



County of San Mateo Planning & Building Department Agricultural Advisory Committee

Natalie Sare, Chair
Peter Marchi, Vice Chair
Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou
Crystal Chaix
Daniel Theobald

Eric Hagstrom
James Oku
John Vars
Marilyn Johnson
Ryan Casey

Dr. Igor Lacan
Jess Brown
Koren Widdel

County Office Building
455 County Center, 2nd Floor
Redwood City, California 94063
650/363-1825
planning.smcgov.org

DRAFT ACTION MINUTES

REVISED

Monday, December 8, 2025

IN-PERSON WITH REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Once available, a full recording of this meeting can be accessed on the official government YouTube channel of the County of San Mateo at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2bWDXcW6FfdxVyR-V34oag>.

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Natalie Sare called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. **Member Roll Call**

Regular Committee Members Present:

James Oku
Natalie Sare
Peter Marchi
Ryan Casey
Crystal Chaix
Daniel Theobald
Cole Mazariego-Anastassiou
John Vars
Marilyn Johnson

Regular Committee Members Not Present:

Erik Hagstrom

Nonvoting Committee Members Present:

Koren Widdel, San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner

Nonvoting Committee Members Not Present:

Jess Brown, San Mateo County Farm Bureau Executive Director
Igor Lacan, UC Co-Op Extension Representative

Planning Liaisons Present:

Olivia Boo, Planning Staff Liaison
Robby Miller, Planning Staff Liaison

3. **Oral Communications** to allow the public to address the Committee on any matter **not** on the agenda. If your subject is not on the agenda, the Chair will recognize you at this time.

SPEAKERS

Public Speaker, Kerry Burke, asked if there is an update on the AAC retreat dates; if information is available regarding the Stone Pine project and how many units will be occupied; if there is an update on the farm labor housing coastal development exemption process; and if the public can observe the AAC retreat but not participate.

Staff Liaison, Olivia Boo, identified the potential retreat dates are January 5, 6 or 7, 2026.

Committee Member, Marilyn Johnson, asked if the retreat is for the Committee or if the public also invited.

Legislative Aide for Supervisor Mueller, Mike O'Neill, announced two upcoming Meet and Greet events for the new County Sheriff - January 8, 2026 at Supervisor Mueller's coastside office, and in Pacifica on January 13, 2026.

4. **Committee Member Update(s) and/or Questions** to allow Committee Members to share news and/or concerns for items **not** on the agenda

SPEAKERS

Committee Member, James Oku, asked for the status of the Agritourism Guidelines, if the Guidelines can be placed on the January 2026 agenda, and if the Guidelines can be shared with the Committee by email in advance.

San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner, Koren Widdel, announced there is a new apiary in the County, beekeepers can register their hives at Beware.org and if registered by December 9, 2025 the \$10 registration fee will be waived, and advised that the public still has to register. Widdel also advised the Mediterranean fruit fly population is growing so don't share citrus fruit across counties, they have not yet been identified in San Mateo County; and that Avian influenza is back so if farmers have poultry it's advised to use biological security measures and get personal protective equipment for employees working with poultry.

Committee Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, asked if the Agriculture/Weights & Measures workshop for continuing education hours for Growers attending the annual December Grower's Workshop has passed.

Committee Chair, Natalie Sare, requested that committee members and members of the public avoid carrying on extra side conversations during AAC meetings to help streamline meetings, and to please remember to raise your hand if you wish to speak. Sare proposes to rearrange seats and tables in the meeting room to better see the public attendees. Sare also shared that farms on Highway 92 were impacted by tree trimming and that Supervisor Mueller was able to contact the state to stop this work.

5. **Planning and Building Department Report.**
Robby Miller, Planning Liaison, presented the Planning Division's report.

SPEAKERS

None

6. Consideration of Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2025.

SPEAKERS

Committee Member, James Oku, identified a correction to Item 6 that the minutes should reflect that the Palmer project was moved to the regular agenda and a correction to Item 9 that Committee Chair Natalie Sare should be listed as chair instead of “Vice Chair”.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Committee Member, James Oku, motioned to approve the minutes with two revisions.
Motion passed 9-0.

Regular Agenda

7. Continuation - Summary of AAC’s April 2025 Special Workshop. Presenters: AAC Chair, Natalie Sare, and Workshop Subcommittee.

SPEAKERS

Committee Chair, Natalie Sare, and Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, met with Planning Director, Steve Monowitz, requesting to move some Workshop items forward.

8. Adjournment. Chair Natalie Sare adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

ROLL SHEET – December 8, 2025

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Members													
James Oku Farmer	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X
Natalie Sare Farmer	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
John Vars Farmer	X		X		X	X		X		X		X	X
Peter Marchi Farmer	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ryan Casey Farmer	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou Farmer	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Crystal Chaix Farmer		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Daniel Theobald Ag Business	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	
Erik Hagstrom Public Member						X	X			X				
Marilyn Johnson Public Member						X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
**Vacant Conservationist														
**Vacant - Natural Resource Conservation														
San Mateo Co. Agricultural Commissioner: Koren Widdel	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Farm Bureau Exec. Director: Jess Brown		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		
UC Co-Op Extension Rep.: Dr. Igor Lacan	X	X			X		X							
Staff Liaison														
San Mateo Co. Planning Liaison: Olivia Boo	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X^	X	X	X	X
X: Present Blank Space: Absent or Excused Grey Color: No Meeting *Special Meeting **Position Vacant ^Alternate														