

Date: August 31, 2022

Subject: Strategic Growth Council June 28, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Reporting Period: June 2022 – August 2022

Staff Lead: Kimberly Davila, Executive Fellow

Recommended Action

Approval of the June 28, 2022, Strategic Growth Council Meeting Minutes.

Strategic Growth Council June 28, 2022 - Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order

Vice Chair Ross called the meeting to order at 1:07pm.

Agenda Item #2: Roll Call

Council Members and Representatives Present:

Sloane Viola (Designee), Program Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR);

Frank Cardenas, Public Member;

Jared Blumenfeld, Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)

Melinda Grant (Designee), Undersecretary, California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH);

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)

Toks Omishakin, Secretary, California State Transportation

Nicole Capretz, Public Member;

Karen Ross, Secretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

Chancellor Juan Sánchez Muñoz, Public Member;

Rohan Radhakrishna (Designee), Deputy Director, California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS), on behalf of Secretary Mark Ghaly;

Agenda Item #3: ACTION: Approval of Minutes

Motion was made Chancellor Munoz and seconded by Councilmember Capretz to approve the February 28, 2022 meeting minutes.

Motion passes (9-0-1*; Sloane Viola abstained).

*Marks abstention or absence from vote

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Agenda Item #4: Executive Director's Report

Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Executive Director, SGC

Council Comment:

Ross (CDFA): Would like to personally welcome new members and is excited for the summer interns and the work they will learn from this summer.

Lynn von Koch Liebert: It's within SGC statute to convene. It's important to bring together stakeholders and partners to bring together coordination and timeliness.

Capretz: Thank you to Lynn and team for scaling and replicating models. As a direct result of state level work, San Diego invested in equity place-based organizations to do outreach in communities of concern. Have sent leaders in San Diego to SGC and opportunities for regions across the State to learn from SGC's models. SGC has launched a new way of accessing government and accessing funds.

Crowfoot (CNRA): Would describe growth of SGC in three chapters: formation, program development, and integration. I love the idea of a policy action conference and using SGC as a hub to learn from each other. My feedback would be for you to consider environmental and economic sustainability on all levels.

Viola (OPR): Opportunity to see projects on ground is transformative. Echo Secretary Crowfoot's and Capretz's points and looking forward to charting long term vision with five-year plan.

Cardenas: Where will conference be and how will it be marketed? I'm wondering if conference will be opportunity to showcase some of these programs?

Von Koch-Liebert: Conference will be in CNRA meeting. We are early in stages of marketing and will come with more information during next council meeting. We want it to be a working and learning conference with deliverables that help us move policy to action. Would love input and feedback on thought leaders, community organizations, etc. Stakeholder engagement process will be a model to share from new programs.

Omashakin (CalSTA): It was great to see site visit and see the climate, economic, and equity strategies of the program.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Agenda Item #5: Consent Calendar

Approve the staff recommendation to increase by 15% (or \$97,500) the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program award made in FY 18-19 (Round 5) to the Conservancy in order to accommodate its purchase of a conservation easement on the Dixon Ranch.

Council Comment:

No council comment.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Motion passes (10-0-0).

Motion was made by Secretary Crowfoot and seconded by Secretary Omashakin.

Agenda Item #6: Discussion: The California Transportation Assessment (AB285): Update on Stakeholder Engagement Process

Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Executive Director, SGC

Egon Terplan, Senior Advisor, OPR

Updates on the completed stakeholder engagement process and highlights of proposed actions suggested by stakeholders.

Council Comment:

Omishakin (CalSTA): Several partners you spoke to is commendable. Thank you for outreach work. This boils down to policy and funding direction and should align with larger goals we have for California. To make a difference and make the State more livable. We're doing a lot through CAPTI and CTP2050. We have been paying attention to the budget and is unbelievable as it relates to transportation. Our challenge is to move funding across the board to create more balance. We must balance our investments and CalSTA will continue to work to achieve our goals for the people of the State.

Capretz: Does the state have a formula as to how much we must invest in RTPs?

Omishakin (CalSTA): If we're going to see a mode shift, it must be convenient, safe, and affordable. There is no requirement, but there are set asides.

Blumenfeld (CalEPA): Huge lift from the team to develop outreach and stakeholder engagement. There is lots of connection with Air Resources Board Scoping plan. We must plan and fund and implement our transportation system differently. Reforming our transportation system is central to our greenhouse emission goals, but also equity. We're looking through the flexibility and the barriers it poses to implementing plans. When we're talking about flexibility, it's not doing anything that exceeds our goals.

