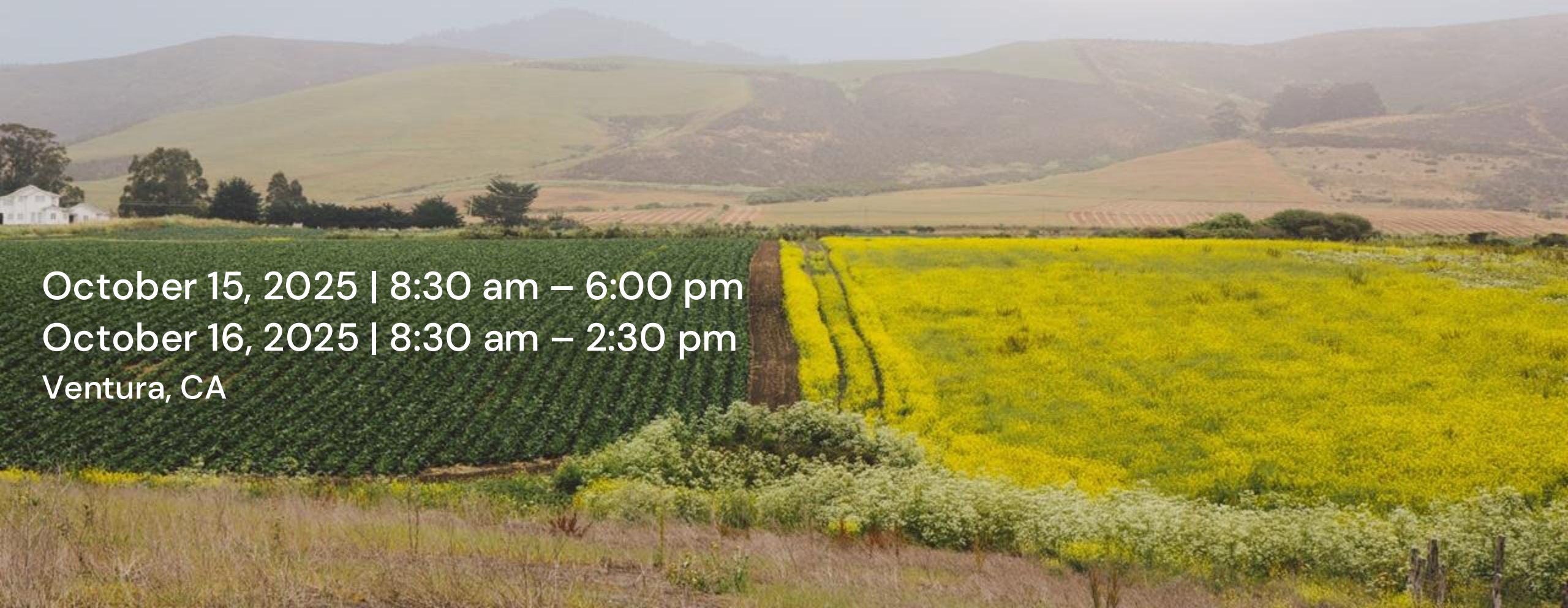


California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force

October 15, 2025 | 8:30 am – 6:00 pm

October 16, 2025 | 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

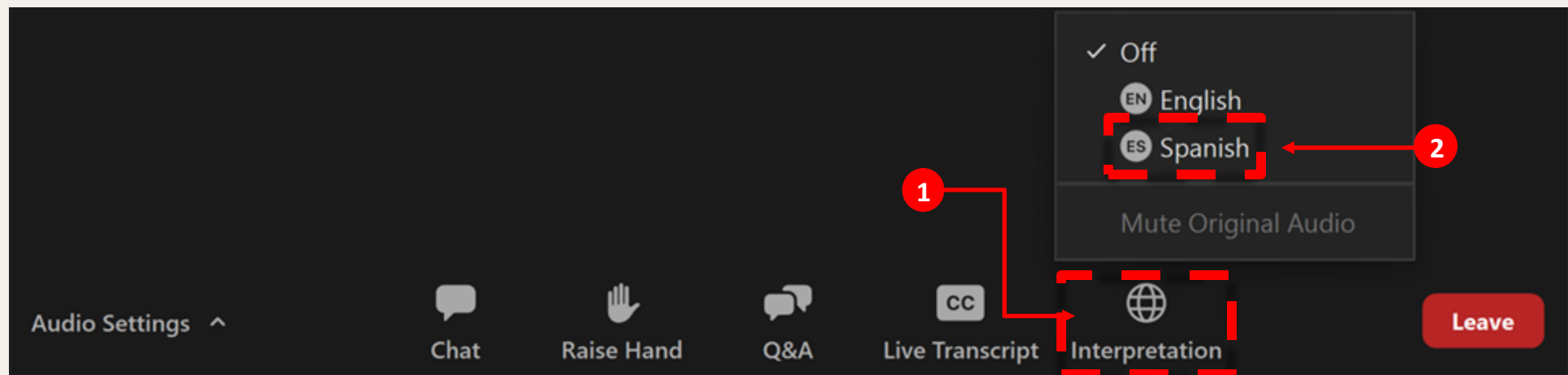
Ventura, CA



Listening to Language Interpretation

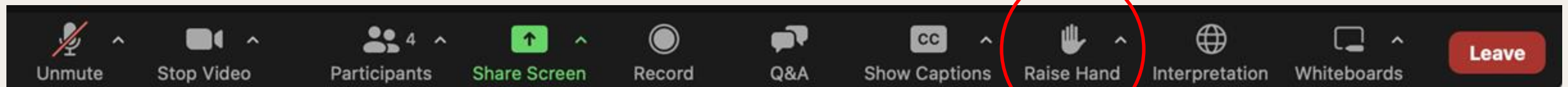
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Perspectives**



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and Editorials**



Stay on Point

Agenda Review – Day 1

Wednesday, October 15

- Welcoming Remarks
- Approval of Meeting Summary from August 13–14, 2025
- Staff Report
- Discussion: Reserved Funds
- Working Session: Interactive Discussions on Report
- General Public Comment

Agenda Review – Day 2

Thursday, October 16

- Working Session: Interactive Discussions on Report
- Work Planning and Next Steps
- General Public Comment

Roll Call

Welcome Remarks

Mariza Sullivan

Coastal Band Chumash Tribal member

Maura Sullivan

Chumash Linguist, Coastal Band Chumash
Tribal member

Meeting Summary from August 13–14, 2025

Public Comment

Re: Meeting Summary

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Staff Report

Staff Report: Announcements

