

**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE  
METROCENTER AUDITORIUM  
1:00-3:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2005**

*Committee may take action on any item on agenda*

**1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF  
October 5, 2005 MEETING\***

**4. ORAL REPORTS/COMMENTS**

- A. Committee Members
- B. Staff

**5. IMPLEMENTING AND REFINING THE BAY AREA'S SMART-GROWTH VISION**

ABAG's Executive Board, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), and the Joint Policy Committee have each approved a multi-agency *Consolidated Work Program for Implementing and Refining the Bay Area's Smart-Growth Vision\**. Staff will highlight various aspects of the integrated work program, emphasizing inter-related activities for ABAG's planning and research efforts. Committee feedback and direction will be solicited.

The Bay Area's application to the State for a Regional Blueprint Planning grant\* was crafted specifically to advance the regional Smart Growth Vision. The effort is integrally tied to the Consolidated Work Program. At its August meeting, the RPC received a presentation of the draft work program and endorsed submission of a Blueprint grant application, including a strategic focus on housing production.

The *Consolidated Work Program* and the Blueprint grant application have three key emphases: (1) local government engagement; (2) housing location and production; and (3) anticipation of new state planning legislation. The RPC's consideration of this agenda item is organized around these three ideas.

**(1) Local government engagement**

The Bay Area's Smart Growth Vision will be achieved principally by local governments through land use policies and development decisions. The work program proposes to engage local governments as partners, starting with a series of county-wide information meetings and progressing to the negotiation of priority development areas. Staff will present the proposed process and ask the RPC to consider what roles the Committee and individual Members want to play. The staff report\* (McBride and Droettboom) sketches some alternatives, but welcomes as active a level of member involvement as possible and desired by members.

**(2) Housing location and production**

Housing is a strategic focus in the Consolidated Work Program because of the high public and political priority accorded housing supply and affordability and because of housing's synergistic qualities: producing more housing in the right places (priority development areas) will also assist the region's transportation and environmental objectives. Reflecting on policy discussions including the October ABAG General Assembly on Affordable Housing, the RPC is asked to consider significant opportunities for, or impediments to, appropriate housing production that should be addressed in the region's housing-focused planning program, including the identification of priority development areas. A staff report\* (Fassinger and Adams) sketches out some ideas for monitoring housing issues and progress, in cooperation with stakeholder groups.

**(3) Anticipation of new state planning legislation**

Proposed state legislation could dramatically change the planning landscape. Planning and infrastructure incentives could be available to local governments that are pursuing development consistent with regional growth strategies. The *Consolidated Work Program* is designed, in part, to assist the Bay Area's local governments in taking advantage of these incentives, should they become available. The explicit identification of priority development areas helps firm up our regional strategy. A staff report\* (Brooks) on New Planning Legislation for California that will be considered by the working group just before the RPC meeting (noon – 1 PM), recommends some principles to pursue in responding to legislative proposals.

*Please note:* Senator Torlakson will also be holding a workshop\* on proposed new legislation (SB 1024) in the Metro Center Auditorium from 10 AM to 12 Noon on December 7<sup>th</sup>, the same day as the RPC meeting.

**6. ABAG's CORRIDOR PLANNING PROGRAM**

Funded, in part, by grants from Caltrans and the Haas Foundation, ABAG, with local partners, is exploring opportunities to improve the transportation/land-use connection and achieve the regional Vision along three major multi-modal Bay Area corridors: East 14th/International Boulevard, El Camino Real, and San Pablo Avenue. This project will test various strategies to implement smart growth. It is also an example of the important role regional planning agencies can play in networking local initiatives to coordinate with regional objectives. Staff will outline the intent and components of ABAG's corridor planning program and describe the differing approaches and status for each corridor. This work is also included within the *Consolidated Work Program* (item 5 above).

**7. ADJOURN**

**Next meeting: Wednesday, February 8, 2006**

**A calendar with proposed dates for 2006 is enclosed.**

\*Attachments enclosed.