

We respectfully request that the Agricultural Commission recommend the Board of Supervisors direct County staff to organize and facilitate a Public Workshop focused on the current and future state of agriculture in El Dorado County, including agritourism, lodging, and related rural economic development. This workshop should:

- Engage relevant County departments and advisory committees (including Agriculture, Planning, Strategic Economic Enhancement Development (SEED) Committee, Economic Development, and Elected Treasurer Tax Collector.
- Include voices from across the agricultural spectrum, including commercial growers, small producers, ranchers, agritourism operators, hospitality providers, and local business partners.
- Offer the public a platform to express support, ideas, and concerns about how agriculture shapes our quality of life.
- Identify key barriers and opportunities—from permitting and infrastructure to workforce development, land use, water security, and overnight accommodations
- Highlight the value of diversified rural experiences, including overnight stays, as an economic multiplier and community connector.
- El Dorado County has long been known for its agricultural heritage. With thoughtful planning and engagement, we can shape a future that honors that heritage while embracing innovation and new models of rural prosperity.

We appreciate your leadership and respectfully urge the Commission to act swiftly to recommend this workshop before another opportunity season passes without progress. Time is of the essence to ensure our farmers and communities are not left behind.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Ranalli



President, El Dorado County Farm Bureau

Cc: El Dorado County Agricultural Commissioner, LeeAnne Mila
El Dorado County Planning and Building Director, Karen Garner
El Dorado County Tax Collector, Karen E. Coleman

7/9/25 additional public comments.

Public Forum
M. Ranalli July 9, 2025

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for your leadership in safeguarding El Dorado County's agricultural lands and rural identity.

The General Plan policy clearly anticipates collaboration between the Agricultural Commission and the Economic Enhancement Development Committee (SEED). These two bodies were designed to work together.

The County operated for an extended period without an industry advisory group on economic matters, as required by the adopted General Plan.

During this same time, the County's fiscal position and economic stability has eroded.

The Agricultural Commission protects land use, water, and rural resources.

SEED advises the Board on economic development strategies that should align with those rural protections.

When SEED is underutilized — or when the Commission's input is not fully integrated — the County risks decisions that fragment policy, miss opportunities, or undermine our rural economy.

Please recommend public workshops that engage stakeholders across sectors.

This alignment is critical to honoring the General Plan, stabilizing the County's economy, and protecting the agricultural values you represent.

Thank you for your service and stewardship. The Farm Bureau remains available to support this effort.

