

Sonoma County Workshop — May 18, 2011

Plan Bay Area Participant Comment Sheet

Step 1: County Growth and Place Types

(A.) thoughts and comments about place types in the area closest to where you live or work.

| MEETING | COMMENT |
|---------|---|
| Sonoma | More walkable neighborhoods, safe routes to school |
| Sonoma | Diverse and walkable, with access to transit |
| Sonoma | Vacant lands within City of Santa Rosa are future growth areas |
| Sonoma | Podium (?) type buildings to implement high densities envisioned for Santa Rosa North Station Area will not likely be economically viable for many years. This should not be allowed to impede development of this area at current General Plan densities in the interim. |
| Sonoma | Links from lag areas to central areas |
| Sonoma | Accessibility to neighborhood services |
| Sonoma | (11) While the Eighth Street corridor is appropriate for small industry, housing and/or transportation to serve that area needs to improve. (14) The area should include Sonoma proper as well. |
| Sonoma | The pictures are misleading and there are too many categories. Simplify. |
| Sonoma | Diverse areas/cities - place types vary dramatically in our county. Regional center is probably too dense, but city center appropriate in most of our cities. Some cities might still have rural town center but most accept density in landforms. |
| Sonoma | I live in a rural type of neighborhood 5 minutes from a suburban shopping center. It's nice! |
| Sonoma | Developments close to my neighborhood. (1) Mixed-use corridor |
| Sonoma | Wonderful parks — close to all types of parks. Not very accessible for shopping and other services. Very nice neighborhood setting. |
| Sonoma | My place types are rural centers. |
| Sonoma | To sum it up, the more transit towns in the county, the better. A light rail from Sebastopol to Petaluma, Sebastopol to Sonoma, and Cloverdale to Petaluma (SMART plan already in place). |
| Sonoma | OK - Sonoma as rural ??? use — so long as it includes light rail — not more cars! |

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(B.) What are your priorities for conserving land in the county/region?

MEETING COMMENT

| | |
|--------|--|
| Sonoma | I want ranchers'/farmers' rights to continue to be respected. Eminent domain is not an acceptable way to "conserve" land. |
| Sonoma | Preserving local open space, state parks |
| Sonoma | State and county-owned land |
| Sonoma | Work with open space district |
| Sonoma | Mixed suburban/rural spaces |
| Sonoma | Mixed suburban/rural spaces/public parks |
| Sonoma | Increased dedicated agricultural land; watershed protection; increase local economic activity and jobs; develop "energy sheds" (e.g., wind, solar farms) |
| Sonoma | Keep our farmland and parks intact and functional. |
| Sonoma | Preserve agricultural land/riparian corridors/mountain tops, greenbelts. |
| Sonoma | Save all current farmland. Local food supply will become crucial in the future. |
| Sonoma | Sonoma County has several programs to preserve our rural heritage. |
| Sonoma | Keeping existing parks — city, regional and state |
| Sonoma | High priority for farmland preservation and reducing suburban sprawl. |
| Sonoma | Higher density development will keep our open spaces available for recreation, agriculture, protected habitat, etc. |
| Sonoma | Sonoma City has a large rural mixed-use area. Way too much land consumed for minimal population growth and marginal GHG reduction from this non-transit-friendly growth along Hwy. 12. |
| Sonoma | Vineyards are beginning to fail - convert to orchards - nuts and fruits - ___ to rocky grape growing soil. |

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(C.) What resources do you think would be needed to support growth and high-quality development in your community?

