



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ABAG Executive Board

January 20, 2022

### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS FOR JANUARY 2022:**

#### **Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)**

Starting in October 2019 with the convening of the Housing Methodology Committee (HMC), ABAG members, staff, and other stakeholders have embarked on an extended process to approve the Final Regional Housing Needs Allocation for Cycle 6.

RHNA is the state-mandated<sup>1</sup> process to identify the number of housing units (by affordability level) that each jurisdiction must accommodate in the Housing Element of its General Plan. The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) determined Bay Area communities must plan for 441,176 new housing units from 2023 to 2031.

From September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 the ABAG Administrative Committee conducted public hearings to consider the RHNA appeals from several local jurisdictions. On November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Administrative Committee ratified a written final determination on each appeal.

The ABAG EB adopted the final RHNA plan on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and staff just received notice from HCD that they have given their final approval. HCD's review has determined that the RHNA plan is consistent with HCD's housing need determination for the ABAG region.

Congratulations on a job well done for the region and to staff who have done a phenomenal job navigating this complicated process!

#### **BayREN**

The California Public Utilities Commission approved the BayREN 2022-23 budget of over \$47 million that will directly benefit the Bay Area by funding energy-efficiency retrofit incentives for property owners and renters; electrification projects; job creation in the green economy; a water efficiency program; support for small businesses; and support for jurisdictions to meet their climate goals.

BayREN is also working on a new Business Plan, due in February, that will include a new workforce program aimed at job training and placement for youth from low-income communities, in partnership with the Rising Sun Center for Opportunity; two new public sector programs to support electrifying municipal facilities; and a program that will replace high-GHG-emitting refrigerants in small businesses.

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<sup>1</sup> See California Government Code § 65584