

# Update on Potential Plans for Return to In-Person Board / Committee Meetings

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# Current State of In-Person Brown-Act Meetings

Brown Act Meetings including Board and Committee Meetings

AB361 enacted in Sept. 2021 and in effect until Jan 1, 2024

Governor's State of Emergency currently still in place, but some executive orders lifted

- AB361 requires either a statewide State of Emergency or local social distancing guidelines to be in effect for relaxed teleconferencing rules to apply
- Governor Newsom recently rescinded several Executive Orders relating to the COVID pandemic, but the overall State of Emergency remains in place, so relaxed AB361 requirements remain in effect for local agencies



# Status without State of Emergency

If the State of Emergency is lifted, open meetings would revert to pre-COVID Brown Act teleconferencing requirements

- Pre-COVID Brown Act teleconferencing requirements include:
  - Noticing remote locations in advance
  - Making remote locations open and accessible to the public



# Pending Legislation

Several bills at the State Legislature could affect Brown Act teleconferencing requirements; but none are considered urgent legislation

- AB 1944 (Support) – private locations do not require noticing; public teleconferencing required
- SB 1100 (Support) – public agencies may remove disruptive audience members individually
- AB 2449 (Watch) – public agencies may relax teleconferencing requirements if quorum of body is present in one location





# Options Available

SVCE Staff is working to prepare for Hybrid Brown Act Meetings, both on- and off-site, to prepare for a period under prior Brown Act requirements, but before permanent legislation is enacted

- Cupertino Community Hall – resuming in-person Meetings in April; SVCE staff to conduct dry run of hybrid setup in late March / early April
- SVCE Offices – SVCE outfitting conference rooms for Hybrid Board Committee Meetings
  - Public Accessibility may require adjustments to meeting requirements
- Member Agency Locations – SVCE proposes to reimburse local agencies for reservation fees/staff time, if BOD members choose to attend remotely from local facilities



# Virtual Attendance

If stricter Brown Act requirements return, SVCE will request the following from Board members attending remotely:

- Remote locations must be ADA accessible, and allow full public participation
- Remote locations must be identified 7 days in advance for proper noticing
- Noticing requirements exist for both full Board and Committee meetings
- Remote locations do not need to remain the same for all meetings



# Remote Location Assistance

SVCE Staff will work to ensure smooth remote participation by all Board members, in coordination with on-site staff

- SVCE staff will cover fees associated with the use of an off-site location, including working with member agencies to develop reimbursement agreements for member agency staff time needed to open public facilities for remote attendance
- SVCE staff will do their best to provide the technical equipment needed for remote meetings, but will not be able to provide on-site support at remote locations



# Draft Schedule

SVCE proposes easing back into hybrid meetings over the next 2-3 months

- Early April:
  - Test Hybrid Meeting Setup with Cupertino staff
  - Survey Board Members for Remote Location Needs / Desires
- May:
  - Initial Hybrid Board Meeting at Cupertino
- June:
  - Expected completion of SVCE Conference Room Upgrades – Committee Meetings to resume in hybrid format



# Community Energy Resilience Grants Update

Zoe Elizabeth  
March 25, 2022



# Background

- The Board approved a \$5M investment in community energy resilience as part of the 2020 Customer Relief and Community Resilience package.
- These funds were combined with an existing allocation of \$150K to create a combined total investment of \$5.15M.

