advisory Council (YLAC) and Becky Morgan Steward Leadership Program Fellows discuss being bridge builders in the making</p> <p>Remarks: Malia M. Cohen, California State Controller</p>	Esmeralda Ballroom
CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS		
9:30 AM	<p>Accelerating Infrastructure</p> <p>Advancing Manufacturing</p> <p>Creative Economy</p>	<p>Esmeralda Ballroom</p> <p>Crystal Ballroom (ADG)</p> <p>Crystal Ballroom (BC)</p>
11:30 AM	LUNCH	Esmeralda Ballroom
12:30 PM	<p>PLENARY 3: Looking Forward — Building a More Equitable, Sustainable and Prosperous California</p> <p>Welcome Remarks: Ismael Herrera, Interim CEO, CA FWD</p> <p>Empowering Youth: Silvia Paz, Executive Director, Alianza Coachella Valley</p> <p>Equity Research Institute Report: Dr. Manuel Pastor, Distinguished Professor of Sociology and American Studies & Ethnicity, University of Southern California</p> <p>Empowering Communities Panel: Creating a More Equitable, Sustainable and Prosperous California</p> <p>Moderator: Connie Perez-Andreesen, Chief Administrative Officer and National Vice President, United Farm Workers of America</p> <p>Panelists: Luis Olmedo, Executive Director, Comite Civico del Valle, Inc.; Adam J. Fowler, Founding Partner, CVL Economics; and Sergio Carranza, Executive Director, Pueblo Unido CDC; Kate Anderson, Director of Public Relations, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians</p> <p>Housing Panel: Yes In My Backyard! Best Practices in Housing and Homeownership</p> <p>Moderator: Muhammad T. Alameddin, Policy Associate, Turner Center for Housing Innovation</p> <p>Panelists: Heather Vaikona, President and CEO, Lift to Rise; Omar Cobian, Special Representative, Southwest Mountain States Regional Council of Carpenters; James Corless, Executive Director, SACOG</p> <p>Looking "Forward": Innovation, Incubators and Inspiration: Joone Lopez, General Manager, Moulton Niguel Water District and Dan Winters, VP of Communications and Public Relations, BHE Renewables, LLC</p>	Esmeralda Ballroom
2:30 PM	Summit Adjourns: Closing of 2023 California Economic Summit	

CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS

ADVANCING INCLUSIVE REGIONAL ECONOMIES (GOING BEYOND CERF)

Supporting California's unique geographies through inter-regional collaboration and advocacy

Through the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF), the state has incentivized regions to work together to pursue inclusive economic development outcomes. However, regions need continued critical support to successfully and equitably implement solutions including and beyond CERF by raising awareness, building regional capacity and strengthening partnerships. The working session will share lessons learned from implementing inclusive economic development strategies and help institutionalize work happening at the regional level.

Work Group Leads

- » **Courtney Farrell**, Project Manager, North State Planning and Development Collective
- » **Matthew Mena**, Executive Director, Inland Empire Growth and Opportunity (IEGO)



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/cerf23

CHILD CARE, EARLY LEARNING AND THE ECONOMY

Supporting California families and a more dynamic and equitable workforce through quality early childhood care and education

Prosperous communities and a strong workforce have their foundation in the care and education we provide to the youngest Californians. While setting the stage for future growth and prosperity, ensuring child care resources are in place also supports more dynamic and equitable workforce participation by women, working parents, and workers seeking additional training to upskill or transition careers.

