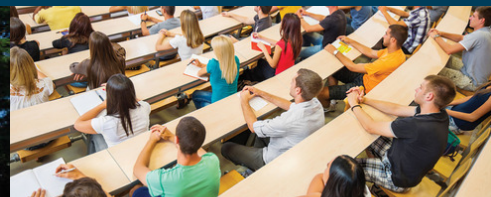




NEWS...

From the Desk of California State Treasurer Fiona Ma



Dear Friends,

DECEMBER 2020

I have uplifting news to share as we head into the holiday season. It involves keeping people healthy and local care options accessible – through financing we arranged for a vital Orange County non-profit agency formerly known as Community SeniorServ Inc. (CSS).

Each year CSS, which recently changed its name to Meals on Wheels Orange County, provides some 10,000 seniors and low-income people with nutritional and care services. Until a few weeks ago, CSS was in danger of losing its Anaheim location. Then the board of the California Health Facilities Finance Authority (CHFFA), which I am honored to chair, came to the program's rescue. With CHFFA's help, CSS is purchasing the Anaheim facilities. Read more on page 3.

The State Treasurer's Office continues to help Californians adapt to the changing conditions of work and home life during the COVID-19 crisis. For example, on page 4 you'll find details on financing help available to families through the state's Residential Energy Efficiency Loan (REEL) Assistance Program. With so many Californians spending more time at home, REEL has seen a surge in the number of homeowners and renters taking advantage of the assistance the program provides them when they upgrade to more efficient, money-saving energy systems.

Housing continues to be a high-level concern for all of us. We have to keep our eyes open for creative solutions, for models that demonstrate the progress we can make when we work together. I highlighted a powerful example of effective regional cooperation and community buy-in underway in Coachella Valley in an opinion article I recently wrote for CalMatters. Read it [here](#).

Lastly, a sincere thank-you to The Bond Buyer and Northeast Women in Public Finance for bestowing on me a Freda Johnson Award for Trailblazing Women in Public Finance. Getting to meet, mentor, and support women in financial leadership roles is one of the most rewarding experiences of my professional life.

In Peace & Friendship,

California State Treasurer Fiona Ma, CPA

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This newsletter is not intended to be and should not be used for making investment decisions about State of California bonds or notes. Potential investors should always obtain and read the Official Statement published by the State for each issue of bonds or notes.

[HTTPS://WWW.TREASURER.CA.GOV](https://www.treasurer.ca.gov)



Ask Fiona

If you have a question, please email me at askfiona@treasurer.ca.gov

Dear Fiona,

My friend mentioned that California launched a new recovery loan program for small businesses. Can you please tell me more about this program and how I can apply?

Sincerely,
Robert

Dear Robert,

With uncertainty surrounding another federal stimulus package, California recently launched an economic recovery loan program called the [California Rebuilding Fund](#) to support small businesses, especially those in underserved communities. This program is backed by the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank) and loans are being facilitated through community lenders across the state. Loans will range from \$2,000 to \$100,000 and can be used for various business purposes.

In order to be eligible for a loan through this program, small businesses must have 50 or fewer full-time equivalent employees (FTEs) and have reported gross revenues of less than \$2.5 million in 2019. Full eligibility requirements can be found [here](#). To fill out a pre-application and match up with a participating community lender, please click [here](#). If you need help applying or have questions, the California Rebuilding Fund has partnered with several [business support organizations](#) across the state that provide free advice.

Sincerely,
Fiona

Dear Fiona,

My mother's driver's license expired in October 2020. She is 80 years old. Can she get an extension due to the COVID-19 pandemic? If so, how can she apply for the extension?

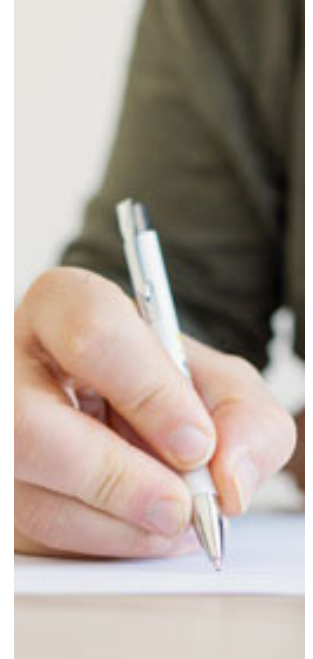
Sincerely,
Alex

Dear Alex,

Yes, your mother is eligible for an extension to renew her driver's license. The California DMV is granting an automatic [one-year extension](#) to drivers age 70 and older with a noncommercial driver's license with an expiration date between March 1 and December 31, 2020. Beginning December 6, 2020, license holders over the age of 70 will be able to renew online or by mail for expirations from March 2020 through the pandemic.

