



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ABAG Executive Board

October 21, 2021

### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS FOR OCTOBER 2021:**

#### **RHNA Appeals (ongoing)**

Release of the Draft RHNA Allocations on May 25 initiated the 45-day period during which a local jurisdiction or HCD could submit an appeal to ABAG requesting a change to any Bay Area jurisdiction's allocation. ABAG received 28 appeals from Bay Area jurisdictions by the July 9<sup>th</sup> deadline. In addition, a number of jurisdictions sent ABAG comment letters about RHNA, in lieu of submitting an appeal. Details about the appeals submitted and comment letters are on the Appeals Process page on the ABAG website. Key dates in the ABAG RHNA process include:

- We have held four (4) appeal hearings to date with the next one scheduled for **Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**
- October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021: final set of appeals and final deliberations of the Administration Committee serving as the Appeals board
- November/December: ABAG ratifies written final determination on each appeal and issues Final RHNA Allocations that adjust allocations as a result of any successful appeals.
- November or December: ABAG Executive Board conducts public hearing to adopt Final RHNA Plan.

<https://abag.ca.gov/our-work/housing/rhna-regional-housing-needs-allocation/2023-2031-rhna-appeals-process>

#### **Technical Assistance Web Portal Launch**

The Regional Housing Technical Assistance program has released a Housing Element Site Selection tool. A webinar was held on the new Housing Element Site Selection tool, which was developed in house to assist jurisdictions with determining which sites meet state requirements for zoning. Twenty-Five (25) jurisdictions have begun working with a consultant to create a Housing Element update public engagement tool that they can host on their individual websites.

There are a variety of upcoming work groups, some of which are currently meeting, on housing related issues: "Making Middle Housing Work" and "Wildfires – How to Preserve and Protect Housing".

Visit the Technical Assistance Portal for more information

[abag.ca.gov/technical-assistance](https://abag.ca.gov/technical-assistance)

#### **Estuary Summit**

On Friday, October 1st, the San Francisco Estuary Partnership hosted the State of the Estuary Summit – a free one-day virtual event. I welcomed over 600 attendees to the Summit, which highlighted the voices of tribal and environmental justice leaders and advocates from across the region.

### **BayREN**

The BayREN Water Upgrades \$ave program is close to enrolling a third-partner water utility, the City of Cloverdale. This program is poised for significant growth, with many jurisdictions in the region imposing mandatory water use reductions.

### **Legislation**

At the request of the Legislators, agency staff had a good meeting on October 11 with Assemblymember Ting and Senator Skinner on ongoing conversations around the state budget.

### **Items of Note**

#### **Clean Air Day**

Was celebrated on October 6<sup>th</sup>, as a recognition that clean air is vital to the health, wealth, and development of the Bay Area. Given that people of color, low-income earners, very young, or very old populations are often disproportionately negatively affected by poor air quality, it is vital that we focus on improving health outcomes so everyone can thrive in our region.

Here is a link to more information on what Clean Air Day is: <https://www.cleanairday.org/about/>



Therese W. McMillan