

## Megaregion Working Group Meeting Notes

Friday, March 28, 2025

12:30-2:30 p.m. meeting held via Zoom and at MTC, SACOG, SJCOG, and Alameda County offices with public participation available throughout

Next Meeting

o Friday, June 20, 2025

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### Meeting Agenda

- Election of Chair and Vice Chair
- Introduction and History of the Megaregion Working Group
- Megaregion Projects Updates
- SB 375 Framework Update
- Cap and Trade Extension

### Working Group Representatives in Attendance

*SACOG Representatives:* Dowdin-Calvillo, Schaefer, Bradford, Kozlowski

*MTC Representatives:* Manfree, Mashburn, Miley

*SJCOG Representatives:* Arriola, Rickman, Singh, Zuber

### Meeting Summary

#### Chair and Vice Chair

Megaregion Working Group representatives nominated and elected Chair and Vice Chair for 2025. MTC Representative Nate Miley will serve as Chair, and SACOG Representative Gary Bradford will serve as Vice Chair.

#### Introduction and History of the Megaregion Working Group

MTC Executive Director Andrew Fremier gave welcoming remarks to the Working Group, focusing on the recent success of the Megaregion Working Group. This included Megaregion project priority funding awards, the completion of Megaregion studies on migration and medium and heavy duty ZEV implementation, and joint advocacy days in Sacramento in 2023 and 2024. Executive Director Fremier was joined by SJCOG and SACOG Executive Directors Nguyen and Corless, respectively, in responding to questions from representatives to help educate them on the Megaregion.

## **Megaregion Projects Updates**

Megaregion staff from MTC, SJCOG, and SACOG presented on the Megaregion Dozen projects and upcoming advocacy trips for their respective agencies. Staff are currently collecting project updates from sponsors to update the brochure for upcoming Washington, D.C. advocacy trips planned in May. Megaregion staff support these projects through coordination with project lead staff and providing letters of support for upcoming state and federal grants.

## **SB 375 Framework Update**

SACOG Executive Director Corless introduced the item and invited speaker, Sabrina Bradbury, Deputy Director at the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG). SB 375 (2008) has been a focal topic for the Megaregion Working Group over the past four years, with regional agencies working collaboratively with the state to support implementation.

CALCOG has helped to coordinate regional planning agencies across the state and the 'Big 4 MPOs' - SACOG, MTC, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), and San Diego Associated Governments (SANDAG) - agreed to principles for reform. Ms. Bradbury noted that it was still unclear how other regional agencies and the State Legislature will react to these principles. She then noted that State Senator Cabaldon has sponsored a bill reforming SB 375 as it relates to student housing, but expressed uncertainty whether this would lead to broader reforms that regional planning agencies are discussing.

## **Cap and Trade Extension**

Ms. Bradbury then presented on the extension of Cap and Trade and noted there are multiple proposals being discussed. CALCOG's proposed approach is providing funding to regional planning agencies to implement important state initiatives around transit, housing, active transportation, ZEV, and climate resilience. However, with multiple proposals and interests spanning labor, transportation, and local agencies, it is still to be determined what the extension will look like. CALCOG will continue discussing with members and keeping them updated on the extension.