

Regional Early Action Planning Grants of 2021 (REAP 2.0) Annual Report Template for Metropolitan Planning Organizations



Fresno Council of Governments

For the reporting period of:
January 2023 to December 2023

Instructions

This form is to be used for satisfying the reporting requirements of California Health and Safety Code section 50515.10. The report must be submitted to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) via email at reap2021@hcd.ca.gov in Microsoft Word format by April 1 of the year following award of funding, and annually thereafter by April 1 until all funds are expended.

Details about the REAP 2.0 program can be found at:

<https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/programs-active/regional-early-action-planning-grants-of-2021>

Note: This Microsoft Word form uses cross-references and formulas to autofill some fields using information inputted by the user. Cross-references and calculations may not update immediately upon input. The user may force updates to cross-references by entering and exiting the Print Preview of Word (*shortcut: Ctrl+P, Esc*), or by saving, closing, and then reopening the document. Formulas may be updated by right-clicking the field and selecting *Update Field*.

Refer to the following instructions to complete each part of the report.

Part I – Overall Context

In 500 words or less, provide a brief overview regarding the current status of each Proposed Use and Subtask(s)¹.

- **Overview:** A general description of the overall Proposed Use(s) and Subtask(s).
- **Current Status:** A short summary of the information requested in Part III – Status of Activities on progress made by each Proposed Use to meet the REAP 2.0 objectives:
 - Accelerating infill development that facilitates housing supply, choice, and affordability,
 - Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH), and
 - Reducing Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT).

¹ If one or more Proposed Uses includes suballocations, please provide additional context for each suballocated award.

Part II – Highlights, Challenges, Opportunities, and Accomplishments

In a paragraph or two per Proposed Use², discuss the highlights, challenges, opportunities, and accomplishments realized at regional, subregional, or local levels to date. This part may include updates about:

- Engaging stakeholders
- Building support for housing and transportation
- Developing strategies for reducing VMT
- Adopting policy reforms to remove barriers to housing production
- Completing project deliverables
- Fostering subregional collaboration on housing and transportation planning
- Administering technical assistance
- Best practices
- Exemplary highlights and program outcomes

Part III – Activity Status and Funding Summary

Provide details of each Proposed Use. Utilize the project timeline and budget from the approved advance allocation and full application to complete the tables for each Proposed Use according to the columns provided as follows:

- **Advance Allocation Application – Proposed Activities:**
 - **Activity Title** – Input Proposed Activity title.
 - **Timeline** – Approximate start and completion dates of work performed.
 - **Amount Proposed & Amount Expended** – Specify the grant amounts proposed and expended for each approved Activity.
 - **Status** – Select whether activity is not started, in progress, or completed as of the end of the reporting period.

² For Proposed Uses that are suballocated, please provide this detail for each suballocation award.

- **Full Application – Proposed Uses & Subtasks:**

- **Activity No.** – Should correspond with Activity Number in Proposed Use Timeline and Budget in full application.
- **Activity Title** – Should correspond with Activity Title in Proposed Use Timeline and Budget in full application.
- **Eligible Uses** – Indicate which eligible uses are being achieved through the activity as listed in 50515.08 (c)(1)(E)(i-iv) (reference section [50515.08 \(d\)\(4-7\)](#) for additional information):
 - (i) Accelerating infill development, including housing;
 - (ii) Supporting residents through realizing Multimodal Communities,
 - (iii) Shifting travel behavior through reducing driving, and/or
 - (iv) Increasing transit ridership.
- **Suballocation (Sub)** – Check the box for each activity that utilizes suballocated funds.
- **Timeline** – Approximate start and completion dates of work performed.
- **Amount Allocated & Amount Expended** – Specify the grant amounts allocated and expended for each approved Proposed Use and Subtask.
- **Status** – Select a status from the dropdown menu (not started, in progress, complete).

Part IV – Measurable Outcomes by Proposed Use

Provide information in the tables provided related to accelerating infill housing, reducing VMT, and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing resulting from the performance of activities as of the end of the reporting period.

Part V – Web Report

Provide the URL(s) on the grantee’s public website containing existing maps that illustrate VMT generation patterns in their region. A grantee may submit maps produced in the development of the grantee’s adopted sustainable community strategies. If public maps are not available on the grantee’s website, a statement confirming that the VMT information in [Site Check \(https://sitecheck.opr.ca.gov\)](https://sitecheck.opr.ca.gov) accurately visualizes VMT patterns in their region is sufficient. Additional maps relevant to the proposed use(s) may also be included.

Part VI – Additional Information

Provide materials produced for REAP 2.0 activities as supplemental documentation to this report. This may include templates, announcements, or other program guidance. Common file formats such as PDF, Word document, JPEG, etc. are sufficient.

The grantee may add any other information as deemed appropriate to demonstrate the status and impacts of the overall REAP 2.0 activities. The grantee may also discuss any anticipated changes and limiting or confounding factors potentially impacting the effectiveness of the activities.

