



Shared Services & New Initiatives Task Force

Thursday, August 15, 2013

Summary Notes

AGENDA

1. Concept Proposal Early Actions

1-A. Travel Demand Forecasting & General Plan Services (Mr. Griesenbeck)

Mr. Griesenbeck provided a staff summary of SACOG's work with City of Woodland on their general plan update and Sacramento County with large traffic study focusing on the Jackson Corridor at their request.

Mr. McKeever noted on another project, the Southeast Connector project, that SACOG staff held a free form discussion about the standardization of travel demand forecasting. The indicated policy assumptions must be directed by local jurisdiction staff and elected officials. There have been some prior concerns regarding the differences between the EIR and the MTP. The Connector Project has been through the environmental phase, which typically requires environmental consideration for "worst case analysis" method under the imperatives of CEQA or at a fully built out scenario with all the mitigation requests and potential scenarios.

Growth estimates are not accurately titled "forecasts," but more accurately "growth estimates." Mr. McKeever noted that these are compared with the SACOG MTP/SCS, which must include a much more constrained set of assumptions. There is a growth forecast requirement for the MTP in order to meet the federal fiscal constraint requirements for reasonable revenue assumptions. SACOG is working on how to make the transition from the worst case environmental impact to the financially constrained view. Project scope and cost assumptions methodology will be an upcoming Board discussion.

Task Force comments included:

- Appreciation for the efforts to assist with a number of factors including right of way, public interests, and jurisdiction partners
- Concern for oppositional environment with property owners vs. developers vs. residents vs. agencies
- Concern for lack of continuity with tools and analysis
- Concern with challenges where general plans don't agree with the market plans for development, example of plans for capacity of 100k homes with only market demand for 20k homes in the same period creating competition amongst jurisdictions
- Discussion about geography of infill versus sprawl

Auburn
Citrus Heights
Colfax
Davis
El Dorado County
Elk Grove
Folsom
Galt
Isleton
Lincoln
Live Oak
Loomis
Marysville
Placer County
Placerville
Rancho Cordova
Rocklin
Roseville
Sacramento
Sacramento County
Sutter County
West Sacramento
Wheatland
Winters
Woodland
Yolo County
Yuba City
Yuba County

Mr. McKeever commented on the more limited, worst case environmental impact scenario in which the land owner/developer and local government who set local fees, capital improvement programs, and taxes to pay for the worst case set of impacts may experience difficulty in realizing the revenue projections associated with budgeted project costs when the project actually goes to build. An element of that dynamic is growth deflating, because it doesn't allow for aligned resources focused where practical growth is likely to occur.

1-B. Regional Advocacy Coordination (Ms. Sloan)

Ms. Sloan provided a summary on the regional advocacy coordination as one of the original eight concept proposals. The next step will be a working group meeting with broader discussion opportunity in September for interested jurisdictions.

1-C. Pooled Purchasing Update (Mr. Johnson)

Mr. Johnson summarized work with jurisdictions to assess current fuel purchasing practices. Eight jurisdictions have been assessed to date with a variety of approaches including: individual purchasing, jurisdictions purchasing together, and some jurisdictions purchasing through the state on fuel procurement. Sacramento County has language in their contract that would allow other jurisdictions to piggyback on their cost savings for fuel purchasing. SACOG is meeting with Sacramento County purchasing staff to discuss this topic. After speaking with other jurisdictions, staff will recommend what option makes the most sense, which may include a new RFP on a new volume threshold for broader pooled purchasing.

1-D. Grant Tracking Database Subscription Update (Mr. Chew)

Mr. Chew provided an update on the national grant service. SACOG purchased www.efficientgov.com with unlimited subscription user access for \$2,000 annually. To date, 100 requests were received from 15 jurisdictions. Each jurisdiction can reach out to their non-profits and add them to the subscription. SACOG will contact those using the service for feedback over the next few months and continue to explore other opportunities for shared services amongst our member jurisdictions.

Task Force comments included:

- Clarification for cost savings and term of contract
- Availability of service for non-profit organizations
- Clarification for grant issue areas included in tracking service
- Interest in confirming who is already participating to support Board members' efforts to encourage broader participation
- Interest in information to assist Board members in service promotion

Mr. Chew confirmed that the service was available to non-profits within the region and included a broad variety of issue areas including: historic

preservation, libraries, fire, parks, waste, schools, etc. Chew also agreed to follow up with more information and a list of participating jurisdictions to date.

Other Follow Up: Housing Element Support

Mr. Chew also provided an update on the comments from the Land Use & Natural Resources Committee meeting in August on the status of the housing elements. Approximately half of the jurisdictions have submitted their draft housing elements and a majority of the region's jurisdictions are making progress on them. However, three jurisdictions indicated insufficient resources. In the Land Use & Natural Resources Committee, Director Scherer raised the question about hiring a joint consultant. Staff contacted the three jurisdictions and at least two have expressed interest. There is a cost savings opportunity for joint contracting. SACOG staff contacted two consultants doing a majority of elements and identified a general cost estimate which seems doable for those jurisdictions. SACOG staff worked with them to set up an RFP to assist those jurisdictions in selecting a consultant.

2. MPO and COG Best Practices Research (Mr. McKeever)

Mr. McKeever presented opportunity for follow up discussion on suggestion raised in the June Board meeting regarding MPO and COG Best Practices research. Staff thought it was worth the effort to engage the Board more fully on this topic and tried to provide just enough detail to assist in this discussion.

Areas of previous Board interest have included: performance metrics in planning and budget/work plan development/assessment, Board member and elected official engagement, constructive stakeholder engagement, shared services, and land use.

Mr. McKeever summarized descriptions of some MPO/COG organizations nationally.

Mr. McKeever acknowledged in his comments that any work SACOG would do in this direction would have cost implications. He invited the Board to consider a free-form discussion on the topic and defer funding issue initially so as not to constrain the Board's thinking.

Task Force comments included:

- Confirmed interest in areas of research
- Interest in research to enhance Board members' understanding of what SACOG does and could do
- Comment that research is a good investment in the future of the agency
- Interest in additional topics of research including flood control, air quality and water
- Inquiry about performance metrics used in the Bay Area (MTC & ABAG)
- Inquiry about how to measure quality of life issues to support public communications
- Interest in new engagement opportunities focused on funding choices and mechanisms

- Appreciation for DRCOG and Mayor's Council in Denver
- Interest in tours, field trips and retreats examples including Internal Study Mission and Yolo Farm-to-Fork Tours Program
- Inquiry about working with national associations of COGs or MPOs

Mr. McKeever indicated there were three national associations, AMPO, NARC and NADO with varying degrees of activity and participation. Confirmed opportunity for Board participation in the future.

Mr. McKeever indicated he would work with Board Chair Mary Jane Griego on a proposal and approach on how to proceed in bringing discussion of Best Practices research to the full Board.

Other Matters

Adjournment

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

Steve Miklos
Chair

Next committee meeting: October 16, 2013 at 11:30 a.m.

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