



Date: January 25, 2010 for February 3rd Meeting
To: LAFCO Commissioners
From: Executive Officer
Subject: Regional Blueprint Being Prepared by Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments

Summary: The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) is preparing a regional blueprint for the 3-county area, which will attempt to integrate land use and transportation plans into a consensus preferred growth scenario. LAFCO staff is participating in the technical advisory committee.

Recommendation: Receive status report.

Utilizing a state transportation planning grant, the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) is preparing a "Blueprint" for the 3-county AMBAG region. AMBAG has convened a technical advisory committee that is assisting the AMBAG staff in defining several scenarios and formatting the materials that will be used during the public participation phase of Blueprint development. City planners, county planners, and LAFCO staff members from each county are on the technical advisory committee.

In March 2009, the AMBAG Board adopted the following goals for the Blueprint:

1. Evaluate current trends regarding the distribution of population and employment in comparison with improving mobility and accessibility, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, providing housing and employment opportunities, and protecting natural and cultural resources.
2. Develop a preferred growth scenario that maximizes the achievement of these outcomes while retaining the autonomy of local jurisdictions.
3. Use the preferred growth scenario as a basis for SB375's Sustainable Communities Strategy, which will be used to inform regional transportation plans and to be a platform for future regional housing needs and housing elements.
4. Provide a forum for ongoing discussions and coordination of issues of regional significance.

AMBAG staff expects the public review draft of the Blueprint to be released in March 2010.

For more information, access the website:
<http://www.ambag.org/planning/blueprint/index.htm>