

CARE Power-Building and Engagement (Pb+E) Program: Info Session #1 (9/9/2025) Questions & Answer

Question	Answer
In terms of accelerating infill development, what if our project is not high-density? What if our project is working to build affordable tiny homes on an unused lot?	Increasing housing, particularly if mindful of how this housing impacts other needed amenities (transit, connection to services/resources, etc) would be appropriate
Will there be funding specific for public transit safety and pedestrian safety with the increase incidence of MVA (motor vehicle accidents), police activity, and/or health emergencies?	This funding is available for pedestrian or public safety related efforts, as this would meet infill development and lowering VMT
For VMT - would this fit into Category 3?	All Categories need to meet the 3 REAP2 goals - ideally you identify at least one in your application and we will work with you to ensure any/all projects accomplish all 3 REAP2 goals
Is funding available for public transit maintenance related issues or public transit operations out of commission?	No, funding can not be used for ongoing expenses (like routine maintenance, operations or transportation infrastructure)
Could tenant organizing work be eligible under the AFFH goal?	Yes, assuming it's within an EPC applicable neighborhood/area
Do we need to identify how our project supports all three REAP goals in the application, or can we focus on one and come up with how we support the others later on?	You can identify one REAP2 goal and staff will support you to ensure we're hitting all 3

Can we apply for funding for projects that are already underway?	No - however, the funding can be for a new component or phase of an existing project but not as a backfill for previously funded project
When will the work plan and budget template be released?	Monday
Can an organization apply for 2 different projects in two different categories?	An organization can only be a lead applicant on one project, but can be a partner on more than one project
Staff will support to ensure we are hitting all three reap 2 goals before or after the application is submitted?	As long as you identify a minim of 1 REAP2 goals when you submit an application, we can work with your time to determine the remaining as well as ideal measurable indicators, etc.
We are a policy/advocacy organization proposing a Housing Policy Training Program geared toward city/county employees tasked with implementing housing policy. ADU policy, etc. I want to make sure this meets the criteria for community-led...	Depending on population, scope and location, this would likely meet AFFH and Infill for REAP2, possibly VMT. However, community-led refers to the ways that community was engaged in the identification, design, and/or implementation of a project
Are the light purple areas also EPCs?	Yes. Both dark and light purple areas on this map are eligible: https://tinyurl.com/CAREepc
If awarded, what are the federal/state funding requirements that we would have to follow (specifiially for procurement - we would need to hire a consultant)?	Per the state funding source, you will need to show a nexus between 3 REAP2 goals, which includes identifying measurables. MTC staff will work with grantees to meet these requirements. You'd also need to meet the project expenditure timeline and applicant qualifications (which is outlined in call for projects)

<p>Are awards going to be intentionally distributed across the MTC geographies? Or is that not a scoring factor?</p>	<p>From the FAQ: MTC reserves the right to consider geographic diversity when selecting the final group of awardees. As such, if certain EPCs or counties are overrepresented in the overall application pool, it is possible that individual applications from those EPCs or counties have a relatively lower likelihood of being awarded based on the higher volume of proposed projects covering the same geographic area</p>
<p>Could upgrading bicycle parking facilities at a university be considered a community project?</p>	<p>That would meet lowering VMT for REAP2, we'd just need to explore how to hit those other 2 priorities and is a priority identified by the community.</p>
<p>We are looking at Category 3 - building housing. We would like the grant to help us better implement and expand into the three areas of REAP with a focus on equity in housing, transportation, and green infrastructure. specifically it would be used to help in our planning process to ensure that the reape goals are integrated into our plan. Will you help us with planning? is that aligned with the grant?</p>	<p>This funding is available for planning but would also need an implementation strategy - I assume you'd want to do something with such a planning process, so we'd work to figure out how to share what's next</p>
<p>Can you clarify whether the category breakdown is number of projects or funding? (Ex 65% is category 1)</p>	<p>Estimated project awards: 10 in category 1; 3 in Category 2; and 2 in Category 3</p>

<p>The City of Napa has a larger plan that went through an exhaustive public outreach process - would we need to also have a public outreach process specific to our project which is in the plan?</p>	<p>Possibly, depending - here's from our FAQ's: "MTC reserves the right to consider geographic diversity when selecting the final group of awardees. As such, if certain EPCs or counties are overrepresented in the overall application pool, it is possible that individual applications from those EPCs or counties have a relatively lower likelihood of being awarded based on the higher volume of proposed projects covering the same geographic area."</p>
<p>I love seeing how much TA is available. A lot of other grant oppurtunities specifically do not allow TA. why is TA available here? especially for reviewing the grant application</p>	<p>This project is trying some new things based on what we heard from the CAWG</p>
<p>It looks like Equity Priority Communities are broken down by census tracts - is that correct? If so, is there a list of eligible census tracts? I see there's a map available but it's hard to see specific EPCs.</p>	<p>Hello. We have a online map where you can zoom in to EPCs and click on the shaded tracks - the panel on the left hand side will indicate the census tract number. https://tinyurl.com/CAREepc</p>
<p>can we apply for funding to expand a project that is already started but doesn't yet reach enough folks due to funding?</p>	<p>Yes, expansion of an existing effort to reach new populations or geographies would meet the requirement for a new component. Your application would need to articulate what you are doing to reach a new set of folks and how the expansion advances REAP 2.0 goals.</p>
<p>Can we see an outline of the application questions now?</p>	<p>Yes, the application worksheet is available on the Pb+E website at: https://mtc.ca.gov/carepbe</p>

