

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO PLANNING AND BUILDING

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Jess Brown Ryan Casey Crystal Chaix
Marilyn Johnson Andrew Miller Peter Marchi
James Oku Natalie Sare Daniel Theobald
Koren Widdel

Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou
John Vars

County Government Center
455 County Center, 2nd Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063
650-363-4161 T
www.planning.smcgov.org



Regular Meeting

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Supervisor Ray Mueller's Coastside Office

270 Capistrano Rd., Unit G, Half Moon Bay

Monday, July 13, 2026

6:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

<https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/82157268941>

*****IN-PERSON WITH REMOTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AVAILABLE*****

This meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held at the Coastside office of Supervisor Ray Mueller, located at 270 Capistrano Rd., Unit G, Half Moon Bay, California. Members of the public will be able to participate in the meeting in person at the office, or remotely via the Zoom platform. For information regarding how to participate in the meeting, either in person or remotely, please refer to the instructions below.

Public Participation

The Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting may be accessed remotely by members of the public through Zoom online at: <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/82157268941>. **The meeting ID is:** 821 5726 8941. The meeting may also be accessed via telephone by dialing +1 (669) 900-6833 (Local). **Enter the meeting ID:** 821 5726 8941 and then press #. Members of the public can also attend this meeting physically at Supervisor Ray Mueller's office, located at 270 Capistrano Rd., Unit G, Half Moon Bay.

*Written public comments may be emailed to rmiller@smcgov.org, and such written comments should indicate the specific agenda item on which you are commenting.

*Spoken public comments will be accepted during the meeting in-person or remotely through Zoom at the option of the speaker. Public comments in-person will be taken first, followed by speakers on Zoom. All public comments must relate to something that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of this agency. If a comment does not relate to the subject matter jurisdiction of this agency, we will interrupt your comment and move on to the next speaker.

***Please see instructions for written and spoken public comments at the end of this agenda.**

ADA Requests

Individuals who require special assistance or a disability related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, or who have a disability and wish to request an alternative format for the meeting, should contact Robby Miller, Planning Liaison, as early as possible but no later than 10:00 a.m. on the business day before the meeting at (650) 802-2084 or rmiller@smcgov.org. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting, the materials related to it, and your ability to comment.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*This item is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on any Agricultural Advisory Matter on consent agenda or matters not on the agenda. Public Speakers are customarily limited to **3 minutes**. See instructions explained at the end of this agenda regarding instruction for public comment. Please note that the Committee cannot discuss or act on an item not on the agenda.*

ACTION TO SET AGENDA & TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

This item is to set the final consent agenda and regular agenda and for approval of the items listed on the consent agenda. All items on the consent agenda are approved by one action.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Consideration of the Minutes of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for June 8, 2026.**

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

REGULAR AGENDA

6:20

2. **Workplan (75 min)** Presenter: Debbie Schechter, Schechter Consulting.

Action Request:

- Subcommittee's present draft workplan template charts for feedback
- Adoption of workplan charts by the full AAC

3. **Meeting Location & Time (15 min)** Presenter: Robby Miller, Planning Liaison, Planning & Building Department

Action Request:

- Vote on location (HMB Library or District 3 Supervisor's Office) and time of monthly AAC meetings

4. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS UPDATES & QUESTIONS** to allow Committee Members to share news and/or concerns for items not on the agenda

5. **PLANNING LIAISON REPORT**

Presenter: Robby Miller, Planning and Building Department

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting is on **August 10, 2026**.

Correspondence to the Committee

Robby Miller, Agricultural Advisory Committee Liaison
455 County Center, 2nd Floor

Redwood City, CA 94062
(650) 802-2084
Email: rmiller@smcgov.org

Materials Presented for the Meeting

Applicants and members of the public may submit materials to the Agricultural Advisory Committee. All materials (including but not limited to models and pictures) submitted on any item on the agenda are considered part of the administrative record for that item and must be retained by the Committee Secretary, or other designee. If you wish to retain the original of an item, a legible copy must be left with the Committee Secretary, or other designee.