Your mother does not need to apply for the extension. Extensions are automatic. Eligible drivers will not receive a new card or paper extension in the mail. Your mother may [request a free temporary paper extension online](#) through DMV's Virtual Field Office to document the extension, however one is not needed to drive. Additionally, [the TSA will accept driver's licenses for a year after the expiration date](#) (for licenses that expired on or after March 1, 2020).

Sincerely,
Fiona



Have a Question for the Treasurer?

Readers: Send your questions for California State Treasurer Fiona Ma via email to: AskFiona@treasurer.ca.gov

Address letters to:
California State Treasurer
Fiona Ma
Post Office Box 942809
Sacramento, CA 94209-0001



ABCs of the BCAs

Financing and Investing in California Families, Businesses and Infrastructure ... Through 26 Boards, Commissions and Authorities (BCAs) Treasurer Ma is a Member of or Chairs

FEATURED...

HELP II LOAN PROGRAM RESCUES ORANGE COUNTY SENIOR HEALTH PROGRAM

It's not often that a loan program can take credit for coming to the rescue of a community-based organization, but that's what happened last month.

The [California Health Facilities Financing Authority \(CHFFA\)](#), chaired by State Treasurer Fiona Ma, approved a loan of about \$1.5 million from the BCA's [HELP II Loan Program](#) to keep the doors open at the Anaheim branch of Community SeniorServ, Inc. (CSS).

Each year at 20 sites in Orange County, CSS provides nutritional and medical services to about 10,000 low-income people, including senior citizens. The need has never been greater as caseloads have grown rapidly during the pandemic.

"This is a dramatic example of the kind of assistance the HELP II Loan Program can provide to small health organizations throughout the state," Treasurer Ma said. "These dollars will help save lives."

The Anaheim facility, located within the Woodland Business Park, was going to be forced to close because the owner of the units it leases intended to sell them to developers who planned in turn to sell them as business condominiums.

Now that it has the two-percent interest HELP II loan, CSS can purchase the three units it calls home and one additional unit to serve as its administrative offices. The facility is licensed for 75 clients and served 146 unduplicated clients in 2019.

Founded in 1967, CSS is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit agency that provides nutrition and care services with the goal of keeping people in their homes and communities, putting off for as long as possible the day when an

individual has to be cared for in an institutional setting. They serve low-income older persons, veterans and other adults with chronic medical, cognitive, mental health conditions and/or disabilities.

CSS provides medically-supervised day care, including nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, nutritional support, social worker support, and social and cognitive engagement.

Recently, it changed its name to Meals on Wheels Orange County. More information can be found here: <https://www.mealsonwheelsoc.org/about/>. It has an inspiring mission: To nourish the wellness, purpose, and dignity of older adults and their families in our community.

The HELP II Loan Program provides low-interest rate loans to California's nonprofit, small or rural health facilities in an efficient, timely, and cost effective manner. HELP II loans may be used to purchase or construct new facilities, remodel or renovate existing facilities, purchase equipment or furnishings, and refinance existing debt.

Under the program, facilities with gross annual revenues of up to \$30 million are eligible for loans. District hospitals and rural health facilities are eligible without any revenue limitations.

A wide variety of facilities qualify for loans, including adult day health centers, community clinics, skilled nursing/intermediate cares facilities, acute psychiatric facilities, and chemical dependency facilities. For more information, check here:

<https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/chffa/programs/help.asp>

...more ABCs of the BCAs

A REEL Milestone...

1,000 Californians Upgrade Homes with Energy Efficiency Loans

An energy efficiency financing pilot program in the State Treasurer's Office that was recently approved to transition to a full program marked a new milestone: its 1,000th loan.

