Members present:
Ruby Edwards   Jeff Melrose   Myrone Murakami
Scott Matsuura   Beverly Kaku   Ray Sakai
Chris Smith   Jane Studenberg   Paul Schwind
Dean Uchida   Jane Yamashiro   Donna Wong

Purpose of the Criteria and Qualification Committee:
Seeking to get to the core issue to quantify the attributes for identification for important agricultural lands. When the lands are identified, seek to apply tools at different times to apply to the following categories—prime, unique and other.

The idea of the ag enterprise zones is to cover those lands that fall in the three categories, but may not fall in the three defined areas.

Predisposition to classification:
- Identification of priority ag lands
  - Mission underlying issues
  - Those lands in agriculture where ditch systems are already developed with public funding
  - Where ag is preserved, where it is developed
- GIS
  - What is the biggest acreage grouping of prime, unique and other
  - Layer of where agriculture is sustainable with availability of water
  - Layer to include criteria lands at risk for water availability, not really matter what kind of lands
- Mapping
  - Purpose of mapping
    - Assess current use of lands for agriculture
    - Figure out what makes for viability
    - Look at alternative crops
    - Reduce the time it takes to make viable lands available to farmers
  - Farm Bureau has requested each county to map lands
    - Priority ag area
    - Maui, Lanai, Molokai completed, trying to get the coloring completed
    - Kauai still not completed
    - Big Island OK
    - Oahu OK
  - Utilize where ag is
    - Figure out what makes for viability
    - Look at alternate crops
    - Cut 2 million to viable lands
County-based
- Priority ag areas identified
- “Unique” definition under ALISH
  - There is a tool for all IAL
  - Ag activity driven by success factors (ag resource areas)
  - Capture priority ag areas
  - Business incentives follow the entrepreneur
  - Landowners provided incentives
  - Orchard crops considered unique
- Effort for viability rewarded
  - Enterprises on lava lands

What is the task of the subcommittee? Is it to determine what the State’s role is—to map lands or to create the criteria?
- Committee is to provide concepts and broad guidelines to consider for criteria, tailored to island by island maps
- State is charged to identifying important agricultural lands based on resources (similar to National programs)
  - Identify IAL
  - Assess where the successful ag enterprises are county by county
  - Ensure that successful farmers have some protection
    - Follow the activity—Right to farm
  - Special design districts/county by county
  - IAL regulatory

Subcommittee’s responsibility
- Suggestions are “recommended” and not “mandatory”
- Recommend five year boundary review
  - Look at the growth projection in areas
    - Big Island regional plans not by ordinance
    - When counties project growth, should trump ag lands
    - Look at broader public purpose
  - Potential expanded use of rural zones
  - Redistrict—conversion of ag lands should be studied
- Recommendation about criteria
  - Resource based
    - Adequate or developed water system
  - Land use based
    - Success factors
  - Contiguous tracts of land
  - Conformity with county use planning
    - Rezoning and reclassification—when, where, how
    - County determination based on updated maps, interpreted county by county
- Counties would provide rural planning within these areas
  - IAL State responsibility (not determined what system to utilize)
    - County bound with state of what is usable now, future
    - Identify lands that never been used for agriculture, rezone
  - Endorse a mapping process
    - Committee does not do the mapping
    - Visually helpful to see where lands are for contiguous lands
    - Look at maps to see where agriculture current use is to focus resources on incentives
  - County planning
    - Identify planning where priority ag areas are happening
    - What supports delivery system for markets, infrastructure, irrigation are in place
      - State Legislature, based on the constitution identified land and by 2/3 vote may call for rezoning.
      - IAL not recognized by courts. Still suitable should it be amended?

**Sticking point: Who is on top State or County?**
- State has the knowledge, maps, expertise for mapping resources, thus should identify lands
  - State’s mission is to promote ag
  - Promote resource base into the future
- Does the state then hand that over information to counties to develop ag priority areas?
  - Identify and deliver services
  - Develop rural/ag development plan
  - Create incentives