

INVITATION

Local and Regional Disaster Recovery Planning Initiative

Forum on Land Use Change and Long-Term Disaster Recovery

Regional Planning Committee (RPC)

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)

MetroCenter Auditorium – 101 Eighth Street – Oakland



Rebuilding after an earthquake involves a complex coordination of public and private investor decisions. While residents may desire to “rebuild it” precisely the way it was before the disaster, other factors may make it economically infeasible or may provide opportunities to improve a community in the process. In a sense, a major earthquake provides 30 seconds of instantaneous unplanned, mandated redevelopment.

- The 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake provided opportunities to redevelop the area around City Hall, as well as in the vicinity of the Cypress Freeway collapse. It also spurred a rejuvenation of the waterfront area of San Francisco when the Embarcadero Freeway had to be torn down. The area of downtown Santa Cruz was rebuilt, but it is not the same as it was before the earthquake, in spite of the protests of those in the neighborhood. Planning takes time – and the pressures to rebuild are enormous, as are the issues related to private financing.
- On the other hand, Hurricane Katrina accelerated trends in development and degradation that had been building for many years prior to that disaster. The public-private multi-organizational decision-making process for rebuilding is still continuing.
- FOCUS Priority Development Areas and Priority Conservation Areas provide some interesting snapshots into planned land use change in the next 20 years. A disaster could either accelerate that process – or force its complete restructuring.
- ABAG has collected extensive data on land-use change from 2000-2005 and compared these maps to maps of natural hazards.

ABAG is holding a series of afternoon workshops in conjunction with RPC meetings to discuss several key issues that should be of concern to local elected officials and city managers. These forums serve as training for Bay Area elected officials as we work to ensure that the RPC, reporting to ABAG’s Executive Board, is in a position to act as a **Regional Recovery Task Force** for the region in the weeks, months and years following a major disaster event as the region rebuilds. This workshop is the eighth in this workshop series.

Please **pre-register** for this **FREE** event by calling Jeanne Perkins at **510.464.7934** or emailing her at jeannep@abag.ca.gov. This particular workshop is an essential step in improving planning for disaster recovery.

Forum Speakers

- Ezra Rapport, Deputy Executive Director, ABAG – Deputy City Manager of Oakland during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and the 1991 East Bay Hills Firestorm, as well as former Chief Operating Officer for the City of New Orleans Office of Recovery and Development Administration
- Jeanne Perkins, Consultant, ABAG Earthquake and Hazards Program