

COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM 10 - Public Comment

On Nov 24, 2020, at 4:17 PM, Amelia Linde wrote:

External Email

Therese McMillan
Executive Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Plan Bay Area 2050 Strategy EN7 Alternate Strategy

Dear Executive Director McMillan, MTC Chair Haggerty, and Commissioners,

I am writing today on behalf of the diverse businesses of all sizes represented by the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce to express appreciation for the deep consideration that has gone into the Plan Bay Area 2050 Blueprint. Your work ensures that the Bay Area meets the necessary requirements to secure millions of dollars in critical funding. Specifically we express gratitude to the MTC commission, Chair Scott Haggerty and Executive Director Therese McMillan for acknowledging the concerns of businesses and the community and ultimately finding a suitable alternative for the 60% telecommute mandate. The new EN7 Strategy which caps personal automobile commuters to 40% of the workforce, but allows for alternate modes of transport like bicycling, walking, and public transit, is a practical answer to a challenging issue. It respects the work already being done to make commuting cleaner while offering the flexibility needed to incentivize innovation, promote clean transportation, maintain our economic centers, and better protect small businesses.

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce supports strategies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and work to fight climate change, while mitigating the impacts of such strategies on our communities. It is crucial to pursue policies that are known to be effective while mitigating potential adverse effects which is why we support the alternate strategy EN7 which was adopted into the plan on November 20th. Our entire community must work together to pull back carbon emissions and fight climate change and the work that MTC and ABAG do in outlining potential strategies is critical to effective long term planning. We look forward to continued open dialogue that will facilitate successful progress in a sustainable way.

Sincerely,

Rodney Fong
President and CEO, San Francisco Chamber of Commerce