



SACOG Board of Directors

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Meeting Date: 9/20/2018

Agenda Item No.: 2018-

September-16.

Subject: Transit-Oriented Development Activities Supporting Blueprint Implementation (Est. time: 0 minutes)

Receive and File

Prepared by: Jennifer Hargrove

Approved by: James Corless

Attachments: No

1. Issue:

This item is to inform the board on activities SACOG is engaging in to support transit-oriented development (TOD).

2. Recommendation:

None, this item is for information only.

3. Background/Analysis:

Transit-oriented development, particularly near transit rail stations, is a critical strategy in achieving the many quality of life benefits of the Blueprint and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS), including reducing vehicle miles traveled, increasing transportation choice, and cleaning the air. This is because there is a strong connection between land use patterns, travel behavior, and air quality. Compared to the balance of the region, people who live or work within ¼ mile of a transit station take transit at a rate 8 to 9 times higher and walk or bike at a rate 2 to 3 times higher. Higher density housing and employment are one of the touchstones for making a TOD work. Walkability is another key factor in encouraging transit use and creating successful TODs. Land in close proximity to rail stations is limited and, given the superior transportation and air quality performance of these neighborhoods, land use and design decisions in these areas are critical for the region to meet federal and state air quality and greenhouse gas targets, and to achieve the many benefits of the MTP/SCS outlined above. Additionally, light rail is a regional investment, and the region's ability to maintain the current system and expand it for more riders in the future is dependent on Sacramento Regional Transit District's (SacRT) ability to achieve greater farebox revenues. Transit-oriented growth adjacent to the stations is a primary strategy for increasing ridership and revenues.

4. Discussion/Analysis:

Outside of Sacramento's downtown core, only a small number of TOD projects have been

realized near light rail and passenger rail stations in recent years. Similar to the work staff is doing to research barriers to housing production overall, staff is working on identifying the challenges and potential solutions to getting more TOD in our region, near the transit rail stations. Work underway includes:

- Partnering with the cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento to develop a TOD toolkit. The development of the toolkit is funded by a Federal Transit Administration TOD Pilot Planning grant awarded to SACOG and the two cities. It is focused on tools a public agency can use to enable TOD near the future streetcar alignment; however, the toolkit has applicability to any rail-oriented TOD.
- Partnering with SacRT to develop a TOD Action Plan. The Senate Bill 1 planning grant awarded to SACOG and SacRT for SacRT's route optimization project, SacRT Forward, includes funding and activities for a TOD Action Plan. Work on this will start next year and will be a collaborative effort with local jurisdictions in the SacRT service area, to look at how to better support and promote TOD.
- Coordinating regularly with SacRT and the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) on TOD projects and issues, and working with member agencies on TOD topics as needed.
- Co-sponsoring a ULI national Advisory Services Panel focused on how to catalyze equitable transit-oriented development around the Florin and Meadowview light rail stations. This panel is being planned by SACOG in partnership with ULI Sacramento, SacRT, SMAQMD, the City of Sacramento, the County of Sacramento, Congresswoman Matsui's office, and a steering committee of partner organizations in the study area. The panel is scheduled for September 23-28, 2018.

5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

This program is budgeted in SACOG's adopted Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Overall Work Plan (OWP) and budget.

6. This staff report aligns with the following SACOG Work Plan Goals:

3. Assist Economic Development Strategies