



Principal Investigator Spotlight

V. Kelly Turner

UCLA

Co-Director, Luskin Center for Innovation

Assistant Professor, Urban Planning and Geography



**CALIFORNIA
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GROWTH
COUNCIL**

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The University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Professor and Co-Director of the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation [V. Kelly Turner](#) is tackling extreme heat impacts head-on. Turner is the principal investigator on the [Micro-climate Zones: Designing Effective Outdoor Cooling Interventions](#) research project, which is funded by SGC's Climate Change Research Program (CCR).

"One reason why CCR Program funding has been so impactful in the policy realm, in my opinion, is the requirement that projects include meaningful collaboration with community partners and stakeholders.

This enables projects to be designed in a way ensures that research is salient to those that need it. Also, importantly, it strengthens networks and coalitions of stakeholders that can help formulate actionable solutions. "

Professor V. Kelly Turner

This project utilizes a community-and stakeholder-engaged comparative approach to analyze micro-scale cooling strategies in four historically disadvantaged communities in the Inland Valley, Coachella Valley, and Los Angeles areas that are vulnerable to extreme heat.

In partnership with the Kounkuey Design Initiative, the community of Oasis in Riverside County, and the Transformative Climate Communities of Ontario, Pacoima, and Watts, the research team is developing design recommendations to help municipalities and communities most cost-effectively mitigate heat at bus stops and other streetscapes.

The team is committed to empower communities, particularly disadvantaged and heat vulnerable communities, to cost-effectively design cooling solutions for bus stops and other streetscapes that facilitate the use of transit and active transportation, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and local pollution while creating climate-resilient neighborhoods.

Turner's work doesn't stop with the CCR-funded project. Check out some of her work below:

- ❖ [UCLA LUSKIN | TURNER ON FRAMING THE HEAT NARRATIVE TO FIND SOLUTIONS](#)
- ❖ [CITIES USE ART TO COMBAT EXTREME URBAN HEAT | SMART CITIES DIVE](#)
- ❖ [UCLA LUSKIN | TURNER CALLS FOR EQUITABLE, COORDINATED APPROACH TO EXTREME HEAT](#)
- ❖ [EXTREME HEAT GOVERNANCE AND REGULATION \(OR LACK OF IT\) WITH DR. V. KELLY TURNER AT UCLA'S LUSKIN SCHOOL — AMERICA ADAPTS](#)
- ❖ [LOS ANGELES CONFRONTS ITS SHADY DIVIDE \(UCLA.EDU\)](#)
- ❖ [AS URBAN AREAS FEEL THE HEAT, IT'S TIME FOR NATIONAL COOL COMMUNITIES STANDARDS \(NEXTCITY.ORG\)](#)