

California Transportation Commission

**Regional Transportation Plan Guidelines
2010 Update Subcommittee**

RTP Transportation Workgroup

Teleconference Meeting Notes – Summary

Monday September 14, 2009 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Facilitator: La Nae Van Valen, Caltrans

Summary of Key Comments:

The RTP Transportation Workgroup (Workgroup) was convened to determine how the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) should address regional transportation needs in relation to reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from cars and light duty trucks.

La Nae Van Valen, Caltrans, and Susan Bransen, CTC, welcomed Workgroup members and thanked them for their participation in this effort. The purpose and scope of this Workgroup is derived from SB 375 and Government Code 65080 which requires that within the SCS, the RTP must “identify a transportation network to service the transportation needs of the region.”

The Draft SCS Chapter 3.40 was distributed to the Workgroup via email prior to the meeting. Page 10 of the document contains the Transportation Needs section. La Nae outlined the main objectives for the Workgroup meeting:

1. Identify comments, language and links to best practices that can be incorporated into the Transportation Needs section of the Draft SCS Chapter.
2. Determine how best to incorporate policies located in the 2008 RTP Guidelines Addendum into the 2010 Updated RTP Guidelines.
3. Identify any other transportation issue areas that should be addressed in the SCS Chapter.

Workgroup members provided numerous comments regarding how to update the Transportation Needs section in the Draft SCS Chapter and identified other issue areas within the RTP Guidelines. Comments were noted by staff and are summarized below:

1. Patricia Chen, LA Metro, requested that the SCS Chapter reference the subparagraph (K) provision of Government Code 65080 regarding project exemptions. She offered to provide specific language.
2. David Schonbrunn, TRANSDEF, suggested that the policies contained in the 2008 Addendum be brought forward as a specific section of the RTP Guidelines entitled Transportation Demand Management, he would also like to see information and links provided regarding Smart Growth.

3. David Schonbrunn, TRANSDEF, would like to see a sentence regarding reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled added to the first paragraph of the Transportation Needs section of the Draft SCS Chapter.
4. Ryan Kuo, SCAG, would like to see more guidance provided on internal consistency. He offered to provide SCAG's specific questions in writing.
5. Wendy Alfsen, California Walks, commented that induced demand generated by congestion relief should be considered and modeled. She would also like to see land use patterns and transportation system design which promote connectivity mentioned as strategies to reduce VMT and GHG emissions. She also discussed the status of existing projects currently in the RTP and if they can be amended.
6. Amanda Eaken, NRDC, commented that creating new land use patterns and transportation investments that reduce the need to drive (TDM) is a common goal that RTAC members are addressing in the recommendation report to ARB. Several other Workgroup members agreed that the RTAC report may contain good strategies and policies to include in the RTP Guidelines.

La Nae Van Valen, Caltrans, concluded the meeting by asking all Workgroup members to please send any language, comments and suggestions for best practices to Caltrans staff. The Workgroup members discussed the need for a September 21st teleconference, and it was determined to keep it tentatively scheduled unless the Workgroup was advised otherwise.

(Based upon the substantial progress made at this Workgroup meeting and to adequately incorporate the Workgroup's comments/links received, the September 21st teleconference is cancelled. Caltrans staff is working to incorporate comments received into the Draft SCS Chapter and RTP Guidelines for distribution to the Workgroup. The next RTP Transportation Workgroup teleconference will be scheduled as needed.)

Action Item Summary:

- Caltrans staff will incorporate comments received into the Draft SCS Chapter and distribute the updated section to the Workgroup for review and comment.
- Caltrans staff will incorporate links for best practices into the Transportation Needs section of the Draft SCS as received.
- Caltrans staff will integrate the policies located in the 2008 RTP Guidelines Addendum into the full Draft Updated RTP Guidelines.

Meeting Materials Provided:

- Transportation Workgroup September 14th Meeting Agenda
- Transportation Workgroup Member List
- California Statutes Impacting RTP Development
- September 8th RTP Guidelines Draft SCS Chapter 3.40 with Comments