

ABAG–CalFed Task Force
Strategic Planning Session #3
September 29, 2004

Draft Meeting Summary

Welcome and Introductions

Mike Rippey, Chair of the ABAG-CalFed Task Force, welcomed everyone, thanked everyone for participating and introduced the facilitator for the meeting, Greg Bourne (Center for Collaborative Policy), who also prepared this meeting summary. After self-introductions, Bourne reviewed the agenda and objectives for the meeting. The primary objectives noted were:

- Discuss “Bay Area Water Sustainability Forum” Concept
- Discuss the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Program
- Discuss SB 610/221 and Their Implications
- Identify Key Issues to be Addressed by the Forum.

Bay Area Water Sustainability Forum

Mike Rippey presented a proposal for the Bay Area Water Sustainability Forum, an approach to enlivening the Task Force to encourage greater participation and more effective long-term water resources planning for the Bay Area. Several comments were made about the proposal, but most significantly, the Task Force agreed to proceed with the Forum concept.

The suggestion was made that “Sustainability” be dropped from the name. Reasons cited were confusion about what is meant by sustainability and the value of keeping the name more open-ended. The Task Force concurred with this recommendation.

Under “Participation,” several additional groups were cited as potential participants of the Forum. These include sanitation districts, business groups, flood control districts, non-point source and agricultural interests, and fishermen. It was noted that the Forum should regularly assess if representatives of critical organizations involved with water resources in the region are participating.

Under “Issues,” the suggestion was made to add ecosystem restoration, conservation, water quality and recycling. The point was made that these are a subset of the “environmental needs” noted in the concept paper. But the Task Force agreed that it might be helpful to be more explicit about what the group anticipates as “environmental needs.”

Under “Governance,” the Task Force concurred with the suggestion that the Forum be chaired by a local government elected official. (This person would also be chair of the Task Force, selected by the ABAG Board.) In addition, there would be two Vice-Chairs,

one representing water districts and the other representing environmental organizations. After some discussion, two leadership models were suggested for further consideration: 1) leadership provided by a variant of the current system used by the Task Force, with a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, and 3) leadership provided by a "Steering Committee" comprised of the Chair and Vice-Chairs, and the Chairs of any committees formed.

A recommendation was made that these options be presented to the current leadership to develop a proposal for Forum participants to consider at the next meeting. They would also discuss the configuration of Committees to support the work of the Forum and the Task Force. The Task Force concurred with this recommendation.

It was noted that the Forum will be a primary venue for all interested parties throughout the Bay region to work together on key water resources issues. The Task Force, however, will remain for those occasions when elected local government and water district officials might choose to jointly act on a proposal. As such, it would be most efficient to notice the meetings as joint Forum/Task Force meetings, so sufficient public notice exists should the Task Force decide to meet formally (such notice is required by law for the Task Force since it is comprised of elected officials).

Another critical issue discussed was that of ongoing funding for the Forum and the Task Force. Currently, the Bay-Delta Authority is providing support for the program, but this funding ends in mid-2005. As such, it was suggested that work begin immediately on strategies for long-term funding and support.

CalFed Reauthorization Update

Cindy Darling, CBDA, reported that legislation to provide federal funds to support Cal-Fed had been signed by the President.

Update from the Technical Coordinating Committee

Bill Keene, Sonoma County Water Agency, provided an update on the activities of the TCC. He noted that progress is being made in conceptualizing the formation of an Integrated Regional Water Management Planning process for the Bay Area. Numerous details are being addressed by the group, such as the best strategies for pursuing Proposition 50, Chapter 8 funding for IRWMP activities and projects. Sub-regions might be necessary given the size of the region and varying needs throughout the region, but these and other issues remain the subject of discussions.

Integrated Regional Water Management Planning

Tracie Billington, Department of Water Resources, provided the group with an overview of the draft guidelines and requirements associated with potential funding from Proposition 50, Chapter 8, for IRWMP activities and projects. (Copies of the PowerPoint presentation provided by Tracie is available upon request, and the material is also found on the DWR Website.)

SB 610/221

David Okita, Solano County Water Agency, and Dave Tompkins, City of Vacaville, then provided a PowerPoint presentation on the implication of Senate Bills 221 and 610. Both stipulate requirements for demonstrated water supplies to be in place before large residential or commercial developments can be approved. (Copies of the PowerPoint are available upon request.)

Next Steps

The Forum planning group, comprised of the current Task Force leadership, was tasked with developing a leadership structure for consideration by the Forum at its next meeting. A date for the next Forum meeting will be set and everyone will be notified as soon as possible. The planning group will also develop a draft agenda for the meeting.

Lunch was provided and the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting Attendance – September 29, 2004

| Name | Organization |
|------------------------|---|
| Jean Auer | SFEP |
| John Anderson | California Department of Water Resources |
| Gilbert Bendix | League of Women Voters |
| Tracie Billington | California Department of Water Resources |
| Mark Boucher | Contra Costa County Public Works |
| Marcia Brockbank | SFEP |
| Patty Cook | Jones & Stokes |
| Grant Davis | The Bay Institute |
| Cindy Darling | CBDA |
| Amy Fowler | Santa Clara Valley Water District |
| Katy Foulkes | EBMUD |
| Henry Gardner | ABAG |
| Fran Garland | Contra Costa Water Agency |
| Richard Gordon | Santa Mateo County Board of Supervisors |
| Roberta Goulart | Contra Costa County |
| Nadine Hitchcock | California Coastal Conservancy |
| Bill Keene | Sonoma County Water |
| Barbara Kondylis | Solano County Board of Supervisors |
| John Kopchick | Contra Costa County |
| Ellen Levin | San Francisco Public Utilities Commission |
| Fiona Ma | San Francisco Board of Supervisors |
| Jeff Melby | California Coastal Conservancy |
| Carl Morrison | SCWA |
| Cynthia Murray | Marin County |
| David Okita | Solano County Water Agency |
| Randy Poole | Sonoma County Water |
| Mike Rippey | Napa County |
| Persephene St. Charles | RMC |
| Nicole Sandkulla | BAWSCA |
| Michael Smith | ABAG |
| Ted Smith | FOTSFE |
| Leslie Stewart | League of Women Voters – Bay Area Monitor |
| Curtis Swanson | Central Contra Costs Sanitary District |
| David Tompkins | City of Vacaville |
| Kathleen VanVelsor | ABAG |
| Doug Wallace | EBMUD |
| Bruce Wolfe | Regional Water Quality Control Board |
| Greg Zlotnik | Santa Clara Valley Water District |