Agendas & Staff Reports

To view the agenda, please visit our website at <https://planning.smcgov.org/agricultural-advisory-committee>. Staff reports will be available on the website one week prior to the meeting. For further information on any item listed below, please contact the corresponding Project Planner indicated. To subscribe to the Agricultural Advisory Committee agenda mailing list, please "subscribe" to email updates at the above website link.

Zoom

For any questions or concerns regarding Zoom, including troubleshooting, privacy, or security settings, please contact Zoom directly. See instructions below for public comment on Zoom.

***INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT DURING MEETINGS**

Public comments in-person will be taken first, followed by speakers on Zoom.

In-person

If you wish to address the Members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, please raise your hand for the Chair to acknowledge you. Once acknowledged, please start by clearly stating your first and last name for the record. If you have anything that you wish distributed to the Agricultural Advisory Committee and included in the official record, please hand it to the Committee Secretary and/or Chair, or other designee, who will distribute the information to the Agricultural Advisory Committee members and staff.

Via Zoom

1. The Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting may be accessed remotely by members of the public through Zoom online at: <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/82157268941>. **The meeting ID is: 821 5726 8941.** The meeting may also be accessed via telephone by dialing +1 669-900-6833 (Local). **Enter the meeting ID: 821 5726 8941 and then press #.**
2. You may download the Zoom client or connect to the meeting using an internet browser. If using your browser, make sure you are using a current, up to date browser: Chrome 30+, Firefox 27+, Microsoft Edge 12+, Safari 7+. Certain functionalities may be disabled in older browsers including internet explorer.
3. You may be asked to enter an email address and name. We request that you identify yourself by name as this will be visible online and will be used to notify you that it is your turn to speak.
4. When the Committee calls for the item on which you wish to speak, click on "raise hand" or *9 if calling in on a phone. The Secretary will activate and unmute speakers in turn. Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called to speak.
5. When called, please limit your remarks to the time limit allotted.

Written Comments

Written public comments may be emailed in advance of the meeting. Please read the following instructions carefully:

1. Your written comment should be emailed to rmiller@smcgov.org.
2. Your email should include the specific agenda item on which you are commenting or note that you

comment concerns an item that is not on the agenda or is on the consent agenda.

3. If your emailed comment is received by 5:00 p.m. on the business day before the meeting, it will be provided to the Members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee and made publicly available on the agenda website under the specific item to which your comment pertains. If emailed comments are received after 5:00 p.m. on the business day before the meeting, the Planning Liaison will make every effort to either (i) provide such emailed comments to the Agricultural Advisory Committee and make such emails publicly available on the agenda website prior to the meeting, or (ii) read such emails during the meeting. Whether such emailed comments are forwarded and posted, or are read during the meeting, they will still be included in the administrative record.

Public records that relate to any item on the agenda for a regular meeting are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

ROLL SHEET – JULY 13, 2026

	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July
Members													
James Oku Farmer	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	
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	
Ryan Casey Farmer	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	
Marilyn Johnson Public Member	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
**Vacant Public Member													
**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.: Andrew Miller													
Staff Liaison													
San Mateo Co. Planning Liaison: Robby Miller	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



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO - PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

ITEM

1



County of San Mateo Planning & Building Department Agricultural Advisory Committee

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

Ryan Casey
James Oku
John Vars
Marilyn Johnson

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

MINUTES

Monday, June 8, 2026

IN-PERSON WITH REMOTE PARTICIPATION

A full recording of this meeting can be accessed on the official government YouTube channel of the County of San Mateo at: <https://www.smcgov.org/planning/event/agricultural-advisory-committee-meeting-june-8-2026>

Call to Order

Chair Natalie Sare called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Member Roll Call

Regular Committee Members Present:

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

Regular Committee Members Not Present:

Marilyn Johnson

Nonvoting Committee Members Present:

Koren Widdel, San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner

Nonvoting Committee Members Not Present:

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

Planning Liaisons Present:

Robby Miller, San Mateo County Planning & Building Department

Public Comment 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:

NONE

Action To Set Agenda & To Approve Consent Agenda Items

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for July 14, 2025 and May 11, 2026.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Committee Member, Daniel Theobald motions to set the agenda and approve the minutes. Committee Member, James Oku seconds motion. **Motion passed 7-0-0-1.**
(Crystal Chaix not present)

Regular Agenda

2. **SMC Compost Program** Presenters: San Mateo Resource Conservation District Doug Millar and Eliza Milio, County of San Mateo Sustainability Department, Jack Steinmann.

