

Association of Bay Area Governments

AT A GLANCE . . .

Executive Board Activities and Actions, March 20, 2008

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Rose Jacobs Gibson reported that ABAG's second Legislative Reception in Sacramento was held on January 30th at the Sheraton Grand Hotel. Present were former Executive Board Member and current Assemblymember Mark DeSaulnier, Assemblymembers Lonnie Hancock, Ira Ruskin and Mary Hayashi. Senators Tom Torlakson and Gloria Negrete McLeod were also in attendance. Staff representing Senators Carole Migden, Darrell Steinberg, and Ellen Corbett also attended. Each legislator or staff member received a flash drive with ABAG's legislative priorities and general information about ABAG. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the League of California Cities, and the California State Association of Counties co-sponsored the event with ABAG.

President Jacobs Gibson and Ken Kirkey, ABAG Planning Director, attended The Third National Summit on Equitable Development, Social Justice and Smart Growth sponsored by the Oakland-based organization Policy Link in New Orleans March 5-8th.

Members were encouraged to look for ways to incorporate some climate protection activity into their local Earth Day activities. With the support of PG&E funding, ABAG plans to discourage the continued use of plastic grocery bags by announcing a campaign to encourage the use of reusable bags for grocery shopping. Also, LED flashlights will be gifted to each attendee at the General Assembly on April 24th.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Henry Gardner reported on recent activities, including the following:

- The state budget shortfall and Legislative Analyst's recommendations.
- Assemblymember DeSaulnier has introduced legislation (AB 2094) to formalize BCDC as a full voting member of the Joint Policy Committee.
- The 20th Annual ABAG Economic Outlook Conference was held on January 24th. Mini countywide conferences to provide an abbreviated economic outlook workshop for particular areas will be planned.
- The Bay Area Council Economic Institute (formerly the Bay Area Economic Forum) will be issuing its latest report entitled "Sustaining the Bay Area's Competitiveness in a Globalizing World" prepared in cooperation with McKenzie and Company. Each elected official will be sent a copy of this report.
- The draft Long Range Strategic Plan was reviewed by the Administrative Committee and the Finance and Personnel Committee. A primary focus of the plan is to develop long-term strategic financing options to make ABAG funding more predictable and more reliable in order to provide support and technical assistance to members in areas they find most useful.
- ABAG's Bay Trail Project and the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council together received a \$100,000 grant from the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund for a one year collaboration to focus on completing the Carquinez Strait Scenic Loop Trail through Contra Costa and Solano counties.
- The second of a series of workshops scheduled for April 2nd will focus on Long-Term Housing Recovery and serves as training for Bay Area elected and appointed officials and ensures that the Regional Planning Committee is in a position to act as a Regional Recovery Task Force following a major disaster.

BAY AREA GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM CERTIFIED PUBLIC AGENCY RECOGNITION

Ceil Scandone, ABAG Senior Planner, reported on the progress of the Bay Area Green Business Program, guided by the Hazardous Waste Management Facility Allocation Committee, and described significant achievements in the nine Bay Area counties. The Board recognized 25 public agencies certified in the last 12 months as "Green Businesses" and presented certificates of recognition: Senator Ellen Corbett, San Leandro Office; Albany Community Center; City of Livermore Facilities Maintenance; City of Livermore Parks & Trees; City of Livermore Streets; StopWaste.Org; UC Berkeley Cal Dining Café 3/Bear Market; UC Berkeley Cal Dining, Foothill; UC Berkeley Cal Overstocks & Surplus Den; Office of Supervisor Susan Bonilla; City of Concord City Hall; Contra Costa Water District; Tamalpais Community Services District; County of San Mateo, Department of Public Works Offices; City of San Mateo Public Library; San Carlos Youth Center; Town of Los Altos Hills; City of Mountain View City Hall; City of Mountain View Senior Center; City of Sunnyvale Corporation Yard; Ohlone Elementary School (Palo Alto); Cumberland Elementary (Sunnyvale); Sonoma County Water Agency Administrative Office.

