

**TECHNICAL PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
Tuesday, September 15, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Technical Planning Subcommittee (TPS) meeting was called to order on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at 10:05 a.m. by Chairwoman Lauri Aylain and Vice Chairman Joseph Lim.

MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:

David Sawyer, Planning Manager
Leisa Lukes, Planning Director
Ken Lyons, Associate Planner
Greg Trousdell, Associate Planner
Gabriel Papp, Associate Planner

AGENCY:

City of La Quinta
City of Cathedral City
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
City of Desert Hot Springs

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Barbara Burrow, Junior Planner
Gabriel Perez, Senior Planner
Corrie Kates, Community Development Director
Bob Lyman, TLMA Regional Office Manager
Margaret Park, Planning Director

AGENCY

City of Blythe
City of Coachella
City of Indian Wells
County of Riverside
Agua Caliente Band of
Cahuilla Indians

ALSO PRESENT:

Katie Barrows
Bill Gayk

CVAG
RCTLMA

STAFF PRESENT:

Aurora Wilson
Katie Barrows
Jim Sullivan
Lisa Trimarchi

2. FINALIZATION OF AGENDA, ADDITIONS & REVISIONS

None.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. TECHNICAL PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER AND DIRECTOR COMMENTS

CVAG is planning a 4-hour quarterly AICP training on Law & Ethics after their meeting in November. Jason Ackerman will conduct the Law portion of the training and two people at BB&K will conduct the Ethics portion.

Please inform Jim Sullivan of any topics of interest to the committee. He and Jacob are finding topics about alternate forms of energy for training planned in January and eight of these trainings are planned within the next two years.

Lisa Trimarchi is a temp from the county TAP program, filling in for Carol who's had surgery.

Gabriel Papp is representing Martin Magana, Planning Manager of the City of Desert Hot Springs.

CVCC/MSHCP impact litigation fee changes will be discussed at meetings in October and November and will continue for several months. The topic of interest will be the exemption policy. Where fees should increase annually with inflation, the increase did not happen in July because the permit was not received until October, 2008. The current fee policy is confusing because it was originally written for building permits. The word building was changed to grading making it less precise. CVAG is supposed to have an active grading permit as of October 1, 2000.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE July 21, 2009 TECHNICAL PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

IT WAS MOVED BY JOSEPH LIM, CITY OF INDIO AND SECONDED BY DAVID SAWYER, CITY OF LA QUINTA, TO APPROVE THE JULY 21, 2009 MINUTES. THE MOTION CARRIED.

7. **UPDATE ON THE COACHELLA VALLEY-WIDE GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY**

Katie Barrows, Director of Energy & Environmental Resources, provided a progress report on CVAG's Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

Mrs. Barrows stated CVAG has been working in conjunction with the South Coast Air Quality Management District on preparation of the regional Green House Gas inventory for the Coachella Valley. South Coast AQMD has offered to provide much of the technical support and staff time associated with doing this inventory.

Essentially the South Coast AQMD is preparing a regional Greenhouse Gas inventory for the entire Coachella Valley and will break it down by the individual jurisdictions. CVAG anticipates finishing up the data gathering in September, and by October putting a report together.

Mrs. Barrows stated that AQMD has done a Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the County of San Bernardino, and they are following a similar model for the completion of CVAG's inventory. AQMD monitors many of the elements that are required for an inventory and are performing the calculations and completing the inventory according to the same protocol.

Mrs. Barrows provided an overview of the elements of the report as follows. The inventory breaks out all the source categories which include the following: Fuel combustion, Waste disposal, Cleaning and surface coating, Petroleum production, Marketing, Industrial processes, Solvents, On-road vehicles, Off-road mobile sources, and other mobile sources.

CVAG is looking at the use of fuel at the airport obtained from the City of Palm Springs and are putting together the inventory for the whole Coachella Valley. There will be one list of numbers that identifies greenhouse gas emissions for the entire valley, which will be broken down for each individual jurisdiction.

