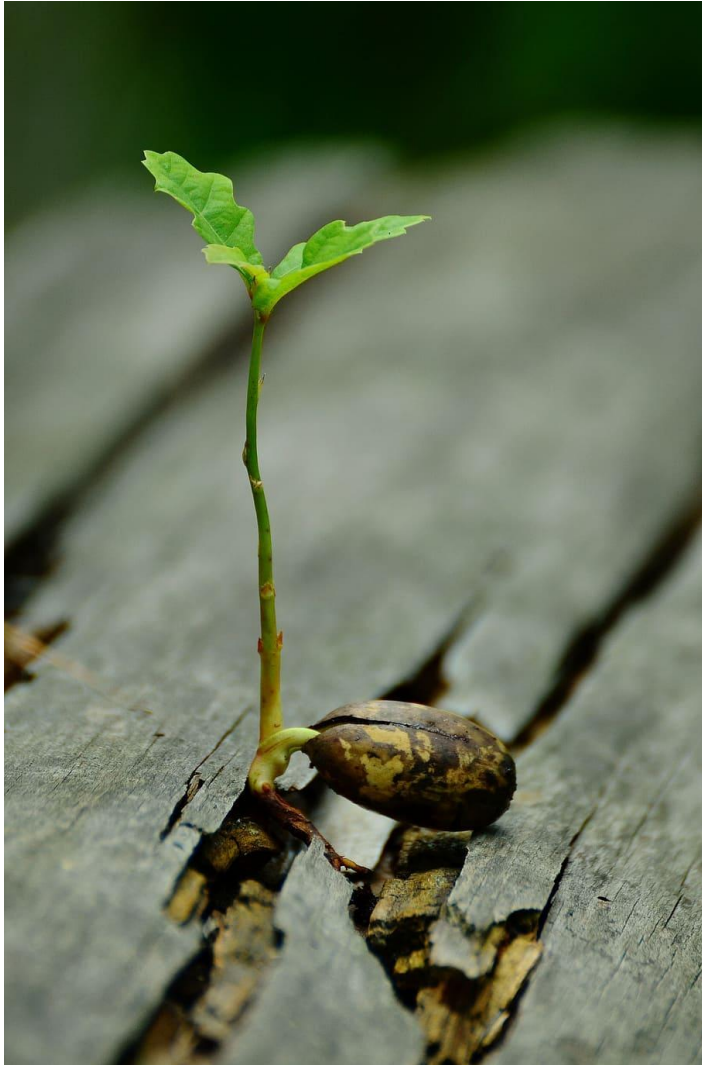


Getting Funded



After years of advocacy, grassroots movements helped pass two bills – the Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – to advance climate action and clean energy, environmental justice, and infrastructure. Billions of federal dollars are becoming available at the state and local level for projects that will help transition us to a clean energy economy, creating 9 million jobs and reducing carbon emissions 40% by 2030.

But passing these laws was only the first step. We need to make sure they're fully implemented, and that communities bearing the brunt of pollution and climate impacts benefit from these investments.

All of us want the best for our communities and future generations. We have a vision for a better world with safe communities, clean air and water, a stable climate, and more family-sustaining jobs. With these investments we can tackle climate change and protect people and the planet, but individuals, businesses and local governments need help accessing the

funds. It's up to us as organizers and advocates to make sure resources get to the right places and that benefits are felt by everyday people and our communities, not corporations and the wealthy few.

The Sierra Club has launched a Community Advocates program to build teams of volunteers to harness federal funding at the state and local level, especially in communities

most impacted by climate and environmental injustice. Our advocates will be trained in how to support implementation, whether it's working alongside local businesses and schools to apply for grants, spreading awareness about rebates, or holding elected officials accountable. They'll organize with others in their communities and will be supported with training, tools, coaching and more to advocate at the state and local level around implementation of federal dollars.

This September, the Santa Lucia Chapter will host an online panel of experts on how to navigate the funding process for the IRA and IIJA that should be of interest to local governments, schools, nonprofits, community groups, and anyone with a good project in need of funding.

Watch this space.