



Land Use & Natural Resources Committee

November 26, 2014

2016 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities (MTP/SCS) Strategy Outreach Update

Issue: SACOG is continuing with outreach for the MTP/SCS update.

Recommendation: None, this is for information only.

Discussion: As part of SACOG's three-pronged approach (public workshops, phone polling, and Sounding Board) for public input on the 2016 MTP/SCS update, staff conducted a Sounding Board meeting on November 14. Attachment A is the meeting summary and participant meeting evaluation results.

The Sounding Board is a group of cross-sector leaders providing expert feedback and input on the issues and topics associated with the update of the MTP/SCS. The group was presented with the results of the phone poll and public workshop questionnaire, an update on the progress of the development of the UrbanFootprint Health module, the research agenda for public health metrics, and an in-depth presentation on the framework for the draft preferred scenario.

Staff will continue to convene this group quarterly to provide input to both the Board and staff.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

MM:MH:gg
Attachment

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2016 MTP/SCS Sounding Board Meeting

November 14, 2014

Meeting Location: North Natomas Library

Meeting Attendees:

ECOS	Economic & Planning Systems (EPS)
League of Women Voters	VCS Consulting/Brookfield Land Co.
Sacramento Housing Alliance	Breathe California
Health Education Council	Wade & Associates
Sacramento Metro Chamber	WALKSacramento
Resources for Independent Living	

Meeting Agenda

- Update on Public Health Research: UrbanFootprint & Health Metrics
- Public Outreach Update: Workshop & Phone Poll Results
- Framework for Draft Preferred Scenario
- Next Steps & Meeting Evaluation

Meeting Summary

Staff provided meeting participants with a summary of the board actions and informational presentations related to the 2016 MTP/SCS update that have occurred since the group last met in September 2014. Staff described how the input of the sounding board is one of three components of public input the Board will consider as they update the MTP/SCS. Participants were encouraged to communicate to staff if there were any additional concerns or questions not addressed during the meeting. Meeting participants were provided a copy of this meeting summary and asked to review it in advance of staff's reporting to the SACOG policy committees.

Discussion Themes and Comments

Update on Public Health Research: UrbanFootprint & Health Metrics

Theme: Monitoring Health Outcome Data vs. Forecasting Health Outcomes

- We understand that health outcomes are hard to project. Can you start to track growth from a baseline set of metrics? For example, access to healthy foods, chronic disease, access to transit, parks, and other essential services?
- Have you considered the MTC methodology of measuring Active Transportation?
- When you measure bicycling, it is important to distinguish between bicycling for transportation compared to recreation.
- Understanding forecasting and measuring health metrics is a challenge, vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction/increase alone is a health metric/proxy. You should include current and projected VMT as a health metric.
- Have you talked to parks districts about monitoring for recreation bike trips?

Theme: Land Use and Public Health

- Are you monitoring General Plans and Specific Plans?
- An important consideration when discussing agricultural land conversion is understanding what happened to the formerly thriving agricultural economy of the region.
- Are you looking at the plant-based design improvements that can improve public health and be implemented through this plan?

Theme: Toxic Air Contaminants and Respiratory Impacts

- Respiratory effects are very important, but I understand the lack of reliable data. Your focus on physical activity will take us far- you are blazing the trail for this work.
- Digging deep for future research on toxic air contaminants is a good approach.
- With the work you are required to do to arrive at metrics for NOx and PM2.5 measurements, it seems like you have some air quality outputs. Could you connect with health indicators locally to make any correlations?

Theme: Affordable Housing and Public Health

- It is important to understand affordable housing and health impacts. There are a lot of issues related to location and access.
- New affordable housing is very environmentally friendly, to the degree the specific impacts from subsidized affordable housing is really worth looking at.
- In terms of respiratory issues, the disabled community is very vulnerable. Affordable housing next to high-frequency transit, even if data isn't there, is too important not to look at.
- How to consider where is affordable housing going to be? Housing is a health issue; don't put on a back burner.

Theme: UrbanFootprint Application

- Is point of the UrbanFootprint module for public health advocates to go online and look at regional data, rather than looking at California Health Interview Survey?

Theme: Behavior and Education in Public Health

- Recognizing that we are dealing with today, but if you should look back 50 year to a national program at a high school in Carmichael. The program produced amazing results on health, in part due to attitude and culture change as well as land form.

Public Outreach Update: Workshop & Phone Poll Results

Theme: Considerations for Interpretation of Data

- When you ask regional questions, I think most people still localize their responses.
- Can you correlate answers to if the respondent answered walk/bike as main mode vs. drive to show "not far" in terms of distance questions?
- You will have a lot of weight on congestion and road condition issues, if a lot of respondents are drivers.
- To what level of geographic location can you sort the data?

Theme: Participant Observations and Reactions to Results

- It is interesting the mode split between 2007 and 2014. It appears that most recently people are mixing modes for trips.
- It is surprising that people rated biking and walking distance as good.
- Even in suburban communities most master planned communities have intention to have access to walking, biking, and parks.
- It would be interesting to find out zip of where they live and zip of they work and type of job they have.

Theme: Willingness to Pay

- I was in a focus group for STA. They seemed to have a city vs. county war on who benefited from the tax—not sure how it plays out. Most people will pay *if* they get the benefit.
- It seems like you were looking for tone, if you were looking for real tax readiness you would do something different.
- I'm struck by this information. People say they won't pay a dollar more for education so these results seem out of whack with what you hear about what people say they are willing to pay. (Willingness to pay per household question)
- It is easier for someone to say they will pay a penny more in sales tax because they can't relate it to a monthly budget.

Framework for Draft Preferred Scenario

Theme: Assumptions that inform into the framework and travel demand model

- Did you do a full model run to provide the data in the staff report?
- With the Farmland Mapping & Monitoring Program, do you include all the types of farmland?
- For your vernal pools analysis, what are you counting as impacts to vernal pools.
- I am curious as to why if you are looking at land use, that you aren't looking at housing element inventories. Housing elements will reflect changes sooner than what the data you use will.
- Are there points where what is modeled doesn't match in roads?

Theme: Scenario Results

- Regarding bike lanes for each scenario, the budget is consistent over all three scenarios but you show expenditures going up—how do you analyze that?
- Most if not all new master planned communities have bicycle and pedestrian plans included covered by developer costs. I don't understand the logic showing less of increase in bicycle lane miles in Scenario 3, when we know the costs for infill and retrofit is much higher.

Theme: Framework Funding and Expenditures

- The budget for local funds used for local and/or collector streets, is there squishing there?
- Will a fix-it-first context simply replace and/or improve the system as is, or will it consider changing the character?
- Would you say local funds for infrastructure be more important moving forward?

Meeting Evaluation

RANKING: 1. Strongly Disagree 2. Disagree 3. Neutral 4. Agree 5. Strongly Agree

This meeting was well organized.

Average: 4.8

The length of the meeting was appropriate to get through the material.

Average: 4.4

I was able to express issues and/or concerns about the UrbanFootprint Health module.

Average: 4.4

I was able to express issues and/or concerns about the research on public health metrics/health impacts.

Average: 4.4

I was able to express issues and/or concerns about the draft preferred scenario framework for the MTP/SCS/

Average: 4

I was able to express issues and/or concerns about the results of the phone poll and workshop questionnaire results.

Average: 4.6

I understand the next major steps in the 2016 MTP/SCS update process, and how my input is being considered.

Average: 4.4

What should be done next time to make the presentations more effective?

I just need to do my homework.

Additional Comments

The meeting was long, but necessary.

Loved getting the framework document to review in advance.