



## MARCH 2011 MEETING SUMMARY

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:**

- **Oral Communications: Dana Bunnett, Executive Director, Kids in Common** distributed and updated Board Members about the Santa Clara County Children's Agenda, which includes updated indicators of child health and well-being in Santa Clara County. Several cities have endorsed the "Bill of Rights for Children & Youth," including the Cities Association. On February 4th, a Children's Summit was convened to address challenges such as the proposed budget cuts, which many are unfortunately related to children's services.
- **Joint Venture Silicon Valley (JVSV) Associate Director of Climate Initiatives, Rachel Massaro**, presented on the Collaborative Renewable Energy Procurement Project. It is a collaboration of 9 public agencies, which includes cities (Los Gatos, Cupertino, Milpitas, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Pacifica) Santa Clara County, Santa Clara VTA, and South Bayside Waste Management Authority, with Santa Clara County as the lead agency. The purpose is to develop effective, collaborative solutions for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from public agency operations. JVSV is the convener in the project. This is a complex procurement effort for 70 sites, which includes carports, rooftops, ground mounted locations, and 14.4MW of combined solar PV. It is the largest multi-agency project to date. Currently, the project is at the phase in which cities are signing contracts and installing sites. There is much interest from areas across the country and many ongoing attempts to replicate and expand the project. Currently, JVSV is looking to expand the project with ABAG and BAAQMD to expand in the greater bay area. Several regional, economic, and upfront cost benefits have occurred due to this project. For more information please see Rachel Massaro's PowerPoint on our website at <http://www.sccca.gov/files/Joint%20Venture%20SV-REP%203%2010%2011.pdf> or visit [www.jointventure.org/renewableenergyprocurement](http://www.jointventure.org/renewableenergyprocurement).
- **The Subcommittee on Medical Marijuana Dispensaries (Liccardo, Hamilton, Pirzynski, Wang)** updated the Board on its recommendation for cities to collaboratively address the federal government's regulation, or lack of, on medical marijuana. Thus far, 14 of 15 cities have banned medical marijuana dispensaries in Santa Clara County. The City of San Jose is currently working on trying to reduce the number of MMD's in operation

within its jurisdiction from 110 to 10. This may have some effect on neighboring cities. The federal government can enforce regulation of medical marijuana through two ways: 1) action by congress, or 2) through the FDA, in which marijuana would have to be rescheduled from a "Schedule I" substance so that pharmacies can dispense the drug. After speaking with Congressional Representative Zoe Lofgren, it seems that it would be helpful for cities to "speak out." The subcommittee proposed to draft a resolution stating the need for the State to provide guidelines on regulation of the drug, and that the Federal government takes action to also regulate marijuana either through rescheduling of the drug or action by Congress. The City of San Jose will draft a Resolution for the Cities Association to consider for approval and for further review and consideration by all cities of Santa Clara County.

- **The Subcommittee on Use of Reserves (Hamilton, Tate, Liccardo, Packard)** presented a recommendation on options for use of Cities Association Reserves. The subcommittee recommended hosting an event, convening policy makers to address a county-wide initiative such as children's health initiative, pension reform, shared services, or a marketing strategy for economic development. After extensive discussions, the Board voted to have the subcommittee further continue the discussion to ensure that the organization continues to fulfill its purpose and mission. Two new Board Members have joined the Subcommittee: Jim Griffith and David Casas.
- Gary Luebbers, Santa Clara County Cities/Manager Association (SCCCMA) liaison, reported that the SCCMA had an extensive discussion on pension reform and labor.
- Ronit Bryant (Mountain View) and Joe Pirzynski (Los Gatos), the City Selection Committee Appointees to ABAG, presented an update on recent activities. Ronit Bryant presented an overview of One Bay Area Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). California's 2008 landmark legislation on land use, transportation and environmental planning calls for development of an SCS in all metropolitan areas of the state. In the Bay Area: MTC and ABAG are jointly responsible and will coordinate with the Air District and BCDC, and partner with congestion management agencies, local jurisdictions, and others. The state mandated goals include: 1) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light duty trucks (40% of Bay Area GHG emissions) by 15% by 2035; and 2) House the region's population at all income levels (in the region itself without displacing low income population). Working groups are currently working on identifying policies and strategies to accomplish these goals. Timeline includes an Initial Vision Scenario to be presented in March 2011, the development of Detailed Scenarios in July of 2011, and then the Preferred SCS Scenario in early 2012. The presentation is available on the cities association website at [http://www.sccca.gov/files/SCS%20Overview%20Presentation\\_rb.pdf](http://www.sccca.gov/files/SCS%20Overview%20Presentation_rb.pdf). Joe Pirzynski updated the Board on Planning and Service Programs for Fiscal Year 2011-2012, which included updates on the Hazardous Waste Management Facility Allocation, Green Business Program, San Francisco Bay Trail, Earthquake and Hazard Mitigation and Recovery, etc., The ABAG General Assembly will be hosted on Thursday, April 14 at the Oakland Marriott City Center. All city elected's are invited to attend. More information regarding the agenda will be provided. All Members and fellow Council Members are encouraged to attend. In addition, at our next Board Meeting on May 12, ABAG would like to host a joint meeting with the Cities Association and VTA to present on the Sustainable Communities Strategy, beginning at 5 pm. This would take place of the regularly scheduled VTA PAC

meeting and precede the Cities Association Legislative Action Committee Meeting at 6 pm and the Board of Directors Meeting at 7 pm.

- President Melinda Hamilton announced to Members that the Cities Association Annual General Membership Meeting will be hosted on Thursday April 14, 6 pm at the Sunnyvale Senior Center – this will not be at the same time as ABAG’s General Assembly, which will take place in the morning. Raania reviewed details of the event to include a partnership with the American Leadership Forum addressing the CA State Budget and the proposed devolution of state services to local government. Speakers and Panel participants will include Fred Silva (former elected and policy analyst), County Executive Jeff Smith, a state representative, city managers’ representative, and a representative from the Governor’s Office. The panel discussion will be moderated by Terry Christensen. Invitations will be distributed late next week.
- Betsy Shotwell presented a legislative report and summarized the latest details on the CA state budget and the Republicans’ unwillingness to support the Governor’s proposed tax measures for the June Ballot.

### **Joys and Challenges**

- Howard Miller of Saratoga shared that local Measure Q, proponents still continue to fight their defeat and want to restrict the development of commercial buildings higher than 2 stories from the city. They recently sent out a city-wide mailer requesting citizens to contribute \$20 each to fund their campaign against the city.

### **Announcements**

- The Markkula Center for Applied Ethics will be hosting its Roundtable Luncheon on March 18<sup>th</sup>. All Council Members, especially newly elected, are encouraged to attend.
- There will be a Legislative Action Committee Meeting on Thursday, May 12, 2011, 6 - 7 pm. This will precede the Board of Directors Meeting at 7 pm. This will be an informative meeting to address Pension Reform.