SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

SB 375 and CEQA Streamlining

SB 375 provides incentives in the form of CEQA streamlining to support community designs that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

HOW DOES A PROJECT QUALIFY FOR SB 375 CEQA STREAMLINING?

To take advantage of these CEQA streamlining provisions in SB 375, projects must pre-qualify based on two criteria:

(1) A project must be consistent with the land use designation, density, building intensity, and applicable policies in an approved SCS or APS.

(2) A project must be considered a Transit Priority Project (TPP) or a Residential/ Mixed Use Residential Project (as defined in SB 375).

WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR FACILITATING STREAMLINING?

- Take an early and active role in the SCS (APS) development process.
- Provide detailed land use information (uses, densities, intensities at a defined geographic level) to SCAG.
- In addition to, or in lieu of detailed land use information, jurisdictions may work with SCAG in designating the appropriate regional "development type" in locations for potential future projects.
- Keep in mind that your jurisdiction will determine whether a particular project meets the CEQA streamlining qualifications, including making the consistency finding between the project and the SCS (or APS).

WHAT IF A CITY OR COUNTY DOES NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE SCS DEVELOPMENT PROCESS?

- There is no direct adverse consequence of not providing input. However, the SCS may not reflect your jurisdiction's most up-to-date future planning, and some candidate projects for future CEQA streamlining benefits may not be able to qualify.
- The SCS will be revised every four years. At this time we do not anticipate amendments between cycles. This may be the only opportunity to provide input until the next planning cycle.

SCAG staff would like to understand your concerns as well as identify jurisdictions that are interested in SB 375 CEQA streamlining. For more information, contact Jennifer Sarnecki at (213) 236-1829 or sarnecki@scag.ca.gov.

BENEFITS

The following are the benefits of offering streamlining:

Align Transit and Residential Development

Streamlining is an opportunity for local jurisdictions to align transit and residential development projects. In addition to promoting more transit/pedestrian/bike friendly development, it is also an opportunity to help reduce GHG emissions.

Use Incentives to Encourage Strategic Growth

Local jurisdictions can recommend higher density development nodes and use the incentives as an opportunity to encourage growth in a strategic manner.

Ease Project Delivery

Streamlining can also ease project delivery for projects of regional and local benefit.

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