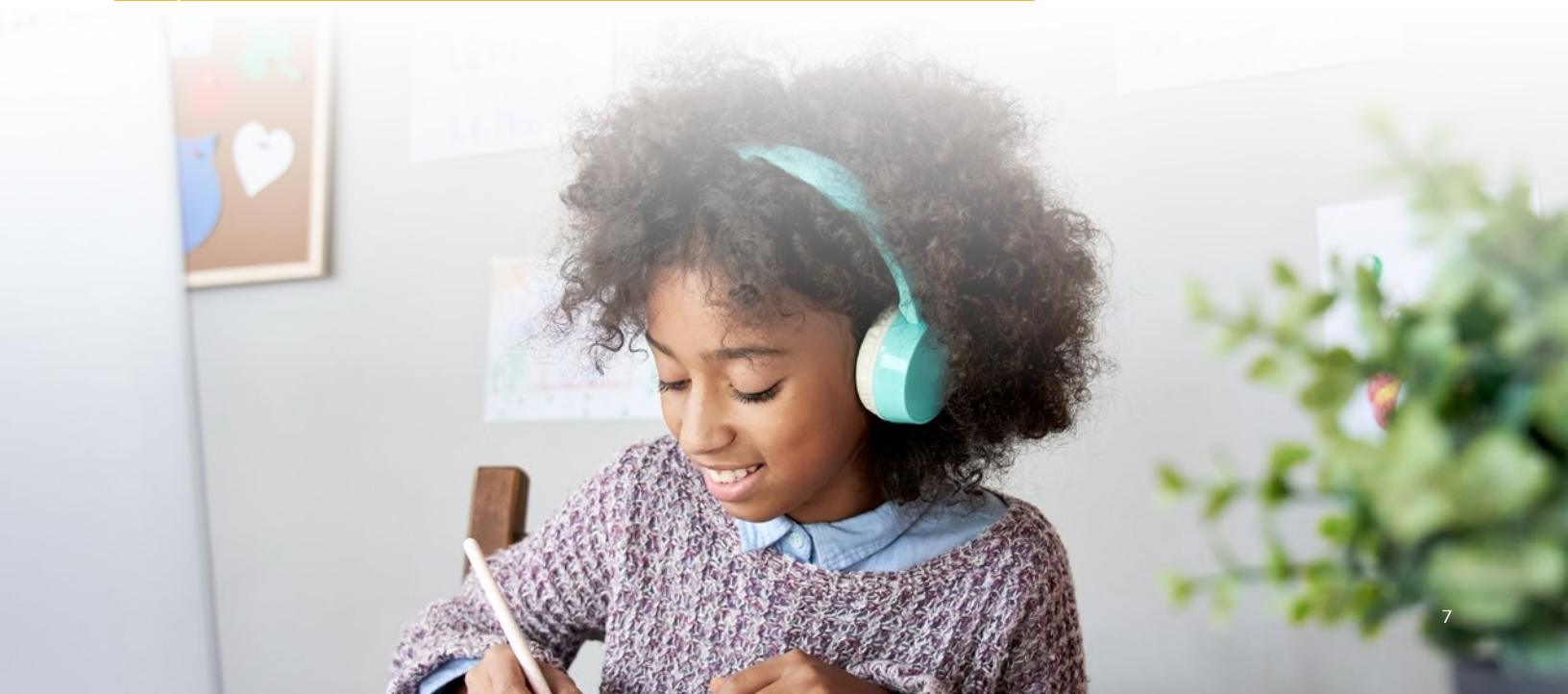
California has charted an ambitious course to implement universal access to quality early childhood care and education (ECE) for children 0-5, but obstacles to implementation remain. Join us for a solutions oriented session with cross-sector leaders that will highlight progress made to date and identify what is still needed to ensure all Californians have the best opportunity for a bright future.

Work Group Leads

- » **Sonia Campos-Rivera**, Senior Vice President, Policy and Public Affairs, UNITE-LA
- » **Jasmin Sakai-Gonzalez**, Senior Director, Regional Business Engagement, UNITE-LA



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/ece23



CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS

HOUSING AND HOMEOWNERSHIP

Supporting communities, regions, and policymakers to address California's Housing Challenges

California continues to be one of the least affordable places to live, with affordability and market conditions varying from region to region. High housing costs, supply shortages, and limited access to affordable homeownership make it difficult for many Californians to find housing that is affordable and that meets their needs. This working session will focus on developing scalable and sustainable place-based solutions to address California's housing challenges as part of CA FWD's broader efforts to increase the state's overall supply of housing.

Work Group Leads

- » **Konstain Hatcher**, Senior Director of Community Impact at CA YIMBY
- » **Muhammad T. Alameldin**, Policy Associate for the Turner Center at UC Berkeley
- » **Mike Walsh**, Deputy Director for Housing & Workforce Solutions Riverside County



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/housing23



"Building new housing in the Gateway Cities provides an incredible opportunity for much-needed economic development in these disadvantaged, cost-burdened and overcrowded communities. Yet state tax policy runs counter to the state's housing goals by resulting in local fiscal disincentives to housing production, including muting interest in emerging value capture tools meant to incentivize and support housing production."

-Policy Recommendation from the Gateway Cities Report, from CA FWD, in partnership with the Gateway Cities Council of Governments and UrbanFootprint

[READ THE REPORT](#)



CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS

RESILIENT AND PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES

Meeting climate goals by promoting wildfire resilience

Wildfire resilience is crucial to achieving our climate goals, as well as improving and protecting the quality of life of all Californians. This work group seeks to address challenges and leverage opportunities in this space, by establishing an evidence-driven basis for ensuring investments in wildfire and forest resilience solutions that match the size and scale of the crisis; supporting the establishment and implementation of a statewide biomass utilization strategy; and broadening outreach and coalition-building across diverse communities, sectors and lands. The working session will focus on the critical question: How do we fund the systemic work that needs to be done to preserve the health of California's landscape and strengthen its wildfire resilience?