Submitted on Nov. 19 by California Coast Credit Union, the loan for a highly efficient HVAC package and smart thermostat for a home in the Yuba County seat of Marysville brings the total amount financed for home energy improvements through the [Residential Energy Efficiency Loan \(REEL\) Assistance Program](#) to \$16,554,000.

Launched as a pilot in 2016, REEL makes energy efficiency improvements more affordable for California homeowners and renters by making attractive financing available for energy upgrades. Program activity has ramped up since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis as Californians adapted to teleworking and distance learning. Compared with 2019, the dollar value of REEL loans enrolled between April 1 and Sept. 30 rose 50 percent this year, and the number of loans enrolled between July 1 and Sept. 30 nearly doubled.

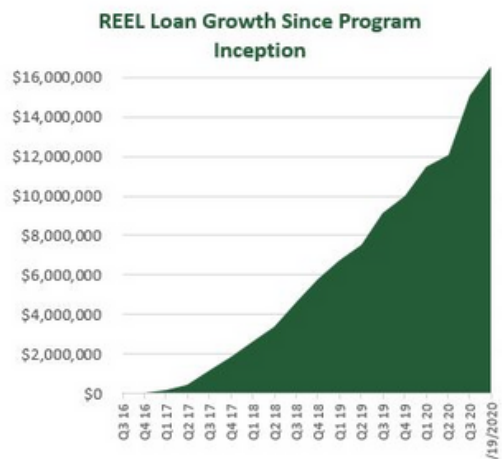
"It's clear that we are already meeting a need for people during a really difficult time," said Derek Chernow, executive director of the [California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority \(CAEATFA\)](#), the BCA that administers REEL. "In the coming months we're going to be working on modifications to transition REEL into a full program. We're looking forward to helping many more Californians make their homes more energy efficient and comfortable."

REEL is part of the [California Hub for Energy Efficiency Financing \(CHEEF\)](#). The program is authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission and supported by the ratepayers of investor-owned utilities (IOUs). Participating utilities include Pacific Gas & Electric, San Diego Gas & Electric, Southern California Edison and SoCal Gas.

Available to customers in IOU territories, REEL encourages attractive rates and terms from participating private lenders by contributing to a loan loss reserve. Such reserves function as an insurance pool for lenders in case of borrower defaults. In exchange for this risk mitigation, lenders offer lower rates, longer terms, and broader eligibility to borrowers than they otherwise would. Participating REEL lenders are currently offering interest rates between 3.48 percent and 8.12 percent, a range significantly lower than the rates they charge for non-REEL loans, which range as high as 20.8 percent.

One of the goals of the REEL Program is to make financing for energy efficiency broadly accessible to Californians. The private capital lenders who participate in REEL provide financing to customers with credit scores as low as 580. The program is also available to renters and property owners, as well as to residents of manufactured homes.

Please also note that CAEATFA recently translated [GoGreenFinancing.com](#), the public-facing platform for REEL and its sister programs serving the commercial and affordable multifamily sectors, into Spanish. For the latest summary of REEL activity, visit the [CHEEF Reports](#) page online. To explore REEL financing options and learn more about how the program works, go to [GoG](#)



Calendar of Upcoming BCA Events

Boards, Commissions and Authorities (BCAs) Within the State Treasurer's Office

December

15

California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority

10:30 AM | 915 Capitol Mall, Room 587, Sacramento, CA

Public Participation Call-In Number* (877) 810-9415 | Participant Code: 6535126

Teleconference information, other scheduled BCA meetings, agendas, deadlines for grants, and more, may be accessed as the information is posted or updated on the Treasurer's website: <https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/>

Additional BCA meetings in December: [CEFA](#) (Dec. 3) | [CHFFA](#) (Dec. 3) | [CSFA](#) (Dec. 3) | [CalSavers](#) (Dec. 7) | [CDLAC](#) / [CTCAC](#) (Dec. 9) | [SIB](#) (Dec. 10) | [PMIB](#) (Dec. 16) | [CDLAC](#) / [CTCAC](#) (Dec. 17). Meeting date and times may change; please check the BCA links included here for such notices, as well as for teleconference details.

Note: The State Treasurer's Office provides essential services for the citizens of California. As we work to further protect the health of our community in response to COVID-19, the BCAs are modifying standard committee meeting procedures.*

Participants, interested parties, and non-essential staff are requested to join the meeting via teleconference. Further, social distancing measures will be put in place at the meeting location, which will substantially limit the space available for in-person attendees. Public participation and comment periods will not be impacted.





