



OCTOBER 2015 CSC & BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SUMMARY

City Selection Committee Meeting

- Chris Clark of Mountain View was reappointed to a new term representing cities of Santa Clara County on the Silicon Valley Regional Operability Authority expiring October 2018; the Alternate seat to the SVRIA remains vacant.
- Rob Rennie of Los Gatos was appointed to represent South County/West Valley Cities as an Alternate to Jason Baker on the Santa Clara County Emergency Operational Area Council for a term expiring June 2017.
- Steve Tate of Morgan Hill was appointed to represent the cities of Santa Clara County on the Sourcewise (formerly known as Council on Aging) Advisory Council and appoint a proxy (Cricket Rubino) to serve on his behalf for a term expiring June 2018.

Board of Directors Meeting

Ken Kirkey, Planning Director of MTC, presented the organization's proposal to integrate the planning functions of ABAG and MTC.

- MTC is proposing to integrate the planning departments of ABAG and MTC to serve both policy boards.
- Historically, it has been repeatedly proposed to merge ABAG and MTC; however, the current proposal is different.
- The proposal includes merging the planning functions only and not the governance of the two organizations.
- Existing statutory authority of MTC and ABAG Executive Boards would remain.
- Other services provided by ABAG, such as Insurance Pool, Finance Authority, and Estuary Program will not be affected.
- The Bay Area is the only region in California that does not have an integrated land-use, transportation, and housing department; thus there are two departments attempting to do one integrated Regional Transportation/Sustainable Communities Strategy.
- The two departmental organizations are spending much time trying to get into sync with each other; this ends up depleting resources to assist cities/counties with housing affordability, congestion, climate adaptation, etc.,

- How can MTC take on the complexities of regional/local housing policy as a transportation agency? ABAG will keep its authority over final policy decisions related to housing.
- Incorporating housing and land-use planners within MTC's organizational structure will represent a shift for MTC; however, MTC is committed to working closely with ABAG staff who would transfer to new department and building upon/expanding existing forums of communication with local jurisdictions.
- Once consolidated it is expected that there will be increased efficiencies and an ability to work better and more directly with cities.
- Expected benefits of the consolidation to local jurisdictions include:
 - A "one-stop shop" focused on serving local government better;
 - A more productive planning department that will accelerate internal processes and improve external communications between regional agencies and cities;
 - Increased staff resources on policy development and analysis to foster a more comprehensive approach to develop solutions to the region's challenges;
 - Designated staff assigned to serve Silicon Valley.
- Next steps include:
 - MTC to discuss planning department's proposal on October 28th.
 - Consider other issues such as ABAG's membership, union employment, and scope of proposed departments.
 - If commission moves to proceed with proposal, MTC staff will reach out to cities on how best to serve jurisdictions.

Questions from Board Members led to following additional information:

- Based on proposal, 23 members would move from ABAG to MTC.
- ABAG has 75 employees; MTC has 25 planners and 200 employees.
- Regardless of the proposal, ABAG and MTC will be moving to the same building in San Francisco.
- Regardless of the proposal, there is a \$16 million pension shortfall at ABAG; MTC plans to address this issue.
- ABAG Executive Board will still exist if integration occurs.
- Members expressed concern for representation at MTC; cities are better represented at ABAG.
- Board Members are encouraged to communicate feedback to MTC Commissioners representing Santa Clara County: Vice Mayor Jason Baker of Campbell, Mayor Sam Liccardo of San Jose, and Supervisor Dave Cortese of Santa Clara County.
- For questions regarding MTC's proposal, Ken Kirkey can be contacted at kkirkey@mtc.ca.gov.

SCC Fire Chief Association President Eric Nickel, Fire Chief of Palo Alto, provided an overview of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in SCC and the potential option to utilize federal funds in a public-private partnership model to provide ambulance emergency medical service.

- The current EMS provider, Rural Metro, has experienced financial difficulty over the years and has been unable to meet conditions of the agreement with the county, such as service call times.
- Fire Departments in the county took interest in EMS because of Rural Metro's bankruptcy and potential inability to continue providing service across the county. Its contract has been amended several times since 2011.
- The county is now considering release of an RFP in search of a new EMS provider.
- As the County considers searching for a new EMS provider, the SCC Fire Chiefs Association (FCA) have suggested to the county to allow public-private partnerships, such as the collaborative partnership between Contra Costa County Fire Department and American Medical Response, to bid for the contract.
- On August 20th, the FCA submitted a letter to Emergency Medical Services Director (Jackie Lowther) requesting amendments to the draft Request for Proposal (RFP) allowing cities/fire departments/fire districts to bid.
- There is an opportunity for public agencies to utilize federal dollars and provide EMS by partnering with a private EMS provider, e.g. AMR. The federal dollars are only available to public agencies.
- The BOS was scheduled to review the draft RFP on October 6th; due to the timeline, President Jason Baker submitted a letter requesting a delay in the process of approving the RFP in order to allow cities and fire departments to weigh in on the process and consider other innovative models, such as the public-private partnership, of providing EMS that ensure stability, high-quality services, and operational efficiencies for all stakeholders.
- Per Chief Nickel's report, at the October 6th BOS meeting, the contract with Rural Metro has been extended and there still may be an opportunity for the public-private model to be considered.
- The BOS's expressed interest in learning more about the public-private partnership model.
- In addition, the City of San Jose recently approved allowing its Fire Department to fulfill the public agency role in support of a potential public/private partnership and provide services across the county.
- The FCA is in a unique position; the Fire Chiefs across the county work cohesively together and are currently collaborating on a number of other initiatives as an effort to provide high-quality and efficient service across the county (as presented to the Board in August).

