

# Northern San Joaquin Valley (NSJV) Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF): Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

## Introduction:

As one of 13 regional [High Road Transition Collaboratives \(HRTCs\)](#) statewide,<sup>1</sup> the [North San Joaquin Valley \(NSJV\) Community Economic Resilience Fund \(CERF\) HRTC](#) (“NSJV Collaborative”)<sup>2</sup> is moving forward with an 18-24 month Planning Phase. The Planning Phase first involves engaging in a Baseline Regional Assessment to subsequently inform strategic planning for the fostering of greater economic resilience, sustainability, and equitable pathways to high road opportunities in the NSJV region consisting of Merced, San Joaquin, and Stanislaus counties. Ultimately, this Planning Phase will result in a strategic plan to inform regional investment during a subsequent Implementation Phase that will provide \$500 million statewide for the advancement of projects designed to provide equitable and sustainable regional economic development.

## Scope of Work:

This is a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to identify potential partners to identify, compile, analyze, and summarize relevant informational resources (e.g., plans, reports) and to collaboratively engage in the completion of a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis and Baseline Regional Assessment to inform the development of a strategic plan for regional investment in the NSJV. As detailed in Attachment A and in the state’s [Solicitation for Proposals for the CERF Program](#),<sup>3</sup> this work will assist the NSJV Collaborative with the completion of the initial Baseline Regional Assessment that “assesses the factors affecting the region’s economic, environmental, and health conditions”.

To learn from preexisting efforts and experiences with shared understanding of the diversity of perspectives of the status quo, the NSJV Collaborative requires assistance identifying and compiling existing resources that provide indicators of challenges and opportunities with regard to the economy, the environment, and the health of people in the NSJV. Additionally, the NSJV Collaborative requires assistance with analyzing and summarizing the identified resources by June 2023, including in a regional SWOT analysis, to help inform the development of the strategic plan.

## RFQ Details:

If interested in this opportunity, please submit the following information via email to [cbpr@pacific.edu](mailto:cbpr@pacific.edu) by 4/24/23:

- 1-paragraph description of your qualifications to complete the aforementioned scope of work
- Links to any examples of prior work demonstrating ability to complete the scope of work detailed above
- Contact information for team (e.g., names, addresses, phone numbers, emails, website)
- List of 3 references (references will only be contacted if selected as a finalist for this work)

Thank you for your interest in this opportunity. If selected as a finalist, we will contact you by 5/01.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://opr.ca.gov/economic-development/cerf/hrtc.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.northsanjoaquincerf.org/>

<sup>3</sup> [https://edd.ca.gov/siteassets/files/jobs\\_and\\_training/notices/docs/wssfp21-06.pdf](https://edd.ca.gov/siteassets/files/jobs_and_training/notices/docs/wssfp21-06.pdf)

Northern San Joaquin Valley (NSJV) Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF):  
Open Call for Informational Resources

**Attachment A: Areas of Inquiry for Baseline Regional Assessment Informational Resources**

The NSJV Collaborative seeks a collection, summarization and analysis of informational resources (e.g., plans, reports) to assist with addressing the following areas of inquiry from the [CERF Solicitation for Proposals](#).

**Economy and Economic Development:**

- Identify economic development opportunities and forces in the region.
- Review inequities in economic development across the region.
- Identify major low- and high- wage industries and occupations in the region.

**Climate and Environmental Impact:**

- Identify anticipated climate impacts and the factors that increase the region's vulnerability to those impacts
- Identify short term and long-term impacts of climate change on the people and economy of the region. These include disproportionate impacts on disinvested communities and expected increases in occupational hazards for workers.
- Identify major sources of air pollution, water pollution, toxic and hazardous waste and their impacts on diverse communities, especially disinvested communities.
- Identify major sources of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and their impacts on diverse communities, especially disinvested communities.
- Assess impacts of climate change on targeted emerging industries, sectors, or clusters and how these impacts might hinder success of the proposed plans and transition strategies (e.g., damage to critical infrastructure, loss of productivity, loss of population).

**Public Health Analysis:**

- Provide a snapshot of the impacts of the current economic trends and climate change effects on public health, especially the impacts on disinvested communities.
- Explore the main causes of chronic illnesses and diseases in the region, and whether and how they are related to economic inequalities, climate impacts, environmental factors, etc.
- Analyze health disparities across the region, disaggregated by race, gender, and other demographics.

**Labor Market Analysis:**

- Provide a snapshot of labor and workforce dynamics in the region, including an overview of major employers, occupations, and wages, the impacts of the recent trends, changes, and forces on the labor market, and projected labor trends in existing key industries.
- Industry-specific labor standards that meet high-road priorities.
- Barriers that limit access to high-quality jobs.
- Relevant training programs, apprenticeships, or high road training partnerships in the region.

**Industry Cluster Analysis:**

- Provide a snapshot of current major industries as well as industry trends and projections.
- Include an in-depth analysis of potential growth clusters based on the region's comparative advantages, market trends, workforce, infrastructure assets, policy trends, aligned state/federal investments, supply chain, and innovation ecosystem.
- Identify major sources of GHG emissions, air and water pollution, and toxic or hazardous waste from existing or proposed clusters.
- Conduct measurements of potential for job growth within industries.
- Identify workers and sectors at risk of displacement due to identified trends and analyses.
- Explore economic well-being and cost of living across the region.
- Discuss the impacts caused by economic shocks (e.g., pandemics, natural disasters) or longer-term economic shifts (e.g., global market signals, automation, policy levers) in the region. These include economic harm to communities (i.e., workers, small businesses, impacted industries, the public sector, and selected regions and populations) as well as the potential for new economic development opportunities.