



Land Use & Natural Resources Committee

January 31, 2013

Committee Charge

Issue: Adoption of the Land Use & Natural Resources Committee Charge and review of a draft work plan.

Recommendation: That the Land Use & Natural Resources Committee recommend that the Board adopt the attached charge for the Land Use & Natural Resources Committee, and provide input on the attached sub-elements of the overall work program that would be overseen by the committee.

Discussion: Per the request of the Board Chair, staff has drafted a charge for the SACOG Land Use & Natural Resources Committee. The attached committee charge includes guidance and oversight of policies and projects drawn from the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy for 2035 (MTP/SCS) and the Overall Work Plan (OWP).

The MTP/SCS Guiding Principles that would be the principal focus of the committee's charge are the following:

- *Smart Land Use:* Design a transportation system to support good growth patterns, including increased housing and transportation options, focusing more growth inward and improving the economic viability of rural areas.
- *Environmental Quality and Sustainability:* Minimize direct and indirect transportation impacts on the environment for cleaner air and natural resource protection.

Within the OWP, the following agency activities would be included within the committee's charge: monitoring greenhouse gas and air quality emissions standards and regional performance; developing and maintaining tools associated with land use monitoring and forecasting activities; administering the Community Design Grant program; managing the agency responsibility for Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) functions; continuing research and grant work associated with the agency's Rural Urban Connections Strategy (RUCS); and developing the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) and support activities for member jurisdictions in the development of their housing elements.

New to the committee charge in 2013 is the expansion of the resource issues to include monitoring and discussing flood and water considerations for transportation and land use impacts.

Attached is a full description of the proposed committee charge.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

MM:RS:DS:EJ:ts
Attachment

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**SACRAMENTO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
LAND USE & NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMITTEE CHARGE**

Purpose: The Land Use & Natural Resources Committee shall develop recommendations for the full SACOG Board of Directors relative to issues regarding land use and all natural resources issues, including air quality, climate change, water resources, flood protection, and open space.

Activities: Activities of the committee may include, but are not limited to:

- Overseeing the Community Design Grant program, a competitive regional funding program providing incentives for smart growth implementation, including monitoring of awarded grants for timely benchmarks and deliverables.
- Acting as recommending committee for the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) functions for Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties and for developing the Airport Land Use compatibility plans (ALUCPs) for areas around the airports working with cities and counties to ensure consistency determinations.
- Overseeing the regional air quality plans for criteria pollutants (ozone, PM-10, PM-2.5, carbon monoxide) and the resulting air quality conformity analyses for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy (MTP/SCS) and Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Programs (MTIPs).
- Providing guidance and oversight of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), an eight-year plan of projected jurisdictional housing needs by household income, and supporting member jurisdictions in the development of their housing elements.
- Guiding the Rural-Urban Connections Strategy (RUCS), including program activity associated with multiple state and federal grants (e.g., California Strategic Growth Council Grant).
- Guiding implementation measures included in the MTP/SCS that will help mitigate climate change and other environmental impacts.
- Analyzing transportation, air quality, natural resources, and land use issues and their inter-relationships within our region for potential negative impacts that could inadvertently be created, identifying opportunities for improvements in these areas, and serving as a clearinghouse of ideas for SACOG members.
- Serving as a regional forum for discussing air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, energy conservation, climate change, and other natural resources issues, and serving as a regional clearinghouse for ways to address these issues.
- Monitoring greenhouse gas and air quality emissions standards and regional performance, including development and maintenance of tools associated with land use monitoring and forecasting activities.

- Convening key stakeholders in discussions about natural resource issues and policy interactions with the MTP/SCS and RUCS, including the development of a regional open space plan, as identified in MTP/SCS.
- Discussing and supporting policies to encourage access to water resources and coordination of flood protection considerations associated with land use and transportation infrastructure planning, including the development of workshops to provide the Board with background and potential strategies flood issues.
- Monitoring and identifying the impacts of changes to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or FEMA regulations that may impact development in communities subject to flooding.
- Discussing and supporting local agency requests for critical levee improvement projects, for authorization under the Water Resources Development Act, and for changes to mitigate the impacts of the National Flood Insurance Program on unique industries and economic clusters in the Sacramento region.
- Participating in regional coalitions related to water resources concerns associated with the Delta and Delta watershed.

Membership: The current chair of the SACOG Board of Directors shall appoint the members of the Land Use & Natural Resources Committee.

Term of Committee Members: Members of the Land Use & Natural Resources Committee shall serve for a term of one year.

Officers: The current chair of the SACOG Board of Directors shall designate one of the committee members to serve as committee chair, and members to serve as vice chairs.