



Association of Bay Area Governments
Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Bay Conservation and Development Commission
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

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JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE — REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM

Date: January 11, 2012
To: Joint Policy Committee
From: ABAG, BAAQMD, BCDC and MTC Executive Directors
Subject: **Review of JPC Purpose, Processes and Topics**

The discussion at the December 2nd meeting raised a number of important questions about *how* the JPC coordinates inter-agency collaboration and *what* subjects the JPC should be addressing. With the Bay Area facing a set of critical challenges to the region's sustainability—including economic development, the impacts of climate change, and the transformation of our energy systems—we believe it is the right time to take a step back and re-examine how the four regional agencies should work together with our public and private partners to address these challenges.

We propose that the JPC staff work with the JPC Chair, and the Chairs and Executive Directors of the four agencies, over the next two months to conduct a thorough review of the JPC's purpose, processes and topics. This review would lead to a proposal to the full JPC at the March meeting for discussion and action. During the two-month review, input would be obtained from all JPC members, starting with a discussion of two key questions at today's meeting (Item 6).

The two-month review will consider the following:

1. The JPC's four historical roles—identifying opportunities for collaboration, the coordination of planning documents, conflict resolution, and regional leadership on important issues.
2. Mechanisms and ground rules that will streamline and clarify the JPC's operations so that board and staff time can be focused much more directly on critical policy discussion and action.
3. The three current JPC projects—Bay Area Economic Development Strategy, Near-Term Green Jobs+, and the Bay Area Climate and Energy Resilience Strategy—plus the identification of new opportunities for inter-agency collaboration.
4. Other ideas to strengthen the JPC's ability to provide regional coordination and leadership, as appropriate.

Recommendation

We recommend that the Joint Policy Committee direct staff to carry out the review as described above and to present a proposal for discussion at the March 16th meeting.