

President's Report

Vice President Jacobs Gibson, San Mateo County Supervisor, who chaired the meeting in the absence of President Dave Cortese, reported that the Spring General Assembly held on April 20 was a success, and that during the Business Meeting delegates approved the bylaws change permitting city managers and county administrators to serve as alternates to the General Assembly Business Meetings and the annual Budget and Work Program.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Henry Gardner elaborated on Vice President Jacobs Gibson's report that the approved budget and work program, included an increase in membership dues. He also reported that President Cortese and staff have worked to garner support from legislators on AB 2307 (Mullin) which would provide funding for the RHNA process; staff continues working on Focusing Our Vision; the California Public Utilities Commission approved the renewal of the Local Government Energy Program; ABAG service programs continue to perform invaluable service to members, particularly tax exempt bond financing; and an RFP for contractor services for the MetroCenter building retrofit is to be issued in the Fall, with construction to begin in the Fall 2007 and completed in two years.

Great California Delta Trail System

State Senator Tom Torlaksen briefed members on his SB 1556 that would create a Delta Trail similar to the Bay Trail administered by ABAG. He stated that SB 1556, inspired by and modeled after the Bay Trail, would require the Delta Protection Commission, with direct participation by the Councils of Governments, to establish a web of connections to become the California Delta Trail. He described possible relationships based on MOUs or the creation of Joint Powers Authority, the possible support from jurisdictions seeking levee infrastructure funds, and a possible relationship whereby ABAG will provide expertise in planning. Senator Torlaksen encouraged members to consider supporting SB 1556.

State Budget Update and May Revision

Mark Hill, Program Budget Manager, State Department of Finance, presented an overview of the Governor's May Budget Revision and its impact on local government. Mr. Hill commented positively on the state's fiscal outlook and revenues, and reported on a number of specific items in the Governor's proposed May revision, including the on-going structural deficit, Proposition 98, schools and enrollment, corrections, economic recovery bonds, state loans and reserves, flood control, health care, law enforcement. He reported that the outlook is positive for local governments.

Regional Housing Needs Allocation Process

Paul Fassinger, ABAG Research Director, reported on the status of Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process and the formation of a technical advisory committee. He briefed members on the advisory and allocation functions, composition, open-meetings, and consensus recommendations of the proposed Housing Methodology Committee, and described the interaction between RHNA, Projections 2007, and Focusing Our Vision; the timeline for completion of these projects; and funding sources. The Board commented that more elected official representation is needed on the committee.

Legislation & Governmental Organization Committee

San Leandro Mayor Shelia Young, committee chair, reported that Greg Stepanicich, City Attorney, City of Fairfield, and Paul Valle Riestra, Deputy City Attorney, City of Walnut Creek, briefed the committee on proposed federal and state legislation on cable franchising and telecommunications; Juliet Cox, Goldfarb & Lipman Attorneys, briefed the committee on eminent domain legislation; and that the committee reviewed pending and new legislation and recommended positions for each. Mayor Young requested that members send letters to the State Budget Conference Committee in support of supplemental appropriations in the amount of at least \$1 million to fund the RHNA process. *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

Union City Mayor Mark Green, committee vice chair, reported that the committee recommended approval of support in the amount of \$50,000 for the Bay Area Economic Forum; discussed the annual review of Legal Counsel in July; approved the financial reports for March and April; and reviewed a draft survey instrument prepared by Dr. Rick Brown, The Results Group, for the Strategic Planning process.