



## Land Use & Natural Resources Committee

Meeting Date: April 4, 2019

Agenda Item No. 7

### Senate Bill 2 Planning Grants

Receive and File

**Prepared by:** Dov Kadin

**Approved by:** Clint Holtzen

**Attachments:** No

#### 1. Issue:

Senate Bill 2 planning grants are available to local agencies beginning in early April and the state will accept applications over an eight-month period. These non-competitive grants are available to pay for planning activities that accelerate housing production.

#### 2. Recommendation:

None; this item is for information only.

#### 3. Background/Analysis:

A new, non-competitive, planning grant created by Senate Bill 2 (SB 2) is now available to help cities and counties fund housing planning activities. As part of the 2017 Housing Package, the state legislature passed SB 2, which creates a new funding source for addressing housing and homelessness challenges. The first year of revenue dedicates 50 percent of funds for planning grants to local governments and is focused on accelerating housing production. The State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is managing the framework for these grants. More information about the planning grants, as well as application materials, are available on [HCD's website](https://bit.ly/2JLJhRo) (<https://bit.ly/2JLJhRo>).

The SACOG Housing Policy Toolkit, which staff presented to the Land Use & Natural Resources Committee last December and is available on the SACOG website, includes a menu of policy measures that, according to HCD, “align well with the SB 2 program objectives” and “include a variety of measures that would be eligible for funding.” Beginning in April, the state will make SB 2 Planning Grants available for an 8-month over-the-counter period. This means that the grants are not competitive and any eligible activity can receive funding.

#### 4. Discussion/Analysis:

SACOG is currently undergoing an update to its Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) that will establish an ambitious, but achievable land use and transportation plan predicated, in part, on robust housing development in infill and established communities. The land use assumptions of the plan represent a shift from the housing outcomes we have seen in the past and will require a variety of implementation strategies. SACOG is committed to providing member agencies with the tools to help make that future a reality and the non-competitive SB 2 planning grants offer an opportunity to fund these policy changes. SACOG staff has been and will continue to work with member agency staff over the coming months to identify which policies are best suited for each jurisdiction and eligible for SB 2 planning

grants. It is SACOG staff's intention to ensure that as many member agencies as possible are able to define an eligible SB 2 activity and receive funding.

**5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:**

This project was budgeted in SACOG's adopted Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Overall Work Program and budget.

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

3 - Assist Local Economic Development Strategies