

# Regional Planning Committee Summary Minutes

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter Auditorium

101 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, California

December 6, 2006

## Members Present

Susan Adams, Supervisor, County of Marin  
Len Augustine, Mayor, City of Vacaville  
Jose Cisneros, Treasurer, City and County of San Francisco  
David Cortese, Councilmember, City of San Jose  
Mark Green, Mayor, Chair of RPC, City of Union City  
Scott Haggerty, Supervisor, County of Alameda  
Stana Hearne, Bay Area League of Women Voters  
John Holtzclaw, Sierra Club  
Rose Jacobs Gibson, Supervisor, County of San Mateo  
Andrew Michael, Vice President, Bay Area Council  
Mike Moore, Community Dev. Director, BAPDA  
Nancy Nadel, Councilmember, City of Oakland  
Joseph Perkins, CEO, Home Builders Association of Northern California  
Julie Pierce, Councilmember, City of Clayton  
Gwen Regalia, Councilmember, City of Walnut Creek  
Mark Ross, Councilmember, City of Martinez  
Pixie Hayward Schickele, California Teachers Association  
Carol Severin, Director, East Bay Regional Park District

## Members Absent

Irma Anderson, Mayor, City of Richmond  
Shiloh Ballard, Director, Housing and Community Development, Silicon Valley Leadership Group  
Valerie Brown, Supervisor, Sonoma County  
Chris Daly, Supervisor, City and County of San Francisco  
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  
Kasie Hildenbrand, Councilmember, City of Dublin  
Jennifer Hosterman, Mayor, City of Pleasanton  
Nicholas Jellins, Mayor, City of Menlo Park  
Jake Mackenzie, Councilmember, City of Rohnert Park  
Pete McHugh, Supervisor, County of Santa Clara  
Nate Miley, Supervisor, County of Alameda  
Dena Mossar, Councilmember, City of Palo Alto  
Cynthia Murray, Supervisor, County of Marin  
Mary Nejedly Piepho, Supervisor, County of Contra Costa  
R. Sean Randolph, President, Bay Area Economic Forum  
Dianne Spaulding, (Geeta Rao) Executive Director, Nonprofit Housing of Northern California  
Tom Steinbach, Executive Director, Greenbelt Alliance  
John Vasquez, Supervisor, County of Solano  
Mary Warren, Board Member, Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Regional Planning Committee Summary Minutes

### Staff Present

Kenneth Kirkey, Planning Director  
Paul Fassinger, Research Director  
Felila Toleafoa, Administrative Secretary

### 1. Call to Order/Introductions

Chair Mark Green called the meeting to order at 1:15 PM. A quorum was not present.

### 2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

### 3. Approval of Minutes for Meetings on August 2, 2006 and October 4, 2006.

Minutes were not approved, due to no quorum present.

### 4. Oral Reports/Comments

#### A. Committee Members

Susan Adams: Attended the CSAC Annual Assembly and brought 2 issues to the table:

- What do we do post Prop 90 in terms of future eminent domain legislation?
- Post bond infrastructure and what that would mean for us locally.

Gwen Regalia: Attended the CalCOG Conference where it was re-affirmed that funding that comes to regions should come through a regional body such as ABAG.

Len Augustine: Attended the League of Cities Leaders Planning Session where they discussed:

- Making sure that Prop 1A – 1E monies have the influence of local governments
- Housing; not affordable housing but housing affordability
- Re-development monies and how it's protected
- Wellness program in the schools

#### B. Staff

None

### 5. Focusing Our Vision, Ken Kirkey, ABAG Planning Director

Ken Kirkey provided background on FOCUS and the work that the FOCUS TAC has been doing over the last several months. FOCUS is a multi-agency initiative, it involves ABAG, MTC, the Air District, BCDC will soon be involved and the JPC is serving as glue between the agencies as we move forward. It builds upon the previous as well as existing smart growth efforts that are generally categorized under the regional vision, or bay area vision. It is an effort to focus growth in specific