Crowfoot (CRNA): VMT is an area state has not made progress in the last decade. Please sign us up to help you accelerate goals. We're thinking through mitigation in advance and allowing projects to buy into that regional mitigation that will optimize the investment in mitigation.

Radhakrishna (CHHS): At CHHS, we seek to approve lives of the most vulnerable. Health place index and health harms and benefits, and community engagement. Want to highlight action #1 and #5, transportation is directly related to health. 9% of deaths in California are associated with lack of physical activity. Thank you for pointing out gray in the graph. Due to systemic racism, communities have the most to gain from active transportation. Regarding action #2, we support 2050 plan and look forward to elevating quality of life and public health.

Cardenas: Transportation policy can be widely inaccessible. GHG and VMT keep increasing, and aspirations and promises won't get us there. We must find ways to integration measurable and accountable outcomes. We need a gap analysis, a fiscally constrained analysis, to find what is doable and fundable by 2050. Organized labor up and down the state on what a shift in transportation might mean for them and their members. We have never been under these conditions as a species where the carbon dioxide level has been this high.

Public Comment:

Sofia Rafikova, Coalition for Clean Air

Bill Higgins, California Association Councils of Governments

Agenda Item #7: DISCUSSION: Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities: Update on Round 7 Guidelines Revision Process

Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Executive Director, SGC

Marc Caswell, AHSC Program Manager, SGC

- a. Update on outreach and feedback to date, including responses to [Policy Discussion Document](#)
- b. Response to January Council Motion regarding scoring and quantification methodologies and regional differences

Council Comment:

Deputy Secretary Darwin Moosavi joined meeting to cover for Secretary Omashakin.

Blumenfeld (CalEPA): Great level of preparation from staff, supports staff recommendations. Wants to highlight urgency around climate change and shift to all electric construction, and shift to all transit types.

Crowfoot (CNRA): Supports staff recommendation to shift to all electric building design requirement to delay implementation of utility allowance calculator and modify pro housing requirement. Pro housing designation a strong incentive for cities. Ensuring programs are meeting mark for criteria in way that minimally complex for jurisdictions to apply. For future considerations, affordable housing criteria include climate resiliency to make sure affordable housing continue to protect people given changes in temperatures.

Munoz: Supportive of recommendations and preemptive pro housing designations. About all electric requirement, what is general sentiment? Do contractors have concern or uptake in program raises no concern about additional requirement?

Marc Caswell: In Round 6 we've evaluated how people have responded. 90% of projects achieved point in all electric. Folks really saw value of doing all electric. When offering points, if all or most of projects are achieving points, we want to nudge folks forward for projects achieving sustainability. Technology is there and there is opportunity to achieve this goal. Some concern over price of this change.

Grant (BCSH): Collaboration is efficient and thank you team for things we don't see, including interagency work. In all electric discussion, is there any one missing or who is missing? Is there anyone who's not going to be competitive in this process? I appreciate you looking for places to nudge and reach for and accessing what this is to get folks there.

Councilmember Capretz: We want parity in outcome. Every region going to be experiencing extraordinary circumstances, and in looking at chart you created by my request, there is disparity in outcome we should be careful about. Maybe we should think about regional distribution, we shouldn't throw away that idea.

Viola (OPR): Echo support for all electric requirement because past projects have demonstrated the viability of all electric design, so it makes sense to make it a requirement. AHSC is an incentive program, and SGC seems like a great place for taking best practices and moving the needle to make them standard practice. At what point are we revisiting full point for projects that have applied for pro housing jurisdiction?

Radhakrishna (CHHS): Thank you for site visit, would like to build on Housing as a Climate Strategy, would like to reframe as housing as a climate and equity strategy. Would like to take us back to statute of the program, describing improving health equity. The health component by designing for all electric

and feasibility and rising costs of natural gas. Health cost also needs to be added to this. Strongly supports pro housing and housing first as health determinants of health quality. The benefit of pro housing is also implementing anti-displacement measures.

Moosavi (CalSTA): Added similar criteria to incentivize pro housing in CalSTA programs in spirit of pro housing rather than just designation. Step in the right direction in this program and supports recommendations.

Cardenas: Supports recommendations and wants to address councilmember Capretz's comment on regional distribution. I want to put out numbers to join councilmember Capretz to be mindful of most recent track record of disproportionality.

Public Comment:

Violet Flocks, Carpenters/ Contractors Cooperation Committee

Agenda Item #8: Public Comment

Karen Ross, Vice Chair

Matt Read, Staff Counsel, SGC

Public Comment:

Margaret Gordan, West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project

Agenda Item #9: Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:46 pm