



Bay Area Regional Prosperity Plan Project

Steering Committee #5 Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: Friday, May 10, 2013

Introduction

The fifth meeting of the Regional Prosperity Plan Steering Committee was held on Friday, May 10, 2013, in the Claremont Conference Room, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, 101 Eighth Street, Oakland, CA 94607-4700. The meeting was attended by the following Steering Committee members:

<i>Seat</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization / Agency</i>
ABAG Board Member	Scott Haggerty	Alameda County
ABAG Board Member	Julie Pierce	City of Clayton
ABAG Board Member	Eric Mar	City and County of San Francisco
MTC Commissioner	Jim Spering	Solano County
Prosperity Co-Chair (CBO)	Derecka Mehrens	Working Partnerships, USA
Prosperity Co-Chair (NGO)	Karen Engel	East Bay Economic Development Alliance
Prosperity Co-Chair (Public)	Laurel Prevetti	City of San Jose
Housing Co-Chair (CBO)	Carlos Romero	Urban Ecology
Housing Co-Chair (NPO)	Evelyn Stivers	Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California
Housing Co-Chair (Public)	Duane Bay	County of San Mateo
Equity Collaborative Co-Chair (CBO)	Dawn Phillips	Just Cause, Causa Justa
Equity Collaborative Co-Chair (NPO)	Gen Fujioka	Chinatown Community Development Center, San Francisco
Community Foundation	Kate White	San Francisco Foundation
City / County At-Large	Margot Lederer Prado	City of Oakland

In addition to MTC and ABAG staff, the following members of the public attended the meeting: Ann Cheng, TransForm; Rui Bing Zheng, EBASE; and Peter Cohen, CCHO.

The agenda for the Steering Committee meeting included the following items:

1. Housing the Workforce Round 2 Sub-Grants 2013-2014 Award Recommendations
2. Equity Initiative Round 1 Sub-Grants 2013-2014 Award Recommendations
3. Economic Prosperity Strategy Outreach Plan

The following handouts were distributed at the meeting:

- March 8, 2013, Steering Committee #4 Meeting Summary
- Recommendations for Awards – Housing the Workforce Round 2 Sub-Grants 2013-2014
- Recommendations for Awards – Equity Initiative Round 1 Sub-Grants 2013-2014
- Economic Prosperity Strategy Outreach Plan

Meeting Summary

Comments from the Steering Committee meeting are summarized below by agenda topic.

Introductions

Duane Bay, co-chair of the Steering Committee, welcomed and introduced its newest members: Karen Engel, East Bay Economic Development Alliance; and Carlos Romero, Urban Ecology. Duane also informed the Committee that a new co-chair for the Steering Committee will be selected at the July 2013 meeting.

Housing the Workforce Round 2 Sub-Grants 2013-2014 Award Recommendations

Vikrant Sood, MTC, provided an overview of the sub-grant program as well as the process for releasing the call for projects, evaluating the applications and developing award recommendations. Vikrant informed the Steering Committee that the Joint Projects Team (JPT) has recommended eight projects for funding through the second round of Housing the Workforce Sub-Grants, listed in Table I and Table II of the memo attached to the agenda packet.

Steering Committee members provided the following comments:

- Clarify whether there is good geographic distribution of funds through the grant program, and if outlying areas such as eastern Contra Costa County communities are receiving funding. Vikrant clarified that the JPT has addressed geographic distribution in the evaluation process. Committee members requested staff to prepare a chart or table to show geographic distribution of grants awarded so far.
- Clarify whether Round 2 applications will be made publicly available to the third round of applicants. Vikrant clarified that the successful applications will be made available at the time that the third round of call for projects is released.
- Clarify whether the proposed parking database project by TransForm will recommend solutions that are tailored to local conditions in different jurisdictions across the region. Ann Cheng from TransForm confirmed that the project will account for urban and sub-urban conditions in the region, and will tailor solutions to local context.

Supervisor Scott Haggerty moved to accept JPT recommendations for funding the eight projects recommended by the JPT through Round 2 of the Housing the Workforce Sub-Grants. Councilwoman Julie Pierce seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The following members abstained due to a conflict of interest: Evelyn Stivers and Duane Bay.