## Regional Planning Committee Summary Minutes

area and direct planning and public investment to those areas with a housing emphasis. This is a two-pronged approach, one looking at potential areas for development in the region, areas that are suitable for growth, as well as areas in terms of conservation and preservation that should be protected. The TAC essentially supported an effort to work with the regional project known as Green Vision. Green Vision is an effort encompassing a range of open space interests throughout the 9 counties looking at both public and non-profit, looking at a full range of potential open space priorities in the region. 2007 is going to be a very busy year for FOCUS. In January and February there will be a series of either county-level or sub-regional area meetings related to Focusing Our Vision, Projections 2007, the Regional Housing Needs Allocation process as well as the RTP, by both ABAG and MTC staff. Going out into the region and seeking input, particularly from elected officials, to help explain the 4 programs, all of which are moving forward in the year ahead, to distinguish between them, and also in particular, introduce FOCUS as a program in this region. Also in the early part of next year there will be a lot of legislative activity in terms of money and the recent bonds and how that money gets spent. There's some sense that the state budget is where the trailer bills will be addressed. If that occurs, it would be in late June. Also on this timeline, we have Green Vision in terms of the draft map and the final map of potential Priority Conservation Areas.

Members inquired as to the certainty of the Bay Area receiving any money, the timeframe on those decisions and the role ABAG has in the disbursement of the funds. There was discussion regarding the similarities of FOCUS and the 2000 vision that was presented, identifying fixed transit, clarification of the phrase 'making big differences'; big differences meaning different things in different jurisdictions and providing leverage as a criteria for distributing limited incentives. Question from members regarding development being near both fixed transit as well as near jobs and how we are planning our region with respect to industry. Suggestions to changing the wording in the phrase 'affordable housing'.

### **6. Regional Housing Needs by Paul Fassinger, ABAG Research Director**

Paul Fassinger gave an update on the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process and the draft methodology that was released by the Executive Board at its November 16, 2006 meeting, which started the 60-day public comment period. At the Executive Board January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will present it again to the Executive Board to consider the final methodology. All we have is the method for assigning the numbers to individual jurisdictions. Early in the year we'll be working with HCD to determine the number that ABAG will be dividing up. That

## Regional Planning Committee Summary Minutes

continues the long process where we will release draft allocations of the numbers, there will be revisions and appeals and then the final allocations.

Members made comments related to focusing housing near transit and the disincentive for communities that don't want housing, the importance of developing affordable housing, judging the numbers on planned vs. existing transit, implementation strategies and lack of social service support systems in some communities. Chair Green emphasized the need to get the information to the local level and making sure they are aware of the public comment period.

### **7. Stream and Wetlands System Protection Policy, Ben Livsey, Environmental Specialist**

Ben Livsey, Environmental Specialist for San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board presented an overview of the stream and wetland system protection policy scope and updated the RPC on both the implementation related aspects of the policy and how it specifically relates to land use planning in the Bay Area. The regional board identified the stream and wetland system protection policy as a high priority in their most recent review of the basin plan. The basin plan is the master policy document that contains the legal and technical basis for water quality regulation in the SF Bay Area. The US EPA provided a grant to develop this policy, recognizing it as an important step in protection of water quality in the State. The term 'Stream and Wetland System' relates to four elements: stream channels, wetlands, flood plains and riparian areas. The goal of the policy is to maintain protect and restore the structure and function of the stream and wetland system. Science has shown that if you restore the physical integrity of these systems, it will result in improved water quality.

Members commented on coordinating efforts in open and upland areas that drain into these systems and the risks, hazards, mitigations and enhancements associated with it. Chair Green inquired if this policy has been presented to the Water Transit Authority, and suggests that it would be beneficial for WTA to hear about the development of this policy.

### **8. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 PM. The next meeting is on February 7, 2007.

Submitted by:

Felila Toleafoa  
Administrative Assistant