

San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

c/o Madera County Transportation Commission – 2001 Howard Road, Suite 201 – Madera, CA 93637
Phone: 559-675-0721 – FAX: 559-675-9328



**Madera County
Transportation
Commission**
Patricia Taylor
Chair

**Kings County
Association of
Governments**
Terri King
Vice Chair

**Fresno
Council of
Governments**
Tony Boren

**Kern
Council of
Governments**
Ahron Hakimi

**Merced County
Association of
Governments**
Marjie Kirn (Interim)

**San Joaquin
Council of
Governments**
Andrew Chesley

**Stanislaus
Council of
Governments**
Carlos Yamzon (Interim)

**Tulare County
Association of
Governments**
Ted Smalley

Meeting Agenda Thursday, August 2, 2012 Time: 2:00 p.m.

Madera County Transportation Commission
2001 Howard Road, Suite 201
Madera, California 93637

Toll Free Number: 1-800-325-1307
Participant Code: 243245

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. July 5, 2012 Directors' Meeting (*enclosure*)

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

2. SB 375, Modeling & FTIP/AQ Update (*enclosure*) P. Taylor
Receive update and discuss next steps
3. California Transportation Commission (CTC) T. Boren
Needs Assessment
Approve Valleywide input for Ten-Year Revenue Report
4. Map 21 (new federal transportation bill) P. Taylor
Discuss funding and policy implications for the Valley
5. SJV RPTA Directors' Committee By-laws M. Sigala
*Approve cost sharing agreement for legal review of
Sunshine Laws*
6. SR 99 Bond Savings Program A. Hakimi
Discuss current cost savings

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The following items are for informational purposes and require no action or vote. A member of the public or Director may request that any informational item be “pulled” for further discussion.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 7. High Speed Rail | HSR Staff |
| 8. Caltrans Directors Report | C. Bowen
S. Ehlert |
| 9. Interregional Passenger Rail Act of 2012 | D. Leavitt |
| 10. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley | S. Dabbs |
| 11. Revised SR 99 Business Plan | R. Ball |
| 12. Proposition 84/ Blueprint / SACOG SCS Workshop | R. Terry |
| 13. Implementation of San Joaquin Rail Authority (SB-325) | T. Smalley |
| 14. San Joaquin Valley Greenprint | C. Thompson |
| 15. Interregional Goods Movement Plan | M. Sigala |
| 16. Regional Energy Planning | M. Sigala |
| 17. Fall Policy Conference | T. King |
| 18. Valley Legislative Affairs Committee (VLAC) | J. Finley |

OTHER ITEMS

19. Director Items
20. Public Presentations for Items Not on Agenda. This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but NOT on this agenda. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes. Note: The general public may comment on listed agenda items as they are considered.

Next Directors Meeting: Thursday, September 6, 2012 (Fresno)

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

The Madera County Transportation Commission offices and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact the Madera County Transportation Commission at (559) 675-0721, at least 3 days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

12. Proposition 84/ Blueprint / SACOG SCS Workshop

R. Terry

(Prop 84 Round 1) The consultant for the San Joaquin Valley Market Study for Higher Density Residential Housing has submitted their final model and report. Analysis specific to each metro area, city, county and additional sub-geographies as identified is available within the model, with the final report detailing significant overall findings. Blueprint project management staff at each RPA has received a copy of the report and excel based model and has been asked to provide additional feedback (if desired). Additional information can be obtained from your agency Blueprint Project Manager, or by contacting Rob Terry at Fresno COG.

(Blueprint) The call for nominations for the 2012 Blueprint Awards has arrived. Attached are the announcement flyer and application package. Applications are due by 12 Noon on Friday August 24, 2012. Award recipients will be notified on September 21, 2012, with recipients being honored during the awards luncheon at the annual Fall Policy Conference on October 12, 2012 at the Tachi Casino and Resort in Lemoore, hosted by KCAG. We would ask that each of you be sure to share with all your agency contacts, staff and co-workers as there are so many outstanding developments and people worthy of these awards in our great Valley. In addition, all of the items are available on the Blueprint Website (www.valleyblueprint.org) accessible from the home page advertisement for the 2012 awards, or from the pull down menu (project, awards, 2012). It would be great if you could put a link on your homepage for the item, as well. For questions regarding the BP Awards, please contact either Barbara Steck or Rob Terry at Fresno COG.

