



Backbone Support & Governance Subcommittee Workshop Minutes

Thursday, July 7, 2022, 4PM - 6PM

Presentation: Introductions + CERF Overview (slides 1 - 8, 25 Mins)

- Evan Schmidt (CEO, Valley Vision) begins the meeting at 4:02 PM.
- Evan introduces herself and gives an overview of VV and the CERF program (Planning Phase Application).
- Introductions from the group.
- Gabby Trejo (SacACT) speaks on the importance of Governance: value of intentionally listening, creating space for people of all areas, gender, and language.
- Isa Avancena (Manager of Research & Policy, Valley Vision) gives an overview of the agenda for the meeting.
- Isa gives a high level CERF overview and the guiding principles for the Governance structure according to the CERF guidelines

Discussion: Setting Our Values (slide 9, 10 mins)

- Isa gives an overview of the 5 Values: Equity, Inclusivity, Transparency, Respect, Action

Question to the group: Do you agree with the values? What resonates with you? Is there anything missing?

- I don't have any feedback on the values themselves, I think I align with them. However, can you share how you plan to implement the values?
- Answer: This is the foundation of the ship and part of our work in the planning phase will be to build those structures of accountability and mechanisms for how we want to measure and enact them.
- They do resonate with me and the simple language with them makes them clear. Where does ecological responsibility or sustainability fit in? I feel like that's going to be very important...if we're talking about economic development, we're setting a foundation for decades, hopefully.
- Answer: There are values for the structure and then there are also the values & goals for what we will do together. Maybe that's a place where we formulate some of that core vision and goals.

- As mentioned in the recent meeting held in Yuba County - equity as it relates to all areas/counties that are involved in the application process. Always concerned that the major metro area gets most of the attention. Historically it seems like the outlying counties and areas don't get the same attention as the urban areas. As we move forward, we need to value what's going on in the outlying areas as well. I don't know if it fits into equity, but it seems to fit in with the conversation we are having today.
- I think it aligns with the inclusivity value. Making sure everyone can be seated at the table and have that sense of belonging. In terms of how we can make everyone feel like they are welcomed at the table? I feel the values that Gabby talked about earlier values speak to that.
- I like Respect for the processes, but also for each other as a value
- As a DEI practitioner, all of these values really speak to my heart. We need to make sure that our decisions & strategies align with these values by using them as a lens. I also need to add something in regards to environmental sustainability.
- One focus of this initiative is to help the economy transition to carbon neutral/climate resiliency. I think that's very apropos to what you're saying about manifesting in the implementation projects.
- I think adding geographic inclusion is definitely an addendum we can make regarding the inclusivity language. And Heidi, I like your suggestion in the chat that it's not just a respect for the processes but for the people too.
- For other partners that may not be as involved in the work, their constituents may not connect it to the environment. There's so much more work to do for people that are directly impacted by the work, that's the justice aspect of this work. Regarding rural communities and how the experience of those in a rural community is different – this highlights the importance of asking ourselves how our decisions align with this list of values.
- The values are well aligned with the state's requirements. Good work putting that together VV team.
- We need to be aware of how we are communicating to the public and how it sounds to them. We need to make sure that people understand how it impacts them and that will help bring more people into the fold.

**Presentation: Governance Structure + Discussion Methods Examples
(slides 10 - 23, 20 mins)**

- Deb Kollars (VV Consultant) gives an overview of the Eastern Sierra, Orange County, Southern Border, & Los Angeles CERF Regions. Sharing examples of how each region is setting up their governance structure.
- Pre- CERF Model - Fresno DRIVE
- Heidi Hill Drum speaks on Envision Tahoe Prosperity and the importance of how to set up the “table”.
 - Catalyst committee
 - Making sure everyone has a voice. Going beyond the usual suspects.
 - 3 week poll sent to the community across the board demographics. We got great feedback.
 - Checking in with the board of directors
- Isa shares other methods for discussion with larger groups “Fist to Five”, “Progressive Stack”
- Isa shares a Governance Structure Checklist of what needs to be decided on when creating our Governance Structure

Discussion: What We Want For Our Region (1 hour)

- Notes taken collaboratively on Jamboard. [View here.](#)

Presentation: Closing Remarks & Next Steps (slide 24, 1 min)

- Isa explains that materials from this workshop will be sent out shortly and that we look forward to seeing everyone again next week
- Meeting concludes at 5:55 PM.