

On Jan. 15, 2020, seven Commissioners and Secretary of Labor Su met with approximately 20 'high road' restaurant owners and a 'high road' loan fund investor in San Diego at a 'high road' restaurant. The 'high road' restaurant owners indicated that there could be great potential for more restaurants in the state of California to move to higher wages, greater equity, and increased benefits if they were supported and incentivized in the following ways:

1. Training and technical assistance on how to move to higher wages, greater equity, and increased benefits
2. Capital (i.e. loans and investments) offered only if they go through this training and technical assistance program to move to higher wages, greater equity, and increased benefits
3. Recognition and promotion, particularly to consumers (i.e. a window decal, press events that honor the restaurants), if they go through this training and technical assistance program to move to higher wages, greater equity, and increased benefits
4. Tax incentives for restaurants that agree to go through this training and technical assistance to move to higher wages, greater equity, and increased benefits
5. Additional highly desirable supports - access to a pool of trained workers, or training for their own staff; access to free or subsidized transportation for workers to get to work; additional small business support to help them access various state and federal subsidies, loans and grants