

# **AMBAG**

## **Board of Directors Meeting**

**May 14, 2025**



# Item #1: Call To Order



# Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

# **Item #3: AB 2449 Vote On “Just” and “Emergency” Cause**

## **Recommended Action: Approve**

# Item #4: Roll Call



# **Item #5: Oral Communications from the Public on Items Not on the Agenda**

**(A maximum of two minutes on any  
subject not on the agenda)**

# **Item #6: Oral Communications from the Board on Items Not on the Agenda**

# **Item #7A: Executive/Finance Committee**

## **Recommended Action: Information**

# **Item #7B: Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting**

**Recommended Action: Direct**

# **Item #8: Executive Director's Report**

## **Recommended Action: Information**

# **Item #9: Consent Agenda (Items #9A – 9H)**

**Recommended Action: Approve**

# **Item #10: Items Removed from Consent Calendar for Discussion and Possible Action**

**Item #11A: Draft FY 2025-26  
Monterey Bay Region Overall  
Work Program (OWP) and Budget  
Recommended Action: Approve**

# Draft FY 2025-26 Monterey Bay Region Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget

Board of Directors  
May 14, 2025

Bhupendra Patel, Director of Modeling  
Errol Osteraa, Director of Finance and Administration



# FY 2025-26 Overall Work Program Priorities

- Federally required document to receive federal funds
- Covers all AMBAG work programs and activities
- Used as a project management tool by staff
- Implements Federal Planning Emphasis Areas
- Implements AMBAG Board adopted priorities
  1. Modeling and Research
  2. Planning and Forecasts
  3. Sustainable Development Strategies
  4. Collaborative Planning and Implementation

# FY 2025-26 OWP Highlights

- Development and adoption of the 2050 MTP/SCS
- Application of ABM as the next generation of Regional Travel Demand Model for 2050 MTP/SCS
- Application of land use model, land development tracking tool and various GIS data collection, analysis, and provide member services for GIS/data requests
- Central California Regional Energy Network establishes five energy efficiency programs in the AMBAG region
- Monitoring and reporting Transportation Performance Management (TPM)
- Monterey Bay Electric Vehicle Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Framework
- Pajaro River Bridge on Highway 1 Infrastructure Resilient Design Study
- REAP 2.0 Program continues AMBAG regional housing planning activities and technical assistance to local jurisdictions to support affordable housing implementation
- SB 1 funded Sustainable Communities Planning
- Complete Streets, highway and transit corridor planning, and management studies

# FY 2025-26 OWP and Budget Timeline

OWP Kickoff meeting	October 28, 2024
Development of Draft OWP and Budget	Dec. 2024 – Feb. 2025
Draft OWP & Budget available for comments	March 2025
Draft OWP & Budget presentation to AMBAG Board	March 12, 2025
<b>Board Adoption of FY 2025-26 OWP &amp; Budget</b>	<b>May 14, 2025</b>
Expected State Approval Date	May 31, 2025
Expected Federal Approval Date	June 30, 2025

# **AMBAG Draft FY 2025-26 Budget**

# Draft FY 2025-26 Funding Highlights

- Balanced budget, pursuant to AMBAG By-Laws
- No change to total member dues
- Revenue by source:
  - Federal – \$3,307,897
  - State – \$8,440,632
  - Local – \$1,040,200
  - Total – \$12,788,729

# Draft FY 2025-26 Expenditure Highlights

- Maintaining current year staff level and recommended 5% COLA
- Continuation of current grant funded project
- General Fund expenditures includes costs that are not eligible for Federal reimbursement:
  - Interest and fees
  - Cash match to meet federal/state grant requirements
- Use of toll credits to match federal funds

# FY 2024-25 Staffing Summary

- Fourteen full-time staff in FY 2024-25 budget
- Two vacancies
  - One position has already been filled
  - One position expected to be filled in FY 2025-26
- AMBAG maintains and regularly reviews its recruitment and retention efforts throughout the year

# Next Steps

- Submit FY 2025-26 OWP and Federal certification forms to State and Federal Agencies for their approval.

