State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

ACCEPTANCE OF GREENHOUSE GAS QUANTIFICATION DETERMINATION FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF MONTEREY BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS' SB 375 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

Resolution 14-39

November 20, 2014

Agenda Item No.: 14-9-2

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 Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), or an Alternative Planning Strategy that meets the regional GHG emission reduction targets for passenger vehicles set by the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board);

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2010, the Board approved GHG 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 Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) region are a zero percent decrease in 2020 and a five percent decrease in 2035 relative to 2005 levels;

WHEREAS, AMBAG staff engaged the public by holding 18 public workshops in three series, beginning in 2012 and extending through Spring 2014;

WHEREAS, in February 2014, AMBAG published a draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) for 2014-2035 that stated it would achieve a 3.5 percent per capita reduction from 2005 levels in 2020 and a 5.9 percent per capita reduction from 2005 levels 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 AMBAG used technical methodologies that would accurately quantify GHG reductions from the draft SCS;

WHEREAS, the AMBAG Board of Directors adopted the final SCS at its public meeting held on June 11, 2014;

WHEREAS, as required by California Government Code section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii), AMBAG submitted the final RTP/SCS to ARB on September 17, 2014 for review of its GHG quantification determination of 3.5 percent per capita reduction by 2020 and a 5.9 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 AMBAG's GHG reduction quantification is contained in Attachment A, "Technical Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Quantification for the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments' Sustainable Communities Strategies", dated November 2014; and

WHEREAS, ARB staff's evaluation affirms that AMBAG's adopted 2014-2035 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 AMBAG's quantification of the GHG emission reductions from the final SCS adopted by the AMBAG Board of Directors on June 11, 2014, and the MPO's determination that the SCS would, if implemented, achieve a 3.5 percent per capita GHG reduction from 2005 levels in 2020 and a 5.9 percent per capita GHG reduction from 2005 levels in 2035.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that ARB staff forward this Resolution to the AMBAG Board of Directors and Executive Director.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution 14-39 as adopted by the Air Resources Board.

Tracy Jensen

Tracy Jensen, Clerk of the Board

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November 20, 2014

Identification of Attachment to the Board Resolution

Attachment A: Technical Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Quantification for the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments' Sustainable Communities Strategies, dated November 2014.