

December 15, 2022

Subject: Strategic Growth Council October 27, 2022, Meeting Minutes
Reporting Period: August 2022 – December 2022
Staff Lead: Kimberly Davila, Health and Equity Associate, SGC

Recommended Action

Approval of the October 27, 2022, Strategic Growth Council Meeting Minutes.

Strategic Growth Council October 27, 2022 - Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order

Vice Chair Ross called the meeting to order at 1:03PM.

Agenda Item #2: Roll Call

Council Members and Representatives Present:

Saharnaz Mirzazad, Chief Deputy, Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR);

Frank Cardenas, Public Member;

Shereen D'Souza (Designee), Deputy Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)

Lourdes Castro Ramirez, Secretary, California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH);

Moises Moreno-Rivera (Designee), Deputy Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)

Toks Omishakin, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA);

Nicole Capretz, Public Member;

Karen Ross, Secretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

Juan Sánchez Muñoz, Public Member;

Rohan Radhakrishna (Designee), Deputy Director, California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS), on behalf of Secretary Mark Ghaly;

Agenda Item #3: ACTION: Approval of Minutes

Motion was made Designee Moreno-Rivera and seconded by Councilmember Capretz to approve the August 31, 2022 meeting minutes. **Motion passes (10-0-0*)**. *Marks abstention or absence from vote

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Agenda Item #4: Executive Director's Report

Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Executive Director, SGC

Will Robinson, Legislative Director, SGC

Council Comment:

Chancellor Munoz: Appreciates intentionality behind awards to Tribal communities is remarkable. Communities have often been overlooked, and \$2 million is a starting point.

Secretary Ross: Appreciate seeing legislature paying close attention to our programs and seeing where need lie. Wants to reinforce importance of advance pay pilot program.

Secretary Castro-Ramirez: Grateful for legislature and the Governor for signing strong bills that will expand building affordable housing. We're excited for the opportunity to work with local communities to reposition and reimagine commercial corridors that are underutilized and creating housing that is affordable and mixed use. Looking at points of intersection with community resilience centers and housing that is being built in those communities as we continue to build on guidelines.

Deputy Secretary D'Souza: Want to highlight bills that were not called out in the update. Wanted to draw connection with the work we do and the climate bills that also passed.

Councilmember Cardenas: SGC was completing review on AB285 back in June. Some of us are disappointed with the fate of the bill which was AB2438. What was the spirit of this bill being revived? Funding for community resilience centers is a real game changer and interested in hearing from staff how this might interface with existing projects like AHSC and TCC.

Public Comment:

Peter Pallesen, City of Ontario

Jason Karpman, UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation

Agenda Item #5: Consent Calendar

Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Executive Director, SGC

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program Award Increase- Approve the staff recommendation to increase by 10.6% the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program award made in FY 18-19 (Round 5) to California Rangeland Trust to accommodate the awardee's purchase of a conservation easement on the Nakagawa Ranch.

Council Comment:

No council comments.

Public Comment:

JT Riser, California Rangeland Trust

Motion passes (10-0-0).

Motion was made by Secretary Castro-Ramirez.

Agenda Item #6: ACTION: Transformative Climate Communities Round 4 Awards Approval

Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Executive Director, SGC

Sophie Young, TCC Program Manager, SGC

Approve Staff Recommendations on TCC Round 4 Planning and Implementation Grant Awards.

Council Comment:

Deputy Secretary Moreno-Rivera: Wants to thank members of the public for all your engagement and providing your testimony on behalf of your community.

Secretary Ross: Happy to see the enthusiasm and wants to thank communities.

Secretary Castro-Ramirez: Thank you for participating and sharing your perspective. It makes a difference to hear from you and bring to life components of this program. TCC is a community-led program, and we see how this program brings meaningful participation. Excited to see projects and thanks for staff to thinking about how to provide planning grants. For applicants that applied and did not score high enough, we have limited resources but sense of hope to apply again.

Councilmember Cardenas: Congratulates and thanks Lynn, Saharnaz, Sophie, and Gerry. Wants to encourage applicants to stick with the process and believes in attempts to receive awards. When we learn more about climate change, it's easy to become despondent but visiting site in South LA gave me hope in the investments we are making. Tough couple of weeks in LA and this is real, the communities are real. Communities should come up with the vision and make sure resources come back to you. It's amazing to bask in your leadership.

