

ABAG Report to MCCMC<sup>1</sup>

January 2023

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

- 1) **Bay Area Housing Finance Authority:** MTC and ABAG collaborated to establish the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority which has decided to place a housing measure on the 2024 ballot. The intent is to offer a powerful new set of financing and policy tools to promote housing affordability to address the region's housing crisis.
- 2) **Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN):** This year, BayREN is celebrating 10 years of helping create sustainable communities across the Bay Area by promoting resource efficiency at the regional level, focusing on energy, water and greenhouse gas reduction. To date, BayREN has helped mitigate 156 tons of carbon, upgraded 60,695 housing units and provided \$55.4 million in incentives to help make the region more environmentally friendly.
- 3) **Form-Based Codes Institute (FBCI) Form-Based Code Award:** Marin County and Opticos Design have been awarded the FBCI Form-Based Code Award for achievement in the writing and implementation of a regional model of form-based zoning code. Earlier today, the authors of the code and planners presented their regional approach to zoning at a webinar hosted by Smart Growth America.
- 4) **ABAG Flood-Risk Maps:** The recent storms throughout the West have brought lots of attention to flood-risk. ABAG has online resources on flooding including a hazard map that shows 100- and 500-year floodplains as designated by FEMA, as well as potential floodplains currently protected by levees. (From January 2 through January 6, there was a big spike in ABAG website traffic (normally ~575 visits a day, up to as high as ~3,400 on 1/4), with the Resilience/Flood page being the top page on the site (by 4x over the homepage) from 12/1/2022 through 1/11/23).
- 5) **MTC Executive Director:** Therese W. McMillan Executive Director, MTC/ABAG is retiring effective January 30, 2023. A nation-wide recruitment was issued in late 2022 and in January 2023, both ABAG and MTC conducted interviews for the new Executive Director position. MTC will be conducting final interviews on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

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**BAY AREA HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY (BAHFA):** BAHFA is a shared initiative of ABAG MTC, in partnership with cities and counties, to step up efforts to address the Bay Area's chronic housing affordability challenges. ABAG and MTC have committed to expanding the agencies' regional housing portfolio and BAHFA represents a key financial pillar of these efforts.

Established by AB 1487 (2019, Chiu) BAHFA is the first regional housing finance authority in the state and will offer a powerful new set of financing and policy tools to promote housing affordability. ABAG and MTC policymakers collaborated closely during the legislative process to establish BAHFA, including its unique joint governance structure that requires a double green-light process to obtain policy and programming approvals from both the ABAG Executive Board and the BAHFA Board (composed of the same board as MTC).

A part of the Bay Area's expanded regional housing portfolio toolbox, BAHFA will be developing a regional strategy for helping local governments tackle the housing crisis on a larger scale by transcending city and county boundaries. One of the key features of BAHFA is its ability to raise significant new funding for the "3 Ps" (Protection, Preservation, and Production) through a regional revenue ballot measure anticipated in 2024. The intent is to offer a powerful new set of financing and policy tools to promote housing affordability to address the region's housing crisis.

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<sup>1</sup> Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers (MCCMC)

**BAY AREA REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK (BAYREN):** This year, BayREN is celebrating 10 years of helping create sustainable communities across the Bay Area by promoting resource efficiency at the regional level, focusing on energy, water and greenhouse gas reduction. To date, BayREN has helped mitigate 156 tons of carbon, upgraded 60,695 housing units and provided \$55.4 million in incentives to help make the region more environmentally friendly.

**Form-Based Codes Institute (FBCI) Form-Based Code Award:** The Form-Based Codes Institute (FBCI) at Smart Growth America announced that the 16th annual FBCI Form-Based Code Award was awarded to Marin County and Opticos Design for their creating a Toolkit of Objective Design and Development Standards to serve as an integrated catalog of standards calibrated to the Marin County environment, providing a variety of zoning tools based on a palette of eight zone districts to deliver context-sensitive design standards for multifamily and mixed-use residential development across Marin County's 520 square miles of diverse towns and cities.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS<sup>2</sup>**

- **January 25, 2023 --**      **Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 9:35 am**  
                                  **MTC Bay Area Toll Authority, 9:40 am**  
                                  **MTC Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority, 9:45 am**  
                                  **MTC Bay Area Headquarters Authority, 9:50 am**
- **January 30, 2023 --**      **MTC Executive Committee (Closed Session), 9:00 am**
- **February 8, 2023 --**      **MTC Bay Area Toll Authority Oversight Committee, 9:30 am**  
                                  **MTC Administrative Committee, 9:40 am**  
                                  **MTC Programming and Allocation Committee, 9:45 am**  
                                  **MTC Policy Advisory Council, 1:30 pm**
- **February 9, 2023 --**      **ABAG Housing Committee, 1:00 pm**  
                                  **Bay Area Housing Financing Oversight Committee, 1:00 pm**
- **February 10, 2023 --**      **MTC Operations Committee, 9:35 am**  
                                  **Joint MTC Planning and ABAG Administrative Committee, 9:35 am**  
                                  **Joint MTC/ABAG Legislative Committee, 9:45 am**
- **February 16, 2023 --**      **ABAG Power Executive Committee, 11:00 am**  
                                  **ABAG Finance Committee, 5:00 pm**  
                                  **ABAG Executive Board, 5:00 pm**
- **February 22., 2023 --**      **Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 9:35 am**  
                                  **MTC Bay Area Toll Authority, 9:40 am**  
                                  **MTC Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority, 9:45 am**  
                                  **MTC Bay Area Headquarters Authority, 9:50 am**
- **February 23, 2023 --**      **Bay Area Housing Financing Authority Advisory Committee, 10:00 am**

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<sup>2</sup> All meetings are 'hybrid' which means that some Board/Committee members will be in person at 375 Beale Street, SF; and, others will be participating via Zoom, webcast and/or teleconference, unless noted otherwise. <https://mtc.legistar.com/> If you have questions, contact Pat Eklund, Councilmember, City of Novato at 415-883-9116 or via email at: [pateklund@comcast.net](mailto:pateklund@comcast.net).