(SACOG SCS Workshop) On July 18, 2012, representatives from SACOG visited the Central Valley to share their Rural Urban Connection Strategy (RUCS) and Land Use and Fiscal Impact (IMPACS) tools with interested agency representatives, highlighting how the tools may be used to improve the land use and policy decision process, including the formulation of an agency's RTP/SCS. The peer-to-peer exchange event was sponsored by the Local Government Commission (LGC) and was attended by approximately thirty people; including representatives from many of the valley RPAs, the SGC, various interest groups and local agency staff. SACOG is currently working on transitioning these tools into the Urban Footprint format, which will then allow for them to be shared as an open source tool, free of charge. Additional information can be obtained from RPA staff members who attended, or by contacting Rob Terry at Fresno.

14. San Joaquin Valley Greenprint

C. Thompson

With the contract with UC Davis finally approved, the month of August will be important for the San Joaquin Valley Greenprint. The Greenprint Steering Committee met on July 18 and determined to announce the availability of the Greenprint survey the week of August 1 for a 60 day period. The survey, an important early Greenprint task, will be widely distributed throughout the San Joaquin Valley. It is not a scientific survey but rather its intent is to determine the aspirations, challenges, opportunities, and priorities of stakeholders for the open space lands, water and living resources in the Valley counties. The results of the survey will also help determine the information to be gathered and the maps compiled so that the Greenprint can be as informative and useful as possible. This current first phase of Greenprint is largely a data collection, analysis, and mapping activity and will culminate in the publishing and dissemination of a State of the Valley report. The second phase, for which funding has been approved by the Strategic Growth Council, will then identify strategies and best practices for resource management and will similarly culminate in the publishing and dissemination of a guide for resource management.

Steering Committee members are currently reviewing the survey announcement and a courtesy letter to Valley COGs Executive Directors and Board members announcing the survey, both of which will be completed August 1. A press release will be issued and a press briefing held soon after the August 1 date publicizing the survey and Greenprint. A briefing packet is currently being assembled for distribution, including a Greenprint FAQ sheet (enclosed). Briefings to the COG Boards on Greenprint will be made during the 60-day period after the survey becomes available.

15. *Interregional Goods Movement Plan*

M. Sigala

The **San Joaquin Valley Interregional Goods Movement Plan** is entering its 13-month and is approximately 55 percent complete. To date, an *Economic and Demographic Profile, Importance of Goods Movement in the Valley, Commodity Flow Profile, Commodity Growth Profile, Industry Profiles, and The Community, Environmental, and Economic Impacts of Freight Movement* segments of the final report have been completed as well as numerous stakeholder engagements.

The Goods Movement Plan is a critical component for assessing and determining major transportation projects for the San Joaquin Valley region. In July 2012, there was two Prioritization Workshops in two Valley locations – Stockton and Visalia (north and south) as part of the Phase II of the project. The meetings were well attended with approximately 35 stakeholders at each meeting. Phase II is intended to identify and evaluate strategies for improving freight mobility, and identify strategies for mitigating the impacts of goods movement. At these public meetings, consultants began the process of gaining consensus regarding decision-making criteria, processes and initial project selection. A substantial amount of time was spent reviewing the draft project list and prioritizing criteria for project selection. Staff at each Valley RTPA should also review the draft project list for accuracy.

The next monthly meeting of the Technical Working Group will occur on August 16, 2012 at 10am. All relevant information for this planning effort can be found at:

<http://www.sjvcogs.org/goods.html>

16. *Regional Energy Planning*

M. Sigala

Valley regional energy planning partners (NARC, SJV Clean Energy Organization and others) continue to meet and discuss strategies for moving forward with the Energy Planning Roadmap for Economic Development. The last meeting was held Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 2pm. Concurrently, we are coordinating a meeting with the California Energy Commission, the Economic Development Administration, and private utility companies to further discuss regional planning efforts in the San Joaquin Valley. This meeting has been scheduled with Congressman Costa for Wednesday, August 15 at 10am in Fresno. Thus far, Senator Boxer's Office, Senator Feinstein's Office, SJVAPCD, and PG&E have confirmed attendance.

