

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE SUMMARY MINUTES
DECEMBER 7, 2005
JOSEPH P. BORT METRO CENTER

MEMBERS PRESENT

Susan Adams, Supervisor, County of Marin
Irma Anderson, City of Richmond/MTC
Shiloh Ballard, Director, Housing & Community Development, Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Valerie Brown, Supervisor, County of Sonoma
Jose Cisneros, Treasurer, City of San Francisco
Chris Daly, San Francisco City and County
Diane Dillon, Supervisor, County of Napa
Pat Eklund, Councilmember, City of Novato
Rose Jacobs Gibson, Supervisor, County of San Mateo
Mark Green, Mayor, City of Union City/Vice Chair
Scott Haggerty, Supervisor, County of Alameda/ABAG President
Stana Hearne, Bay Area League of Women Voters
John Holtzclaw, Sierra Club
Nicholas Jellins, City of Menlo Park/County of San Mateo City
Jake Mackenzie, Mayor, City of Rohnert Park
Nate Miley, Supervisor, County of Alameda
Julia Miller, Councilmember, City of Sunnyvale
Mike Moore, Community Development Director, City of Petaluma/BAPDA
Joseph Perkins, Home Builders Assoc. of Northern California
Julie Pierce, Mayor, City of Clayton
R. Sean Randolph, President, Bay Area Economic Forum
Gwen Regalia, Councilmember, City of Walnut Creek/ABAG Immediate Past President
Mark Ross, Councilmember, City of Martinez/BAAQMD
Carol Severin, Director, East Bay Regional Park District

MEMBERS ABSENT

Len Augustine, Mayor, City of Vacaville
Juliet Ellis, Executive Director, Urban Habitat Program
Greg Harper, Director, AC Transit
Jennifer Hosterman, Mayor, City of Pleasanton, Alameda County Cities
Zoyd Luce, BART Board of Directors – Special Districts
Pete McHugh, Supervisor, County of Santa Clara
Andrew Michael, Vice President, Bay Area Council
Dena Mossar, Councilmember, City of Palo Alto/BCDC
Cynthia Murray, Supervisor, County of Marin
Nancy Nadel, Councilmember, City of Oakland
Bob Nichols, California Teachers Association – Education
Patrick O’Keeffe, Economic Development & Housing Director, City of Emeryville
Mary Piepho, Supervisor, Contra Costa County
Dianne Spaulding, Executive Director, Non-Profit Housing
Tom Steinbach, Executive Director, Greenbelt Alliance
John Vasquez, Supervisor, County of Solano
Mary Warren, Boardmember, RWQCB
Mike Zdon, Napa County Transportation Planning Agency/Bay Area CMA

STAFF PRESENT

Janet McBride, Planning Director
Paul Fassinger, Research Director
Christy Riviere, Senior Planner
Suzan Ryder, Administrative Assistant
Ted Droettboom, Joint Policy Committee Planning Program Director

1. CALL TO ORDER/ INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Mark Green called the meeting to order at 1:10 P.M.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 5, 2005 MEETING:

Once a quorum convened, the minutes were approved unanimously.

4. ORAL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

MEMBERS:

- Jake Mackenzie announced on January 26-28th in Denver Colorado, the 5th annual New Partners for Smart Growth meeting regarding building safe, healthy and livable communities. Flyers were also available.
- Susan Adams announced that last week the California State Association of Counties met and the 9 Bay Area Counties decided to form a special subcommittee to represent the San Francisco Bay Area issues. When talking about issues at the State level, there could be an opportunity for that committee to work with ABAG on policy issues.

STAFF:

JANET MCBRIDE:

- ABAG and MTC are jointly conducting a series of study workshops on Smart Growth and transit-oriented development and one is scheduled for Friday, February 3 to visit Hercules.
- Elections were recently held for ABAG officers, and as of the January, Executive Board Meeting, Councilmember Dave Cortese from San Jose will be ABAG's President and Rose Jacobs Gibson, Supervisor from San Mateo County will be Vice President.

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

Janet McBride set the context. 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 highlighted various aspects of the integrated work program, emphasizing inter-related activities for ABAG's planning and research efforts.

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 presentation was organized around these three ideas.

(1) Local government engagement

Ted Droettboom spoke about local government engagement. Since the Bay Area's Smart Growth Vision will be achieved principally by local governments through land use policies and development decisions, we propose to engage local governments as partners, starting with a series of county-wide information meetings and progressing to the negotiation of priority development areas. The first set of meetings will be with our local government partners. Staff also described various roles or levels of involvement for the Committee and for individual members, but welcomed as active a level of involvement as possible and desired by members. It was also reported that the JPC recently discussed and endorsed an active role for elected officials in upcoming meetings.

The Committee discussed their desired role. Chair Green stated that he felt that RPC needs to play an active part and that bringing representatives from other counties would also be beneficial to building support. Having a mixed group of 3 to 5 representatives, both from within and outside the County could be useful. The importance of timing was also discussed. It was suggested that there would need to be more than one meeting per area. Non-elected RPC members involvement is also important. The Committee enthusiastically and unanimously endorsed active member participation.

(2) Housing location and production

Paul Fassinger discussed staff intentions to produce an annual housing report in the spring of 2006. An outline was passed out to complement the agenda packet memo (green). 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. Mr. Fassinger sketched out some ideas for monitoring housing issues and the progress made, in cooperation with stakeholder groups. The Committee supported the housing report concept and contributed ideas and suggestions for report components, including looking at resource challenges, emphasizing success stories from other cities and counties, jobs-housing nexus issues, etc.

(3) Anticipation of new state planning legislation

Ted Droettboom discussed how proposed state legislation could dramatically change the planning landscape, including making planning and infrastructure incentives 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. He also discussed a set of Proposed Principles for Planning Legislation that was discussed at a workshop meeting prior to the main RPC meeting. These priorities were distilled from prior policymaker feedback; they are intended to help frame consideration of new legislation and to serve as a guide to staff as we participate in ongoing state planning reform discussions. Amendments were reviewed and an additional change was suggested to add a principle related to measurement of how we are doing. **Action: the Committee voted to include the suggested amendment, and with that change, there was a unanimous vote to endorse the Principles.**

Senior Planner Christy Riviere presented an update on ABAG's Corridor Planning Program which is exploring opportunities to improve the transportation/land-use connection and trying to achieve the regional Vision along three major multi-modal Bay Area corridors: East 14th/International Boulevard, El Camino Real, and San Pablo Avenue. Christy explained that this project will test various strategies to implement smart growth and will serve as an example of the role ABAG can play in networking local initiatives to coordinate with regional objectives. She outlined the intent and components of the program and described the differing approaches and status for each corridor.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Mark Green adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM
Next meeting date is February 1, 2006.

NOTE #1: It is important that Committee members speak into live mikes during the meeting. Please make sure the red light is turned on before speaking and turned off after speaking.

NOTE #2: If you would like further information on any agenda item or on a subject matter presented, please contact the staff presenter by calling our general number, 510.464.7900, and asking for him or her directly, or call Suzan Ryder at 510.464.7993.