

Date: April 25, 2001
To: IRP Legislative Committee Members
From: Staff
RE: Letter to Senator Torlakson

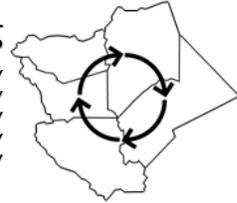
At the January 31st IRP meeting, members raised concerns about the Pilot Program being under the sole supervision of the State Department of Housing and Community Development. They reasoned that potential developers of employment oriented opportunity zone sites might be discouraged about the prospect of having to coordinate their activities with a housing agency.

Staff was directed to draft a letter to Senator Tom Torlakson, author of the Pilot Program legislation, asking his consideration of having the Department of Trade and Commerce co-manage the program.

Requested Action

Review and approve the attached letter for mailing to Senator Torlakson.

**INTER-REGIONAL
PARTNERSHIP**
Alameda County
Contra Costa County
San Joaquin County
Santa Clara County
Stanislaus County



April 25, 2001

Senator Tom Torlakson
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

Dear Senator Torlakson:

Thank you for your immeasurable support and assistance last year in the passage of the jobs/housing legislation. Your commitment to regional issues in California, especially concerning jobs, affordable housing and transportation, has been invaluable to the success of the Inter-Regional Partnership. As a new State Pilot Program, the Inter-Regional Partnership will continue to address the impacts of the jobs/housing imbalance; including traffic congestion, air quality, and other quality of life factors.

The IRP has made significant progress towards its goals as outlined in the legislation. At the January meeting, the IRP moved forward on establishing the incentives program for the jobs/housing opportunity zones and made considerable progress toward developing usable GIS data to assist in future decision making.

At the January 2001 IRP meeting, the members raised concerns that the administration of the Inter-Regional Partnership State Pilot Program falls exclusively under the State Department of Housing and Community Development. The IRP members agreed that the its economic development goals might be further promoted and supported if administration of the program was shared in part by the State Department of Trade and Commerce. As an agency committed to promoting the state's economic development, Trade and Commerce can perhaps offer support for the other half of the jobs/housing imbalance equation, namely economic development near affordable housing.

We are interested in any opportunity that may exist in addressing this matter and therefore furthering the goals of the IRP.

Respectfully,

The Inter-Regional Partnership