The **Southwest Solar Transformation Initiative (SSTI)** is well underway with a "roadmap" being developed for the cities of Arvin, Atwater, Clovis, Delano, Hanford, Livingston, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Visalia, Fresno, Modesto, Mendota and Turlock. During the summer months, considerable technical work and assessments will be performed for each jurisdiction outlining best practices for implementation. The SSTI is part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Rooftop Solar Challenge to help streamline and standardize permitting, zoning, metering and connection processes – and improve finance options for rooftop solar systems, with a particular focus on municipal buildings. The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council/RTPAs are a partner in this program. The online draft "roadmap" has been developed for each participating jurisdiction and we are looking to convene numerous city council presentations in the Fall to unveil the roadmaps.

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**Tulare County
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Fresno Council of Governments

Directors Meeting
Thursday, July 5, 2012
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Item 1

Executive Minutes
Members Attending:

Carlos Yamzon, StanCOG
Patricia Taylor, MCTC
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Marjie Kirn, MCAG

Terri King, KCAG
Ahron Hakimi, Kern COG
Ted Smalley, TCAG
Andy Chesley, SJCOG

Others:
See Appendix A for List of Others Attending

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Patricia Taylor, Chair. Everyone introduced themselves.

1. **June 5, 2012 Directors' Meeting**

Patricia Taylor asked that under Item 6 Valley Legislative Affairs Committee her comment to keep housing a priority be removed. Motion made to approve meeting minutes, with correction, by Mr. Carlos Yamzon and seconded by Mr. Tony Boren to approve meeting minutes. Motion passed.

2. SB 375 Subcommittee, Modeling & FTIP/AQ

T. Taylor/M. Bitner/C. Anderson

Ms. Carrie Anderson updated the Directors on Air Quality. She reported that every county is on schedule to meet the deadline with the next workshop in August. A staff workshop was held a few weeks ago and comments from staff were due last week. Madera County Transportation Commission, San Joaquin COG and Tulare COG all submitted and their reports will be updated as additional information become available.

In regards to SB 375 Chair Patricia Taylor relayed that the Directors received direction from the Regional Policy Council to move forward with some kind of consensus. The discussion needed to circle around the policy discussion. Mrs. Taylor asked the Directors to develop a schedule for staff to follow. She added that the meeting agenda packet staff included a background report, comments from Air Resources Board Dorene D'Adamo and a list of questions.

Mr. Ahron Hakimi asked staff for more information regarding 5% and 10% targets to better judge whether Kern County might need to dispute these targets. As it stands, Mr. Hakimi reported that Kern is not close to achieving those targets and will need further data. Mr. Andy Chesley agreed that it was still premature to commit to target numbers and that some counties were still waiting on calibrations expected the next day. Mr. Chesley asked that the Directors commit to a collective draft proposal by September 1, 2012 and would ask the Regional Policy Council to hold a special meeting in September with the goal to adopt a collective final proposal in October.

Ms. Terri King commented that she was surprised to learn that the Air Resources Board will be unable to move targets this year. That said, Ms. King added she would like to work through the process and see how the COGs can help the Air Resources Board in the next round of target settings.

Mr. Tony Boren said that Fresno COG has done a lot of research and concluded that Fresno County can only realistically get halfway to the targets set. Mr. Boren reported that Fresno COG would advocate for a "Blueprint approach" with each county responsible for a chapter in a collective proposal. Mr. Ted Smalley responded that staff does not have the numbers needed to move forward with a Blueprint approach. Staff anticipated the four remaining counties to produce deliverables tomorrow. Then assuming the numbers are good, the models would run the following week.

Ms. Tanisha Taylor asked that the Directors set a firm meeting for the week of July 16th and agreed to generate a written report for the Directors to review before that meeting. Discussion ensued and a meeting was set for Tuesday, July 17th 1:00pm at Fresno COG.

Ms. Christine Kai reported that Fresno is working on alternative scenarios including a model that would put Fresno at 10%. Scenarios that put Fresno at 10% would require VMT fees, planning in the unincorporated areas to the metropolitan areas and metropolitan growth moved to main corridors, in conjunction with additional Bus Rapid Transit lines.

