

**Attachment A – Land Acknowledgement**

## **Land Acknowledgement Statement**

We should take a moment to acknowledge the land on which we are gathered. For thousands of years, this land has been the home of Patwin people. Today, there are three federally recognized Patwin tribes: Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, Kletsel Dehe Band of Wintun Indians, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

The Patwin people have remained committed to the stewardship of this land over many centuries. It has been cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands.

*Approved by Yocha Dehe Tribal Council (July 23, 2019)*

**Attachment B - 2023.02.27 YCCAC Meeting Minutes**



## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **Yolo County Climate Action Commission**

**February 27, 2023 | 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM**

#### **COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Suzanne Reed, District 1 Appointee  
Robin Datel, District 2 Appointee  
Mark Aulman, District 3 Appointee  
Andrew Truman Kim, District 4 Appointee (**VICE-CHAIR**)  
Adelita Serena, District 5 Appointee  
Chris White, Technical Lead (*absent*)  
NJ Mvondo, Environmental Justice Lead (**CHAIR**)  
Bernadette Austin, Climate Scientist/Subject Matter Expert  
Pelayo Alvarez, Climate Scientist/Subject Matter Expert  
Mica Bennett – At Large  
Ken Britten – At Large (*joined at 4:32 PM*)

#### **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:**

Sarah Morgan, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation  
Camille Kirk, UC Davis (*absent*)

#### **SUPERVISORS:**

Supervisor Lucas Frerichs, Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 2  
Supervisor Jim Provenza, Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 4

### **MEETING MINUTES**

- 1. Authorize remote (teleconference/videoconference) meetings by finding, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.**
  - a. Staff recommends the Commission make the following findings:
    - i. The Yolo County Climate Action Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency proclaimed for the COVID-19 pandemic; and
    - ii. Local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.
  
- 2. Land Acknowledgement** (*read by M. Bennett*) (*Attachment A*)

### 3. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Approve with an amendment of the Supervisors and their Districts on the list of attendees.

**Decision:** Approve

**Approved By / Seconded By:** S. Reed, A. Kim

**Ayes:** S. Reed, R. Datel, M. Aulman, A. Kim, A. Serena, NJ Mvondo, B. Austin, P. Alvarez, M. Bennett

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** C. White, K. Britten

### 4. Public Comment

- a. A public comment was made from a Yolo Climate Emergency Coalition representative who thanked the Sustainability department for their newsletter. It was mentioned that some members of the community may not be able to be reached via email communications to receive YCCAC agendas prior to meetings. The commenter encouraged the Commission to continue outreach to youth leaders in the County. The commenter also invited Commission members to attend the Global Climate Strike occurring in Davis on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 14<sup>th</sup> and B Street from 12:00 – 2:00 PM.

### 5. Approve January 23, 2023 Meeting Minutes (*Attachment B*)

- a. Approve with an amendment from the word 'headline' to 'deadline' on page 7 and check the reference to 'shallow wells contributing to flooding'.

**Decision:** Approve

**Approved By / Seconded By:** NJ Mvondo, M. Bennett

**Ayes:** S. Reed, R. Datel, M. Aulman, A. Kim, A. Serena, NJ Mvondo, B. Austin, P. Alvarez, M. Bennett

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** C. White, K. Britten

**Absent:** None

#### **Additional Comments/Action Items:**

- a. A question was asked regarding a comment on shallow wells impacting flooding in the Yolo County Emergency Response section. It was asked whether the comment claimed that shallow wells contribute to flooding.
  - i. County Staff revisited the meeting recording and verified that the comment was referencing shallow wells limiting water retention capacity in rural areas. Notes will be clarified.
- b. A comment was made to correct the word "headline" to be "deadline" on page 7.

## 6. Staff Announcements/Reports (Staff)

- a. Staff shared that the Commission is to return to in-person meetings next month due to the Brown Act; location to-be-determined, likely in Woodland.
  - i. Staff shared that in the future, there may be the possibility of Commission Members meeting in two, dual meeting locations, although the goal is to find one meeting space that works for everyone. It was stated that a hybrid format for public participation is not required by the Brown Act but is a priority of the County to enable accessible public participation.
  - ii. A suggestion was made for staff to consider a contingency plan and re-examine bylaws around quorum requirements.
  - iii. A suggestion was made that ARP funds could be used to get spaces equipped with adequate tech.
  - iv. A suggestion was made to rush the urgency of advocating for legislative change.
    1. A response was made that pushing the urgency of this legislative change will be considered, although practically it would occur in the summer at the earliest and the need to find meeting locations will still be relevant until then.
  - v. A question was asked if the Yolo County Flood Control Board Room has been examined as a possible space for hybrid Commission meetings.
  - vi. A question was asked about whether the requirement to meet in-person could be considered an ADA issue.
    1. Staff responded that in the updated guidelines, members are allowed to attend meetings in a hybrid format up to 2 times a year for cases of illness or emergency. ADA concerns will be part of the conversation regarding advocacy.
- b. Staff shared that they are preparing to submit a Caltrans Sustainable Communities Grant application for the ZEV Action Plan with a heavy emphasis on the project being a regional effort. The application is written with focus on the needs of underserved communities across the county. Staff explained that the project consists of the formation of a Zero Emission Task Force that would make sure partners in the incorporated cities are communicating throughout the development and implementation processes. Staff shared that the grant application will be submitted within the week and funding decisions will be announced in the summer.
- c. Staff shared that they will be bringing an updated version of the Agricultural Equipment Retrofit early action project description to the Commission in March.
- d. Staff shared that past newsletter editions are now available on the Yolo Sustainability Website: <https://yolocounty.org/sustainability>.

## Public Comment

- a. A commenter shared that CoolDavis is happy to share support or insight on the Caltrans Grant application and is excited to see the collaborative effort of the ZEV project.

**7. Update on Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Progress (J. Gray, Dudek) (Attachment C)**

- a. Jane Gray from the Dudek Staff Team provided an update on the Climate Action & Adaptation Plan progress and provided an overview of the Equity and Engagement Communications and Engagement strategies and timelines.
- b. Dudek mentioned that the equity strategy will work in tandem with the engagement and communication plan, with all materials being available in both English and Spanish as a minimum.
- c. Dudek Staff provided an overview of the Land Use Summary used for informing the GHG reductions plan. The summary included Land Use data and assumed Land Use Growth in the County
  - i. A question was asked about what format feedback should be provided to the Dudek Team.
    - 1. Staff reiterated that questions and feedback should be directed to staff, who will coordinate with the Dudek team.
- d. A question was asked about the student population growth projections being larger in Woodland and West Sacramento than in Davis. It was asked if data was verified with the incorporated cities.
  - i. Response that data used for population growth projections used SACOG models. It was shared that data goes through the jurisdictions, but projections are not made by the jurisdictions. It was added that student population numbers include students of all ages, not just university students.

**Public Comment:**

- a. A comment left in the chat asked if there is an intention to tie the lands that are covered in the County jurisdiction with UCD land/resource use. It was asked if there is a way to plan for that possibility and how Dudek is working in the Highway expansion within Yolo County.
  - i. Response that highway expansions being presumed are included in the model. Currently data reflects what is assumed by SACOG.