SPEAKERS

Committee Member, Daniel Theobald, asks about the quality of the compost and whether there is testing.

Presenter Doug Millar, responds.

Committee Member, James Oku, asks if the compost will be free of viruses.

Presenter Doug Millar, responds in the affirmative.

Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, states that trucking is expensive and asks if that is covered by the program.

Presenters Jack Steinmann and Doug Millar, responds.

Committee Member, James Oku, asks a clarifying question about the costs.

Presenter Doug Millar, responds.

Committee Member, James Oku, asks if the state mandate goal of 75% is being met.

Presenter Jack Steinmann, responds.

Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, asks what is in the compost.

Presenter Doug Millar, responds.

Public Speaker, Ron Sturgeon, recommends there be before and after pictures in the presentation, and agrees that compost is very beneficial.

Public Speaker, Kerry Burke, asks how much work is being done for individual farmers versus agencies.

Presenter Eliza Milio, responds.

Presenter Doug Millar, responds.

Committee Member, Ryan Casey, asks if they will still have compost rebates in the Fall.

Presenter Doug Millar, responds.

Committee Member, Daniel Theobald, asks about microplastics.

Presenter Doug Millar, responds.

Committee Member, James Oku, asks if a farm using their own compost can get a

subsidy.
Presenter Jack Steinmann, responds.

3. AAC Procedural Rules Amendments – Presenter: Summer Burlison, San Mateo County Planning & Building Department.

SPEAKERS:

Chair, Natalie Sare, asks if Staff is going to read the entire version.
Presenter Summer Burlison, responds that a reading is not necessary and she would answer any questions.
Public Speaker, Ron Sturgeon, requests public comment before a vote.
Chair, Natalie Sare, responds that public comments will come after committee member questions.
Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, asks why we are not reading the entire version or section by section.
County Counsel, Brian Pettit, responds that the committee could go through section by section, but it is not necessary and would take a lot of time.
Committee Member, James Oku, states that the committee went through each section in previous meetings and is OK voting on the entire document.
Chair, Natalie Sare, asks if the committee wants to vote on whether to vote on the sections or entire document.
Committee Member, James Oku, asks to hear public comment first.
Public Speaker, (name not given), advises against reading the whole thing verbatim and offers to read an AI summary.
Chair, Natalie Sare, responds against a summary due to complexity and details.
Public Speaker, Ron Sturgeon, wants Committee to allow non farmers to be Chair/Vice Chair, and concerned that the Chair is not handling the meeting efficiently
Chair, Natalie Sare, disagrees and asks for vote.
Planning Liaison, Robby Miller, asks the Chair to check online public comment and then close public comment, and get any additional comments from committee members.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Committee Member, Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou, motions to approve the bylaw amendments as a whole instead of section by section. Committee Member, Daniel Theobald, seconds motion. **Motion passes, 8-0-0-0.**

Chair, Natalie Sare, motions to approve the bylaw amendments. **Motion passes, 7-1-0-0.** (Marchi)

4. Workplan - Presenters: Debbie Schechter, Schechter Consulting

SPEAKERS:

Committee Member, Daniel Theobald, the Committee should review brainstorming topics based on preserving agriculture on the coast.
Planning & Building Assistant Director, Sophie Mintier, reviews brainstorming topics and provides input on how they relate to County goals and objectives.
Committee Member, Daniel Theobald, shared that someone believes the County is the most regulated County, and adds that reviewing policies for overregulation could be worthwhile instead of creating more policies like the proposed hoop house one.

Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, agrees with Daniel.

Committee Member, James Oku, agrees with Daniel and adds that farmer's do after-the-fact permits as a result of the difficulty of obtaining the permits.

Committee Member, Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou, asks if farm worker housing is a realistic workplan item.

Planning & Building Assistant Director, Sophie Mintier, responds.

Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, concerned that the Committee will work on topics like Agritourism updates and the County will drop the ball on completing them.

