

Regional Planning Committee Summary Minutes

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter Auditorium

101 8th Street, Oakland, California

August 2, 2006

Members Present

Susan Adams, Supervisor, County of Marin
Shiloh Ballard, Director, Housing and Community Development, Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Jose Cisneros, Treasurer, City and County of San Francisco
David Cortese, Councilmember, City of San Jose
Diane Dillon, Supervisor, County of Napa
Pat Eklund, Councilmember, City of Novato
Juliet Ellis, Executive Director, Urban Habitat
Daniel Furtado, Vice Mayor, City of Campbell
Mark Green, Mayor, Chair of RPC, City of Union City
Scott Haggerty, Supervisor, County of Alameda
Stana Hearne, Bay Area League of Women Voters
Kasie Hildenbrand, Councilmember, City of Dublin
John Holtzclaw, Sierra Club
Rose Jacobs Gibson, Supervisor, County of San Mateo
Nicholas Jellins, Mayor, City of Menlo Park
Jake Mackenzie, Councilmember, City of Rohnert Park
Nate Miley, Supervisor, County of Alameda
Dena Mossar, Councilmember, City of Palo Alto
Cynthia Murray, Supervisor, County of Marin
Joseph Perkins, CEO, Home Builders Association of Northern California
Julie Pierce, Councilmember, City of Clayton
Mark Ross, Councilmember, City of Martinez
Carol Severin, Director, East Bay Regional Park District
Dianne Spaulding, (Geeta Rao) Executive Director, Nonprofit Housing of Northern California
Tom Steinbach, Executive Director, Greenbelt Alliance
Mike Zdon, Executive Director, Bay Area Congestion Management Authority

Members Absent

Irma Anderson, Mayor, City of Richmond
Len Augustine, Mayor, City of Vacaville
Valerie Brown, Supervisor, Sonoma County
Chris Daly, Supervisor, City and County of San Francisco
Jennifer Hosterman, Mayor, City of Pleasanton
Pete McHugh, Supervisor, County of Santa Clara
Andrew Michael, Vice President, Bay Area Council
Mike Moore, Community Dev. Director, BAPDA
Nancy Nadel, Councilmember, City of Oakland
Mary Nejedly Piepho, Supervisor, County of Contra Costa
R. Sean Randolph, President, Bay Area Economic Forum
Gwen Regalia, Councilmember, City of Walnut Creek
John Vasquez, Supervisor, County of Solano
Mary Warren, Board Member, Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Staff Present

Janet McBride, Planning Director,
Kenneth Kirkey, Principal Planner
Gillian Adams, Regional Planner
Felila Toleafoa, Administrative Secretary

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Chair Mark Green called the meeting to order at 1:07 PM. A quorum was present.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes for Meetings on February 1, 2006, April 5, 2006 and June 7, 2006.

All minutes were approved.

4. Oral Reports/Comments

A. Committee Members

None

B. Staff

Janet McBride, Planning Director, informed members of various handouts, including one listing links to various reports available on the web.

A Place to Call Home: Housing in the San Francisco Bay Area
Association of Bay Area Governments
<http://www.abag.ca.gov/planning/housingneeds/resources.html>

Bay Area Housing Profile
Bay Area Council
<http://www.bayareacouncil.org/site/pp.asp?c=dkLRK7MMIqG&b=1859335>

At Risk: The Bay Area Greenbelt, 2006 Edition
Greenbelt Alliance
http://www.greenbelt.org/resources/reports/atrisk_2006/index.html

Bay Area Smart Growth Scorecard, 2006
Greenbelt Alliance
<http://www.greenbelt.org/resources/reports/index.html#openspace>

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Blueprint Planning in California:
Forging Consensus on Metropolitan Growth and Development
Public Policy Institute of California
<http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=693>

A Save the Date! flyer was distributed for an event on September 29, 2006: TOD Marketplace: Connecting Cities & Developers to Transit-Oriented Development.

5. Focusing Our Vision Update by Janet McBride, Planning Director, ABAG

Janet McBride gave an update of the Focusing Our Vision program, commonly referred to as FOCUS. Most of the activity is currently happening with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). There are 18 delegates representing local governments, and an additional 7 delegates representing stakeholder interests. The TAC has met 3 times, and their overall role is to provide ABAG advice on the program and the process. The TAC will help ABAG draft priority development and priority conservation areas through an overlay mapping process that draws upon a pioneering work of a landscape architect by the name of Ian McHarg. He developed an approach whereby environmental attributes and landscape features would be mapped on acetate layers and these would then be overlaid in order to highlight specific geographic areas that would be ideally suited to development or conversely or be poorly suited for any proposed use. The TAC is now very actively involved in this mapping process.

