

PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Meeting Notes of August 17th, 2017

ITEM

1. Introduction

Meeting called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Janet Spilman.

Members: Eric Gage, City of Santa Rosa; Kenyon Webster, City of Sebastopol.

Guests: Steve Birdlebough, Sonoma County Transportation and Land Use Coalition; Gillian Hayes, Graton Rancheria; Ada Chan, Association of Bay Area Governments.

Staff: Janet Spilman; Dana Turrey; Chris Barney; Carolyn Glanton; Drew Nichols.

2. Public Comment

3. Administrative

- a. Approval of the agenda – changes, additional discussion items – **ACTION**
- b. Review Meeting Notes from June 15, 2017* - **ACTION**

Approval of the June 15th meeting minutes were postponed until the next meeting.

4. Shift Plan Presentation*

Dana Turrey presented Shift Sonoma County (Shift), a low carbon transportation action plan, funded by a grant from the Strategic Growth Council and developed by the SCTA and RCPA. Shift focuses on local and regional goals, aiming to reduce vehicle miles travelled and greenhouse gas emissions.

The Shift goals are drawn from the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP), Plan Bay Area, and Climate Action 2020 (CA2020), with an emphasis on focusing on behavior change and addressing travel demand as the population in Sonoma County grows.

Shift embodies two elements: Mode- and Fuel Shift.

Shift strategies include:

- Bike share
- Car share
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM)
- Electric Vehicles (EVs)

A set of tools are described in the plan, and were further described to the committee.

Ms. Turrey explained the goals set by the plan:

- Reducing Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT)
- Shift Single Occupancy Vehicles towards alternative modes
- Increase transit ridership
- Reduce household transportation costs below 2010 levels

Carolyn Glanton explained the Fuel Shift element in Shift Sonoma County.

The 2030 goals derived from the CTP and CA2020 include:

- Reducing countywide petroleum use by 50%
- Increase EVs to 100,000
- Increase public EV charging stations to 11,000
- Increase access to electric transportation to low-income households and communities of concern
- Continue municipal leadership by integrating EVs into fleets and public charging stations at government facilities

Kenyon Webster asked if Shift is based on what is achievable or what should be done to meet these targets.

Brant Arthur responded that EV goals take into account the significance of what it means to push beyond the current norm. There are currently between 4-5,000 EVs in Sonoma County, and as technology advances in the near future, the price of EVs will decrease. This logic supports the goal of 100,000 EVs by 2030.

Ms. Glanton further described the EV charging infrastructure, the benefits, and the priority actions laid out in the Plan.

Committee members shared ideas on the ability to have EV charging stations in apartment complexes, and shared experiences with grant applications for EV charging stations.

Staff encourages the committee to review the Plan and is requesting feedback on Shift Sonoma County. The document can be found at: <http://scta.ca.gov/planning/shift/>

Staff anticipates a tentative adoption of the Plan in October. Feedback will be collected through September. As well, presentations to community organizations and city councils can be arranged.

5. Sonoma County Travel Model – Update to Administrative and Operation Travel Demand Modeling Guidelines*

Chris Barney described an interest to update the travel model guidelines. The last update was in 2006.

The model is a tool used to support SCTA's planning and programming activities, and can also be used by local jurisdictions as well. The model estimates how individuals are driving (single occupancy vehicle, carpool, etc.), where these drivers are going, the time in which they're driving (peak, off-peak), and the reason they're travelling (commute, school, other travel).

The administrative and operational guidelines outline SCTA's modeling program objectives of maintaining the countywide model, coordinating with regional planning staff on modeling and analysis, analyzing the CTP and SCTA project performance, providing forecasts of existing and future travel, and supporting local jurisdictions planning and public works activities.

The model does not provide information on weekend travelling or for special events.

Modeling program midterm priorities are geared towards analyzing alternative scenarios in the CTP or as requested by jurisdictions. SCTA will be working with Permit Sonoma to enhance the model to study weekend and tourist traveling trends.

The long term modeling program goals aim to expand the geographic model – currently the boundary stays within the Sonoma County lines; as well, as improving model capabilities to model alternative transportation, such as transit, bicycling, and walking.

Standard modeling data are available upon request. SCTA staff works with local jurisdictions, consultants, and the public on other customized model applications.

Staff is requesting feedback and comments on the updated guidelines. It is anticipated to take the updated guidelines to the Board in Oct/Nov.

6. Sonoma County Travel Model – Countywide Pending Development and Permitted Projects Database*

Chris Barney further announced SCTA is currently updating the travel model land use assumptions.

A database containing information on countywide developments and permitted projects is under development. This database

aims to ensure these projects are reflected in the Sonoma County Travel Model and to assist with updates to the SCTA PDA investment and growth strategy and other planning documents

7. Climate Action 2020 update – no updates at present

A Close to Home article – *Battling climate change at the local level* – was published in the Press Democrat from SCTA Chair David Rabbitt and Vice-Chair Carol Russell in response to the lawsuit.

The committee discussed the options moving forward on CA2020.

8. Round Table members – DISCUSSION

Kenyon Webster announced to the committee a recent application for a solar energy farm in Sebastopol. The City of Sebastopol has approved the updated general plan, as well as currently are updating zoning ordinances.

Eric Gage, City of Santa Rosa, reported to the committee that the City Council has an interest in updating their climate action plan activities. As well, a comprehensive data collection effort is in progress with the various departments to collect the data requested.

Gillian Hayes, Graton Rancheria, described a climate vulnerability assessment in the works by Graton Rancheria. RCPA has provided workshops for the regional tribes and it was regarded as a positive move as interest in climate adaptation has been sparked. Additionally, a funding application for solar energy at the Graton Casino has been approved and a Proposition 1 grant for wetland restoration has been submitted.

Ada Chan, ABAG, announced that new applications for PDAs will be accepted in September and IGS are currently under review. As well, OBAG2 will start in the fall.

9. Grant Opportunities

N/A

10. Upcoming Events – INFORMATION

Brant Arthur announced on September 9th, *Drive EV* will be in Courthouse Square. This provides an opportunity for interested parties to view and learn about electric vehicles.

11. Other Business/Next agenda

N/A

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:33AM.