

Leading with Communities

through humility and respect

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Who is Leadership Counsel for Justice
and Accountability?

What do we do and how?



Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability works alongside communities to advocate for **sound policy and equitable public** investments that secures equal access to opportunity. We fundamentally **shift dynamics** that have created the stark inequality that impacts California's low-income, rural regions.

- ❖ Established in 2013 and have grown to a team of 30+ permanent staff
- ❖ Have **4 offices**: Sacramento, Merced, Fresno, Bakersfield, and Coachella
- ❖ Work in the San Joaquin and Eastern Coachella Valleys across **20+ communities**

Case Study: South Central Fresno

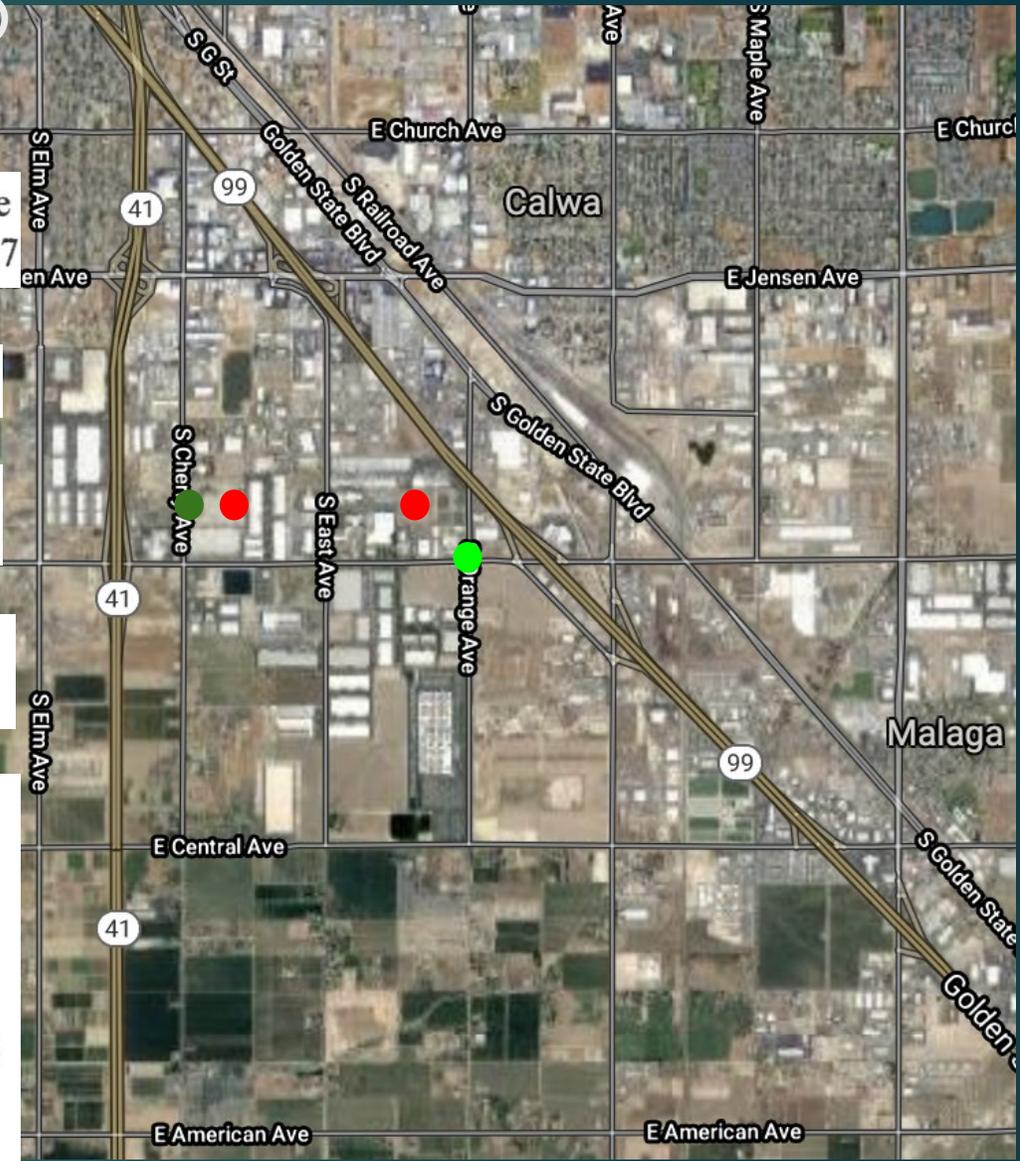
2. The Amazon Fulfillment Center was constructed across the street from my house in 2017. The Ulta Beauty distribution center was built less than half a mile from my house in 2017

