



California
DRIP Collaborative

**2025 Workgroup: Land Use Planning for
Drought Resilience**

Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners (DRIP) Collaborative

Monday, June 9, 2025

12:30-2PM PT

Remote Participation (via Zoom)

Facilitated by Workgroup Point of Contact: Julie Ekstrom (Julia.Ekstrom@water.ca.gov)

California Department of Water Resources - Water Justice Office

Meeting Information

1. This meeting is being recorded.
2. This meeting must adhere to the Bagley Keene Open Meeting Act rules. The workgroup quorum is required (8 out of the 14 on the workgroup). If we don't meet quorum, we will offer this time and this space for an informal discussion about land use planning related to drought resilience.
3. DRIP Collaborative workgroup members must keep their cameras on during the meeting. You must notify the group if you turn off your camera and state why.
4. Members of the public and other DRIP Collaborative members are welcome to listen. A public comment session is included later in the meeting.
5. Please practice electronics courtesy and mute when not speaking.

Meeting Purpose and Agenda

Objective: : Advance recommendation ideas proposed at the May 16th 2025 DRIP Collaborative meeting related to integrating water and land use plans and related to housing and water supply nexus. Learn from subject matter experts to advance these ideas to present at the Summer (July) 2025 DRIP Collaborative meeting.

Meeting Agenda

- 12:30pm Welcome, Roll Call
- 12:35pm Refresher & Proposed Pathways
- 12:50pm Housing-Water Supply Nexus
- 1:30pm Group Discussion
- 1:55pm Public Comment
- 2:00pm Adjourn

Roll Call

WORKGROUP PARTICIPANTS

(Quorum= 8 DRIP members)

1. **Sierra Ryan**, Santa Cruz County
2. **Virginia Jameson**, CA Department of Food & Agriculture
3. **Natalie Kuffel**, CA Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation
4. **Kyle Jones**, Community Water Center
5. **Emily Rooney**, Agricultural Council of California
6. **Brent Haste**, Plumas Self Storage (Public Member)
7. **Jason Colombini**, Jay Colombini Farms
8. **Catherine Freeman**, California State Association of Counties
9. **Tami McVay**, Self Help Enterprise
10. **Suzanne Pecci**, South American Sub-Basin GSA (Public Member)
11. **Andrew Altevogt**, State Water Resource Control Board
12. **Carolina Hernandez**, Los Angeles County
13. **Katie Ruby**, California Urban Water Agencies
14. **Anna Schiller**, Environmental Defense Fund

REFRESHER & PROPOSED NEW PATHWAYS

(15 MINUTES)

Refresher & Pathways

May 16th DRIP Collaborative Meeting – Status

Three ideas agreed on to pursue with leads:

1. Extend and expand support for **Land Use Repurposing**
2. **Housing-Water** Supply Nexus: Planning for housing needs and water supply
3. **Integrated Water Planning**: Assess how plans interact and offer recommendations (i.e., Groundwater Sustainability Plans, Urban Water Management Plans, Drought Plans, General Plans)



Refresher & Pathways

May 16th DRIP Collaborative Meeting – Status

Ideas Drafted

1. Extend and expand support for **Land Use Repurposing**

2. **Housing-Water** Supply Nexus: Planning for housing needs and water supply

3. **Integrated Water Planning:** Assess how plans interact and offer recommendations (i.e., Groundwater Sustainability Plans, Urban Water Management Plans, Drought Plans, General Plans)

Proposed Pathways

Topic for next meeting

Learn from Subject Matter Experts; continue discussion of **recommendation development**

Join forces to **contribute to ongoing effort**



New path



Land Use Repurposing

Recommendation Lead: Anna Schiller



Members' idea

- Advance and extend support for **land use repurposing**
- Elevate **regional approaches** to proactively and inclusively plan for agricultural land transitions

Upcoming dedicated **informational/ listening session** for workgroup (virtual)

Hold June 27th morning:

- Hear from subject matter experts on :
- Background and current efforts in this space
 - Grounded insights on what it takes to be planning at this scale and what are resource needs and gaps
 - Connection to drought
 - How DRIP can be additive



Integrated Water Planning

Recommendation Leads: Sierra Ryan, Natalie Kuffel



Members' idea

- **Assess how different plans interact** related to water supply and shortage
- Responsibility and authority
- Identify gaps, conflicts
- Needs for **alignment**

- Incentivize **water element**

DRIP Workgroup



2025

2026

2027



Integrated Water Planning

Recommendation Leads: Sierra Ryan, Natalie Kuffel

- What's the opportunity here?
- How should we make this work? Contribute – spin off group?