The Vault

November 12

California Earthquake Authority: Revenue Bonds, Series 2020B (Federally Taxable) (\$300 million)

Proceeds of the upcoming sale will provide funding to enhance the California Earthquake Authority's claim-paying capacity for damages resulting from earthquake events. The all-in true interest cost for the bonds was 1.64 percent. Yields to investors ranged from 1.127 percent for the January 2021 maturity to 1.477 percent for the 2023 maturity. The bonds are rated A by Fitch Ratings and AA- by Kroll Bond Rating Agency.

November 18

State of California Variable Rate General Obligation, Series 2020A (\$100 million)

Proceeds of the upcoming bond sale will provide funding for projects and programs for the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014. The bonds will bear interest at a variable interest rate which will be determined weekly. The initial interest rate of 0.11% was set on the pricing date by the underwriter Siebert Williams Shank & Co. Following the initial weekly interest rate period, the weekly interest rate for the bonds will be determined by the Clarity BidRate Alternative Trading System (Clarity). The bonds are backed by an irrevocable direct-pay letter of credit issued by State Street Bank and Trust Company and are rated AAA/A-1+ by S&P Global Ratings, AA/F1+ by Fitch Ratings and Aa1/VMIG 1 by Moody's Investors Service.

December 3

California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank Infrastructure State Revolving Fund: Revenue Bonds Series 2020A (Federally Taxable) (\$325 million)

Proceeds of the upcoming sale will advance refund all, or a portion of, outstanding bonds for the Infrastructure State Revolving Fund (ISRF) program.

More information about the upcoming fall bond sales can be found at [BuyCaliforniaBonds.com](https://www.buycaliforniabonds.com).

The bond issuances described above (including the amounts and timing thereof) are preliminary and subject to change or cancellation based on market conditions or other factors as determined by the State Treasurer.



The Ma Squad



Treasurer Ma and staff present useful small business resources as part of a webinar co-hosted by the Yuba Sutter Chamber of Commerce and Yuba-Sutter Economic Development Corporation. From left to right, top row: Treasurer Ma, Yuba Sutter Chamber of Commerce CEO Marni Sanders, Employment Training Panel Senior Economic Development Consultant Renee Piece Middle row: CalSavers Manager of Outreach and Marketing Jonathan Herrera, California Pollution Control Financing Authority Deputy Executive Director Janae Davis, California Hub for Energy Efficiency Finance (CHEEF) Program Manager Miriam Joffe Block. Bottom row: California Business Investment Services Assistant Deputy Director & Business Development Specialist Poonam Patel, Office of the Small Business Advocate Northern Regional Advisor and Interim Program Manager Michelle Radmand, and California Infrastructure Bank Loan Officer Megan Hodapp.

Joining Treasurer Ma for a Sacramento Hispanic Chamber for Small Business Webinar are (top row, left-to-right) Sacramento Hispanic Chamber staff member Carly Adams, Treasurer External Affairs Northern California Outreach Noah Starr, Hispanic Chamber staff member Natalia Chavez, City of Sacramento Office of Innovation and Economic Development Valerie Mamone-Werder, Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President Cathy Rodriguez; (middle row) CHEEF Program Manager David Gibbs, California Pollution Control Financing Authority Deputy Executive Director Janae Davis, CalSavers Outreach Coordinator Carolina Hernandez, Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Vice President Juan Novello, California Hub for Energy Efficiency Finance (CHEEF) Program Manager Miriam Joffe Block; (bottom row) California Alternative Energy & Advanced Transportation Financing Authority (CAEATFA) Program Analyst Xee Moua, Treasurer Ma, and translator Monica Nainsztein.



Hyepin Im, Founder and President/CEO, the board of directors, and the staff of Faith and Community Empowerment (FACE), formerly KCCD, hosted 700 registrants at their 22nd Annual Homeownership Fair. FACE started by helping the Korean American community, the most underserved ethnic community in Los Angeles. Congresswoman Judy Chu and Treasurer Ma participated in the virtual event. Treasurer Ma provided information on programs she oversees that benefit housing, affordable housing and home ownership through tax credits and green financing.