

Feb. 25, 2026

Subject: California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Dec. 10, 2025 – Meeting Minutes

Reporting Period: December 2025 – February 2026

Staff Lead: Lisa Duong, Administrative Associate, SGC

Recommended Action

Approval of the Dec. 10, 2025, SGC Meeting Minutes.

SGC Dec. 10, 2025 – Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order

Vice Chair Cárdenas called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Roll Call

Council Members and Representatives Present:

Frank Cárdenas, Vice Chair, Public Member

Tomiquia Moss, Secretary, California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH)

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

Kim Johnson, Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS)

Juan Sanchez Muñoz, Chancellor, Public Member

Natalie Kuffel (Designee), Deputy Director, on behalf of Director Sam Assefa, Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI)

Sarah Izant (Designee), Deputy Secretary, on behalf of Secretary Yana Garcia, California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)

Abigail Jackson (Designee), Senior Housing Policy Coordinator, on behalf of Secretary Toks Omishakin, California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA)

Nicole Capretz, Public Member (Virtual)

Noaki Schwartz (Designee), Deputy Secretary, Equity and Environmental Justice, on behalf of Secretary Wade Crowfoot, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) (Virtual)

Council Members and Representatives Absent:

Quorum met; 10/10 members present

Agenda Item #3: ACTION: Approval of Minutes

Approval of Dec. 10, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Council Comment

No Council comment.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Motion passes (9-0-1*). *Marks abstention or absence from vote.

Motion was made by Moss and seconded by Muñoz.

Agenda Item #4: Executive Director’s Report

Erin Curtis, Executive Director, SGC

Council Comment

Cárdenas: Gave a warm welcome to new staff joining SGC.

Muñoz: Echoed Cárdenas’ comments. Acknowledged the terrific work that SGC is doing and also asked for more ways to identify events celebrating projects and bring them to Council members’ attention so that they can be more intentional as ambassadors for SGC.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Agenda Item #5: INFORMATIONAL

Health in All Policies 15-Year Anniversary & SGC Program Access Highlights

Fabián Pérez-Gove, Health and Equity Program Manager, SGC

Council Comment

Cárdenas: Briefly mentioned the correlation of SB 375 and health metrics. Thanked the Health and Equity Program team and congratulated them for all their work.

Johnson: Acknowledged the phenomenal work done in the last 15 years. Thanked the staff and the leadership of California Department of Public Health. Mentioned that it was a great privilege in her former capacity at the California Department of Social Services to participate in the work, and grateful to continue that effort in her current role. Appreciated the leadership and focus on the work.

Ross: Commended the work as it allowed them to build more trust across agency. Cited issues such as bringing voices to the table that are not always heard and transitions that are being done to avoid leaving anyone behind. Mentioned California Jobs First as a wonderful legacy that would help make a difference going forward and expressed interest in having additional thinking on community benefits in relation to health and equity.

Moss: Echoed previous Council members' comments and acknowledged that the work is what binds them all together in ways that empower the community. Expressed desire to explore ways to engage and deepen the impact and relationships across departments and agencies.

Izant: Appreciated the opportunity to think holistically about ways to continue the work on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Acknowledged the priorities of the work and how much it resonates with CalEPA and expressed support to continue strengthening the collaboration with SGC and other members of Health in All Policies work.

Schwartz: Recognized how much the work has changed from nine years ago and valued how much the work is embedded at every level presently.

Public Comment

Julia Caplan, State of Equity

Meredith Lee, Greenlining Institute

Agenda Item #6: CONSENT CALENDAR

- **Transformative Climate Communities Round 5 – Proposition 4 Regulations**

Erin Curtis, Executive Director, SGC

Amar Cid, Deputy Director of Community Investments & Planning, SGC

Public Comment

Oracio Gonzalez, City of Coachella

Amy Castaneda, Environmental Health Coalition

Christiana DeBenedict, San Diego Foundation

Yadira Perez, City of Coachella

Celina Jimenez, City of Coachella

Alexander Earl, Chelsea Investment Corporation

Jason Cater, City of Bakersfield

Jennifer Prado, Southern California Mountains Foundation

Joel Hernandez, Alianza Coachella Valley

Denise Delgado, City of Coachella

TJ deCastro, The Latino Equity Advocacy & Policy (LEAP) Institute

Council Comment

Prior to voting, Muñoz asked for clarification on Round 5 additional allocated funds and how that may affect Round 6 funding, to which Amar Cid explained that Round 6 will not be affected by Round 5 additional funding.

