



## FEBRUARY 2012 BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

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

- **Priorities for 2012** (Regional Economic Development, SCS & Transportation, and Supporting Innovative Schools) was reviewed. Members were invited to join current “champions” of the policy initiatives and can communicate to Raania at a later time which initiative they are interested in supporting.
- **CSC Appointee Report: Margaret Abe-Koga of Mountain View** presented an overview of recent LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County) activities to include work on special districts and service reviews.
  - The countywide fire service review included a recommendation of the dissolution of the Saratoga fire protection district and concurrent annexation of its territory to the Santa Clara County Central Fire District. A special study is underway and more details are available on the LAFCO website at [www.santaclara.lafco.ca.gov](http://www.santaclara.lafco.ca.gov).
  - The countywide water service review identifies several opportunities and includes several recommendations for improving water and resource conservation services in the county.
  - In early 2011 LAFCO staff began researching several issues concerning the El Camino Hospital District, specifically trying to resolve the issue of whether ECHD is providing services beyond its boundaries by funding the purchase of a hospital in Los Gatos. Further review and an audit will be released in early May.
  - In May 2011, LAFCO staff notified each city (except Palo Alto and Campbell which do not have unincorporated islands) of the status of unincorporated islands within the city’s Urban Service Area and requested information on their island annexation plans. LAFCO is providing fee waivers for island annexations and the county’s continued financial incentives, including covering the costs of preparing Assessor and Surveyor reports and maps, paying the State Board of Equalization filing fees, and budgeting for road improvements in islands approved for annexation. The law streamlining the annexation process for qualified unincorporated islands will sunset on January 1, 2014 and LAFCO encourages each city to take advantage of this process.

- **Cities Association Proposed Participation in the Regional Economic Development Summit:** this item was added on the agenda by a unanimous vote as an urgent item due to time sensitivity.
  - The Governor has sought to convene public and private sector leaders from throughout the state to join in several Regional Economic Summits. In our area, SVLG was selected to be the lead organization.
  - SVLG invited the Cities Association to participate in the Regional Economic Summit on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 8 am – 12 pm. Private, public, and non-profit Valley Leaders will gather at Marvell Semiconductor in Santa Clara for a Regional Economic Summit - one of 12 regional summits throughout the state - to feed into a State Economic Summit to be hosted on May 11.
  - Based on an Oregon model that has been in place since 2001, each Regional Economic Summit will answer questions as to what Sacramento needs to accomplish to make each region, and our state, more economically competitive to grow jobs.
  - Hosted by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, a strong and diverse team of Co-Hosts include the American Leadership Forum, Central Labor Council, City of San Jose, Entrepreneurs' Foundation, Greenbelt Alliance, SAMCEDA, San Jose/Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce, Silicon Valley Community Foundation and SPUR.
  - Co-Hosts each have an on-stage role at the Summit, promise to reach out to their own networks to encourage participation and secure one table of ten (\$1,000) to invite their Boards, Members and/or other valued partners.
  - Approval to participate is needed by February 9<sup>th</sup>, so participating organizations can be included in media announcements, the printing of the invitations, etc.
  - The Board voted to participate due to the following reasons: 1) Regional Economic Development is one of the 2012 policy initiatives; 2) our own April 12<sup>th</sup> dinner will focus on this topic, and it's important that we are aware of what thought leaders are saying about the subject, particularly since our own discussion is soon after the summit; 3) there's no other organization that's co-hosting the event that consists of Valley elected officials ; 4)The Cities Association's co-branding of this event will help to elevate the organization's profile on this issue, and among key stakeholders in the Valley.
  
- **Update on SCS & Transportation: Scott Haywood, VTA,** presented an update on the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Proposal from MTC. The presentation included a review of the Regional Transportation Plan, the Valley Transportation Plan, Sustainable Communities Strategy, and the One Bay Area Grant.