# Recommendation

- The Board of Directors is asked to approve the Draft FY 2025-26 Monterey Bay Region Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget by adopting Resolution 2025-2.

**Questions?**

# **Item #12A: Update on the Central California Rural Regional Energy Network**

**Recommended Action: Information**



# Update on the Central California Rural Regional Energy Network

---

May 14, 2025



# Public Purpose Dollars

**Electricity and natural gas bills contain a public goods charge.**

These are funds collected from ratepayers and used to implement public purpose programs.



One type of public purpose program are energy efficiency programs. These ratepayer funded programs are **overseen by the California Public Utilities commission (CPUC).**



The goal of ratepayer funded energy efficiency programs is to **reduce energy use** so costly power plants and infrastructure does not have to be built.

## UNDERSTANDING Regional Energy Networks

RENs are an innovative framework for local governments to design and administer **CPUC energy efficiency programs**.



RENs are allowed to design innovative programs which focus on **serving communities** in ways traditional energy efficiency programs do not.



This has led RENs to focus on serving **hard-to-reach customers** as well as disadvantaged and underserve communities.

# CCR REN Early Development

From 2015, CCR REN partners collaborated with other rural agencies implementing energy efficiency programs through the Rural and Hard to Reach Working Group (RHTR).

RHTR participated in CPUC regulatory process to represent the rural regions of California.

From 2019 to 2021, RHTR partners explored the concept of serving rural customers with a REN.

In 2022, the RHTR partners submitted a business plan to the CPUC to form the RuralREN and in 2024 the CPUC approved the formation of the Central California Rural REN.