REGIONAL HOUSING NEED ALLOCATION APPEALS AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

PUBLIC HEARING APPEALS

Paul Fassinger, ABAG Research Director, reported on the Regional Housing Allocation appeals and the Appeals Committee recommendations and the proposed final Regional Housing Need Allocation. The Appeals Committee met on February

Association of Bay Area Governments

At A Glance

Continued

27th and heard appeals from the City of Berkeley, City of Palo Alto, City of Emeryville, City of Belvedere, and City of Mountain View. Mr. Fassinger commented on the appeals and recommendations and reported that the substitute allocation includes the transfer of units from the City of Mountain View to the County of Santa Clara and the specifics of the allocations inside the sub-region of the County of San Mateo. A public hearing on appeals was conducted at 8:10 p.m. Mayor Gwen Regalia, Chair of the Appeals Committee, reported that the committee acknowledged that in the future the University of California and the State of California need to do more in working with cities on housing; recognized the issue of asking cities to take on more housing after this cycle ends in 2014; and suggested that the Board raise with HCD the issue of giving cities credit for exceeding their allocations. The Board accepted the RHNA Appeals Committee recommendations and the final Regional Housing Need Allocation.

PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR PROJECTIONS 2009

Paul Fassinger and Christy Riviere, ABAG Senior Planner, reported on the use of performance targets in evaluating policy assumptions for Projections 2009. Performance targets include congestion (reduce person hours of delay by 20 percent); emissions (reduce CO2 emissions by 40 percent, reduce PM2.5 emissions by 10 percent, reduce PM10 by 45 percent); Vehicle Miles Traveled (reduce VMT per capita by 10 percent); land consumption (accommodate all housing demand within the region, limit "green-field" development to 900 acres per year); affordability of housing and transportation (decrease housing and transportation costs by 10 percent). The Board adopted the draft performance targets and directed staff to develop a variety of land use assumptions that could make progress toward the targets.

FOCUS – PERFORMANCE CRITERIA FOR PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT AREAS

Ken Kirkey, Planning Director, presented recommendations on Performance Criteria for the Priority Development Areas (PDAs) and reported on a related local outreach effort. Potential performance criteria include Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), community improvement, housing choice, transportation choice, land-use compatibility, sustainability. Outreach program will consist of outreach to PDA jurisdiction planning staff and FOCUS working group, county-level meetings with elected officials and senior staff, and presentations to the Joint Policy Committee, Regional Planning Committee, and MTC's Planning Committee. The Board accepted the recommended performance criteria for PDAs.

APPROVAL OF STRATEGIC PLAN

Executive Director Gardner presented the ABAG mission statement and strategic plan. The strategic planning process included a survey and focus groups of our members as well as an internal scan of staff. Goals include improving public understanding of ABAG; establishing long-term financial stability; attracting, developing, and retaining high quality employees; increasing housing supply at all income levels; improving mobility through coordination of land use, transportation, and planning decisions; conserving resources, promoting sustainability, improving environmental quality; maintaining and enhancing a disaster-resistant region. The Board approved the strategic plan.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

President Rose Jacobs Gibson reported on the Administrative Retreat held February 21-22nd. The Administrative Committee discussed major initiatives and strategic options for advancing ABAG's mission and goals, received an update on the FOCUS Initiative, and discussed the strategic plan. The committee recommended that MTC's TOD policy be amended to include jobs as well as transportation as a factor, considered whether ABAG and/or the Joint Policy Committee should conduct reviews of regionally significant projects as well as the process and protocol for such reviews should they take place. They endorsed ABAG's support and participation in a press conference on February 25th announcing a new initiative, "Crime Stoppers" an anonymous tip-line program that pays rewards up to \$2,000 for information that leads to the arrest and indictment of persons responsible for committing felony crimes

LEGISLATION & GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Pete McHugh reported on Committee activities, including legislation reviewed: AB 842 (Jones); AB 1634 (Levine); AB 1756 (Caballero); AB 2016 (Committee on Housing and Community Development); AB 2069 (Jones); AB 2094 (DeSaulnier, Laird); AB 2182 (Caballero); AB 2466 (Laird); AB 2596 (Jones); AB 2744 (Hoffman); AB 2870 (DeSaulnier); ACA 10 (Feuer); SB 118 (Negrete, McLeod); SB 1124 (Committee on Local Government); SB 1165 (Kuehl); SB 1508 (Corbett); SB 1732 (Romero); SB 375 (Steinberg). *For information on the L&GO Committee, contact Patricia Jones at (510) 464 7933 or PatJ@abag.ca.gov, or Kathleen Cha at (510) 464 7922 or KathleenC@abag.ca.gov.*

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Mark Green reported on Committee activities, including a review of financial reports for January and February, a review the long-term Strategic Plan, a review of a contract extension with Maze and Associates not to exceed \$89,000, and consideration of financial support for the Bay Area Council Economic Institute in the amount of \$50,000.