



CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC  
GROWTH COUNCIL



California  
**Department of  
Conservation**

# Public Comment Meeting 2020-2021

## Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program

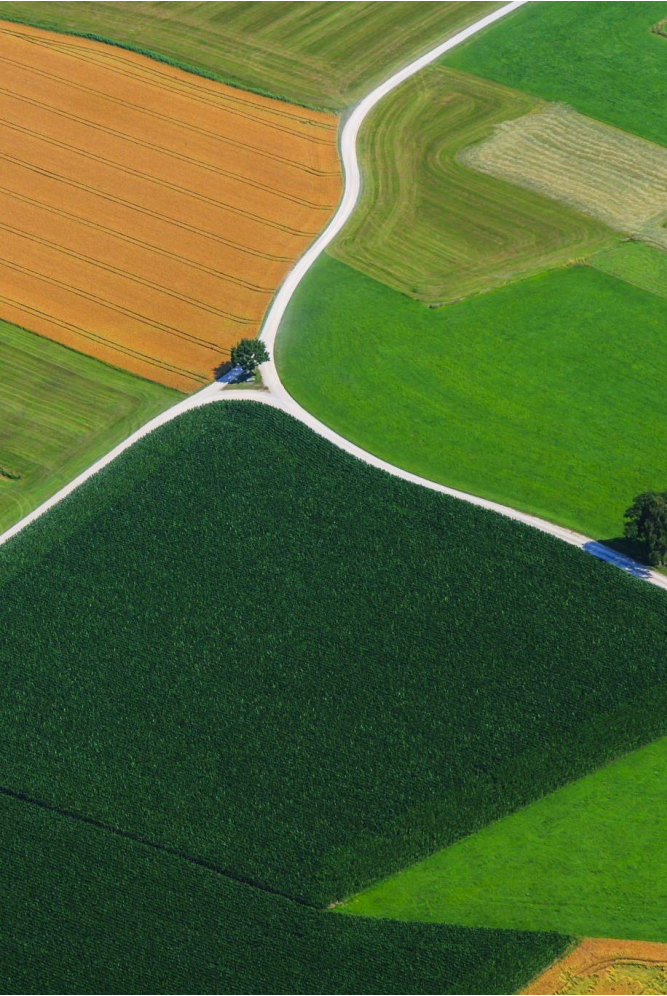
### Draft Guidelines

### *Planning Grants*

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March 9, 2022 | Sacramento, CA

# Agenda



- Overview of SALC Program
- Overview of Planning Grants
- Public comment process



# SALC Goals

- Part of the Strategic Growth Council's Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities Program
- Protect agricultural lands to support infill and compact development
- Contribute to carbon neutrality
- Support coordinated land use planning
- Support Executive Order N-82-20



# Eligible Project Types

**Agricultural Conservation Acquisition Grants** to permanently protect croplands, rangelands, and lands utilized for the cultivation of traditional resources from conversion to non-agricultural uses.

**Agricultural Conservation Capacity and Project Development Grants** to increase development of agricultural conservation acquisition projects that protect important agricultural land under threat of conversion

**Planning Grants** to develop and implement plans for the protection of agricultural lands at risk of conversion to non-agricultural uses

# Planning Grants Overview







Opportunity to achieve  
climate adaption and  
resiliency, preserve ag,  
and other  
co-benefits



# Planning

- Development of comprehensive land use goals, policies and objectives.
- Land use planning authority must be the plans end user
- Guide land use decision making in some manner



# Eligibility

- The proposal is for a land use plan that is consistent with SALC's goals.
- The proposal will avoid greenhouse gas emissions.
- Supports implementation of an Sustainable Communities Strategy
- The proposal demonstrates consistency with California's Planning Priorities



# Project Ideas

- Protecting the agricultural land base
- Identifying infill development potential with complementary agricultural land conservation
- Developing the required local planning elements set forth in Government Code section 65560
- Supporting regional food systems, such as the processing and distribution of agricultural products

# Project Ideas

- Avoiding greenhouse gas emissions
- Supporting implementation of sustainable communities strategy
- Supporting equitable land tenure for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and California Native American tribes
- Addressing unique regional threats to agricultural land such as groundwater availability, catastrophic wildfire
- Connecting rural agricultural land conservation and urban planning strategies; and
- Enhancing co-benefits (e.g., habitat, groundwater recharge)