Secretary D'Souza: Thank you for coming to this meeting, especially those coming from South LA, it's a long journey. We value the work your communities are doing and thank you for SGC teams for the work they have been doing. We support the suggestions made today. I would like to see smaller less-resourced communities like Coachella be successful in the future.

Deputy Secretary Mirzazad: It means a lot to have communities share their experiences and perspective here today. Repeat applicants show how meaningful and supportive communities have been to move initiatives forward. It's exciting to see South LA receive award today. We don't want to recreate racism. What's happening in LA is really showing what we don't want to happen and making sure we support each other during this time. Thank you to the Governor for additional funding in the pipeline and filling gaps in affordable housing. I hope TCC money will go far to fill these gaps.

Councilmember Capretz: I have always viewed TCC as heart and soul of this agency. It really is the community that has shifted the view on this program. This program is the vision and will help us survive and thrive in years to come. I want to thank the community for continuing to engage and push for more funding for this program. You're all showing what is possible and countering negative forces affecting public's view on government.

Public Comment:

Michelle Persoff, Office of Assemblymember Isaac Bryan

Steven Hernandez, City of Coachella, Mayor

Naomi Riley, Office of CA Senator Sydney Kamlager

Mayor Eric Garcetti, City of Los Angeles

Myla Ablog, Little Manila Rising

Nancy Faulstich, Regeneración - Pajaro Valley Climate Action

Phyllis Owens, Community Partners

Grant Kirkpatrick, City of Stockton

Celina Jimenez, City of Coachella

Rebecca Gibian, San Francisco Transit Riders

David Cob, Wiyot Tribe Dishgamu Community Land Trust

Keevan Garraway, Coalition for Responsible Community Development

Romel Pascual, CicLavia

Olivia Seideman, Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability

Matthew Pendergraft, Bikes del Pueblo

Tyler Summersett, Tuolumne County

Jennifer Prado, Southern CA Mountains Foundation- Urban Conservation Corps of the Inland Empire

Miroslav Penchev, University of California- Riverside

Emily Brand, HEAT

Ruth Andrade, SCOPE

Ryan Trabuco, Office of Supervisor Nora Vargas- County of San Diego

Sandy Bonilla, Urban Conservation Corps

Patricia Carrillo, City of Coachella

Stacy Goran, Urban Conservation Corps

Shasa Curl, City of Richmond

Heather Repenning, LA Metro

Ignacio Guterrez, SCOPE

Robin Line, SCOPE

Zahirah Mann, SLATE-Z

Loran Avila, Trust South LA

Blanca Lucio, Trust South LA

Rico Mastrodonato, Trust for Public Land

Glakira Lopez, Strategic Actions for a Just Economy

Ricardo Mendoza and Mark Wilson, CRCDC

Achini Bandara, GRID

Ve'ah'Na Rogers, SAJE/ Trust LA

Eileen Garcia, Tree People/ South LA ECO Lab

Tren Tran, Community Water Center

Doria Robinson, Richmond Rising

Deborah Murphy, TCC Grant Coordinator

Edgar Garcia, Civilian

Motion made by Councilmember Capretz, seconded by Deputy Secretary Radhakrishna. 10-0-0.

Agenda Item #7: ACTION: California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force

Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Executive Director, SGC

Sean Kennedy, Special Projects Analyst, SGC

Action: Approve staff recommendation to support the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force via SGC's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) allocation

Discussion: California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force nomination criteria and review process

Council Comment:

Chancellor Munoz: What percentage of this funding will go to consultants and why would we need to pay for SGC personnel?

Secretary Ross: Is there any consideration that all travel costs of members will be covered? It's very important to pay for stipends of the input of folks and be inclusive of that. In 2020, we released the first ever Farm Equity Report. One of the greatest barriers for farmers is access to land. Land values and competing interest for lands makes it difficult for new, and diverse farmers. Urban farming provides an outlet for new beginning farmers and immigrant farmers. I'm enthusiastic about this item on our agenda and support staff recommendations.

Deputy Secretary Moreno-Rivera: We have some suggestions for language choice and for consistency as we take this forward. We also have some clarifying questions that we would appreciate being answered as a follow-up.

Chancellor Munoz: I always pay attention to administrative costs. Divided over three years? 1 million of administrative costs divided over three years.

Deputy Mirzazad: Wants to thank SGC for the work on this. Adding these funds will get this up and running. Let's think about how to take this impact to the legislature so it can continue as an action.

