



## JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the Meeting of March 19th, 2010 Held at 10:00 AM at the MetroCenter Auditorium, Oakland

#### Attendance:

<u>ABAG</u>	<u>BAAQMD</u>	<u>BCDC</u>	<u>MTC</u>
Dave Cortese	Chris Daly	Geoffrey Gibbs	Tom Bates
Mark Green	Ash Kalra	Richard Gordon	Steve Kinsey
Scott Haggerty	Gayle B. Uilkema	Charles McGlashan	Jim Spering
Rose Jacobs Gibson		Sean Randolph, Chair	Ken Yeager

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Randolph called the meeting to order.

#### 2. Approval of the Joint Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of January 15th, 2010

The minutes of the previous JPC meeting were approved.

#### 3. 2010 Climate Priorities

The JPC's Climate Consultant, Bruce Riordan, summarized and elaborated on his memo and the four initiatives contained therein.

Committee members noted the growing conflict between concern for the climate and concern for the economy. They also noted little interest in climate change among their local-government colleagues, who are understandably preoccupied with the fiscal crises that most governments are experiencing. The Committee supported a closer integration of climate initiatives with economic priorities, noting that a healthy economy requires a healthy environment and healthy people and further that we should not establish a false conflict among the elements of societal sustainability. It also identified SB 375 as an important organizing instrument for our climate work, noting that it still did not have the necessary saliency among local decision-makers. An additional challenge will come with this year's elections and local-elected-official turnover.

It was moved and seconded, and it was the decision of the Committee, to approve the recommendation in Mr. Riordan's memo confirming the direction outlined in that memo.

#### 4. JPC Chair and Vice Chair Rotation

Ted Droettboom briefly outlined the rationale for the proposals in the staff memo.

The Committee concluded that a more fundamental re-consideration of the Committee's rules and procedures was required in acknowledgment of the JPC "experiment" coming of age and in acknowledgment of the success of the experiment in breaking down agency silos. Among the items requiring consideration are the ability of the Committee to choose its own officers, a more formal charter governing how the Committee conducts its business relative to its member agencies, and perhaps even a new name more descriptive of the Committee's role and function. There was a suggestion that Committee's significance will continue to grow with the growing recognition of the value of inter-agency collaboration and of the commonalities among agency missions.

It was moved and seconded, and it was the decision of the Committee, to form a subcommittee (two representatives from each member agency) to consider the future of the Joint Policy Committee and make recommendations on procedural and structural changes required to facilitate that future.

The following volunteers were accepted as the subcommittee:

Mayor Bates and Supervisor Spering (MTC);  
Supervisor Uilkema and Supervisor Yeager (BAAQMD);  
Supervisor Haggerty and Supervisor Jacobs Gibson (ABAG);  
Dr. Randolph and Supervisor McGlashan (BCDC).

#### 5. Draft Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan

David Burch gave a slide presentation outlining the importance of air quality to public health, the history of air quality improvements in the Bay Area, and the content of the current draft Clean Air Plan. Mr. Burch's presentation is available on the JPC website ([http://www.abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/jpc\\_presentations.htm](http://www.abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/jpc_presentations.htm)).

In discussion, Committee members and public commentators emphasized the need to consider impacts on the economy, as well as public health issues, when evaluating air quality measures. It was noted, however, that while the economy and health may be in nominal conflict in the short term, there is likely a positive relationship in the long-term when the health costs of poor air quality come to fruition. While we needed to be mindful and sensitive to the timing of new regulations relative to current economic conditions and the fragileness of businesses, families and other institutions, we also needed to pursue long-term health and economic benefits together. Benefit/cost analysis and cost-effectiveness measures are essential to marrying the two concerns. The search for synergies among health and economic goals was also important, particularly during tough economic times. Much of the progress we have been able to make on pollution has been facilitated by a healthy economy, and we need to be careful not to kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

Air District staff noted that that as measures identified in the plan were elevated to rule status, they would be subject to rigorous economic impact analysis in addition to the socio-economic analysis which will be done of the entire plan.

There was agreement that PM 2.5 was our highest local air-quality concern. There was also concern that while the reduction of vehicle miles traveled was important for reducing both greenhouse gases and criteria pollutants, the state was sending mixed messages with the cessation of transit funding and the proposal to fund transit with taxes on diesel fuel, a prime source of particulate-matter pollution.

6. Critical Events for the Bay Area's Implementation of SB 375

The calendar was received for information.

7. Progress on Items of Interest to the Joint Policy Committee

The staff memo was received for information.

8. Public Comment

A representative of the American Lung Association presented information on the public health impacts of climate change.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 AM.