The FOCUS program has an overall 18-month horizon. By late October, early November, we expect to have preliminary draft PDA's and PCA's. In the summer/fall of 2007, a final report will be prepared and will include maps and implementation strategies and an incentives package. This will be taken forward to ABAG's General Assembly in October 2007. Janet asked feedback from the RPC on 2 areas. One area relates to regional goals. In addition to utilizing regional policies that were adopted in 2002, the TAC would like to add another goal: '*Protect Public Health & Safety*'. Another area relates to a set of draft strategies that would advance regional resource protection goals. They are:

- Maintain the productive function of lands for agricultural and other resource needs.
- Protect and restore habitat and movement corridors.
- Protect land and water resources to preserve the natural flow and recharge of water, and to support ecosystem processes.
- Protect scenic, historic and cultural resources that contribute to the region's identity.

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- Protect and enhance significant open space and recreation areas and networks.

Other issues that staff would like feed back on relates to 1) phasing, 2) climate protection and 3) integration with the regional Green Vision effort.

Members discussed adding more people to the TAC, or at least soliciting feedback from individuals representing land trusts, agricultural advisory boards, regional airport planning, East Bay Regional Park District, state agencies and federal agencies. Members also discussed incorporating education / child care, water and healthy communities issues to the goals and strategies. The committee members endorsed adding *Protect Public Health & Safety* as a goal.

6. Regional Housing Needs by Kenneth Kirkey, Principal Planner ABAG

Ken Kirkey gave a brief overview of the progress made to date on the part of the Housing Methodology Committee (HMC) relative to the 4th cycle of the RHNA process. The HMC held its 3rd meeting on Thursday, July 27th. To date the committee has discussed a number of issues, many of which are in response to changes in State Housing Law or Policies since the last RHNA cycle. There was a discussion about what factors might be used in the allocation process at the last HMC meeting. ABAG staff will be looking at all the factors that were identified by the HMC and try to identify whether a factor can be part of the housing allocation based upon either state housing law, or state policy. In addition to factors, another issue discussed by the HMC that relates to changes in State Housing Law has to do with trades and transfers. Another significant change relative to housing element law, which was enacted in 2004, has to do with sub-regional allocations. The HMC requested at their July meeting that staff prepare and send a letter to the Housing and Community Development Department requesting an extension in the deadline for forming sub regions. The request was to extend it one month, to September 30th. Finally, HMC has also requested that HCD staff attend an HMC meeting so they can directly respond to questions as opposed to ABAG staff being a conduit for HMC questions about the HCD processes.

Members discussed and Chair Green commended San Mateo County in their success and cooperative effort in the attack on housing. Also discussed was who and how information was being relayed to at the local level. Suggestions included sending information to the elected officials rather than city managers, and routing all information through the City Council or governing body. Chair Green mentioned, “Every council member, every

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supervisor needs to know what this process is. There has to be something much more proactive on this, and letting people know, almost demanding that they know what's going on in this area".

7. A Place to Call Home by Gillian Adams, Regional Planner ABAG

Gillian Adams gave an overview and highlight of key findings from this report. The report takes a broad look at some of the causes and impacts of the region's high housing costs. The first section of the report examines the link between housing and other regional issues, such as transportation, the environment and the economy. The final section assesses the region's progress in meeting the housing challenge. The report also documents local government performance in meeting the goals established as part of the RHNA process. ABAG's purpose in writing this report is to initiate or continue a regional discussion about how to accommodate expected growth in the Bay Area.

Members discussed. Some were congratulatory; and some noticed discrepancies regarding numbers in their cities.

Tom Steinbach, Greenbelt Alliance brought copies of the "At Risk" and "Smart Growth Scorecard" reports. The Smart Growth Scorecard is a report that tries to look at the presence and strengths of a specific set of smart growth policies for all 101 cities and 8 counties (San Francisco was treated as a city). Information was collected from the cities through a survey. The report looks at policies rather than implementation.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 PM. The next meeting is on October 4, 2006.

Submitted by:

Felila Toleafoa
Administrative Secretary