



**Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Initiative Grantee Convening**  
**September 25 – 27, 2018 | San Diego, CA**  
**Bahia Resort Hotel**

**Tuesday, September 25**

- 9:30am – 5:30pm      **Pre-Session for Initiative Cohort and Initiative Cohort Partners**  
Mission Bay Ballroom
- 4:00pm – 5:00pm      **Registration Open for Other Kresge Grantees and Invited Guests**  
Mission Bay Foyer
- 5:00pm – 7:00pm      **Convening Welcome & Networking Reception**  
Bayside Pavilion
- 7:00pm                      **Dinner on Your Own**

**Wednesday, September 26**

- 7:30am – 8:30am      **Registration**  
Mission Bay Foyer
- 7:30am – 8:30am      **Breakfast**  
Bayside Pavilion
- 8:45am – 11:45am      **Welcome & Opening Plenary**  
*Climate Change and Racial Justice – What Have We Learned About  
What It Takes?*  
Mission Bay Ballroom AB
- 11:45am – Noon      **Group Photos**  
Mission Bay Ballroom
- Noon – 1:00pm      **Lunch**  
Outside Pond

- 1:00pm – 2:30pm      **Concurrent Workshops**
- **Breakthrough Stories: Leveraging Public Bodies to Move Policy**  
Pacific Room
  - **Community Building Stories: Integration of Community Voice and Vision in Strategy Development**  
Marina Room
  - **System Building Stories: Real Time Response to Climate Impacts**  
Mission Bay Ballroom CD
  - **Skill Building Workshop: Moving from Ideal to Deal, Organizing Leverage through the Community Development Process**  
La Jolla Room
  - **Skill Building Workshop: How to Find, Develop & Share Your Solution Story**  
Mission Bay Ballroom E
- 2:30pm – 3:00pm      **Transition Break/Transition to Buses for Site Tours**
- 3:00pm                **Buses Depart for Site Tours**  
*(participants will meet in hotel lobby to board buses)*
- 3:00pm – 5:30pm      **San Diego Community Tours**
- Border Field State Park/Imperial Beach *(led by The San Diego Foundation with leaders from WILDCOAST and Casa Familiar)*
  - Chollas Creek Watershed *(led by Groundwork San Diego)*
  - City Heights *(led by Environmental Health Coalition)*
  - National City and Barrio Logan *(led by Environmental Health Coalition)*
- 6:00pm – 6:15pm      **Buses Arrive: Coaster Terrace for Networking Reception and Dinner**
- 6:15pm – 8:30pm      **Networking Reception and Dinner**  
**Welcome Remarks**  
**Rip Rapson, President and CEO, The Kresge Foundation**  
*The Coaster Terrance at Belmont Park*  
*San Diego, CA 92109*

**Thursday, September 27**

7:30am – 8:30am

**Breakfast**

Bayside Pavilion

8:30am – 10:30am

**Concurrent Workshops**

- **Skill Building Workshop: Developing Strategies for Uncertain Futures**

La Jolla Room

- **Phase Shift Stories: Moving Utility Work to the Next Level**

Pacific Room

- **Policy Mapping: Strengthening Anti-Displacement Strategies to Drive Equitable Climate Resilience**

Mission Bay Ballroom CD

- **Skill Building Workshop: How to Find, Develop & Share Your Solution Story**

Mission Bay Ballroom E

10:30am – 11:00am

**Transition Break**

*(hotel check-out time)*

11:00am – 12:30pm

**Closing Plenary and Reflections: Building Power to Drive Change**

Mission Bay Ballroom AB

12:30pm

**Program Ends** – Boxed lunch will be provided

Outside Pond

## Plenary and Workshop Descriptions

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### **Welcome & Opening Plenary: Climate Change and Racial Justice – What Have We Learned About What It Takes?**

**Wednesday, September 26, 2018**

**8:45am – 11:45am**

**Mission Bay Ballroom AB**

The Kresge Foundation team will kick off the opening plenary by reflecting on the creation and launch of the Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Initiative in 2014 and sharing observations on lessons learned. Following that an interactive panel of speakers will discuss what they have learned about what it takes to keep race at the center of the climate agenda and what looks different when you put climate at the center of racial and economic justice work. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in small group discussions and reflect together on how what we have built and learned together can help us make transformational leaps in equitable and just climate strategies across the country in the next five years.

