LAND USE PLANNING WORKGROUP MEETING
Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Committee Members Present
Michael Maguire, Governor's Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation
Sean McGlynn, League of California Cities
J. Lopez, State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
Deborah Halberstadt, Insurance Commissioner's Office
Matt Damon, CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal
Steve Hawks, Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety
Nick Cammarota, Building Industry Association (virtual)
Clay Kerchof, Department of Housing and Community Development (virtual)
Tracy Rhine, Rural County Representatives of California (virtual)
Kimberly Carr, Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (virtual)

Other Attendees
Grace Person, ILG
Tony Marino, Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (virtual)
Molly Mowery, Community Wildfire Planning Center
Tristan Lanza, Department of Housing & Community Development (virtual)
Alex Goelzer, Department of Housing & Community Development (virtual)
Natalie Olivas, Department of Housing and Community Development (virtual)
Gabriela Zayas del Rio, Department of Housing and Community Development (virtual)
Peter Streit, Department of Insurance
Jason Willett, CSAA Insurance Group
Danh Dao, CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal
Madison Volpato, CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal
Carrie Lewis, CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Welcome   **Michael Maguire**
   The meeting was called to order at 3:18 PM by Michael Maguire.

B. Introductions/Roll Call   **Michael Maguire**
   A quorum was established with 6 committee members present in-person and 4
   attending virtually.

D. Approval of the December 16, 2025, Meeting Minutes (Motion Required)   **Michael Maguire**

Motion:	Sean McGlynn moved to accept the December 16, 2025, meeting minutes; J. Lopez seconded the motion.
Action:	All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

E.   Approval of the January 20, 2026, Meeting Minutes (Motion Required)   **Michael Maguire**

Motion:	Sean McGlynn moved to accept the January 20, 2026, meeting minutes; Steve Hawks seconded the motion.
Action:	All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

F.   Approval of the February 17, 2026, Meeting Agenda (Motion Required)   **Michael Maguire**

Motion:	Steve Hawks moved to accept the February 17, 2026, meeting agenda; Deborah Halberstadt seconded the motion.
Action:	All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A.   Library of Wildfire Planning Resources
The objective is to be able to pull together resources for this library. Workgroup members are encouraged to continue to recommend and/or nominate specific wildfire planning documents and resources that will be assembled and made available to the members and public in an online centralized location. Matt Damon and his staff have offered the ability to leverage the existing resource, the Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance Statewide Clearinghouse. Please contact Michael Maguire or Matt Damon to nominate a document.

3. MONTHLY DISCUSSION TOPIC

A.   Presentation: WUI Planning and Best Practices – Molly Mowery, Community Wildfire Planning Center

B.   Discussion led by Molly Mowery

J. Lopez – Regarding the integration of different levels of plans and elements that can make change, one is the CWPP Safety Element, a volunteer document. This is not a law, not a binding document, but the safety element is. How do we have common language, work together?

Molly Mowery – When we did the CWPP toolkit research, a lot of counties had or were working on county-wide CWPPs so even though they're voluntary, we look at them as similar to hazard mitigation plans at this point, where hazard mitigation plans are also typically voluntary, but there's a huge incentive to have them for funding purposes. We saw a lot of counties stepping up to adopt CWPPs because the federal government had started investing more in these plans and the opportunity to fund these plan implementations. I don't know how many counties would fall on the list of having adopted CWPPs in California, but my sense is very high. Although they are voluntary, I don't think the gap is so much in who has adopted them, but how are they using them? Where we see a best practice like Santa Clara County, they were very intentional in the timing of their updates. Some of the counties have more detail in the CWPP and the data. We encourage counties to utilize the data in the CWPP rather than reinventing or duplicating that effort in the safety element update.

Matt Damon – Even if it's not required, many jurisdictions have them and the government code requires them to align with the other plans. Those documents create change that that's the ultimate goal, to have those documents actually affect how people live and respond. And when you have multiple things that are triggering updates, it creates that feedback loop where everything needs to be updated to align. If there are more things that create eyes on a document or the relationship between documents, that drives change.

Sean McGlynn – I'd like to see a presentation from Santa Clara talking about what they did and how they structured it and then use that as a launch point. It's all about flow control and doing things in the right order instead of just doing a CWPP to just do a CWPP. What does good alignment look like and how do you build that?
Matt Damon – And isn't that going to look significantly different from jurisdiction to jurisdiction? It could be more complicated. I think seeing the steps and why you made a decision helps people see possibility. Hearing the why can help illustrate the pathway. How do you create digestible bites on this? How do we get people thinking about this in a way that meets their local needs?

Molly Mowery – Santa Clara does have more information on their website, which is unusual because most places don't talk much about the process. The reason we picked up on it is because they talked about the process and how their two planning teams aligned. They met throughout the course of the safety element update and the MJHMP update as well as the CWPP update.

J. Lopez – LA County is going through trying to fill a county CWPP which is very challenging with 4000 square miles and 18 different cities. There are very different ecotones from ocean to mountains to desert to city. The process is what's making it so difficult for them to put something together. They are well intentioned, but you can see there's confusion because the process needs to be clarified. It's too large of a county with 10M people to try to put together a single CWPP. Determining the area might be a good place to start the process, something they can manage.

Clay Kerchof – We should invite Santa Clara County or Berkeley to come present on their plan alignment process. Santa Clara plan alignment effort was an intentional, transparent process and it's great that they shared how they went about it online. How is it now being implemented? How is it affecting projects moving forward and how are resources being prioritized? At the end of 2025 we were starting to see some local government partners who would be a good fit to come to this group.

Peter Streit – Does Vibrant Planet and their software package provide any sort of insight as far as wildfire planning and everything that could be utilized across these different landscapes with respect to where the infrastructure is and where communities are? Would that be part of a potential solution to answering the questions of where do we do the work and how do we do it?

J Lopez – The beauty of the process, having done CWPPs for Santa Monica and some other areas, is that you get the input from residents themselves because they know their roads, they know what the hazards are and you can just get that information from them. When you do it virtually it's very hard to catch that. The prioritization comes from the people who actually know what the issues are in the community.

4. ROUNDTABLE

    A. There were no roundtable comments.

5. PULIC COMMENT

    A. There was no public comment.

6. UPCOMING MEETING

    A. March 17, 2026
        3:05-4:00pm
        CNRA Building, Room 2-302 A/B

    B. 2026 Meetings:
        Every third Tuesday of the month, 3:05-4:00pm

8. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:01 PM