

# California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force Land Use Governance and Sovereignty Subcommittee Meeting Summary: September 17, 2024

DRAFT until approved at subsequent meeting

## Meeting Called to Order

Facilitator Meagan Wylie started the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

## Welcome and Housekeeping

Facilitator Wylie provided housekeeping information for all meeting participants. Slides and materials presented during the meeting are available on the Strategic Growth Council ([SGC](#)) [website](#).

## Roll Call

Members present:

- Emily Burgueno, Agricultural Land Equity Task Force Vice Chair
- Dorian Payán

## Work Plan Discussion

Staff reviewed the working definition of the *Land Use Governance and Sovereignty* dimension of land access and associated sections of the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force (Task Force) Work Plan, noting that revisions are underway based on feedback from the August Task Force meeting.

Staff invited feedback from Subcommittee members to ensure alignment with the Subcommittee members' priorities.

Subcommittee members suggested to modify the definition to include a purpose or aspirational end goal. Subcommittee members will consider the text more carefully after the meeting and provide any suggestions to staff.

Staff noted that the Sustaining Natural and Cultural Resources (SNCR) Subcommittee expressed interest to address some of the issues raised in the *Land Use Governance and Sovereignty* section of the Work Plan. Subcommittee members plan to coordinate with the SNCR Subcommittee to ensure their work is complementary.

Subcommittee members suggested that the Work Plan be updated to include an analysis of existing policy limitations, and the legal language of policies and programs related to land use governance and sovereignty to better address these challenges. Additionally, members pointed out that certain language in the document may be too broad to provide much direction for the Subcommittee. Members also requested an additional subject area under the *Land Use Governance and Sovereignty* dimension that directly pertains to issues affecting California Native Tribes.

Members asked to include aspects of sovereignty not currently incorporated in the Work Plan to the work of the Task Force. They expressed that the various subcommittees' work should support each other and that explicitly incorporating aspects of sovereignty into the Work Plan is important.

Staff next shared a proposal and timeline for how the Subcommittee could move its work forward. The proposal includes formation of a working group focused on land use governance and sovereignty issues to advance the Subcommittee's work in between public Subcommittee and Task Force meetings. Members supported this approach. Both members Burgueno and Payán will participate as working group members. Staff will develop a collaborative working document for Burgueno and Payán to exchange ideas.

Members asked how the work of this Subcommittee could occur collaboratively with other Subcommittees working on related issues. Staff responded that working groups can be comprised of one or two members of different Subcommittees and updates on work must be shared in a public meeting. Clarifying questions were asked and answered regarding Bagley-Keene requirements for working groups.

Members provided guest speaker suggestions for future Subcommittee meetings and identified other programs that may inform the work of the Subcommittee. Members were encouraged to also reach out directly to experts for individual conversations to move the work of the Subcommittee forward and report on those conversations during the next public meeting. Staff added they will consider ways to host Bagley-Keene-compliant informational sessions that might be of interest to numerous members of different subcommittees.

Facilitator Wylie summarized immediate next steps: staff will suggest written revisions to the Work Plan per Subcommittee recommendations; staff will develop a collaborative document for working group members' use; staff will poll Subcommittee members for availability for an October meeting to check in on progress and plan for the Subcommittee's report to the Task Force at the November 13-14 meeting.

## **Public Comment**

- Lauren Gucik, People's Land Fund

Facilitator Wylie shared upcoming meeting dates pertaining to the work of the Task Force and ended the meeting at 2:58 p.m.