Moderator: Marian Urquilla, Principal, Strategy Lift

Speakers:

- Lois DeBacker, Managing Director – Environment, The Kresge Foundation
- Shamar Bibbins, Senior Program Officer – Environment, The Kresge Foundation
- Denise Fairchild, President and CEO, Emerald Cities Collaborative
- Ife Kilimanjaro, Senior Network Engagement Director, US Climate Action Network
- Elizabeth Sawin, Co-Director, Climate Interactive
- Parin Shah, Senior Strategist, APEN
- Diane Takvorian, Executive Director, Environmental Health Coalition

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### **Concurrent Workshop -**

#### **Breakthrough Stories: Leveraging Public Bodies to Move Policy**

**Wednesday, September 26, 2018**

**1:00pm – 2:30pm**

**Pacific Room**

Building equitable and just climate resilience requires shifting public policy. Many CRUO grantees have been able to use public bodies—advisory committees, planning groups, taskforces, regulatory boards, etc.—to achieve critical wins. In this session, local leaders will share behind-the-scenes stories of how they have been able to drive policy changes and win important climate resilience victories. Specifically, they will share how they have identified advocacy opportunities, how they've recruited and/or cultivated champions on these public bodies, and the policy changes and wins they have been able to achieve. This session will begin with an

interview of the panelists, followed by small group discussion and Q&A. Come with your strategy questions and your own victory stories to share.

Moderator: Shamar Bibbins, Senior Program Officer, The Kresge Foundation

Presenters:

- Cecil Corbin-Mark, Deputy Director, WEACTION for Environmental Justice
- Ana Castro Reynoso, Policy Advocate, Environmental Health Coalition
- Abigail Ramirez, Policy Advocate, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability
- Maritza Silva-Farrell, Executive Director, ALIGN and Christopher Erikson Jr., Business Representative, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 3

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### **Concurrent Workshop -**

### **Community Building Stories: Integration of Community Voice and Vision in Strategy Development**

**Wednesday, September 26, 2018**

**1:00pm – 2:30pm**

**Marina Room**

At the heart of equitable and just climate resilience is the belief that those most impacted by climate change should be at the center of defining and building solutions. In this session, a group of local leaders will share all the different ways community voices and perspectives are defining and shaping local equitable and just climate resilience strategy. Presenters will also share stories of the range of approaches they are using to engage community, whether through membership development, leadership programs, canvassing, surveys, focus groups, etc. This session will begin with an interview of the panelists, followed by small group discussion and Q&A. Come with your community leadership and mobilization questions and stories to share from your own work.

Moderators: Rosa Gonzalez, Associate, Movement Strategy Center and Victoria Benson, Community Climate Solutions Program Manager, Movement Strategy Center

Presenters:

- Bianca Butts, Manager of Climate Resiliency & Sustainability, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress
- Caroline Farrell, Executive Director, Center on Race, Poverty, and the Environment
- Cynthia Herrera, Environmental Policy & Advocacy Coordinator, WE ACTION for Environmental Justice
- Diana Lopez, Executive Director, Southwest Worker's Union
- Miya Yoshitani, Executive Director, APEN

**Concurrent Workshop -  
System Building Stories: Real Time Response to Climate Impacts  
Wednesday, September 26, 2018  
1:00pm – 2:30pm  
Mission Bay Ballroom CD**

Climate impacts are affecting communities across the U.S. in significant ways. A group of CRUO grantees in regions particularly vulnerable to heat, storms, sea-level rise and flooding are responding to those impacts in real time. Panelists in this session will share their real-time response work and how they are using those efforts to advance policy and system changes that can have broader and longstanding impact. This session will begin with an interview of the panelists, followed by small group discussion and Q&A. Bring stories to share from your own real-time response work and come ready to discuss how to ensure that short-term actions are building long-term capacity and resilient systems.

