

Regional Planning Committee Summary Minutes

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter – Auditorium

101 8th Street, Oakland, California

August 5, 2009

Members Present:

Susan Adams, Supervisor County of Marin
Patty Boyle, Bay Area League of Women Voters
Dave Cortese, Supervisor, County of Santa Clara, ABAG Immediate Past President
Diane Dillon, Supervisor, County of Napa
Juliet Ellis, Urban Habitat Program
Dan Furtado, Councilmember, City of Campbell
Rose Jacobs Gibson, Supervisor, County of San Mateo/ABAG President
Mark Green, Mayor, City of Union City/Chair of RPC/ABAG Vice President
Scott Haggerty, Supervisor, County of Alameda
John Holtzclaw, Sierra Club
Jennifer Hosterman, Mayor, City of Pleasanton
Veronica Jacobi, Councilmember, City of Santa Rosa
Janet Kennedy, Councilmember, City of Martinez
Nate Miley, Supervisor, County of Alameda
Cheryl O'Connor, Acting CEO, Home Builders Association of Northern California
Julie Pierce, Vice Mayor, City of Clayton
Harry Price, Mayor, City of Fairfield
A. Sepi Richardson, Mayor, City of Brisbane
Mark Ross, Councilmember, City of Martinez
Pixie Hayward Schickele, California Teachers Association
Jim Spring, Supervisor, Solano County
Beth Walukas, Alameda County Congestion Management Agency

Members Absent:

Shiloh Ballard, Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Andy Barnes, Policy Chair, Urban Land Institute
Susan Bonilla, Supervisor, Contra Costa County
Valerie Brown, Supervisor, County of Sonoma
Jose Cisneros, Treasurer, City and County of San Francisco
Pat Eklund, Mayor, City of Novato
Kasie Hildenbrand, Councilmember, City of Dublin
Andrew Michael, Bay Area Council
Nancy Nadel, Councilmember, City of Oakland
Carol Severin, EBRPD Board of Directors
Dianne Spaulding, Nonprofit Housing of Northern California

ABAG Staff Present:

Kenneth Kirkey, ABAG Planning Director
Jeanne Perkins, ABAG Earthquake and Hazards Consultant
Dayle Farina, Administrative Assistant

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1. Call to Order/Introductions

- Chairperson Green called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.
- Chairperson Green introduced new member Cheryl O'Connor, Acting CEO, Home Builders Association of Northern California (HBANC)

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of Minutes for June 3, 2009 Meeting.

Approval of the minutes was moved by Committee Member Richardson.

Minutes of June 3, 2009 were approved as submitted.

4. Oral Reports/Comments

A. Committee Members

B. Staff

1. Ken Kirkey, ABAG Planning Director announced that the Projections and Priorities 2009; Building Momentum event scheduled for Friday, August 28, 2009, 9am-12 noon. The Projections 2009 document "Building Momentum" was slated for release at that time.
2. Mr. Kirkey announced the TOD Marketplace, co-sponsored by ABAG, MTC & Urban Land Institute and slated for Thursday, September 24 at the Hilton San Jose.
3. Mr. Kirkey also announced that the Long Term Disaster Recovery Plan for the City of Oakland, Phase 1 had been completed. It can be downloaded from the ABAG website.

5. 3rd Call Priority Development Area Nominations – Staff Recommendations

Mr. Kirkey presented the third round of Priority Development Area (PDA) nominations and the nomination criteria. Staff sought approval of the nominations from the RPC.

Chair Green asked how many of the PDAs have advanced from the Potential stage to the Planned stage.

Mr. Kirkey, while he didn't have an exact number, said that several have progressed since the first round of PDAs was adopted by ABAG in 2006. He also mentioned that all of the 18 Station Area planning efforts currently underway are potential PDAs. When the plans are adopted, they progress to Planned status.

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Committee Member Adams asked how many PDAs, from the 3 rounds of nominations, have money and will be completed within the next year.

Mr. Kirkey responded that the answer is dependant on the definition of “completed”. Many of the PDAs have neighborhood-level plans but have not implemented most of plan elements due to the economy.

Committee Member Adams requested that the next update include a report on implementation of PDA plans.

Committee Member Cortese stated that there is not currently a category or program to address areas where major developments are proposed or envisioned in the region that are not PDAs.

Mr. Kirkey staff recognizes that areas which have opportunity for more development will have to be part of the discussion relative to SB 375.

Committee Member Sperring – What safeguards are being put in place that protects the investment and the land use plan?

Mr. Kirkey responded that relative to potential funding from the TLC Program, that issue has been discussed. Staff will be doing performance assessments of local PDAs to better understand key issues pertaining to development and readiness.

Committee Member Sperring commented that he would like to see what can be done to lock in the land uses.