# Leadership and Territory



Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments



San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization



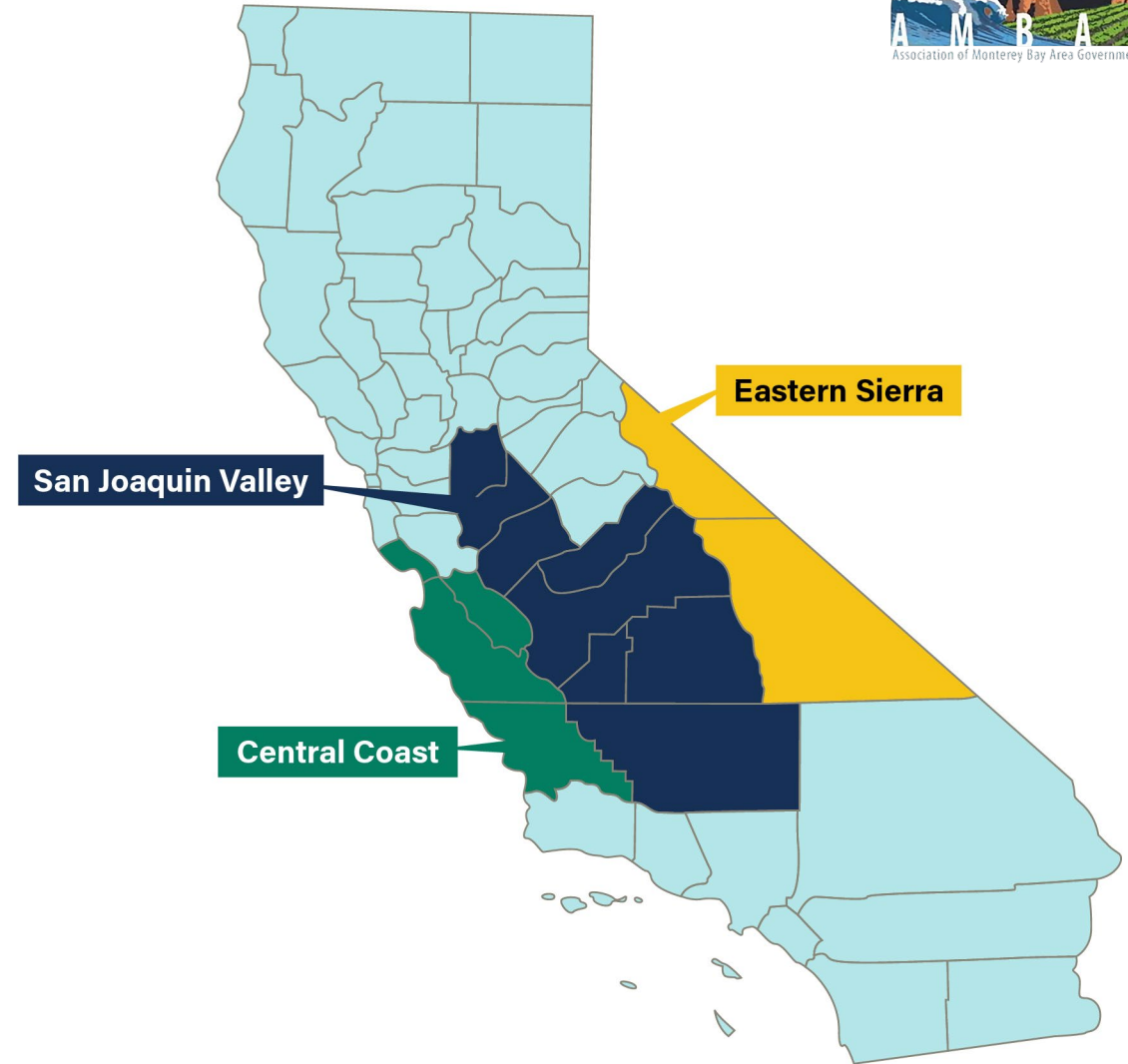
High Sierra Energy Foundation



County of San Luis Obispo



County of Ventura





## Central California Rural REN

**Central California Rural REN** serves 5.4 million customers across 14 Counties, and almost 50,000 square miles.

**76 percent** of CCR REN customers live in Census tracts that qualify as geographically hard to reach.

**40 percent** of CCR REN customers live in disadvantaged communities and 50 percent of customers live in underserved communities.





## Central California Rural REN

**Central California Rural REN** was approved by the CPUC in September 2024, with a 2024 to 2027 budget of \$36 million.

**County of San Luis Obispo** is the Lead Administrator for the CCR REN and is responsible for coordinating with partners to implement programs and complete reporting requirements.

**CCR REN** offers six programs, primarily designed to serve hard-to-reach customers and disadvantaged and underserved communities.



# CCR REN Programs

	<b>Residential</b>	Energy efficiency audits and installation of simple measures.
	<b>WE&amp;T</b>	Youth workforce education and training program.
	<b>Commercial</b>	No-cost electrification projects for commercial customers.
	<b>Public</b>	Support for hard-to-reach public agencies in Monterey Bay.
	<b>Codes and Standard</b>	Training and technical assistance for building professionals.
	<b>Finance</b>	Finance program is slated to launch in 2026.



# 2024 Highlights



Approved the governance structure of the Central California Rural REN.

Completed procurement processes for \$21 million of consultant services to successfully implement programs.

Submitted the CCR REN update business plan to the CPUC for approval on December 31, 2024.

Recruited an Americorps CivicSpark fellow to augment AMBAG staff capacity.





## 2025 Progress

Currently developing a Monterey Bay Regional Energy Modelling tool for residents to understand their energy use.

Pilot project sites have been identified for the commercial program and are anticipated to be installed by the end of June.

Clean energy advisors are being hired locally to support the commercial program. Advisors will receive 1000 hours of on-the-job training.





## 2025 Progress (Continued)

AMBAG hosted a workshop for public agency staff to learn about the CCR REN program offerings on May 7.

AMBAG staff is partnering with jurisdictions to explore applying for grants and external funding opportunities to retrofit facilities.

Technical assistance is now available to building departments and contractors to answer questions on the building energy efficiency standards.





# Next Steps

Programs are continuing to launch in order to provide residents and small businesses with resources to reduce energy use and electrify.

CCR REN is focused on building classes and trainings for jurisdictions and contractors to better understand how to implement the energy code.

CCR REN programs are deploying thoughtful workforce education and training offerings so our underserved and disadvantaged communities can access high-road jobs.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA RURAL REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK

**For rural, by rural.**



# **Item #13: Adjournment**

**Next meeting: June 11, 2025**