

FUTURE GREEN LEADERS SUMMIT

Energy efficiency is one of the fastest-growing career fields in the nation, and California, boasting nearly 14 percent of the nation's energy efficiency jobs, continues to lead the nation in the adoption of low- and zero-emission transportation. Laws and building codes promoting energy efficiency means this industry will keep growing, with an increasing demand for skilled workers.

OurCounty: The Los Angeles Countywide Sustainability Plan highlights that "preparing the workforce for transition is prioritizing the education of younger populations in career paths in a green economy, from renewable energy to ecosystem restoration." To meet this need for a skilled workforce in the state's growing clean energy field, we have a responsibility to help make LA County youth more capable and marketable by high school graduation. In addition, the County's Department of Economic Opportunity's (DEO) objective is to further elevate the regional economic potential by supporting priority youth populations through a comprehensive and strategic set of employment, training, and supportive services.

These populations include, but are not limited to out-of-school youth, CalWORKs, Justice-involved, Foster, Homeless, transition-aged youth (TAY), Low- Income households, LGBTQIA+, pregnant or parenting, have a disability, or are an English language learner.

As part of the County's Workforce Training and Education programs, the Internal Services Department's (ISD) SoCalREN, in partnership with DEO, will be hosting the second annual Future Green Leader's Summit on October 24, 2024, at the Discovery Cube Museum in Sylmar. The Summit will target middle school students in low-income and disadvantaged communities within L.A. County's San Fernando Valley in an effort to expose and educate them about green career pathways in sustainability and clean energy. They may not have been introduced to these career pathways otherwise. The Summit will feature exhibition booths, speakers, and workshops, with hands-on activities and discussions about energy sector careers. We expect 500 Middle school (6th-8th grade) students from several schools in disadvantaged, hard-to-reach, and low-income communities to attend. The Summit will aim to provide a dynamic experience to learn about a variety of careers in sustainability and energy efficiency.

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Program data has found students have pre-determined career interests once they enter high school due to existing career exposure, lack of interaction with mentors in STEM fields, and limited available curricula for teachers. Prioritizing these investments in the green economy workforce, starting with our youth, will support the state's transition to clean transportation and reduced greenhouse gas reduction goals. Last year's event website is here: [2023 Future Green Leaders Summit](#).

The County should continue to build on its commitment to workforce training and education by supporting the Future Green Leaders Summit on October 24 2024, and help us engage, expose, and challenge students to explore the Energy/Green Sector.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of ISD, or his designee, to ask for and receive donations, receive summit sponsorships or other gifts in any amount, subject to County budgetary guidelines and practices, on behalf of the Future Green Leaders Summit, to benefit LA County students and reduce the overall cost of the October 24, 2024, Future Green Leaders Summit.

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