Facilitators: Marian Urquilla, Principal, Strategy Lift and Lara Hansen, Executive Director, EcoAdapt

Presenters:

- Zelelam Adefris, Climate Resilience Director, Catalyst Miami
- Gabriela Boscio Santos, Climate Program Manager, Neighborhood of Affordable Housing
- Michele De la Uz, Executive Director, Fifth Avenue Committee
- Kim Powe, Deputy Director, Puget Sound Sage
- Angela Tovar, Director of Community Development, The Point

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**Concurrent Workshop -  
Skill Building: Moving from Ideal to Deal: Organizing Leverage through the Community  
Development Process  
Wednesday, September 26, 2018  
1:00pm – 2:30pm  
La Jolla Room**

Strengthening local climate resilience can require building new facilities, developing green infrastructure, prototyping and scaling energy solutions, and other significant community investments. For many of us, community investment is a new area of work and it can be confusing. This skill building session is designed to equip participants to understand the basics of community investment financing and recognize the points in the deal cycle where leaders can intervene to leverage and ensure community benefits. Bring your investment questions!

Facilitator: Kim Dempsey, Deputy Director – Social Investments, The Kresge Foundation

**Concurrent Workshop -  
Skill Building: How to Find, Develop & Share Your Solution Story  
Wednesday, September 26, 2018  
1:00pm – 2:30pm  
Mission Bay Ballroom E**

Story is our most powerful persuasive communication tool. Many leaders, however, don't know how and when to share stories. In this fast-paced, highly interactive workshop, you will learn why audiences engage with and respond to stories, and how to find, develop, and share your stories to deepen relationships, achieve policy goals, and move listeners to action. You'll acquire four easy and transformational tips for making your stories better. You will leave this session with at least one well-developed story, and with ideas about with whom and how to share your story. And your story will be captured right then and there by smart phone for future use.

Facilitator: Thaler Pekar, CEO, Thaler Pekar & Partners

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**San Diego Community Tours  
Wednesday, September 26, 2018  
3:00 – 5:30pm**

*(participants will meet in hotel lobby to board buses. At the end of the site tours, buses will transport participants directly to the off-site dinner at The Coaster Terrace. Buses will be able to return attendees to hotel following dinner.)*

**Tour #1 – National City and Barrio Logan**

This tour will focus on community-driven solutions to address impacts of incompatible land use, such as allowing air and GHG emission sources to be located next to homes and schools; port/goods movement including heavy duty vehicles; and transportation access. The tour will also explore solutions to these impacts, including transit-oriented development (TOD) with affordable housing and natural resource protections, as well as strategies for expanding green space and retaining community culture. Environmental Health Coalition staff will lead the tour and will be joined by community leaders who will share their stories. Light exercise will be involved, as participants will have the opportunity to walk in the neighborhood.

**Tour #2 – City Heights**

Participants will learn about climate, transportation justice and anti-displacement strategies. City Heights is the most multi-cultural community in San Diego with over 40 languages spoken in the neighborhood. The tour will highlight the impact of gentrification through a presentation on the Environmental Health Coalition's Here to Stay and Recipes for Respect projects. The presentation will include stories of migration and culture from community residents. A part of the tour may take place outside in a park, weather conditions permitting.

### **Tour #3 – Border Field State Park/Imperial Beach**

This tour will include a visit to the neighborhood of San Ysidro to explore the impact created by almost 14 million vehicles annually that cross the world's busiest land-border. Researchers and community-based advocates at Casa Familiar will highlight how this concentration of vehicles impacts air-quality, health, and community vitality. The tour will also stop near Border Field State Park to hear from Imperial Beach leaders and cross-border conservationists at WILDCOAST, who will speak about the interrelated challenges of flooding that brings sewage and garbage-laden sediment down the Tijuana River Valley. They will also discuss the community-driven solutions they are developing to build resilience to climate change and hold polluters accountable. Light walking involved.

### **Tour #4 – Chollas Creek Watershed**

This tour will feature Groundwork San Diego's projects to restore the Chollas Creek Watershed through various citizen engagement activities. Participants will visit EarthLab Climate Education and Training Center, a four-acre open space parcel that Groundwork San Diego is turning into a dynamic outdoor learning lab for Chollas Creek students. Partners from the San Diego Unified School District and UC San Diego will discuss their efforts to provide state-of-the-art science and technology education while helping students make valuable contributions to the improvement of the Chollas Creek watershed. The tour will also visit a neighborhood site where Groundwork San Diego is working to develop an ecovillage that will map out a path to zero net energy. The tour will conclude in Southcrest Trails Park with a discussion of the Kumeyaay Chollas Creek history and indigenous climate practices.

