

**LEGISLATION AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS**

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Summary Minutes

Members Present:

Councilmember Desley Brooks, City of Oakland
Councilmember Carole Dillon-Knutson, City of Novato, *Chair*
Councilmember Dan Furtado, City of Campbell
Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson, County of San Mateo, ABAG President
Mayor Jack Gingles, City of Calistoga
Mayor Mark Green, Union City, ABAG Vice President
Supervisor Scott Haggerty, County of Alameda
Councilmember Kasie Hildenbrand, City of Dublin
Supervisor Mike Kerns, County of Sonoma
Supervisor Barbara Kondylis, County of Solano
Supervisor Mark Luce, County of Napa
Vice Mayor Pete McHugh, City of Milpitas
Mayor Pam Torliatt, City of Petaluma

Staff Present:

Patricia Jones—ABAG
Ezra Rapport – ABAG
Kathleen Cha – ABAG
Jerry Lahr – ABAG

1. **Introductions:** Novato Councilmember Carole Dillon-Knutson, L&GO Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:40.
2. **Minutes:** March 19, 2009, minutes were approved.
3. **The L&GO Committee reviewed nine new bills in this 2009 Legislative Session. The following positions were recommended:**

SB 406 (DeSaulnier) Land Use: Environmental Quality – **Support**
A sample letter for all cities and counties to voice support was distributed.

SB 575 (Steinberg) Local Planning: Housing Element – **Support**
Clean up bill on provisions in SB 375—addresses Housing Element cycle and calendar for revisions, adjusting deadlines to occur after adoption of applicable regional transportation plan.

AB 349 (Silva) State Mandates – **Support**

Recommendation was made to follow-up with Legislator about consolidating other bills into one to also address unfunded mandates

AB 155 (Mendoza) Local Government—Bankruptcy – **Oppose**
Bill would place a jurisdiction’s decision to declare bankruptcy under the approval of a state Commission.

ACA 9 (Huffman) Local Government Bonds: Special Taxes—Voter Approval – **Support**
Bill proposes reducing voter threshold to 55% for city/county/special districts efforts to pass a special tax or bond measure.

AB 1342 (Evans) Local Taxation: Income Taxes—Vehicle License Fees – **Support**
Gives a county board of supervisors the authority to place a local personal income tax and/or a local vehicle license fee on a ballot.

SB 7 (Wiggins) Renewable Energy Sources: Feed-in Tariff—Net Metering – **Support if amended**
Amend to reflect better rate system and/or credits for the individual generator.

SB 676 (Wolk) Local Fees – **Support**
Increases or eliminates the statutory limits on 14 fees still set by the state that a jurisdiction may charge for services.

AB 1520 (Evans) State Watershed Program – **Support in Concept**
Send a support letter asking about the source of funding for the voluntary program.

4. Discussion of Delta Resolution and Water Planning Priorities

Supervisor Barbara Kondylis asked the Committee to discuss potential for expanding the **Multi-County Delta Resolution** passed in 2008 by Contra Costa, Solano, Sacramento, San Joaquin and Yolo Counties, to include all Bay Area counties. The resolution articulates 11 priority areas of Delta-related interest that address management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and greater Bay/Delta Estuary. This was a beginning discussion and a meeting with the Estuary Partnership was recommended to further address the 11 areas of interest within a regional perspective.

5. Brief Summary of Issues and Challenges raised during ABAG Spring General Assembly *SB 375 Call to Action* and BAAQMD Climate Action Summit:

Key points that were raised during these conferences included:

- The necessity for a vigorous engagement process reaching across all sectors with a pathway for citizen involvement
- Building on what we have, in particular building upon the FOCUS Priority Development and Conservation Area program
- Securing legislation to provide for regional-level funding such as SB 406
- Establishing Transit Connectivity and Efficiency moving beyond county lines to a regional transit system

- Concerns from outer suburban and rural communities about vehicle miles traveled
- Set meaningful CEQA incentives

General conclusion: We as a region need to take a leadership role in demonstrating how to build a stronger region while reducing green house gas emissions.

Under Open Agenda, there was discussion about the current budget situation, and participation with the League and CSAC in addressing impacts on local government.

After a general discussion, requests were made to add the following bills for consideration at the next L&GO meeting:

AB 744 (Torrico) Transportation: Toll Lanes—Express Lane Network

There was also a recommendation to invite ABAG's representative to MTC and MTC staff to provide a briefing at an upcoming Executive Board meeting.

AB 881 (Huffman) Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority: greenhouse gas emissions.

The Committee also recommended that an update on efforts to address government dysfunction be added to an upcoming L&GO meeting when appropriate. It was recommended that information should include any efforts related to Constitutional Convention, as well as other statewide, regional, and local partnerships being formed to put together a broad based conference on California's governance issues.

- 6. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.
The next meeting is scheduled for **May 21, 2009.**