

Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program  
Technical Advisory Council  
Visioning and Principles Workgroup

Meeting Notes

May 1, 2017  
3:00 – 4:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

*Nuin-Tara Key, OPR*

2. **ROLL CALL**

Keali'i Bright, Louise Bedsworth, John Blue (alternate for Ashley Conrad-Saydah), Brian Strong, Louis Blumberg, Bruce Riordan, Andrea Ouse, Mike Antos, Stephen Kullmann (alternate for Jana Ganion), Jason Greenspan (alternate for Darin Chidsey), and Gloria Walton.

3. **INTRODUCTION:**

*Nuin-Tara Key, OPR*

a. *Framing of the "Vision and Principles" workgroup's purpose*

Nuin-Tara Key (OPR) reviewed the conversation and direction from the May 27<sup>th</sup> Technical Advisory Council (Council) meeting. The goal of the meeting is to leave with direction on the vision and key principles that will both lay out an adaptation vision for California and guide the Council's work. All materials developed through this workgroup will be brought to the Council's June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

4. **VISION AND PRINCIPLES DISCUSSION:**

*Nuin-Tara Key, OPR*

a. *Review of sample "vision and principle" document*

Greta Soos (OPR) gave an overview of a sample "vision and principles" document, which pulled together various examples of ways that other cities and organizations have approached visioning and goals setting for their particular region.

b. *Open discussion on proposed elements to include in vision and principles*

Louise Blumberg asked whether these documents had included forms of metrics.

Greta Soos answered that they largely did not, but Los Angeles' Sustainable City pLAN has a dashboard of sustainability metrics.

Louis Blumberg asked for clarification around the scope of this group's effort (establishing a vision just for this Council, or the State as whole?).

Nuin-Tara Key noted that that is for this workgroup to define. At the last full TAC meeting the Council discussed creating a vision for California more generally, but that the vision should also be brought into the work of the Council.

Kit Batten brought to attention that this Council's charge is to help streamline what is happening between state and local levels and as this group works to develop a vision and principles to guide future adaptation actions "process steps" need to be included as companion components to the other suggested actions (for example, coupling important coordination process steps that should accompany resource allocation implementation steps).

Mike Antos sought to clarify whether the meetings focus was to think of the "AB 32" (mitigation policy) of adaptation.

Nuin-Tara stated that was correct, but that in addition to the vision the full TAC also called for the development of guiding principles and definitions and we are discussing all three today.

Bruce Riordan stated that he thought the Council should use years to define goals (2020, 2030, 2050, etc.) and provide concrete steps to check off.

Kit Batten agreed, and added that we should defined processes to get to those goals.

Andrea Ouse agreed to this, but pointed out that process means implementation, and local implementation success is directly related to the amount of resources available. She added that if the Council is to direct processes for locals, it should not be left without matching funds (if these are mandated through a bill). A companion sheet that assists locals seek out additional resources could also be of use.

Bruce Riordan agreed and noted that the Workgroup should build funding into principles and process.

Louise Bedsworth noted that the discussion we are having today will not be a mandate, but is an aspirational conversation. She added that the Council has advisory authority, not regulatory.

Bruce Riordan asked for elaboration on Louise's point and for clarification on what exactly the Council has power to do. Louise Bedsworth answered that she did not have a concrete answer but that the council has power in creating a vision for California and envisioning what ways we can engage other processes around. Articulating how goals could be met by funding programs, what policies are necessary to achieve these goals, and the barriers to achieving these goals are achievable by this Council.

Kit Batten responded to Louise's latter point that Senator Wieckowski would be interested in seeing the outputs of this workgroup.

Louise agreed and noted that the Council could have many audiences. The larger goal is to facilitate these goals and to help make them more concrete.

Mike Antos made a recommendation to include a statement in the Council's vision about stopping maladaptive actions and decisions. This was something the Council had discussed in its first meeting. He also made a note about explaining the cobenefits and monetary savings of positive adaptation.

Louise Bedsworth provided an overview of vision statements from existing state documents as well as a draft approach to a vision path for the Council. Louise walked through the 2014 Safeguarding California Plan, the Executive Order B-30-15 Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Document, and Vibrant Communities and Landscapes. Notes on each as follows:

*Safeguarding California*

- Some desired outcomes and some process based
- Calls out funding for research
- Highlights integrated climate actions
- Outlines outreach and collaboration

*EO B-30-15 TAG*

- State agency focused
- Systems oriented approaches of desired outcomes

*Vibrant communities and landscapes*

- Document is companion to scoping plan
- Came out of agency discussions around conservation and development
- Touches on adaptation and mitigation. Focused around process and desired outcomes.

