

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

EXECUTIVE ORDER G-11-114

San Diego Association of Governments
Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)
ARB Acceptance of GHG Quantification Determination

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 ((Chap. 728, Stats. 2008) Senate Bill 375, or SB 375, as amended) requires each of California's 18 Metropolitan Transportation Organizations (MPOs), as part of its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) planning process, to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) or an Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) that meets regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets (targets) set by the Air Resources Board (ARB, or Board);

WHEREAS, SB 375 also recognizes ARB's target-setting responsibility as a recurring process, requiring ARB to update the targets every eight years and permitting target-setting every four years;

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2010 the Board set 2020 and 2035 targets for the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) MPO region;

WHEREAS, in April 2011, SANDAG published a draft RTP containing a draft SCS that states that it meets or exceeds the region's targets for 2020 and 2035;

WHEREAS, ARB staff performed a review and technical evaluation of the draft SCS based on the ARB's technical methodology for evaluating an SCS (published in July 2011);

WHEREAS, ARB staff's technical review of SANDAG's draft SCS's GHG reduction quantification are documented in a staff report (published on September 13, 2011);

WHEREAS, ARB staff's report concluded that SANDAG's draft SCS used technical methodologies that would accurately quantify greenhouse gas reductions;

WHEREAS, ARB staff's analysis showed that SANDAG's draft SCS, if implemented, would meet the targets that the Board established for the region for 2020 and 2035;

WHEREAS, SANDAG made modifications to the draft SCS including minor transportation infrastructure changes to both transit and roadways, and minor network changes such as route alignments and stop locations;

WHEREAS, ARB staff reviewed the modifications to the draft SCS made by the SANDAG Board of Directors when it adopted the final RTP and SCS on October 28, 2011;

WHEREAS, the modifications adopted by SANDAG as part of the final SCS support the ability of the SCS to meet the regional targets established for the region for 2020 and 2035 because the reductions in per capita GHG emissions in both 2020 and 2035 would be slightly greater than demonstrated by the draft SCS;

WHEREAS, the modifications included in SANDAG's final SCS resulted in slightly greater reductions in per capita VMT when compared to the draft SCS;

WHEREAS, ARB staff reviewed key performance indicators (housing and employment near transit stations, bike and walk trips, and commute mode share), and determined that they collectively support SANDAG's determination;

WHEREAS, as provided in its SCS transmittal letter (dated October 28, 2011), the SANDAG Board of Directors strengthened its 2050 RTP to include the following:

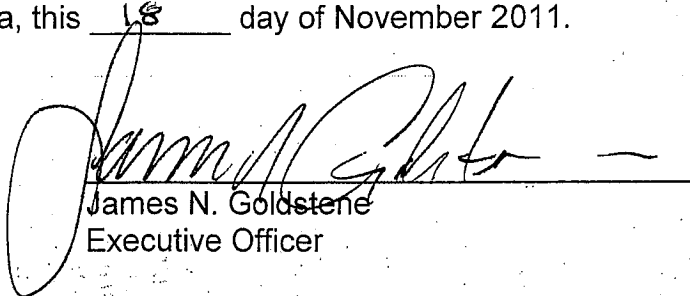
- Make improvements to its travel modeling system to better reflect GHG reductions from the SCS;
- Make future travel modeling systems available to the public; and,
- Use the upcoming Regional Comprehensive Plan update process to develop alternative land use planning scenarios.

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code sections 39515 and 39516 delegate to the Board's Executive Officer the authority to act on behalf of the Board in this matter;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to section 65080(b)(2)(l)(ii) of the California Government Code, the Executive Officer hereby accepts the MPO's quantification of greenhouse gas emissions from the final SCS adopted by the SANDAG Board of Directors on October 28, 2011 and their determination that the SCS will, if implemented, achieve the 2020 and 2035 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets established by the ARB.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that ARB staff is directed to forward this executive order to the SANDAG Board of Directors.

Executed at Sacramento, California, this 18 day of November 2011.



James N. Goldstene
Executive Officer

Attachment: ARB staff report, published September 13, 2011