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### **Concurrent Workshop -**

### **Skill Building Workshop: Developing Strategies for Uncertain Futures**

**Thursday, September 27**

**8:30am – 10:30am**

**La Jolla Room**

Climate disruption is helping create a complex and uncertain future. This dynamic of uncertainty and instability challenges many of our familiar ways of working. This highly interactive session will introduce participants to the basics of scenario planning, a powerful tool to support decision making in times of high uncertainty. Participants will learn how to define and explore alternative futures and how to use scenarios to guide flexible planning and decision making.

Facilitators: Matt Chadsey, Executive Director, Earth Economics and Marian Urquilla, Principal, Shift Strategies

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**Concurrent Workshop -  
Phase Shift Stories: Moving Utility Work to the Next Level  
Thursday, September 27  
8:30am – 10:30am  
Pacific Room**

Resilient and equitable energy sources and delivery are critical to climate resilience. Several CRUO grantees are making extraordinary progress in helping utilities move toward more equitable, just and resilient practices. During this session, participants will share their utility advocacy, campaigns and policy victories. Specifically, they will share behind-the-scenes stories of how they have framed their work, recruited allies and champions, and navigated regulatory and bureaucratic hurdles. Bring your questions and bring your own utility advocacy success stories.

Moderator: Denise Fairchild, President/CEO, Emerald Cities Collaborative

Presenters:

- Kim Gaddy, Environmental Justice Organizer, Clean Water Fund
- Allison Mannos, RePower LA Campaign Director, LAANE
- Mayra Cruz, Climate Resilience Coordinator, Catalyst Miami
- Vivian Satterfield, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Verde

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**Concurrent Workshop -  
Policy Mapping: Anti-Displacement Strategies and Equitable and Just Climate Resilience  
Thursday, September 27  
8:30am – 10:30am  
Mission Bay Ballroom CD**

Rising housing prices and unfair market practices are resulting in displacement of low-income and communities of color around the country. The disruption and fragmentation of community undermines resilience and creates more vulnerability in the face of climate impacts. Participants in this session will review leading examples of policies designed to preserve, protect and expand affordable housing and engage participants in exploring the scale, effectiveness and necessary sequencing of leading interventions. Bring the stories of your work at the intersection of displacement and climate resilience and your policy questions.

Facilitator: Saneta deVuono-powell, Program Director, ChangeLab Solutions

Co-Presenters:

- Drew Curtis, Senior Equitable Development Manager, Ironbound Community Corporation

- Chris Durazo, Housing, Land & Development Program Co-Director, Causa Justa:Just Cause
  - Jill Mangaliman, Executive Director, Got Green
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**Concurrent Workshop -  
Skill Building Workshop: How to Find, Develop & Share Your Solution Story  
Thursday, September 27  
8:30am – 10:30am  
Mission Bay Ballroom E**

Story is our most powerful persuasive communication tool. Many leaders, however, don't know how and when to share stories. In this fast-paced, highly interactive workshop, you will learn why audiences engage with and respond to stories, and how to find, develop, and share your stories to deepen relationships, achieve policy goals, and move listeners to action. You'll acquire four easy and transformational tips for making your stories better. You will leave this session with at least one well-developed story, and with ideas about with whom and how to share your story. And your story will be captured right then and there by smart phone for future use.

Facilitator: Thaler Pekar, CEO, Thaler Pekar & Partners

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**Closing Plenary: What Do We Need to Do to Build Power and Drive Change?  
Thursday, September 27  
11:00am – 12:30pm  
Mission Bay Ballroom AB**

The CRUO Initiative has helped us all understand and prove out more of what is possible when we put equity at the center of climate resilience. The closing plenary will give participants an opportunity to reflect and dialog on what we have learned from one another during the convening and how we might apply some of the insights and lessons from CRUO to broader social and economic justice work.

Facilitator: Angela Park, Consultant, Angela Park Consulting

Speakers:

- Cecil Corbin-Mark, Deputy Director, WEACT
- Taj James, Co-Director, Movement Strategy Center
- Aidil Oscariz, Vice President of Policy and Advocacy, Catalyst Miami
- Jacqui Patterson, Environmental and Climate Justice Program Director, NAACP
- Makani Themba, Chief Strategist, Higher Ground Change Strategies