**8. Discussion: Provide Feedback on Outreach Materials to Agricultural Community (K.Wraithwall) (Attachment D, E, F)**

- a. Dudek Staff provided a summary of the Natural and Working Lands Ad-Hoc Working Group Meeting from February 21, 2023. Ad-Hoc Working Group members provided feedback on the outreach interview questions, which aim to understand how climate change is impacting farming/ranching operations, along with questions on the agricultural community's familiarity with carbon farming practices. The Working

- Group also reviewed a list of Natural and Working Lands sequestration and emissions reduction strategies.
- b. County Staff added that the intent and purpose of this initial list of questions is to serve as a precursor to a broader outreach survey. The purpose of the questions is to guide conversations that Working Group members and County Staff will have with the agricultural community to gauge initial responses and thoughts on topic areas to then inform future outreach and survey development.
  - c. A question was asked how to expand outreach to farmers who are less concerned with climate change.
  - d. County Staff shared that the Resource Conservation District (RCD) has longstanding relationships with the Yolo County Ag community. It was decided to do initial rounds of high-level conversation with a selective group of farming community representatives which would inform the development of a survey, with roundtable discussions with different subsets of the population moving forward. RCD and/or County Staff will be at all interviews, with NWL Working Group members attending as capacity allows.
    - i. Dudek Staff added that RCD and County Staff will serve as the “face” of outreach efforts to further strengthen relationships to the community.
  - e. A question was asked about AB-1757, which is State legislation that regards setting sequestration targets on California Natural and Working Lands by January of 2024 with reported measuring methodologies by 2025. It was added that if outreach does not include context on state-level legislation, targeted communities might not be able to provide input.
    - i. Dudek Staff shared that they will incorporate the context of AB-1757 when doing outreach. Dudek Staff added that co-benefits are a major consideration to be included in outreach efforts along with context to statewide legislation.
  - f. A question was also asked if there are plans to have in-person conversations with farmers.
    - i. County Staff responded that they are in the process of identifying presentation opportunities and meetings that can be targeted for those types of conversations. It was added that a framework for focused roundtables with producers is being developed. Staff are trying to make conversations as accessible as possible and are prioritizing meeting the farm community where they are.
  - g. A question was asked regarding if Commission Members should leverage their networks to conduct personal outreach.
    - i. Staff responded that Commission members should absolutely leverage their networks.
  - h. A question was asked regarding what the participation amount should be for the quantitative survey to be statistically significant.
    - i. Dudek Staff responded that every single component of the Equity and Engagement Strategy will be personalized for various sectors of the



- population, which will inform how interview questions will be phrased and phased out.
- ii. A commenter added that statistical significance should be less of a concern considering the small population size of Yolo County.
- i. A question was asked regarding how the Dudek Team plans to approach potential biases when having conversations with farmers across a range of political beliefs.
  - i. Dudek Staff responded that there is a recent uptake in understanding that climate has been undergoing change and impacting farming operations.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**9. Discussion: Receive Update and Provide Input on Carbon Sequestration Methodology**  
(S. Halterman and M. Howard, Dudek) (*Attachment G*)

- a. Dudek Staff provided an overview of the Carbon Sequestration Methodology Analysis. It was added that sequestration is necessary to meet the County's goals of a carbon-negative footprint by 2030. The Dudek Team is collaborating with RCD to summarize existing land use and land cover types, existing carbon sequestration practices, and total sequestration potential with 100% participation.
- b. A question was asked regarding if the Commission will look at what rates of adoption need to be done in different places to meet County goals, and what incentives may be necessary to meet these goals.
  - i. Dudek Staff responded that there will be conversations with the Natural and Working Lands Working Group to discuss the potential for incentives. It was added that Dudek will consider both worst-case and best-case scenarios of participation.
- a. A comment was made mentioning that there are different carbon storage capacities in different lands and a question was asked about how solutions will be congruent with an understanding of current land qualities. It was asked if Dudek already knows the carbon capacity of certain soils and land use types in other areas.
  - i. Dudek Staff responded that every agriculturalist uses their soil differently and that microclimates and other variables can prevent baseline understandings of soil capacity specificity from being used universally.
  - ii. Dudek Staff added that the rates being used to account for differences across land types, and that these nuances emphasize why it's important to have the baseline understanding of what current storage rates are, although it is not necessary to quantify sequestration potential in the future.
  - iii. Dudek Staff added sequestration potential over-time can be calculated without specific soil storage capacity analysis.
- b. A comment was made that many carbon sequestration strategies are incentivized through the USDA EQIP program, with 100% of costs being covered for BIPOC farmers. It was asked if there can be regulatory options to ensure a certain level of participation.

- i. A response was made that all options should be on the table to determine how to meet county goals. It was added that incentive-based options would be ideal but that regulatory options can be considered as well.

**Public Comment:**

- a. A commenter mentioned using co-use and co-benefits of land in the county, such as Agrovoltatics. It was asked if such considerations are being taken to pair carbon sequestration benefits.
- b. A question was asked about what the methods might be to incentivize agricultural partners to adopt carbon sequestration strategies. It was added that receiving incentives has been a barrier for the farming community in the past. It was also mentioned that agricultural practices may have to change in face of the climate crisis.

**10. Discussion: Receive Update and Provide Input on Consumption-Based Inventory (M. Hendrix and J. Reed) (*Attachment H*)**

- a. Dudek Staff provided an overview on the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories included in the CAAP. This includes a Municipal Inventory, a Community-Wide Sector-Based Inventory, and a Consumption-Based Inventory Narrative. The Municipal GHG Inventory consists of emissions from county owned facilities, equipment, and vehicle fleets. The Community-Wide GHG Inventory consists of emission sectors within the community that the County serves. The 2016 GHG Emissions by Sector data revealed that on-road transportation was the largest GHG emitter, followed by agricultural practices. The Consumption-Based Inventory consists of emissions associated with the consumption of goods, materials, and services. This will work to inform the public about how lifestyle changes can impact emissions in the county.
- a. A question was asked if current trends are being looked at along with the dataset from 2016 for the Community-Wide Inventory. It was added that some emission levels have gone down in the agricultural sector due to land use conversion and the loss of agricultural land.
  - i. Dudek Staff responded that trends are included in the monitoring process and that trend lines will be shown from all previous inventories. It was added that earlier inventories were done with different methodologies and global warming potentials, so Dudek aims to present data that used the same methods. It was added that emissions reductions from agriculture should aim to be achieved without shrinking the ag sector.
- b. A question was asked regarding if the 2016 GHG Emissions by Sector is the latest data collection for Yolo County, and if it is serving as the baseline goal for the county.

- i. Dudek Staff responded that the analysis will look at whether ag productivity and population is growing while emissions levels are shrinking.
- c. A question was asked regarding whether the 2016 emissions by sector dataset is the most recent collection of data available. It was also asked if numbers from the 2016 inventory will serve as the baseline goal for future emissions rates to be lower than.
  - i. Dudek Staff responded that the Ag sector should be able to continue growing with lowering emissions, while other sectors may shrink. It was added the division of sectors in the County can be used to see where emissions reductions efforts can be effective.

**Public Comment:**

- a. A comment was made that relying on the community to make lifestyle changes may inhibit the county's ability to meet decarbonization goals.

**11. Ad-Hoc Working Group Updates**

- a. Equity and Engagement (*B. Austin*)
  - i. The Equity and Engagement Working Group has met with candidates across the county and is working on restructuring the approach for reaching underserved communities. The Working Group will provide more details in March.
- b. Natural and Working Lands (*K. Wraithwall*)
  - i. The Natural and Working Lands Working Group has been assessing the best mode and manner for communicating with the ag community. The Working Group will be able to provide a greater update in March.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**12. Commission Member Reports, Comments, Future, Future Agenda Items**

- a. A reminder was made that CivicWell is accepting conference proposals for California's Adaptation Forum. Proposals can include networking sessions.
- b. A commenter mentioned that Yolo County is serving as a role model for the rest of California in climate work.
- c. A commenter mentioned that Valley Vision and UCANR is hosting a workshop with farmers in Woodland on March 9<sup>th</sup> at the UCCE facility from 8-1. The workshop is open to growers and the invitation will be shared with Commission members.
- d. Commissioner Austin was congratulated for her new role with CivicWell.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**13. Long Range Calendar**

- a. A question was asked regarding whether there would be an opportunity to examine the details and engage with the process of creating the inventory analysis.

- i. County Staff responded that if Commission members want to discuss this further it could be added to a future agenda.

**14. Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at: 6:49 PM
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**Attachment C - Staff Report on Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program**

# STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** March 27th, 2023  
**TO:** Yolo County Climate Action Commission  
**FROM:** Gretchen James, CivicSpark Fellow  
Kristen Wraithwall, Sustainability Manager  
**RE:** Approve Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program Proposal

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Approve Updated Agriculture Equipment Retrofit Program Proposal, including updated prioritization criteria (*Attachment D*).
2. Recommend designation of \$130,000 in Climate Action American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds for Agriculture Equipment Retrofit Program Implementation.

## REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

This report provides an update to the Yolo County Climate Action Commission (Commission) regarding the Agricultural Equipment Retrofit (AER) Early Action Project, which was approved by the Commission in June 2022, and went before the Yolo County Board of Supervisors Climate Action Subcommittee (Subcommittee) for discussion in July 2022. The Subcommittee raised several questions about the structure the AER program and requested that County staff conduct additional research into the benefits of electric utility task vehicles, explore funding alternatives, and provide an updated proposal once additional research had been conducted. After conducting outreach and research, County staff have developed an updated project description (*Attachment D*) for review and discussion by the Commission.

