

<DELETE WHEN FINALIZING: For Information Only – email to Steve Bennett; Assemblymember.Bennett@assembly.ca.gov> and email Chief of Staff Arwen Chenery: Arwen.Chenery@asm.ca.gov>

April X, 2026

California State Assembly
Assembly Committee on Budget
Subcommittee No. 4 on Climate Crisis, Resources, Energy and Transportation
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Central Coast Community Resilience Hub Accelerator – Budget Request

Dear Chair Bennett,

On behalf of the <JURISDICTION>, I write to express our strong support for the proposed \$3 million FY 2026–27 budget allocation for the *Central Coast Community Resilience Hub Accelerator*.

The <JURISDICTION> works directly with frontline communities, non-profits and other jurisdictions across the Central Coast. We are witnessing firsthand the increasing frequency and severity of climate impacts—including extreme heat, wildfire smoke, flooding, and power outages—that are placing growing strain on public health, safety, and local infrastructure, particularly in disadvantaged communities (DACs).

Despite these escalating risks, the Central Coast has received a disproportionately small share of state climate investments. On a per-capital basis, the Central Coast has only received 68% of its proportional fair share of California Climate Investment (CCI) funding. This is \$240M less than a fair share investment. The region’s CCI-designated DACs have only received 25% of their fair share investment. This is \$78M less than a fair share investment for our DACs. At the same time, many of the Central Coast’s community-based organizations and local jurisdictions lack the technical capacity needed to move critical resilience projects from planning into implementation.

The Central Coast Resilience Hub Accelerator is a timely and strategic solution. Community Resilience Hubs have enormous potential to prepare for, minimize and respond to the impacts of natural and climate hazards. By providing coordinated technical assistance and capacity funding, the Accelerator will significantly advance identified resilience hub sites into shovel-ready projects. <REVISED TO CITE WHAT PLAN/POLICY SUPPORTS COMMUNITY RESILIENCE HUBS, e.g., *Development and launch of Community*

Resilience Hubs is one of 27 actions identified for implementation in the City's adopted 2025-2030 Local Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan, the first combined plan to be approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in April, 2025.>

The collaborative Central Coast team launching the Accelerator views the budget request as not only necessary—it is catalytic. The Accelerator will:

- Strengthen regional capacity to compete for and deploy state climate funding
- Reduce long-term disaster response and recovery costs
- Improve health and safety outcomes for vulnerable populations
- Ensure that community-based organizations are equipped to lead and implement resilience solutions on the ground

Importantly, this proposal aligns with California's broader climate adaptation and equity goals by prioritizing community-driven solutions and ensuring that under-resourced regions are not left behind.

I respectfully urge you to support this critical budget request and help position the Central Coast and **Monterey Bay** subregion as a model for equitable, community-centered climate resilience.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

<EXECUTIVE OR ELECTED OFFICIAL NAME>

<EXECUTIVE OR ELECTED OFFICIAL TITLE>

cc: <INSERT YOUR STATE SENATOR / ASSEMBLYMEMBERS>