

**Alameda County & Cities Climate Forum
January 23, 2009**

**Land Use Work Group
Minutes**

Executive Sponsor: Anu Natarajan, Council Member, City of Fremont
Regional Agency: Ken Kirkey, ABAG
Facilitator: Ryan Bell, Alameda County
Volunteer Scribe: Crissy Tsai
Staff Support: Howard Lee, Alameda County

Headlines

- Bay Area first in the state to achieve regional government
- Bay Area a cool place again
- No more traffic – 10 minutes to work
- Last big box retail center closes doors
- Ecotopia achieved, let's all have a beer
- Union City intermodal a success, BART ridership soars
- Alameda County CMA disbands
- New development to focus on people, not cars
- Bay Area bicycle transit exceeds 50%
- VMT is reduced by 20% in Alameda County
- BART extension to San Jose exceeds all ridership expectations
- 100 former google CEO smiles (?)
- Bay Area highway to bikeway opens
- New regional government prohibits new development if inaccessible to public transit
- Gasoline powered automobile museum opens
- Google satellite office anchors new mixed use office
- 20% of San Leandro's residents bike to work
- Al Gore buys house in Fremont, lauds city land use efforts

Summary:

Mode shift
Alternative Transportation

Brainstorming

Priorities:

- Youth need more recreation activities
- Involve infrastructure people in general plan meetings (public works and planning need to be on same page)
- Coordinate effort to change tax code
 - Can't rely on sales tax (encourages big box stores)
 - Focus on freeways because need to draw regional buyers
- Create follow-up groups after today

Other issues:

- Share information on where the money is and how to get it. Give feedback to funders.
- Push for aggressive countywide green building ordinance (DOE EIA). Coordinate with all cities. Non-compete clause for Alameda County
- When you engage the community and have the money, the process goes faster. Demand more funding for planning departments from development or cars.
- Add public health and greenhouse gases to general plan
- CEQA reform is not an efficient tool
- Have like agencies with regional agencies overseeing meeting/discussions
- Look at role of compact development/land use. People need to realize how hard targets will be to achieve
- Need to educate and reach out to communities about infill development.
- Proactively work with public health/trans/other groups to find solutions on a regional level
- Connect people and communities between BART stations (bicycles, shuttles)
- Zoning
- Technology to fix problems

How We Can Collaborate

Top Priorities for Action

- How to comment on SB375
 - coordinate issues and response
- Smart parking planning with city planning directors

- Program: Cool Neighbors (transportation demand management)
- Need to augment transit in coordination with land use (to facilitate alternative commutes) (e.g., BRT)

Other Issues

- How to conduct public engagement to accept higher density?
- Green business ordinance city/county-wide
- How to use the stimulus package?
- Electric vehicle planning... where the plug in infrastructure will be located

Top Priorities for Process

Agreement to use existing meetings rather than convening this group

Important to involve key stakeholders across the disciplines: a more holistic, interdisciplinary approach bringing all the experts to the table- not just planners or engineers. Perhaps Transform could help facilitate this

Other options:

- Feed into the existing regional SB 375 development discussions (3rd Fridays of the month via Joint Policy Committee) – discuss framework
- E-mail group to share ideas
- Ad hoc – focused topic area groups – with a different set of appropriate players depending on the topic
- Regular meetings (less liked)
- Don't make the commitment open ended – focused and targeted forum for exchanging ideas
- Involve young people
- Share ideas and a letter from each meeting / group get together that outlines the groups position / recommendations
- Other related groups: CA League of Cities, SoCo Green Building, Planning Director

Next Steps

Chris Bazar (Alameda County), Garrett Fitzgerald (City of Oakland) and TransForm were interested in talking on the phone about the potential for working together in the future. Stuart Cohen agreed that an intern from Transform could give several hours to help coordinate.

By putting together topic areas, then staff can self-organize based on the topic and who is the most appropriate person to be involved. Also important to ensure that planning directors and others discuss these topics during regular meetings.

Participants

Tikisa	Anderson	Union City	Planning Commissioner
Chris	Bazar	Alameda County	Director
Ryan	Bell	Alameda County	Sustainability Project Manager
Stuart	Cohen	TransForm	Executive Director
Garrett	Fitzgerald	City of Oakland	Sustainability Coordinator
Barbara	Halliday	City of Hayward	Council Member
Bruce	Kern	East Bay EDA	Executive Director
Doug	Kimsey	MTC	Planning Director
Ken	Kirkey	ABAG	Planning Director
Nathan	Landau	AC Transit	Senior Planner
Howard	Lee	Alameda County	Planner
Joan	Malloy	Union City	Economic & Community Development Department
Anu	Natarajan	City of Fremont	Council Member
Jeri	Ram	City of Dublin	Community Dev. Director
Steve	Riley	City of Livermore	Principal Planner
Dan	Schoenholz	City of Fremont	Policy and Special Projects Manager
Avalon	Schultz	Union City	Associate Planner
Crissy	Tsai	Volunteer	Volunteer