



Office of Sustainability
and Resilience



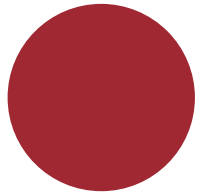
Recipes for Community Grounded Climate Action

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY AND
RESILIENCE, VEGGIELUTION, AND BAY AREA REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK

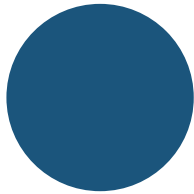
JUNE 24, 2026

Elizabeth Harris, Soitza Del Real, Tonya Veitch, Lupe Yepiz

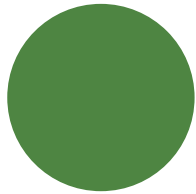
Agenda



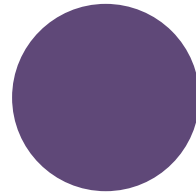
INTRODUCTIONS



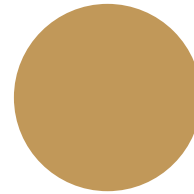
RESIDENT ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (RAC)



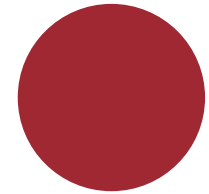
BAYREN INDUCTION
WORKSHOPS
COMMUNITY PROJECT



RECIPES FOR ACTION
ACTIVITY



SHARE OUT



MEET THE
RAC MEMBERS



Introductions



Elizabeth Harris

Bay Area Regional Energy
Network/ County of
Santa Clara



Lupe Yepiz

Climate and Community
Resilience Program,
County of Santa Clara
Public Health



Soitza Del Real

Veggielution



Tonya Veitch

Climate and Community
Resilience Program,
County of Santa Clara
Public Health

Poll: Do you have an advisory body in your community?

- Commission
- Community Advisory Board
- Resident Working Group
- Technical Advisory Group
- No, type of advisory body
- Other

Resident Advisory Committee (RAC)

Purpose: The goal is to improve residents' quality of life and well-being by giving members a platform to voice community needs, opinions, and interests and by representing those interests to the County.

Impact:

- Build member skills and knowledge to support engagement
- Identify issues of community interest
- Foster leadership
- Advise the County

Outcomes:

- 10 diverse community members recruited
- 2 community project implementation

Implementation Partners:

County of Santa Clara Public Health Department and Veggielution

Funding:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG)

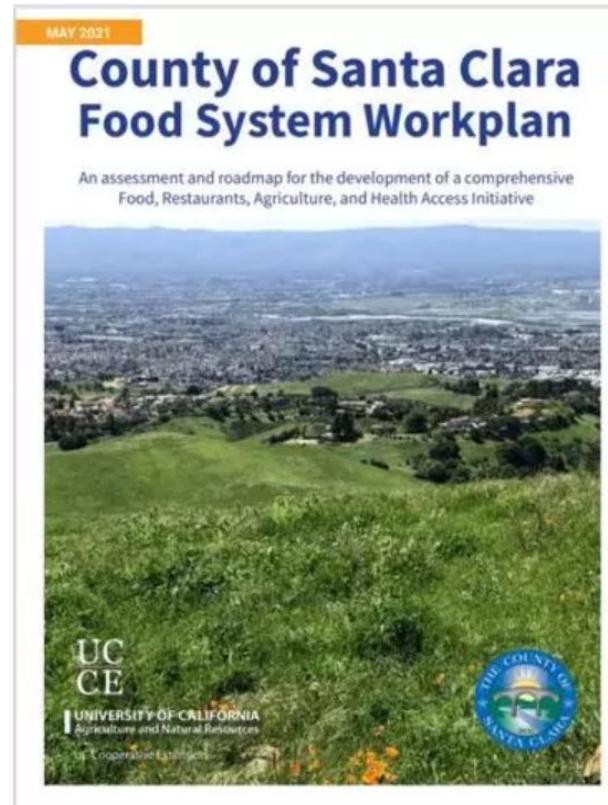


Brief History – Timeline



Areas of Focus

- Food Access and Systems
 - County of Santa Clara Food System Workplan
- Climate and Health
- Emergency Preparedness

