

Contra Costa County

Date: May 7, 2011

Location/Venue:

Concord Senior Center
2727 Parkside Circle, Concord

Attendance: 63

(Note: not all who attended participated in voting during all workshop segments)

Priorities Results

Looking to the future, participants were asked to rank their priorities:

Rank Priority

1	Convenient Access to Jobs
2	Clean Air
3	Lower Carbon Emissions
4	Daily Needs Close to Home
5	Conserve Open Space
6	Conserve Water
7	Less Driving Overall
8	Safer Access to Schools
9	More Affordable Homes
10	Lower Costs and Taxes
11	Less Local Traffic
12	Keep my Town as it is Today
13	Large Homes with Big Yards
14	Easy and Low Cost Parking



Where do we build?

Participants were asked where to locate new homes to accommodate new growth — export new homes outside the region or build homes here?

Note: This portion of the meeting was not completed at the Concord Workshop

How will we grow?

Participants were asked to choose a preferred scenario for future growth, with “Business as Usual” carrying forward past development patterns, “Planned Future” reflecting adopted MTC and ABAG plans, and “More Urban” and “Most Urban” applying increasingly higher concentrations of housing and development.

Note: This portion of the meeting was not completed at the Concord Workshop

Contra Costa County (continued)

Priority Transportation Investment Strategies

Participants were given 11 options for investing future transportation funding and asked to select their top four priorities. One option was a “wild card” to allow for priorities not already listed.

Rank	Strategy
1	Increase funding for most effective transit services
2	Expand express bus and local bus services
3	Widen freeways and local roadways
4	Offer more transportation funds to cities that build new housing, and affordable housing, near transit in walkable neighborhoods w/ a range of amenities
5	Wild Cards (for ideas not already proposed)
6	Increase funding to repair or purchase new buses, train cars, tracks, etc.*
6	Improve bicycle and pedestrian routes*
8	Expand commuter rail services
9	Increase funding to fix potholes on freeways and local roads
10	Make freeways more efficient through ramp meters and other technologies
11	Offer financial incentives to cities that preserve agricultural lands and open space

* tie vote

Transportation Investment Strategies “Wild Cards” (summary of comments)

- Fund local economic development
- Use revenues to uncover waste in government
- Bike routes to BART
- Privatize transit
- Allow property owners to do what they want
- High population will already encourage private development
- Maintain and expand BART
- Promote electric buses

Priority Policy Initiatives

Participants were given 7 options for new policies that could be adopted (at the local, regional, state or federal level) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. One option was a “wild card” to allow for priorities not already listed.

Rank	Initiative
1	Wild Cards (for ideas not already proposed)
2	Economic development (e.g., strategies to protect existing jobs, create new jobs, or preserve warehouse/industrial sites)*
3	Electric vehicles (e.g., subsidize the purchase/ lease of electric vehicles and hybrids, increase availability of electric vehicle chargers)
4	Other pricing strategies (e.g., charge tolls on new express lanes, or charge a new fee based on annual miles driven)
5	New requirements for employers (e.g. allow employees to work from home one day per week, allow employees to pay for transit with pre-tax dollars, etc.)*
5	Changing driving habits to conserve fuel & reduce harmful emissions (e.g., reduce maximum speeds to 55 mph, educate drivers to drive at even speeds, remove heavy objects from trunks to save fuel and reduce harmful emissions)*
7	Pricing parking (e.g., charge for parking at work sites, charge higher rates during busy periods to free up more spaces and reduce vehicle idling)

Policy Initiatives “Wild Cards” (summary of comments)

- Promote mixed-use infill development
- Reform CEQA
- Denounce eminent domain
- Look to Denmark’s bicycle-friendly policies as a model
- Promote people-centered development (not auto-centered)
- None of the above
- Promote jitneys
- Mining for lithium and using coals for electric vehicles is worse than oil
- Less taxes, regulation and planning
- Promote private development
- Protect and fund maintenance of vital resource areas
- Encourage and fund green transportation
- Eliminate zoning restrictions
- Improve fuel efficiency for all vehicles
- Pricing strategies that don’t just benefit the wealthy (like tolls on express lanes)
- Encourage, don’t require, employers to promote alternatives to driving for workers