After presenting the existing visions and approach, Louise Bedsworth asked the workgroup if this is the right approach and prompted the Workgroup to think of how they could create enabling actions of these characteristics.

Mike Antos noted that he liked the approach but did not want to skip the visioning step. He pointed out that there is value in aspiration, and would like to frame things in a more positive light, rather than focusing on protection. For example, making a positive future "in spite" of the challenges rather than "resisting" the change.

John Blue stated that the EO B-30-15 TAG recommendations are a clear example of vision statements without quantifications, while the other examples are principles. He pointed out that goals are what you do to reach the vision.

Gloria Walton noted that she liked Safeguarding as it has some shared language with SCOPE's vision.

Bruce Riordan said that he liked Louise’s “Visioning Elements” document but sees it as the ‘middle’ level. He stated that the council needs both high level (who we want to be in 20 years, excitement about adaptation) and lower level measureable benchmarks (to show communities and regions what we are doing and talking about). He also noted that he would start to worry about the vision becoming unattainable. Might do better by focusing on 3 or 4 things.

Nuin-Tara Key asked for Gloria to share the SCOPE document she described to post on the TAC materials page. She also provided a re-cap of the conversation:

3 pieces that the group talked about:

1. There is value in having aspirational vision statement that has temporal scale (high level)
2. The group wants to create principles to be more descriptive (mid-level)
3. Also want to include benchmarks and actions to measure how we achieve the end goal

Gloria Walton added that she would like to see a “why we care” statement. This will be a place to point out the importance of racial justice and protecting vulnerable communities.

Louise Bedsworth agreed with Nuin-Tara’s description and also agreed with Bruce that the Council could aim to hone in on what it thinks are the most important areas.

Kit mentioned that the Council could also pair reduction and vulnerability with opportunity to increase thriving at the same time. Kit added that in terms of principles, one should be avoiding maladaptive actions. Another is creating a future that is better than the one that we have now. Kit also stated that Louise’s table is a great way to start thinking, but had concern that different people want different things out of their natural systems and for this reason would like to have participatory visioning happen. Nuin-Tara Key asked the group how they would like to get words on paper for the visioning process.

Louise Bedsworth suggested starting with the “Visioning Examples” state processes, then add in some local processes (pull from SCOPE’s document as Gloria mentioned) and organize from there. Louise suggested members sending out this document and have folks make edits or send in any ideas for visioning, principles, goals, etc. Then OPR staff will pull together these ideas for the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Nuin-Tara Key added that any material that members send to OPR will be posted to the TAC website. Nuin-Tara asked for any last comments on this agenda item.

Brian Strong asked if OPR would like to be sent ideas categorized by vision and principles.

Nuin-Tara stated that any method is fine.

**Public Comment:**

No public comments received by OPR staff.

**TAC Visioning and Principles Workgroup Action:**

Members will send comments on visioning and principles to Nuin-Tara Key and Greta Soos. OPR staff will work to consolidate comments and bring a draft vision to the Council at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

All: Aye

**4. DEFINITIONS DISCUSSION:**

*Louise Bedsworth, Chair*

*a. Review of sample definitions (EO-B-30-15 Guidance Document, appendix)*

Louise Bedsworth provided an overview of the definitions that the EO B-30-15 Technical Advisory Group adopted for its document. She noted that the definitions were based off of the 2014 Safeguarding California Plan, and that members added comments and new definitions.

*b. Open discussion on proposed definitions*

Nuin-Tara suggested that, similar to the approach for developing the draft vision and principles for the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, Workgroup members send their feedback and comments on the definitions to Nuin-Tara and Greta.

John Blue suggested that rather than wordsmith the existing definitions, Workgroup members highlight what is missing from the current list of definitions.

**TAC Visioning and Principles Workgroup Action:**

Members are to send OPR staff comments and additions to the TAG definitions. These will be brought to the full TAC on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

All: Aye

**5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Nuin-Tara Key, OPR*

No public comment was received by OPR staff.

**6. MEETING ADJOURNED**