



Association of Bay Area Governments  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
Bay Conservation and Development Commission  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

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## **JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE — REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM**

**Minutes of the Meeting of January 16, 2015  
Held at 10:00 AM at the Metro Center Auditorium, Oakland**

### ABAG

Scott Haggerty  
Mark Luce  
Julie Pierce  
Pradeep Gupta

### BAAQMD

Mark Ross  
Tom Bates  
Nathan Miley

### BCDC

John Gioia  
Zack Wasserman  
Brad Wagenknecht

### MTC

Jim Spering

### CBTH Agency

Dan McElhinney

### **Call to Order**

Chair Gioia called the meeting to order.

### **Committee Comment**

There were no committee member comments.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Ken Bukowski let people know they can find a recording of the meeting at: [regional/video.com](http://regional/video.com)

Mr. Gioia welcomed a new JPC member, Councilmember Pradeep Gupta from South San Francisco. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is having their annual retreat at the City of South San Francisco City offices.

Mr. Gupta said he was pleased to be part of this Committee and hopes to provide a helpful contribution.

### **JPC Organizational Planning**

Ms. Allison Brooks and Ms. Gina Bartlett presented a PowerPoint found on the JPC website. The presentation covers: recommendation to have JPC focus significantly on climate change, outline of a work plan, key components of the work plan based on activities of JPC member agencies, and the role of the JPC.

Ms. Bartlett reminded the JPC that this is the third conversation as part of the Organizational Plan Discussion.

The details of the Governance component of the Plan will be covered at the JPC March 2015 meeting.

The JPC meeting packet included some Guiding Principles to be included in the Organizational Plan. JPC Member Agency Executive Leaders provided input on the proposal, including:

- Climate protection is a very clear element of BAAQMD's work program and continues to become more so over time. BAAQMD already works with the other agencies on issues related to climate change and public health and it would be a helpful thing to have the agencies focused on this issue and allow the agencies to delve deeper into this topic area. The experience working together on this issue will help us in working together in other issues in the future as well.
- Focus always helps. Climate seems to be the obvious issue to focus on. The JPC can add a lot more value working on the climate side, than the economic development side.
- The lack of focus has been a weakness of this effort for some time. This has been an organization that has been struggling with what it wants to be. We also have been selling ourselves short in only thinking about the JPC in terms of the policy board. The staff is doing a lot of work together under the rubric of the JPC that isn't reflected in these meetings. We have had a number of notable successes. In a few months, three of us are moving in together, which is a success. There is a lot of work that is going on that is very productive for the region.
- We have done a lot as a coordinating committee being able to hash out issues so that we are on the same page. We need to continue that coordination, and the staff of the JPC needs some focus as to what it is doing. The Climate issue is very broad, but it is certainly not going away, and I am supportive of focusing on that issue.

Chair Gioia saw a great opportunity with regard to accessing funding like Cap-and-Trade through some of the JPC work plan items presented. Having technical assistance available to cities and counties to help them apply for Cap-and-Trade funding could be very valuable.

**Discussion among JPC members included the following points:**

- The Bay Area is well suited to develop a model to show other regions how to address climate in an integrated way.
- We have been here for almost ten years; today we may be zeroing in exactly on what we can do and deliver some outcomes. We can play a leadership role on this issue. I would like us to focus. We should seize this moment and move forward.
- We need to keep our eye on potential areas of friction in all issue areas; that aspect of our focus should not disappear.
- In the past, there were issues where some agencies were blindsided by what other agencies were doing. Appreciate understanding that a lot of the successes that have occurred have been about staff coming together behind the screen. If climate is where a lot of our efforts are going to be, then let's focus, but be mindful that that may shift in the future.
- Like where we are headed. Like the outcome-based approach. We are going to be talking about things that we have some authority to implement. We need to focus on what it is we can do, and make a difference. Need to broaden advocacy funding to implementation funding. We can provide a lot of coordination in terms of accessing resources.
- The one area of concern that we don't want to lose is on economic prosperity and what we can do as a region on that issue. The JPC seems like the group to start talking about these issues. There is a void in leadership in what business can do and what we can do to help business. If we

focus on climate, there should be a strong subset of activities that focuses on economic prosperity and the business community.

- The discussion has been helpful and agree with focus. Although, there remains a question as to how do we tie climate change and its potential disruptions to our economic and social health. What is it that we can do under the climate rubric? We need to focus on things we can measure in terms of success. We need to have a series of goals - For example, “we are going to be the best region in the world in reducing greenhouse gases”.
- Completely agree with climate as a focus but will be extremely important to bring the cities and counties along. Climate is a long-term issue and it can impact the commitment at a city and county level that see it as not of immediate concern. Need to relate it back to the economy and other issues.
- The Air Board is really being pushed on climate change and coming up with regulations that could have implications. We seek help through the JPC on this issue.
- The steps we are taking together to address climate change have co-benefits related to the economy, public health, and disadvantaged communities. Climate can become a vehicle to meet these other broader objectives that have immediate benefits.

#### **Discussion on the Name Change:**

- There is a lot happening under the surface that is not captured in the current name. A new name should be focused on capturing both the work at the staff and board level.
- There is confusion among the general public that this committee is in charge of the other four regional agencies, which is not true.
- Need to check on any legal issues related to a name change.
- There was consensus about making a name change. A recommendation will be made on a name at the March 2015 meeting.
- For next meeting, there should be some level of discussion about measurable goals and what they should be.

#### **Approval of JPC Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2014**

Motion to approve the minutes of November 13, 2014 passed unanimously.

#### **Selection of Chair and Vice Chair**

- Chair Gioia expressed it was an honor to serve as JPC Chair. He believes we have been doing a lot of cutting edge work and believes today’s discussion was very productive. He finds it valuable to come to this meeting and think regionally. We have a lot of good work yet to come. Also proud that we have been able to bring on Allison Brooks as Executive Director and who has shown great leadership.
- ABAG President Julie Pierce thanked Chair Gioia for his service, and she nominated Supervisor Scott Haggerty as Chair, and BCDC Chair Zack Wasserman as Vice-Chair.

Motion to appoint Haggerty as Chair and Wasserman and Vice Chair passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Chair Gioia adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Date Submitted: March 13, 2015

Date Approved: March 20, 2015