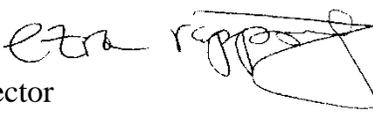




Date: March 13, 2014

To: Executive Committee
Joint Policy Committee

From: Ezra Rapport 
Executive Director
Association of Bay Area Governments

Subject: **Proposed Amendments to SB 792**

ABAG is proposing two additional amendments to SB 792, one involving a water supply assessment and a second to clarify that the ABAG population and employment forecast should include inter-regional commuting.

ABAG proposes an amendment to SB 792 requiring ABAG to conduct a water supply assessment to inform the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The reason for this request is:

1. water assessment has been repeatedly requested of ABAG during Plan Bay Area presentations;
2. ABAG agrees that the analysis is appropriate and necessary;
3. ABAG has expertise on staff relative to water issues and a relationship with the Department of Water Resources (DWR);
4. the water assessment will inform ABAG's statutory requirement to make long term growth projections for the region;
5. the proposed inclusion in the bill does not require the adoption of water information by any other agencies and is not a JPC task.

This is draft language subject to revision, and would appear in the bill after (b) which requires the JPC to adopt economic opportunity goals:

SEC. 6. Section 66537.6 is added to the Government Code, to read:

(c) The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) shall undertake a water supply review based on the region's existing Urban Water Management Plans that may be used to inform the forecasted development pattern of the sustainable

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communities strategy. The review will include an assessment of the region's planned water supply and conservation programs in relation to the forecasted growth of the region, in coordination and collaboration with the water districts, federal, state, and regional agencies, special districts, and local government stakeholders, and interested nonprofit organizations with subject matter expertise. Nothing in this section shall be binding on water districts, local governments or special districts, nor shall the work undertaken by ABAG be interpreted as superseding the exercise of the land use authority of cities and counties within the region.

The second proposed amendment is incorporated into the SCS which clarifies a task required of ABAG in SB 375. This amendment would clarify that ABAG should take into account the effects of inter-regional commuting when performing the forecast of population, employment, and housing. This amendment is consistent with how ABAG performed the analysis for the current forecast in the SCS, and does not impose any specific methodology for forecasting inter-regional commuting. The reason for this amendment is to clarify that the effects of inter-regional commuting should be undertaken in the overall forecast.

The proposed language is as follows:

(C) (i) Within the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, as defined by Section 66502, a sustainable communities strategy adopted on or after January 1, 2015, under (ii) of subparagraph (B) above, the sustainable communities strategy shall identify areas within the region sufficient to house all the population of the region, including all economic segments of the population, over the course of the planning period of the regional transportation plan taking into account net migration into the region, including the effects of inter-regional commuting, population growth, household formation and employment growth.

Cc: JPC Agency Directors
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