

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE GREENHOUSE GAS QUANTIFICATION DETERMINATION
FOR THE TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS'
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN/SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY**

Resolution 15-46

October 22, 2015

Agenda Item No.: 15-8-2

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

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2010, the Board set GHG emissions 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 set for the TCAG region are a 5 percent decrease in 2020 and a 10 percent decrease in 2035 relative to 2005 levels;

WHEREAS, TCAG staff engaged the public by holding public workshops and community meetings between January 2013 and May 2014;

WHEREAS, in March 2014, TCAG published a draft Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) for 2014-2040 which was available for public review for 55 days;

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2014, the TCAG Board of Governors approved the final RTP/SCS for 2014-2040 and the TCAG Board determined that the SCS, if implemented, would meet the targets of 5 percent per capita reduction from 2005 levels in 2020 and 10 percent per capita reduction from 2005 levels in 2035;

WHEREAS, as required by California Government Code section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii), TCAG submitted the final SCS to ARB on September 10, 2015, for review of its GHG emissions quantification determination;

WHEREAS, California Government Code section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii) calls for ARB to accept or reject an MPO's determination that its approved SCS would, if implemented, achieve the GHG emissions reduction targets established by the Board;

WHEREAS, ARB staff performed a technical evaluation of the approved 2014 SCS using ARB's methodology, published in July 2011, for review of GHG emissions quantification procedures for an SCS;

WHEREAS, ARB staff's evaluation found that TCAG used technical methodologies that would reasonably quantify GHG emissions reductions from the approved SCS;

WHEREAS, ARB staff's technical evaluation of TCAG's GHG emissions reduction quantification is contained in Attachment A, "Technical Evaluation of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Quantification for the Tulare County Association of Governments' SB 375 Sustainable Communities Strategy," dated October 2015; and

WHEREAS, ARB staff's evaluation affirms that TCAG's approved 2014-2040 SCS would, if implemented, achieve the GHG emissions reduction targets the Board set for the region for 2020 and 2035.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that under California Government Code section 65080(b)(2)(J)(ii), the Board accepts TCAG's quantification of the GHG emissions reductions from the final SCS adopted by the TCAG Board of Governors on June 30, 2014, and accepts the MPO's determination that the SCS would, if implemented, achieve the region's GHG emissions reduction targets.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that ARB staff forward this resolution to the TCAG Board of Governors and Executive Director.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution 15-46 as adopted by the Air Resources Board.

/S/

Tracy Jensen, Clerk of the Board

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Identification of Attachments to the Board Resolution

Attachment A: Technical Evaluation of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Quantification for the Tulare County Association of Governments' SB 375 Sustainable Communities Strategy, released October 2015.