The years to be covered start with the base year of 2005, because very good energy partnership data has already been collected which entails the electrical usage for all of the jurisdictions from Coachella Valley utilities. Both AQMD and CVAG agree upon the year 2005 because it precedes the recession showing a better average use and better average for greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, rather than using a more current year, 2005 will essentially be used as the current year. CVAG will also forecast the greenhouse gas emissions out to the year 2020 for the area. To forecast backwards or forwards much more than that reduces the accuracy of the estimates quite a bit, because you're projecting out using models. As it would be possible to do that, CVAG has decided to stick with 2005 and 2020.

It is anticipated that this inventory will serve as a baseline for the Coachella valley to use as CVAG takes a look at things like SB375. This inventory could be used by the individual jurisdictions for general plan updates and so forth. Katie will meet with the individual council members for their feedback. There may be elements of the inventory that don't provide the level of detail found if done for an individual jurisdiction. In that case a city can decide to take another step if necessary, but the inventory should certainly provide the baseline emissions evaluation for each jurisdiction. The unincorporated areas of the county which are in our territory will be separately reported.

Tracking greenhouse gas emissions with the current data has not yet been very successful, so there is an interest in assessing the fertilizers used in golf courses. With the application of fertilizers in the area, golf courses could be a more significant factor in greenhouse gas emissions than is true in other places. CVAG would like specific contacts with the golf courses in the individual communities that might support their efforts. They have attempted to contact the Golf Course Superintendents Association but have not been successful.

An email will be sent to everyone about how municipal golf courses could provide the emissions data. By October, CVAG will be working with AQMD on a draft report.

Questions rose regarding how AQMD will break down energy usage. Mrs. Barrows stated that electricity use is already provided through the energy partnership and their subcommittee. Southern California Edison (SCE), Imperial Irrigation District (IID), and the Gas Company provide usage by city which is broken out in a number of categories.

AQMD gathers data by using the same two kilometer by two kilometer grid system by zip code for monitoring air quality. The mobile sources, stationary sources, etc. will be broken out by jurisdiction using that grid system and should represent the usage and emissions for each city.

AQMD perfected this model with San Bernardino County which Mrs. Barrows will circulate to the members. This is a ground up division inventory where San Bernardino County and AQMD make their own calculations from all the raw data.

A discussion ensued.

8. UPDATE ON THE REVIEW OF LOCAL MODEL WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE

ORDINANCE FROM RIVERSIDE COUNTY WATER TASK FORCE

Katie Barrows provided an update on the Water Ordinance Subcommittee meeting held Tuesday, September 8, 2009.

The Coachella Valley and Mission Springs Water Districts have completed their review of their water ordinances. Things are moving forward at the Indio Water Authority that was not able to attend the meeting. CVWD is updating their ordinance to meet all state requirements. They anticipate the ordinance to be adopted by the cities with the exception of Coachella, Indio and Desert Hot Springs.

Desert Water Agency in the City of Palm Springs has identified that it has taken the CVWD ordinance as a model and adapted it as appropriate for specific issues related to the City of Palm Springs. How existing landscapes are treated is an issue that continues to be a subject of discussion.

The state model ordinance requires landscapes installed by professional landscapers, developers, or individual homeowners to be 5,000 square feet or larger. Some jurisdictions exempt single family homes from ordinance consideration. Single family homes in Desert Hot Springs and Indio may still be subject to their ordinance. Each individual jurisdiction could make their own determination as long they meet the state requirement.

CVWD will incorporate comments from this first meeting and then return. By early October, a new draft ordinance will be ready for circulation to the individual cities for consideration by the councils. In coordination with CVWD, a public workshop with landscape professionals, members of the public, and others will be held in mid October. A date will be set in coordination with water agencies to satisfy the public speaking requirements for consideration of the ordinance and provide a chance for landscape professionals and others to participate and provide feedback. This should go on council agendas in October/November.

There is no one at the State level of the Department of Water Resources overseeing implementation of AB1881; they are essentially using the honor system. It is expected that all of ordinances submitted after the cities' approval by January 2010 will meet state requirements. Local agencies leave themselves open to legal challenges if they do not follow the law.

