

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area

MEMO

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To: Regional Planning Committee (RPC)

Subject: Forum on Health and Long-Term Disaster Recovery

Date: May 22, 2009

Executive Summary

During late 2007 and 2008, ABAG prepared several issue papers related to identifying issues that slow long-term recovery after major disasters, including financing, housing recovery, business recovery, and recovery of government facilities and services. The papers were developed to assist with preparing the Regional Planning Committee to serve as the Regional Recovery Task Force for the Bay Area and to provide the basis for further research and program development pertaining to Recovery Planning. These issue papers and discussions identified some “best practices” for local governments, as well as potential activities of ABAG for regional coordination.

In the summer and fall of 2008, ABAG conducted a survey of local governments to determine their relative preparedness for long-term disaster recovery and determined that these workshops are useful.

In 2009 the RPC is holding additional workshops to discuss key recovery planning issues:

- Lifelines (the topic at the December 2008 RPC)
- Schools (the topic at the April 2009 RPC)
- **Public Health (the topic of this RPC meeting)**
- Land Use Change (potential future topic)
- Government Management Issues (future topic)

Development of the Update to the ABAG Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) is also underway. In April and May, staff conducted sub-regional workshops with representatives from local jurisdictions to review LHMP requirements and discuss regional mitigation strategy priorities. Local jurisdictions must submit a Letter of Commitment to participate in ABAG’s multi-jurisdictional LHMP by June 30th. A number of strategies in the 2005 mitigation plan are directly related to speeding up and funding recovery activities. Staff is in the process of integrating many additional recovery priorities into this plan as part of the update.

Recommended Action

RPC members are encouraged to participate in the discussion at the RPC meeting. Recommendations and input relative to the health issues related to regional recovery planning is needed.

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Next Steps

- Issues of land use change and government management will be discussed at future RPC meetings.
- The Association of Bay Area Governments is developing a pilot disaster recovery plan with the city of Oakland, and potentially with the city of San Jose, that will serve as a basis for expanding recovery planning in the region. The first half of the Oakland Local Long-Term Disaster Recovery Plan will be finalized by June 30, and covers the first four issues discussed at RPC meetings in late 2007 and 2008. In FY 09/10, staff plans to continue work on the second half of the Oakland recovery plan and begin work with San Jose.
- In summer 2009 ABAG staff will be available to present the findings of the Regional Recovery Planning Best Practices Report developed in 2008 to local jurisdictions in conjunction with discussions on developing priorities for hazard mitigation.
- Staff will present the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan draft of regional strategy priorities to the RPC in August and to the Executive Board in October.
- Finally, ABAG staff is working with economic development and other regional stakeholder groups to develop a larger, more comprehensive recovery planning program for the Bay Area. Staff will present a Staff Report on these efforts to the RPC in October 2009.

Attachments – Information for June 3, 2009 Workshop Forum on Health and Long-Term Disaster Recovery
– Draft Issue Paper – Health Care System Mitigation and Recovery