State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Acceptance of Greenhouse Gas Quantification Determination for the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization's SB 375 Sustainable Communities Strategy

Resolution 13-16

April 25, 2013

Agenda Item No.: 13-5-2

WHEREAS, SB 375 (Steinberg, Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008), also known as the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act, aims to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from passenger vehicle travel through improved transportation and land use planning at the regional scale;

WHEREAS, SB 375 requires each of the State's 18 federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), including the California portion of the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization, to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) or an Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) that meets the regional GHG emission reduction targets for passenger vehicles (targets) set by the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board);

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2010, the Board approved GHG emission reduction targets for 2020 and 2035, expressed as a per capita percentage reduction relative to 2005 levels, for each of the State's MPOs;

WHEREAS, the targets established for the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization/Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TMPO/TRPA) region call for a 7 percent reduction in per capita GHG emissions in 2020 and a 5 percent reduction in 2035 relative to 2005 levels;

WHEREAS, TMPO/TRPA staff engaged the public by holding two rounds of public workshops in November 2012;

WHEREAS, in August 2012, TMPO/TRPA published a draft Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) for 2012-2035 that stated it would achieve more reductions than the region's GHG targets with a 12.1 percent per capita reduction from 2005 in 2020 and a 7.2 percent per capita reduction from 2005 in 2035;

WHEREAS, ARB staff performed a technical evaluation of the draft SCS using ARB's methodology, published in July 2011, for review of GHG emission calculation procedures for SCS plans;

WHEREAS, ARB staff's evaluation found that TMPO/TRPA used technical methodologies that would accurately quantify GHG reductions from the draft SCS;

WHEREAS, the TRPA Governing Board and the TMPO both adopted the final RTP/SCS at public meetings on December 12, 2012;

WHEREAS, as required by California Government Code section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii), TMPO/TRPA submitted the final SCS to ARB on January 22, 2013, for review of its GHG quantification determination of a 12.1 percent per capita reduction by 2020 and a 7.2 percent per capita reduction by 2035;

WHEREAS, section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii) of the California Government Code calls for ARB to accept or reject an MPO's determination that its submitted strategy would, if implemented, achieve the GHG emission reduction targets established by the Board;

WHEREAS, ARB staff's technical evaluation of TMPO/TRPA's GHG reduction quantification determination is contained in Attachment A, "Technical Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Quantification for the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization/Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's Sustainable Communities Strategies," dated April 2013; and

WHEREAS, ARB staff's evaluation affirms that TMPO/TRPA's adopted 2012-2035 SCS would, if implemented, achieve more reductions than the GHG targets that the Board established for the region for 2020 and 2035.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii) of the California Government Code, the Board hereby accepts TMPO/TRPA's quantification of the GHG emission reductions from the final SCS adopted by the TMPO and TRPA on December 12, 2012, and the MPO's determination that the SCS would, if implemented, achieve more reductions than the 2020 and 2035 GHG emission reduction targets established by ARB.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that ARB staff is directed to forward this Resolution to the TMPO/TRPA Boards and Executive Director.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution 13-16, as adopted by the Air Resources Board.

Tracy Jensen

Tracy Jensen, Clerk of the Board

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Identification of Attachment to the Board Resolution

Attachment A: "Technical Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Quantification for the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization/Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's Sustainable Communities Strategies," April 2013.