Work Group Leads

- » **Glenda Humiston**, Vice President, University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources
- » **Steve Frisch**, President, Sierra Business Council



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/landscapes23

BROADBAND FOR ALL

Bridging the Digital Divide

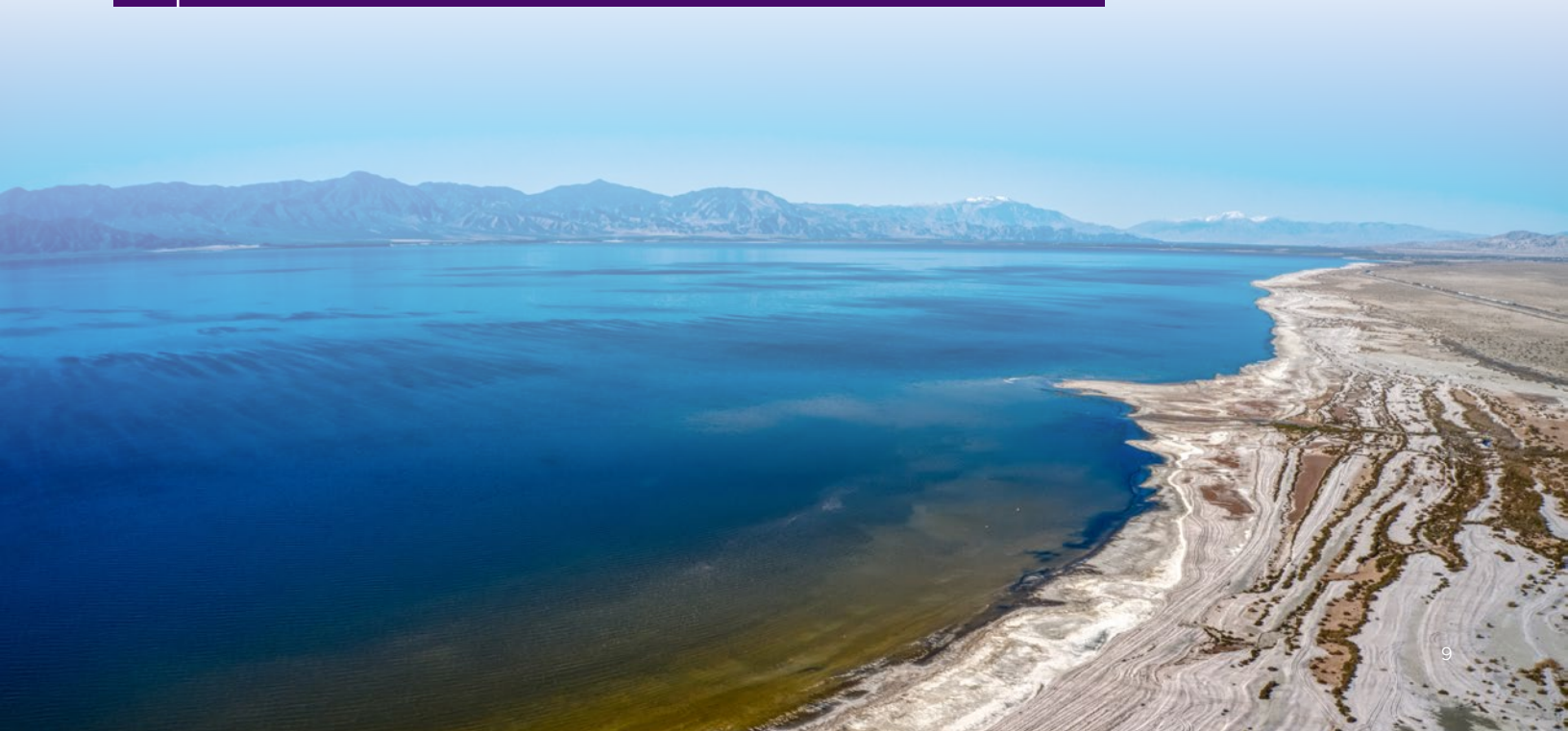
Equitable access to broadband is critical to ensuring the success and well-being of all Californians. Following historic federal and state investments in infrastructure and adoption to close the digital divide, this work group continues to support cross-sector planning and implementation efforts to effectively and equitably deploy middle-mile and last-mile infrastructure and make reliable, affordable broadband service available to all, especially those who are still unserved and underserved.

