

California Transportation Commission

**Regional Transportation Plan Guidelines
2010 Update Subcommittee**

Housing and Land Use Workgroup

**Teleconference Meeting Notes – Summary
Tuesday, November 10, 2009 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

Facilitator: Rusty Selix, California Association of Councils of Government.

Welcome/Introductions/Meeting Purpose:

Rusty Selix provided a welcome and introductions for the meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to address the key concerns of the workgroup members relative to sections 4.41 through 4.42 of the October 26, 2009 RTP Guidelines Working Draft. It was decided that the workgroup members would address their key issues by referencing the working draft, the comment table, and the language suggested by various workgroup members as provided with the meeting agenda.

Key Comments:

Section 4.41 Contents of a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS):

General

- Should leave to the MPO/RTPA/Locals to define what is meant by “internally consistent”
- Make sure to not use the term “shall” with reference to internal consistency.
- RHNA allocation has to be consistent with the SCS or vice-versa?
- SCS is to accommodate growth over the RTP period at all income levels.

SCS Overview/Background

- Paragraph 1 – The SCS is designed to encourage regional and local agencies to adopt **feasible** policies and make **feasible** investments that will reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions.
- Paragraph 1 – State statute requires the SCS to be part of the RTP and policies within the SCS shall be consistent with **the other elements of the RTP.** ~~policies and estimated funds available identified within the RTP.~~
- Paragraph 1 – The SCS is one of the primary long-range planning tools to **target transportation investments....** (CSAC/League/APA to provide suggested rewording of this language subsequent to the meeting) ~~be used by the MPOs and local government to help provide an outline of how and where future development should occur in the region.~~

SCS Contents – Regional Housing Needs

- Could word that there are a number of ways and the suggested method is not the only way.
- There must be some performance measures. For example, should demonstrate a certain level of multifamily densities.
- It is important to provide some ideas on how to comply with this requirement.
- EJ is done by MPOs on how to provide equity already so not necessary to describe in the guidelines.
- Several MPOs suggested that the suggested language should provide examples of how to achieve this but should not place additional requirements on the MPOs.

Resource Areas and Farmland:

- The handout of suggested language from the Nature Conservancy was discussed for best practice considerations.

Role of Existing General Plans and Spheres of Influence

- Need to restate wording relative to “going beyond existing plans” with recognition that need to have reasonable assumptions.
- How do we use current planning assumptions to address?
- While consultation with LAFCO and general plans is done, when we start to define what is reasonable we are going to far.
- We should state that the assumptions shall be reasonable.

Identifying Land Uses in the SCS

- At the Modeling Subcommittee meeting held earlier in the day, it was decided that performance measures would be included to tie to the 4D’s. This language was provided by Caltrans and will replace the list of bullets in this section to be consistent with the Modeling Chapter.
- Rephrase “...should strive to create support and consensus for the SCS that will assist...”

Coordination of SCS with the Regional Housing Need Allocation Process

- This section should reference to the RTP Sequencing Flowchart.
- Internal consistency by default means use the same forecast for RHNA as for the RTP.
- Housing elements should be identified as those adopted and in compliance; adopted but not rezoned; and not yet adopted by the SCS would assume the RHNA.
- Umbrella language that Cities comply with Housing Element law should be sufficient. HCD disagrees/CSAC & League see overlap.

Reconciliation of SCS Land Use Assumptions

- Merge the role of existing plans, land use assumptions, etc., and housing with respect to forecasted development pattern and delete the first two paragraphs on page 119.
- HCD disagrees with proposed deletion of paragraphs on page 119.

Addressing Regional Transportation Needs in the SCS

- First bullet equals induced demand?
- Fehr & Peers suggested language for this section and a question was raised as to why this language is not included.
- First two bullets should be deleted and Amanda Eaken will provide Caltrans with replacement language. Workgroup would like to see multiple suggestions and then take a vote.
- Question was raised why this section is needed as it is not tied to statute. Suggested striking this section as intent is not clear.
- Should reference transportation in the SCS to the RTAC report and the modeling section.
- Fourth bullet should provide examples on how to address.

Section 4.42 - Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)
Process, Review and Approval

Social Equity/Environmental Justice Issues

- Move this section to another section – public participation and/or modeling.
- To the extent empirical evidence exists, SCS should take into account Social Equity and Environmental Justice.
- To the extent you can account for and implement measures to account for social equity and environmental justice, those are best practices.
- Housing California will provide suggested language and placement for this section.

Next Steps:

- Comments are due to the October 26, 2009 working draft today, November 10, 2009. Caltrans will incorporate the comments received and issue another draft on November 23, 2009. This working draft will be brought before the California Transportation Commission as an information item at the December Commission meeting.
- The next workgroup meeting will be scheduled for the week of December 7, 2009.
- The workgroup suggested that the RTP Sequencing (RHNA integration) & RTAC Coordination (Social Equity/Environmental Justice/Housing/etc.) Workgroups be reconvened to address key guidance.
- The meeting adjourned.