

MISSION STATEMENT

CFEE Study Tour
Fall 2022

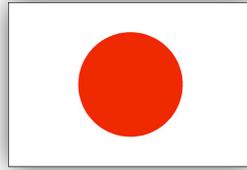
Japan

In Fall 2022, the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy (CFEE) will lead a bi-partisan delegation of elected officials and labor, environmental, business, and local government leaders to Japan.

Through a carefully crafted itinerary of site visits, meetings, and facility tours, **CFEE** will facilitate a multi-day journey for California leaders to meet and learn from their Japanese counterparts in the areas of hydrogen, high speed rail, nuclear power, and affordable housing.

The mission of the California Delegation is to share best practices on these issues, and others, and return to California with lessons to support our state's evolving environmental, economic, and social ambitions.

*The CFEE
Delegation will
learn about and
ride the
Shinkansen
"Bullet Train"
(right)*



HYDROGEN | In the Land of the Rising Sun, a new energy day is dawning. While renewable resources like wind, solar, and batteries have gained popularity in other countries, Japan lacks many of the domestic resources to follow suit without sacrificing energy security. Accordingly, Japan is pursuing the promise of hydrogen by seeking to grow its market from its current output of two million tons of hydrogen per year to three million tons by 2030 and 20 million tons by 2050.

The California Delegation will meet with government officials, industry executives, and automakers to learn how hydrogen can provide Japan with strategic versatility for energy production, storage, transport, and use. The group will tour hydrogen generation sites, light and heavy duty vehicle manufacturing plants, and refueling stations to study what steps are being taken to decrease hydrogen costs while minimizing the carbon footprint of its production.

HIGH SPEED RAIL | The Shinkansen "Bullet Train" has marveled the world with its speed, efficiency, and ingenuity since it was first built in 1964. Today, 380 million passengers zip across Japan in every direction at more than 200 miles per hour. It is a true feat of engineering that is primed for another technological leap. Rail operators are busy building the next generation propulsion system – magnetic levitation – that could push train speeds in excess of 300 miles per hour.

The CFEE Delegation will ride the Shinkansen and meet with the Japanese Rail Company that partners closely with government to own and operate the network. The Delegation will explore what it took to permit and construct the Bullet Train, how it is powered today and in the future, and how its public-private model for financing and construction is faring decades later. By looking to Japan, can California find hope for its own high speed rail?

NUCLEAR POWER | Nuclear power, despite public wariness after the Fukushima disaster, remains a key staple of Japan's decarbonization strategy. Generating six percent of the country's electricity today, energy authorities plan to encourage and license existing power plants and develop new ones such that, by 2030, nuclear will represent 20-22 percent of Japan's electricity mix.

The group will meet with plant operators to learn more about nuclear energy's virtues as a carbon free, baseload resource. Discussions will focus on grid reliability, the safe and secure operation of nuclear plants, and how Japan handles disposal of radioactive waste.



The Takahama Nuclear Power Plant (above) in western Japan has a capacity of 3,400 megawatts, enough to power two million homes

AFFORDABLE HOUSING | Japan, a populous country of 126 million, is also home to the largest metropolitan area in the world in Tokyo, which touts an eye-popping 37 million regional residents. In response to the intense demand for housing, Japan and Tokyo have managed to churn out tens of thousands of units that, per capita, significantly outpace housing construction in California's major cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles. Not surprisingly, Japan's housing costs average ~70 percent less than California's and remains affordable to most residents based on income.

As California slides deeper into a housing crisis with scant relief in sight, the Delegation will learn what public investment, zoning laws, and permit streamlining have helped Japan provide a steady supply of affordable housing for its residents. All while blending a mix of ultramodern infrastructure and traditional architecture that ties into a cohesive transportation system.

**About the
California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy (CFEE)**

CFEE is a nonprofit coalition of labor, environmental, local government, and business leaders that conducts intensive public policy conferences, legislative briefings, multiparty workshops, and international study travel projects for California State legislators, regulatory commissioners, and members of the Governor's Cabinet. CFEE brings together these leaders to facilitate focused, balanced, and solutions-oriented conversations designed to address the fundamental environmental and economic challenges in California.

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