

**LEGISLATION AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS**

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Summary Minutes

Members Present:

Mayor Maria Alegria, City of Pinole
Mayor Irma Anderson, City of Richmond
Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Alameda County
Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson, San Mateo County
Council Member Carol Klatt
Supervisor Pete McHugh, Santa Clara County
Mayor Julia Miller, City of Sunnyvale
Council Member Steve Rabinowitsh, City of Santa Rosa
Mayor Gwen Regalia, City of Walnut Creek

Also Present:

Patricia Jones – ABAG
Kathleen Cha—ABAG
Henry Gardner—ABAG
Eugene Leong—ABAG
Mike Arnold, ABAG Legislative Advocate
Kathleen Van Velsor—ABAG

1. **Introductions:** Committee Chair, Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson, opened the meeting at 3:40 p.m.
2. **Minutes:** September 18, 2003, minutes were approved, after a quorum was established.

3. Update on VLF Legislation and Litigation

Mike Arnold, ABAG's Legislative Advocate in Sacramento, updated the Committee on the Governor's first couple of days and the status of Vehicle License Fees (VLF). He distributed a copy of Governor Schwarzenegger's Executive Order 1, which repealed the car tax (VLF) increase, and commented that how and if local governments will receive critical VLF funding are still critical questions, with no immediate answers in sight. Arnold also referenced the proposed \$15 billion dollar bond which would include a spending cap on government. He noted that three special sessions have been called to deal with: the issuance of drivers' licenses to illegal aliens (SB 60); reform of the worker compensation system; and the state budget crisis.

4. Update on Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Legislation

Kathleen Van Velsor, ABAG Senior Environmental Planner, updated the committee on Integrated Regional Water Management Planning legislation and ABAG-CALFED Task Force directions. She noted the importance of AB 1747, an omnibus natural resources budget trailer bill authored by the Assembly Budget Committee. Within its eleven sections it establishes guidelines and criteria for various elements and programs established by Proposition 50, the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002. This bill highlights the fact that not only is funding needed for infrastructure, but also that funding integrated water management planning is needed.

Motion/ACTION: The Committee unanimously supported the motion—To support efforts to secure water planning funding and efforts to ensure that the Bay Area has a larger seat at the water planning and decisionmaking table to enhance the region's ability to receive project funding, and the monitoring of agriculture water needs and clean water issues.

5. Establishing Policy Priorities and Strategies for 2004 Legislative Session

The Committee affirmed a legislative agenda regarding housing, land use, water, environment, and local government fiscal reform. A discussion was begun to specify issues within the legislative agenda that need to be tracked. Initial discussion led to the conclusion that the Committee wants to track bills that contain mandates for local government, bills related to lowering voter threshold approval percent at local and state levels, water planning legislation, new legislation related to second units, and internet tax.

The Committee agreed that this discussion about bill review criteria and strategies for supporting and amending bills needs to continue at the next L&GO meeting on January 15. As a further resource for discussion, staff was asked to outline various kinds of appropriate legislative strategies.

6. Update on ABAG-MTC Task Force Discussions of Comprehensive Regional Planning

ABAG President Gwen Regalia updated the committee on the direction of the next two meetings of the Task Force, with possibilities like a joint policy committee being considered.

7. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 15, 2004, 3:30 - 5 p.m., Joseph B. MetroCenter, ABAG Conference Room B