Secretary Ross: Having pilots on this will be really informative and getting to next steps on problem solving.

Public Comment:

Michael Jarred, Community Alliance with Family Farmers

Beth Smoker, Policy Director with California Farming Network

Carlos Gomez, Agroecology Project Coordinator

Jamie Fanous, Community Alliance with Community Farmers

Motion made by Chancellor Munoz, seconded by Councilmember Capretz 10-0-0.

Agenda Item #8: DISCUSSION: Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP) Update

Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Executive Director, SGC

Kirin Kumar, Deputy Director, SGC

- *Reflection on 2019-2022 REAP*
- *High level goals & commitments for REAP 2023*
- *Connection to Executive Order on Equity*

Council Comment:

Deputy Secretary Moreno-Rivera: Resource Hub has been a great resource for our staff. The way it was curated is very easy to follow. Kudos to the team and the monthly calls we have really guide our department. Interagency collaboration is extremely important. There has been a lot of work on language access and talks about having resource sharing on language access on the hub. Public contracts and RFPs that have been approved to see how others have paved the way. Earlier this year we were able to align our outreach and where we break down barriers for career access through fellowships.

Deputy Secretary Radhakishna: We've really advanced the racial equity agenda. Charted JEDI Commission, and all departments have equity officers. Have been working with GovOps given Governor's Executive Order to develop recommendations for language and collaboration. We want to pay community members for their expertise and remove barriers for paying community members. We should also focus on developing data indicators on lived experience. We want to also acknowledge measurable milestones and recommendations set out in reparation report.

D'Souza: Thank you for the progress you have made on the Racial Equity Action Plan. I'm looking forward to seeing commitment to technical assistance, capacity building,

Excited to see the advance pay pilot and looking forward to the lessons learned from that pilot so that all state agencies and departments can incorporate that into grant programs. In terms of embedding equity into CalEPA, mentioned in Governor's Equity Order, data is important for this work. We created a tool that highlights redlining and how it continues to impact communities today. Racial equity is completely fundamental to the work we do.

Castro-Ramirez: Want to applaud and highlight Governor's Newsom's leadership and doubling down on our commitment to accessibility and equity. We are committed to racial equity and doing everything [possible to combat discrimination and hate. We are leading efforts on anti-hate and including a level of community dialogue. Also, providing greater resources to community members that are victims of hate and discrimination. I'm grateful we continue to make this a priority and ask agencies to continue to embed equity and what it really means.

Chancellor Munoz: I think higher education is sensitive to issues of equity. Higher education offers an expertise to achieve higher degrees of outcomes and inputs. WE need to be cognizant of the students we are serving (first-gen, Pell-recipients etc.). Are there some analytics of what folks are looking at the Hub and what is salient to users?

Secretary Ross: We have doubled down on explicit bias training for our staff and paying attention to our own staff. We are doing all that we can to help our staff develop professionally. DEI committee and Disability Advisory Committee, which we often overlook as an equity issues. We also need to think about what type of data we can collect and how it can be most helpful. There are definitely also people outside of the State of California looking at the Resource Hub and the impact goes a long way.

Public Comment:

Melanie Morelos, Greenlining Institute

Sarai Jimenez, Nature Conservancy

Anna Hasselblad, United Way of California

Susan Perlson, Indivisible

Angelia Jones, San Francisco Black & Jewish Unity Coalition

Ronald Coleman Baeza, CPHEN

Oussama Mokeddem, Public Health Advocates

Elena Santamaria, Los Angeles LGBT Center

Axel Santana, Policy Link

Victor Flores, Greenbelt Alliance

Vince Leus, Prevention Institute

Sarah Sachs, Ceres

Sadalia King, Catalyst California



Adrian Mohammed, Black Leadership Council

Adriana Ramos-Yamamoto, California Budget and Policy Center

Elena Santamaria, NextGen California

Julia Caplan, State of Equity

Secretary Omishakin left at 3:59.

Frank Cardenas left at 4:00.

Saharnaz Mirzazad left at 4:30.

Agenda Item #9: DISCUSSION: Council Priority 3: Housing & Climate

-Overview

-Vision & Scope

-Potential Outcomes

Continued to the next Council Meeting by Vice Chair Ross.

Council Comment:

N/A

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Agenda Item #10: Public Comment

Lora O'Connor, Inspired Collaborations, Founder + Advisor to Friendship House SF + The Village

Agenda Item #11: Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:10PM