



Issues

## **Glossary: Terms you need to know for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Revision date 7/16/2013)**

**AB-32 Assembly Bill 32 Global Warming Solutions Act** Passed in 2006 and signed into law by Gov. Schwarzenegger, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 set the 2020 greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals into law. It directed the California Air Resources Board (ARB or CARB) to develop actions to reduce greenhouse gasses to reach the 2020 target. <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/ab32/ab32.htm>

**ABAG Association of Bay Area Governments.** ABAG is a COG. Authorized but not required by state law, COGs are really the creatures of counties and municipalities that voluntarily band together to carry out regional planning. In the San Francisco Bay Area, appointed delegates from each member city (101 cities) and 9 counties are elected officials from jurisdictions they represent. They coordinate transportation planning and funding for a specific region. This includes projects, demographics, bike and rideshare. <http://www.abag.ca.gov/>

**Agenda 21** The agenda for the 21st Century, an action plan crafted at the Earth Summit in 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to inventory and control all land, water, minerals, plants, animals, energy, and human beings in the world. It is a global plan, but implemented locally. <http://www.green-agenda.com/agenda21.htm> Note: This second link is from the UN. [http://www.unaosa.org/images/content/Advocacy/Agenda21\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.unaosa.org/images/content/Advocacy/Agenda21_Fact_Sheet.pdf)

**Blight** applies to Redevelopment—a term used to target an area for eminent domain takings to “redevelop” it for what the planning groups decide is a more productive use.

**Brownfield Sites** are abandoned or underused industrial and commercial facilities available for re-use. Expansion or redevelopment of such a facility may be complicated by real or perceived environmental contaminations.

**Cap and Trade** offsets created through a baseline and credit approach, and a carbon tax are all market-based approaches that put a price on greenhouse gases and provide an economic incentive to reduce emissions. Jan 1, 2012 begins California’s plan and will line the pockets of companies such as Goldman Sachs who will be one of the clearinghouses for the trading of these credits.

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/industries/2013/03/06/little-unity-over-california-cap-and-trade-program>

**CEQA California Environment Quality Act** passed in 1970 does not directly regulate land uses, but instead requires state and local agencies within CA to follow a protocol of analysis and public disclosure of environmental impacts of proposed projects and adopt all feasible measures to mitigate those impacts.

**COG Council of Governments** An association which coordinates transportation planning and funding for a specific region. It includes projects, demographics, bike and rideshare. The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) is one of many councils of government (COGs) in California. Authorized but not required by state law, COGs are really the creatures of counties and municipalities that voluntarily band together to carry out regional planning.

**Communitarianism** A society that places the community values higher than the rights of the individual



**Community Mapping** A way of collecting personal information about people who live in a community for both identifying “assets” and those who are not “assets” to the community.

**Consensus** the traditional definition is “an opinion or position reached by a group as a whole”. The new definition for consensus is the neutralization of expressed opposition. This is achieved through use of the Delphi technique.

**Conservation Easement** is an encumbrance which creates a legally enforceable land preservation agreement between a landowner and a government agency. It restricts development and needs to be perpetual in order to receive large tax credits. Even though government owned, the land is not for public use, and the landowner may be highly restricted on what he can do with his property.

**Delphi Technique** is a mind control technique developed by the Rand Corporation which is used to channel a group of people to accept a point of view that is really imposed on them while convincing them that it was their idea. Used frequently in “visioning” meetings where the organizers give the appearance that they are listening to the community, but proceed to adopt the original plan.

**EIR Environmental Impact Report** See this example from fish and game. There are similar procedures for every CA agency. <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habcon/cega/intrnlproced/eir.html>

**GIS Geographic Information System** (GIS) is a system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of [geographical data](#). The [acronym](#) **GIS** is sometimes used for **geographical information science** or **geospatial information studies** to refer to the academic discipline or career of working with geographic [information systems](#).<sup>[1]</sup> In the simplest terms, GIS is the merging of [cartography](#), [statistical analysis](#), and [database](#) technology.

**GHG – Greenhouse Gas** is a gas in an atmosphere that absorbs and emits radiation within the thermal infrared range. This process is the fundamental cause of the greenhouse effect. The primary greenhouse gasses in the Earth’s atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone.

