



CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT OF CONFERENCE/MEETING ATTENDANCE

Name: Barbara Pierce

Vendor No.:

Department: City Council

Voucher No.:

Responsible Standing Committee: ABAG - Association of Bay Area Governments

Conference or meeting: ABAG Spring General Assembly April 19, 2007

Summary of conference or meeting: The theme of the Spring General Assembly was Focusing our Vision (FOCUS). FOCUS is a regional planning initiative spearheaded by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC), in coordination with Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). It is partially funded by a Blueprint Grant from the State of California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

The opening presentation on Housing, Land-Use, Transportation and Open Space presented by Elizabeth Deakin, UC Berkeley, city and regional planning professor and Director of University of California Transportation Center. Ms. Deakin advises the legislature on the links and information on the topic. Her data highlighted Bay Area challenges of polulation, growth, and transportation in comparison to similar issues statewide, nationally, and globally. Her power point is available at <http://www.abag.ca.gov/pdfs/Deakin.pdf> The PowerPoint might be of interest for our representatives on SamTrans and the TA.

Additional sessions focused on setting regional priorities for strengthening communities and improving the quality of life. The plenary looked at cities up close with a regional vision sharing the insights of big city Mayors Chuck Reed, Ron Dellums and Gavin Newsome with small city Mayor Pamela Torliatt. The growth issues and a need for regional view to maintain and improve the quality of life for the Bay Area residents was highlighted through the discussion.

The City is a member of ABAG and as such participates in the voting on the budget and work plan. These were discussed and voted on at the luncheon meeting. ABAG has programs and resources that we can access including energy savings, Bay Trail Project, and earthquake and hazard mitigation and preparedness to name but a few.

The benefit of the conference to the City is the ability to review and vote upon the budget and work plan and the opportunity to speak with policy makers from throughout the Bay Area. There is increased pressure from Sacramento to create regional plans for housing, transportation and in response to climate protection goals. ABAG and the conferences provide opportunities for local officials to hear the issues that face our individual communities and the potential to see how we might work together as a region.

Handwritten signature of Barbara Pierce in cursive script.

Signature of Council Member

5-9-07
Date

The Administrative Code requires reports of conferences or meetings for which a council member requests per diem or expense reimbursement. Reports must be submitted to the City Clerk of no later than the Wednesday of the week before the next City Council meeting. Reports must be submitted before the City of Redwood City will pay per diem or reimbursement for the conference or the meeting. Reports are not required for City Council meetings, or meetings with Council members, the City Manager, City Attorney or City Clerk.



CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT OF CONFERENCE/MEETING ATTENDANCE

Name: Ian Bain Vendor No.:

Department: City Council Voucher No.:

Responsible Standing Committee: _____

Conference or meeting: Chamber of Commerce – Progress Seminar

Summary of conference or meeting:

I recently attended the Chamber of Commerce's progress seminar in Monterey. The seminar consisted of three general sessions and four breakout sessions. The breakout sessions that I attended were focused on eco-responsibility, transportation, healthcare, and the new California Network.

The most interesting session for me was the eco-responsibility session. It was focused on what cities can do to reduce carbon emissions. The most promising technology, in my opinion, is using plug-in hybrid cars for fleet vehicles. The panelists expected that these vehicles would be manufactured by mainstream car makers in the next couple of years.

After the session, I spoke briefly with our City Manager about some of the ideas discussed and how we can incorporate them into our climate protection initiatives in Redwood City.

The transportation session was also interesting, and we discussed several of the projects that are underway using Measure A funding. The County has made some progress in easing congestion using auxiliary lanes, but there is more to do, particularly on 101 between 92 and the SF airport.

We also discussed CalTrans' plans to grade separate the railroad tracks along the entire Peninsula, and what that will mean for cities. It is clear that we will have several hurdles, particularly with funding, but that it needs to be done for safety reasons and economic reasons. I believe Redwood City needs to very clear as to what we expect in terms of design and what our community will accept.

The sessions on healthcare and the New California Network were interesting, but were more focused on issues at the state level. I did not see any immediate take-aways for Redwood City.

Ian Bain for Council Member Ian Bain 05/17/07
Signature of Council Member Date

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