A discussion ensued.

9. 2012 ESTIMATED GROWTH FORECAST RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Bill Gayk, Chief Demographer with the Riverside County Center of Demographic Research discussed Riverside County/SCAG growth forecast numbers.

The intent of this growth forecast is to update the forecast prepared in 2005 and adopted by CVAG in 2006. There is a handout in the agenda packet that demonstrates the estimated growth forecast timeline.

Problems have been discovered with the SCAG's 5.5 acre grid cell data because significant portions of the county were omitted. SCAG is repairing the data and will provide County Planning and each of the cities the preliminary forecast by the RIVTAM Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ).

Over the past 2½ years, the county along with WRCOG, CVAG, and RCTC developed a transportation model for Riverside County. As part of that effort, jointly defined were a series of small area geographies labeled as TAZ. The county has been cut up into approximately 1,800 of these TAZ's and from which they will provide data.

Mr. Gayk will provide the maps corresponding to those zones at this meeting and by next week will provide the members the forecast for each one of their cities zones. Starting with the second week of October, the County along with SCAG will meet individually with each city as well as the County Planning staff to review the forecast. After these individual meetings, and based on preliminary input, the cities will be provided a preliminary forecast so they can initiate some of their work. This should continue until the early part of 2010 where we'll seek to have the growth forecast approved by CVAG, WRCOG and the County Board of Supervisors.

The big picture is to provide the County's input into SCAG for their development of the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan. One item to be addressed is SCS or Sustainable Communities Strategies and must be obtained for each of the subregions within SCAG. These growth forecasts will be the benchmark used to develop the SCS and the SCS is likely to incorporate some modification into the baseline growth forecast. Once these are adopted in 2012, they will be part of the Regional Transportation Plan, and will also be used for the next Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).

The horizon year for the next RHNA will be 2020 and the 2020 numbers will be provided to each city to evaluate. A word of caution, SCAG has provided the grid cell data and is working to get the numbers corrected. Therefore, pay attention to the land use at this point.

The numbers being developed will be consistent with SCAG numbers, but by a smaller geography. They will be smaller than their TAZ's and certainly larger than the 5.5 acre grid cell data. This data will be input into the RIVTAM model.

A discussion ensued.

Packets were provided to each member.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

10. TECHNICAL PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE ATTENDANCE ROSTER FY 2009/10

None.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regularly scheduled meeting date for CVAG's **Technical Planning Subcommittee** will be at **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 2009.**

The next meeting of CVAG's **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 9, 2009.**

SCAG 2012 RTP/ SCS Growth Forecast meetings are being held on **Tuesday, October 6th and Thursday, October 8th at CVAG in Conference Room 105.**

Cities not on the agenda need to contact Jacob to be scheduled for a meeting where there will be information disseminated and collected.

On Tuesday, November 17th, CVAG will host an AICP class on Law & Ethics. The workshop will be held from 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Best, Best & Krieger, LLP will be the facilitators of the workshop. The workshop will provide four hours of credit.

Lauri Aylaian, Community Development Director for Palm Desert is trying to arrange for staff training locally on SB375 and CEQA related issues. Contact her to coordinate something so it fits in everyone's schedule.

On Monday, October 5th, the American Public Works Association Valley Chapter and the Inland Empire Planning Association will host their second annual joint meeting at the Weston Country Club. The meeting will be held at noon. Tom Kirk from CVAG will be the guest speaker and will discuss I-10 and other transportation activities.

12. **INFORMATIONAL: COMMITTEE GOALS FOR 2009/2010**

Goal #1	Legislation including AB 32 & SB 375
Goal #2	Alternative Energy Planning
Goal #3	Regional Bike/Trail Development
Goal #4	Affordable Housing Projects
Information Item	Regional Trans. Plan & CV Yr 2035 Traffic Model

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Trimarchi
Assistant in place of Carol Rayner
during her absence until December 1, 2009