

# California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force



LAND USE GOVERNANCE & SOVEREIGNTY SUBCOMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 | 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.



# Participation Guidelines



**Share,  
Listen, Learn**



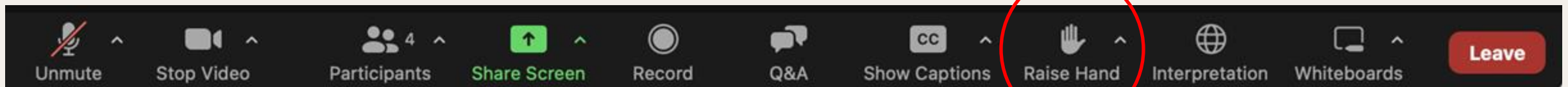
**Respect Different  
Perspectives**



**Stay on Point**

# Zoom Tips

- All participants are **muted** upon entry.
  - You will be unmuted when it is your time to speak.
  - Please remember to mute yourself after speaking.
- Cameras are optional.
- Use “Raise Hand” feature during public comment periods.



# Agenda Review

- **Welcome**
- **Working Session and Next Steps**
  - Review Work Plan. Identify and consider topics of priority interest.
  - Discuss staff proposal for next steps to advance priority issues and ideas.
  - Summarize discussions and review action items.
  - Confirm meeting schedule and timeframe for next meeting.
- **General Public Comment**

# Public Comment Process

- Complete form at [sgc.ca.gov/meetings-events](https://sgc.ca.gov/meetings-events)
- Separate form for each item
- Listen for your name and “raise your hand” on Zoom
- Staff will unmute your microphone
- Please adhere to 2-minute time limit

# Working Session

# Working Session

## Process:

1. Quick review of work plan excerpt to align on subcommittee scope and priorities
2. Consider and discuss staff proposal for subcommittee
  - a. How can this subcommittee advance/further explore priority topics for recommendations?
  - b. What do we know, what do we need to know, and by when?

# Quick review: Work Plan Excerpt

Description of "land use governance and sovereignty" dimension of land equity:

**What is allowable and possible, who decides, and how decisions are made and upheld once an individual, entity, organization, or government has access. Land use is defined broadly to include a range of values and stewardship and cultural practices.**



Topic	Issues to address	Potential solutions
<b>Land use planning and restrictions</b>	<p>Single-use zoning can prohibit diverse agricultural land uses, including grazing, housing, and cultural land management</p> <p>One-size-fits-all regulations and requirements can impede equity</p> <p>Easements and covenants can restrict certain cultural and agricultural practices and uses</p> <p>Local land use planning and State legislation and regulations can be contradictory and present challenges for small scale, diversified agriculture</p>	<p>Multiuse zoning</p> <p>Build respect for agriculture among neighbors, the wider public</p> <p>Limits to public nuisance complaints about farmers</p> <p>Acknowledge and address ways that California Native American tribes are prevented from practicing sovereignty on ancestral lands --&gt; <b>SNCR</b></p> <p>Utilize existing lists/maps of affordable housing locations to find ag appropriate lands (what isn't good for housing might be perfect for farms and vice versa)</p>
<b>State and federal legislation</b>	<p>Disproportionate impacts of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), related bills, and other legislation and regulations on small and tenant farmers</p> <p>Regulations fail to provide different considerations and approaches for small scale, diversified farmers and for urban, peri-urban, and rural lands</p> <p>Regulatory barriers prevent CA Native American Tribes' ability to implement sovereignty, including the right to engage in practices like cultural fire and access ancestral lands --&gt;<b>SNCR</b></p>	<p>Legal framework that supports California Native American land management practices --&gt; <b>SNCR</b></p> <p>Advocate for the removal of policies that are barriers to implementing sovereignty --&gt; <b>SNCR</b></p> <p>Remove barriers that prevent ag and urban farm projects moving forward, e.g. fair prices for agricultural uses</p> <p>Ensure that diverse production systems and small-scale farmers are considered when designing regulations</p>
<b>Housing (redistribute into above topics)</b>	<p>Finding land with appropriate housing is a challenge for underserved farmers</p> <p>Stipulations on land use do not align with CA Native American practices of stewardship --&gt;<b>SNCR</b></p>	<p>Incorporate housing into ag land easements</p>

# Proposed Subcommittee Work Plan

- **October 2024-January 2025**
  - Speaker presentations that address:
    - Zoning ordinances and land use planning
    - State and federal oversight and impacts on land use
    - Easements and covenants in relation to decision-making, sovereignty
  - Drafting ideas and suggestions in interim
- **Deadlines:**
  - **November 2024:** Update to Task Force
  - **January 2024:** Initial ideas and recommendations shared with staff for inclusion in preliminary draft
  - **February 2025:** Discussion of preliminary draft at Task Force meeting

# Summarize, Action Items, Next Steps

- Review of Action Items and Follow Up Items
- Decide on next meeting + meeting schedule
- Meeting Notes, Recording, and Materials posted to:

<https://sgc.ca.gov/meetings/caletf/>

# **General Public Comment**



# Public Comment Process

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# Upcoming Meetings

- **Grants & Resources Subcommittee** | Sept. 18, 1:30pm – 3:30pm, Virtual
- **Land Tenure Subcommittee** | Sept. 19, 11am – 12pm, Virtual
- **Land Access and Acquisition Subcommittee** | Sept. 26, 12pm – 2pm, Virtual
- **Sustaining Natural & Cultural Resources Subcom.** | Oct. 4, 10:30am – 12pm, Virtual
- **Community Outreach Subcommittee** | Oct. 7, 12am – 2pm, Virtual
- **Regular Task Force Meeting** | Nov. 13/14, Salinas & Virtual

Meeting Notes, Recording, and Materials posted to: <https://sgc.ca.gov/meetings/caletf/>

**Thank You!**