DRIP Workgroup



2025

2026

2027



For Group Discussion:

- Ideas to improve alignment between housing growth and water supply planning

HOUSING-WATER SUPPLY NEXUS

Co-leads: Sierra Ryan, Natalie Kuffel

Invited Experts:

- Kevan Rolfness, Housing & Community Development
- Joe Serrano, Executive Officer Santa Cruz county LAFCO

Idea Discussed -

Co-leads: Natalie Kuffel and Sierra Ryan

- Planning for housing needs AND water supply
- Challenges of timing between water supply planning and development and meeting new housing requirements
- How to account for water supply in housing allocations



REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ALLOCATION

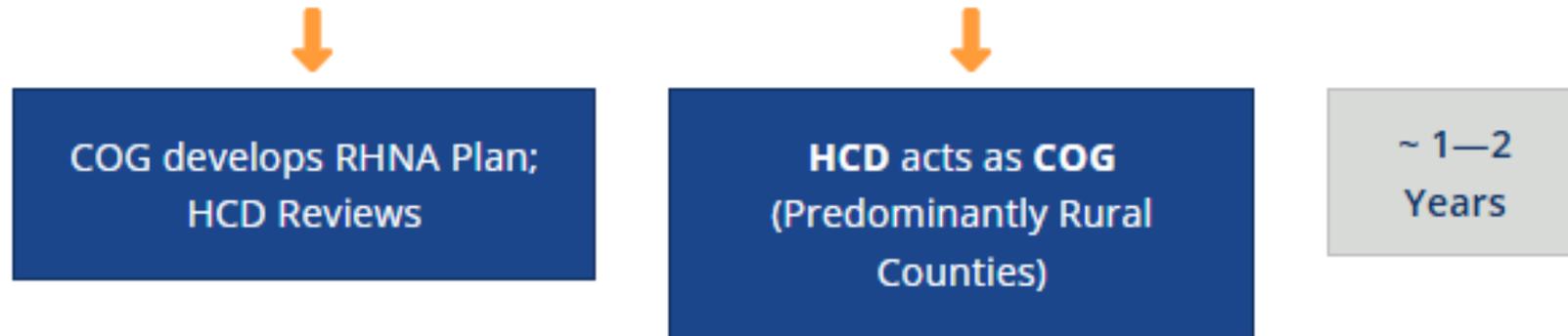
Kevan Rolfness, Housing Data Specialist
California Department of Housing & Community Development

Overview of State Housing Planning

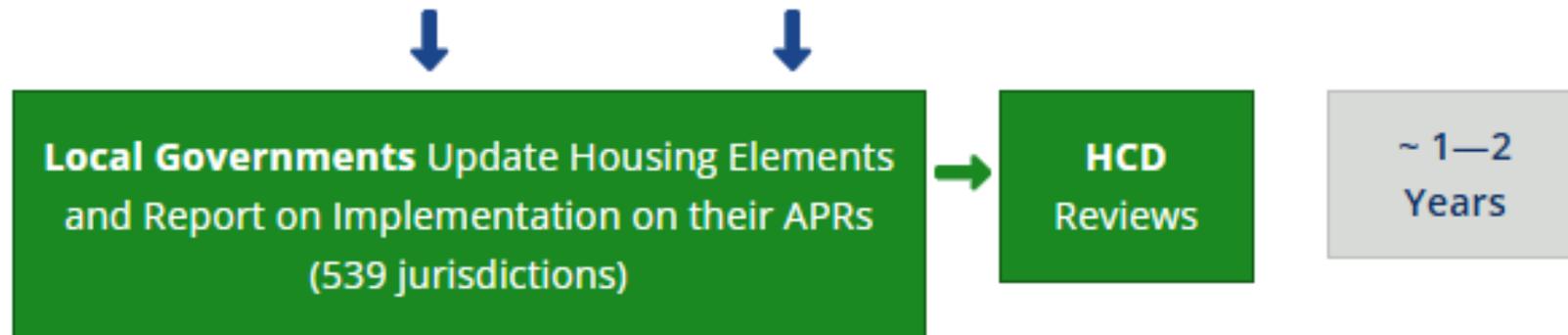
Regional Housing Need Determination



Regional Housing Need Allocation



Housing Element Update



RHNA's Objectives (Gov't Code 65584)

