



Land Use & Natural Resources Committee

Meeting Date: May 15, 2025

[[!Agenda Item No. {{item.number}}!]]

2025 Blueprint Tour Wrap-up & Jurisdiction Highlights

Information

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Attachments: No

Referring Committee: Not Applicable

Issue:

SACOG is nearing completion of a regional tour of local jurisdictions Boards and Councils to provide updates and gather feedback on the 2025 Blueprint. A key focus of the presentations has been to demonstrate what Blueprint implementation will look like in each jurisdiction.

Request:

Review & Discuss at Meeting

Recommendation for Board:

None; this is for information only.

Recommendation for Committee:

None; this is for information only, however, at the committee meeting staff will be seeking feedback to inform a future regional local tour.

Background:

In July 2022, SACOG launched an initiative to engage local elected officials on the development of the 2025 Blueprint. Over the course of six months, SACOG staff visited every city council and board of supervisors in the region, to provide an overview of regional initiatives and how they relate to the 2025 Blueprint, including a discussion around future pathways for growth, local transportation priorities, and regional investments.

Building on this effort, SACOG has begun a second round of local presentations in preparation for the 2025 Blueprint draft plan and Environmental Impact Report. The presentations outline the findings from the plan's region-wide transportation and land use analysis and summarize various programs SACOG is offering or developing to assist public agencies in implementing the Blueprint locally. These presentations are tailored to each jurisdiction and often include participation from local agency staff to highlight some local projects to showcase what Blueprint implementation will look like at the local level, and to emphasize that Blueprint is built on local projects and priorities.

Discussion/Analysis:

While SACOG leads the development of the 2025 Blueprint, its success relies on cities, counties, and local

partners implementing the plan. To ensure regional alignment, SACOG has conducted extensive outreach with elected officials, agency staff, and community members.

Currently, SACOG has visited 23 of 28 jurisdictions and several key themes have emerged across the region:

Housing and Land Use

A significant component of the local tour presentation focused on anticipated population, housing, and job growth over the next 25 years. While the region's population is expected to grow by 580K, the rate of growth is expected to gradually decline over time. This has prompted discussions on balancing housing development with slower overall growth, emphasizing the preservation of open spaces and working lands as well as economic development.

Additionally, several jurisdictions have shown enthusiasm for SACOG's Green Means Go program and are eager to see more funding initiatives like it that enable infill projects.

Funding and Resources

Jurisdictions have expressed concerns regarding the unpredictability of future federal funding sources, declining gas tax revenues, and the viability of new pricing strategies. Consequently, there is a significant interest in how we pay for transportation moving forward.

There was a strong interest in technical assistance and support when applying for grants. Additionally, there was interest in ways to enhance the region's competitiveness for funding opportunities, particularly from smaller or more rural jurisdictions.

Transportation Needs

There is strong interest across the region in expanding transit services, including increased bus services and the extension of rail lines such as ACE Valley Rail and Capitol Corridor. Jurisdictions have also expressed concerns about ensuring safe infrastructure for all road users, including pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers.

Additionally, the Mobility Zones Program and the Regional Trail Network received enthusiastic support from many elected officials.

Climate, Environment, and Sustainability

As the region plans for the future, many jurisdictions have expressed concerns about natural disasters such as wildfires and flooding, as well as the availability of insurance. Ensuring that infrastructure supports safe evacuations is a priority in areas that are most susceptible.

Regional Collaboration

SACOG's 2025 Blueprint presentation has been well-received across the region. Elected officials have acknowledged the strong partnership between SACOG and local staff, expressing appreciation for SACOG's data resources, toolkits, and advocacy efforts. There is a notable desire for increased collaboration, particularly in advocacy and lobbying efforts, as well as an interest in developing additional toolkits. There was particular interest in data resources and SACOG's newly released [Data Modeling Dashboard](#).

SACOG found the regional local tour valuable for connecting with elected officials not on our board to discuss major regional initiatives and plans to continue them biennially.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

There is no fiscal impact.

List of Attachments:

Not applicable