

Seascape Action Plan – 4/11/08

Recommendations from the 2008 Haagen Smit Conference for consideration by the Air Resources Board as they develop the State Scoping Plan.

1. Outreach and Community Engagement

To achieve the State's greenhouse gas goals will require support from all Californians. All the participants in the Haagen-Smit Conference must work with the State to engage residents in a dynamic conversation about our priorities and values to create a vision for our future.

- The state will support local and regional efforts for comprehensive planning.
- The state will use existing outreach efforts to discuss the link between land use and transportation planning decisions and GHG reductions.

2. Provide Leadership

The State, regional and local governments shall incorporate GHG considerations into the planning, design, development, and operation of their facilities. The State, regional and local governments shall incorporate GHG considerations into appropriate funding program guidelines, standards, and criteria.

- The State will work to implement the State's Planning Priorities (AB 857).
- Innovative local government climate action plans will be recognized as model plans.
- Development projects that exhibit leadership in reducing GHG emissions will be recognized as model projects.

3. Define Regional Land Use and Transportation GHG Targets

The State in collaboration with regional and local government entities shall define regional GHG emission reduction targets for land use and transportation. These goals should be developed to not only help meet 2020 goals, but also should lay the foundation for reaching 2050 goals set by Executive Order S-3-05. Targets should be applied in a phased approach with an initial phase for capacity building.

Regional planning agencies will work with local governments and other regional stakeholders to develop blueprints or other comprehensive regional plans that incorporate the regional GHG emissions reduction targets. The regional targets will be incorporated into each region's RTP as a performance measure. The planned land use base for the regional transportation plan is consistent with that regional agency's blueprint preferred scenario.

Local governments will adopt either a climate action plan or similar policies in their general plans that are consistent with the regional blueprint.

4. Capacity building for Measurement, Modeling, and Best Practices

It is important that the State provide regional and local government clear guidance on how to measure and estimate future expected GHG emissions within their jurisdiction.

- ARB will provide a GHG quantification protocol and guidance for local and regional governments that allows for statewide uniform measurement and estimation of expected jurisdiction-wide GHG emissions.
- ARB and other state agencies will provide support for measurement and modeling tools that will be developed to allow local governments to evaluate and compare the GHG emissions of alternative land use planning decisions.
- OPR in consultation with appropriate state agencies will provide guidance to regional and local governments on best practices for the reduction of GHG emissions. This should include model general plan, zoning, and code language
- ARB will collect regional and local level inventories of GHG emissions.

5. Financing and Resources

The state should work with regional and local government to develop consistent funding mechanisms to support planning activities and plan implementation that are not solely dependent on sales tax revenues, new development, or transportation funds.

- The SGC will help state agencies allocate infrastructure bond money, as appropriate, in ways that best promote efficiency, sustainability and support the Governor's economic and environmental goals.
- ARB will explore other funding mechanisms including road pricing, fuel taxes, and PAYD

6. Create Opportunities for GHG Efficient Land Use Development

If the State is going to be successful in reducing the impact of land use, transportation planning and development on climate goals, then all opportunities for improved planning must be realized.

- OPR will convene a multi-agency advisory group to examine ways to improve land use coordination and goal attainment (Strategic Growth Council).
- CEQA will be revised to support greenhouse gas efficient growth.
- Local governments whose general plans are consistent with regional blueprints that achieve GHG reduction targets will not have to evaluate GHG's in their CEQA documents.
- Projects that are consistent with general plans that are consistent with regional blueprints that achieve GHG reduction targets will not have to evaluate GHG's in their CEQA documents.
- State technical, fiscal and regulatory programs should provide priority consideration to regional and local priority planning projects as identified by a Blueprint.