Motion passes (10-0-0*). *Marks abstention or absence from vote.

Motion was made by Johnson and seconded by Izant.

Agenda Item #7: ACTION

Factory-Built Housing Regional Pilot Program

- *Approve Proposed Guidelines*

Sean Kennedy, Deputy Director of Energy Investments, SGC

Council Comment

Moss: Mentioned that the guidelines reflect incredible priorities that align with statewide housing goals and appreciated the guidance on the work and in bringing stakeholders together to understand what the barriers are.

Izant: Thanked the team for collaborating with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and CalEPA. Acknowledged the huge potential and value of factory-built housing (FBH) in California, glad to see it moving forward and hoped the process will continue to support climate goals in California.

Muñoz: Cited that schools and campuses can be interesting locations for FBH that can mitigate cost and give consciousness of environmental stewardship to students to be in line with the same values.

Prior to voting, Moss asked for clarification on whether the FBH production uses could be an eligible use under these guidelines. Kennedy answered that SGC will not be providing direct funding for construction, but rather, the funding will be provided for pre-development up to construction and that it will be the responsibility of the grantee to administer them in a way that can lead to the scalable construction of housing.

Public Comment

Lois Kim, Mutual Housing California

Nicholas Gray, Nicolas James Lee Gray LLC

Katherine Perez, New Economics for Women

Motion passes (10-0-0*). *Marks abstention or absence from vote.

Motion was made by Moss and seconded by Kuffel.

Agenda Item #8: ACTION

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) Round 10 Award—Continuation

- *Approve Staff Recommendations for SALC Round 10 Capacity Grants*

Amar Cid, Deputy Director of Community Investments & Planning, SGC

Karin Roux, Program Manager, California Department of Conservation

Council Comment

No Council comment.

Public Comment

Mark Drew, Eastern Sierra Land Trust

Jade Stevens, 40 Acres Conservation League

Christina Sousa, Shasta Land Trust

Selena Rowan, Trinidad Rancheria

Karell Reader, Central Coast Indigenous Tribes (CCIT)

Motion passes (10-0-0*). *Marks abstention or absence from vote.

Motion was made by Ross and seconded by Moss.

Agenda Item #9: ACTION

Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC)

- *Approve Staff Recommendations for Round 9 Award*

Amar Cid, Deputy Director of Community Investments & Planning, SGC

Lisette Anzoategui, Senior Program Manager, SGC

Council Comment

Izant: Expressed support for the collaborative interagency process and mentioned the importance of the projects in providing housing for Californians and meeting climate goals. Emphasized her appreciation for SGC’s work and support in increasing Tribal capacity for the program.

Johnson: Appreciated the presentation and the AHSC team for sharing the considerations and comprehensive evaluations of projects.

Moss: Thanked the AHSC staff for their work on this round of funding and the partnership with SGC, BCSH, The California Department of Housing and Community Development, and CARB. Acknowledged the high demand for the program, the importance in the review process and finding ways to problem-solve together over barriers that Tribal applicants are having.

Jackson: Appreciated the transit-oriented development and interconnectivity the program supposes. Grateful to see the bikeways and zero emission vehicle add-ons to the projects.

Schwartz: Thanked the team for all their hard work in this round.

Capretz: Cited the complexities of the program and the disadvantages that Southern California is facing compared to Northern California. Suggested adding in population on top of geographic district as a determining factor for project investments.

Kuffel: Appreciated SGC's focus in not doing what is easy, but doing what is right. Mentioned how the concepts of technical assistance and capacity building eight years ago were considered radical, but grateful that SGC stepped up and pushed for those concepts.

Public Comment

Marlene Salazar, Enterprise Community Partners

Alexander Pratt, AMCAL Multi-Housing

Nell Selander, City of South San Francisco

Christine Viterelli, City of Arvin

Connor Clark, BRIDGE Housing

Ali Sapirman, Housing Action Coalition

James Coleman, City of South San Francisco

Steven Hernandez, Cesar Chavez Foundation

Secretary Moss and Deputy Director Kuffel left at 4:03 p.m. Quorum met; 8/10 members present; 6 members in-person.

Deputy Director Kuffel returned to the meeting at 4:07 p.m. Quorum met; 9/10 members present; 7 members in-person.

Secretary Moss returned to the meeting at 4:08 p.m. Quorum met; 10/10 members present; 8 members in-person.

Motion passes (10-0-0*). *Marks abstention or absence from vote.

Motion was made by Muñoz and seconded by Johnson.

Agenda Item #10: Public Comment

No public comment.

Agenda Item #11: Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.