



## STAFF REPORT

**To:** ESCOG Joint Powers Authority  
**From:** Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Staff  
**Subject:** California Jobs First Update  
**Meeting date:** April 24, 2024  
**Prepared on:** April 17, 2024  
**Attachments:** A) Sierra Jobs First Collaborative Highlights and Insights Book  
B) Sierra Jobs First Collaborative Strategy Workshop April 25 and April 26  
Agenda

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### **Background:**

California Jobs First (formerly the Community Economic Resilience Fund or CERF) is a Statewide Investment in job creation, industrial strategy, and economic development initiatives to create a greener and more equitable economy.

The state is divided into thirteen separate regions, each with its own process. Sierra Business Council (SBC), a Sierra-based nonprofit, was selected as the convener for what the state defined as the “Eastern Sierra” region, comprising the seven counties of Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, and Tuolumne.

ESCOG serves as a convening partner to the SBC, coordinating outreach and engagement for Inyo, Mono and Alpine Counties, building partnerships with key industry sector organizations, and assisting with data analysis and strategy development.

### **Upcoming Engagement Opportunities:**

- April 25 and 26 - High Sierra Jobs Collaborative Strategy Workshop, Truckee
- May 7, 11:00 am - Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce Community Co-Facilitated Community Workshop, Gomez’s Mexican Restaurant
- May 9, 6:00 pm, Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce Community Co-Facilitated Community Workshop, Bridgeport Community Center
- May 16, 5:00 pm – Bishop Chamber of Commerce Community Co-Facilitated Community Workshop, location TBD
- May 20, 6:00 pm – Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce Community Co-Facilitated Workshop, location TBD
- June 10, 12:00 pm – Alpine County Chamber of Commerce Co-Facilitated Workshop, Markleeville location TBD

- June 17, 2:00 pm – Tentative Special Eastern Sierra Recreation Partnership Sustainable Recreation Industry Sector Partner Meeting, virtual

Additional community engagement workshops and regional industry partner meetings are being scheduled. Please refer to the Sierra Jobs First website at <https://sierrajobsfirst.org/2024-summer-workshops/> for the most current information.

In addition, please reach out to Eastside Project Navigator, Magnolia Barra at [mbarra@sbcouncil.org](mailto:mbarra@sbcouncil.org) to arrange a presentation to your Board regarding project updates if interested.

**Future Milestones:**

- June 7 - Draft Sierra Jobs First Strategy Plan published for public comment period
- June 30 - Draft Sierra Jobs First Strategy Plan and Regional Summary public comment period closes
- August 1 – Final Sierra Jobs First Strategy Plan due to State agencies
- September 2024 – RFP period for catalyst projects opens
- October 1, 2024 – RFP period for catalyst project closes
- November 2024 – Governing Council votes on project batches
- January 2025 – Catalyst contracts begin