Introduction to *CivicSpark*

Local Government Commission

July 22, 2014

CivicSpark

The California Partnership for Accelerating Local Climate Response & Resiliency

CivicSpark Overview

- New AmeriCorps program starting Fall 2014
  - AmeriCorps as ‘Domestic Peace Corps’
  - 48 CivicSpark Members will dedicated 1700 hours of service to building capacity to local governments
- *CivicSpar*k will place “Climate Readiness teams” in nine regional hubs
- *CivicSpark* will work with local governments to assist them in improving climate change response capacity through project support

Program Partners

- Program Managed by LGC in partnership with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research
  - LGC has worked for 34 years to identify and champion local governments who want to take a stand on Climate Change
  - Provides the program infrastructure and member and local government support
- Regional Partners
- Encore Fellows
- Participating Local Governments
- AmeriCorps Members
- CaliforniaVolunteers and CNCS

Project Examples

RESEARCH	PLANNING	IMPLEMENTATION
Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy		
Benchmarking local building energy use	Creating an outreach and engagement plan for building owners about available energy efficiency programs	Helping to coordinate a business energy efficiency direct install program
Identifying solar ready sites	Localizing a renewable energy action plan	Engaging local governments in a bulk purchasing program for solar.
Sustainable Communities		
Inventorying current school route conditions	Creating a Safe Routes to School Improvement Plan	Coordinating implementation of a Safe Routes to School Improvement Plan in a specific district
Analyzing ZEV infrastructure needs in a region	Supporting ZEV readiness planning: by incorporating ZEV's into general plans, zoning and building codes	Organizing the launch of an electric vehicle charging station pilot program
Climate Change		
Researching local climate change impacts	Localizing a Community Climate Action Plan Template	Supporting rollout of a common Climate Action Plan strategy for a region
Evaluating local vulnerability to extreme heat	Using the APG to create a local adaptation plan for heat management	Tracking metrics to monitor and evaluate progress on extreme heat responses.
Researching anticipated local health impacts on climate change	Working with health departments on integration of health considerations into climate action plan	Piloting a community health initiative around climate change and public health.

How *CivicSpark* Works

- Climate Readiness Teams will build capacity through a 4 step process:
  - **Gap Assessments:** Review documents and conduct interviews to determine current climate change needs and set project scope.
  - **Service Projects:** Conduct a specific research, planning, or implementation project.
  - **Volunteer Engagement:** Support increased climate volunteerism in the community.
  - **Transitioning Expertise:** Provide transitional training to staff and/or share results with key stakeholders in order to transfer knowledge and build action throughout the community.
- All service and impact must be realized between Oct. 1 and Aug. 15, 2015

Local Government Fiscal Contribution

- *CivicSpark* is funded by both CNCS and by Partner Matches.
  - Bringing to the table the same amount as what we are asking
    - Funding from CNCS, training and tools, support for Members
    - Looking at funding opportunities from outside agencies to share
- *The amount of this contribution is $18 times the total project hours required for the team to complete a given project.*
  - This rate is all-inclusive, and includes both member and supervisor contributions.
  - This rate is only based on project work not administrative or training time spent by the team.
- Local governments can provide this directly or can work with third party resources to provide fiscal contribution

To Learn More

- **We are looking for interested local governments now!**
  - **Projects will start on site beginning of October**

- **Webinar for Local Governments**
  - **Can Register from our Website www.civicsparkca.org**
  - **Wednesday July 23rd 9:30 – 10:30**
  - https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1084129819764745986

Any Questions?

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