## BACKGROUND

In April 2022, the Commission considered approval of 6 climate early action projects, one of which included the Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program, which proposed the expansion of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's (YSAQMD) Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emissions Reductions (FARMER) Program by using ARP funds to convert gas-powered utility task vehicles (UTVs) to electric equivalents (eUTVs). The Commission deferred approval of the AER early action project until June 2022 in order to update the priority criteria for funding, ultimately deciding on a definition of priority populations that can be seen in the endnotes of Attachment D.

County Staff then took the AER project description to the Subcommittee in July 2022 for review and approval. At this time, Staff were asked to investigate whether the AER Program as proposed would be an effective use of ARP funds to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and/or serve as a catalyst for furthering equipment electrification in the county. Staff conferred with the Natural and Working Lands Ad Hoc Working Group, YSAQMD, the Yolo Resource Conservation District, and the Farm Bureau to seek answers to these questions. Staff also evaluated alternative funding options—such as developing a flexible funding pool to support broader carbon sequestration or emissions reduction practices, providing match funding for tractor replacement, and funding whole orchard recycling—but ultimately recommend focusing AER on eUTVs due to the potential for high GHG emissions reductions, filling a funding gap, and for potential long-term program replicability. This report and the associated project description provide an update on the AER Program, updated prioritization criteria, and a summary of additional research conducted to date.

## **BENEFITS OF eUTVs**

### Benefits and Concerns of Funding eUTVs

The FARMER program limits funding to two pieces of equipment per operation which farmers will often use for higher cost, heavy-duty vehicles. Given conversations with YSAQMD staff, providing a dedicated funding stream for high use eUTVs would serve as an expansion of existing equipment retrofit programs by increasing funding opportunities for farmers to electrify a piece of equipment that is generally overlooked when applying for retrofit funding.

YSAQMD staff have shared that they have received numerous requests for eUTV-specific funding programs in recent years. Electric UTVs have gained popularity due to their clean and efficient operation, as well as their versatility for use in a variety of outdoor and industrial applications. In comparison to traditional UTVs, electric UTVs offer several environmental and financial benefits. The reduced maintenance requirements and increased durability of electric UTVs reduces the need for frequent replacement of parts and disposal of used vehicles. Electric UTVs are quieter, have a longer lifespan, and are often found to be more cost effective than gas-powered UTVs in the long run.

It is worth noting that during our outreach, County staff found that some Yolo County farmers do have concerns about the power of eUTVs as compared to their gas-powered counterparts. Farm Bureau staff also shared that it was important that this program be truly supplemental, and not take away funding from other equipment-retrofit programs.

### Emissions Reductions Data of eUTV Replacements

UTVs are high-use pieces of equipment that are often fueled with gas-powered engines, meaning that electrification is capable of significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

reductions. Conversations with YSAQMD staff revealed that over the past five years, the average FARMER program UTV retrofit project led to emissions reductions of 28.65 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) over the project lifespan.<sup>1</sup> These emissions reductions are substantially higher than many other funding categories, particularly considering the relatively low cost for each project. This supports eUTV replacement being a cost-effective way to maximize GHG reductions by project.

### Cost and Performance of eUTVs

The upfront costs of eUTVs range from \$8,000 to \$25,000, with the most popular models ranging from \$10,000 to \$18,000 (based on staff conversations with local distributors and YSAQMD). While data is limited, electric UTV distributors note that eUTVs can be 25 to 50 percent less expensive to operate than gas-powered equivalents,<sup>2</sup> as they do not require gas, oil changes, spark plugs, fuel filters, etc. The eUTV distributor Polaris notes that when connected to a 240V outlet, eUTVs can go from a depleted battery to a full charge in five hours, and a mid-range electric UTV can be expected to go 35-40 miles on a full charge. Some higher power models (or models with upgraded battery capacity) can run for up to 200 miles on one charge, but those will have a higher upfront cost (for reference, gas-powered UTVs generally go as far as 100-200 miles on a full tank, depending on the model). Generally, electric UTVs can last up to 8 to 10 years with proper care. Electric UTV batteries perform best and maintain lifespan when recharged fully and often. If this program is approved, the County will consider working with YSAQMD to provide technical assistance along to help farmers identify additional funding for charging infrastructure to support eUTV charging.

### Potential Funding and Replicability of the AER Program

The County spoke with YSAQMD to discuss funding structures for the AER Program. If the AER Program receives approval in concept, YSAQMD will consider designating match funds (*in conversations with YSAQMD staff, it is possible that the Air District could provide up to \$75,000 in additional funding to support this program, pending approval by the YSAQMD board*) for eUTV replacements which includes in-kind administrative and outreach support. This will significantly multiply the impact of the County's ARP contributions.

Staff recommends dedicating \$130,000 of ARP funds for the AER Program. County staff proposes offering \$10,000 in retrofit funding funds for standard selected/eligible applicants and \$15,000 (or up to 100% of the vehicle replacement cost, whichever is

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<sup>1</sup> For reference, one metric ton of CO<sub>2</sub>e is equivalent to driving approximately 2,500 miles in the average car. If the program funds 10 UTV replacements, the estimated greenhouse gas emissions reduced would be equivalent to the emissions of driving around the world 28 times.

<sup>2</sup> It is important to note that there is the potential for bias in this estimate given that this estimate comes from distributors; staff were unable to find a third-party data source regarding operating costs.



lower) for selected/eligible applicants who are socially-disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and/or priority populations (see definition in Attachment D). This would enable the County to complete approximately 10-15 projects depending on the grants awarded and YSAQMD match provided.

Based on conversations with YSAQMD, if the AER early action project implementation is successful, then YSAQMD may consider turning this into an annual program with dedicated funding. Without the County funding a test pilot, the agricultural community would not have this program available for several years. Utilizing ARP funds to support this program has the potential to position the County as a catalyst for a new, ongoing, emissions reduction program.

### Prioritization Criteria of the AER Program

Staff proposes removing two prioritization criteria from the project description approved in June 2022: 1) farmers most impacted by COVID-19, as demonstrated through a hardship affidavit; 2) small farming operations. The COVID-19 hardship affidavit was more immediately applicable when this project was first proposed in early 2022. County staff have heard that farmers are already overburdened by grant applications and removing this requirement will simplify this application and reduce barriers to accessing this funding. Staff also recommend removing “small farming operations.” YSAQMD does not use this as a criterion for funding, as many definitions of a small farm—such as the United States Department of Agriculture’s definition of any farm with gross income of \$250,000 or less—often does not paint a full picture of true need, particularly in Yolo County.

For this reason, staff recommend simplifying the prioritization criteria for the AER Program to: 1) Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers, and/or Priority Populations (as defined in Attachment D); and 2) farming operations where equipment retrofitting would have the largest greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction impact. However, all farmers are eligible to apply regardless of whether they meet any/all priority criteria.

### **SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

The County spoke with YSAQMD, Yolo Resource Conservation District (who also discussed with the Farm Bureau), and the Commission’s Natural and Working Lands Ad-Hoc Working group regarding alternatives to funding eUTVs.

County Staff explored the possibility of providing incentives for farmers to consider whole orchard recycling (WOR) as opposed to burning. The cost to remove an orchard is approximately \$1,500 - \$2,000 per acre, with Yolo County typical farm acreage ranging from 15-50. The lifetime of carbon storage for whole orchard recycling is only 8% after 25 years with an increase in emissions released occurring in the first 2-3 years. It was concluded that while whole orchard recycling is an effective tool for carbon sequestration

and improved soil health, it does not achieve the same emissions reductions benefits the AER program was designed to achieve. Additionally, YSAQMD is planning to launch a dedicated funding pool for WOR in April 2023.

County Staff also discussed the possibility of funding the match costs of tractor replacement programs to increase access to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers who often struggle to cover the 10-15% match costs of these expensive pieces of equipment. There are existing effective tractor replacement programs, such as FARMER and the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). These programs provide funding for agricultural harvesting equipment, tractors, and other equipment used in agricultural operations. Even just providing matching funds, the high cost of these pieces of equipment makes this an infeasible option given the amount of ARP funding available to support this effort.

