Housing and Transportation Coordination Workgroup

November 4th, 2020

Organizational Background

2013 Governor's Reorganization Plan:

- Separated the Business, Transportation & Housing Agency into separate housing and transportation agencies.

- But required housing and transportation agencies and departments to work across agencies to ensure continued coordination of state housing and transportation policy and programs (Health & Safety Code sec. 50407.5)

2013 Charter:

- Formalized this coordination by forming the Housing and Transportation Coordination Workgroup

2020 Charter:

- Expanded the Workgroup to include CARB, Strategic Growth Council, and OPR

Current Workgroup

- California State Transportation Agency

- Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency

- Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

- California Transportation Commission

- Department of Housing and Community Development

- California Housing Finance Agency

- High Speed Rail Authority

- California Air Resources Board

- Governor's Office of Planning and Research

- Strategic Growth Council

Charter Objectives

1. Institutionalize Ongoing Connections

2. Share Data and Information to Facilitate Better-Informed Decisions

3. Enhance Integrated Planning and Investment
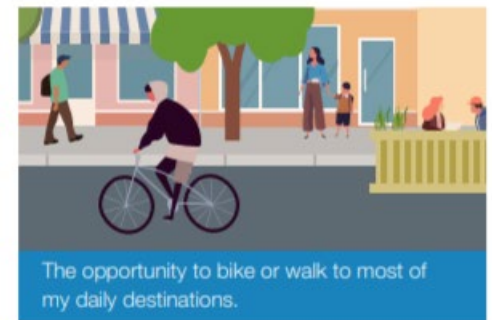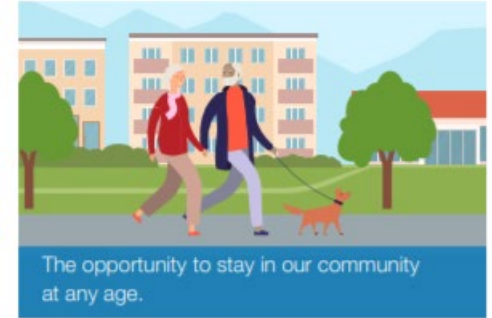
4. Facilitate Ad Hoc Coordination

2019-2020 Accomplishments

1. **<u>Outreach</u>**: Communications Plan and Developers' Guide for Infill & Transit-Oriented Housing Resources

2. **<u>Research</u>**: UC Berkeley collaboration on nexus of housing and transportation

3. **<u>Funding</u>**: Aligning funded projects with state housing and transportation goals via the program guidelines process

4. **<u>Partnership:</u>** Relaunched state/MPO workgroup

Outreach

- Informed the development of a Communications Plan to guide state discussions on the value of providing more housing and transportation options, including:

  1. Helping to scope a statewide Listening Tour, to capture urban, rural, and suburban perspectives, with representatives of:

     - Local and regional governments,

     - Developers, and

     - Advocacy groups.

  2. Collecting case studies of transportation-efficient housing.

  3. Selected a tagline- "Options Create Opportunity."

The opportunity to stay in our community at any age.

The opportunity to live in a neighborhood we love.

The opportunity to bike or walk to most of my daily destinations.

Outreach

- Also created a guide to state resources to support transportation-efficient housing

- Provides developers and local jurisdictions with a roadmap of state programs that provide technical and financial assistance to support infill development.

- Published on OPR's website: https://opr.ca.gov/docs/20200327-HT_Developer_Brochure.pdf

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD HOUSING THAT HELPS ACHIEVE THE CALIFORNIA DREAM

The State of California is dedicated to solving the housing crisis by building housing that improves quality of life for residents while meeting the state's urgent climate goals. We can do this by increasing housing construction in places where residents have multiple transportation options to access daily destinations.

PLANNING → PRE-DEVELOPMENT → CONSTRUCTION

This guide is a quick reference for developers to learn about state financing and other assistance at each step of the development process.

Building housing in transportation-efficient places provides many benefits:

» The ability to live near jobs, schools, and other destinations, spending less time in traffic and more time with friends and family

» Access to many transportation options like bus, light rail, biking and walking allows people to leave their cars at home or skip the expense of owning a car altogether, lowering air pollution and creating healthier neighborhoods

» More neighbors to support local business, the arts, and community engagement, making our communities more vibrant and attractive places to live, work and play

Increasing housing supply and investing in affordable housing makes these benefits available to all Californians.

CALIFORNIA ALL

DEVELOPERS' GUIDE TO STATE RESOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION-EFFICIENT HOUSING

STREAMLINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

CEQA Streamlining: The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) are in the process of creating a web-based tool called Site Check to help developers determine if a housing project might qualify for CEQA streamlining. This should be released in the Spring of 2020. In the meantime, please see the OPR "Technical Advisory on CEQA Review of Housing Projects" for exemptions and streamlining provisions.

Permit Streamlining: The state passed legislation to streamline certain types of housing development. SB 35 allows developers to get by-right approvals in jurisdictions that have not met their state mandated housing targets. HCD has developed tools to help developers identify these jurisdictions, including an interactive map, guidelines and a webinar, all of which are available in the SB 35 Streamline Housing Development section of this page: www.hcd.ca.gov/policy-research/lhp.shtml. In addition, AB 2162 allows for by-right development for supportive housing anywhere zoned for multifamily and mixed housing.