Committee Member, James Oku, agrees and adds that there has been no updates on Agritourism after repeated requests.

Planning Liaison, Robby Miller, responds that an update was provided, he needs to review the documents but believes he has the necessary documents to move the update forward, and adds that making it a Workplan item could help prioritize it for staff.

Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, suggests reviewing individual policies one at a time.

Planning & Building Assistant Director, Sophie Mintier, states that creating whole new policy is not realistic for a Workplan item and Committee should focus on providing input on a specific policy or regulation. Adds that Williamson Act Audit has not happened for awhile, one is ongoing, and will be brought back to the Committee when the time comes.

Chair, Natalie Sare, thanks Planning Liaison for collaboration.

Committee Member, James Oku, comments that he appreciates when the County came to the Committee for input on LCP and farm labor housing water during the development of policies rather than after they are created.

Chair, Natalie Sare, asks whether it would be helpful to add a Workplan item for addressing past items that have not been completed.

Presenter, Debbie Schechter, responds in the affirmative and suggests identifying what those things are as part of the six brainstorm categories.

San Mateo Resource Conservation District, Eliza Milio, suggest prioritizing actionable items for impact, policy and regulations are harder because of County involvement, Community engagement is more actionable, and adds that she can help the County with policy on the side so she will volunteer for 1, 2 and 6 if selected.

Presenter, Debbie Schechter, announces the Committee selections for each category with the top two primary goals being Policies, Permitting and Regulations and Provide Input on County Policies, and a tie between Community Engagement and Coordination and Market Development and Economics. Asks Committee for feedback on tie.

Committee Member, Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou, states that they fit well together and could be combined.

Committee Member, James Oku, states that Community Engagement is an actionable item that could be completed within a year.

Committee Member, Daniel Theobald, appreciates that Community Engagement allows the community to share their issues.

Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, clarifies that the subcategory to provide irrigation water for farms includes drought conditions.

Planning & Building Assistant Director, Sophie Mintier, responds that this is a very complex issue and would not be appropriate for this advisory committee.

Vice Chair, Peter Marchi, responds that it could be done with RCD support.

San Mateo Resource Conservation District, Eliza Milio, responds that RCD has done a lot of work on the topic and could be shared with the Committee as part of Community Engagement and Coordination.

Presenter, Debbie Schechter, requests that all Committee Members vote for five of their most important subtopics under the three primary goals chosen.

Chair, Natalie Sare, opens public comment. Asks for other member comments since no public comment.

Committee Member, Daniel Theobald, comments that farming is broken on the coast and aggressive action is needed to help farmers survive.

Chair, Natalie Sare, comments that we need to take the institutional farming knowledge that exists on the committee, do what is best for all farmers instead of individual needs.

Presenter, Debbie Schechter, asks for subcommittees to meet once prior to next meeting and fill out the Work Plan Template Chart and develop a draft workplan to be voted on next meeting.

Chair, Natalie Sare, comments that the last subcommittee for the Workshop had an attendance problem and asks committee members to voice their concerns now to prevent that again.

Presenter, Debbie Schechter, announces that these are ad hoc subcommittees for the purpose of putting together a workplan, and subcommittees should have equal numbers.

Committee Member, Ryan Casey, comments that meeting outside of this meeting will be difficult and will likely not allow him to attend. Suggests meeting 30 minutes before next meeting.

Chair, Natalie Sare, agrees.

Committee Member, James Oku, asks how long these subcommittees are supposed to be active.

Presenter, Debbie Schechter, responds that it is up to the members and adds that the committee has already come up with many ideas and depends on the activities the subcommittees choose. Asks for members to select which subcommittee they want to be on.

Committee Members (All Present), choose a subcommittee.

Presenter, Debbie Schechter, asks for subcommittee leaders.

Committee Members, select leaders.

Presenter, Debbie Schechter, reiterates that the subcommittee objective is to fill out the Work Plan Template Chart by next meeting, and adds that if developed enough, share at meeting and get a vote. A summary will be provided of the votes tonight and the committee can discuss if they want to keep any items on the backburner.

San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner, Koren Widdel, asks how long the workplan is supposed to last.

Planning & Building Assistant Director, Sophie Mintier, roughly a year, many workplans have four items and one or two might last longer than a year.

