

# Strategic Planning Meeting

## For RMCS D 2025

### What is a Strategic Planning?

Planning is strategic when it focuses on moving the organization forward from its' current reality towards a desired future.

Planning workshops are suggested in all CSDA training classes for Districts, as a good Governance practice.

Strategic Planning is sometimes referred to as Goal Setting workshops but more comprehensive.

- Planning to provide direction for staff and to address District projects, needs and requirements
- There will be no policy decisions and no votes
- Annual meetings to measure results and progress and to adjust plans
- Facilitator necessary-our needs-past experience

### Structure for Strategic Plans:

- Mission – why the organization exists
- Vision- a guide that describes the Districts future
- Goals – broad primary ideas to be addressed-eg. Financial health
- Objectives – specific direction to on how to implement goals

### Phase I

- Find a facilitator to guide us thru the process
- Engage the Board to submit issues, projects, direction, concerns, vision, goals etc. (worksheets will be provided).
- Focus on possible issue areas: eg: finance-audits, operations-infrastructure
- Develop Areas into Goals, Goals into Objectives and Tasks.

### Phase II

- Address – Timelines, Funding, Priorities, Community Support
- Include Staff to supply information and direction.

### Phase III

- Implement and Monitor a work plans schedule, with Staff direction
- Provide Mission, Vision, Goals and Objective. Progress reports .

In preparation for the Board Meeting Feb 19, 2025 I have reviewed the 3 companies that responded to our interest in having a facilitator direct our Strategic Planning Meeting.

My recommendation would be LRI for the following reasons:

1. They are a Sacramento based company which will mean much less cost incurred for transportation to and from Rancho Murieta.
2. They have set up their cost structure in a way that allows us to pick and choose the tasks we want to use and the scope of work we want to cover.
3. There are five task categories to choose from. My thought would be to eliminate task 1 and 2. They are basically unnecessary for our purposes. I would suggest instead a short review on Governance and Board Responsibilities instead, which we could expect the cost would be in the neighborhood of \$500.00 .
4. Tasks 3,4 & 5, would be our scope of work.
5. Tasks 3,4 & 5 would Cost \$9,675.00. With the additional \$500 for the item mentioned above. The amount may be slightly more or less based on our discussion of what the final scope of work would require.
6. LRI would commit to two full days of in- person working sessions. We may or may not need this much time, but it is available.
7. Their structure and focus is similar to the 3 day CSDA training session offered for new and continuing Board members.

**Pinnacle**- would not fill our requirements. They are extremely expensive (\$48,000). I believe flying distance from Sacramento. Their plan is complex and unnecessary for our needs.

**Bakertilly**- is located in Irvine Ca. Again, costly trips back and forth. They offer only 6 hrs. of workshop time and the fee is \$19,500. Their approach also did not seem to fit with our needs.

We have worked with a facilitator in the past for Town Hall meetings. The cost was \$12,000 + with unsatisfactory results to say the least. We will want to avoid the problems with that company.

Also, we need to determine where the money will come from and dates for the meeting.