

SUMMARY MINUTES

Joint Meeting - ABAG Members & MTC Commissioners
July 3, 2002 ● MetroCenter – MTC Fishbowl

ABAG MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Irma Anderson, City of Richmond
Ms. Maria Ayerdi, City of San Francisco
Mayor Mark Green, City of Union City
Councilmember Millie Greenberg, Town of Danville
Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson, County of San Mateo
Vice Mayor Julia Miller, City of Sunnyvale
Mayor Pro Tem Gwen Regalia, City of Walnut Creek
Councilmember Richard Spees, City of Oakland
Councilmember Pamela Torliatt, City of Petaluma

MTC COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Jim Beall, County of Santa Clara
Councilmember Sharon Brown, City of San Pablo
Supervisor Steve Kinsey, County of Marin
Supervisor Mike Nevin, County of San Mateo
Mr. Jon Rubin, City of San Francisco
Mayor James Spering, City of Suisun City

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting convened at 11:43 a.m. Facilitator Nick Bollman, California Center for Regional Leadership, asked each person to introduce him/herself.

2. LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FROM SENATOR TORLAKSON

Robert Oakes, Communications Director for Senator Torlakson, thanked everyone for attending and expressed the Senator's regrets for being unable to attend due to budget meetings in Sacramento. Oakes distributed a letter from the Senator that was the basis for a roundtable discussion. In summary, the letter stated that there appears to be a consensus between ABAG and MTC on codifying the results of this process – Smart Growth Strategy/Regional Livability Footprint – including a timeline to incorporate as part of SB 1243. Two main objectives will remain in SB 1243:

- Regional Plan – By January 1, 2004, ABAG and MTC should agree and report to the Legislature on a framework for developing a comprehensive regional plan. The plan should be completed by January 1, 2004 and submitted to the Legislature.
- Institutional Framework – By January 1, 2004, as part of the regional planning process, ABAG and MTC should develop recommendations to the Legislature on the most effective form of regional governance needed to implement the goals and objectives of the regional plan. The institutional framework goes into effect by January 1, 2005.

A discussion ensued around land use authority – whether that authority should be left completely with local governments, or if legislative action should delegate some of the land use authority to a regional body. The questions of interregional issues and affordable housing were raised and it was suggested that a “borders committee” might be formed to deal with such issues. Several expressed the opinion that a dust-catching study without more substance, incentives and resources would not do the region any good. It was also stated that a merger without substance would not be helpful. Legislative power would be needed to cause positive steps to

be taken. In response to Senator Torlakson's memo, it was agreed that a comprehensive regional plan would be the logical first step – bringing all stakeholders together to develop and discuss such a plan. The general consensus was that the Smart Growth Strategy/Regional Livability Footprint Project would be a good starting point but that it did not include all of the elements that should be discussed. Oakes said that an aggressive timeline would best fit with what the Senator had in mind. The issue of institutional framework and representation was brought up a number of times; but Oakes stated that the Senator felt these issues could and should be best discussed as the next steps in the process, following development of a comprehensive regional plan.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were made by public attendees Nancy Jewel Cross, Irwin Dawid, Ken Bukowski and David Schonbrunn.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.



Eugene Y. Leong, Secretary-Treasurer