



*Let us do the
reading for
you!*

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What's New

In land use planning

RFM Land Use Consulting, LLC

AB 32 and SB 375

California's Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) gives the California Air Resources Board authority to regulate sources of greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. According to the Air Resources Board, transportation accounts for 40 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, with cars and light trucks accounting for almost three-quarters of those emissions.

SB 375 (2008, Steinberg) builds on the existing framework of regional planning in an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicle trips.

The provisions of SB 375 apply only to the eighteen metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in the

more urbanized regions of the state. Under SB 375, cities and counties maintain their existing authority over local planning and land use decisions, including adopting the housing element of the local general plan.

As public agencies, MPOs are charged with conducting their business in an open and transparent manner that provides the public an opportunity to present information and express viewpoints to decision makers. This is very much the case when it comes to AB 32 and SB 375 issues and transportation plans.

Join me on...

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Public Engagement

Differences of opinion about land use plans, sustainability, affordable housing, transportation options and other topics generate strongly held concerns and emotions by community members and organizations alike. At times, local agencies and officials may themselves be an "issue" in public discussions.

A public engagement process itself can also be the subject of challenge and debate. This may be due to a local or regional jurisdictions approach to involving the community. It can also result from fundamentally different conceptions about the appropriate role of

local government in certain issues or policy areas.

Public engagement processes are often opportunities for a broad spectrum of input. In most cases, participants will have very strongly held views about: the topics being discussed, the local (or regional) agencies and officials involved, and the process itself.

Designing and facilitating a discussion among people who have significantly perspectives and deep feeling about an issue is a skill and an art.

In regards to engagement process

Public Engagement (cont.)



design, it is helpful to know if the participants are likely to be well organized stakeholders and interest groups with strongly held views; or members of the general public who may have less strongly formed or more varied opinions.

It is always best to plan, prepare and provide information when putting together a forum such as this. Meeting early with community groups or organizations that likely will have strongly held views is a good thing. Having participants that adequately reflect

the diverse population and viewpoints of the community will be of strong benefit. To often have I seen meetings where only one segment of the population shows up, and that truly doesn't always reflect the opinions of the community.

Always be ready for loud, rude or insulting comments to be made. Not everyone likes governmental representatives and they feel that there is too much interference in their lives already.

To Laugh, or Not to Laugh, that is the Joke...

What do you call it when a snowman has a temper tantrum? A meltdown.

What do you call advice from a cow? Beef tips.

Why are elevator jokes so good? They work on so many levels.

How do you get a squirrel to like you? Act

like a nut.

I don't trust stairs; they're always up to something.

===

Yes, Planners do have a sense of humor!!



This, That, The Other...and whatever that is...

It has come to my attention that there are issues with signing up to be on my email list through Constant Contact. I do apologize for that, but it appears out of my control to fix. CC is not really customer service oriented I find. If you know anyone who wants to sign up, please have them contact me through my email at rfm467@gmail.com and I'll take care of it.

In a previous issue, I opened up the possibility of having like an advisory committee if anyone wanted to volunteer. Sort of like a Board of Directors. Positions are open, feel free to reach out at rfm467@gmail.com.

YouTube videos on planning topics are something I started a while back. There are a few now, but I would like ideas for future postings. Let me know your

thoughts!

I am thinking of changing a few things up on these newsletters. The first of which, given that I am running out of ideas of what to write on, is going to either a one-page/one topic per month issue. Another is to continue this format and go to every other month. What is/are your thoughts?



What is of interest to you, the reader...

I hope you have been enjoying reading these newsletters as much as I have in writing them. I've been trying to find information that may be of some interest to everyone.

Now that I've been doing this awhile, let me turn the tables on to you, my readers! Please let me know what may be of interest to you...things you may want to know, or hear about.

Additionally, if you have any announcements you may wish to pass along, or have a short piece to share, please pass it along and I'll be happy to include it in the newsletter. If you have an article you want published, please forward it along too!

As you know, I publish this once a month, so plan accordingly! If there is a

special announcement though, I can easily slip it in the email blasts as a separate and stand-alone item!

If you would like to see it explained on YouTube, now that I have a channel started, please let me know too!

If you would like a different format, let me know!

Also note that I have a blog on my website (www.rfmlanduseconsulting.com) that I will occasionally post on. Check it out!





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Customer Comes
First***

Publications

I hope you have enjoyed this publication of RFM Land Use Consulting's newsletter! While short in nature, I hope you have found the information useful.

It is my hope to periodically publish a newsletter to keep my clients up to date with articles relating to the planning field, as well as highlight projects I feel are of note for the community.

If there are subjects of interest in the

planning field you would like to see here, please feel free to contact me with those ideas, and I will include them in future publications.

If you know anyone wanting to subscribe to this newsletter, go to www.rfmlanduseconsulting.com, or click on the QR code below, it's free!

Thank you for reading!

Topics in future editions of the newsletter...

- Articles from you!

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