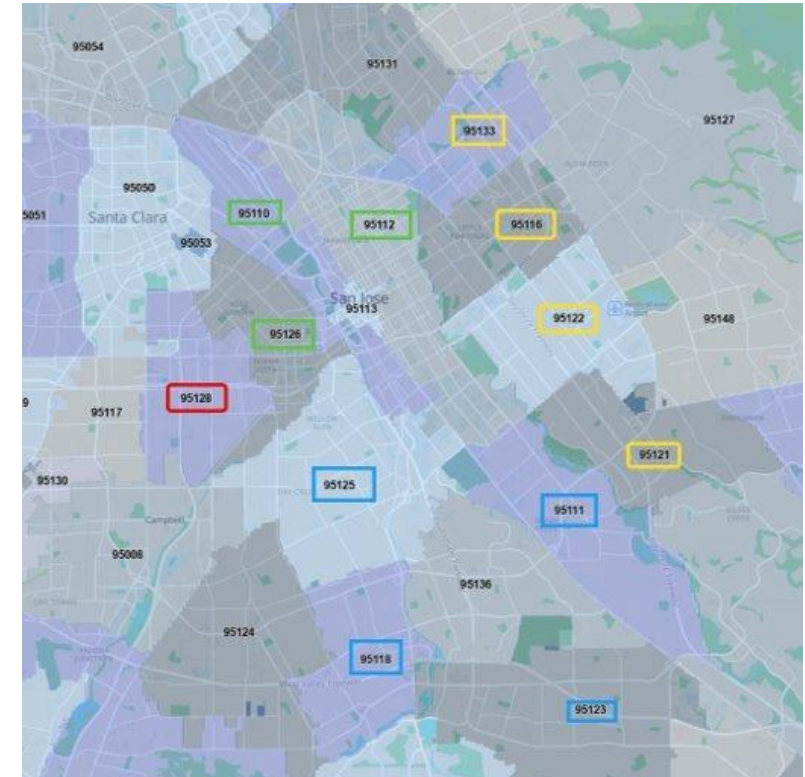


Induction Workshops with the RAC

BayREN provided stipends of \$500 to each RAC team (5 teams) to conduct induction demo and education sessions in their community.

5 workshops across Santa Clara County

- Held at community centers, home kitchens, backyards, urban centers, rural communities, etc.
- 85 participants in total
 - Most identified as low to very-low income and many were primarily Spanish speaking.
 - Majority of attendees (85%+) had no prior knowledge of induction.



Impact of the Induction Workshops



- ↑ Increases in induction knowledge and interest in switching to induction.
 - A barrier to induction was lack of information on the technology.
- 🚑 Healthy and safety changes minds before energy efficiency.
 - Residents value keeping their home and families safe first.
- 🔍 Participants want to experience and learn first before investing.
 - A major barrier is lack of lending locations / opportunities to learn and try.
- 🏠 In language and in community sessions create safety and reliability.
 - Language barriers (not just translating but developing in-language) and concerns of sharing data data.

Recipes for Action – the RAC Ingredients

Advisory Body Focus Area

What are the topics/expertise/focus areas of the advisory body?

- Food Systems and Access
- Climate and Health
- Project: induction demos

Body Members

Describe the type of people who will be on the advisory body?

- Representatives from each district
- Different lived experiences, ages, languages, and leadership levels
- Representation of climate and food vulnerable communities

Extrinsic Compensation

What can be provided to members, monetarily, supplies, or ways to ease participation?

- Stipends for RAC meeting attendance and mileage
- Dinner and refreshments
- Childcare and interpretation
- Outreach supplies (flyers, promo items, presentation template)

Intrinsic Compensation

What skills, trainings, developments, or other benefits member can receive?

- Training and new skills development
- Technical assistance from staff
- Networking
- Mentorship

Primary Audience Served

Who does the body to serve/engage/inform?

- Advising the County
- Prioritizing communities who experienced or are experiencing food insecurity

Partnerships

Who will run and support the advisory body?

- Public Health Department
- Veggielution
- BayREN

Secret Ingredients

What is special in your community or an another ingredient idea?

- Leadership Mentorship opportunities
- Members to lead meetings items

Recipes for Action – the RAC Method

Recruiting Members

How do you recruit and select members?

- Promoted the RAC through Facebook, WhatsApp groups, Veggielution's partners
- Community Meetings
- Simple Paper and Online application

Decision Making

How does the body make decisions or form project group ?

