Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments Joint MTC ABAG Legislation Committee

March 10, 2023 Agenda Item 3d

Assembly Bill 350 (Aguiar-Curry): Sacramento Area Regional Plan Update

Subject:

Delays until 2025 the Sacramento Area Council of Governments' (SACOG) next sustainable communities strategies update.

Background:

Federal transportation planning law requires federally designated metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and regional transportation planning agencies to adopt a long-range regional transportation plan (RTP) at least every four to five years. State law further requires that, as part of the RTP, California's 18 metro areas complete a sustainable communities strategy (SCS) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light truck travel, including planning for adequate housing to accommodate expected population growth. SACOG is responsible for adopting the Sacramento area's RTP/SCS.

Assembly Bill (AB) 350 would change the deadline for SACOG's next state-mandated RTP/SCS update from November 2023 to December 2025, with updates required every four years thereafter. The bill would provide for the following adjustments to ensure SACOG would remain in compliance with state and federal law through this adjustment period:

- Allows SACOG's existing RTP/SCS to remain in effect until December 2025 for the purposes of complying with state law and maintaining eligibility for state funding programs that require the region to have an adopted SCS.
- Allows SACOG to adopt and submit to the federal government an interim RTP update by the November 2023 deadline, which would serve as SACOG's federally mandate RTP through December 2025, when their next RTP/SCS would be adopted.

Recommendation:

Support / MTC Commission Approval

Discussion:

MTC since 2016 has been a partner in the Northern California Megaregion Working Group (Megaregion Working Group), a forum in which MTC, SACOG and the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) convene to seek solutions to our megaregion's shared transportation challenges and achieve shared goals. Among other items, the group serves as a forum to coordinate on our respective long-range planning work.

AB 350 will support greater interregional collaboration by aligning SACOG's next SCS update with those of MTC (November 2025) and SJCOG (August 2026) and ensure that future RTP/SCS updates will better align with its megaregion partners. Importantly, this would enable more collaboration on key technical assumptions, an important statutory phase of the Senate Bill 375 process that involves engagement with the California Air Resources Board. Furthermore, this timing shift would support improved coordination on transportation and land use strategies (and associated investments) at regional boundaries, including along the Interstate 80 corridor between Solano and Yolo counties. For these reasons, staff recommends MTC adopt a support position on AB 350.

Known Positions:

Support

Sacramento Area Council of Governments	San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority
(SACOG) – Sponsor	
Cities of Elk Grove, Sacramento, Roseville,	San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission
and Woodland	
Environmental Council of Sacramento	Sacramento Regional Transit Agency
Greater Sacramento Economic Council	Sacramento Transportation Authority
Metro Chamber of Commerce	Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of
	Commerce
Placer County Transportation Agency	Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition
San Joaquin Council of Governments	Yuba County

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Oppose

None on file

Attachments:

None

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