Finally, County Staff considered a flexible funding program that would allow Farmers to apply for funding to support a variety of pre-determined priority projects. This model has been used by the County of Santa Clara for their [Agricultural Resilience Incentive \(ARI\) grant program](#); this program identifies 27 pre-approved carbon sequestering and soil health-improving projects that can be funded at a rate of up to \$30,000. This model would be an excellent opportunity to incentivize the actions that come out of the County's 2030 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) update, but in conversations with YSAQMD, it was clear that the amount of ARP funding the County has is not sufficient to support this type of program on its own at this stage. County staff hope to explore the possibility of launching such a program to support implementation of the CAAP in the future (assuming additional funding can be acquired).

## **NEXT STEPS**

Pending recommendations by the Commission, the next steps and estimated timeline for the Agricultural Equipment Retrofit program are as follows:

May 9, 2023	Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program to Board of Supervisors
Summer 2023	County to work with YSAQMD to develop Grant Administration Guidelines
Fall 2023	County and YSAQMD to release funding opportunity

**Attachment D - Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Project Description**



# County of Yolo

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

## **Planning & Public Works**

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8775  
FAX (530) 666-8156  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## **Environmental Health**

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8646  
FAX (530) 669-1448  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## **Integrated Waste Management**

44090 CR 28H  
Woodland, CA 95776  
(530) 666-8852  
FAX (530) 666-8853  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## **YOLO AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT RETROFIT PROGRAM**

Proposed Early Action to Implement Resolution No. 20-114 Related to the Climate Crisis

### **PROPOSED ACTION**

The proposed action will expand the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's (YSAQMD) Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emissions Reductions (FARMER) Program or other programs accomplishing similar objectives by providing a dedicated funding stream for Yolo County farmers to replace gas-powered utility task vehicles (UTVs) with electric UTV equivalents (eUTVs). The FARMER Program provides funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural harvesting equipment, heavy-duty trucks, agricultural irrigation pump engines, tractors and/or other equipment used in agricultural operations. Funding programs such as FARMER often limit farmers to receiving funding to replace only two pieces of equipment, meaning that relatively lower-cost items such as UTVs are deprioritized by farmers in favor of higher-cost replacements such as tractors. By providing supplemental, dedicated funding targeted at eUTVs—a request that YSAQMD has received from Yolo County farmers—the County can increase access to electric equipment without displacing funding from other critical funding programs.

The expansion will prioritize eUTV funding for Yolo County farmers who meet the following criteria: 1) Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers<sup>i</sup> and/or Priority Populations<sup>ii</sup>; 2) farming operations where equipment retrofitting would have the largest greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction impact, however all farmers are eligible to apply, regardless of whether they meet any/all priority criteria. The action will focus on replacing UTVs with electric alternatives for which the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District can easily quantify greenhouse gas emission reduction. By providing a dedicated funding stream for eUTV replacement, the County can increase the fuel efficiency of on-farm equipment, reduce exhaust emissions, and provide additional opportunities for farmers to explore equipment retrofits. The County will partner with the Yolo County Farm Bureau and the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District to conduct outreach to farmers, particularly those who might identify as Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers, to inform them of this expanded opportunity. This program will help the County achieve its goal of reaching net-negative greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

### **BACKGROUND**

To administer the FARMER Program, the California Air Resources Board allocates funding to local air quality management districts, which then hold competitive solicitations to disburse these funds. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District has typically received almost 75% of FARMER funds, with the remaining 25% of funds shared between all other air districts in the state. While

these existing state programs are designed to help farmers transition to more sustainable agricultural practices and achieve climate action goals, they are underfunded, and can be inaccessible to historically underserved farmers. By providing supplemental funding targeted at eUTVs, the County can create an opportunity to increase access to electric farm equipment, increase the pot of funding available for agricultural equipment retrofits in Yolo County, and help achieve the County's climate action goals.

## **CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING POLICIES**

Funding agricultural retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions supports strategies outlined in the *Yolo County Sustainability Plan*. Specifically, the *Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes:

- Action EH-3.1: Promote agricultural methods that minimize air, soil, and water pollution consistent with the County's Organic Agriculture Program

The proposed action also supports the following measures outlined in the *2011 Yolo County Climate Action Plan*:

- A-2: Reduce fossil fuel consumption in field equipment
- A-3: Reduce energy use in agricultural irrigation pumping

## **BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED/VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

This action would prioritize agriculture equipment retrofits for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and/or Priority Populations (including Disadvantaged Communities, low-income communities, and low-income households).

## **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION**

The projects implemented from the expanded grant program will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The electrification of Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTVs) will produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions when powered by electricity, reduce exhaust emissions, and reduce gasoline consumption. Conversations with YSAQMD staff revealed that over the past five years, the average FARMER program UTV retrofit project led to emissions reductions of 28.65 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) over the project lifespan.

## **CO-BENEFITS**

The proposed action will reduce repair costs for farmers, improve equipment reliability, reduce noise pollution, and reduce harmful exhaust emissions.

## **TRANSFORMATIVE/REPLICABLE ELEMENTS**

If the program is successful in its first year of implementation, the program may continue annually to further equipment electrification in the County, however there is no guarantee of this. The success of this pilot program will serve as a model for other counties to replicate.

## DEGREE OF READINESS

This project requires an agreement with the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District to administer the grant program and an agreement with the Yolo County Farm Bureau to conduct education and outreach to farmers about the program. The County and YSAQMD have already discussed the project in detail.

## COSTS

The County proposes offering \$10,000 in retrofit funding funds for standard selected/eligible applicants and \$15,000 (or up to 100% of the vehicle replacement cost, whichever is lower) for selected/eligible applicants who are socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and/or priority populations, up to a maximum amount of \$130,000.

## FUNDING

County Staff recommend allocating \$130,000 of American Rescue Plan funds to this program. Pending approval and partnership with the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, additional sources of funding from YSAQMD may be provided.

## CONCERNS

Yolo County is committing one-time funds to expand the program to the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District; expansion of the program, and the commitment of ongoing funding by YSAQMD depends on success and interest levels of this pilot program.

## PARTNERS

- Yolo County Air Quality Management District (administrator of the funds, outreach support)
- Yolo County Farm Bureau (education to farmers about the program)

## PERSONNEL

Name	Role (Lead or Partner)	Email	Phone
Kristen Wraithwall	Lead	<a href="mailto:kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org">kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org</a>	530-666-8047
Stephanie Holliday	Co-Lead, Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District	<a href="mailto:sholliday@ysaqmd.org">sholliday@ysaqmd.org</a>	530-757-3657
Denise Sagara	Co-Lead, Yolo County Farm Bureau	<a href="mailto:denise@yolofarmbureau.org">denise@yolofarmbureau.org</a>	530-662-6316

## ENDNOTES

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<sup>i</sup> Building on the language defined in Assembly Bill 1348— the Farmer Equity Act (2017) —we define **Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers** as those belonging to a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. These groups include, but are not limited to, people who are African American, American Indian, Alaskan native, Hispanic, Asian-American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander.

<sup>ii</sup> We use the California Air Resources Board (CARB) definition of **Priority Populations**, which includes disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, and low-income households. Priority Populations can be identified using CARB's online mapping tool here: <https://webmaps.arb.ca.gov/PriorityPopulations/>. CARB designates Priority Populations using the following definitions:

**Disadvantaged Community (DAC):** The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) defines DACs as the following: (1) census tracts receiving the highest 25 percent of overall scores in CalEnviroScreen 4.0; (2) census tracts lacking overall scores in CalEnviroScreen 4.0 due to data gaps, but receiving the highest 5 percent of CalEnviroScreen 4.0 cumulative pollution burden scores; (3) census tracts identified in the 2017 DAC designation as disadvantaged, regardless of their scores in CalEnviroScreen 4.0; (4) and areas under the control of federally recognized Tribes.

**Low-Income Communities and Households:** CARB's Priority Populations Investments program defines these groups as "those with incomes either at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income, or at or below the threshold designated as low-income by the California Department of Housing and Community Development's 2021 State Income Limits."

