

Association of Bay Area Governments

Executive Board

April 16, 2020

Agenda Item 12.a.

ABAG MTC Governance

Subject: Proposed ABAG MTC Committee Work Integration

Background: On April 10th, the Joint ABAG MTC Governance Committee discussed ways to better integrate ABAG/MTC committee work on shared interests (e.g. legislation, planning). At the outset, Chair Haggerty and President Arreguin stated their hope that after discussion, the committee would endorse, in concept, the consolidation plan laid out in the PowerPoint presentation (Phase 1) and ask staff to come back with a detailed analysis of what it would take administratively to implement consolidation (Phase 2). What follows is a meeting summary.

1. Concept of combined Legislative Committee

No major concerns were flagged absent a review of overall representation on any proposed new committee. A background inventory of the two current committees is underway that will describe current city/county and geographic representation.

2. Concept of combined Planning Committee

Several members questioned whether housing production was too big an issue to be adequately addressed in a consolidated Planning Committee. Others saw this as an opportunity to integrate housing policy with our transportation and resilience work. One possible solution: a subcommittee focused on housing production that could help local jurisdictions in addressing the challenges of RHNA and opportunities offered by REAP and AB1487.

Several members stated that a consolidated Planning Committee combining MTC's Planning Committee with ABAG's Admin Committee ignores the "admin" duties of ABAG's Admin Committee. One solution: Jesse/ABAG Exec Board create an ABAG Planning Committee to consolidate with MTC's Planning Committee and let the Admin Committee retain a focus on acting for the Board between its meetings.

Members discussed ways to integrate BAHFA with the Planning Committee's work. While its governing board is statutorily designated as the MTC Commission, the committee asked staff to look at ways BAHFA and its Advisory Committee could provide input to the new Planning Committee on housing production.

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3. Concept of combined Stakeholder Committee

While most members felt that bringing MTC's Policy Advisory Council (PAC) and ABAG's Regional Planning Committee (RPC) together makes sense, some were concerned about reduced stakeholder engagement and wanted to get input from PAC and RPC prior to making any final decision. One solution: have endorsing MTC/ABAG motions instruct staff to present concept to PAC/RPC and report back their response as part of the Phase 2 due diligence.

4. Role of Bay Area Regional Collaborative (BARC)

Several people wished to explore ways BARC could contribute to Planning Committee's work, possibly by referring topics to BARC for review and recommendations back to Planning Committee.

5. Other Suggestions from Committee Members

Explicitly require an assessment/re-evaluation at some defined point;

Keep open the idea of bringing in other regional issues: homelessness, economic recovery, etc;

Be mindful that consolidation effort will require additional staff and resources, at a time when both are strained—don't set up implementation plan that can't be delivered due to overriding priorities.

Outcome

The Joint ABAG MTC Governance Committee voted unanimously to refer proposal (Phase 1) to April 16th ABAG Executive Board and April 22nd Commission with recommendation to conceptually approve Phase 1 and ask staff to return with a detailed analysis and set of recommendations regarding what it would take administratively to implement the proposed committee consolidations (Phase 2). At that point, the Governance Committee would discuss further and make recommendations to the ABAG and MTC governing boards.

Issues:

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Recommended Action: The Executive Board is requested to approve conceptually Phase I of the proposed ABAG MTC committee consolidations and to direct staff to return with a detailed analysis and set of recommendations regarding what it would take administratively to implement the proposed committee consolidations in Phase 2, as reported.

Attachments: Presentation

Reviewed: _____
Therese W. McMillan