



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Association of Bay Area Governments

January 18, 2024

Updates

BAHFA Launches First Capital Program to Spur Housing Construction

- The Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (BAHFA) in November launched its first loan program to promote the construction of affordable housing on properties nominated by local governments and developers across all nine Bay Area counties as “[Priority Sites](#).” These Priority Sites will provide affordable homes in locations close to transit, essential services and green space. With up to \$28 million in new loan proceeds from the California Housing and Community Development department, BAHFA will assist developers with low-interest loans to buy land for affordable housing; build affordable housing; complete necessary infrastructure; and/or cover predevelopment costs such as architectural and engineering services, entitlement and permitting fees, legal expenses or environmental reviews. Borrowers able to start construction within 24 months may seek loans of up to \$5 million.

BAHFA Awards \$5 million to Help Napa County Seniors Avoid Homelessness

- BAHFA in November launched its first homelessness prevention program with an award of \$5 million to Napa County to administer a pilot program focused on extremely low-income seniors. The pilot will support rent-burdened Napa County seniors who are disabled and/or living on fixed incomes by subsidizing rent for up to 48 months while helping them secure other long-term housing. BAHFA hopes lessons learned from the pilot can be applied to similar programs across the Bay Area and for future BAHFA initiatives.

Looking Ahead

State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference to be March 12-13 in Oakland

- The San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) is hosting its State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference on Tuesday, March 12, and Wednesday, March 13, at the Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center in Oakland. Keynote speakers will include California EPA Secretary Yana Garcia and U.S. EPA Region 9 Administrator Martha Guzman. Online registration to attend the conference is now open. More details can be found on the SFEP website: <https://www.sfestuary.org/state-of-the-estuary-conference/>.

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March Executive Board Meeting to Include Info Session on Regional Housing Bond

- In advance of the April Executive Board meeting where the board will consider an action to place a regional housing bond on the November ballot, staff is planning to include a workshop on the proposed regional housing bond in your March Executive Board meeting. This will tentatively include a guest speaker, a staff briefing, as well as a question-and-answer session. We are also planning some light refreshments before and after the meeting and encourage everyone to attend in person.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Fremier".

Andrew Fremier
Executive Director