The grantee may also add recent developments to the data inputted in the Annual Report submitted in the previous reporting period, if applicable. Self-reported data by cities and counties is available on [HCD's Housing Element and Implementation and APR Data Dashboard \(https://www.hcd.ca.gov/planning-and-community-development/housing-open-data-tools/housing-element-implementation-and-apr-dashboard\)](https://www.hcd.ca.gov/planning-and-community-development/housing-open-data-tools/housing-element-implementation-and-apr-dashboard) (note that HCD cannot independently verify most project-level data). HCD recognizes REAP 2.0 funds may not immediately impact production indicators for projects completed in 2023 and 2024, but that these numbers may be used as a baseline or context for indicating housing production at a regional scale.

Part I – Overall Context

Overview of Proposed Use(s) and Subtask(s):

As part of its approved methodology, Fresno COG in 2023 hired consulting firm Southwest Strategies to craft its competitive application and help conduct its outreach process to interested stakeholders and jurisdictions. This approach helped secure a wide range of interest from both local agencies and non-profit, community-based organizations for a competitive process to award the estimated \$13 million in REAP 2 funding available to the region. The application reflected Fresno COG's carefully crafted methodology, including the major tenants and subtasks of the REAP program: accelerating infill development that facilitates housing supply, choice and affordability; affirmatively furthering fair housing, and; reducing vehicle miles traveled. Fresno COG also solicited a broad cross-section of community stakeholders and interests, including representatives from the California State departments of Housing and Community Development, the Air Resources Board and the Office of Planning and Research to help score the eight applications received.

The scoring committee's top three projects included the City of Firebaugh's Downtown Infill Initiative (\$1.5 million), the City of Fresno's Blackstone Betterment project (\$10.6 million) and the City of San Joaquin's new trail system and public park (\$1 million). Owing to potential budget cuts, the project awards were reduced to the City of Firebaugh (\$1.5 million) and the City of Fresno (\$5 million), with a promise to fully fund the top three projects if budget was restored in July.

Current Status:

Fresno COG has invoiced for 25 percent of its \$13 million allotment as instructed by HCD and is awaiting that funding to begin contracting for awarded projects.

Part II –Highlights, Challenges, Opportunities, and Accomplishments

Fortunately, Fresno COG has not yet contracted or formally committed funding to any projects, given the State's budget deficit. While the process to develop its methodology was slow-moving, in retrospect it was wise to thoroughly vet the methodology first before soliciting projects to ensure that State requirements were fully addressed, which better ensured compliance ahead of time rather than trying to award projects first and justify methodology on the back end.

Fresno COG decided early on to use a portion of its administrative expenses to hire consultant help to produce the application, develop a public engagement plan, solicit public input, stakeholders and prospective applicants, coordinate scoring committee members and help arrange scoring committee meetings and produce scoring results. This proved helpful given staff shortages and already stressed timelines.

Challenges included answering stakeholder questions and scenarios under proposed methodology not yet approved by the State partners. Fresno COG is grateful for HCD, CARB and OPR staff's participation on its scoring committee as a means of reducing confusion about the process and helping to expedite the process. In surveying scoring committee members, there was general satisfaction with Fresno COG's process and instruction.

Part III – Activity Status and Funding Summary

Insert data in the tables below regarding the status of activities and funding allocations and expenditures for each Proposed Activity/Use.

Advance Allocation Application – Proposed Activities

If the grantee did not submit the REAP 2.0 advance allocation application, check the following box and proceed to Full Application – Proposed Uses & Subtasks: ☐ Not Applicable

Activity Title	Timeline	Amount Proposed	Amount Expended	Status
Program administration	2022-2026	500,000.00	17,847.00	In Progress
Public/Stakeholder Outreach & Engagement	2022-2023	100,000.00	57,588.00	Complete
				-Select-
				-Select-
				-Select-
				-Select-
				-Select-
				-Select-
				-Select-
				-Select-
				-Select-
Total	N/A	\$600,000.00	\$75,435.00	N/A

Full Application – Proposed Uses & Subtasks

Activity No.	Activity Title	Eligible Uses	Sub	Timeline	Amount Allocated	Amount Expended	Status
1.0	Suballocation Program	ex: (i), (iii)	☐		13,000,000	0.00	Not Started
1.1	Accelerating infill development that facilitate housing supply, choice and affordability		☐	2023-2026	4,300,000.00	0.00	Not Started
1.2	Affirmatively furthering fair housing		☐	2023-2026	4,300,000.00	0.00	Not Started
1.2	Reducing vehicle miles traveled		☐	2023-2026	4,300,000.00	0.00	Not Started
- -			☐				-Select-
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Activity No.	Activity Title	Eligible Uses	Sub	Timeline	Amount Allocated	Amount Expended	Status
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Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$25,900,000.00	\$ 0.00	N/A

Part IV – Measurable Outcomes by Proposed Use

Input estimates in the tables below resulting from the performance of each REAP 2.0 activity. Please complete to the best of your ability regardless of whether the activity has been fully implemented or not.

Accelerating Infill Development

Proposed Use	Measurable Outcome	Baseline	Target	Results
1	N/A			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

Proposed Use	Measurable Outcome	Baseline	Target	Results
1	N/A			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled

Proposed Use	Measurable Outcome	Baseline	Target	Results
1	N/A			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Part V – Web Report

URL(s): <https://publicinput.com/reap2>

Part VI – Additional Information

Provide any additional indicators, outcomes, and anticipated changes, if applicable. ☐ Not Applicable