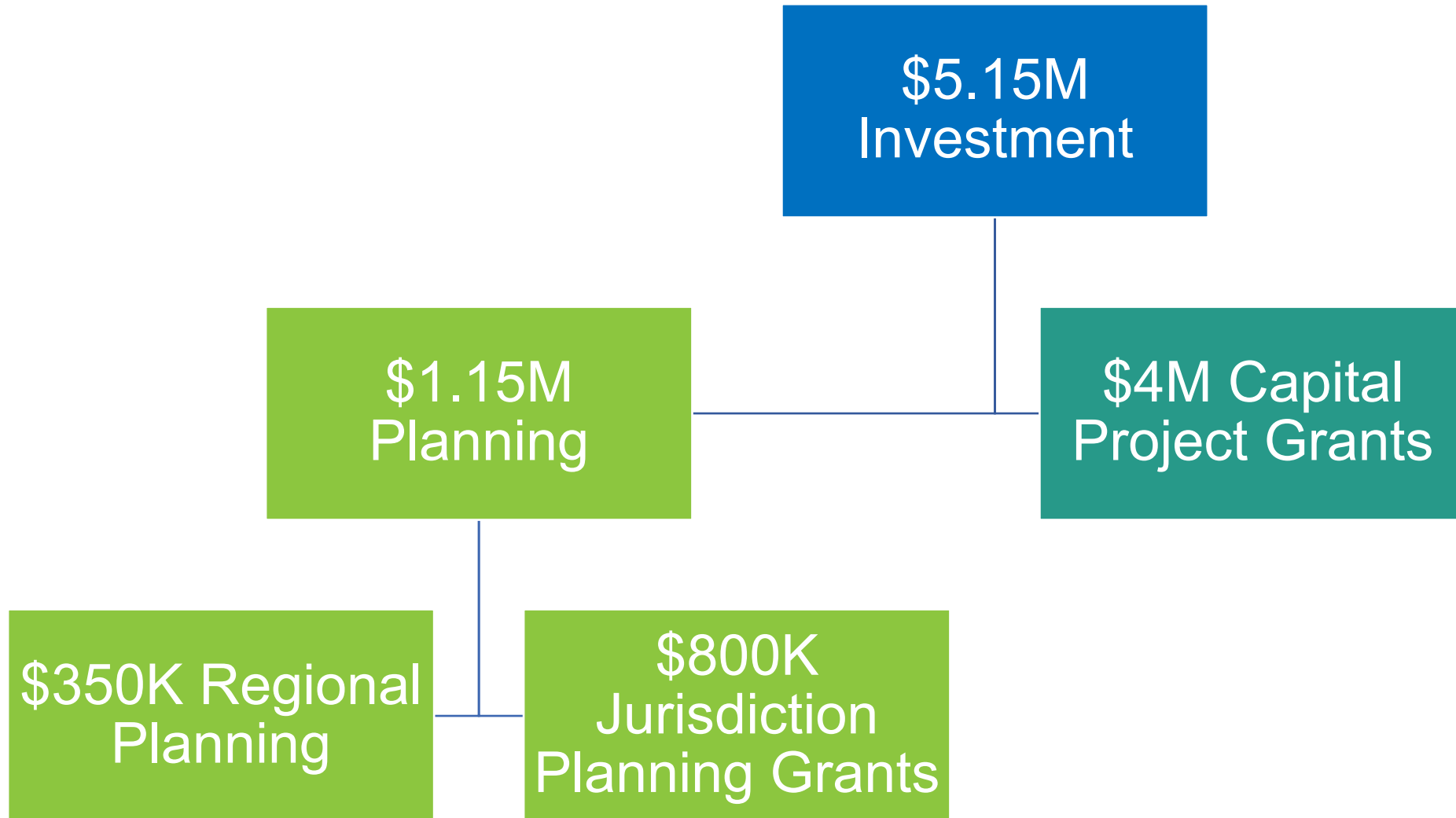


# Today's Objective

To provide a status update on member agency grant applications and projects.



# Investing Over \$5M in Community Energy Resilience





# Funds are allocated based on load.

Jurisdiction	Total Allocation
SUNNYVALE	\$ 1,327,680
MILPITAS	\$ 700,702
MOUNTAIN VIEW	\$ 636,365
County of Santa Clara	\$ 412,751
GILROY	\$ 314,031
CUPERTINO	\$ 255,798
MORGAN HILL	\$ 243,241
CAMPBELL	\$ 237,566
LOS GATOS	\$ 213,842
LOS ALTOS	\$ 149,521
SARATOGA	\$ 139,444
LOS ALTOS HILLS	\$ 50,582
MONTE SERENO	\$ 18,475
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,700,000</b>

- ~20/80 planning grant/capex grant
- City Manager must sign the application
- Planning funds spent by 12/31/2022
- Capex spent by 12/31/2023

**BUROHAPPOLD**  
**ENGINEERING**

Buro Happold available as your planning consultant



# Flexible Requirements

Requirements are designed to support the distinct needs of each jurisdiction.

## **Planning Grants Support:**

- Analysis, outreach, coordination, planning to support energy resilience
- Examples: building portfolio audit, site analysis, community outreach, urban heat island reduction strategy, internal coordination, resilient hub planning

## **Capex Grants Support:**

- Zero carbon capital projects that reduce the likelihood or the impacts of power outages
- Examples: resilient solar, solar + storage, EV truck for back-up, urban cooling, off-grid EV charging, building optimization + solar

***Capex projects can be at municipal facilities OR any community facility (e.g. schools)***





# Five agencies have allocated all their funds.

Jurisdiction	Project Status	Type of Project	Funds Available
Los Altos Hills	Construction in Progress	Battery storage	\$0
Milpitas	Construction Complete	Battery storage	\$0
Monte Sereno	Capex Grant Approved	Battery storage	\$0
Saratoga	Construction scheduled	Traffic light batteries	\$0
Sunnyvale	Construction in Progress	Battery storage, resilient EVI	\$0



# Eight agencies have funds remaining.

Jurisdiction	Project Status	Type of Project	Funds Available
Campbell	Planning Grant Application in Process		\$237,566
County of Santa Clara	2 Capex Approved; Funds Remain	Battery storage, resilient EVI	\$190,519
Cupertino	Planning Grant Underway	RFP support and analysis	\$213,165
Gilroy	No Application Submitted		\$314,031
Los Altos	No Application Submitted		\$149,521
Los Gatos	Not Submitted		\$213,842
Morgan Hill	Planning Grant Complete	RFP support and analysis	\$202,701
Mountain View	No Application Submitted		\$636,365



# Some challenges have arisen.

We will continue to work with jurisdictions to overcome obstacles and maximize the benefits of grants

- Battery and component costs have risen.
- Most jurisdictions do not have identified resilience priorities.
- Some jurisdictions may need additional planning support.
- For solar + storage projects, most jurisdictions require additional funds.
- Jurisdictions that don't leverage planning funds could miss key opportunities.



# Next Steps

We are continuing to work with jurisdictions to maximize the benefits of grants

- Additional direct outreach and MAWG presentations
- Release decision-support tool
- Conduct educational webinars for member agencies
- Updated application timelines to include a clear deadline
- Consider the process for using funds if some funds go unspent