Work Group Leads

- » **Trish Kelly**, Managing Director, Valley Vision (Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium)
- » **Eduardo González**, Executive Director, Office of Community and Economic Development at CSU Fresno (San Joaquin Valley Regional Broadband Consortium)
- » **Jason Schwenkler**, Executive Director, North State Planning and Development Collaborative (Northeast California Connect Consortium and Upstate California Connect Consortium)



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/broadband23



CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

Fostering a more equitable and climate resilient future

Climate adaptation and mitigation can create pathways for new industries, technologies, jobs and economic mobility. These opportunities can be designed in a way that address historic inequities and environmental injustice while accelerating economic mobility for disadvantaged communities. This working session will discuss how state and national policy, and regional economic prosperity strategies, can be designed to prioritize climate and equity in each decision we make about fundamental systems like land use, housing, transportation, career pathways, natural resource management and community investment.

Work Group Leads

- » **Michael McCormick**, Partnerships Lead, Founder, and President, Farallon Strategies
- » **Evan Schmidt**, CEO, Valley Vision



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/climate23



From the blog: *These are opportunities for prioritizing both climate and equity in decisions involving housing, transportation, career pathways, natural resource management and community investment. Within this challenge lie historic inequities affecting disadvantaged communities, communities of color and tribal communities, which call for addressing past harms at the same time investments are made in new resiliency measures.*

READ THE WHOLE STORY



CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE

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

To truly move the needle on student and labor market outcomes, California must have a strong and cohesive lifelong learning system that creates seamless transitions between segments (early childhood, K-12, post-secondary and workforce), and engages industry throughout. The current moment presents an opportunity: in a changing fiscal and economic landscape, how can education and workforce investments be targeted to address short-term needs while fundamentally transforming the system into one that is better connected and more equitable?

Work Group Leads

- » **Sonia Campos-Rivera**, Senior Vice President, Policy and Public Affairs, UNITE-LA
- » **Jermaine Hampton**, Senior Director, Workforce Development and Special Projects, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation
- » **Su Jin Jez**, CEO, California Competes: Higher Education for a Strong Economy



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/workforce23

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNERSHIP BY WOMEN AND PEOPLE OF COLOR

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

Building a more resilient and growth-oriented small business community requires a supportive ecosystem, knitting together information and resources and intentionally connecting small business to opportunities as the state's economy evolves. This working session will feature voices from throughout the state's vibrant small business community to highlight progress and identify opportunities for growth. Participants will discuss the state of California's small business ecosystem, identify ongoing barriers and specify advocacy opportunities for inclusion in the 2024 *Roadmap to Shared Prosperity*.

Work Group Leads

- » **Josaline Cuesta**, California Program Director, Small Business Majority
- » **Pat Fong Kushida**, President/CEO and Founder, California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce
- » **Tara Lynn Gray**, Director, California Office of the Small Business Advocate



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/smallbusiness23



"I opened a business and I didn't have a lot of information, so I closed my business in less than a year. The information is scattered all over the place about how to start a business. Through our program, we have been able to increase their awareness and to have them see themselves as business owners."

—**Monica Robles**, founder of Asociación de Emprendedor

READ THE STORY

CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS

ACCELERATING INFRASTRUCTURE

Building infrastructure to meet social, climate and economic goals

High-functioning infrastructure is a prerequisite for a prosperous and inclusive society that delivers high-quality, middle-class jobs. However, California's infrastructure has not always met the needs of its communities or created equitable access, often dividing them in ways that are still visible today. Furthermore, for decades California has under-invested in infrastructure and faces hundreds of billions of dollars in unmet infrastructure investment that current funding cannot meet. Our current infrastructure delivery can be slow and complex, and without a new approach, we may perpetuate historic inequities, delay the shift to carbon neutrality, and fail to make our infrastructure more resilient to the physical threat of climate impacts.

Join us for a conversation on integrating the principles of equity, climate and shared prosperity in infrastructure development and delivery as California looks to maximize its infrastructure opportunity.

Featured Speakers

- » **Matt Horton**, Senior Advisor, Milken Institute
- » **Sarah Jepson**, Chief Planning Officer, Southern California Association of Governments
- » **Mayor Oscar Ortiz**, City of Indio
- » **Lynn von Koch-Liebert**, Executive Director, Strategic Growth Council



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/infrastructure23



"The recommendations are the result of meeting with Californians from all walks of life—elected officials from around the state and heads of major transportation agencies but also community leaders and members. Centering community and advancing equity is essential in this work, as is promoting environmental sustainability and expanding economic opportunity for all."