Discussion between the Directors and Ms. Taylor included confirmation of information to be sent out following the Directors' Committee meeting and staff expectations. The next meetings on this item will be Tuesday, July 17th 1:00pm at Fresno COG and the next scheduled Directors' Committee meeting on Thursday, August 2nd at Madera County Transportation Commission. Staff would continue to work on baseline (2011 RTP with 2013 FTIP) and scenario development comparisons to be shared at the August 2 meeting. The Directors set a tentative special meeting for the Regional Policy Council on September 6th to present a staff recommendation report.

Andy asked what Leslie and ARB took away from Policy Council and DeeDee conversation Leslie saw that the Policy Council is committed to reaching consensus and that ARB Board would like to see staff and MPO recommendation be in coordination. Patricia added that DeeDee emphasized using the ARB staff

Rob Ball asked that in follow up to DeeDee's comment on fixer legislation. He asked that VLAC and ARB staff work together to develop legislation to reset the calendar time frame. Andy said that there are ten other MPOs in the state that we partner with so there needs to be dialogue with those MPOs on priorities or timeline challenges they may have.

3. Greenhouse Gas Targets for the San Joaquin Valley P. Taylor

This item was discussed under Item 2. See above.

4. Federal Transportation Reauthorization Bill P. Taylor

Chair Patricia Taylor reported the Federal Transportation Reauthorization Bill passed at the last minute, however some of the challenges and concerns for the SJV like Goods Movement were not resolved. Some discussion ensued regarding the purpose of visiting elected officials and staff in Washington D.C. this September. Mr. Andy Chesley expressed concern that the SJV “priorities” will not be pressing issues with the impending election. Mr. Ahron Hakimi added that the potential of the Senate changing hands is significant and he suggested further discussion on cancelling the September Valley Voice trip.

Director Marjie Kirn said there is no financial commitment to the lobbyist currently however she expressed concern that cancelling the trip would lose momentum and camaraderie built over the past years.

Ms. Carrie Bowen added as a former staffer that legislative staff might feel “burned out” in September as each SJV county visits individually and then again as a group in September.

Mr. Andy Chesley motioned to cancel the Valley Voice Washington D.C. trip this September. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ahron Hakimi. Directors Tony Boren and Marjie Kirn opposed. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11. Workshop with SACOG R. Terry

Mr. Rob Terry provided additional written information related to the SACOG workshop.

15. Fall Policy Conference T. King

Ms. Terri King provided additional information on the Fall Policy Conference including a ‘Save the Date’ packet. She reported that the panel on the first day of the conference is full.

She asked Directors for recommendations and/or suggestions on ideas for the panel on the second day. Ms. Carrie Bowen suggested using the program Auto Desk to illustrate virtual tours of future transportation projects. Although an expensive program, she discussed its benefits in public outreach and participation. Mr. Andy Chesley suggested inviting SCAG Director as a guest

speaker to discuss the Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS) process and lessons learned. He also suggested incorporating transportation funding as a topic with the potential of discussing ACA 23. Mr. Rob Ball added that in terms of presentation on innovative transportation financing, Directors should look to model after the self-help counties.

Ms. King asked that further suggestions and any sponsorships be directed to Mr. Bruce Abernathic.

OTHER ITEMS

18. Director Items

Stanislaus County and Kern County both received SR99 Bond Savings allocations. Director Marjie Kim reported that Merced County got right-of-way allocated from CTC as well so they plan to move forward with purchases.

Ms. Terri King reported that two transportation projects went out to bid last week.

Director Carlos Yamzon requested that the August 2nd Directors' Committee meeting be changed to the afternoon because of a scheduling conflict. Directors agreed to meet at 2:00pm instead of the normal 10:00am meeting time.

19. Public Presentations

Ms. Carrie Bowen reported that there will be change for the California Transportation Agency as of July 1st. Small Business Minority contract that has revoked certain Caltrans capabilities. Ms. Bowen asked that any local projects if using Caltrans guidelines, need to reflect changes made. Ms. Bowen relayed that the Caltrans report may not be ready until September so there may be timing issue.

Ms. Bowen also reported that DWR is working on an environmental document that will put a large pipe from Route 160 (San Joaquin/Sacramento) under Route 12 and Route 4 to the aqueduct. Ms. Bowen reported that DWR reminded her of High Speed Rail in terms of timeframe and optimism. Ms. Bowen expressed concern about the impact of the equipment needed to make this project happen.