- Strategic Growth Council's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) and Climate Resiliency Centers (CRC) programs are requesting public comment on draft guidelines through Jan. 2, 2025 at 5 PM.
- Task Force member announcements

Staff Report: Subcommittee Meetings

Subcommittee meetings

- Goal 1: Sept 16, 2025
- Goal 2: Sept 2 & Sept 19, 2025
- Goal 3: Sept 4 & Sept 17, 2025
- Goal 4: Sept 5 & Sept 23, 2025
- Restorative Lands: Sept 5 & Sept 24, 2025

Staff Report: Working Group Updates

Working Groups

- Interagency review and coastal access
- Community engagement
- Urban agriculture
- Goal 1 (established at Goal 1 subcommittee meeting)

Staff Report: Budget Update

Current as of Sep. 2025 (labor expenditures pending)

Category	FY 22-23, 23-24, & 24-25 expenditures	FY 25-26 expenditures thru 09/2025	Total funds obligated	Total budgeted	Total budget remaining
Personnel (SGC staff)	\$477,151	In process	\$1,100,760	\$1,100,760	\$0
Operating expenses (travel, facilitator, language access, etc.)	\$365,473	\$2,924	\$290,579	\$884,240	\$225,264
Research and technical assistance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$270,000	\$270,000
Local assistance (e.g., grants, pilot projects, research)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Total	\$824,624	\$2,924	\$1,406,284	\$3,255,000	\$1,495,264