| MEETING | COMMENT |
|----------------|--|
| Sonoma | Less government. Allow business including agriculture to do their thing! |
| Sonoma | I would like to see some transit-centered planned communities and/or pedestrian-friendly town squares. |
| Sonoma | \$ for planning |
| Sonoma | SB 375 (circled) |
| Sonoma | Community level planning forums; community mapping workshops; local development/community development support/funding |
| Sonoma | Car-share. Employer tax break for hiring local (i.e., within 5 miles) of workplace. Employer incentives for non-driving employees, work from home, etc. |
| Sonoma | \$ for infrastructure for transportation, alternative transit (and operating funds), bicycle facilities/lanes/paths. Flexible in zoning to integrate jobs, services, schools and houses. |
| Sonoma | Build a bike pedestrian bridge that connects Santa Rosa Jr. College/East Santa Rosa to West Santa Rosa/train station. |
| Sonoma | SMART up and running will increase tourist trade and other businesses. Maintain existing infrastructure - roads in good shape. Accommodating growth in existing footprint. |
| Sonoma | Adequate infrastructure including water-sewer and energy facilities and distribution systems. Transportation alternatives and upgrade 101 north of Windsor. |
| Sonoma | A more educated public. We need to somehow present the process of developing the plan for the Bay Area's future in a manner that simultaneously informs the public while providing choices and minimizing the political volatility of the public forum. (I acknowledge that you appeared to be attempting this — not a bad job.) |
| Sonoma | Light rail — elect up |

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Step 2: Transportation Investment Strategies

Comments about top transportation investment strategies

| MEETING | COMMENT |
|---------|--|
| Sonoma | Note by C: Increase funding to repair or purchase new buses, train cars, tracks, etc. — If we had the money |
| Sonoma | SMART is not a good investment. It should be scrapped! |
| Sonoma | Get the train running! Support SMART and local transit. |
| Sonoma | I want my freedom! Get rid of ICLEI/SMART/sustainable development/Agenda 21 et al. I want to be free! |
| Sonoma | There should be some improvements to the existing transit system. |
| Sonoma | Fix assets in place is of utmost importance |
| Sonoma | Need to consider transportation system needs to support Bay Area commerce. Widening freeway (US 101) isn't only about cars and commuting — it's about movement of goods and services also. |
| Sonoma | Diversion/reduction of transportation |
| Sonoma | Prioritize local development of jobs, food, energy, water, etc.; education at all levels; community building; ride-share, shuttle services |
| Sonoma | Make it safer to bike/bus/walk. Make it more expensive to drive. |
| Sonoma | One all-transit monthly passes. Create incentives for low-income ridership. Incentivize public transport options. City Bus → County Bus → Train = one transit pass for all three |
| Sonoma | Move goods using rail to get trucks off the road. Maintain existing infrastructure - particularly roads. |
| Sonoma | Stop the expansion of highways; it takes away from the character of Sonoma County. Make Sonoma County a rail county, not highway. |
| Sonoma | On C: Increase funding to repair or purchase new buses, train cars, tracks, etc. — circled train cars, tracks |

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Step 3: Policy Initiatives

Comments about top policy initiatives

MEETING COMMENT

| | |
|--------|---|
| Sonoma | Again, government is too intrusive and too regulatory. Also, we need to focus on current economic issues, not future growth! |
| Sonoma | Transit |
| Sonoma | I think that employers should emphasize mass transit use and other ways of commuting!!! |
| Sonoma | Do not force builders of new homes to pay more fees for more initiatives |
| Sonoma | Linkages between the neighborhoods by the fairgrounds/southwest Santa Rosa and the future train |
| Sonoma | More options for specific ideas such as "New Requirements for Employers." More time should be allocated to understanding the concepts before laying the cards down in the games. Also, I would like to propose consideration of a technological platform to vote directly on these issues as we did in this forum. A Web-based app could gather real-time data to vote directly on the evolving plan. |

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Plan Bay Area Participant Comment Sheet

