

Update on SCS/RTP and CWTP-TEP



Citizen Watchdog Committee
January 10, 2011



Monthly Updates



Purpose:

- To keep various Committee and Working Groups updated on regional and countywide planning activities
- To alert Committee members about issues and opportunities requiring input in the near term
- To provide an opportunity for Committee feedback





Overview of Regional and Countywide Planning Activities

- Regional: SCS/RTP
 - Adoption Spring 2013
 - SCS is tied to RHNA
 - Other: Sea Level Rise and CEQA
- Countywide: CWTP-TEP
 - Adoption Summer 2012
 - Role of SCS/RHNA and land use



Regional Activities (January – March)

- Land Use
 - Presentations of SCS Information to Councils//Boards (January/February)
 - Begin dialogue of Vision Scenario as a starting point for the development, analysis and discussion of detailed SCS Alternatives that will lead to a preferred SCS by early 2012
 - Complete Base Case land use forecasts from which Vision will be developed (January)
 - RHNA process begins (January)
- Transportation, begin discussions on
 - Develop financial forecasts and committed funding policy (February – March)
 - Approve Call for Projects Guidance and Issue Call (February – March)



What is the Initial Vision Scenario?

- Unconstrained Land Use Scenario that articulates the Bay Area's vision of future land uses and assesses its performance relative to statutory greenhouse gas and housing targets as well as other voluntary performance targets
- Local jurisdictions identify places that can accommodate the region's future population growth and employment and the policies, strategies and incentives to support this growth (December 2010/January 2011)
 - If local jurisdictions do not identify places to accommodate the additional growth, ABAG will make the housing distribution assumptions in the Initial Vision Scenario



What is the Initial Vision Scenario?

- The identified places and policies are analyzed using ABAG's land use model and MTC's travel model (December 2010 – February 2011)
- ABAG and MTC release the Initial Vision Scenario for public discussion (March)

Countywide Activities* (January – March)

*Steering Committee/TAWG/CAWG

- Adopt Vision and Goals (January)
- Begin discussion on transportation needs, project/program performance and prioritization processes (January)
 - Comments on briefing book due January 28
- Adopt public participation and outreach approach (January)
- Discuss polling questions

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Countywide Activities* (January – March)

*Steering Committee/TAWG/CAWG

- Begin discussion on SCS and how it is incorporated into the CWTP and land use scenarios (February/March)
- Adopt Performance Measures (March)
- Continue discussion on transportation needs, potential projects and begin discussion on financial forecasts and committed project policy
- Issue direction on call for projects (late February)
- Conduct public meetings/outreach (January – March)
- Conduct polling (February)

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Countywide Activities 2010 Retreat

- Alameda CTC Board Retreat Summary (see handout)
 - What should Alameda County look like from a housing, jobs and transportation perspective as we plan for the future?
 - Six focused questions in four breakout sessions
 - Alignment of local goals with regional/state climate change goals
 - Key policies to help local jurisdictions meet those goals
 - Identification of projects/programs that should be considered as local and regional policies



Countywide Activities: 2010 Retreat Key Themes

- Get incentives right:
 - Work is already happening in the jurisdictions and many are already sustainability leaders
 - Financially reward cities that engage in “good” behavior
 - Revise allocation formulas
 - Develop model ordinances or guidelines that jurisdictions can use
 - Streamline permitting and revise CEQA for model projects
 - Address new BAAQMD rules that appear to undermine TOD efforts



Countywide Activities: 2010 Retreat Key Themes

- The private sector must be at the table.
 - Transportation and land use planning and reform must be placed in larger context that accounts for economic growth and jobs
 - Ensure balance is struck between meeting climate change goals and providing jobs
 - Private sector can play a role in innovative solutions and ensuring their implementation
 - Private sector can contribute to leveraging funding to expand programs and services, such as shuttles and fee transit passes



Countywide Activities: 2010 Retreat Key Themes

- Land use reform is not just about housing.
 - TOD needs to be about creating regional destinations
 - TOD needs to emphasize a balance between transit, housing, retail, employment opportunities and civic uses



Countywide Activities: 2010 Retreat Key Themes

- Need to provide rich and diverse transportation choices
 - The more housing/job choices that can be provided, the more likely we are to meet regional goals by providing transit to all parts of the county, reducing the trip duration of those that need to drive, and making transit competitive
 - The viability of each mode depends on efficiency and convenience (e.g., must be competitive)
 - Alameda County should work with MTC and the transit sustainability study to ensure outcomes can be implemented and supported



Countywide Activities: 2010 Retreat Key Themes

- Whatever is built, it must also be operated and maintained
 - This was universally identified as an issue across all Planning Areas
 - Consider legislative changes to prioritize operating and maintenance costs
 - Consider modifying capital investment policies and funding criteria to emphasize “fix it first”



Countywide Activities: 2010 Retreat Key Themes

- New technologies must continue to be developed and utilized
 - New technologies are presently underutilized and have potential to reduce congestion and generate revenues
 - Areas to apply new technologies include:
 - Freeway and road management
 - Transit
 - Parking management



Countywide Activities: 2010 Retreat Key Themes

- Project and program priorities must emphasize all modes
 - A wide variety of projects and programs were discussed that were identified as high priority
 - Each planning area addressed multiple modes
 - Some of these projects and programs are highlighted in the next two slides:



Countywide Activities: 2010 Retreat Projects

- Dumbarton Rail
- I-580/I-680 connector/flyover
- I-880, I-580, I-680 Express Lanes
- Irvington BART station
- I-880/SR 84 Interchange
- BART to Livermore
- Bay Trail network gaps
- East Bay Greenway
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge over Alameda Creek
- Fill pedestrian/bicycle network gaps on local streets



Countywide Activities: 2010 Retreat Programs

- Expanded Safe Routes to School
- Countywide traffic calming, especially near schools
- School buses and free transit passes for students
- ITS and truck technology
- Complete streets
- Employer based shuttles
- 511, freeway towing patrol and other maintenance programs
- Paratransit funding tied to improved efficiency
- Expanded real time transit information
- Countywide crossing guard program



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Questions