1. Increasing the housing supply and the mix of housing types, tenure, and affordability in all cities and counties
2. Promoting infill development and socioeconomic equity, the protection of environmental and agricultural resources, the encouragement of efficient development patterns, and the achievement of the region's greenhouse gas reductions targets
3. Promoting an improved intraregional relationship between jobs and housing, including an improved balance between low-wage jobs and affordable housing
4. Allocating a lower proportion of housing need to an income category when a jurisdiction already has a disproportionately high share of households in that income category
5. Affirmatively furthering fair housing



RHNA Factors (Gov't Code 65584.04)

Each region “shall consider including the following factors in developing the methodology that allocates regional housing needs:”

- Lack of capacity for sewer or water service due to federal or state laws, regulations or regulatory actions, or supply and distribution decisions made by a sewer or water service provider other than the local jurisdiction that preclude the jurisdiction from providing necessary infrastructure for additional development during the planning period.
- Any other factors adopted by the council of governments, that further the objectives listed in subdivision (d) of Section 65584, provided that the council of governments specifies which of the objectives each additional factor is necessary to further... so long as the additional factors do not undermine the objectives...and are applied equally across all household income levels...and the COG makes a finding that the factor is necessary to address significant health and safety conditions.



Fresno COG's 6th Cycle Methodology

Fresno Council of Governments used five weighted factors to adjust the total RHNA allocated to each local government. One factor considered the following:

- Protected farmland according to the California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program or land registered as Williamson Act land by Fresno County
- Sensitive wildlife habitat or wetland according to the National Wetlands Inventory
- Land within state parks, national parks, or national forest
- Critical habitats according to the California Natural Diversity Database
- Areas at high risk of environmental hazards such as flooding (Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Hazard Layer), wildfire (CAL FIRE's Fire and Resource Assessment Program designations), erosion (US Department of Agriculture's Soil Survey Geographic Database), and earthquakes (US Geological Survey's fault location data and Alquist-Priolo zones)



LAFCO 101

June 9, 2025

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

Joe Serrano, Executive Officer

Santa Cruz County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo)

LAFCO 101

June 9, 2025

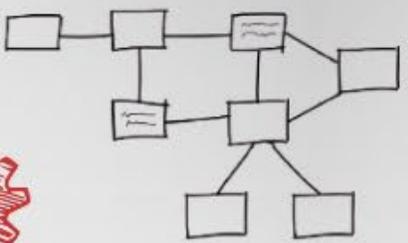
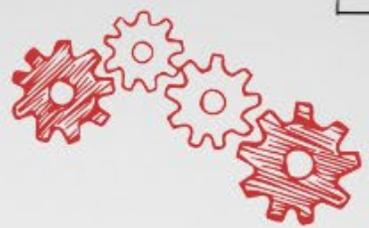
LAFCO 101 - CRASH COURSE EDITION



INTRO



POWERS



COMMON MISTAKES



Q&A



COMMON MISTAKES

LAFCO is a...

-  **"Watchdog"
for the State**
-  **"Deatheater" of
Local Agencies**
-  **"Useless" for us**





Service Reviews

Status of Agency

Spheres of Influence

Planning Tool

Boundary Changes

Reflect Services

Questions?

Feel free to contact me:

Joe Serrano - joe@santacruzlafco.org

Key Takeaway:

LAFCO can/should be used as a resource

Group Discussion

- What did you learn that could be incorporated into the recommendation idea?
- What additional information is needed to develop a recommendation?

Recommendation idea: Improve alignment between Housing Growth and Water Supply Development, such as exploring how to align the timelines of the implementation of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment with a region's water supply development.



PUBLIC COMMENT

NEXT STEPS

What's Next

JUNE: Workgroup virtual meetings to learn more and continue advancing through recommendation ideas.

- **Land Use Planning Workgroup:**

- **TBD:** *Learning Session: Land Use Repurposing*

- **Other DRIP Collaborative Workgroups:**

- **June 17th** - Reducing Ecological Impacts of Drought Workgroup Meeting
- **June 18th** - Infrastructure Workgroup Meeting
- Other DRIP Collaborative members, as well as members of the public, may join these workgroup meetings

JULY 18: DRIP Collaborative meeting (in-person)

- Continue process for new recommendations



California
DRIP Collaborative

Adjourn

Recording will be posted to <https://water.ca.gov/DRIP>

Thank you!