Alex Shoor of BOS Ken Yeager's Office and SCC Planner Jim Reilly presented on Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones in Santa Clara County.

- As authorized by AB 551, Supervisor Yeagers and Wasserman proposed an Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone (UAIZ) for Santa Clara County in February 2015.
- In an UAIZ, a landowner who dedicates up to 3 acres of empty, vacant or blighted land for the express purposes of urban agriculture or animal husbandry for a five-year contract can receive a reduction in property taxes.
- The state bill AB 551 requires buy-in from both cities and the County.

- Any parcel in unincorporated Santa Clara County that is within the sphere of influence of a city must obtain the consent of that city.
- In turn, the County must authorize the cities within it to have their own UAIZs.
- The County already took this step: on June 9, 2015, the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution authorizing the 13 eligible Santa Clara County cities to establish UAIZs in their own jurisdictions. Morgan Hill and Gilroy are not eligible to participate.
- In addition, the BOS recently adopted its own ordinance authorizing up to 37 parcels to be part of the UAIZ program.
- The County ordinance could serve as a model for the eligible cities; cities can use the model ordinance when establishing their own programs and adopting their own resolutions.
- Benefits of UAIZ's include:
 - Fresh, local food production
 - Reclamation of vacant, blighted lots
 - Social, Community health
 - Vibrant green spaces
 - Sustainability
 - Nonprofit organizations providing local produce, hosting community gardens and teaching gardening classes to low-income residents.
- A New York City study showed property values in a low-income neighborhood increased by almost 10 percent after a community garden was built in the area.
- The County's Planning Department found that up to 1,000 parcels in the 13 cities are eligible.
- The Agricultural Commissioner will be leading the effort for the county and is willing to talk with cities.
- The City of San Jose has already begun the process of establishing UAIZ's.
- Board Members expressed concern for encouraging agriculture in the midst of a drought.
- The Board unanimously supported with one abstention (Morgan Hill) a resolution supporting the establishment of urban agriculture incentive zones in eligible jurisdictions.

Board Members reviewed and supported SBX1-1 (Beall), the new transportation funding bill (replacing SB 16) increasing several taxes and fees to raise \$4.3 billion in new transportation revenues annually, with the funding used to address deferred maintenance on the state highways and local streets and roads and to improve the state's trade corridors.

- The bill will be reviewed in special session with no deadline determined.
- Some members expressed concern that the bill included CEQA exemption language.
- Support of the bill passed 12:1 with 3 abstentions (Los Altos, Cupertino, Sunnyvale).

Board Members unanimously supported President Baker's request to extend Executive Director's contract by one month to 12/01/15 to

accommodate Executive Board's Performance Evaluation of the ED on November 4, 2015.

The Nominating Committee (Jason Baker, Jim Griffith, Steve Tate) presented the following recommendations for appointments to the Cities Association's Executive Committee for the year 2016:

President:	Mayor Jim Griffith, Sunnyvale
First Vice President:	Council Member Greg Scharff, Palo Alto
Second Vice President:	Mayor Rod Sinks, Cupertino
Secretary/Treasurer:	Council Member Manny Cappello, Saratoga
LAC Chair:	Mayor Jan Pepper, Los Altos
Immediate Past President	Vice Mayor Jason Baker, Campbell
City Managers' Association Liaison	Deanna Santana, Sunnyvale

CSC Appointee Report: LAFCO

- Cat Tucker of Gliroy, LAFCO Executive Director Neelima Palacherla, and Consultant Steve Schole provided overview of the most recent countywide city service review.
- Purpose of the review:
 - Fulfill state mandate to update sphere of influences
 - Identify opportunities for collaboration in providing services
 - Highlight best practices and evaluate potential governance structures
 - Provide information that may be helpful in evaluating potential future changes to jurisdictional boundaries
 - Written determinations considered by Commission
- The services reviewed included animal control, law enforcement, library, lighting, parks and recreation, solid waste, streets, storm water, utilities, and wastewater.
- The special areas of focus included shared services, sprawl prevention, and infill development and agricultural land preservation.
- The full report is available at <http://www.santaclaralafco.org/cities-service-review>.

Legislation Report: Betsy Shotwell reported that the legislative session ended; Governor is currently signing bills into law; deadline is October 11th.

Joys and Challenges:

- Rod Sinks of Cupertino reported with the passage of SB 107 (Beall), Saratoga, Cupertino, Monte Sereno and Los Altos Hills can now receive their rightful share of property taxes. The four cities have been paying their property taxes for years but received less than their rightful share returned to them by the state; SB 107 corrects this inequity. The Cities Association supported such legislation for a number of years.
- John McAlister shared Mountain View was recognized in Washington D.C. for its health policies.
- Cupertino to host an upcoming meeting on CCE.
- Board Members were encouraged to share any feedback on the development of the RFP for the regional minimum wage study with Mayor Sinks.
- Jim Griffith shared Sunnyvale received 6 awards: connectivity, economic potential, human capital and lifestyle, etc.,
- Jan Pepper of Los Altos shared the city was recognized as safest city in CA.
- Jason Baker reported Campbell joined the countywide nexus study (sponsored by Silicon Valley Community Foundation and Cities Association of Santa Clara County) on housing impact fees.