- Rounds of voting and discussion until unanimous decision
- If no consensus, the items is tabled.
- Leadership pairs formed by members

Project Overview

What does the project entail for the members to do?

- Organize and conduct an induction cooking demo in their community
- Have participants take a survey
- Inform the community on induction cooking technology, benefits, how to access one, and local programs.
- Identify recommendations to improve induction cooking access and energy efficiency programs in the community

Capture Impact

What metrics and feedback will the members collect?

- Perception and knowledge changes
- Barriers to accessing induction hobs
- Likelihood to switch to induction

Deliverable

What do the members produce at the end of the project?

- Recommendations report and presentation
- Growing members' leadership skills

Timelines

How much time to conduct the project?

- 6 weeks

Poll: What are ideas for different types of compensations?



Make Your Own Recipe Card!

Form groups of 2-3.

Choose one community or organization to focus.

Write org/group name on the sheet.

10 mins each side

Recipes for Community Action - Ingredients

Advisory Body Focus Area <i>What are the topics/expertise/focus areas/projects for the advisory body?</i>	Extrinsic Compensation <i>What can be provided to members, monetarily, supplies, or ways to ease participation?</i>
Body Members <i>Describe the type of people who will be on the advisory body?</i>	Intrinsic Compensation <i>What skills, trainings, recognition or other benefits can member receive?</i>
Partnerships <i>Who will run and support the advisory body?</i>	Secret Ingredients <i>What is special in your community or an another ingredient idea?</i>
Primary Audience Served <i>Who does the body to serve/enage/inform?</i>	

Recipes for Community Action - Method

Recruiting Members <i>How do you recruit and select members?</i>	Project Overview <i>What does the project entail for the members to do?</i>
Decision Making <i>How does the body make decisions or form project groups?</i>	
Deliverable <i>What do the members produce at the end of the project?</i>	Capture Impact <i>What metrics and feedback will the members collect?</i>
	Timelines <i>How much time to conduct the project?</i>

Season to Taste



Santa Clara County
PUBLIC HEALTH



Office of Sustainability
and Resilience



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PUBLIC HEALTH



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Ingredients – 10 minutes

Recipes for Community Action - Ingredients

Advisory Body Focus Area

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Who does the body to serve/enage/inform?

Secret Ingredients

What is special in your community or an another ingredient idea?



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Method – 10 minutes



Recipes for Community Action - Method



Recruiting Members

How do you recruit and select members?

Project Overview

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Decision Making

How does the body make decisions or form project groups?

Deliverable

What do the members produce at the end of the project?

Capture Impact

What metrics and feedback will the members collect?

Timelines

How much time to conduct the project?

Season to Taste



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Share Amongst Your Table

Each group will share with their tablemate groups.

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Recipes for Community Action - Method

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Deliverable <i>What do the members produce at the end of the project?</i>	Timelines <i>How much time to conduct the project?</i>

Season to Taste



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**What was your secret
or interesting
ingredient?**



Hear it From the RAC Members!

[Click for Video](#)



Hello,

Hola,

MEMBERS OF RAC



RITA BIRRUETA

Este de San José
Condado de Santa Clara
Originaria de
Michoacán, México
-Español-



IRMA JURI -

South San Jose
Condado de Santa Clara
Originaria de
Guatemala
-Spanish/English-



PAULINA BASANTES

North Santa Clara
Condado de Santa Clara
Originaria de
Ecuador
-Español-



KARTHI PRASANNA

Este de San José
Condado de Santa Clara
Originaria de
India
-Tamil-



TANIA BRAVO

North and South de San José
Condado de Santa Clara
Originaria de
Apatzingán, Mexico
-Español-

Q&A



Thank you!

Elizabeth Harris

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Tonya Veitch

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Lupe Yepiz

lupe.yepiz@phd.sccgov.org

🍅 Recipes for Community Action - Ingredients 🥑

Advisory Body Focus Area

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Extrinsic Compensation

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Body Members

Describe the type of people who will be on the advisory body?

Intrinsic Compensation

What skills, trainings, recognition or other benefits can member receive?

Partnerships

Who will run and support the advisory body?

Primary Audience Served

Who does the body to serve/enage/inform?

Secret Ingredients

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Extra Slides



Poll: How does your advisory body make decisions?

[Short Answer]



Question for the Session?

What





Recipes for Community Action - Ingredients



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Season to Taste



In Action

