

Regional Planning Committee Summary Minutes

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter Auditorium

101 8th Street, Oakland, California

August 29, 2007

Members Present

Shiloh Ballard, Director, Housing and Community Development, Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Jose Cisneros, Treasurer, City and County of San Francisco
Diane Dillon, Supervisor, County of Napa
Pat Eklund, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Novato
Mark Green, Mayor, Chair of RPC, City of Union City
Stana Hearne, Bay Area League of Women Voters
John Holtzclaw, Sierra Club
Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, City of Martinez
Jake Mackenzie, Councilmember, City of Rohnert Park
Andrew Michael, Vice President, Bay Area Council
Joseph Perkins, CEO, Home Builders Association of Northern California
Julie Pierce, Councilmember, City of Clayton
Mark Ross, Councilmember, City of Martinez
Pixie Hayward Schickele, California Teachers Association
Jim Spering, Supervisor, County of Solano

Members Absent

Susan Adams, Supervisor, County of Marin
Len Augustine, Mayor, City of Vacaville
Andy Barnes, Policy Chair, Urban Land Institute
Valerie Brown, Supervisor, Sonoma County
David Cortese, Vice Mayor, City of San Jose
Juliet Ellis, Executive Director, Urban Habitat
Daniel Furtado, Mayor, City of Campbell
Rose Jacobs Gibson, Supervisor, County of San Mateo
Scott Haggerty, Supervisor, County of Alameda
Jean Hart, Deputy Director, Alameda County CMA
Kasie Hildenbrand, Councilmember, City of Dublin
Jennifer Hosterman, Mayor, City of Pleasanton
Nate Miley, Supervisor, County of Alameda
Mike Moore, Community Dev. Director, BAPDA
Dena Mossar, Councilmember, City of Palo Alto
Nancy Nadel, Councilmember, City of Oakland
A. Sepi Richardson, Councilmember, City of Brisbane
Carol Severin, Director, East Bay Regional Park District
Dianne Spaulding, (Geeta Rao) Executive Director, Nonprofit Housing of Northern California
Tom Steinbach, Executive Director, Greenbelt Alliance
Mary Warren, Board Member, Regional Water Quality Control Board

Staff Present

Ken Kirkey, Planning Director
Felila Toleafoa, Administrative Assistant
Jeanne Perkins, Hazardous Risks Specialist

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1. Call to Order/Introductions

Chair Mark Green called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. A quorum was not present.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes for June 6, 2007

Minutes were not approved at this time.

4. Oral Reports/Comments

A. Committee Members

No reports from committee members.

B. Staff

No reports from ABAG staff.

5. FOCUS Program Update: Kenneth Kirkey, ABAG Planning Director

Ken gave an update on the Priority Development Areas (PDAs). Staff has been reviewing applications from 50 jurisdictions and 3 CMA's totaling over 100 PDAs. Included in entry level applications was an estimate in number of housing units that would be accommodated in the potential PDAs. Rough number is 395,000 housing units, which would represent 50% of the region's projected housing growth through 2030. Staff has been working with a FOCUS Working Group in assisting with categorizing the PDAs into planned vs. potential. Recommendations will be presented to the Joint Policy Committee in September, to the Regional Planning Committee in October, at the Fall MTC / ABAG 'Bay Area on the Move' event on October 26th and finally to the ABAG Executive Board on November 24th.

Jurisdictions that submitted capital budgets identified approximately 24 billion dollars of infrastructure needs for these areas. Sixteen billion dollars are related to transportation, two billion dollars were outlined as needed related to utilities and operations, as well as other monies for recreation and parks, housing and other issues.. After the MTC / ABAG event, *Bay Area On the Move* in October, the ABAG Executive Board will be adopting the PDAs in November. From that point, ABAG will be working to develop technical assistance and incentives to support development in PDAs.

