

Report on ABAG to MCCMC

March 30, 2016

MTC PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER REGIONAL LAND USE PLANNING AND RESEARCH STAFF FROM ABAG TO MTC:

On March 25, 2016, the ABAG Administrative & MTC Planning Committees will discuss and provide comments on the options, principles, and problem definition and evaluation criteria. Copies of these documents were routed to the Marin ABAG delegates and alternates for comment. At the joint committees meeting scheduled for April 22, 2016, Management Partners will present an analysis of the options and our recommendations and seek direction on next steps to prepare an implementation plan to be presented at the May 27, 2016 joint committees meeting. I will be convening a Marin ABAG delegate/alternate meeting in April to review the merger study and proposed options. **The options include:**

1. No change. Maintain current independence of each agency, but increase collaboration between the agencies to improve and streamline the Plan Bay Area (PBA) process and other regional planning efforts.
2. Consolidate regional planning functions within MTC. Consolidate most regional planning functions within MTC by implementing MTC Resolution 4210. (ABAG JPA, policy structure, some planning programs and other agency programs would remain in the COG.)
3. Hire an independent planning director to manage PBA, all planning functions or both Hire an independent planning director responsible for PBA, all planning, or both, reporting directly to the ABAG Administrative Committee and MTC Planning Committee with staff assigned from both agencies.
4. Establish new Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to oversee PBA, all planning functions, or both Hire an independent planning director responsible for the SCS/PBA reporting directly to a new JPA (with members from MTC and ABAG) to oversee the PBA process, all planning, or both with staff assigned to both agencies.
5. Create new regional governance model Enter into an MOU to pursue a new governance model that integrates the MPO (MTC) and the COG (ABAG).
6. Pursue a new comprehensive regional governance model Pursue a new governance model that encompasses the functions of all the independent regional planning agencies in the Bay Area.
7. Create a new regional governance model and consolidate regional planning functions.
 - a. Enter into an MOU to create a new regional governance model that integrates the MPO (MTC) and the COG (ABAG); and
 - b. Amend MTC Resolution 4210 to include consolidation of all ABAG planning functions
8. Pursue a new regional governance model and develop an interim funding framework to support ABAG planning functions.
 - a. Enter into an MOU to pursue a new governance model that integrates the MPO (MTC) and the COG (ABAG); and
 - b. Enter into a new interim funding framework with ABAG to support its planning functions and pursue opportunities to consolidate ancillary administrative services following the move to the new headquarters building; i.e., JPA to remain.
9. Create a new regional governance model and consolidate all ABAG functions with MTC (existing governance structures and statutory responsibilities to remain)
 - a. Enter into an MOU to jointly create a new governance model that integrates the MPO (MTC) and the COG (ABAG); and

b. Enter into a contract with MTC to develop and manage a new merged staff work program that supports all ABAG planning programs, activities and administrative functions and responsibilities (transition of employees to be addressed); the existing ABAG governing structure would continue to serve as policy oversight for statutory and program responsibilities, i.e., JPA to remain until a successor agency is agreed upon.

10. Pursue new governance options, consolidate regional planning functions and contract with MTC for some or all ABAG functions (existing governance structures and statutory responsibilities to remain).

- a. Enter into a MOU to pursue new regional governance models;
- b. Amend Resolution 4210 to consolidate all planning functions within MTC; and
- c. Contract with MTC to provide staff in support of ABAG administrative services (transition of employees to be addressed) and a portion or some of the agency's work program; the existing ABAG governing structure would continue to serve as policy oversight for statutory and program responsibilities, i.e., JPA to remain until a successor agency is agreed upon.

PLAN BAY AREA 2040:

- **Scenarios.** As reported in several previous reports, the evaluation of three defined land use and transportation scenarios will be released in May 2016. Each scenario are being analyzed to determine how they achieve the new performance targets. I highly suggest that you schedule a presentation and discussion at one of your Council meetings to obtain input.
- **Public Outreach.** A public workshop/open house is scheduled for May 21, 2016 (see attached draft agenda). This year, the ABAG/MTC public workshop/open house will be co-sponsored by the Marin ABAG delegates/alternates and the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM). Please let me know if you are interested in leading a session. Once we confirm a location, we will be able to start publicizing the event.