-Antonio Villaraigosa, Infrastructure Advisor for the state of California and former Los Angeles Mayor

READ THE REPORT



CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS

ADVANCING MANUFACTURING

Supporting strong regional economies through innovative and sustainable industries

California continues to be the largest contributor to the U.S. manufacturing industry—both in terms of employment and output. Manufacturing is a driver for innovation and productivity, and creates quality jobs in regions throughout California. The imperatives of managing increasing climate risk impacts and transitioning to a less carbon-intensive economy are also reflected in major new federal and state policies, programs and investments that present new market opportunities and leadership for California’s manufacturers.

This working session will lift up California’s vibrant manufacturing sector and explore policies and practices at the federal, state, and local levels that combine to create a strong manufacturing ecosystem in the state.

Work Group Leads

- » **Matt Bogoshian**, Executive Director, American Manufacturing Communities Collaborative
- » **Lance Hastings**, President and CEO, California Manufacturers and Technology Association
- » **Trish Kelly**, Managing Director, Valley Vision



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/manufacturing23



“Any other sector doesn’t perform as well as manufacturing for the communities around which it operates. It has the most positive ripple effect throughout the economy. It has been the backbone of, not only California’s economy, but the nation’s economy. It’s exciting to see that we have so much talent and innovation in California.”

—**Matt Bogoshian**, American Manufacturing Communities Collaborative Executive Director and Advancing Manufacturing Work Group Lead

READ THE STORY



CONCURRENT WORKING SESSIONS

CREATIVE ECONOMY

Ensuring California's creative communities and its cultural heritage thrive

California is the leading state of creativity, employing over 1.8 million workers, which accounts for almost 7.6% of the state's workforce. Further, the creative economy contributes 14.9% (\$507.4 billion) to California's \$3.4 trillion economy. As a powerful economic driver of the state that is still rebounding after the pandemic, it remains imperative to address the systemic inequities in the sector, align cultural policy initiatives and values with other policy areas and public frameworks at the local, regional and state levels and advocate for greater resources necessary to sustain a thriving creative economy and workforce for generations to come. The Creative Economy work group brings leaders from arts and culture as well as the creative industries together with cross-sector stakeholders to develop pathways for a sustainable creative sector statewide.

Work Group Leads

- » **Julie Baker**, CEO, Californians for the Arts/California Arts Advocates
- » **Gustavo Herrera**, CEO, Arts for LA



To review recommendations and background materials, go to: cafwd.org/creative23



"At our core, CA FWD is a powerful movement focused on building a more equitable California. Arts have played a critical role in social movements with the unique ability to unite and transform society in numerous ways."

-Gustavo Herrera, CEO of Arts for LA and co-chair of the CA FWD Leadership Council

READ MORE



SETTING THE FOUNDATION FOR BUILDING BRIDGES

With leaders across geographies and sectors gathering to turn ideas into action, the spirit of bridge building spans the Summit's entire 12-year history of constructing a more prosperous future for all Californians.

Since last year's Summit, we have been busy! CA FWD, along with our partners, continues to work together regionally and statewide to advance an agenda that promotes sustainable growth and inclusive economic development.

Tapping into Governor Newsom's leadership coupled with federal investments in infrastructure, CA FWD partnered with the Governor's administration and former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa on an infrastructure project to gather input from regional stakeholders across the state on how to best prioritize equity, climate resilience and fast-tracking for much needed infrastructure projects.

The output of these efforts culminated in the report, [Building a More Inclusive and Sustainable California: Maximizing the Federal Infrastructure Funding Opportunity](#). The report helped to inform a legislative package signed by Governor Newsom, creating substantial reforms that will help realize up to \$180 billion worth of projects across the state. **We look forward to holding our first infrastructure-focused working session this year, Accelerating Infrastructure, which takes place on Friday, October 13.**

Another new working session in 2023 is **Advancing Manufacturing**, taking place on Friday, October 13. This session will build upon the work done during our [statewide manufacturing roadshow](#), where we gathered manufacturers, educators and others in the sector to source recommendations for strengthening the statewide manufacturing ecosystem.



CALIFORNIA'S DATA OUTLOOK

The **California Dream Index** consists of 10 trackable outcome measures foundational for economic mobility—the basic building block of the dream of a better life. These data show how Californians are faring in achieving homeownership, accessing clean drinking water, building skills through higher and career technical education and other critical aspects of economic mobility.

The CDI data shows California's successes and also continued struggles over the past decade. The state has increased broadband access by over 66% over the past decade. California's high cost of living, particularly in housing, presents a big challenge for many households. Despite a decade of economic growth that saw the state grow into the fifth largest economy, almost half of Californians pay unaffordable amounts in rent.



