

# **SB 375: A New Planning Approach**

CAPCOA Climate Change Forum  
Addressing Climate Change Through Effective Land-Use Planning

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## **California's Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (SB 375)**

- Promotes a more integrated planning process for land use and transportation
- Regions prepare new Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of their Regional Transportation Plans (RTP)
- ARB sets GHG reduction targets to guide SCS development by regions
- Incentives to implement plans that meet targets

# 18 MPOs Subject to SB 375



Approximately:

- 98% of the State's population
- 97% of the State's passenger vehicle GHG emissions

# Sustainable Communities Strategy

- MPOs develop strategy through an enhanced public process
- Includes quantification of GHG reductions resulting from plan and comparison to GHG reduction targets set by ARB
- If SCS does not meet targets, a separate Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) is required

# Greenhouse Gas Target Setting

- First step in process towards more sustainable planning practices
- Bottom-up process
  - Regional Targets Advisory Committee
  - ARB and MPO technical work
  - Public workshops
- ARB sets targets in September

# Regional Scenario Development

- ARB staff was part of a technical team along with MPO staff to explore regional scenarios
- Looked at different land use and transportation strategy combinations and deployment levels
- Examples of regional strategies tested:
  - Increased compact development
  - Expansion of transit network
  - Jobs-housing balance
  - Pricing

# Differences Among Regions

- Current population and expected growth
- Existing land development and travel patterns
- Modeling tools and methods for planning
- Varying degrees of available information from MPOs

# Significant Change in the Built Environment Will Take Time

- Emission reduction benefits gained as land use begins to reflect regional and local planning documents influenced by SB 375
- Economic recovery implications relevant to near term
- 2020 targets not as large as longer-term 2035 targets



# ARB Staff's Proposed Targets

- Per capita GHG reductions of:
  - 7 to 8 percent in 2020, and 13 to 16 percent in 2035 for the State's largest urban areas
  - 5 percent placeholder in 2020 and 10 percent placeholder in 2035 for the eight SJV MPOs
  - Current projections for the remaining 6 MPOs
- Estimated reductions of over 3 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>/year in 2020, and 15 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>/year in 2035
- Expect higher goals in future

# Regional Planning Process Ahead

- MPOs develop regional strategies in collaboration with local government members and other public stakeholders
- Federal planning requirements
- Consider co-benefits

# Role of Incentives and Funding

- Sustainable communities strategies added to the RTP planning process
- Will be costs associated with developing and implementing sustainable communities strategies
- Additional incentives and financial resources are needed

# Thank you

More information on SB 375 Target Setting:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/sb375/sb375.htm>