Staff Report: Legislative updates

- **SB 462**, Farmland Conservancy Program Funding Account: Not advanced from Senate Appropriations
- **AB 1485**, tax exemptions for specific Tribal land transactions: Not advanced from Assembly
- **AB 57**, 10% of home loan assistance funding for descendants of formerly enslaved people: Vetoed on Oct. 13
- **AB 62**, claims process for victims of racially motivated eminent domain: Vetoed on Oct. 13
- **SB 437**, funds CSU research to advance Reparations Report: Awaiting Governor's response. Signed into law on Oct. 13
- **SB 518**, establishes Bureau of Descendents of American Slavery within Civil Rights Dept: Signed into law on Oct. 10

Staff Report: Legislative updates

- **AB 524**, Farmland Access and Conservation for Thriving Communities Program: Vetoed on Oct. 1
- **Prop 4, Climate Bond**: No funds appropriated for FY 25–26 for \$30M land access program at DOC

Implications for future work

- Task Force work concludes following the submission of the final report
- Final meeting December 2025 – may require Task Force action (guidance pending)
- Task Force may be re-activated in the event of future funding (e.g., Climate Bond appropriation) or statutory obligation

Public Comment

Re: Staff Report

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Stay on Point

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Discussion: Reserved Funds

Reserved Funds

Background

- Oct 2022: Strategic Growth Council approve staff recommendation to supplement the General Fund \$1 million one-time investment with an additional \$2.25 million from SGC's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) allocation.
- Additional funds to be used to trial existing recommendations and preliminary recommendations developed by the Task Force. Recommendations to be trialed through small-scale pilot projects and community-engaged research.
- Additional funds also to cover agency support to explore opportunities for implementing recommendations through program guidelines, as well as to provide additional support for preparing and communicating Task Force updates and recommendations.
- Revised budget combined General Fund (\$1M) and GGRF allocation (\$2.25M), distributed across administration, Task Force support, and "local assistance".

Program Budget

Current as of Sep. 2025 (labor expenditures pending)

Category	FY 22-23, 23-24, & 24-25 expenditures	FY 25-26 expenditures thru 09/2025	Total funds obligated	Total budgeted	Total budget remaining
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Reserved Funds

Conflict of interest (Section 1090)

Prohibits an officer, employee, or agency from participating in making government contracts in which the official or employee within the agency has a financial interest. Section 1090 applies to virtually all state and local officers, employees, and multimember bodies, whether elected or appointed, at both the state and local level.

“Making” a contract includes final approval of the agreement, as well as involvement in preliminary discussion, planning, negotiation, and solicitation of bids.

Source: California Fair Political Practices Commission

Reserved Funds

Next steps

- SGC will coordinate with SGC member agencies to develop a proposed use of funds, informed by Task Force discussions and recommendations
- SGC staff will refine the proposal through public engagement, including workshops and webinars

Key considerations and objectives:

- Support goals and objectives contained in the Task Force's report
- Compliance with California Climate Investments Guidelines and Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities (AHSC) statute
- Staff capacity, timelines, administrative requirements, and best practices for reducing burden on applicants/awardees

Reserved Funds

For discussion:

- Recipients
- Eligible costs/activities
- Distribution of funds (many small grants vs. few large grants)
- Best practices for outreach, application and award process

Public Comment

Re: Reserved Funds

Public Comment Process

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Working Session

Aug 13-14

ALETF

Arcata/Mendocino

- ◆ Discuss and Refine Text
- *LAST OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW IDEAS

Sept: Subcom & WG Mtgs + Update Draft

Refine + Prioritize/Winnow + Word Smith



Oct 15-16

ALETF

Ventura

- ◆ Discuss and Refine Text

Refine concepts.
Word smith.
Consider Design.

Nov 13

ALETF

Berkeley

- ◆ Finalize Text

Word smith.
Finalize Text.
Consider Design

Dec 11

ALETF

Sacramento

- ◆ Adopt Report & Prepare to Submit

Adopt final report.
Prepare for transmission.
Next steps & closeout.