**Attachment E - Presentation on Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program**



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# YOLO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT RETROFIT EARLY ACTION PROJECT

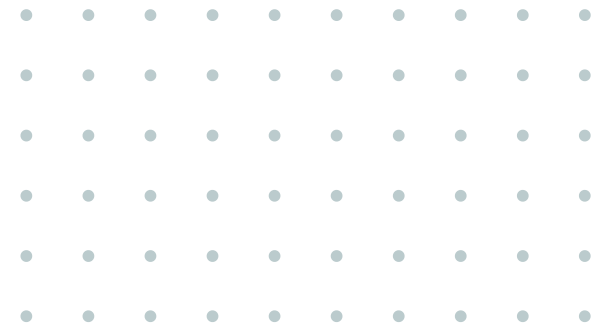
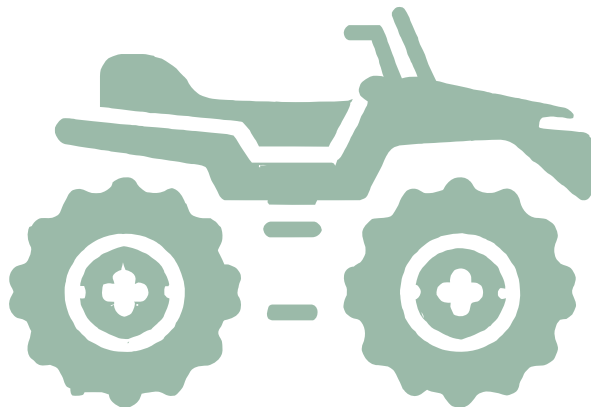
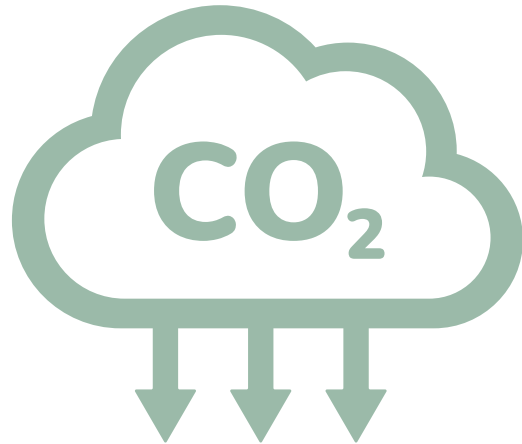
March 27, 2023  
Gretchen James, CivicSpark Fellow





# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Agricultural Equipment Retrofit (AER) Early Action Project aims to use American Rescue Plan funds to replace gas-powered utility terrain vehicles (UTVs) to electric equivalents (eUTVs) and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions



# BENEFITS OF eUTVS



## Lower maintenance requirements

Reduced need for part replacements and disposal

Lowers maintenance costs by ~35%



## Longer lifespan

eUTVs can last 8–10 years and are less prone to wear and tear over time



## Economic benefits

25%–50% less expensive than gas-powered UTVs



## Reduced noise pollution

Quieter than gas-powered counterparts



## Environmental benefits

Reduction of GHG emissions from fuel use and exhaustion of high-use equipment vehicles



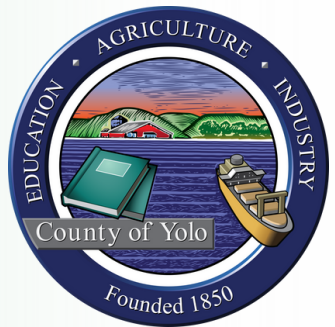
## Efficiency benefits

Electric motors have higher energy efficiency compared to internal combustion engines

# YSAQMD PARTNERSHIP IN AER PROJECT



YOLO-SOLANO  
AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



- The AER Program would expand the Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emissions Reduction (FARMER) Program by providing a dedicated stream of funding for high-use eUTVs .
- If the AER project receives approval in concept, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD) will consider designating match funds for eUTV replacements with in-kind administrative support.
- If the project is successful in its first year, YSAQMD may consider turning this into a recurring, annual funding program.

# COST CONSIDERATIONS AND FUNDING STRUCTURE

- The most popular models of eUTVs range from **\$10,000** to **\$20,000**.
- County Staff recommends dedicating **\$130,000** of ARP funds to the AER program.
- Recommend **offering \$10,000** in funding for eUTV replacements with a sliding scale **up to \$15,000** per replacement for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.
  - Recommend removing "small farming operations" and "COVID hardship affidavit" from priority criteria due to lack of clear definitions of need; recommend prioritizing **socially-disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and GHG emissions reduction potential**.
- AER program would **fund 10–15 eUTV retrofit projects**.



# FARMER Program GHG Emissions Reduction Data

Emissions Reduction of  
Average FARMER eUTV  
retrofit project over  
project lifespan

28.65  
metric tons  
of CO<sub>2</sub>e

which is equal to...



The emissions that would  
result from driving **71,625  
miles**, or going around the  
world **3.8 times!!**

The AER Program would **provide this benefit 10–15 times over**, expanding the GHG reductions of the FARMER Program by increasing opportunities for equipment electrification

# AER PROJECT TIMELINE

**JUNE 2022**

AER Project approved by  
YCCAC

**JULY 2022**

AER Project first brought  
to Subcommittee

**MARCH 2023**

AER Project approved by  
Subcommittee

**MAY 2023**

AER Project to be  
presented to the BOS

**SUMMER 2023**

County to work with  
YSAQMD to develop Grant  
Administration Guidelines

**FALL 2023**

County and YSAQMD to  
release funding  
opportunity



# THANK YOU

Have any questions?

[sustainability@yolocounty.org](mailto:sustainability@yolocounty.org)





**Attachment F - Staff Report on TAC Formation**

# STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** March 27, 2023

**TO:** Yolo County Climate Action Commission

**FROM:** Kristen Wraithwall, Sustainability Manager

**RE:** Dissolution of Equity & Engagement (E&E) and Natural & Working Lands (NWL) Working Groups, and Establish new E&E and NWL Technical Advisory Committees

## RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. Approve dissolution of the Equity & Engagement and Natural & Working Lands Ad Hoc Working Groups.
2. Provide input on the Sustainability Manager's Plan to establish new Equity & Engagement and Natural & Working Lands Technical Advisory Committees.

## REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

At its August 22, 2022 meeting, the Yolo County Climate Action Commission ("Commission") voted to establish Equity and Engagement and Natural and Working Lands Working Groups—which have since been operating on an Ad Hoc basis—to advance the goals set forth by Resolution No. 20-114, in accordance with the Commission charter. Because these groups were formed by the Commission, they are subject to the Brown Act.<sup>1</sup> County Staff have since observed several barriers to equitable and accessible participation in Working Groups, including the return to in-person meetings starting March 1, 2023 under the Brown Act, and limited County facilities able to accommodate hybrid meetings that would allow members of the public to participate remotely. In preliminary conversations with current Working Group members, working group candidates during interviews, community partners, and members of the public, these barriers pose significant challenges to equitable participation, as traveling to in-person meetings restricts access to those with the job flexibility and transportation resources to participate.

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<sup>1</sup> The Brown Act applies to "legislative bodies," including any "commission, committee, board, or other body" created by formal action of a legislative body. Because the Commission is created by the Board of Supervisors, it is subject to the Brown Act, as are any committees the Commission creates. The Brown Act exempts ad hoc advisory committees, which would apply to a committee of less than a quorum of the Commission with a specified scope and for a limited duration. See Gov't Code § 54952(b). However, because the Working Groups include non-Commissioner members, the Brown Act's exemption would not apply.

For this reason, County Staff have developed a proposal that involves Staff's creation of County Technical Advisory Committees (TACs). Because these committees would be created by Staff, they would not be subject to the strict requirements of the Brown Act and would allow for remote and/or hybrid participation. It is Staff's view that such an arrangement would better accommodate participants' needs and allows these groups to more effectively accomplish the goals set forth by Resolution No. 20-114, while increasing access to remote meeting participation for members of the advisory committees and members of the public. County staff therefore recommend the dissolution of the E&E and NWL Working Groups created by the Commission, and would like the Commission to provide input on the proposal for Staff to assemble two new groups: the Equity & Engagement TAC and the Natural & Working Lands TAC.

## **BACKGROUND**

The May 2021 Staff Report to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors explains that the Commission would be able to “create project specific working groups to further components of the emergency resolution declaring a climate crisis.” This staff report further explained that the Commission would be able to “create working groups as the need arises and projects are identified.”