3. I was never notified that large warehouses were going to be built so close to me.

8. The trucks going to and from the facilities create a lot of dust and fumes, which covers my house and car constantly. I have to clean the dust off the windows of my house and car

10. I have noticed that my neighborhood has become hotter since the warehouses were constructed, including during the night. I am forced to use my air conditioning more, which

14. Since about 2017, my neighbors and I have made many efforts to seek that the City stop approving new warehouses and industrial facilities in my neighborhood, that they notify us before studying and approving any new projects and allow us an opportunity to provide input, and that industrial developers and land owners respect these requests. When I and my neighbors have talked to the City and the developers, we tell them about the noise, dust, traffic, health problems, lowered property values, and other impacts from the warehouses and other projects. But they ignore us and keep building projects here without even notifying us first. It feels like we are not being heard. It feels like they are bullying us—like we are being targeted because of our race and because we do not have a lot of money.



Case Study: Madera County

Freeway and highway expansion facilitating new towns and communities that are exclusively single family higher income neighborhoods



How do we address the status quo?

Where do we begin?

#1: “Listen Linda”

Value and respect the **deep knowledge in communities**

How? (aka recommendations)

- Require **Community Engagement Plans** that ensure community engagement from project inception through design and implementation.
- Require that applicants **demonstrate** community engagement, input, and support.
- **Resource** community expertise
- **Be in community and partner** with trusted community groups / leaders

Table 1. Responses to Best Way to Invest Transportation Tax (Measure C)

Issue	Percent
Improvements to existing streets and roads especially in low-income areas	49.2%
Transportation projects that improve air quality and don't contribute to climate change	22.4%
Improved bike lanes, sidewalks, streetlights	11.2%
Improved and more frequent bus, vanpool and rideshare services and routes	10.9%
Highway Expansion	6.2%

N=1,495

Source: UC Merced Community and Labor Center Analysis of Fresno Speaks 2021 data

#2: Benefit existing communities

Fund projects in **existing communities** that **benefit the people** living there

How?

- Successfully **implement the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI)**
- **Authentic** community engagement (see previous slide)
- **Affirmatively further fair housing** (see AB 686 and AB 1771)
- **Promote infill and fund mobility priorities** in existing communities including disadvantaged unincorporated communities



Eastern Coachella Valley residents working with Sunline Transit Agency to address the needs of unincorporated communities.