Chair, Natalie Sare, opens public comment, and with no speakers, closes public comment.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBERS UPDATES & QUESTIONS

SPEAKERS:

San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner, Koren Widdel, announces a new regional director for UC Extension, Andrew Miller to replace Igor.

Committee Member, James Oku, asks if he will be attending meetings.

San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner, Koren Widdel, responds that she does not know. Announces that four Costco's received and sold many plants from a nursery in Fresno County that were infested with a sharpshooter pest. A regional effort is underway to get those plants that were sold. Announces that Texas has detected New World Screw Worm, not in California, but to be aware of symptoms and report it immediately 866-922-2473 or call her department.

Committee Member, James Oku, expresses sympathy for the peach growers in central valley that will be taking out hundreds of thousands of trees because of the cannery is closing, and apple growers to the south facing same dilemma because Martinelli is cancelling contracts.

6. PLANNING LIAISON REPORT

SPEAKERS:

Committee Member, Crystal Chaix, asks how Daniel and Cole are able to switch seats when they got sworn into the current seats.

Planning & Building Assistant Director, Sophie Mintier, responds that both members need to be eligible for the other position and they both are they both agreed to the switch, and it has to be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Committee Member, Crystal Chaix, asks how that impacts terms.

Committee Member, Daniel Theobald, responds that there is no impact because they started at the same time.

San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner, Koren Widdel, adds that their terms are likely up in September 30, 2026.

Committee Member, Crystal Chaix, add that she has not seen a switch like this before or in the bylaws.

Committee Member, Peter Marchi, asks Cole why he considered the switch.

Committee Member, Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou, responds that he was asked and agreed because he does not have an interest in serving a vice chair or chair position.

Committee Member, Peter Marchi, asks Cole why he is not waiting until September.

Chair, Natalie Sare, intervenes to redirect question to Daniel.

Committee Member, Daniel Theobald, responds that this is for him to be eligible for the October Chair vote.

7. ADJOURNMENT Chair, Natalie Sare, adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO - PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

ITEM

2

Agricultural Advisory Committee Workplan Discussion Notes

June 9, 2026

prepared by Debbie Schechter, Schechter Consulting

At its June 9, 2026 meeting, the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) participated in a facilitated discussion regarding its workplan for the next year. This was a follow-up to the AAC's goal-setting discussion on May 11, 2026. The AAC voted on three primary goals, prioritized some activities for each of the three goals, and formed three ad-hoc subcommittees. The subcommittees will meet at 5:45pm on July 13, prior to the AAC's regular meeting. In their meeting, the subcommittees will work to complete the attached workplan template chart to develop a draft workplan for each of the three goals. Each goal will include a few key activities, reflecting the activities prioritized by the AAC and the subcommittees. The subcommittees will discuss the draft workplans for potential revisions and adoption by the full AAC at the July 13 meeting.

The AAC agreed that the overarching goal for the AAC is to preserve agriculture on San Mateo County. The three goals that were prioritized by the AAC, and the prioritized activities are indicated below, with the number of votes each one received. Highest priority goals and activities are highlighted in yellow.

Provide input on County Policies: *Provide input on County policies as they come up to support and preserve agriculture in the County. (9)*

Subcommittee members: James Oku (lead), Peter Marchi

- Review and provide input/recommendations on:
 - Williamson Act audit, nonrenewals (4)
 - Farm Labor Housing projects (4)
 - PAD permits, RM permits (1)
- Provide input on:
 - LCP Amendments for Farm Labor Housing
 - Agritourism Guidelines – revised draft
 - Farmstand guidelines – final draft
 - Hoop House policy
- Give input into county's sourcing practices for produce to ensure large percentage of produce used in County run/funded institutions is from SMC growers. Outcome: at least 35% of produce in County-run/funded institutions is from SMC growers.¹

Policies, Permitting and Regulation: *Simplify permitting and regulations; develop policies and regulations to support County agriculture (5)*

¹ This policy idea was of interest to the AAC and is supported by County staff so it was moved into this category.

Subcommittee members: Cole Mazariegos-Anastassiou(lead), Ryan Casey, Daniel Theobald, & Marilyn Johnson.