Michael Sigala announced that his Associate Rebecca Caporale would be leaving end of July. He will send out the job description to the Directors' Committee and ask that interested parties apply by Tuesday, July 17th.

Next Directors Meeting: Thursday, August 2, 2012 (MCTC)

Appendix A: List of Others Attending

Robert Ball, Kern COG
Tanisha Taylor, SJ COG
Diane Nyguen, SJ COG
Rosa Park, Stan COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Lezlie Kimura, Air Resources Board
Cari Anderson, California Consulting
Joanne Strichbich, Caltrans, District 6
Ann Kloose, Granville Homes
Ruby Renlena, CPVA Inc.
Michael Sigala, Valleywide Coordinator, Sigala Inc.
Rebecca Caporale, Valleywide Coordinator, Sigala Inc.
Chip Ashley, Sierra Club
Rachel Audino, California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
Kim Anderson
Stacia Swan

Phone:

Derek Winning, MCTC
Jeff Findley, MCTC
Dianne Barth, SJ COG
Kim Kloeb, SJ COG

AIR QUALITY DISCUSSION ITEM

San Joaquin Valley RPA Directors' Committee

August 2, 2012

SUBJECT: FTIP / AQ Update

AIR QUALITY ITEMS:

1) 2013 FSTIP

- a. No significant public comments were received on the Draft documents. All 8 MPOs adopted in July and have (or are in the process) of submitting final documents for approval. A verbal status report will be provided if necessary.

2) 2012 PM2.5 Plan

- a. Key items for the SJV MPOs include:
 - i. Efforts for upcoming workshops include:
 1. Review of emissions inventories presented at the June workshop
 2. Preparation of a new RACM analysis to be presented at the August workshop
 3. Development of updated conformity budgets to be presented at the August workshop
 - ii. Supporting information will be provided as it becomes available.

3) Conformity Budget Updates

- a. In June, staff recommended proceeding with conformity budget updates based on the Draft 2013 FTIPs / Conformity Analysis. Draft budget updates for both the 2007 Ozone and 2008 PM2.5 Plans were prepared and transmitted to staff for review and concurrence. The Draft budget updates were then submitted to the Air District and ARB for consideration on July 19, 2012. No feedback has been received at this time. A verbal status report will be provided if necessary.



ITEM 12

2012 San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards

Sponsored by the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council (representing the eight SJV COGs), the Central Section of Cal Chapter APA (American Planning Association), AIA (American Institute of Architects) San Joaquin Chapter and the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards Program is to encourage quality in planning and development and to increase the public's awareness of the SJV Blueprint by recognizing outstanding achievements and practices in the built environment. This awards program is intended to recognize and celebrate projects that reflect the Blueprint Smart Growth Principles. In doing so, we hope to provide visual examples of attractive, functional and environmentally friendly projects that could have relevance throughout the Valley.

Awards will be presented by the Regional Policy Council at the Fall Policy Conference luncheon on October 12, 2012 at the Tachi Casino and Resort in Lemoore (Kings County).

II. AWARD CATEGORIES ~ open to candidate projects and individuals in all jurisdictions within the San Joaquin Valley Region (within the counties of Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin). Candidate projects cannot have received a previous Blueprint Award.

A. Sustainable Development Projects: On the ground, existing examples of projects that exemplify the Blueprint Principles

1. Residential Development Project (built within the past 5 years)
2. Commercial Development Project (built within the past 5 years)
3. Mixed Use Project (built within the past 5 years)
4. Downtown Revitalization Project (built within the past 5 years)
5. Historic District that exemplifies Blueprint Smart Growth Principles

B. Darrel Hildebrand Blueprint Leadership Award

This award has been created in memory of the former Blueprint project manager from Kern COG who was thoroughly engaged in the planning process. The fruits of his labor are still with us today as we move the Blueprint from the planning to the implementation phase. Darrel will be remembered for his attention to detail and his insistence that it was the planning principles that are the centerpiece of the SJV Blueprint Planning Process.

Criteria: In honor of Darrel Hildebrand, we are looking for an individual who has also shown enthusiasm and tenacity in promoting the Blueprint principles.