The Commission charter highlights that “County staff envision the Commission will require its members to further action items between meetings and to report back on any progress at regularly scheduled Commission meetings. Staff intend to use working group meetings to facilitate conversations between the Commission and other agencies involved in matters related to climate change and sustainability, and to report on actions that Yolo County departments have planned or are currently involved in.” In addition to providing a high-level overview of the purpose of working groups, the charter includes additional guidance on Working Group Creation and Working Group Responsibilities:

### Working Group Creation

- The Commission may establish ad hoc working groups focused on selected topics to advance the goals set forth by Resolution No. 20-114 at a regularly scheduled meeting.
- The Commission may ask community members with expertise in a particular area to join the working groups, including community members who applied to the Commission.
- One Commission member will serve as the Commission liaison for each working group and will be responsible for selecting members to serve on the working group, with concurrence from County staff and the Commission.
- The Commission liaison for each working group will ensure the appropriate level of expertise for each working group, either through the development of an application, and interview process, or other means of determining appropriate expertise to serve on the working group.

## Working Group Responsibilities

- Working groups will review each sector and recommend strategies and actions to advance and ensure consistency with Resolution No. 20-114 regarding the Climate Commission and updated Climate Action Plan and the existing Yolo County Climate Action Plan and develop realistic timelines for implementation.
- Commission working group liaisons are responsible for submitting findings and recommendations to County staff and the Commission in a written report.
- Commission liaisons are responsible for reporting back on the progress of their working group at regularly scheduled Commission meetings.
- County staff may recommend revisions to working group strategies and actions to ensure the County can implement the proposals efficiently and effectively.

## **PROPOSED AD HOC TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

County Staff have developed a proposal to dissolve the Commission-created Working Groups and for the Sustainability Manager to create “County Technical Advisory Committees” (TACs) in order to make meetings more accessible to better accommodate intended participants of these groups.

### TAC Creation

- The Sustainability Manager will establish TACs focused on selected topics to advance the goals set forth by Resolution No. 20-114 at a regularly scheduled meeting.
- Staff, with recommendations from the Commission member representatives on the TAC, may ask community members with expertise in a particular area to join the TACs, including community members who applied to the Commission.
- One Commission member will serve as the Commission Liaison for each TAC and will be responsible for reporting progress and findings to the Commission.
- Each TAC will select a Facilitator, which may or may not be the Commission Liaison.
- The Commission representatives selected for the TAC will support the County in developing an application, interview, or other processes to ensure each TAC has the appropriate level of expertise from its members.

### TAC Responsibilities

- Each TAC will serve in an advisory manner to the Sustainability Manager and does not have the authority to act on behalf of the County or Commission. The TACs may review and make recommendations in response to Yolo County staff or Commission requests, as well as make independent recommendations to the Sustainability Manager related to the TAC’s purpose.
- TACs will review each sector and recommend strategies and actions to advance and ensure consistency with Resolution No. 20-114 regarding the Climate Commission and updated Climate Action Plan and the existing Yolo County Climate Action Plan and develop realistic timelines for implementation.

- TAC Liaisons are responsible for providing updates on findings and recommendations during monthly Commission Meetings.
- County staff may revise and ultimately approves TAC recommended strategies and actions to ensure the County can implement the proposals efficiently and effectively.

### TAC Membership

County Staff recommend that each TAC have at least 3 Commission member representatives. Each TAC will have a designated Commission Liaison, who is responsible for reporting on updates and recommendations at Commission meetings. At least one Commission member should be present at every TAC meeting. Commission member representatives on each TAC will be selected by County Staff. County Staff plans to appoint the Commission representatives currently serving on the E&E and NWL Ad-Hoc Working Groups to serve as Commission member representatives on each TAC. Staff recommend that the Commission member representatives selected for each TAC work with County staff to select the remaining working group members. County staff have the authority to remove a TAC member at any time, with or without cause. Commission representatives on each TAC will work with County Staff to ensure the appropriate level of expertise for each TAC, either through the development of an application, an interview process, or other means of determining appropriate expertise to serve on the TAC.

### TAC Leadership

TACs will need to appoint a facilitator who is responsible for supporting TAC meeting facilitation and communicating findings and progress to the Commission. This person will be appointed by the Sustainability Manager with input from the TAC members.

### TAC Operations

TACs will meet as needed and all meetings shall be open to the public. The meetings shall be run according to an agenda developed by Staff, which shall be posted on the Commission website ([www.yolocounty.org/sustainability](http://www.yolocounty.org/sustainability)). Any member of the public who wishes to receive a copy of the agenda via email can email [sustainability@yolocounty.org](mailto:sustainability@yolocounty.org) to be added to a distribution list. A majority of members will constitute a quorum. Yolo County staff will support the TACs by developing agendas, drafting meeting summaries, and following up on action items. TAC members or staff may be responsible for action items, but Yolo County staff will retain responsibility for ensuring action items are completed in a timely manner.

### TAC Member Compensation

Per the Commission's Stipend Policy, County staff recommend TAC members be offered compensation of \$50 per meeting attended. County Staff Members, Elected Officials, other government employees, and individuals/organizations currently under Contract with the County to provide related services would not be eligible for stipends. Any TAC member can decline compensation.

## **TIMELINE FOR NEXT STEPS**

If existing working groups are dissolved, County Staff recommend the following timeline for creating and rolling out TACs:

March 2023	Sustainability Manager to Establish TACs
April 2023	TACs Begin Meeting Publicly
Ongoing	TACs meet monthly until the working group's work is determined to be finished.

**Attachment G - Update from Dudek on Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Progress**

**DUDEK**



# Climate Action & Adaptation Plan

COUNTY OF YOLO

**PRESENTED BY DUDEK TEAM**

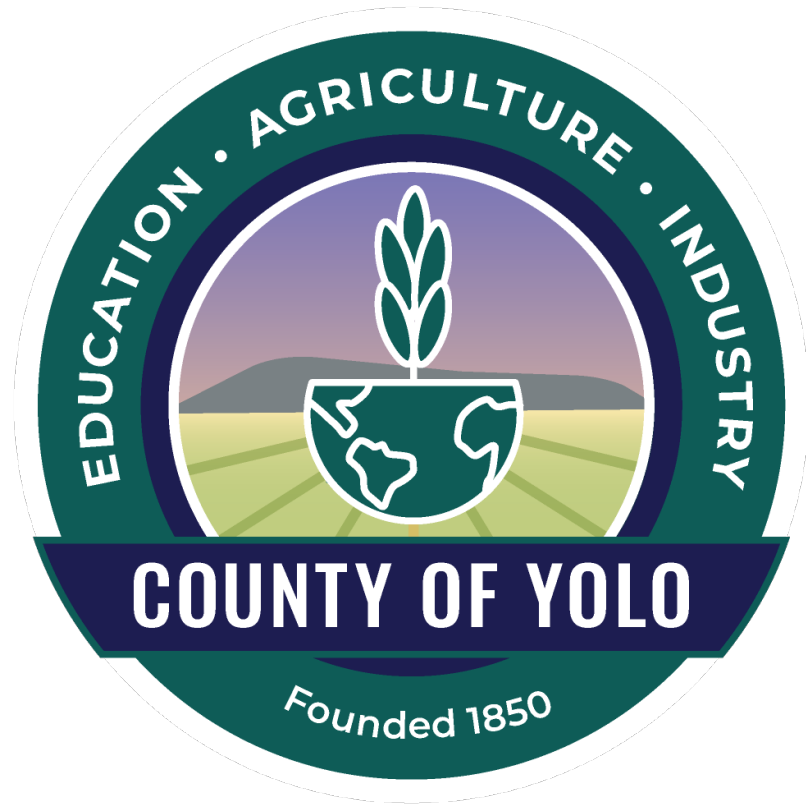
**MARCH 27, 2023**



**01**

# Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Logo

# Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Logo



# CLIMATE ACTION & ADAPTATION PLAN

**02**

# Communication and Engagement Plan (CEP)

# Communication and Engagement Plan (CEP)

- Outlines the overall strategy for Community Engagement, including the specific Equity Strategies
- Provides Acronyms and Definitions
- Provide a Background of the Project
- Includes Geography, Maps and Community Descriptions
- Purpose, goals and outcomes of Engagement
- Purpose, goals and outcomes of Equity Strategy, including Equity Principles
- Overview and Roles of Governance, TAC, Collaborators, Agencies, CBO/CBPs, Industries, Public
- Project Timeline
- Evaluation and Assessment



**03**

# Equity and Engagement Strategy

# Equity and Engagement Strategy

- Informed by the work of Trabian Shorters and the concept of Asset Framing.
- It is a best practice to work with organizations that are already embedded, trusted, and woven into the fabric of the community. Supporting Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)/Community-Based Partners (CBPs)



# Equity & Engagement Strategy

- Dudek Team prepared a summary table of strategies (*Attachment I*) to engage with frontline and vulnerable communities throughout development of the CAAP.
- Strategies are based on best practices and success on similar projects, and input from E&E Working Group.
- Strategies center equity in outreach, engagement, decision-making and implementation.



