

Fresno County SB 375 Task Force 2012 Target-Setting

Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2012
Time: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Attending:
See Attachment “A”

I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the Committee on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.**

There were no Public Presentations.

II. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS RECOMMENDATION

A. Welcome and Introductions

Dave Fey (City of Clovis), Chair, welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

B. Approval of Meeting Notes

Elizabeth Jonasson (CCA) indicated that her last name was misspelled on last month’s notes. Chip Ashley noted that his first name was misspelled on the notes. David Fey said those two errors would be corrected. A vote was called for and the meeting notes with corrections were accepted.

C. Development Types and Preliminary Scenario Concept

C.J. Gabbe and Alex Joyce (Fregonese) presented a slide show on the most recent list of development types. John Wright suggested that the descriptions should refer to net acres instead of gross acres so they could more closely relate to zoning regulations. C.J. said he would make the change.

Keith Bergthold (City of Fresno) asked if there was more time to review the development types and provide feedback. Mr. Gabbe said if anyone made comments in a week or two that would be fine.

Mr. Joyce brainstormed with Committee about potential scenarios. Mr. Joy presented scenarios developed in other regions and other studies, and started the discussions by showing 3 typical scenarios: trend, built-out plan and other. The Committee had different opinions about the trend scenario. Mr. Bergthold introduced the 4 land use scenarios being analyzed in City of Fresno’s general plan update. Mr. Fey suggested that the cities and the county meet with each other first about possible scenarios, and volunteered to take the lead for that effort. Bruce O’Neal volunteered to represent the small cities in the scenario discussions among cities.

D. Performance Indicators

Kristine Cai (Fresno COG) presented the list of performance indicators. Ms. Cai indicated that the list presented was meant for SCS development, but since the target scenarios are potentially the basis of the SCS, the list was developed with the SCS as the ultimate goal. However, Ms. Cai clarified that due to the constraints of time, staff resources at Fresno COG, and data availability and technical capability, the essential indicators on the list for target setting are the indicators under Travel Related Indicators, Housing & Employment Indicators, and per capita greenhouse gas emission reduction under Health indicators.

Ms. Elizabeth Jonasson expressed appreciation for COG staff's patience by meeting with her and Ms. Michelle Garcia. Ms. Jonasson commented that she understands the limitation of resources/data/time, but if some indicators can easily be produced by Envision Tomorrow tool, they should be included.

John Wright said some indicators such as Equity/Environmental Justice are required for the RTP by the federal regulations, and makes more sense for RTP/SCS process. Mr. Fey agreed with the comments, and said other indicators such as health could be analyzed in cities' general plans. The target-setting efforts could be focused on parameters that could help the ARB analyze greenhouse gas emission.

Ms. Carey Knecht (ClimatePlane) commented that she was involved in the state-wide target-setting process, and such indicators as health and equity were recommended in the Regional Target Advisory Committee (RTAC) report to be included throughout the target-setting and SCS process.

Mr. Wright made a motion to approve to analyze 4 indicators under Travel Related Indicators, 4 indicators under Housing & Employment, and one indicator, per capita greenhouse gas emission reduction, under Health, for target setting purpose. Mr. Bergthold commented that he would not have any problem as long as it does not preclude the possibility of analyzing other indicators. Mr. Fey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Target Format

Mike Bitner (Fresno COG) led the discussion on the pros and cons of having single county targets, valley-wide targets, and sub-regional targets.

Mr. Bitner talked about Valley MPO cooperation and coordination on several fronts, such as conformity, model improvement plan (MIP), Valley Voice, San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement, etc. However, the Valley counties are also very different. Some more urban counties such as Fresno have great momentum for smart growth; other more rural counties have less population/growth to work with density. Some bigger MPOs have more resources to analyze greenhouse gas emission; smaller MPOs have less staff expertise in this area.

Tony Boren (Fresno COG) commented that in addition to what Mr. Bitner presented, there is different level of political will in the Valley for SB 375 implementation, which presents challenges for consistent valley-wide coordination.

Jeff Roberts (Granville Home) commented that it makes sense for Fresno County to go alone with the targets; John Wright agreed with the comments, and added that we should encourage other counties to step up their efforts so that the Valley could come up with a valley-wide target by summing up and averaging all the individual county targets.

Marcus Evan from Caltrans asked whether we can ask for separate targets for the Fresno-Clovis Metro Area and the rest of the rural county. Tom Jordan (Air District) commented that ARB will only be giving regional targets. It would be up to the regions how to split it.

John Wright made a motion that Fresno County will submit individual county targets, and at the same time, encourage other counties to step up their target-setting efforts. There was general agreement that we should continue to have communications with ARB and the other counties, but we must press on. Motion carried.

F. Population Projection for Use in Target-setting

Kathy Chung (Fresno COG) described the contents of the “Comparison of Populations Projection” table which included projections prepared by the DOF, Caltrans and The Planning Center. She described how the eight valley counties had sent out an Request for Proposals (RFP) and selected The Planning Center to prepare projections for each of the eight counties. Ms. Chung said staff recommended the approval of Fresno County’s population projection prepared by The Planning Center for use in target setting. Ms. Chung introduced Steve Gunnells, senior economist with The Planning Center who was on the phone. On Wed., Jan. 25, 1:30 p.m., Mr. Gunnells will present the draft Demographic Forecast Report in the COG Sequoia Room. John Wright pointed out that the projection had to be approved by the Department of Finance before use. Mr. Gunnells said that as part of his contract he would facilitate any meet and confer process with the DOF. Jeff Roberts (Granville Homes) made a motion to approve The Planning Center projections for Fresno County for target-setting and John Wright seconded the motion. A vote was called for and the motion was carried with one descending vote by Keith Bergthold (City of Fresno).

E. Other Items

a. Items from Members

None.

b. Items from Staff

Ms. Cai reminded everyone of the next meeting, Wednesday, February 15 at 2:00 pm.

Attachment "A"

Attending:

David Fey, City of Clovis, Chair
Mike Prandini, Building Industry Association
Chip Ashley, Sierra Club
Roberto Brady, Tulare County Association of Governments
David Berggren, Caltrans
Marcus Evans, Caltrans
Dennis Manning, FARRC
Ruby Renteria, CRLA, Inc.
Keith Berghold, City of Fresno
Nyla Zender, League of Women Voters
Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
Nathaniel Roth, UC Davis
Jeff Roberts, Granville Homes
Elizabeth Jonnason, CCA
Bruce O'Neal, Consultant
Mohammad Khorsand, Fresno County
Jill Gormley, City of Fresno
Mary Savala, League of Women Voters
Bill Robinson, Sol Dev. ASsoc.
Tom Jordan, SJUAPCD
John Wright, Regional Planner
Michelle Garcia, Fresno Madera Medical Society
Franklin Spees, City of Fresno
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Mike Bitner, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Brenda Veenendaal, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG
Kai Han, Fresno COG

Calling in:

C.J. Gabbe, Fregonese Associates
Alex Joyce, Fregonese Associates
Sarah Logiudico, Fregonese Associates
Kim Anderson, San Joaquin COG
Carey Knecht, Climate Plan
Steve Gunnells, The Planning Center