**Dec 18
Submission!**

★ **Graphic Design** ★

Aug 13/14

Oct 15/16

Nov 13

Dec 11

Dec 31

Summary of Key Revisions Since August

Process

- Subcommittees and working groups discussed content and directed staff to make revisions
 - Flagged questions/content that needs review before inclusion in Draft Report (**orange**)

Summary of major revisions

- Added Goal 2: Restorative Land Fund & education campaign
- Several new subgoals (noted in **green**)
 - E.g. coastal access (Goal 1), Ag Ombuds (Goal 4)
- Changed Tribal Nations to CA Native American Tribes (interagency feedback)
- Incorporated aligned community, interagency, and advisory committee feedback throughout
- Simplified and clarified narrative in context sections
- Consolidated and reorganized to reduce redundancy

Remaining Revisions for November Draft

- Change existing tables and charts into clearer visuals
- Revise for consistency, clarity, singular voice
 - Small additions to narrative
- Move text into graphic design template
 - Consider “tags” for audience/subject
- Revisions identified in this meeting

Remaining Revisions for November Draft

- Add brief case studies, quotes, and clarifying text boxes
 - Plan to share anonymized ideas/quotes from engagement
- Example: *“There is a healing element that comes with land return and restored access to village sites. This is what will help us heal and make us stronger.”* – Golden Eagle Farm Engagement Session

Plan for Today & Tomorrow

Goals:

- Get as close as possible to agreement on all Draft Report content.
 - At minimum, concepts and content
 - Grammar can be addressed later
- Determine next steps for each subgoal that does not enjoy agreement
 - Must be realistic of what is achievable before November 13 meeting → *2 weeks to update text!*
 - TF to receive Nov Draft on 11/3 – Please reserve review time!

Plan for Today & Tomorrow

- We'll work directly within the Report body to make changes
- **IMPORTANT:**
 - Items in **green text** have been approved for inclusion in the October Draft Report but have been flagged for review.
 - Items in **orange text** have **NOT** yet been approved for inclusion in the Report.
 - Items in **purple text** have **NOT** yet been approved for inclusion and have **NOT** yet been reviewed by the Task Force.

We will make those determinations today.

Levels of Agreement & Pathways Forward

Levels of Agreement:

Support
Inclusion

Can Live With

Do Not
Support

Levels of Agreement & Pathways Forward

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- d. Move to “**ideas for future consideration**” section in Appendix
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If 7 or more Task Force members do NOT support a recommendation, that recommendation will be removed from the Report.

Plan for Today & Tomorrow

Generally:

- Dedicate a **strict time limit** (**Variable**: Ex: ~35 mins) for each Report section
 - 30 mins Discussion time
 - 5 mins Decision Time
- Review results from informal “level of support” poll to jumpstart conversation
- Work directly within Draft Report for revisions
- Discussion Order:
 - “Front Matter”: Exec Summary, Intro Section, etc.
 - Goals and subgoals in chronological order
 - Appendices

15 Minute Break

Informal Poll Results

Front Matter Sections:

- Executive Summary
- Overview of the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force
- What is agricultural land equity?
- Historical context and contemporary disparities
- Land consolidation and ownership trends
- Benefits of agricultural land equity for all Californians
- Recommendations for equitable land access

“Front Matter” Sections

Of 6 Respondents, most “Support” or “Somewhat Support” these sections.
One person is “Unsure” about the Introduction.

Feedback:

- Note that data sources like the Agricultural Census and NAWS have limitations in representing immigrant and Indigenous farmers.
 - The “9% Indigenous” statistic may be misinterpreted—it likely refers to language spoken rather than Indigenous identity.
- There is currently no mention of labor force composition in agriculture in overview section.

Assess Agreement:

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Informal Poll Results

Goal 1: Tribal stewardship and land return

Recommendations:

- **1.1** Embed ancestral land return for California Native American Tribes in policies and programs
- **1.2** Return publicly held land to California Native American Tribes
- **1.3** Facilitate the return of privately held land to California Native American Tribes
- **1.4** Enable and promote the implementation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge and cultural practices

Goal 1: Tribal Stewardship and Land Return

Of 6 Respondents, all “Support” or “Somewhat Support” every subgoal.

Feedback:

- Would be helpful for state agencies and the Governor’s Office Tribal Advisor to weigh in on the public lands aspect of this goal.
- Tribal listening sessions note that Federal public lands are subject to first right of refusal for federally recognized Tribes.
 - The key issues are often around communication, transparency, and the viability of the land offered through that process.

