

Association of Bay Area Governments

AT A GLANCE . . .

Executive Board Activities and Actions, May 15, 2008

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Rose Jacobs Gibson reported that the winners of the 2008 Growing Smarter Together Awards were announced at the Spring General Assembly. The Distinguished Leadership Award was presented to Board member Gwen Regalia, Mayor, City of Walnut Creek. Other recipients included: the City of Hercules received the On the Ground—Getting it Done Award; the City of Dublin, Alameda County Surplus Property Authority and BART were awarded the Public-Private Partnership Award; and, the Start it Up Award was presented to the City of San Leandro. The video produced by COMCAST, which shows the award winning work of our communities, is now on the ABAG website.

To kick -off ABAG's Climate Protection Campaign, reusable bags—"a Bag" from ABAG—will be distributed to ABAG members, local elected officials and community leaders to promote best practices for reducing green house gas emissions. A special website section will be unveiled next month with additional earth-friendly tips, best practices, and suggestions.

A dialogue will be planned for the Fall to discuss ways to deal with the issue of the increasing incidence of guns in the hands of young people and to find common sense approaches to tracking and keeping guns out of the hands of youth.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

- The Spring General Assembly, held on April 24th at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, was well attended. He assured members that the Budget and Work Program for 2008/2009, which was approved at the Business Meeting, was a balanced budget.
- The California Department of Transportation awarded the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and ABAG for a third year of funding from the California Regional Blueprint Planning Program (Blueprint) for Fiscal Year 2007/08 in the amount of \$860,000.
- ABAG/SFEP is coordinating a grant proposal to be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 9, for water quality improvements in the San Francisco Bay Area. An estimated \$5,000,000 in funding will be available.
- ABAG recently received two grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the State of California Office of Emergency Services (OES) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The first project focuses on developing a model local program for dealing with the hazards associated with soft-story multifamily residential buildings and will be reviewed by the ABAG Earthquake and Hazards Outreach Committee. The second project will develop a comprehensive understanding of the vulnerability of the regional water system to natural disasters and will be reviewed by the ABAG Lifeline Infrastructure and Hazards Committee.
- ABAG POWER initiated a pilot program that seeks to provide independent studies to determine the feasibility of solar energy projects on specific local government facilities. The ABAG Energy Watch Program was awarded a Certificate of Recognition by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the its "commitment to a better environment and reducing greenhouse gas emissions as a Charter Participant in the Energy Star Low Carbon IT Campaign."
- ABAG PLAN has awarded over \$300,000 in grants this fiscal year for risk management projects for its members, and expects to spend at least another \$500,000 by the end of the year.
- ABAG has provided capital funding through the ABAG Finance Authority for Nonprofit Corporations in the following issues: \$93,625,000 in Revenue Bonds on behalf of Alameda County to fund construction of Acacia Creek in Union City; Medical Helicopter Leases aggregating \$18.4 million for the CALSTAR (California Shock Trauma Air Rescue) system for operations in Placer, El Dorado, and Sacramento Counties; \$45,645,000 in Revenue Bonds on behalf of San Diego County for senior care facilities operated by Casa De Las Campanas; \$3.7 million in Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds on behalf of the City of Woodland for acquisition and major rehabilitation of the 68-unit Fair Plaza Senior Apartments; \$72 million in Revenue Bond financing for Eskaton Properties for senior care facilities in Sacramento, El Dorado, and Nevada Counties; \$4.5 million in Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco for acquisition and major rehabilitation of the 82-unit Reardon Heights Apartments in Hunters Point.

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 04-08 Authorizing ABAG to Enter into a Contract with the Coastal Conservancy. Authorized entering into a contract with the California Coastal Conservancy for \$20,000 to conduct preliminary planning for future water trail signage at Water Trail sites that coincide with the San Francisco Bay Trail.

STATE BUDGET UPDATE AND MAY REVISION

Michael J. Arnold, ABAG's Legislative Advocate, provided an overview of the Governor's May Budget Revision and its impact on local government. He reviewed budget developments since January and the May Budget Revision. He noted no provisions that impact local governments in terms of reductions in revenues beyond those already known since January and spoke about the Governor's plan with regards to the State Lottery.