- The Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2040 is a planning document of transportation investment projects generated by cities in for Santa Clara County. It is scheduled for adoption in 2013 and feeds into the Regional Transportation Plan.
- The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is an investment strategy for transportation projects bay-area wide, includes a list of projects from every county, and is scheduled for adoption in Spring 2013. The RTP is ultimately utilized to attain federal and state funding.
- Sustainable Communities Strategy is a new element of the Regional Transportation Plan that attempts to better link transportation investments and land-use to reach greenhouse gas reduction targets. If targets are not met, an Alternative Planning Scenario will be released and will likely influence investment decisions in RTP.
- OBAG is not part of the RTP or SCS; it is MTC's proposal on spending "flexible" funds from the next Federal Surface Transportation Act in the next 3 years. According to the proposal, SCC is due to receive 27% of the funding (vs. 13% in the last distribution), or \$66 million to be distributed locally by VTA with 70% of funding to PDAs and PDA serving projects.
- MTC is seeking comments before release of its revised draft proposal in March; final adoption of OBAG is scheduled for May; VTA will begin working with the Technical Advisory Committee and other stakeholders in the summer/fall.
- Both the cities of Los Altos and Sunnyvale have submitted letters to MTC and expressed their specific concerns and opposition to the fund distribution model.
- Board members felt the current proposal makes it difficult for small jurisdictions to compete for a fair share of available funds. The board unanimously voted to submit a letter to MTC requesting consideration of the following points:
  - Broad definition of "PDA (Priority Development Areas) and PDA Serving" and GOAs (Growth Opportunity Areas) to cross city boundaries
  - Exempt Local Road Rehabilitation from PDA requirement; and exempt Safe Routes to School funding from the funding formula
  - Practical , Implementable Complete Streets Policy Requirement
  - Practical, Implementable Housing Policy Requirement

The SCS & Transportation "champions" (Margaret Abe-Koga, Cat Tucker, Greg Scharff) is responsible for drafting/finalizing the letter. The letter will be circulated amongst the Board Members before submission.

- Presentation available on Cities Association website at [http://www.citiesassociation.org/presentations-and-actions\\_49\\_4213708106.pdf](http://www.citiesassociation.org/presentations-and-actions_49_4213708106.pdf).

- **NOVA & Work2Future Workforce Boards:** Kris Stadelman of NOVA and Chris Donnelly of Work2Future presented on the invaluable workforce development services that their organizations provide to the cities of Santa Clara County. They have been in operation since 2000; there are 575 workforce boards in the country, 49 in CA, and 2 in Santa Clara County. NOVA provides services to Palo Alto, Mountain View, Los Altos,, Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, and Cupertino. Work2Future provides services to Los Altos Hills, Saratoga, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, San Jose, Morgan Hill and Gilroy. They are funded primarily by federal and state grants and discretionary funds; Over the years, funding has been decreasing and both organizations have had to reinvent themselves to do more with less, especially during these times marked by economic difficulties and high unemployment rates. Services include labor market information, job search assistance, layoff and outplacement assistance, business development, and more.
- **JVSV Wireless Initiative: Leon Beauchman of JVSV,** presented the 2012 Phase II Goals to include: 1) Support deployment of Next Generation Wireless technology offering greater data bandwidth (constant10M+/sec); 2) Most Silicon Valley cities will have Next Generation technology, or 4G coverage, by 2014 (San Jose is the only city out of 40); 3) No dropped calls. Benefits of supporting these goals include: 1) positioning Silicon Valley (SV) as wireless technology leader; 2) encouraging SV cities and carriers to collaborate to facilitate and expedite deployment; 3) promoting the development of innovative wireless applications and SV economy; 4) allowing residents and business to take advantage of the emerging technology, e.g. health care. Our region is the epicenter of wireless technology; 30% of all households have no wireline connection and depend on wireless services. The Cities Association voted unanimously to support the new goal and to be a sponsoring partner at two upcoming JVSV events: the American Telemedicine Association Annual Event in San Jose, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Silicon Valley Wireless Symposium in October/November 2012 at Santa Clara University. The Cities Association was a co-sponsor of the 2011 event. Presentation available on Cities Association website at [http://www.citiesassociation.org/presentations-and-actions\\_48\\_2553880647.pdf](http://www.citiesassociation.org/presentations-and-actions_48_2553880647.pdf).

### **Joys and Challenges**

- Jim Griffith of Sunnyvale announced that the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest building in Sunnyvale has been leased by Apple Inc.
- Val Carpenter announced that the city approved plans for a new Safeway to replace the one present since 1967.
- Rod Sinks of Cupertino announced his council's request to BAAQMD (Bay Area Air Quality Management District) to hold the Lehigh Cement Plant to the most stringent new rules because of its proximity to residential areas.

### **Announcements**

Margaret Abe-Koga announced the Cities Association upcoming General Membership Meeting, April 12, 2012, to focus on Regional Economic

Development and reminded Members to save the date and encourage their fellow Council Members, City Managers, Assistant City Managers, and Economic Development Directors to attend.