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Public Comment

Re: Working Session

Public Comment Process

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Lunch Break 12:15 – 1:15 pm

Working Session, Cont.

Informal Poll Results

Goal 2: Restorative Land Fund and Education Campaign

Recommendations:

- 2.1 Establish a Restorative Land Fund
- 2.2 Develop and implement a public education campaign

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Informal Poll Results

Goal 3: Preserved and thriving agricultural lands

Recommendations:

- 3.1 Develop a statewide agricultural land preservation plan
- 3.2 Preserve and steward California's privately held agricultural land
- 3.3 Preserve and steward California's publicly held agricultural land

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15 Minute Break

Working Session, Cont.

Informal Poll Results

Goal 4: Equitable Land Transition and Acquisition

Recommendations:

- 4.1 Develop first opportunity to purchase ordinances
- 4.2 Establish designated funds for priority producers and land stewards
- 4.3 Establish a debt forgiveness program
- 4.4 Adopt new tax programs and benefits designed to serve priority producers and land stewards
- 4.5 Continually evaluate and improve funding programs
- 4.6 Continually evaluate and improve funding programs
- 4.7 Establish and Fund a Land Market Monitoring Program
- 4.8 Limit agricultural land ownership by investment companies
- 4.9 Facilitate and support opportunities for urban agriculture

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15 Minute Break

General Public Comment

Public Comment Process

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Stay on Point

Agenda Review – Day 2

Thursday, October 16, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

- Working Session: Interactive Discussions on Report
- Work Planning and Next Steps
- General Public Comment

Thank You!

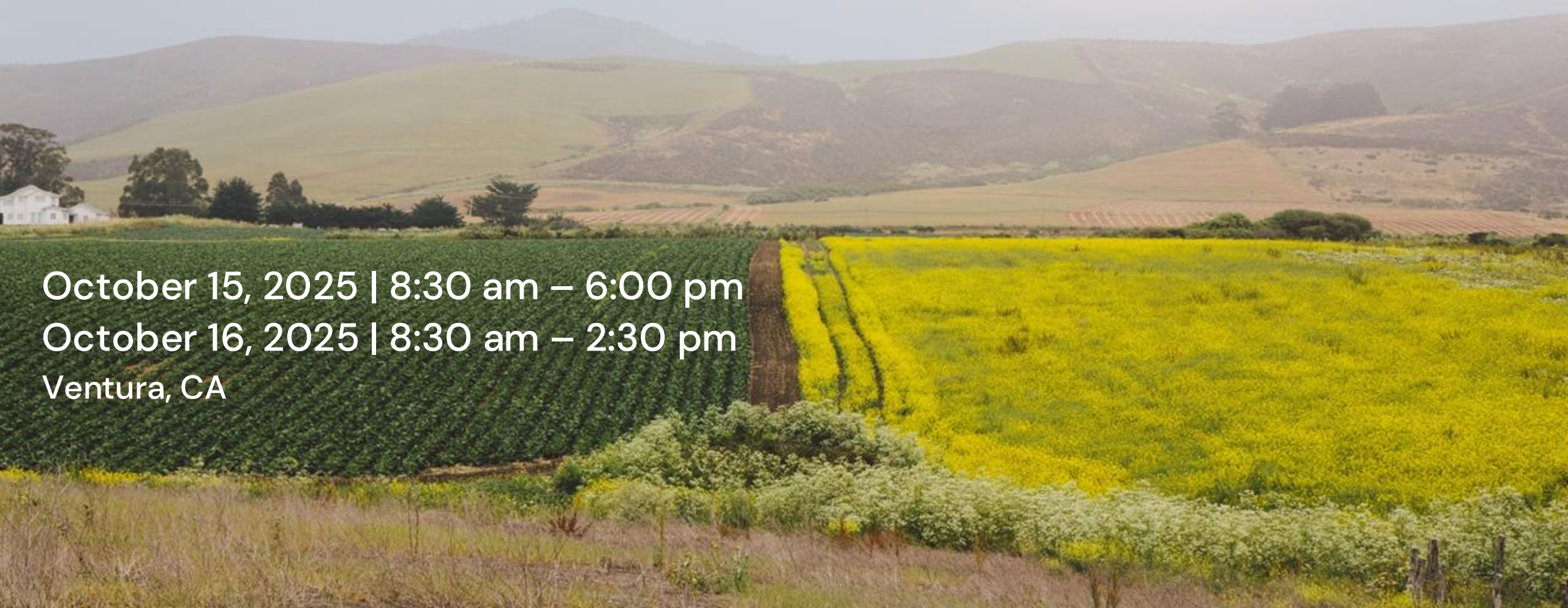
The ALETF reconvenes tomorrow 10/16 at 8:30 am

