

Report on ABAG to MCCMC

January 25, 2017

REMINDER – ABAG SPECIAL General Assembly is on Monday, JANUARY 30, 2017. Please register today at: <https://store.abag.ca.gov/authorizenet/ga-special17.html>. The meeting is at: 375 Beale St. San Francisco and starts at 10:00 to 3:00 pm. The topic will focus on ABAG/MTC Merger (see attached agenda)

PLAN BAY AREA 2040: ABAG and MTC conducted scoping sessions to assist in the development of the alternatives to the preferred scenario. The four alternatives that will be evaluated in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) are:

- 1) No Project Alternative
- 2) Main Streets Alternative
- 3) Big Cities Alternative
- 4) Equity, Environment and Jobs (EEJ) Alternative

These alternatives are defined by unique land use development patterns and transportation investment strategies. Each of the alternatives will maintain the same growth forecast, and forecast of reasonably available transportation revenues. The above alternatives will be briefly described and undergo a more detailed analysis that will be compared to the preferred scenario in all CEQA topic areas. The selected alternatives will undergo a comparative analysis to the proposed plan to determine whether implementing an alternative could lessen any identified significant unavoidable impacts of the proposed plan, while also meeting the project objectives. The findings of this analysis will be summarized in the Draft EIR anticipated to be released in spring 2017.

After the release of the Draft EIR, each county will have public engagement. In Marin County, we will have a public workshop and open house jointly sponsored by the Marin ABAG delegates/alternates and the Transportation Authority of Marin. We will be working together to develop an outreach plan and draft agenda for the public workshop. In addition, there will be:

- Two public hearings, one of which will be in the evening, on the Draft Plan and the DEIR.
- Pursuant to SB 375, the MPO will present the Draft Plan in each county at informational meetings that include county Board of Supervisors and city council members (probably will be TAM).
- MTC has contracted with five community-based organizations in low-income areas and communities of color to assist in engaging their residents and/or clients in development of the Plan. The groups will host focus groups or conduct surveys, at times and locations convenient to their residents, to discuss the Draft Plan.
- An online survey about the Draft Plan will be promoted on social and traditional media outlets, in order to reach out to residents who do not attend the public workshop and open houses.

ABAG MTC MERGER IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN: ABAG/MTC have completed the due diligence review which surfaced the fact that there will be an increase of personnel expenses by \$2.6M/year when the ABAG staff move to MTC; and other issues associated with salaries, benefits, etc.. are being explored for possible solutions. The outstanding issue remaining is that ABAG staff are represented by SEIU and MTC staff are not. ABAG President Pierce formed an Ad Hoc Committee to provide feedback on the draft “Contract for Services” which will be the governing document on how ABAG and MTC work together to ensure ABAG’s mission and obligations are met with its members, grantors, partners, and ABAG entities; and, the MOU which will deal with the governance issues. I am one of the members of the ad hoc committee. MTC has extended ABAG’s Funding Agreement through March 2017.

The draft Contract for Services will be distributed to the ABAG Executive Board and MTC Commission prior to the February 10, 2017 meeting of the joint ABAG Administrative and MTC Planning Committees. It is anticipated that the Contract for Services and MOU will be acted upon by the ABAG Executive Board and MTC Commission in March/April 2017 after which the ABAG staff would move to MTC. ABAG will still serve as the region's Council of Governments (COG), while MTC will continue to serve as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). ABAG's Executive Board and its committees will still convene their regular meetings, as will MTC's Commission and its standing committees.

BAY AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (EDD): As reported to MCCMC in September 2016, the ABAG Executive Board approved formation of a subcommittee of the Regional Planning Committee to develop a Draft *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy* (CEDS) which could lead us to establishing a regional EDD, as defined by the US Economic Development Administration, provided that five of the nine counties approve a regional EDD via their Board of Supervisors.

The potential benefits include: a) jurisdictions and public/private organizations could compete for grants or other financial assistance from a variety of public (US Department of Labor, US Department of Agriculture, US Economic Development Administration, etc..) and private sources. b) Infrastructure funding for cities including increasing broadband capacity. c) Pre-disaster technical and funding assistance to implement resilience actions.

The subcommittee has begun their work and is developing a Draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the SF Bay Area that will undergo review by the Regional Planning Committee and the ABAG Executive Board. The initial vision statement is: "A resilient economy, spurred by a culture of innovation, providing opportunities, shared prosperity, and a sustainable quality of life." A series of strategies and objectives for each of the goals will be developed. ABAG has agreed to provide a briefing on the Draft Strategy to the public and Marin ABAG delegates/alternates.

In conversations with ABAG staff, the strategy will be very similar to Marin County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) developed by the Marin Economic Forum in September 2015. This document appears to strike a balance between growth and retaining local quality of life, while acknowledging local conditions and control. The goals for Marin include:

- ✓ Support and grow jobs in key industries (e.g. Tourism expansion, but in a sustainable fashion)
- ✓ Broadband expansion (particularly in West Marin)
- ✓ Preservation of natural resources and open space
- ✓ Education and workforce development, and expanding the social safety net
- ✓ Housing and Transportation Planning and improved connections

To achieve these goals the report highlights among other things: 1) Infrastructure is needed for all of the above (including water); 2) Forming partnerships and working with local communities, residents and businesses is absolutely essential; and, 3) Local jurisdictions must agree to, and should be responsible for, setting policy goals that align with local needs.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- **January 25, 2017** - MTC meeting
- **January 30, 2017** – ABAG General Assembly
- **February 1, 2017** – ABAG Regional Planning Committee
- **February 10, 2017** – Joint ABAG Administrative and MTC Planning Committee meeting
- **February 16, 2017** – ABAG Executive Board
- **February 22, 2017** – MTC meeting
- **May 11, 2017** – ABAG General Assembly vote on the ABAG workplan and budget

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

ABAG Special General Assembly

Shaping the Future of ABAG:

What Does the Bay Area Need From Its Council of Governments?

January 30, 2017 – 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

375 Beale Street, Yerba Buena Room

Draft Agenda

9:30 a.m.

Registration Opens

*Informational displays in atrium.
Continental breakfast will be served.*

10 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.

Welcome Remarks

Julie Pierce, ABAG President
Mayor Ed Lee, City of San Francisco
(Invited)

10:10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Building Regional Collaboration

Coming together as a region to face national economic and environmental challenges.

Delaine Eastin, Former California State Superintendent of Public Instruction

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Regional Challenges and Opportunities

Collaborating across cities for a healthy, sustainable, and equitable Bay Area.

Moderator: **Carlos Romero**, East Palo Alto Councilmember

Ann Markusen, Markusen Economic Research Services

Amie Fishman, Executive Director, Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California

Ray Bonilla, Senior Business Continuity and Crisis Management Leader, Kaiser

11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Understanding the Consolidation

Consolidating staff, the Contract for Services, critical issues, and next steps.

Moderator: **Mark Luce**, Former ABAG President (Invited)

Julie Pierce, ABAG President

Brad Paul, ABAG Acting Executive Director

12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Represent your city or county's interests as we discuss the future of ABAG in small groups. Lunch will be served during the Breakout Sessions.

Moderated by ABAG Ad-Hoc Committee members:

Julie Pierce, ABAG President

David Rabbit, ABAG Vice President

Pat Eklund, Novato Councilmember

Pradeep Gupta, South San Francisco Councilmember

Raul Peralez, San Jose Councilmember

Greg Schaaf, Palo Alto Councilmember

2:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

What We Learned

Sharing highlights from group discussions.

Led by ABAG Ad-Hoc Committee members

2:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Julie Pierce, ABAG President