

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Ex-Officio Member of Subregional Planning Committee

MEETING DATE: July 20, 2006

AGENDA ITEM: 6B

STAFF CONTACT: Jim Kemp

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution specifying that a member of the board of directors of a statutorily created transit district shall serve as an ex-officio member of a subregional planning committee.

DISCUSSION:

The SBCAG board authorized the formation of subregional planning committees in 1998. The membership of the committees as specified in Section 5 of the authorizing resolution includes the County Supervisor(s) whose district(s) are within the subregion and the SBCAG board members who represent cities within the subregion. The Caltrans District Director is an ex-officio (non-voting) member of the committees.

The South Coast Subregional Planning Committee is comprised of the three County Supervisors who represent districts within the South County area (1st, 2nd and 3rd district supervisors) as well as the SBCAG board members representing the cities of Carpinteria, Santa Barbara and Goleta. At the request of its Chair, the South Coast Subregional Planning Committee approved a recommendation to the SBCAG board at its July 5th meeting revising the membership of the subregional planning committees to include a member of the board of directors of any statutorily created transit district which serves the subregion. The transit district representative would be an ex-officio member of the committee. Changing the membership provisions for the subregional planning committees as recommended requires the approval of the full SBCAG board. The specific change recommended by the South Coast Subregional Committee is to add the following sentence to Section 5 of the existing resolution:

A representative of the board of directors of any transit district created by statute that provides transit services within a subregion shall serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of any subregional planning committee.

Since the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District is currently the only statutorily created transit district in the county, the proposed change would only affect the membership of the South Coast Subregional Planning Committee, by adding a representative of the MTD board to

Member Agencies

Buellton ■ Carpinteria ■ Goleta ■ Guadalupe ■ Lompoc ■ Santa Barbara ■ Santa Maria ■ Solvang ■ Santa Barbara County

the committee. Although SBMTD is not a member of the full SBCAG board, many of the issues that the South Coast Subregional Committee handles involve transit services provided by the SBMTD (eg., 101 in Motion, South Coast Transit Priorities project, etc). MTD is responsible for providing transit services on the south coast and its district boundaries are essentially coterminous with the South Coast Subregional Planning Committee's planning area.

COMMITTEE REVIEW:

The South Coast Subregional Planning committee unanimously approved the recommended change in the membership of the subregional planning committees at its July 5, 2006 meeting.

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
FORMATION AND OPERATION OF
SUBREGIONAL PLANNING
COMMITTEES

RESOLUTION NO. 06-21

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) wishes to create greater public involvement in the planning issues, programs and projects that are within the jurisdiction of SBCAG, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG finds that certain issues, programs and projects may have a greater level of interest in one area of the county than in others, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG finds that local meetings on such subregionally important issues will enhance the level of public interest, awareness and involvement in the operations and goals of SBCAG, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG finds that subregional planning committees of the elected representative members of SBCAG established to deal with these issues, programs and projects within the subregions of the County, would be efficient and beneficial to the purposes of SBCAG, and:

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG has previously established subregional planning committees to address the foregoing concerns and wishes to designate the South Coast Subregional Planning Committee to serve as the board steering committee to assist in overseeing the development of the Route 101 Implementation Plan, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG finds that it is in the best interests of the public for North County residents to have a voice in the Route 101 Implementation Plan and for residents in all areas of the County to have a voice in other important subregional issues, which may have countywide effect in the future;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. As authorized by the SBCAG By-Laws, the SBCAG Chair may designate, upon the request of three or more members of the SBCAG Board, standing committees of the SBCAG Board, denominated as “subregional planning committees.”
2. Such subregional planning committees shall be established along geographic boundaries. No member agency’s territory shall be included within the purview of a subregional planning committee without the approval of that agency’s representative to SBCAG.
3. Non-inclusion of a member agency within a subregional planning committee shall not serve any detriment to that agency with regards to program participation, funding or any other consideration. Likewise, the failure of any subregion to form a subregional planning committee shall not serve as a detriment to any agency within that subregion.
4. Purpose – The purpose of the subregional planning committees shall be to increase public participation in the planning process of SBCAG and to establish a local forum for elected officials, staff, and members of the public to provide community input to SBCAG on matters within SBCAG’s jurisdiction with an emphasis on those issues of local importance to the subregion served. The subregional planning committee may address any issue or matter within the jurisdiction or purview of SBCAG or its associated functions, including Airport Land Use Commission, Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies, metropolitan planning organization, regional transportation planning agency or other SBCAG functions. The subregional planning committees shall serve primarily in an advisory capacity and as an adjunct of SBCAG. The subregional planning committees shall make recommendations to the full SBCAG Board of Directors on matters brought to its attention and, when so assigned by authority of the Board of Directors, a subregional planning committee may make discretionary operational decisions regarding the development of plans and specifications for a project, contents of a planning document or project study report, scheduling of a public participation meeting in support of an SBCAG project or other matters assigned to the committee by the full Board. Any member of a subregional planning committee who disagrees with any such discretionary decision by a

