

MEMO

Submitted by: Justin Fried, ABAG Planner, and Miriam Chion, ABAG Principal Planner

To: Regional Planning Committee (RPC)

Subject: Regional employment framework for the Sustainable Communities Strategy

Date: October 6, 2010

Executive Summary

Staff will present preliminary findings on trends in job location in the Bay Area and a draft framework for incorporating employment considerations in the Sustainable Communities Strategy.

This project takes a look at travel from the place of work perspective, with a focus on the densest and best transit-served employment areas in the region. By expanding the discussion of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction beyond housing location, this project connects the Sustainable Communities Strategy to the economic competitiveness of the region and opportunities for supporting job growth.

Staff is interested in feedback from the Regional Planning Committee on the following questions:

1. What are the key employment and economic development issues for the land use and transportation discussion of the Sustainable Communities Strategy? Given our employment growth trends and density patterns around the Bay Area, what kind of analysis would be most useful for regional and county-level discussion in the Sustainable Communities Strategy?
2. How can we bridge local economic development strategies with a regional employment framework? How do we address the needs of established employment centers and the wider range of employment nodes, with limited land use incentives and transportation dollars?

Staff will be presenting the enclosed report outline along with initial data analysis at the Regional Planning Committee. Later this month, staff will be soliciting feedback on this framework from regional business organizations actively working on these issues. A report on regional employment is planned to be completed in early 2011.

Recommended Action

This is a discussion item. Staff is soliciting input on the proposed regional employment framework.