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Continued

PUBLIC HEARING—ADOPTION OF FINAL REGIONAL HOUSING NEED ALLOCATION

A public hearing was held on the Adoption of Final Regional Housing Need Allocation. Paul Fassinger, ABAG Research Director reported on the RHNA process, including the acceptance of the recommendations of the RHNA Appeals Committee and approval of the proposed Final RHNA in March. Staff received no further comments on the proposed final allocation but did receive documentation of a transfer of units from the Town of Woodside to the City of Redwood City which does not affect the final allocation within the San Mateo County sub-region or that of the greater region. The Board adopted the Final RHNA and directed staff to forward the allocation with the appropriate supporting written documents to the State Housing and Community Development.

FOCUS—PRIORITY CONSERVATION AREAS

Ken Kirkey, ABAG Planning Director, provided an update of the nomination and review process for the Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs). Over 100 nominations have been received representing a range of land types. Nominations were received from 25 local jurisdictions, nearly all major county or sub-regional open space districts, major land trusts, and the National Park Service. The State Coastal Conservancy indicated their intent to use the PCAs as an indicator of where to direct Proposition 84 funds over the next three years. There have been two calls for comments, with the second to close on May 30th. Staff will bring the recommended areas to the Regional Planning Committee (RPC) in June. The RPC's recommendation will come to the Board in July.

PROJECTIONS 2009 FINAL PERFORMANCE TARGETS

Christy Riviere, ABAG Senior Planner, provided an update on the Projections 2009 Final Performance Targets. Staff made presentations at over 20 meetings over the last couple months, met with the FOCUS Working Group, and distilled the feedback from these meetings into lessons learned. Staff expects to have a base set of projections, without policy, by the end of July, and to conduct local review with local governments and stakeholders through the Fall. A draft scenario will be presented to the Board with the final scenario adopted as Projections 2009 in January. The Board adopted the revised performance targets for Projections 2009.

SAN MATEO COUNTY SUB-REGIONAL RHNA PROCESS

Duane Bay, Director of Housing, County of San Mateo, and Richard Napier, Executive Director, City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County, reported on their successful sub-regional RHNA experience and process, describing the reasons for taking a sub-regional approach, the process for completing the sub-regional approach, and the overall reasons why the process worked. They noted C/CAG's role in the sub-regional process.

LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH UPDATE

Executive Director Gardner who briefed members on the issue of the Light Brown Apple Moth. He reported on the agricultural and economic impacts of the Light Brown Apple Moth, eradication efforts, the issues over the use of spraying technique, and actions being taken by the state to address environmental impacts. State representatives and other experts will be invited to make a presentation at the next Board meeting

LEGISLATION & GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Committee Co-Chair Carole Dillon Knutsen reported on Committee activities, including: reconsidered AB 2094 (DeSaulnier), San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission—Support with amendment that the seven San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission representatives on the Joint Policy Committee would have a majority of elected officials; heard a briefing from Amy O'Gorman, Regional Manager, League of California Cities, on Propositions 98 and 99, Eminent Domain—Oppose Proposition 98 and Support Proposition 99. The committee reviewed the following legislation: AB 2954 (Lieber/Hancock), San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority—Appointed a sub-committee to clarify issues and concerns about the set up of the Authority, funding, and ABAG's role; AB 38 (Nava), Department of Emergency Services and Homeland Security—Support; AB 2000 (Mendoza), General Plan Housing Element—Support; SB 900 (Corbett), Mobile Home Parks Conversion—Support; SB 1731 (Yee), Vehicle Fees Metropolitan Transportation Commission Congestion Mitigation—Support; AB 2280 (Saldana/Caballero), Density Bonus—Requested additional briefing and discussion; SB 1732 (Romero), Local Agencies—Position pending; AB 2093 (Jones), General Plan Mandatory Elements—Oppose; AB 3005 (Jones), Community Development Mitigation Fees—Oppose; AB 2513 (Caballero), Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund 2006—To be considered at the next meeting; SB 1124 (Local Governments), Local Government Omnibus Act 2008—No position. *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 Scott Haggerty reported on Committee activities. The committee approved the Financial Reports for March and April 2008, noting that the agency realized an overall year-to date surplus of \$109,000 which is .5 percent of actual revenues, all key aspects of the agency's finances are within expectations, and Fiscal Year 2007/2008 will be adequately funded. The committee reviewed and adopted a proposed process for the performance review of Legal Counsel which will take place at the next committee meeting.