California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force

October 15, 2025 | 8:30 am – 6:00 pm

October 16, 2025 | 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

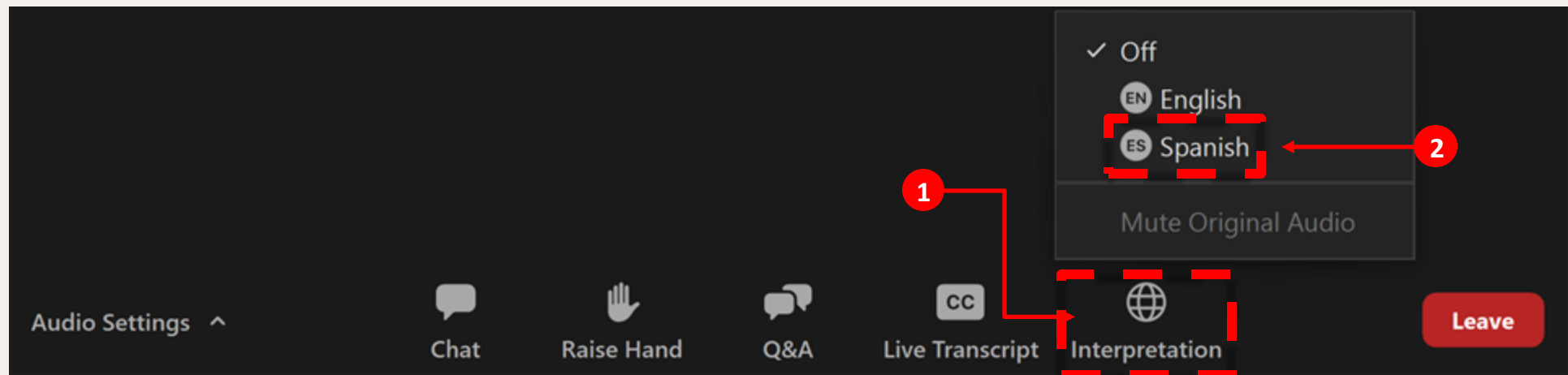
Ventura, CA



Listening to Language Interpretation

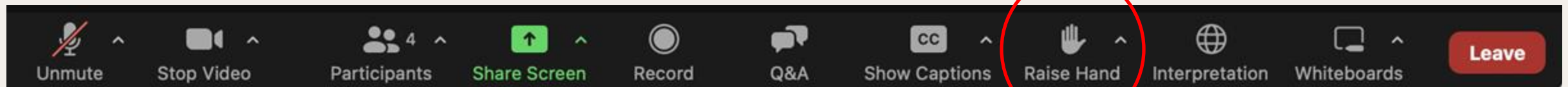
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Roll Call

Agenda Review – Day 2

Thursday, October 16, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

- Working Session: Interactive Discussions on Report
- Work Planning and Next Steps
- General Public Comment

Working Session

Informal Poll Results

Goal 4: Equitable Land Transition and Acquisition

Recommendations:

- 4.1 Develop first opportunity to purchase ordinances
- 4.2 Establish designated funds for priority producers and land stewards
- 4.3 Establish a debt forgiveness program
- 4.4 Adopt new tax programs and benefits designed to serve priority producers and land stewards
- 4.5 Continually evaluate and improve funding programs
- 4.6 Continually evaluate and improve funding programs
- 4.7 Establish and Fund a Land Market Monitoring Program
- 4.8 Limit agricultural land ownership by investment companies
- 4.9 Facilitate and support opportunities for urban agriculture

Assess Agreement:



Support
Inclusion



Can Live With



Do Not
Support

Then determine next step if including.

