

SPEAKER COMMENTS FROM  
APRIL 10, 2002 PRESS CONFERENCE

(By order of appearance)

**SUNNE WRIGHT MCPeAK**

The Regional Livability Footprint Project has substantial potential to protect the environment for both the Bay Area and surrounding regions, while also ensuring improved mobility and adequate housing for the region. The quest for more livable communities begins with a vision and commitment to achieve the 3 Es -- Prosperous Economy, Quality Environment, and Social Equity. Successful initiatives also understand that housing is the linchpin of livable communities and strive to ensure a sufficient supply affordable to the total population.

**STEVE KINSEY**

The Bay Area is at a critical stage in its evolution. The land use choices we make in the next few decades will profoundly affect the region's ability to provide sufficient housing, transportation, open space and community vitality. The SMARTGROWTH process provides our best tool for envisioning the future before it arrives, so that, as a region, we can steer our development patterns toward a successful outcome.

**GWEN REGALIA**

The Smart Growth Footprint Project is about collaboration, about local officials, residents and business coming together to figure out the best way to answer the challenges of growth in the Bay Area. It is about time. About planning today how we can shape the future of the Bay Area. This process is important because it is critical to the steps we take to create housing options for all residents, especially opportunities for more affordable housing; to the ways we invest in transit systems and transit-oriented development to cut down on long commutes; and to how we improve quality of life issues by preserving natural resources.

**MANUEL VALERIO**

Every person living and working in the San Francisco Bay Area has a vital interest in the development and implementation of a Smart Growth Strategy. It is essential if we are to maintain a healthy economy and a good quality of life for all.

**MARK DESAULNIER**

The only way local jurisdictions can continue to be masters of their own destinies in a fast changing world, is by working together, not in isolation. This project provides that opportunity. Creating a regional livability footprint along with establishing ways to achieve that vision is important for future generations.

**TOM TORLAKSON**

We need to think smart and grow smart for a new century. More available, affordable homes will provide teachers, police officers, and other working people a chance to live in the communities they serve, rather than commute long distances. This Bay Area-based project will help the Legislature provide smart growth incentives and policy changes to lead to a better balance between jobs and housing.

**VICTORIA EISEN**

All three smart growth alternatives provide more housing - particularly affordable housing - than what will be built if current trends continue. Our ground-breaking analysis of these alternative futures shows that building more housing, compactly and near downtown areas and transit stations could have remarkable effects on the Bay Area's open space, commuting and housing affordability.

**STUART COHEN**

Sprawl is taking a bite out of our quality of life. Families have less time to spend with each other, less time to spend in their communities and less time to play. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the residents of all nine counties to come together to look at how we can preserve our quality of life.

**JULIET ELLIS**

There's a lot at stake for low-income communities. In the last decade, the region's economic growth has led to a lot of gentrification and displacement. We're working to get low income and people of color involved in shaping future growth to ensure that their communities benefit from new development.

**BRUCE KERN**

These three alternatives bring us to the next step to protect urban space and make individual communities livable. Environmentalists are sitting down with business and community leaders to make smart growth a reality. Focusing on business is really about focusing on people and creating an environment for people who want to live and work in the Bay Area.