



**Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee**

May 27, 2009

**SB 575 (Steinberg) Local Planning: Housing Element**

**Issue:** SB 575 (Steinberg) is clean up legislation for Senate Bill 375 (Chaptered 2008) to allow the Department of Housing and Community Development to adjust the deadlines associated with housing elements and require local governments to review their housing elements to be consistent with regional transportation plans.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee recommends that the Board support these clean up amendments.

**Discussion:** To date, the serious discussions related to refinement of SB 575 have all been technical and clean up in nature. The current version of the bill (attached), as explained in the bill analysis (attached) clarifies some timing issues related to updates to regional housing plans and local housing elements. SACOG legal counsel, Kirk Trost, and Executive Director McKeever have been involved in working out this language so that it retains needed flexibility for regions and their local governments, while still providing certainty to the process.

It is possible that there will be additional changes in print by the time the committee meets that refine the public and local government involvement processes required by the bill. The changes that have been considered to date are also of a clean up nature, but we will bring any additional amendments to the committee. SB 575 would also address some specific timing language that the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) has been working on, which does not affect SACOG.

Finally, this bill has also become a vehicle to clean up an open meeting requirement for the State's Strategic Growth Council, established by passage of SB 732 last year. Staff sees no reason for SACOG to object to including this language in the bill.

SB 575 was last amended on May 4. Last action was in Senate Appropriations Committee on May 18 and is currently awaiting third reading in the Senate. There is no support or opposition noted on record for this bill.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever  
Executive Director

MM:RS:pm

Attachment

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