



2014 AM 4 Breakout Session Recap

AM 4: NFAC, CFAC, and CARB – Are They Working Together?

Moderator:

John Greaves, Transportation Operation Manager, Central California District, UPS and Advisory Board Member, Mobility 21

Panelists (in order of their presentation):

- The Honorable Bonnie Lowenthal, Chair, California Assembly Transportation Committee and Committee Member, NFAC
- Dr. Raymond Wolfe, Executive Director, San Bernardino Associated Governments. Committee Member, CFAC and Board Member, Mobility 21
- Richard Corey, Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board

Summary

This session provided an insight to the mandated formed NFAC and the subsequently formed CFAC and CARB and how they are or are not working together. The panelists provided a view from their side with ideas and suggestions of how to move forward. The audience learned that despite their differences of opinion on some matter, ideally all groups have the same goals and ideally want to work together to achieve them. NFAC at the national level is looking at new funding sources and the big picture issues with specific recommendations. They also support a holistic package to their statutory, regulatory and financial challenges. CFAC would like to request that each state submits a freight plan, which will be regulated on a state level and funds granted for the amount of money they bring into the nation/state. CARB wants to partner with the government, most importantly to address air quality and their role of incentives and regulations. Although the panelist didn't agree on everything they do agree that partnerships and incentives can change behavior if properly implemented and monitored.

Takeaway

It is important that when creating committees to tackle a national issue, the local businesses are on the same page.

The goals at the national level are the same at the state and local level, however many different factors come into play at each level. These committees must remember to communicate and work together to tackle the bigger issues, instead of battling each other.

Each of the committees have the same big picture goals, however the immediate issues right in front of them are different and some more pressing than others, which cause a disconnect for the bigger goals. Incentives need to be reevaluated and updated accordingly. The incentives have to change the behaviors for the overall goals and everyone has to work together for the common goals.