

# California Progress Report

*for a Region-Based Statewide Indicator Report*

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California Center for Regional Leadership  
*September 19, 2005*



# Why a Region-Based Indicators Report?

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- Regional quality of life/community indicators reports are long-time program focus for CCRL to measure and track progress toward economic competitiveness and quality of life
- Regional Collaboratives lead the field in technical, policy and civic engagement aspects
- Councils of Governments lead regional planning and infrastructure investments, including growth and visioning projects



# Why a Region-Based Indicators Report?

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- State agencies are emphasizing need to measure and assess value of investments, leverage scarce resources, promote innovation, and meet priority regional and community needs
- CCRL and CalCOG members asked to help with a region-based report to profile regional issues and priorities, compare progress across regions, make sure we are measuring the right things, and use data to shape public policy decisions



# Developing a Prototype

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- Planning Team: CCRL, SCAG, Orange County Business Council, Collaborative Economics – to develop prototype template of an indicator report
- COG Partners: Bay Area, Monterey Bay Area Govts., Fresno, Metropolitan Trans. Com., Sacramento Area, San Bernardino, San Diego, Southern California, Western Riverside – providing financial and technical support



# Developing a Prototype

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- Built upon CCRL 2003 Inventory of projects and best practices (*Telling Our Story, Measuring Our Progress*), supported by the California First Five Association
- Reviewed data sources, methodologies and best practices
- Identified key technical and policy issues, potential indicators, potential users, potential uses



# Technical and Policy Issues

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- Who are the stakeholders and the audience?
- Include state-level comparative data?
- How to define the regions? How to deal with data issues – lack of consistency and availability across regions, especially rural areas? Consider economic regions, natural systems regions
- What is conceptual framework? Three E's

# Technical and Policy Issues

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- What are priority issues, core indicators and unique indicators? What issues and indicators would have the greatest resonance with users? See draft Prototype Template
- Available data doesn't always address the most important issues. How to "tell the story" without losing the message or the reader?
- Should the focus be on a small set of current high profile issues (i.e., childhood obesity), a broader cross section of indicators, or both?



# Technical and Policy Issues

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- What are the best data sources and methodologies? What are the gaps? Do we have what we need? How to address critical data needs?
- What is the time frame – long-term or point in time?
- What's the best way to display the information?
- What resources are required?

# Potential Users

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- State Government - Executive Branch  
(Governor, Advisors, State Agencies, Commissions)
- State Government - Legislative Branch  
(Leadership, Committees and Membership, Staff, Policy Analysts)
- State Policy Influentials  
(interest Groups, Media)
- Regional/Local Governance (COGs, MPOs, other planning organizations; local governments and special districts and schools; civic and non-profit organizations, media; educators)



# Potential Uses and Outcomes

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- Better informed state executive branch and legislative branch on critical issues and priorities for budget and policy decisions, setting benchmarks
- Better appreciation for regional diversity and need for region-based state policy
- Improved oversight and accountability
- Better informed media coverage

# Potential Uses and Outcomes

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- Better informed voters and public
- Encouragement of multi-regional collaboration around common issues
- Better targeted private philanthropy to areas of under-investment
- Improved performance by regional and local agencies

# Next Steps

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- Consult with Regional Collaboratives, COGs, other partners and potential user groups and experts, through Advisory Committee, on draft Prototype Template for potential issues and indicators, and the draft Utilization Matrix for users and uses
- Synthesize feedback and prepare recommended Template and implementation plan