



## Joint Policy Committee

### Minutes of the Meeting of September 23, 2005 Held at 10:00 AM in the MetroCenter Auditorium, Oakland

#### Attendance:

##### ABAG Members:

Jane Brunner  
Dave Cortese  
Mark Green  
Scott Haggerty, Ch.  
Rose Jacobs Gibson  
Gwen Regalia

##### BAAQMD Members:

Mark DeSaulnier  
Erin Garner  
Pamela Torliatt  
Gayle Uilkema

##### MTC Members:

Sue Lempert  
John McLemore  
Jim Sperring

##### ABAG Staff:

Paul Fassinger  
Henry Gardner  
Patricia Jones  
Janet McBride  
Christy Riviere

##### BAAQMD Staff:

Jean Roggenkamp

##### MTC Staff:

Betty Cecchini  
Steve Heminger  
Doug Kimsey

##### Other:

Eloise Bodene, Bay Area Monitor  
Linda Craig, League of Women Voters  
Jean Finney, Caltrans, District 4  
Steve Lowe, WOCA  
Peter Lydon, SPUR  
David Schonbrunn, TRANSDEF  
Leslie Stewart, Bay Area Monitor

##### JPC Staff:

Ted Droettboom

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Haggerty called the meeting to order.

#### 2. Approval of Joint Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2005

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

#### 3. A Consolidated Work Program for Implementing and Refining the Bay Area's Smart-Growth Vision

Ted Droettboom presented a slide show on the proposed consolidated work program. A copy of this presentation is available on the JPC

website: [abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy](http://abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy). A number of ideas were identified in discussion:

- The need for a complementary outreach and education program to improve public understanding and support.
- The importance of considering traffic and parking impact when promoting infill housing opportunities and higher densities. This is a critical concern for neighborhoods and may affect “return to source” funding.
- The power of the specific plan process in promoting public involvement and public understanding and in ensuring that all relevant objectives are considered in the local planning process.
- The intense interaction between the region’s smart-growth objectives and the local school planning process. Schools and school capacity are essential to making neighborhoods and densities work, but too frequently the right connections are not made.
- An acknowledgement that the region can bring ideas and resources to the table, but ultimately it will only be local governments, local planning processes, and local people that will be capable of sorting through all the issues and making the right choices. The region can identify priority areas and incentives (money is a powerful attention getter) but it is not appropriate for the region to do detailed planning, nor does it have the necessary capabilities.
- The necessity to choose areas where real and substantial differences can be made. There is little leverage in pursuing subtle changes to already successful areas.
- The need for sub-regional planning to bridge the gap between grand regional objectives and local governments; providing opportunities for localities to work together at an understandable scale.
- The need to not just emphasize housing, but to keep the requirements and the incentives focused on affordable housing.
- The importance of making sure that we do not focus on housing to the exclusion of other important elements of regional planning, particularly transportation and jobs, and that we be conscious of the potential conflict between housing aspirations and other regional and local priorities like the need for distribution land.

- The possibility of using transportation funds to support more transportation-efficient development patterns.

The Committee approved the following recommendations from the staff report:

- A. THAT the JPC approve the attached *Consolidated Work Program for Implementing and Refining the Bay Area's Smart-Growth Vision* as a general guide for interagency regional planning activities and that it commend it to its member agencies for that purpose;
- B. THAT the JPC direct that the *Consolidated Work Program* be incorporated in a report on functional consolidation to be considered by the JPC, the MTC, and the ABAG Executive Board before submittal to the State Legislature in January, 2006;
- C. THAT the JPC endorse the work approach embodied in our application to the State for Regional Blueprint Program funding as a first step in pursuing the *Consolidated Work Program*.

With the proviso that the program also be very cognizant of the continuing importance of transportation, jobs, and freight distribution for the regional planning agenda and that special emphasis be placed on affordable housing.

4. Legislation Referencing the Joint Policy Committee

The Committee approved the recommendation in the staff report:

THAT the JPC request its members to seek amendment to AB 986 (Torrico) consistent with the comments in the attached memo dated June 6, 2005.

5. The JPC in Relation to Pre-existing ABAG, BAAQMD, and MTC Planning Committees

The Committee received this report for information.

6. JPC Meeting Frequency

The Committee agreed to begin a bi-monthly meeting schedule in 2006.

7. Other Business

There was none.

8. Public Comment

Public comment was directed at specific agenda items and is incorporated into the summary of those items.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 Noon.