Technical Assistance: Different agencies provide support for their programs. HCD technical assistance focuses on helping local governments with land use planning and zoning, while other agencies help remove barriers to accessing funds by providing technical assistance with application development, project implementation, and other services that can help in the development of quality projects. Email: ProhousingPolicies@hcd.ca.gov

TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

Funding opportunities for complementary projects:

» The California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project – Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure

» Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing – Solar PV systems for multifamily affordable housing

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

The following programs have funding available to help developers build transportation-efficient housing:

AGENCY	PROGRAM NAME	PURPOSE	PROJECT STAGE
HCD	Golden State Acquisition Fund	Acquisition of vacant land or existing property for affordable housing	Pre-Development
Treasurer	CalReUSE Program*	Remediate brownfields properties for housing	Pre-Development
HCD	Infill Infrastructure Grant Program	Infrastructure improvements for infill mixed-use and affordable housing	Pre-Development
HCD	Transit Oriented Development Housing Program	Housing and infrastructure development within ¼ mile of a transit station	Pre-Development, Construction
SGC	Transformative Climate Communities*	Community-led housing infrastructure and amenities in the most disadvantaged communities	Planning, Pre-Development, Construction
SGC	Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities*	Housing and infrastructure development within ½ mile of a transit station	Construction
CalHFA	Mixed-Income Program	Development of mixed-income multifamily housing	Construction
Treasurer	Low-Income Housing Tax Credit	Tax credit for affordable housing	Construction
CalHFA	Multifamily Programs	Finances affordable multifamily rentals	Construction
Treasurer	Qualified Residential Rental Project	Bonds that lower rents for new housing	Planning, Construction

* Technical Assistance Available

For additional information on funding opportunities, visit grants.ca.gov starting in July, 2020, or the Funding Wizard at fundingwizard.arb.ca.gov/

Research

- Partnered with UC ITS SB1 Research Program to research the nexus of housing & transportation to inform policy, including policies and programs of regional agencies, other states, and other countries

- Partnered with UC Berkeley on interviewing 17 MPOs on the implementation of SB 375 and considerations for improving regional planning.

Aligning Funding with State Goals

Created housing-supportive linkages within transportation programs via the guidelines process:

1. Transit & Intercity Rail Capital Program
2. Solutions for Congested Corridors
3. Local Partnership Program
4. Active Transportation Program
5. Sustainable Transportation Equity Project

Partnership

- Established a subcommittee, jointly led by SGC/OPR and CARB, focused on coordinating state agencies on regional planning efforts and responsibilities

  - Including SCS/RTP and RHNA outcomes

- Relaunching state/MPO workgroup to coordinate discussions between state agencies and the 18 MPOs.
  - Strengthen partnership on regional planning and identify areas for collaboration to better achieve state/regional goals.

2020 Focus Areas

	H&T Charter Key Objectives			
	Institutionalize Ongoing Connections	Share Data and Information	Enhance Integrated Planning and Investment	Facilitate Ad Hoc Coordination
1. Resume work on Transportation Funding and Housing Linkages. • Resume coordination on program guidelines: o <u>Local Partnership Program (LPP):</u> The Housing and Transportation Linkages Subgroup worked with CTC staff to create new evaluation criteria for consideration by the CTC. The CTC will vote to adopt the Final Guidelines at the end of March. o <u>Active Transportation Plan (ATP):</u> The subgroup including CTC staff created new evaluation criteria for consideration by the Commission. The Commission will vote to adopt Final Guidelines at the end of March. o <u>Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP):</u> The subgroup including CARB staff is iterating on evaluation criteria that align funded projects with state housing and transportation goals. Workshops run through Jan-Feb. Final Guideline adoption and Call for Projects anticipated for mid-May. • Participate in joint reviews for the following programs: o Sustainable Communities Grant Program (SCGP) o Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) o Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP) o HCD is discussing the possibility of joining joint reviews for LPP, ATP, and STEP. (No final decision yet)	✓		✓	✓
2. At monthly meetings, continue to share information and identify housing and transportation connections with appropriate state agencies, researchers, and transportation stakeholders on topics of importance. • Discuss ways to promote the affordability of housing and transportation and provide meaningful benefits to under-served populations. • The topics that are part of this conversation serve as part of an increasingly expansive and ongoing discussion; so, for the time being there are no set topics as they are expected to continually evolve as the discussion progresses.	✓	✓		

3. Identify opportunities for the H&T Workgroup to partner with and support local/regional agencies and elected local officials in an effort to enhance education on, and achievement of, desired outcomes related to state goals.				
• Identify barriers, partnership opportunities, and ways the workgroup can work with and support local/regional partners (e.g. housing production/density, VMT, parking, location efficiency, transit-oriented development, etc.). • Continue the development of the Communications Plan based on complete MIG outreach from 2019. For 2020, the subcommittee on Communications & Outreach Strategy will determine the implementation process for this plan. The current contract with MIG will extend until March 31, 2020. There may be a Phase II contract, but details have yet to be worked out. • Finalize the Infill and Transit Housing Brochure and distribute it to target audiences.		✔	✔	✔
4. Utilize existing contracts to consider programs, policies, and research that bring positive outcomes to scale.				
• Continue research on housing & transportation through the University of California Institute of Transportation Studies partnership (UCITS). This year's request involves researching obstacles to housing and transportation development. • Consider Boulevard Conversion project. • Coordinate UCITS research with CARB's research plan on Sustainable Communities and Transportation. • Consider research on the barriers to affordability of housing and transportation.	✔	✔	✔	
5. Address conflicting data definitions/reporting requirements across state agencies to support state goals.				
• Discuss housing data in HCD's Annual Progress Report and Pro-Housing framework and its implications for transportation. Identify inconsistent data definitions and evaluate opportunities to align across programs. If necessary, look for opportunities to implement uniform definitions, aligned timelines, and reporting requirements through new legislation and regulations.	✔	✔		✔
6. Establish a new subcommittee on implementing state goals through regional planning efforts.				
• Research and communicate with stakeholders to identify the key challenges associated with regional planning and implementing state goals. Create various policy options to address these challenges and improve land use outcomes in Regional Transportation Plans (RTP).	✔		✔	

Questions?