# Lead Applicants

- Counties
- Cities
- Local Area Formation Commissions
- Councils Of Government
- Municipal Planning Organizations
- Regional Transportation Planning Agencies
- Groundwater Sustainability Agencies
- Special Districts With Land Use Or Transportation Planning Authority,
- Federally Recognized California Native American Tribe Or A Nonfederally Recognized California Native American Tribe That Is On The Contact List Maintained By The Native American Heritage Commission Are Eligible To Apply.

# Partner Applicants

- Resource Conservation Districts
- Academic Institutions
- Land Trusts
- Other Agricultural Non-profit Organizations
- MOU With Partner Organization Which Has A Significant Role In Developing And Implementing The Plan

# Funding



\$500,000  
From SALC

10% Match



# What's Included In Draft Guidelines

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## **Program Guidelines**

Main text of Guidelines package

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## **Pre-proposal Template**

Appendix D

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## **Application Template**

Appendix E

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## **Grant Agreement Template**

Appendix G



# Technical Assistance & Pre-Proposal

- DOC Staff and Technical Assistance Providers are available to help develop potential projects.
- Pre-Proposals are not required; however, are highly encouraged.
- Recommend applicants reach out to SALC staff early in the process:
  - Summary
  - Work Plan
  - Budget



# Next Steps

March 25th At 12 PM

- Public comment period closes

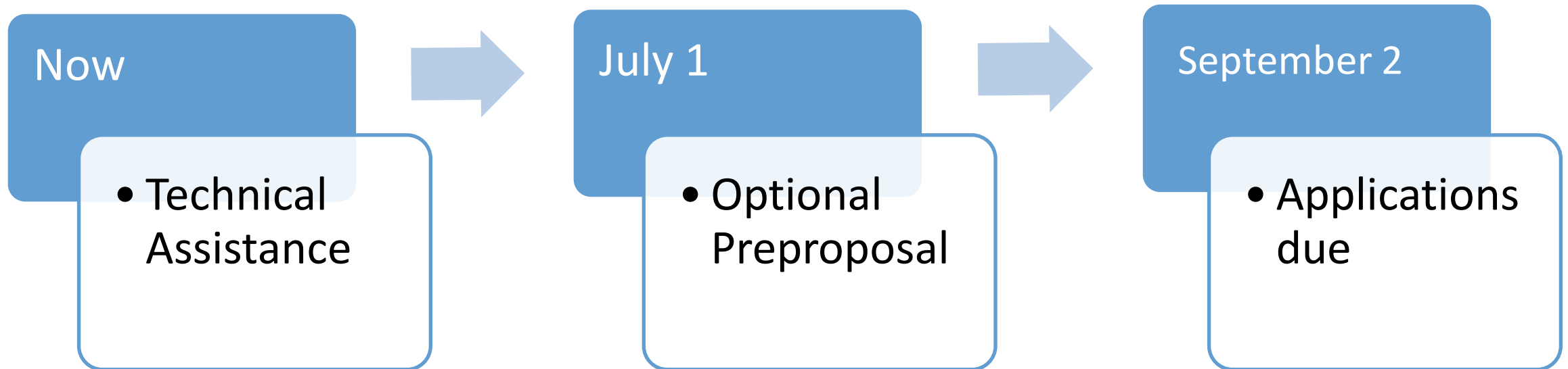
April 18th

- Program staff and management consider public comment and changes to draft guidelines
- Draft final guidelines and staff report posted

April 28<sup>th</sup>

- SGC consider adoption of final guidelines
- Location: online

# Steps to Application



# How to Provide Comments on the Draft

## Now

- Ask questions
- Make comments

## Email

- Need to be received by 12 pm March 25th
- [salcp@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:salcp@conservation.ca.gov)
- We will acknowledge receipt



# Questions and Comments





CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC  
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California  
**Department of  
Conservation**

# Thank You!

<https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/grant-programs/SALCP>  
[salcp@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:salcp@conservation.ca.gov)