



## JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the Meeting of September 19, 2008 Held at 10:00 AM at the MetroCenter Auditorium, Oakland

#### Attendance:

<u>ABAG</u>	<u>BAAQMD</u>	<u>BCDC*</u>	<u>MTC</u>
Mark Green	Chris Daly	Jim Bourgart	Tom Bates
Scott Haggerty	John Gioia	Richard Gordon	Bill Dodd
Rose Jacobs Gibson, Chair	Mark Ross	Anne Halsted	Sue Lempert
Sam Liccardo	Pamela Torliatt	Charles McGlashan	Jim Spering
	Gayle B. Uilkema		Ken Yeager

\*non-voting

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Jacobs Gibson called the meeting to order.

#### 2. Approval of the Joint Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2008

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

#### 3. Bay Area Climate Change Compact

Don Bray and Michael Mielke from the Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG) introduced the proposal for a Compact—initially including the SVLG, the region’s three largest cities, and the four agencies represented on the JPC—to work together on a set of tangible objectives tied to reducing the Bay Area’s production of greenhouse gases and reducing the impact of climate change on the region. The Compact is intended to bring together a number of parallel initiatives, facilitate coordinated action, exploit economies of scale, and bring new resources—particularly from the corporate sector—into play on the most critical issue of our time. The JPC was requested to endorse participation of its member agencies in the Compact.

In discussion, Committee members welcomed the SVLG’s initiative in proposing and developing the Compact idea and were enthusiastic about the participation of the private sector in tackling shared climate issues with local governments and the regional agencies. However, a number of concerns were raised, as well. In summary, these were:

- The potential for the Compact to duplicate or confound work already completed or underway at the regional agencies, particularly at the Air District;
- The possibility that the Compact might draw upon and dissipate scarce regional resources which were more effectively directed to other priorities;
- The likelihood that the Compact's objectives and quantitative targets would not be fully aligned with those of the regional agencies or with state mandates;
- The observation that, at least initially, the Compact was not fully inclusive of the region's political geography and its diverse interests, particularly those of environmental groups.

Some Committee members argued that the benefits of the compact—particularly the potential for innovation, resources and synergy emanating from Silicon Valley—outweighed the concerns. It was also suggested that some messiness, uncertainty, risk and imperfect coordination was inevitable at start of any major socio-economic readjustment like climate protection; that we should encourage multiple approaches to the issue and accept some false starts and possible failures.

In the end, the Committee decided not to endorse the Compact at this time but to table consideration to the JPC's November meeting.

#### 4. Proposed Relief from Regional Stormwater Regulatory Requirements

Shin-Roei Lee, Division Chief of the Watershed Management Division of the Regional Water Board, gave a slide presentation on regulatory relief and financial incentives which the Water Board is contemplating for transit-oriented development and green streets. A copy of Ms. Lee's presentation is available for download on the JPC website ([http://www.abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/jpc\\_presentations.htm](http://www.abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/jpc_presentations.htm)). The Water Board's encouragement of TOD and green streets is in recognition that both can help reduce driving and therefore reduce the amount of automobile-produced pollutants (e.g., hydrocarbons and heavy metals) that find their way into stormwater and require treatment.

Chair Jacobs Gibson thanked Ms. Lee for her presentation.

#### 5. Projections 2009 Fall Outreach: Performance of Land-Use Alternatives

Christy Riviere, ABAG Senior Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation supplementing the staff memo. A copy of the presentation can be downloaded from the JPC website ([http://www.abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/jpc\\_presentations.htm](http://www.abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/jpc_presentations.htm)).

Discussion focused on a number of factors which could affect the alternative scenarios and their realization, including:

- Educational quality and crime in recipient jurisdictions;
- The intra- and inter-regional quantity and distribution of job growth;
- The continued fiscalization of land use;
- The shakeup in the housing market (e.g., mortgage foreclosures);
- The ability of recipient jurisdictions to provide the services and amenities required to support growth and the presence of a suite of regional transportation funding incentives to assist;
- Technical imperfections in the modeling and forecasting processes;
- Political difficulties in choosing among imperfect alternative futures, frequently involving selecting the lesser of alternative evils;
- A requirement for inter-regional dialogue, and the absence of financial support for inter-regional work;
- Multiple sources of differences among scenarios, including different control totals.

6. Public Comment

All public comment was made with reference to specific agenda items and is included in the summary for those items.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at Noon.