

Sacramento County

Climate Emergency Mobilization Task Force

Core Values and Guiding Principles

We commit to a participatory decision making process based on the following Core Values:

- Full participation
- Mutual understanding
- Inclusive solutions
- Shared responsibility

We agree to the following Guiding Principles to assure equitable and successful conversations:

Start and finish on time. We honor each other's valuable time.

Ask yourself, do I set an example of promptness and respect for the clock?

Practice active listening. Seek first to understand then to be understood.

Ask yourself, am I actively listening or am I thinking about how to respond?

Allow someone to finish speaking before you speak. If something pops into your mind that you want to say, write your idea down so that you won't forget it. This will free your mind to return to active listening.

Ask yourself, could I paraphrase the speaker or articulate their point?

One conversation at a time. Be inclusive by respecting others, listening to their point of view, and refraining from side conversations.

Ask yourself, do my actions help the group stay focused and provide the space for people to formulate and express their ideas?

Actively participate. When everyone fully participates, better outcomes are achieved.

Ask yourself, am I making a positive contribution to the meeting and providing the opportunities for others to do so as well?

Different opinions are welcome. Contrary views are encouraged and we challenge ideas not individuals.

Ask yourself, when I speak up, am I offering information to assist in informed decision making?

Be accountable and do what you say you'll do. We share responsibility; individuals and the team are accountable for following through on agreed actions.

Ask yourself, do I deliver on what I promise and what is expected of me?

Respect other's views and beliefs. Give others the benefit of the doubt and strive to empathize and understand rather than judge.

Ask yourself, am I truly accepting and respectful of other people and their differing outlooks and views?

Building a shared understanding is a struggle, not a platitude.