<p>Can we see the application questions now?</p>	<p>If you go to the website, you can see the application questions. We will be adding the work plan and budget template Monday https://mtc.ca.gov/carepbe</p>
<p>Is there an organization that will be providing technical assistance on transportation projects?</p>	<p>There will be project specific TA for grantees covering housing, transportation and climate</p>
<p>If we opt in for TA assistance, would we choose which consulting org to connect with?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Thank you for this informative session and opportunity to ask questions!</p> <p>Re: the alignment with at least one REAP 2.0 goals, in the application / proposal itself, can we can focus on one only goal, understanding that ultimately we'll need to integrate all three? Or we should applicants ideally identify all three goals, but can work with TA support to integrate all three into application?</p>	
<p>Re: relevant experience surrounding housing, transportation and housing, will an organization be eligible if it has strong experience and background in only one of these three areas (ie: housing)?</p>	<p>If you can identify all 3 prior to applying, wonderful! But if those concepts are new/unfamiliar, we didn't want that to be a barrier to applying. We're asking applicants to identify at least 1 REAP2 goal AND we will need to demonstrate to our funder that all accepted projects demonstrate a nexus between all 3 REAP2 priorities</p> <p>Yes</p>

<p>Re: Prioritized communities, the interactive map integrates both 2018-22 and 2014-18 American Community Survey data; should we utilize most recent data and priorities?</p> <p>Also, if we support multiple census tracts, is it best to explain in application how we engage with each or different tracts / prioritized areas?</p>	<p>Both maps can be used.</p>
<p>Our need - bus passes for priority communities to get to food-insecure, low-income congregate meal settings on weekdays (funding was provided by fed funds, but cut with all the recent fed cuts). does it fit into any funding category?</p>	<p>That concept would meet VMT goals for REAP2, depending on population and geography, could also be eligible for other REAP2 goals. But it would need an engagement and long term strategy, not a one time grant to backfill a loss in federal funding (unfortunately)</p>
<p>Room A- Question. Can home-sharing be considered a form of infill? Shared housing near transportation where a home provider might need income as well as companionship or tasks around the home and would make a room available for someone seeking more affordable existing housing near transportation.</p>	<p>Home sharing program is considered infill and possibly AFFH. But funding can't be used for existing or ongoing expenses, it's really for new, innovative projects</p>
<p>Do you anticipate that this opportunity will be available again in a year or two, for those of us who may not apply this time?</p>	<p>Kara, we do not know if this will be available next year, but we will be rolling out a supplementary program early 2026 for CBO's that were not ready to apply for this.</p>

Would letters of recommendation from government agencies, officials and other CBOs help the application? It doesn't seem to be included anywhere on the application.	Letters of recommendation are an optional attachment at the end of the Application Worksheet.
Can we apply for collaborative funding for category 1 if we have partners for the project activities but are applying as a single applicant?	Yes!
Are these the only office hours that will be offered for this opportunity?	No, we will have office hours again next week
Is this one-time funding?	yes
Can MTC funds be used for activities related to a ballot initiative?	They can not be used for direct lobbying for specific bills or propositions
Can you share a bit more about the time-commitment and any scheduling constraints to consider, with the additional program components of coaching, TA, Peer Learning and Convenings?	Aside from the coaching and convenings, the TA will be as needed by applicants, so it will depend on you
how often are invoicing periods?	Invoicing and payment schedules will be worked out with grantees after award notification.
Will MTC provide support to the selected organizations to ensure invoicing is prepared and submitted in compliant ways? And do you have examples of what kind of invoicing and documentation will be required for the project?	Yes, each grantees will be paired with a professional coach who can help support with compliance.
When do we need to complete the project outlined in the grant?	31-Oct-26

<p>If we're working on policy change regarding housing and transportation, can that be policy at the local, state and/or federal levels?</p>	<p>absolutely! we just need to make sure that we're also hitting those 3 REAP2 goals</p>
<p>so if we appeal to those three goals, we would be more competitive?</p>	<p>Not necessarily, we're trying to not have those goals be a barrier and trying to allow opportunities for nontraditional agency partners</p>
<p>Can we partner/regrant to an org that is not a 501c3?</p>	<p>Are you asking if you can apply as a fiscal sponsor? Fiscal sponsors cannot be the lead applicant.</p>
<p>Is there an interest in EVs and/or EV charging to reduce vehicle emissions or strictly alternative transportation to reduce VMT?</p>	<p>EV charging infrastructure is not eligible</p>
<p>My question is about breadth and depth. Is there a preference for wither projects that serve a smaller cohort with deep impact vs. broad lower touch impact with a larger number of people?</p>	<p>I think either can be appropriate depending on the project.</p>