Equity Initiative Round 1 Sub-Grants 2013-2014 Award Recommendations

Vikrant Sood, MTC, provided an overview of the sub-grant program as well as the process for releasing the call for projects, evaluating the applications and developing award recommendations. Vikrant informed the Steering Committee that the Joint Projects Team (JPT) has recommended six projects for funding through the first round of Equity Initiative Sub-Grants, listed in the memo attached to the agenda packet.

Steering Committee members provided the following comments:

- Clarify whether grass-roots organizations face barriers to applying for and receiving funding through the sub-grant program. Provide feedback to HUD regarding any barriers due to grant requirements. Barriers may include requirements related to liability insurance, reporting to HUD and application process.
- Conduct additional outreach to grassroots organizations to inform them about future funding opportunities.
- Clarify whether key findings from sub-grant projects will be documented in a toolkit that can be shared with organizations and jurisdictions across the region.

Supervisor Scott Haggerty moved to accept JPT recommendations for funding the six projects recommended by the JPT through Round 1 of the Equity Initiative Sub-Grants. Dawn Phillips seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The following members abstained due to a conflict of interest: Evelyn Stivers and Duane Bay.

Economic Prosperity Strategy Outreach Plan

Therese Trivedi, MTC, provided an update on the status of the Economic Prosperity Strategy project and described key assumptions that will guide technical analysis and outreach activities. Therese informed the Committee that the first round of outreach workshops is planned for May and June 2013. Egon Terplan, SPUR, provided an overview of the outreach plan for the project and highlighted the approach to engage a diverse range of stakeholders in seven sub-regions. Egon invited Committee members to attend the workshops in May and June 2013.

Steering Committee members provided the following comments:

- Clarify how the project will engage low- and moderate-income (LMI) workers in the process. Kirsten Spaulding from the consultant team provided an example of how workers will have an opportunity to provide input in San Mateo County. Youth United for Community Action (YUCA), a grassroots organization based in the City of East Palo Alto will be funded through the Equity sub-grants program to conduct surveys with LMI workers and bring that information to the three rounds of workshops.
- Engage the Linked Learning Academy in the process.
- Continue to focus on the needs of workers and employers in the region. Solutions that emerge from discussions in the seven sub-regions will have relevance in other parts of the Bay Area.
- Document and share lessons-learned and best practices on how to engage LMI workers in economic development processes.
- Clarify the definition of quality jobs and low- and moderate-income workers. Egon clarified that quality jobs pay a living wage, which is \$18-\$30 per hour or \$37,000 per year in the Bay Area, based on an analysis of median wage in the region; and provide career advancement opportunities. Egon clarified that the analysis will not consider benefits since they vary by occupation and job.
- Consider place-based strategies that address rising development pressures in cities like San Francisco, where high real estate costs are displacing low- and medium-wage jobs, forcing low- and medium-wage workers to commute further to access the same job. Longer commutes increase transportation costs for these workers, who already spend a higher proportion of their income on transportation than higher-wage workers.
- Analyze the impact of local policies on an LMI worker's ability to access quality jobs. Kirsten clarified that the project will document policies that are a barrier to access.
- Analyze impediments that prevent LMI workers from being competitive for quality jobs, including lack of access to online tools such as LinkedIn.

- Clarify the audience for the Regional Prosperity Strategy. Egon clarified that the project will focus on all sectors and stakeholders including businesses, local jurisdictions, education and training providers, advocates, and regional agencies, among others.

Egon clarified that the consultant team will report back on the key findings of the outreach activities and technical analysis in the July and September 2013 meetings of the Steering Committee.

Next Steps

The next meeting of the Steering Committee is scheduled for Friday, July 12, 2013, from 12 noon to 2 pm in the Claremont Conference Room at MTC. ABAG Board members and MTC Commissioners on the Steering Committee elected to extend their terms for one more year (till July 2014). The Committee will select new co-chairs at the July meeting.

Peter Cohen invited Committee members to a public forum on Wednesday, June 12, 2013, to discuss the implications of Plan Bay Area in the City of San Francisco. Dawn Phillips invited Committee members to two workshops, on Thursday, June 20 and June 27, 2013, to discuss the Development without Displacement report being authored by Causa Justa::Just Cause.

Staff Contact: Vikrant Sood, MTC/ABAG
vsood@mtc.ca.gov, 510-817-5828