



ECOS Transportation, Air Quality & Climate Change Committee

Thursday, March 4, 2021, 6:00 p.m. by Zoom

Draft Meeting Notes, March 8, 2021

6:00 p.m. – Welcome, Introductions

Attendees:

Dan Allison -- Sacramento Transit Advocates and Riders; League of American Bicyclists
Chris Brown – ECOS Board Member; Sac Climate Coalition
John Deeter – ECOS Board Member, Co-chair TAQCC Committee
Catherine Foster -- Local Government Commission Climate & Energy Project Manager
Sandra Hall, ECOS Board Member; Sacramento EV Association
Susan Herre, ECOS Board Member and President-elect
Nancy Hughett – ECOS Board Member; Chair of Organizational Development Committee
Karen Jacques -- 350 Sacramento Legislative Committee
Christina Lokke -- SACOG Policy Manager
Ralph Propper, ECOS Board Member and President
Alexandra Reagan, ECOS Director of Operations
Anne Stausboll -- Chair of the now complete Mayors' Commission on Climate Change
Muriel Strand, Ecological Engineering consultant
Jeffrey Tardaguila, Resources for Independent Living; DOGFITE; SacTRU

6:05 p.m. – Christina Lokke of SACOG - presentation of Green Means Go

Link to presentation:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oLkxPiGTYdMK4cGX8_mra2p30Uj67UwJ/view?usp=sharing

As directed by SB375, the California Air Resources Board established greenhouse gas reduction targets for each region. For the SACOG region, for the 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), a 19% GHG reduction target in passenger vehicle GHG emissions per capita compared to year 2005 was established.

Green Means Go (GMG) was developed as a pilot project help meet the 19% target. GMG is a place-based investment strategy to lower greenhouse gases (GHG) by accelerating infill investment and electrifying vehicle trips. Under GMG, SACOG's local jurisdictions will target investment and policies in "Green Zones" located in a center, corridor or established community as identified in SACOG's SCS.

To meet demand, SACOG forecasts the entire region needs 11,000 more housing units per year with 7,000 of the 11,000 to be in infill areas as attached (vs stand-alone) units. GMG, if funded, will reduce the cost and risk for infill developers by providing infrastructure upgrades in water and sewer, for example. All twenty-eight of the jurisdictions in the SACOG region have proposed “Green Zones” to SACOG for potential funding. If funded, the local jurisdictions will be required to ensure the infill development occurs.

SACOG has requested funding from the State for the GMG proposed Green Zones. AB1209 was recently introduced in the legislature to establish a framework for the GMG grant/loan process.

6:25 p.m. – Discussion of TAQCC Committee Organization

1) John Deeter reviewed the Committee’s priorities:

Climate Action Plans, Climate Emergency Declarations, SMUD plans to reach carbon neutrality or carbon zero by 2030, passenger transport and active transport, transit-oriented development, complete streets, slow streets, new technologies for passenger cars and light trucks - EV, Autonomous, etc., CapCity and other freeway expansions, funding for transit.

2) Attendees suggested the following topics for the TAQCC committee:

- Capacity expansion of highways generally and review of CapCity expansion relative to SB743
- Implementation of the recommendations of the MCCC report
- Green Means Go and AB1209 with Christina Lokke of SACOG, and \$100M funding
- Funding transit through a citizen-initiated ballot measure requiring 51% of votes
- Dense infill housing, transit-oriented development, contiguous development (vs leapfrog), expansion of passenger rail/transit, elimination of parking minimums, expansion of tree canopy, and slow streets.
- California Mobility Board on technological innovation with emphasis on shared mobility, with Arlen Orchard, Executive Officer.
- Climate Action Plans (CAP) – pursue the following:
 - o 2030 carbon neutrality per Climate Emergency Declarations of City, County, SMUD
 - o Partnerships among City, County, and SMUD on climate action
 - o Early aggressive actions to reduce GHG, before issuance of CAPs
 - o Including transit-based land use as a key strategy for GHG reduction
 - o Various comments on the role of the CAP: it is an aspirational document. It is important because it sets out policy for a number of years for staff. Since CAPs have tended not to include land use and transportation other than EVs, CAPs should be done concurrently with general plan updates. A report said CAPs to date have not produced the anticipated GHG reductions. CAPs are an important vehicle for the CEQA required evaluation of impacts of GHG.

- 3) Possible near-term action items for TAQCC Committee
 - a) Focus on coordination for CAPs (City, County, SMUD)
 - b) Ask City and County to adopt the “green mobility hierarchy” now. The first priority is active transportation, followed by transit and shared mobility, and finally zero emission vehicles (diagram at right, from Mayors’ Commission on Climate Change report.)



- 4) Organization
ECOS would like to build up membership in its committees. To join a committee, a person would become a member of ECOS, pay annual dues of \$35, agree to attend a certain number of committee meetings per year, and help with committee work.

Committee roles including Meeting Lead, Meeting Support, Reporter or Liaison, Analyst, and Teams. Taking on roles could be done on a rotating basis. A critical role is liaison between the Land Use Committee and the TAQCC Committee. Reporters or liaisons with affiliated groups and governmental entities are also needed.

Committee recommendations are taken to the ECOS Board for official consideration.

A number of people at the meeting said they would like to become more involved with TAQCC and would gladly help to plan future meetings.

7:35 p.m. – Other business and announcements / Topics for future meetings

Jeffrey Tardaguila reported that SacRT had an open house re GO Transit, and also a meeting last week on low-floor LRT vehicles

John Deeter said a bicycle advocate called him to ask for ECOS’ support for legislation for rolling bicycle stops at stop signs. At the meeting, safety concerns related to this idea were discussed.

7:45 p.m. (approx.) – Adjourn

Next TAQCC meeting: Thurs., April 1, 2021 5:45 p.m. via ZOOM