

January 7, 2019

**Agricultural Water Advisory Committee
01/07/19
HANDOUT: AGENDA ITEM 5.2**

TO: SCVWD Agriculture Advisory Committee

FROM: Alan and Meg Giberson

RE: "Open Space" (ag) credit and benefits to schools, public; meeting 1/7/19

We have questions regarding several issues that we didn't see reflected in the documents for this subject. The answers may be pertinent to proposed agricultural charges.

1. We like to buy local, so would like to know where the public can purchase the products raised on our county's ag lands. We have not seen Santa Clara County products at the local farmers' markets that we have visited.
2. What percentage of the locally-raised products are supplied to our county's public schools? (This should reflect the 2010 federal bill that expanded children's access to healthy, high-quality food in public schools.) How much (of those products supplied to public schools) is organically grown?
3. Is there an exemption from fees/taxes/charges for certified organically-grown products, which are healthier for consumers—particularly for vulnerable children— and the environment?

Additional question asked during the meeting:

4. *What would be the financial impact if all eligible 245 ag properties converted to Williamson/ Conservation easement status?*