



Memorandum

TO: ABAG Executive Board

DATE: May 14, 2020

CC: Metropolitan Transportation Commission

FR: Executive Director

RE: Outreach Update for the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Process

This memo identifies the completed and planned outreach to elected officials regarding the sixth cycle of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process.

Local Government Outreach – Meetings with Elected Officials and Staff

In addition to the updates provided to the ABAG Regional Planning Committee (RPC) and reporting to the Executive Board, ABAG staff has conducted supplemental outreach to local elected officials. Between January and March 2020, the following outreach activities have occurred:

General Assembly

A special ABAG General Assembly on RHNA occurred on February 7th with 90 local elected officials, jurisdiction staff, and other stakeholders hearing from Senator Wiener, Senator Beall, Assemblymember Chiu and staff from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) about recent changes to RHNA and what local governments need to do in order to update their housing elements. Attendees also participated in a session about additional assistance from HCD and ABAG for local governments updating housing elements.

Presentations to Elected Officials

Presentations will be scheduled via existing meetings, such as Mayors and Councilmembers Conferences and League of California Cities meetings. The status of presentations is as follows:

Group/Organization	Date	Status
Contra Costa Mayors Conference	January 9, 2020	Done
Peninsula League of Cities	January 29, 2020	Done
Solano City County Coordinating Council	March 12, 2020	Done
Lamorinda Tri-Cities Meeting	March 19, 2020	Rescheduled due to Covid-19
Cities Association of Santa Clara County	April 9, 2020	Done
Marin County Council of Mayors & Councilmembers	May or June	In process
East Bay League of Cities	May or June	In process
Mayors' & Councilmembers' Association of Sonoma County	June 11, 2020	In process
Alameda County Mayors' Conference	June or July 10	In process

Staff will continue to reach out to additional Conferences or League meetings in the region, including those in Napa, Sonoma and Solano counties. As Napa and Solano counties are both RHNA sub-regions, the outreach will need to be a bit different, as the process itself is different. All of these presentations will occur prior to the release of the proposed RHNA methodology.

Additional Outreach

Additional outreach to elected officials is also supported by a template RHNA PowerPoint that will be available in May 2020 for local staff to use to present to their councils and boards. In addition, staff facilitate deployment of the template presentation during RHNA webinar, which will be designed as a “train the trainer” event for local city and county staff. The idea is to prepare local staff to present information about RHNA and the recent legislative changes to council or other interested parties.

ABAG-MTC staff have begun outreach to local staff via the League of Cities City Manager conference on February 6 and at the Alameda County City Managers meeting on February 19. Additional outreach to discuss funding available from the state to assist local jurisdictions with RHNA implementation through their Housing Element updates will also occur.

Local planning directors will receive additional information on RHNA implementation and technical assistance available through ABAG-MTC’s Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grants program via county-wide planning directors meetings during March – May 2020. Additional information about RHNA and REAP will be presented to elected officials. Based on this outreach plan, staff expects that each jurisdiction in the nine counties will receive updates and have opportunity to provide feedback on multiple occasions during the first half of 2020.

In addition to the outreach activities in 2020, RHNA overview presentations were made to the following in 2019:

Group/Organization	Date
CTA Planning Directors	June 7, 2019
South Bay Horizon/PBA Workshop	June 13, 2019
Contra Costa County Planning Directors	July 11, 2019
Alameda County Planning Directors	July 19, 2019
SCCAPO	August 7, 2019
Sonoma County Planning Directors	August 22, 2019
Sonoma County Transportation Authority Board of Directors	September 9, 2019