# Equity & Engagement Strategy – Summary of Strategies

- Partnering with CBOs/CBPs
- Creation of Dedicated/Funded CBO/CBP Leadership and Representation Opportunities
  - Solicitation will be created to formalize relationships and compensation.
  - Will be released the week of 4/3.
- Agency and CBO/CBP interviews
  - Introductory emails were sent week of 3/20 and Interviews (thus far) are scheduled with:
    - *Mutual Housing*
    - *Meals on Wheels Yolo County*
    - *Yolo Farm to Fork*
    - *Dignity Health Homeless Health Initiative*
    - *Yolo Immigration Interfaith Network*
    - *Davis United Methodist Church*
    - *The Bike Campaign*





# Equity & Engagement Strategy – Summary of Strategies (cont'd)

- **Survey(s)**
  - An initial survey is being developed for tabling events and for public; other surveys will be developed and used throughout the process.
- **Confirmed Tabling Events**
  - Yolo County Library Día de los Niños Events
    - Yolo Branch (4/7, 1:30-2:30PM)
    - Knights Landing Branch (4/8, 12-2PM)
    - Esparto Branch (4/12, 2-4PM)
    - Alfred Turner Branch, West Sac (4/15, 12-2PM)
    - Winters Branch, 4/22 from 11AM-1PM)
    - South Davis Montgomery Branch (4/25, 5-7PM)
    - Clarksburg Branch (4/26, 2:15-4:15PM)
    - Mark L. Stephens Branch, Davis (4/29 11AM - 1PM)
    - *Materials include coloring sheets, English and Spanish word game on Climate, English and Spanish info-graphics, English and Spanish surveys, English and Spanish Stickers*



# Equity & Engagement Strategy – Summary of Strategies (cont'd)

## - Tabling Events (Cont.)

- Northern Valley Indian Health Fair (April 15 from 10AM to 2PM)
- Yolo County Central Landfill Earth Day Celebration (April 22, from 9AM to 2PM)
- Woodland Public Library Día de los Niños Festival (April 28 from 3 PM - 6PM)
- 2023 West Sacramento Senior Resource Fair (May 12 from 10AM - 12:30PM)
- *Tentative Event: Yolo County Fair (August 16-20, 2023)*

*Staff to circulate sign-up sheet for Commissioners to table at these Events!*



# Equity & Engagement Strategy – Summary of Strategies (cont'd)

- Additional Engagement Strategies Include:
  - Presentations at local community events, citizen advisory committee meetings, councils, organizations, boards
  - 4 Interactive Workshops throughout the development of the CAAP
  - Notices, emails, social media posts, radio and/or video announcements
  - Bilingual/Multilingual visual storytelling portal/tools



Questions?

Thank you for your time  
and attention.

**Attachment H - Yolo County DRAFT CAAP E&E Strategies Table and Community Engagement Plan Outline**



# CLIMATE ACTION & ADAPTATION PLAN

## DRAFT Equity and Engagement Strategies and Community Engagement Plan Outline

CONTEXT: Dudek has prepared the following table of potential strategies to engage with frontline and vulnerable communities throughout the development of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). These strategies have been based on past successes on similar projects and preliminary recommendations from the Equity and Engagement Working Group (E&E WG). The development and utilization of strategies is grounded in best practices and research around centering equity in outreach, engagement and decision making. The approach to engagement and outreach is also informed by the work of Traban Shorters and the concepts of Asset Framing<sup>1</sup>. It is our experience that the most successful and meaningful events are those in partnership with the community. It is best practice to work with organizations that are already embedded, trusted, and woven into the fabric of the community. Supporting Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)/Community-Based Partners (CBPs) through stipends, sponsorship, leadership development, and capacity building supports community resilience goals and leads to better outcomes. As indicated in the outline for the Community Engagement Plan (CEP, see outline included below the Table), of which the Equity and Engagement Strategy is a part, community descriptions are included under item 10.

Equity and Engagement Strategies			
Action	Roles and Responsibilities	Description	Timeline
Establishing partnerships with CBOs/CBPs	Coordination between Dudek, Yolo County and E&E TAC	Establishing relationships and building opportunities for collaboration, partnering in the organization and development of engagement opportunities and shared leadership is foundational to the success of the strategy and the CAAP.	Outreach begins in March 2023 and is ongoing
Creation of Dedicated/Funded CBO/CBP Leadership and Representation Opportunities	Coordination between Dudek, Yolo County and E&E TAC	Development of solicitation/scopes of work for CBOs/CBPs outreach partners.	March 2023 – April 2023
Agency and CBP/CBO Interviews	Coordination between Dudek, Yolo County and E&E TAC	<p>Small group interviews will be conducted with County Staff, Yolo County Climate Action Commission (YCCAC), E&amp;E TAC, CBP/CBOs.</p> <p>The purpose of these interviews is to understand the community’s visions, priorities, strength, assets, needs, risks, and vulnerabilities. The outcomes of these interviews will inform the next steps of the strategy and the community survey.</p> <p>Interview questions will be tailored to the interviewees. Questions will be reviewed and approved by Yolo County Sustainability Staff, and the E&amp;E TAC. Interviews will be conducting with the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- County staff (may include the Climate Action and Sustainability Division, the Agriculture Program Coordinator, COVID response team(s), the Health Equity Team, Library staff, etc.)</li> <li>- YCCAC</li> <li>- E&amp;E TAC</li> <li>- CBOs and CBPs</li> <li>- Local agricultural industry representatives, such as farmers, landowners, agricultural research companies, the Yolo County Farm Bureau, and other agriculture groups (<i>in coordination with the Natural and Working Lands Technical Advisory Committee</i>)</li> <li>- Other identified groups and personnel (examples include Proyecto ÓRALE at UC Davis)</li> </ul>	March/April 2023

<sup>1</sup> [Website of Traban Shorters Thought Leader and Creator of Asset-Framing®](#) – [Website of Social Entrepreneurship Thought Leader Traban Shorters, creator of Asset-Framing®](#)