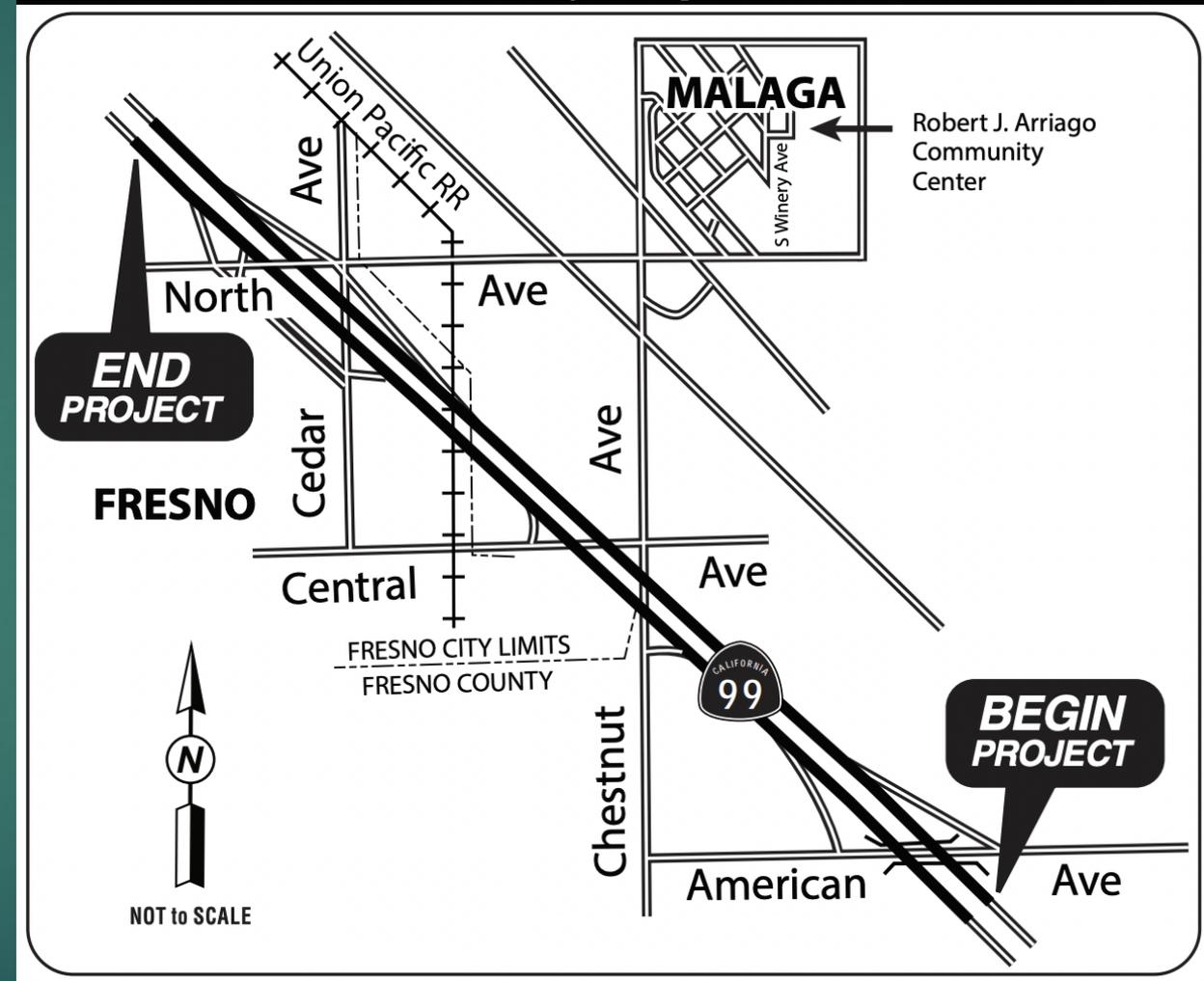
Cantua Creek leaders checking out their new EV to start their rideshare program.

#3: Address past harm, and prevent adverse impacts

Governments must address and remediate past harms communities have faced from previous leadership

How?

- Fund projects that **(1) have unequivocal community support**, and **(2) demonstrate no adverse impacts** on already overburdened communities
- **Authentic** community engagement
- Utilize **regulatory authority**
- **Affirmatively further fair housing** (AB 686 and AB 1771)



#4: Promote housing & community stability

Policies and investments **must not negatively impact overburdened communities**

How?

- Implement and require **anti-displacement measures**
- Condition state funding on meeting **lower income housing goals**
- Must **go beyond** pro-housing policies

- **Affirmatively further fair housing** (AB 686 and AB 1771)
- **Approve and enforce** effective housing elements

Over the past year, Fresno rent prices have grown 24.1%.



Tuesday, August 31, 2021

		1	2									3	4
Income Level		RHNA Allocation by Income Level	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total Units to Date (all years)	Total Remaining RHNA by Income Level
Very Low	Deed Restricted	5666	290	23		135	41	68				557	5109
	Non-Deed Restricted												
Low	Deed Restricted	3289	268	8	4		5					285	3004
	Non-Deed Restricted												
Moderate	Deed Restricted	3571										1505	2066
	Non-Deed Restricted		384	334	787								
Above Moderate		11039	2328	923	676	1202	1970	2184				9283	1756
Total RHNA		23565											
Total Units			3270	1288	1467	1337	2016	2252				11630	11935

Note: units serving extremely low-income households are included in the very low-income permitted units totals
Cells in grey contain auto-calculation formulas

Thank you.

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