III. CRITERIA (for projects): How does the project reflect the following Blueprint Principles?

1. Create a range of housing opportunities and choices
2. Create walkable neighborhoods
3. Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration
4. Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place
5. Make development decisions predictable, fair and cost effective
6. Mix of land uses
7. Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty and critical environmental areas
8. Provide a variety of transportation choices
9. Strengthen and direct development towards existing communities
10. Take advantage of compact building design
11. Enhance the economic vitality of the region
12. Support actions that encourage environmental resource management

IV. NOMINATION SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

1) **All nominations must be submitted in electronic format on a CD/DVD.** Eight paper copies of the attached “San Joaquin Valley Blueprint 2012 Awards Application Form” must be submitted with each award submittal.

2) **Eight CD/DVDs of the following items must be submitted. One CD/DVD must be labeled Master Copy.** Please place each of the following into separate folders on the CD/DVD. Each award submittal CD/DVD must be labeled with the appropriate award category. The following items must be submitted:

- Ø **APPLICATION:** The completed Blueprint Awards Application Form.
- Ø **SUMMARY DESCRIPTION: One page** summary of the submission.
- Ø **AWARD CRITERIA: One- or two-page** explanation demonstrating how the submission specifically reflects the criteria listed in item III above.
- Ø **LETTER (S) OF SUPPORT:** At least one (1), but no more than five (5) **one-page** letters in support of the entry from someone familiar with the nomination, but other than the nominator and/or staff/consultant.
- Ø **IMAGES:** Ten (10) digital images in JPEG format. **No PowerPoint Presentations.** The images should be representative of the nomination, as they will be used during the Awards Ceremony. Please include a brief sentence identifying or describing each slide. Please remember to include one CD/DVD labeled **Master Copy**.

3) All submissions must be received by the deadline and strictly follow the requirements outlined above and on the Blueprint Awards Application Form.

4) Submissions received before the deadline not meeting the requirements may be returned and resubmitted before the deadline at the discretion of the Vice President for Administration.

5) Submissions may be entered in only one award category or subcategory.

V. AWARDS SELECTION PROCESS & SCHEDULE

A jury of seven members shall be appointed to judge the entries. The decision of the majority of the jury shall be final.

Jury - One from each category:

- Ø Regional Policy Council
- Ø COG Directors
- Ø APA – Central Section
- Ø AIA – San Joaquin Chapter
- Ø Federal Reserve Bank,
Community Development
- Ø BIA - Central Section
- Ø At Large (community member)

Schedule:

- Ø Begin call for projects – July 6th
- Ø Nomination deadline – August 24th
- Ø Judging completed by Sept. 19th
- Ø Announcement – Sept. 21st
- Ø Awards Ceremony – Oct. 12th at
the Fall Policy Conference
Luncheon at the Tachi Casino and
Resort in Lemoore (Kings County)

SUBMITTALS: Nominations must be received by 12:00 Noon on Friday August 24, 2012.

Mail to:

**Rob Terry, Associate Regional Planner
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721**

(Do not submit any paper copies of your application materials other than the eight (8) copies of the *Awards Application Form*.)

NUMBER OF AWARDS

Only one first-place award may be granted per category/sub-category. When exceptional circumstances warrant, one Award Finalist may also be given per category. If the jury finds that none of the nominations in a particular category meets the criteria, there may be no award in that category.

HONORING THE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Award recipients will be honored during an awards ceremony luncheon at the annual Fall Policy Conference on October 12, 2012 at the Tachi Casino and Resort in Lemoore (Kings County). Each award recipient will be provided with one awards event ticket at no cost.

**San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards Program
2012 Awards Application Form**

*Nominations for the SJV Blueprint Awards are due by 12:00 Noon, Friday, August 24, 2012.
Materials received after this date will not be accepted and will not be returned.*

I nominate _____

for a 2012 SJV Blueprint Award for the category of:

NOMINATION INFORMATION

It is imperative that all of the following documentation is provided in full.

A. Nominator: The Nominator will be considered the primary communications contact for all decisions made on this nomination and will work with Valley COG staff to obtain additional information and materials.