## Equity and Engagement Strategies

Action	Roles and Responsibilities	Description	Timeline
<p>Initial Survey and Tabling/Pop Ups (prior to first workshop) and ongoing throughout the development of the CAAP</p> <p>Dudek also recommends ongoing tabling throughout the CAAP development, i.e. in advance of each of the 4 scheduled Workshops</p>	<p>Coordination between Dudek, Yolo County, E&amp;E TAC, CBPs/CBOs, and other agency staff</p>	<p>At the close of the interviews, an initial community survey (in Spanish and English and other languages as appropriate) will be developed for distribution. The survey will be circulated with a message and a QR code via email, social media, flyers/posters, newspapers, and announcements on radio with a verbal read out of the URL. A poster with the QR code will be placed at public locations such as post offices, libraries, county offices/facilities, at health clinics, migrant centers, places of worship, food banks, and schools. Outreach will be made to Tribal governments (the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation).</p> <p>Dudek also recommends conducting tabling events and/or coordinating with CBO/CBPs on at least three tabling/pop up events prior to the first workshop to conduct in-person of surveys in Spanish and English. These in person events also provide opportunities for education on the CAAP and dialogue, gathering information on contacts and other potential opportunities for engagement.</p> <p>Tabling will occur in locations where communities are known to congregate for greater accessibility and convenience. Locations that have been identified for tabling include the Yolo Food Bank; housing facilities, including, but not limited to East Beamer Neighborhood Campus Project and Solar Community Housing; migrant centers; rural library branches, school districts, and places of worship.</p> <p>Tabling at the rural library branches would occur during "Storytime." In addition to tabling, potluck(s) will also be planned at rural library branches during after school hours.</p> <p>Tabling at a RISE meetings in Esparto should also be planned. Monthly meetings occur the last Friday of the month from 9-11 am. RISE has been identified as a key partner in the E&amp;E process given their mission and work towards serving the rural community of Yolo to enhance the quality of life and opportunity for self-sufficiency. It is recommended that a presentation and tabling/pop up event is conducted initially and in advance of each workshop and to provide updated and opportunities for dialogue.</p> <p>Tabling/Pop Ups should be scheduled and coordinated with CBOs/CBPs at libraries, post offices, health clinics, migrant centers, food banks, places of worship.</p> <p>Flyers about the CAAP and QR links to surveys will also be available in publicly-accessible locations such as library branches, the Yolo County Central Library, post offices, etc.</p>	<p>Initial Tabling/Pop Ups in April/May 2023</p> <p><b>Confirmed Events:</b></p> <p>Yolo County Library Día de los Niños Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yolo Branch (4/7, 1:30-2:30PM)</li> <li>- Knights Landing Branch (4/8, 12-2PM)</li> <li>- Esparto Branch (4/12, 2-4PM)</li> <li>- Alfred Turner Branch, West Sacramento (4/15, 12-2PM)</li> <li>- Winters Branch, 4/22 from 11AM-1PM)</li> <li>- South Davis Montgomery Branch (4/25, 5-7PM)</li> <li>- Clarksburg Branch (4/26, 2:15-4:15PM)</li> <li>- Mark L. Stephens Branch, Davis (4/29 11AM – 1PM)</li> </ul> <p>Northern Valley Indian Health Fair (April 15 from 10AM to 2PM)</p> <p>Yolo County Central Landfill Earth Day Celebration (April 22, 2023; 9AM-2PM)</p> <p>Woodland Public Library Día de los Niños Festival (April 28 from 3-6PM)</p> <p>2023 West Sacramento Senior Resource Fair (May 12 from 10AM – 12:30PM)</p> <p><b>Tentative Events:</b></p> <p>Yolo County Fair (August 16-20, 2023)</p> <p>Tabling in advance of each Workshop.</p>
<p>Presentations at local community events, CAC and School Board Meetings, places of workshop, CBO/CBP meetings</p>	<p>Coordination between Dudek, Yolo County, E&amp;E TAC, and CBOs/CBPs</p>	<p>Flyers and posters with the Yolo County CAAP QR code will be displayed at all presentations.</p> <p>Short presentations to the General Plan Community Advisory Committees (CACs) will also be scheduled with the following committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Capay Valley General Plan Citizens' Advisory Committee</li> </ul>	<p>March, April, May 2023</p>



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Clarksburg General Plan Citizens' Advisory Committee</li> <li>❖ Dunnigan General Plan Citizens' Advisory Committee</li> <li>❖ Esparto General Plan Citizens' Advisory Committee</li> <li>❖ Knights Landing General Plan Citizens' Advisory Committee (currently no members)</li> <li>❖ Madison General Plan Citizens' Advisory Committee</li> <li>❖ South Davis General Plan Citizens' Advisory Committee</li> <li>❖ Yolo-Zamora Citizens' Advisory Committee (currently no members)</li> </ul> <p>Partnering with School Boards and making short presentations at School Board and/or PTA meetings.</p> <p>Presenting at RISE meetings in Esparto.</p>	Initial presentation in March/April and updates at meetings in advance of the planned Workshops (4)
Four (4) Workshops		<p>A total of four workshops will be organized over the course of the CAAP development and sequenced to progressively build upon themes required for a successful CAAP. Workshops will be structured for the purposes of understanding, creating meaningful dialogue, and discussing the development of reduction and adaptation strategies and strategies for implementation. Each workshop will contain elements of presentation, break-out and processing, and reporting out. Workshop facilitation and materials will be in English and Spanish and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant.</p> <p>Workshops will be strategically located around the County for increased accessibility and convenience and will be held at meetings that are already occurring. (i.e., library events, at food banks and food distribution centers, migrant centers, etc.). Workshops will be scheduled on different days of the week and at different times to consider those in the community with differing scheduling barriers.</p>	<p>Workshop #1: tentatively - week of May 1st</p> <p>Workshop #2: tentatively, week of June 12th</p> <p>Workshop #3: tentatively, week of July 10th</p> <p>Workshop #4: tentatively, week of September 4th</p>
Preparation and release of notices, emails, social media posts, any radio and/or video announcements for Tabling/Pop Up events and/or Workshops and print postings (flyers)	Coordination between Dudek, Yolo County, E&E TAC, and CBO/CBPs	<p>Emails, Notices, Social Media posts will be language appropriate and at a minimum in Spanish and English. The will be branded; use ADA accessible colors, images, and branding associated with the Yolo County CAAP; messages that utilize a fifth-grade level language proficiency. Social media posts will be in English, Spanish, and other languages, as appropriate.</p> <p>Social media posts will be developed per activity, i.e., three social media posts associated with each community event. These will be scheduled for a week before the event and may also be sent out three days prior to the event, and the day of the event. Drafts and final social media posts for all events will be provided in draft form before they are finalized.</p> <p>Social media outlets to be utilized include Yolo County Sustainability Team's Instagram and Facebook accounts and the County's main Facebook and YouTube accounts.</p>	<p>Release of initial survey</p> <p>Prior to tabling events</p> <p>Prior to presentations</p> <p>Prior to Workshop #1</p> <p>Prior to Workshop #2</p> <p>Prior to Workshop #3</p> <p>Prior to Workshop #4</p>
Bilingual visual technical storytelling portal/tools	Coordination between Dudek, Yolo County, E&E TAC, and CBO/CBPs	<p>The CAAP will require technical information to be communicated in a relatable and accessible way for various communities in the County at various outreach and workshop events, as well as in materials in the CAAP.</p> <p>Visual storytellers will work in concert with technical subject matter experts to shape complex processes into visual stories tailored to the unincorporated and agricultural community, including growers, residents, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, and others that are effective for use in all media.</p>	The timeline for visual technical storytelling would coincide with timing for tabling, presentation events and workshops

Equity and Engagement Strategies			
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		Visual technical storytelling will enable engaging, easy-to-understand graphics for complex descriptions of air quality and climate and carbon sequestration processes, that may otherwise be hard for readers to conceptualize.	

**Yolo County CAAP**

**DRAFT Outline of the Communication and Engagement Plan and embedded Equity and Engagement Strategy**

1. Cover
2. Title Page
3. Acknowledgments
4. Slip Sheet/graphic - Yolo County CAAP Mission Statement
5. Slip Sheet/graphic - Goals of the Project
6. Slip Sheet/graphic - Overview of Equity and Engagement Principles
7. Table of Contents
8. Acronyms/Definitions
9. Background on the Project
10. Geographic Area
  - a. Maps
  - b. Descriptions of the County and Communities
11. Purpose, Goals and Outcomes of Equity and Engagement Strategy
12. Purpose, Goals and Outcomes of Community Engagement
13. Brief Overview of YCCAC, Working Groups, Stakeholders, Interested Parties, Communities, CBPs/CBOs/NGOs, Agencies, Institutions, Industries, and Intersections
14. Roles and Responsibilities of YCCAC, Workgroups, Stakeholders, Interested Parties, Communities, CBPs/CBOs/NGOs, Agencies, Institutions, Industries
15. Communication Tools (surveys, workshops small group conversations, pop-up events, tabling, collaboration with other agencies, collaboration with NGOs and community leaders, etc.), languages and venues/locations for engagement
16. Implementation Timeline for Equity and Engagement Strategy and Communication nested within timeline for development of CAAP
17. Evaluation, Assessment, Lessons Learned with regard to Purpose, Goals and Outcomes, Tools and Strategy
18. Appendix: Interview questions and responses, surveys and responses, materials used

**Attachment I - 2023 Long Range Calendar**

## Yolo County Climate Action Commission

Long Range Calendar 2023

**UPDATED – March 23, 2023**

Month	Topics
January	Update on Yolo County Storm Response and Recovery
February	Discussion on Outreach Materials to Agricultural Community ( <i>Interview Questions and Sequestration Strategies</i> ) Discussion on Carbon Sequestration Methodology Discussion on Consumption-Based Inventory
March	Establishing Technical Advisory Committees Discussion on Equity Engagement Strategy and Communications Plan Outline Revisit Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program Early Action Project
April	Launch Solicitation for Community Outreach Partners Begin In-Person Outreach Events for Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Discussion on Emission Reduction Strategies CAAP Table of Contents Update on Outcomes of First Round of Tabling Events
May	Update to Board of Supervisors (BOS) on CAAP Progress Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program Early Action Project to BOS Discussion on Food System and Connection to Consumption-Based Inventory
June	
July	
August	
September	Discuss Second Round of Early Action Projects
October	
November	
December	