**CALIFORNIA
DREAM INDEX**

CA FWD continues to promote solutions to the state's housing affordability crisis. [Removing Fiscal Barriers to Housing Production](#), a study conducted in partnership with the Gateway Cities Council of Governments and Urban Footprint, examines the relationship between property tax shares and housing production across California cities and issues recommendations to address this barrier to increased production.

At the regional level, CA FWD is supporting implementation of the [Community Economic Resilience Fund](#) (CERF) which is advancing cross-sectoral collaboration and the move towards more inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic development.

This year's Summit will feature another dedicated working session on **Advancing Inclusive Regional Economies**, with the goal of discussing how the Summit network can institutionalize the framework of regions-up economic development strategies through CERF and beyond.

Another regional focus this year has been our Energy Listening Sessions in the Sierra Nevada, Imperial Valley, Los Angeles and Kern County regions. Integrating the feedback from these listening sessions, CA FWD recently published an addendum to our 2022 Energy Call To Action, [Energizing California: Regional Lessons and Recommendations for Action](#), which identifies opportunities to attract investment and overcome policy barriers through the lens of meeting the needs of California's diverse regions.

Our [Young Leaders Advisory Council](#) (YLAC) has been busy this year, as well. Over the last two years, YLAC has produced influential calls to action, facilitated roundtables with legislators, engaged members of the Newsom administration on equitable intergenerational policies, convened panels focused on issues that matter most to youth and contributed to statewide research and policy.

This year, YLAC is excited to welcome youth ages 16-25 from the Coachella and Imperial Valleys to participate in a pre-Summit event designed to inspire and empower students and young professionals interested in driving positive change for their communities and statewide. [Click here](#) for more information or to RSVP.

As we look back at what we've accomplished over the last year and what we've planned for this year and beyond, we are excited to dive into this on-the-ground work with you at the Summit.

It is only through your participation-this year and every year-that we can work together to achieve the California Dream for all.

NEWSWORTHY

Here are some highlights of what CA FWD has been up to since last year's Summit:

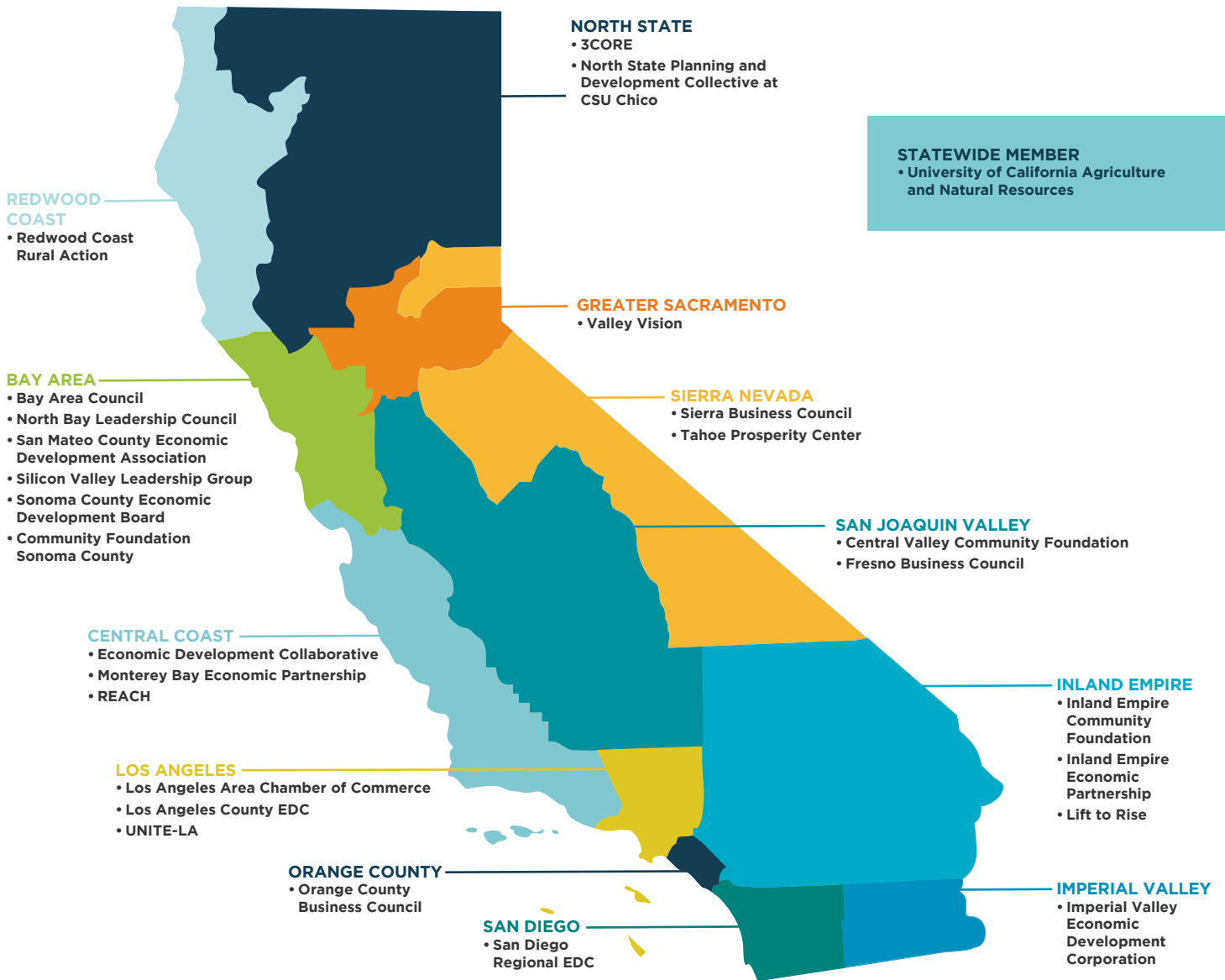
- Added **2 new members** to the California Stewardship Network (CSN):
 - **Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation**
 - **Community Foundation Sonoma County**
- Facilitated **16 Regions** Community of Practice meetings for CSN members, CERF Regional Conveners and Fiscal Agents, and other regional partners contributing to inclusive regional economic development planning efforts
- Participated in the development of the state's **Digital Equity Plan** to help identify and overcome barriers to closing the digital divide
- Graduated a **new cohort** of the Becky Morgan Steward Leadership Program and are preparing to recruit and welcome the **sixth cohort** in early 2024!
- Welcomed the **fourth cohort** of our Young Leaders Advisory Council (YLAC) and established a leadership committee structure

