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CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD ANNOUNCES GRANT AWARDS FOR HIGH ROAD CONSTRUCTION CAREERS

SACRAMENTO – As the state continues to make strides towards a low carbon economy, the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) has announced an investment of \$5.6 million to expand and improve the work of the High Road Construction Careers (HRCC) initiative.

According to a report released last year by the CWDB, "[Putting California on the High Road: A Jobs and Climate Action Plan for 2030](#)", the majority of jobs related to reducing carbon emissions will be in the traditional construction trades, with demand for these skilled workers increasing as the state continues to ramp up its climate mitigation efforts. The HRCC program meets this demand head on by connecting underserved communities to family supporting careers in the building and construction trades.

"A skilled and trained workforce is essential to California meeting it's climate goals," said CWDB Executive Director Tim Rainey. "There are graduates of these HRCC programs working on High Speed Rail, on utility scale solar fields in the Central Valley, and on the low carbon retrofits that are so essential to meeting our states goals of reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions."

Beginning with an investment from the California Clean Energy and Jobs Act (Prop 39) in 2014, and expanding with the release of SB1 funding in 2020, the HRCC initiative has been a model for "high road" workforce development, [transforming hundreds of lives in the process](#). The success of the initiative is the result of a broad range of expertise and experience in distinct, regional partnerships—with local building and construction trades councils, workforce boards, community colleges, and community-based organizations being among the essential partners. Across California, these regional partnerships have successfully established structured pathways to state approved apprenticeship programs for communities that have been locked out of prosperity, tapping into industry demand while addressing imperatives around social and economic justice.

"This investment will allow us to expand the number of participants that we serve, and improve the rigorous, hands-on job training in Green Construction that we provide," said Beli Acharya, Executive Director of Construction Trades Workforce Initiative (CTWI), an Oakland based grantee. CTWI's training partners have a long-standing history of specializing in preparing women, disadvantaged youth, and the formerly incarcerated for high-road construction careers, helping tens of thousands of households reduce their carbon footprint in the process."

For more information on the HRCC initiative, please visit the [CWDB website](#).

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Project Name	Award Amount	In-Kind	Total Program
Region 1: East Bay Regional Trades Program (EBRTP)	\$832,000.00	\$1,040,000.00	\$1,872,000.00
Region 2: Working Partnership USA	\$590,000.00	\$998,075.00	\$1,588,075.00
Region 5: San Diego Workforce Partnership	\$749,933.98	\$0.00	\$749,933.98
Region 6: Workforce Development Board Ventura County	\$551,553.53	\$0.00	\$551,553.53
Region 7: North Bay Trades Introduction Program (NB TIP)]	\$221,718.00	\$80,350.00	\$302,068.00
Region 8: LA/ OC MC3	\$1,200,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,200,000.00
Region 10: ValleyBuild	\$1,194,400.00	\$0.00	\$1,194,400.00
Region 12: Sac-Sierra-Yolo High Road Training Partnership	\$254,794.15	\$150,000.00	\$404,794.15
Total	5,594,399.65	\$2,368,425.00	\$7,962,824.65

The California Workforce Development Board’s High Road Construction Careers Low Carbon Economy Workforce Program is part of the California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing GHG emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment– particularly in disadvantaged communities. The Cap-and-Trade program also creates a financial incentive for industries to invest in clean technologies and develop innovative ways to reduce pollution. California Climate Investments projects include affordable housing, renewable energy, public transportation, zero-emission vehicles, environmental restoration, more sustainable agriculture, recycling, and much more. At least 35 percent of these investments are located within and benefiting residents of disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, and low-income households across California. For more information, visit the California Climate Investments website at: <https://www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov/>.

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