Name _____

Organization _____

Title _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

B. Primary Award Recipient:

Name _____

Organization _____

Title _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

C. Recognition: Primary organization to be listed on trophy/plaque if chosen as winner:

Optional: Other supporting organization(s) that you wish to be recognized at the Awards Ceremony who worked on this project:

D. Acknowledgement of Nominator/Award Recipient

I acknowledge that the submitted work was done by the parties credited in this Awards Application Form, and that the work meets the appropriate nomination submittal requirements listed in the instructions. I understand that all winning documents will be placed on the SJV Blueprint website under Award Winners and Best Practices.

Signature of Nominator

Date

Printed Name of Nominator

Questions: 559-233-4148 x222 or rterry@fresnocog.org

2012

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY BLUEPRINT AWARDS



Recognizing outstanding achievement in quality development while celebrating projects that reflect the Blueprint Principles.

This awards program is open to all San Joaquin Valley jurisdictions in the counties of Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus & San Joaquin.

Awards will be presented in the following categories :

- ***Sustainable Development Projects:*** On the ground, existing examples of projects that exemplify the Blueprint Principles in the following categories:
 - *Residential*
 - *Commercial*
 - *Mixed Use*
 - *Historic District*
 - *Downtown Revitalization*
- ***Darrel Hildebrand Blueprint Leadership Award:***
For an individual who has shown enthusiasm and tenacity in promoting the Blueprint Principles.

Contact:
Rob Terry, Associate Regional Planner
Council of Fresno County Governments
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721
rterry@fresnocog.org

Sponsored by:

Nomination requirements and packages are available online at www.valleyblueprint.org

Submittal deadline: Friday, August 24, 2012



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the San Joaquin Valley Greenprint?

The county-level and San Joaquin Valleywide Blueprint efforts over the past six years have focused primarily on urban and rural community development. One of the Blueprint's benefits is that it encourages more efficient development that conserves open space, farmland and environmental resources. But the Blueprint does not address the significant resource management opportunities and challenges in the over 97 percent of the Valley that consists of resource and open space lands. The San Joaquin Valley Greenprint proposes to fulfill this need. Its ultimate objective is to assemble the perspectives of the residents of the region into a shared vision, and to identify a series of strategies for the conservation and management of the region's land, water and living resources. The resulting "greenprint" can then reinforce local efforts and serve as a guide to local, state, federal and private sector decision makers as they make choices about the future of the Valley's resources.

Phase 1 of the Greenprint will compile data, maps and other information describing the lands, waters and living resources of the region and the trends affecting them, and that document their public benefits. Resource management challenges and opportunities will be identified and documented along with existing resource preservation programs, policies and regulations. A State of the Valley report will be published and disseminated. Phase 2 will develop a shared vision and goals for resource management. It will identify and evaluate resource management options and strategies. Consensus strategies for resource management will be recommended. A Guide for Resource Management will be published and disseminated.

2. What is the need for the Greenprint?

The fact remains that population growth throughout the San Joaquin Valley will continue to pressure natural resources and threaten critical lands. Greenprint intends to come alongside local agencies and assist them with the challenges they face in these areas. It can assist efforts to secure funding for local agency programs and initiatives including, for example, the update of existing Habitat Conservation Plans or new HCPs, at the subregional level or perhaps even at the regional level. It can assist efforts to advocate on behalf of issues, including water issues, that are important to local agencies and the entire Valley. It can assist efforts to "gather and consider the best practically available scientific information regarding resource areas and farmland in the region" as required by SB 375 for consideration in the development of a Sustainable Community Strategy.

Greenprint provides that data and maps will be determined locally within the San Joaquin Valley, not imposed from above by one or another state agency.

In addition, the Greenprint could lead to the potential development of a Regional Advanced Mitigation Program (RAMP) for regional or subregional development projects in the San Joaquin Valley, thereby easing the regulatory burden on major projects. Greenprint strategies and best practices can be further defined and illustrated with case studies and other examples for inclusion in the Blueprint Planner's Toolkit, for reference and use by San Joaquin Valley local agencies.

3. Why is the Greenprint San Joaquin Valleywide? Shouldn't it be up to the individual counties if they so choose?

It is apparent that the Valley's significant challenges and opportunities with regard to land, water, and living resources are seldom respectful of jurisdictional boundaries. Greenprint's Valleywide focus recognizes this and provides an opportunity, particularly in its initial phase, to compile data and maps that illustrate this larger perspective. The Greenprint may also help achieve benefits for the Valley economy and quality of life not otherwise achievable by individual jurisdictions and organizations.