Informal Poll Results

Goal 5: Secure Land Tenure

Recommendations:

- 5.1 Address power imbalances in landowner–tenant relationships
- 5.2 Expand the capacity of CDFA's Farmer Equity Office
- 5.3 Establish and fund regional Ag Ombuds positions
- 5.4 Address inequitable policy consequences while respecting the intention of the law
- 5.5 Incentivize and support local governments to adopt zoning and land use planning practices that facilitate secure land tenure and stewardship
- 5.6 Incentivize and support local governments to adopt zoning and land use planning practices that facilitate secure land tenure and stewardship

Assess Agreement:

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Levels of Agreement & Pathways Forward

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Public Comment

Re: Working Session

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15 Minute Break

Working Session, Cont.

Informal Poll Results

Appendices

- **Appendix A:** Glossary of Terms
- **Appendix B:** Draft Agricultural Tenant Bill of Rights
- **Appendix C:** Context and Recommendations to Address Uneven Impacts of Policies and Regulations
- **Appendix D:** Model Policies and Ordinances
- **Appendix E:** Community Engagement
- **Appendix F:** Ideas for Future Consideration

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Working Session, Cont.

Flex Time to Revisit Parts of Report

Public Comment

Re: Working Session

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Lunch Break 12:10 – 12:40 pm

Work Planning and Next Steps

Recap of discussion outcomes

- 1: Existing language approved with minor revisions, addition of new 1.1 re: funding
- 2: Revised language approved
- Goal 3: Language approved with shift in focus: improving conservation goals and strategies to center equitable access and stewardship
- Goal 4: Recommendations extracted into new section 3; initial flags discussed but text requires review in November
- Goal 5: Language approved with revisions
- Appendix A: Approved with revisions
- Appendix B: Did not review; will send for comments and discuss in Nov
- Appendix C: Approved

*Approved means approved for inclusion in November draft

Work Planning and Next Steps

Overview:

- Remaining Timeline & Deadlines
- Tasks before November 13th Task Force meeting
- Dec 11 meeting plans
- Post-submission plans

ALETF Meetings

Meeting Dates in 2025	Location	Topics, Presenters, Materials
November 13	Berkeley	• Finalize report text
December 11	Sacramento	• Approve final report for submission

Work Planning and Next Steps

Next steps and deadlines

- 10/24: Deadline for Task Force comments
- 11/3: Staff send November 2025 Draft Report to Task Force
- 11/3 – 11/12: Task Force review of Nov Draft Report
- 11/10 10 AM: Deadline for Task Force tracked changes and poll responses
- 11/13: Task Force Meeting (Berkeley)

Proposal for Refining Draft: Oct–Nov

Task Force responsibilities:

- Read November 2025 Draft Report VERY carefully and correct (via tracked changes) any language that must be changed before submission Send and review photos for inclusion in final report

Staff responsibilities:

- Revise as directed in this meeting
- Add case studies and call-out boxes (quotes, additional info)
- Revise report content for a singular voice/structure
- Work with design team to move content into report template

Work Planning and Next Steps

Final Meeting (Dec 11)

- Vote to approve submission of the report
- *Potential:* Action regarding completion of Task Force's statutory obligations (guidance pending)

Outreach and distribution

- SGC staff will develop and distribute tailored outreach materials through June 2026
- What materials would help you to share this report?

Public Comment

Re: Work Planning

Public Comment Process

IN PERSON

- Submit the public comment card on the front table
- Separate form for each item
- Listen for your name and line up by the podium
- Staff will call your name to the podium
- Please adhere to **2-minute** time limit

VIRTUAL

- Complete form at 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

General Public Comment

Public Comment Process

IN PERSON

- Submit the public comment card on the front table
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- Please adhere to **2-minute** time limit

VIRTUAL

- Complete form at 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

Summarize, Action Items, Next Steps

- Summary of Actions taken
- Review of Action Items and follow up items
- Meeting notes, recording, and materials posted to:
<https://sgc.ca.gov/meetings/caletf/>

Thank You!