WILD CARDS

Step 2: Transportation Investment Strategies

Step 3: Policy Initiatives

| MEETING | WILD CARD — Investment Strategies | WILD CARD — Policy Initiatives |
|---------|---|---|
| Sonoma | Maintain what we have | Some of these are good ideas above but they should not be mandated, but voluntary |
| Sonoma | | Prioritize local food sources |
| Sonoma | Public transportation options that facilitate a car-free lifestyle | |
| Sonoma | Intercity-town electric light rail to whole Bay Area | Electric light rail everywhere or non-fossil fuel |
| Sonoma | Incentive car + vanpooling. Traffic. | Greenhouse gases don't matter much because global warming is a hoax. |
| Sonoma | Cab vouchers for disabled patrons for emergency night/weekend/holidays | Green building/transit mix economic with environmental |
| Sonoma | Discounted bus passes for disabled/students/seniors or 30-pass tickets for frequent riders | Audible sounds on electric vehicles |
| Sonoma | Mini-buses for neighborhood short trips | Make carpooling actually carpooling. A mom with her baby is NOT a carpool - we don't encourage people to carpool when anyone and everyone can cheat it. |
| Sonoma | Appropriate road development to appropriate housing growth, especially rural | Downtown parking in Santa Rosa should be discounted for government workers and business workers. |
| Sonoma | Enhancement of existing public transit | Lessen restrictions on new small businesses. |
| Sonoma | Demand transportation agencies that are already doing stuff to complete and improve the current transportation situation. Make the SMART train do what all were promised it would do. | Repeal NAFTA. |
| Sonoma | Realign MTC/ABAG boundaries with commute sheds, not county boundaries. | Make all freeways toll roads with congestion-based pricing. |
| Sonoma | Cities to lower fees and decrease land use restrictions for builders to <u>invest</u> without public funds. | Increase bridge tolls for SO vehicles and decrease bus fares to encourage transit ridership and carpooling. |
| Sonoma | Use collected funds to fix the roads. | We need more local jobs!! |
| Sonoma | Put all redevelopment areas to a vote with a full explanation of the impacts to general fund and county/state services. | Require Prius-like gauges in all cars to show people what they could save when gas reaches \$8 a gallon. They still have the option to be a cowboy but some will learn and change behavior. |
| Sonoma | Adopt public policy to encourage public/private partnerships for incentivizing infrastructure and private development investment. | We need alternatives that do not result in the individual worker paying for new fees, tolls or costs. |
| Sonoma | Create a public transportation system that supports car-free lifestyles. | Lower electric use. See Refusesmartmeters.com |
| Sonoma | Incentives for fleet turnover to greener energy. | Stop the geo-engineering program CO ² cause |
| Sonoma | Eliminate unnecessary agencies that are unelected violating our Constitution. | Credits for reduction of energy; solar \$ incentives to cities for all economic classes/homeowners. Energy reduction incentives - \$ to the cities to do solar loans. |
| Sonoma | Don't spend money we don't have. | Economic Development - Incentivize place-based economic development in agricultural and industry to support community/lifestyle total economics. |
| Sonoma | | Mobility Management to maximize use of private, nonprofit and public vehicles. |
| Sonoma | | Take transportation funding to give cities grants to create car-share programs for residents with low monthly fees. |
| Sonoma | | Prioritize local food sources; e.g., local farms, ranches |
| Sonoma | | Free bus ridership for SRJC college students |

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Step 3: Policy Initiatives

| MEETING | WILD CARD — Investment Strategies | WILD CARD — Policy Initiatives |
|----------------|--|--|
| Sonoma | | Link all neighborhoods with bike lanes and greenways to create safe routes for commuting/shopping. |
| Sonoma | | Develop inter-town/city light rail - electric - to get anywhere in the Bay Area. |
| Sonoma | | Option #5 (Other Pricing Strategies) with following stipulation: Monies collected go 100% toward clean transportation infrastructure (light rail, fuel cell, electric, renewable grid, etc.) |
| Sonoma | | Free bus passes for students, seniors, some employees |
| Sonoma | | Gas tax - If GHG reduction must happen at local level, so must gas tax. |
| Sonoma | | Build or subsidize downtown high-rise development to decrease need to drive. |
| Sonoma | | Support small businesses. "The Mystery of Capital" by Hernando de Soto. Third-world countries remain third world because they don't have personal property rights. |
| Sonoma | | Eliminate downtown parking meters that are destroying our local business because people now to Montgomery Village to shop because there are no parking meters. |
| Sonoma | | Economic Development - Increase parking garages. Reduce zoning parking spaces. |