"Change is difficult, but we're in the change business and California has long been in the future business. The future happens here first. We're America's coming attraction. The world looks to us for leadership, entrepreneurial energy."

-Gov. Gavin Newsom,
Honorary Summit co-chair, at the 2022 Summit

CALIFORNIA STEWARDSHIP NETWORK

The California Economic Summit is produced by CA FWD in partnership with members of its California Stewardship Network (CSN). The CSN is a group of regional leaders committed to creating inclusive, sustainable growth for all. With almost 30 organizations throughout the state, the CSN reflects the state's diverse regions and is built upon a foundation of collaboration.



2023 SUMMIT CONVENERS



MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THE REGION

Visit Greater Palm Springs has created a special website just for attendees of the 2023 California Economic Summit, complete with local attractions, restaurants and other information to make your stay in the area even more enjoyable.

VISIT GREATER PALM SPRINGS
ATTENDEE WEBSITE

WIFI INFORMATION:

Network Name: 2023Summit
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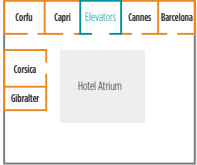
Self-parking: Free
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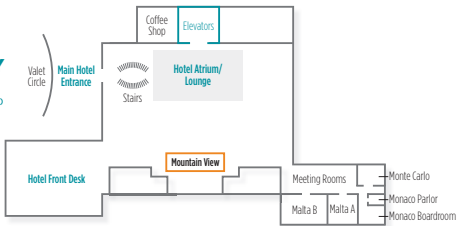
VENUE MAP

