

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
KERN REGIONAL BLUEPRINT VISIONING PROJECT  
PLANNING DIRECTORS ROUNDTABLE NO. 5

KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM  
1401 19<sup>TH</sup> STREET, THIRD FLOOR  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA  
WEB SITE: [www.kerncog.org](http://www.kerncog.org)

FRIDAY  
NOVEMBER 3, 2006  
11:30 A.M.

Mr. Ball called the meeting to order at approximately 11:40 a.m. A “sign-in” sheet was provided.

**ROLL CALL**

Self Introductions:

Pam Taylor	Arvin
Paul Hellman	Bakersfield
Jim Movius	Bakersfield
Karen Northcutt	California City
Ted James	Kern County
Gerald Forde	McFarland
Jim McRae	Ridgecrest
Wayne Clausen	Shafter
David Dow	Shafter
Mike Lee	Taft
Alina Megerdom	Taft
Carey Boukai	Taft
Dennis McNamara	Wasco
Rick Iger	Kern Water Agency
Roger Funsten	Geometrix Consulting
Holly Hart	Smart Growth Coalition

Staff:

Rob Ball	Kern COG
Michael Heimer	Kern COG
Troy Hightower	Kern COG
Becky Napier	Kern COG
Raquel Pacheco	Kern COG
Linda Urata	Kern COG

Others/Visitors:

None

**I. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**II. MEETING SUMMARY/MINUTES**

Mr. Ball reviewed the minutes from the October 6, 2006 meeting and asked for the informed consent approval from the committee to accept the minutes as is. Hearing no dissensions, Mr. Ball moved on to the next item.

**IV. BLUEPRINT ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED INITIATIVES**

Mr. Ball discussed the external factors related to and driving the Kern Regional Blueprint Project and the recent formation of a policy level committee made up of elected representatives from each of the 8 valley COGs. A handout dated October 19, 2006, entitled “Project Environment & Related Initiatives” was distributed with the agenda. Mr. Ball discussed each item.

- A. Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act – Legacy for Users (SAFETEA—LU, 2005)

New regulations utilizing visualization techniques to portray the relationship between transportation and other planning considerations. Intent was to have decisions based on input from general population, not just professional technicians.

- B. Caltrans' Program – California Regional Blueprint Planning Program (2001)

Blueprint Grant program conducted in San Francisco, San Diego, Sacramento and Los Angeles.

- C. Federal Interagency Task Force on the San Joaquin Valley (2000)

The Task Force was officially created by Executive Order of President Clinton in 2000, implemented by President Bush in 2002, and amended and reaffirmed by President Bush in October, 2004.

The Task Force had four major initiatives: Jobs, Clean Air/Clean Energy, Financial Education, and Rural Infrastructure.

The Task Force is presently integrating its efforts within the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) which was established by Governor Schwarzenegger partially in response to the request of the Task Force.

- D. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Strategic Action Plan (June, 2005)

Governor Schwarzenegger signed the Executive Order on June 24, 2005, in Fresno establishing the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. The Executive Order directed 8 Cabinet Secretaries to work with elected officials and civic leaders to develop a Strategic Action Proposal by November 2006, for long-term well-being and economic prosperity in the San Joaquin Valley.

A meeting of the California Partnership was held October 26 & 27 at Fresno State University. The Partnership took public comment on draft strategic action plans related to many subject areas including but not limited to transportation; land use, agriculture, and housing; water quality, supply and reliability; health care, for presentation to the Governor on November 1.

- E. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

- a. Provision of grant matching funds
- b. The District's stated interest in "...decisions that reduce vehicle emissions associated with population growth" and "...measures to reduce or offset emissions associated with mobile sources."
- c. Regulation 8 controlling particulate matter (street sweepers, development, etc.) will be implemented this year.

- F. California Center for Rural Leadership – Blueprint Learning Network & other programs.

- G. Assembly Member Parra's Legislation

- a. AB 31 – would have consolidated all Metropolitan Planning Agencies.
- b. AB 1878 – would have consolidated the valley Councils of Governments except Kern, San Joaquin and Stanislaus.

Assembly Member Parra has indicated she will resurrect this bill if reelected.

H. Fiscal Incentives (Bonds, November, 2006)

- a. Proposition 1B – Projects will receive higher ratings for State funding if they conform to a regional Blueprint.
- b. Proposition 1C – Fiscal incentives for housing that conforms to a blueprint.

**V. COG BOARD DIRECTIVES FROM OCTOBER 19, 2006 MEETING**

Mr. Ball discussed the following directives received from the Kern COG Board:

- Planning Directors Roundtable to have committee role that includes making recommendations to the COG Board.
- COG staff is to communicate/coordinate with local agency planning staffs on:
  - Mapping assumptions to avoid oversimplification and misunderstanding by the public.
  - Merging local general plan updates and Blueprint outreach efforts to minimize confusion by the public.
  - Synchronizing timing of Blueprint community workshops with local general plan outreach meetings.
  - Creating Blueprint products that help to offset the cost of general plan updates such as a summary of alternatives for each sub area, or a housing data supplement.
  - Creating a general vision document that could be voluntarily implemented by local jurisdictions through their general plan process.

**VI. CONSULTANT SELECTION TO PUBLIC OUTREACH CONTRACT**

Mr. Ball gave an update on the status of the selection of the consultant contract. All present requested to see the draft scope under negotiation.

**VII. PUBLIC OUTREACH TOOLS: (Modeling, Gaming, Charettes, etc.)**

Mr. Ball discussed UPLAN and displayed maps to discuss its capabilities. He went into detail on one possible scenario of how the community outreach workshops might be held. Some communities expressed uncertainty about the techniques presented and others were more positive. Additional information on the status of local General Plan (GP) updates was needed to get a better handle on the coordination and synchronization directive from the COG Board. A quick survey revealed 8 of 12 jurisdictions in Kern are in a GP update process. Delano, Maricopa, Shafter, Wasco – no GP update planned except for GP amendments and the required Housing Element Update by June 2008.

**VIII. REVISED PLANNING AREA CAPACITY ANALYSIS (Full Buildout) AND STEPPED BACK FORECAST TO 2050**

In the interest of time, this item was not discussed.

**IX. REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT (RHNA) HOUSING ELEMENT/CHAS DATA SUPPLEMENT**

In the interest of time, this item was not discussed.

**X. SUMMARIZE ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- A. Each committee member requested that Kern COG e-mail the revised Project Scope of the Facilitator Contract when it is received.
  - B. The committee requested that Kern COG make an inventory of where each community is in their General Plan update processes and if consultants have been hired.
  - C. Each community that is in the General Plan update process is to provide Mr. Ball with a schedule when it becomes available.
  - D. A follow-up meeting with the Metropolitan Bakersfield participants should be scheduled once the above info is available.
- XI. OTHER BUSINESS/NEXT MEETING – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2006, 11:30 – WORKING LUNCH**
- XII. ADJOURN 1:35 P.M.**