ABAG GENERAL ASSEMBLY: The Spring General Assembly is scheduled for April 21, 2016 from 10:00 to 3:00 pm at the Oakland Museum, James Moore Theater located at 1000 Oak Street, Oakland 94607. Registration starts at 9:30 am, program begins at 10 am, business meeting at 12 noon. To register, go to: <http://abag.ca.gov/events/ga/2016/>

The General Assembly topics are:

1. **To vote on: 1) 2016-2017 work plan and budget and, 2) proposed ABAG bylaws** that lower the threshold for a quorum of the City Delegates to 40%. This change is being proposed to address concerns regarding ABAG's ability to convene a quorum of the City Delegates to conduct the annual business meeting of the General Assembly. Following is example: At the General Assembly, there are 101 City Delegates. To convene the City Delegates, 40%, or 41 City Delegates must be present with a majority of the normal quorum or 26 City Delegates must cast affirmative votes. I will be sending out the proposed work plan and budget for 2016-2017 to the ABAG delegates/alternates in Marin.
2. **A discussion of the ABAG/MTC Merger Study.** As you are well aware, the future of regional planning is being hotly debated throughout the SF Bay Area. ABAG, which acts as our Council of Governments, and MTC are evaluating how the two agencies could be merged into a comprehensive regional planning agency covering both transportation and regional planning for housing, sustainability, resilience, energy conservation and other vital issues. There is a lot at stake for Bay Area cities and counties. A merger could have a profound effect on the services, research and technical advice your cities and counties receive from ABAG. A merger could also have serious implications for ongoing regional initiatives such as Plan Bay Area. **Your participation in this discussion is critical to the final outcome of the merger proposal.**

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- **March 25, 2016**, 9 am to 12pm – ABAG Administrative and MTC Planning Committee meeting in Metro Center, Oakland. **ABAG/MTC Merger Study** - Purpose: To narrow down the options
- **April 22, 2016**, 9 am to 12pm – ABAG Administrative and MTC Planning Committee meeting in Metro Center, Oakland. **ABAG/MTC Merger Study** - Purpose: To reach agreement on the next steps.

Please direct questions to Pat Eklund, Mayor, City of Novato (phone: 415-883-9116; email: peklund@novato.org or pateklund@comcast.net)

**PUBLIC WORKSHOP
PLAN BAY AREA UPDATE 2017
MAY 21, 2016 -- 8:30 to 1:00
LOCATION: TBD**

Purpose:

- Inform and obtain feedback on the key milestones, methodology for forecasting future growth, land use and transportation scenarios and performance evaluation. Provide brief overview of Vital Signs
- Discuss next steps

8:30 – 10:00: REGISTRATION and OPEN HOUSE

10:00 – 10:15: WELCOME and INTRODUCTION TO PLAN BAY AREA 2017

- ✓ **Welcome** – Pat Eklund, Mayor, City of Novato; Steve Kinsey, 4th District Supervisor (5 minutes)
- ✓ **Key Milestones for Plan Bay Area Update 2017** – ABAG/MTC staff (10 minutes)

10:15 – 10:30: Public Comment/Questions

10:30 – 10:50 FORECASTING FUTURE GROWTH – Elected official intro of:
Cynthia Kroll, ABAG Chief Economist

10:50 – 11:10: Public Comment/Questions

11:10 - 11:45: SCENARIOS/PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (land use and transportation – including Vital Signs) – Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Moderator
Matt Maloney, MTC
Miriam Chion and/or Brad Paul, ABAG

11:45 – 12:15: Public Comment/Questions

12:15 - 12:30: WRAP-UP AND CONTINUED PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- ✓ **Next Steps – Pat Eklund**
 - Report on what we heard today – comments, suggestions and Q&A
 - Send comments or questions to: <http://planbayarea.org/get-involved/join-us.html>
Comments are due by _____
 - Upcoming schedule

12:30 – 1:00: Open House and Time for Conversation with Public, Panelists and Elected Officials