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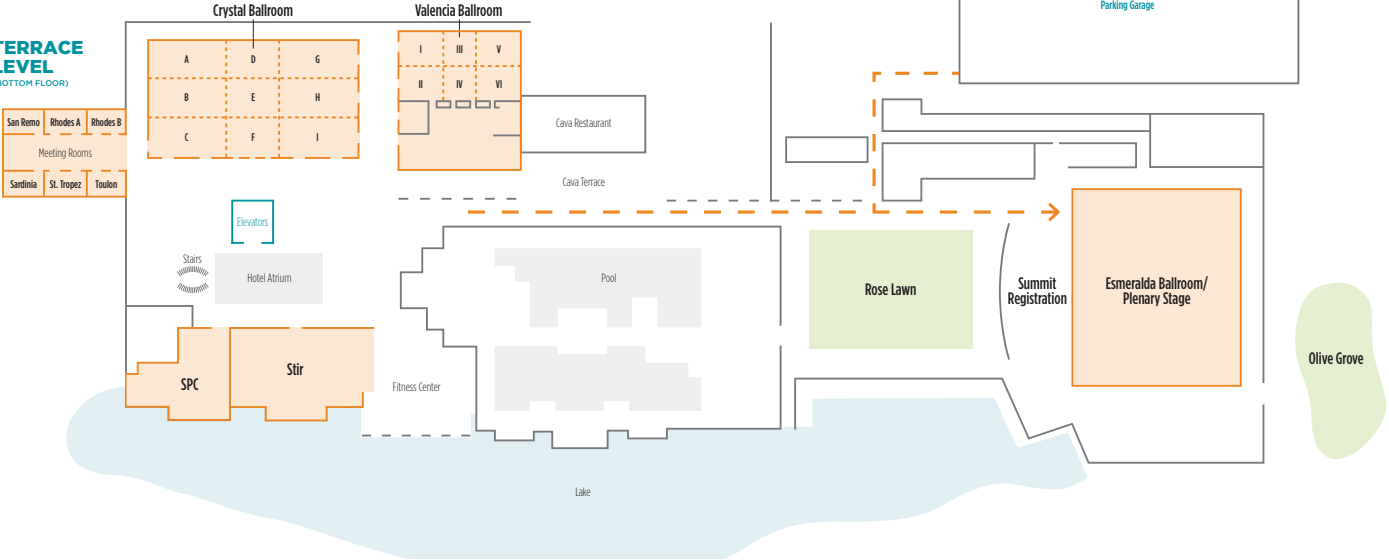
THIRD FLOOR



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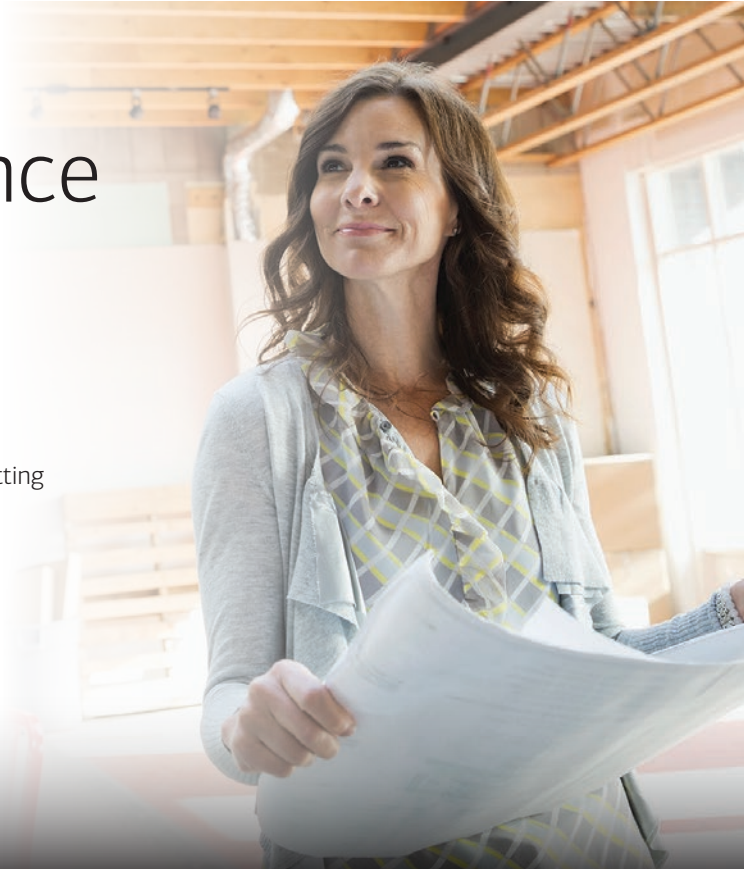
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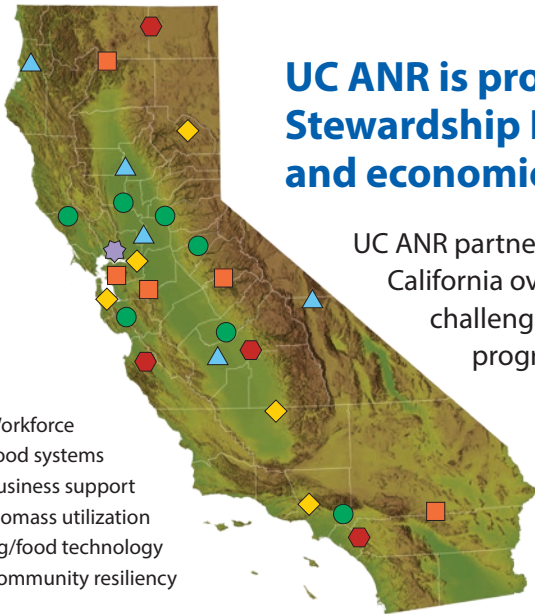
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