**ICLEI – International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives** is a conglomerate of 600 national, regional and local government associations who promote “Sustainable Development” and protection of the environment based on dubious global warming science. ICLEI promotes the implementation of Agenda 21 policies at local levels.

<http://www.icleiusa.org>

**Infill** In the urban planning and development industries, infill is the use of land within a built-up area for further construction, especially as part of a community redevelopment or growth management program or as part of smart growth.

**Leakage** Job loss due to businesses “leaving the state” or “going out of business”

**Mixed Use Development** Often located in existing urban areas or as part of a new town center, mixed-use development provides a range of commercial and residential unit sizes and options.



**MTC Metropolitan Transportation Commission** MTC is the transportation planning, coordinating and financing agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area [http://www.mtc.ca.gov/about\\_mtc/about.htm](http://www.mtc.ca.gov/about_mtc/about.htm)

**NGO** – Non-Governmental-Organization participating in making policy, a stakeholder. Examples include the Sierra Club, American Planning Association, and Nature Conservancy.

**PDA** Priority Development Area A plot of land, marked for future development usually within the growth boundaries of a city, with high density or mixed use zoning. The PDA designation enables developers to avoid compliance to otherwise required environmental standards, and provides incentives to build additional low income housing in the development. <http://www.bayareavision.org/initiatives/prioritydevelopmentareas.html>

**SB 375 Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008** Passed in 2008, it targets GHG emissions from passenger vehicles. It instructs the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to set regional emissions reduction targets from autos. Each Metropolitan Planning Organization for each region must then develop a “Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) that integrates transportation, land-use and housing policies to plan for achievement of the emissions target for their region.

**Smart Growth** is an urban planning and transportation theory that concentrates growth in compact walkable urban centers to avoid sprawl and advocates compact, transit-oriented, walkable, bicycle-friendly land use, including neighborhood schools, complete streets, and mixed-use development with a range of housing choices.

**STA Solano Transportation Authority** Created in 1990 it serves as a Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for Solano County. It partners with MTC and Caltrans Dist 4 and is responsible for countywide transportation planning, programming transportation funds, managing and providing transportation programs and services, delivering transportation projects, and setting transportation priorities. <http://www.sta.ca.gov>

**Stakeholder** is anyone who has an interest in the project and are individuals and organizations that are actively involved in the project, or whose interests may be affected as a result of project execution or project completion.

**Sustainable Development** The United Nations 2005 World Summit Outcome Document refers to the “interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars” of sustainable development as economic development, social development, and environmental protection.

**Visioning Process** More often than not, the “visioning” process in local communities tries to avoid any connection to the UN or to Agenda 21 by adopting positive-sounding names such as Smart Valley Places in San Joaquin Valley, California. Participants in the visioning process are unaware that they are being led through the “collaborative consensus process”; professional facilitators are used to lead selected individuals through a process that is intended to validate the recommendations advanced in Agenda 21, while appearing to be the ideas and conclusions of the participants.



**VMT** – Vehicle Miles Travelled Tax

**Wildlands Project** is a plan to eliminate human presence on “at least” 50% of the American landscape. Examples of the piece-by-piece implementation includes road closings, breaching dams, and expanding imposition of habitat “protection” provisions of the Endangered Species Act. The Project seeks to collectivize all natural resources and centralize all use decisions under government direction and through public-private partnerships. Google the Wildlands Project Map.

[http://www.propertyrightsresearch.org/articles2/wildlands\\_project\\_and\\_un\\_convent.htm](http://www.propertyrightsresearch.org/articles2/wildlands_project_and_un_convent.htm)

[http://www.freedomadvocates.org/articles/wildlands\\_project/the\\_uses\\_and\\_abuses\\_of\\_conservation\\_easements\\_20070613238/print/?tmpl=component](http://www.freedomadvocates.org/articles/wildlands_project/the_uses_and_abuses_of_conservation_easements_20070613238/print/?tmpl=component)

While this is far from a complete list, I hope it will help in your understanding of these important issues before us today.