- Give input to synthesize all permitting relevant to agricultural properties/businesses. Review all regulations for possible improvement. Outcome: easy and straightforward for farmers to navigate permitting (6)
- Farmworker housing: (1)
 - Allow multiple homesteads on farms (4)
 - Give input into new creative county policies on farmworker housing to address housing crisis in our community. Outcome: New rules/programs for farmworker housing in our county. (3)
 - Help farmers get lower permit fees for farm labor housing **the department already waives planning and building fees for farmworker housing*
- Allow farm stays/agrotourism on all farms; allow more agrotourism (4)
- Attend and learn about other counties' regulatory agreements on farmland to help our work with the County to ease regulations here. Report findings at AAC meeting. (3)
- Farm stand regulations and enforcement:
 - Help hold SMC roadside farm stands accountable. Confiscate and fine. Hold everyone to the same standards. No produce illegally crossing County lines to potentially create problems. (3)
 - Simplify farm stand requirements, selling produce for legit local farmers
- Develop policies to reduce open space and recreational land use conflicts with agriculture (2)
- Consider water development/conservation measures to support agriculture (1)
- Offer suggestions for streamlining development on rural lands
- Review growers workshop findings and vote on concerns/issues/ideas to report to the Board of Supervisors in the next nine months
- Increase crop production in San Mateo County through successful regulation changes and other needs
- Develop policies to address wildfire and climate change resilience

Community Engagement and Coordination: *Engage the farming community and coordinate with agriculture-related partners to hear ideas and collaborate on approaches. (5)*

Subcommittee members: Crystal Chaix (lead), Koren Widdel, John Vars, Natalie Sare

- Provide time at AAC meetings for farmers within our county to present their needs/skills/ideas. Have three to four speakers of local farmers annually. (5)

- Improve cooperation with San Mateo County agriculture-related organizations (AAC, Farm Bureau, RCD, County Planning, Mid Pen/etc., organic/conventional)
- Promote our new agritourism guidelines

The following goals were not prioritized by the AAC for this year's workplan:

Market Development and Economics: *Increase revenue for San Mateo County growers (3)*

- Identify opportunities to increase sales for SMC agriculture

Resources for Farmers: *Provide resources for farmers to preserve and promote farming across generations (2)*

- Provide irrigation water for farms
- Support the development of a youth agricultural program
- Create more resources for farmers: food hub, equipment lending, labor resources, training/retraining resources
- Support the development of a central ag marketing facility

Committee Operations: *Improve effectiveness and efficiency of AAC (0)*

- Determine meeting location and time
- Improve Committee decisiveness
- More legal trainings²
- Parliamentary procedures training: Sturgis²

² The County agreed to conduct these trainings

Work Plan Template Chart

Goal and Outcome:					
Activities/Action Steps & Level of Effort (high, med, low)	Who is Responsible?	Timeline	Resources/Partners	Outcomes/Indicators of Progress	Status

Work Plan Template Chart

Goal and Outcome:					
Activities/Action Steps & Level of Effort (high, med, low)	Who is Responsible?	Timeline	Resources/Partners	Outcomes/Indicators of Progress	Status



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO - PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

ITEM

5

**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

DATE: July 13, 2026

TO: Agricultural Advisory Committee

FROM: Planning Staff

SUBJECT: Planning Liaison Report

CONTACT INFORMATION: Robby Miller, Planner, rmiller@smcgov.org

The following is a list of Planned Agricultural District Permits and Coastal Development Exemptions for the rural area of the County that have been received by the Planning Division from May 29, 2026 to July 3, 2026.

PLANNED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT (PAD) PERMIT OUTCOMES

No PAD applications were heard or considered by the Board of Supervisors and/or Planning Commission during this time period.

UPCOMING PLANNED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT PERMIT PROJECTS

No PAD permit applications were received by the Planning Division during this time period.

COASTAL DEVELOPMENT EXEMPTIONS (CDX) FOR AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

No CDX applications for agricultural project were submitted during this time period

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Daniel and Cole farmer/ag business switch consent item was pulled from the June 9, 2026 BOS agenda.

ATTACHMENT(S)

NONE