1 subregional planning committee may bring such decision to the full Board for review.
2 Any action by the subregional planning committee is subject to review by the full Board
3 of Directors at any time.

4 5. Membership and Quorum – Membership of a subregional planning committee shall
5 consist of, at least one county supervisor and city members representing no fewer than two
6 cities within the subregion involved. A subregion shall consist of the entire incorporated
7 area of the cities involved and a clearly designated portion or the entirety of the
8 supervisorial district/s involved. All county supervisors and all city members within a
9 subregion shall be members of the committee. A city member shall be the representative
10 or the alternate appointed by the city council to serve on the SBCAG board. A quorum
11 consisting of a majority of the named members of the committee or their appointed
12 alternates, including at least one county supervisor, shall be required to take any action by
13 the committee. The chair may also designate up to two SBCAG board members
14 representing member agencies other than those in the subregion on each subregional
15 board. The Caltrans District Director or his designee shall sit as a non-voting ex-officio
16 member of subregional planning committees. A representative of the board of directors of any
17 transit district created by statute that provides transit services within a subregion shall serve as a
18 non-voting, ex-officio member of any subregional planning committee.

19 6. Procedure – The subregional planning committees shall carry out their duties in
20 conformity with the following:
21 A. The subregional planning committee may make recommendations to the SBCAG
22 Board on programs, projects, funding and other issues within SBCAG’s
23 jurisdiction as they may affect the subregion of the committee.
24 B. The committee may review matters coming before the SBCAG Board and provide
25 the committee’s recommendation prior to SBCAG’s formal action on the item.
26 This recommendation may consist of “recommended,” “not recommended,” “no
27 recommendation,” a narrative report or a prioritized recommendation list. Any
28 recommendation must be approved by a majority of the membership of the

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committee and failure to achieve a majority vote, or the failure of the committee to review an item, shall be the equivalent of “no recommendation.” Minority reports may be provided to the SBCAG Board.

C. The committee shall not have the authority to restrict submission of matters to the SBCAG Board or to amend or reject staff submittals to the SBCAG Board.

D. The subregional planning committee may independently initiate discussion and study of policy matters, proposals and matters of public interest within the jurisdiction of SBCAG; however, such actions shall be undertaken solely for purposes of making recommendations to the SBCAG Board. Any of these matters requiring significant expenditures of staff time or financial resources shall be approved by the full SBCAG board.

E. When so assigned by authority of the Board of Directors, a subregional planning committee may make discretionary operational decisions regarding the development of plans and specifications for a project, contents of a planning document or project study report, scheduling of a public participation meeting in support of an SBCAG project or other matters assigned to the committee by the full Board. Any member of a subregional planning committee who disagrees with any such discretionary decision by a subregional planning committee may bring such decision to the full Board for review. Nothing in this paragraph shall authorize the subregional planning committee to contract for services, modify contracts, bind SBCAG in any way or take any action that is the statutory duty of the SBCAG Board of Directors. Any such action by the subregional planning committee is subject to review by the full Board of Directors at any time.

F. The committee shall elect a Chair from the named members of the committee. In the absence of said Chair a quorum of the committee may appoint an interim Chair. The Chair shall direct the conduct of meetings of the committee.

G. Meetings of the subregional planning committee shall be conducted in conformity with the Ralph M. Brown Act, including matters of public notice, agenda

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preparation and public participation.

H. The SBCAG Executive Director shall establish procedures to provide staff support to the subregional planning committees and budget for the operation of the committees.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, this 20th day of July, 2006, by the following vote:

- AYE
- NAY
- ABSTAIN

Attest:
James M. Kemp
Executive Director

By _____
Chair, Santa Barbara County Association of Governments

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
STEPHEN SHANE STARK
COUNTY COUNSEL

By _____
Kevin E. Ready, Sr.
Senior Deputy County Counsel

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