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The companion program to the PDAs, is the Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs). Over 100 PCAs have been proposed by 55 entities, including local governments. The California State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) will be hosting a series of meetings in each county in the region, beginning on September 11th. SCC is the primary conduit for State open space bond measure funds in this region and will be looking at PCAs as a primary indicator of where they might spend their money in the next relative to near term conservation opportunities (the next 1-5 years). There will be a regional review panel, comprised of open space experts from across the region that will meet in early October to review the PCA nominations. Staff will make recommendations which will be presented along with the PDAs recommendations at the MTC/ABAG event on Oct 26th, and presented and voted on by ABAG Exec Bd in November.

Members would like the opportunity to look at the proposed recommendations for the PDAs and PCAs. Members inquired about the proposed acreage of all the PCA nominations and the composition of the PCA Review Panel.

6. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Doug Kimsey, MTC Planning Director

Doug gave an update in follow up to a presentation to the March RPC on the RTP. The FOCUS program plays a big role in the development of the vision process or the RTP. MTC is working very closely with the 4 regional agencies and the JPC. Part of the vision process is to identify policies for developing the RTP's financially constrained element, which requires the plan that ultimately is approved by the federal agencies to be financially constrained. MTC is looking forward to identify policies that will be the result of the visioning process, that will support FOCUS PDAs and related to pricing and climate change. With limited funds available, MTC's key policy is adequately maintaining our existing system first. These investments should also support smart growth, reduce emissions and promote equity. The foundations of the RTP are its goals, which are embodied in the three E's, economy, environment and equity. These goals are the same as in the 2003 RTP. The RTP is updated every 4 years. MTC has added 2 additional goals to deflect emerging policies and issues in the Bay Area; security and climate protection, which is a key element. The MTC Planning Committee adopted these goals in July. MTC will be looking at how investment strategies can reach the 4 targets; congestion, VMT reduction, emissions and equity.

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In order to assess how to achieve the targets, MTC is looking at 3 investment scenarios. The first is freeway performance initiative. that the Commission will be seeking ways to improve freeway performance without dramatically expanding capacity, such as aggressive ramp metering, providing for HOV gap closures on shoulders where they are available, and more vehicle information to the public, so they can make more informed choices. Part of this scenario is aimed at reducing non-recurrent congestion. About half of the congestion in the region is caused by non-recurrent congestion, such as accidents, etc. The second scenario is an on-going MTC initiative in trying to change existing and planned HOV lanes to HOT lanes, or toll lanes. The third is the rail and ferry option which is designed to pattern of MTC's Regional Rail Plan which provides very robust rail infrastructure improvements in and outside the region through expansion of BART and basic railroad services. MTC will also be looking at conducting two sensitivity analyses; land use (getting housing closer to jobs and balancing the job/housing imbalance), and; a pricing sensitivity analysis.

RPC members voiced concerns related to providing adequate funding for the PDAs and about the goal of reducing VMT to 40% below 1990 levels and whether or not it could be achieved.

7. Regional Disaster Recovery Update – next steps, Jeanne Perkins Hazard Preparedness Specialist

Ms. Perkins described that the RPC, reporting to ABAG's Executive Board, has the potential to play a significant role in the coordination of regional disaster *recovery* for the Bay Area. As described by Ms. Perkins, staff recommended that the RPC provide a regional coordination framework to expedite regional policy decisions. Staff also recommended adding members to the RPC with expertise in communication and utility issues such as PG&E, AT&T, and at least one water district. A representative from the Coastal Region Office of Emergency Services will be a valuable addition as well. Lastly, staff recommends RPC holding workshops and training that focus on response. Workshop and exercise topics suggested at the last RPC meeting include:

- ◆ Government Finance

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- ◆ Public Works, Transportation, and Utilities
- ◆ Building and Permit Services
- ◆ Planning, Zoning, Environmental, and Historic Preservation Issues
- ◆ Facilitation of Recovery of Employment and Economic Activities
- ◆ Legal Issues
- ◆ Debris Disposal
- ◆ Shelter and Housing
- ◆ (options) Recovery of Health Care Systems and Education Systems

8. Delta Presentation - John Cain, Natural Heritage Institute

John Cain of the Natural Heritage Institute described the goals of the Re-Envisioning the Delta project, and elaborated on alternative futures for this part of the San Francisco Bay region.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM. The next meeting is on October 3, 2007.

Submitted by:
Felila Toleafoa
Administrative Assistant