



## **Land Use & Natural Resources Committee**

July 30, 2015

### **Update on Technical Assistance to Local Governments via SGC3 Grant**

**Issue:** This is an update on the technical assistance program SACOG has been offering to local jurisdictions through a state-funded grant.

**Recommendation:** This item is for information only.

**Discussion:** With a grant from the state's Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Planning Grant Program in 2014, SACOG received \$885,186 to help implement the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) in Centers, Corridors and Established Communities. Slightly more than half of those funds are being used to provide direct technical assistance to some of the 28 cities and counties in the region. The assistance will also allow jurisdictions within the region to share experiences and interact with one another on common challenges. The assistance will come in the form of professional services provided directly by SACOG staff and/or by its consultant, Portland State University's Urban Sustainability Accelerator Program (USA).

SACOG received notice to proceed with grant funds in January 2015. All 22 cities and 6 counties in the SACOG region were contacted to solicit interest in receiving technical assistance. After discussing specific projects and activities that met the grant objectives, SACOG and USA staff visited the staffs at all interested jurisdictions to discuss potential scopes of work in the first quarter of 2015. Since then, about a dozen jurisdictions have identified projects that qualified for assistance. SACOG/USA worked with each of those jurisdictions to write a scope of work, and initiate assistance. Some examples of assistance include:

- City of Davis – working with the city and Davis Joint Unified School District, the assistance will generate conceptual redevelopment ideas for the district's headquarter property for a multi-use facility.
- City of Woodland – working with the property owner of a catalyst site on Main Street, the assistance will focus on innovative development concepts for the site, including a mixture of student and/or senior housing with other mixed uses and transit service.
- City of Citrus Heights and others – the city received technical assistance in the form a public workshop with USA consultant Michele Reeves of Civilis Consulting. Ms. Reeves provided examples and ideas for the Auburn Boulevard revitalization efforts. The cities of Colfax and Winters, and the Esparto Community in Yolo County also participated in Ms. Reeves' presentations. Other communities are discussing bringing her in for similar workshops.

Although most of the technical assistance resources have been committed to jurisdictions that requested in the early stages of the program, some opportunities may remain for any other jurisdictions that request it.

Approved by:

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