

**DRAFT**

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

**Thursday, December 5, 2013  
Summary Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Councilmember Desley Brooks, City of Oakland  
Supervisor Scott Haggerty, County of Alameda, *Vice Chair*  
Mayor Bill Harrison, City of Fremont  
Supervisor Mark Luce, County of Napa, ABAG President  
Councilmember Julie Pierce, Chair, City of Clayton, ABAG Vice President  
Mayor Harry Price, City of Fairfield  
Supervisor David Rabbitt, County of Sonoma, **Chair**  
Supervisor Linda Seifert, County of Solano

*Staff Present:*

Ezra Rapport – ABAG  
Brad Paul—ABAG  
Kathleen Cha – ABAG

**1. INTRODUCTIONS:** L&GO Chair David Rabbit called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

**2. MINUTES:** September 19, 2013, minutes were approved.

**3. REVIEW OF 2013 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Michael Arnold, ABAG Legislative Advocate, provided a comprehensive review on the implications of bills passed this past session and potential issues to be addressed in 2014 Legislative Session. In particular, he talked about sustainable communities and housing funding bills, infrastructure financing, and Brown Act bill requiring how votes are recorded by agencies (SB 751 Yee).

Looking ahead, Michael Arnold noted that with the budget surplus, there will be a decided tension between the Governor and the Legislature this next session on spending and restoring programs that have been cut or suffered drastic reductions. He also noted that a number of bills we tracked had become two-year bills and we will have to watch closely which move forward or are re-introduced under another bill number.

**4. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL LEGISLATION**

**SB 391 (DeSaulnier)** which did not pass was discussed with insights provided by ABAG Executive Director Ezra Rapport, because of its funding implications for affordable housing. The question is whether it will move forward or be reconfigured into a new bill. SB 391 as presented in the 2013 session was about establishing the California Homes and Jobs Act of 2013 to provide funding for affordable housing by imposing a \$75 fee on every real estate instrument, paper or notice required or permitted by law, excluding documents recorded in connection with a transfer that is subject to a documentary transfer tax.

Another item discussed was the potential for a **proposition on Transportation funding through Vehicle License Fees** which is being examined and vetted by many stakeholders whether to bring it forward for legislative consideration.

**5. ESTABLISHING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

The committee reviewed 2013 Legislative Priorities and agreed that its goals still needed to be pursued. Specific legislative objectives are still being added with the Legislative Priorities being finalized at the January meeting. Priorities being proposed include the following:

**A. Focus on SB 375 Implementation**

- **Pursuing Permanent Funding for COGs, MPO, and local governments to fulfill Plan Bay Area implementation**
- **Affordable Housing Funding**
- **Housing Element Reform**
- **Legislation providing resources and incentives for planning, infrastructure, services to assist local government**
- **CEQA/Entitlement Efficiency**

**B. Lowering the 2/3 Supermajority Vote Threshold**

- **Seeking voter threshold reduction for infrastructure taxes and bonds statewide and locally**
- **Continue legislative partnership with CALCOG, MTC, Air District, BCDC, League of California Cities and CSAC on these issues**

**6. 2014 LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP AND RECEPTION**

The Committee agreed to sponsor a Legislative Workshop and Reception in Sacramento in February. The goal is to bring together legislators and Bay Area elected officials and other agency stakeholders together to informally discuss the day's issues and challenges. More details will be provided at the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding location, date, and sponsors.

**7. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. Next Meeting will be held *January 16, 2013*.