

April SacMoves Call
Friday, April 21st, 2023

Attendance: Deb Banks, Jeffery Tardaguila, Ralph Propper, Chris Brown, Gregg Fishman, Susan Herre, Kevin Bewsey, Mia Machado, Adrian Rehn, Tess Townsend, Carolyn Tran, Dan Allison, Angela E. Hearring, John Deeter, David Moore

350Sac Climate Report Card (Tess Townsend)

Tess Townsend: On April 27th, 350Sac will be releasing their Climate Report Card with letter grades. The report card aims to measure the City of Sacramento's progress— or lack of progress— on climate goals and the mayor's climate recommendations. A total of 14 groups contributed on calls with 350Sac about what grades they'd give the five categories of the mayor's final report on Climate advocacy. While respondents scored in whole grades, fractional grades will be included in the final report card to better capture the nuance of how people responded. 350Sac is also hopeful to receive some coverage from various news outlets.

Jefferey Tardaguila: I will send you my email because generally 350Sac does most events on Wednesdays and I have so many meetings that day. However, I would like to know what's going on with your group—I know it's climate work but there's a lot more that fits into this work.

Deb Banks: Just so all of you know, there was a sub-group at the last SacMoves meeting who filled out this report card. Can we get a copy of our responses so we can remember them and are prepared to speak to the press or others on our role?

Tess Townsend: It might be too tedious to make individual responses to groups. We might be able to do this after the report, but since some groups didn't want to be quoted on their responses, about half of our submissions are anonymous. For context, the structure of the report will include an introduction, an explanation of the design of the report, then five sections with intros, bullet points, and direct quotes from organizations we spoke to.

Mayor's Environmental Roundtable (Dan Allison)

Dan Allison: The main body of the last meeting was a presentation from the city planner on the process that projects go through from their creation to their funding, and finally their implementation.

These projects – including the SCS/MTP are funded by state and federal funding, and not so much on the city level. The city said there's a need for at least \$250 thousand in backlog for city maintenance, and \$2.1 billion in priority projects. This is an insane number that we will never be able to come up with. Several spoke up about the need for alternative sources of funding since we can't just rely on grants. Others addressed the need to include housing initiatives in future measures. Lastly, some expressed that it seems the value designated to a project depends on its transportation plans. Many agreed with this, while others had reservations.

Deb Banks: I didn't think that it was all that valuable. Maybe others needed it, but I don't think that we didn't already know that information. It kind of felt like a waste of my time.

Kevin Bewsey: Not a lot of cities would go through that project prioritization process so publicly, so I think we should probably appreciate the transparency. I think there were some management expectations in terms of the roadmap that they showed us, and it seemed like a worst-case scenario situation. If something is actually a priority for the city, it'll be pushed forward through local funds.

Susan Herre: I thought it was good that Jennifer shared that very clear presentation. I thought it was useful because all the priority measures mentioned had some support and could be a plank for a new measure. My question is to STA and everyone: what is going to be our list of projects? What is the area we are focusing on? These are just basic questions we have yet to answer. Based on that presentation, those high priority projects mentioned should be our plan for the next measure. I also want to put the question forward to the city and the county; how are they tracking the IRA and IRJA funding? Do they have enough staff to do that? If not, that should be their priority.

Chris Brown: Back to the roundtable discussion, I agree with your general summary, Deb, about what we were entertained by. I thought the graphics were great, but it wasn't the core of these roundtable discussions. Over the last two months, after the No on Measure A folks won, there has been an effort to shift the focus of these meetings to the creation of a new transportation measure. But the main goal was supposed to be coalescing around environmental advocacy efforts. Of course, it's good that we're talking about this measure and bringing new people into the conversation, but we are still talking in all these different groups.

Deb Banks: I've heard that the goal of the environmental roundtable is a moving target. The original goal was to bring the environmental groups to talk about the City's climate goals and plan, but it got sidetracked into the future of Measure A. We know that STA has had conversations, SMART, Climate Coalition, and SacMoves all have conversations going on. Sooner or later these conversations are going to have to come together. If I was the facilitator of the world, I'd say that in a month or two months' time, all leads of these groups need to come together and incorporate ingredients from each group.

Other updates

Kevin Bewsey: In February, the STA Board created a subcommittee to look further into transportation funding. This committee of five members had their first meeting at the beginning of the month to determine who would be able to represent which issue. Deb Banks was picked by the committee to represent our environmental side. We had a second meeting yesterday to get up to speed on all past measure efforts, the mix of funding proposed on those measures, and why they failed. The problem is that most of our committee members are fairly new and were not involved in past measure efforts. We are still making some progress—I am happy that Deb was there to help with these discussions.

Another big part of our discussion was the need to make sure that community members see themselves and their needs reflected in these measures. I don't think this has really been done before. Next meeting, we plan to discuss more definitively what we would like to recommend—if STA decides to move this thing forward or not. I agree with the need for coordination between all these efforts—this is why I asked to attend the environmental roundtable and to be part of this discussion. I think the best solution is for a non-governmental group to take the lead here on getting something forward.

Susan Herre: It would be beneficial to gather an estimate of the revenue that could be obtained from the various sources depending on what geographic region we focus on for a measure. We ought to know how much money we could obtain from the combinations and ensure this is included in discussions to determine the area we focus on and the type of initiative we pursue.

Adrian Rehn: Just as an FYI, Valley Vision's Scientific Built Environment poll—about transportation and housing -- comes out the week of May 8th. The results will feed into SACOG's 2025 Blueprint.

Chris Brown: Susan mentioned that there are a variety of different funding mechanisms. The first one that got traction with the city was the idea of a public bank. The public bank vote is going in front of the Budget and Audit Committee in May. If you haven't endorsed this plan, please email me.

Also, there is a new statewide effort—Climate Emergency Declarations -- that the Climate Coalition is involved with. The effort to encourage the legislature and the governor to facilitate a state-wide climate emergency declaration has proven difficult. To mitigate this, we are trying to get voters to move this forward.

David Moore: I have a quick action item for the committee: the Sacramento Investment Without Displacement (SIWD) is a coalition of social justice organizations, neighborhood associations, labor groups, residents, and community partners organized to support building healthy communities and affordable housing, preserving cultural traditions, and the stability of neighborhoods impacted by big developments. Our request to you is for you and your organization to sign on to our letter via this link to our Google Form: [link](#). Please email me if interested and/or want more information.

Deb Banks: A reminder that Earth Day is this weekend. Please get out and attend one of the various fabulous events going on. "Show us your body Ralph!"

Next meeting: We will be meeting next on **May 19th at 10am**.