4. Whose idea was it to do the Greenprint project?

The creation of a San Joaquin Valleywide Greenprint was proposed by the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Roadmap, accepted by the Regional Policy Council on August 31, 2011. The Roadmap states that successful implementation of the Blueprint suggests a companion strategy for conserving agricultural and open lands which make up most of the land in the Valley. Blueprint includes a set of 12 smart growth principles, all of which are relevant to the Greenprint but two of which are particularly important. The first is to preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas and the second is to support actions that encourage environmental resource management. The Regional Policy Council also approved the planning process to be followed for the Greenprint if awarded funding, which was subsequently secured.

5. How much will the Greenprint cost and where does the money come from?

Funding for the Greenprint comes from the State of California Strategic Growth Council (SGC), a cabinet level committee created in September 2008 tasked with coordinating the activities of member state agencies. The SGC has numerous objectives but the ones most relevant to the Greenprint are to improve air and water quality, to protect natural resources and agricultural lands, and to assist state and local entities in the planning of

sustainable communities and meeting AB 32 goals. The Greenprint received Proposition 84 funding in the amounts of \$275,000 from the SGC Round 1 and \$400,000 from the Round 2 competitive Planning Grant Program.

6. Will the Greenprint result in increased taxes or additional regulations on myself, my property, or my business?

There is neither the desire nor the ability on the part of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, the Greenprint Steering Committee, and the project staff and consultant to increase taxes or impose additional regulations. Indeed, project reports and recommendations will not establish public policy or override local land use decision making, and will respect private property rights. Rather, the intent of the Greenprint is to deepen our understanding of the land, water and living resources in the region and assure that those resources continue to benefit the region economically and environmentally for future generations.

7. Isn't the Greenprint attempting to address too many important issues? Shouldn't it be more focused in order to be useful?

It is the challenge of all of us in the San Joaquin Valley who care about the Valley's natural resources to make Greenprint as useful as possible. The Greenprint is indeed ambitious. It is intended to focus on agricultural lands; habitat and lands providing ecological benefits; hazardous areas (floodplains and wildland fire-risk areas; parks and recreational lands; scenic, historic, and culturally and geologically significant areas; and urban/rural edges. However, flexibility will be maintained throughout the planning process. For example, the survey, an early project task, asks the question: What can we do to make the San Joaquin Valley Greenprint useful? Another question asks: What are one or two results/outcomes that you would like to see from the Greenprint? Still another question asks: What are one or two results/outcomes that you would NOT like to see from the Greenprint? Each of these questions is designed to insure that Greenprint reflects local values and is responsive to local needs. Ultimately, Greenprint will focus efforts and resources on those challenges and opportunities that are identified in response to the survey, from follow-up targeted interviews, from elected officials, and from other sources.

8. What is the Greenprint schedule?

The San Joaquin Valley Greenprint will have at least two phases. Phase 1 will take about 12 months and concentrate on fact-finding and information gathering, as noted above. Funding for Phase 1 has been awarded and the contract with the Information Center for

the Environment (ICE) at U.C. Davis, the Greenprint consultant, made and entered into on April 27, 2012. The contract is in effect until June 30, 2013. Funding for Phase 2 has been approved by the SGC but not yet awarded. The Greenprint Steering Committee will define specific Phase 2 tasks and deliverables and the timeline for completion this fall.

9. I'm interested in the Greenprint. How can I stay informed of its progress? How can I be involved?

Throughout the process, public officials, property owners, interest groups, technical experts and the public will be invited to participate so that the final product reflects a broad range of inputs and consensus on the future of the Valley's lands, waters and living resources. Advisory committees will be formed to focus on specific resource management issues. Opinion surveys and open meetings will be used to gather ideas and information about public preferences. A web site has been created at www.valleyblueprint.org/greenprint.html to provide up-to-date information on progress and products, and to encourage public feedback. Your own ideas about how to broaden and deepen participation are welcome.

The Fresno Council of Governments, which manages the Blueprint, is also responsible for managing the Greenprint. For further information on the San Joaquin Valley Greenprint please contact:

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