Mr. Kirkey stated that staff agrees that certainty around future development capacity including densities should be part of the PDA performance assessment.

Committee Member Ross suggested that some sort of support program for areas that are not ready for PDA status, but may be viable in the future should be put in place.

Committee Member Haggerty asked for clarification relative to staff’s recommendation that PDA criteria relative to transit include Resolution 3434 and/or bus service frequencies of 20 minutes or less during peak-hour commute times.

Mr. Kirkey, stated that staff was recommending Reso. 3434 for consistency between regional agency programs relative and stated that 20 minute headways are an industry standard for what is considered minimum, dependable transit service.

Mr. Haggerty inquired what 3-times an hour would do for the suburban areas.

Mr. Kirkey responded that this threshold is currently met by all existing PDAs, including the suburban areas.

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Committee Member Holtzclaw asked that if the Technical Assistance Planning Grants include community planning processes.

Mr. Kirkey answered, "Yes."

Committee Member Holtzclaw said that he thought if community planning processes are being allowed for potential PDAs, it would help them become PDAs.

Mr. Kirkey noted that the Station Area planning processes advancing in those areas have a significant community-based planning component.

Committee Member Holtzclaw urges that monies be made available for new potential areas.

Committee Member Richardson moved to approve the staff recommendation.

Committee Member Adams seconded the motion.

Further discussion:

Committee Member Pierce commented that the 20 minute headways are a very ambitious threshold for the suburbs, especially with transit budget cuts. Ms. Pierce also asked about the criteria that a PDA should contain a planned transit station as identified in 3434 and whether this required a planned station that was funded or if a planned station that was not yet fully funded met the criteria.

Mr. Kirkey clarified that this criteria includes planned stations whether or not the have stations are fully funded.

Committee Member Walukas raised a point from the CMA Directors. The CMA Directors have discussed the concerns from Counties with suburban areas which cannot meet the transit standards having access to funding. They are discussing ways to help non-PDA areas become PDAs or some way to reward these areas if they are not going to develop the areas.

Chair Green brought to the attention of the RPC that while approving 5 more PDAs it will bring the total PDA count to 125. The funding needed for this many areas is enormous.

Chair Green called for a vote. The motion raised by Committee Member Richardson was passed.

Committee Member Ellis commented that 3 times per hour is not great transit, in the suburbs or urban core.

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Committee Member Sperring commented on the 20 minute headway; he doesn't want to see it lowered. Solano County can meet the 20 minute headway – they cannot meet a 10 minute headway. He stated that with these headway criteria, consolidation of transit is more attainable.

6. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Update

Jeanne Perkins, ABAG Earthquake and Hazards Consultant and Danielle Hutchings, ABAG Earthquake and Hazards Specialist, presented information and asked for approval on recommendations for Hazards Mitigation Plan which is being updated due to changes in FEMA requirements.

Committee Member Adams suggested the addition of a legend describing the acronyms.

Committee Member Holtzclaw commented that soft-story buildings are currently being created in San Francisco.

Ms. Hutchings responded that the building codes are different now so that soft-stories are no longer a threat to the safety of the building.

Committee Member Cortese asked if mental health issues (e.g. Post Traumatic Stress) are addressed somewhere in the report or online.

Ms. Perkins responded that she believed that issues related to mental health, particularly people who have lost housing, is in the report. Ms. Perkins stated that she would research the issue to ensure that it was covered.

Committee Member Cortese asked for the location of the information being communicated to the RPC Members.

Committee Member Adams noted that at the last RPC she mentioned the development of The Medical Reserve Corp. which she didn't see mentioned in the report that there is any opportunities to develop these.

Ms. Hutchings responded that these are more response strategies than mitigation strategies, but that it is being considered.

Committee Member Adams described that given that the teams are in place prior to the emergency, that it seems that it should be listed as a mitigation strategy.

Committee Member Ellis stated that in the education component of the report, non-profit organizations, which are constantly in contact with communities, should be offered as educational resources related to hazard mitigation. The non-profit

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organizations would be a good way to reach the public, especially in the lower income areas.

Ms. Perkins suggested that expanding references to the Red Cross, to include other non-profit agencies might cover it. Ms. Perkins also mentioned adding Ms. Ellis' suggestion to the public outreach sections of the report.

Committee Member Richardson asked how much input was collected from CERTS – Community Emergency Response Teams in different counties.

Ms. Perkins responded that there was a lot of dialog with the local government staffs, which coordinated with CERTS.

It was moved by suggestion from Committee Members Cortese and Ellis and seconded by Committee Member Adams that we approve this Local Hazard Mitigation Report.

The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Chair Green adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m. The next meeting is on October 7, 2009.

Submitted by:

Dayle Farina

Administrative Assistant