



June 6, 2016

SENT VIA EMAIL

Regional Advisory Working Group
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

Re: **One Bay Area Grant Program 2 (OBAG 2) Update**

Dear Regional Advisory Working Group,

The Bay Area Council writes to support MTC staff's proposed revisions to OBAG 2 Project Selection Criteria and Programming policies.

Our region faces an unprecedented housing crisis that impacts every family, worker, and company. Chronic underproduction of housing over decades has resulted in a supply-demand mismatch that has driven up housing costs across the region and the State. The Legislative Analyst's Office reports that coastal communities across California implement formal growth control measures that stifle housing, on average, five per year.

That is why the Bay Area Council supports MTC staff's recommendation to reward jurisdictions that produce low and moderate income housing with funds for local transportation purposes. We believe it is important to incentivize housing production and reward the "good players" who are producing housing by allocating a percentage of FAST funds to cities that build.

The Bay Area Council also supports staff's caution to the requests to make OBAG funding contingent upon affordable housing and anti-displacement policies, since although well-intentioned, many of these policies are counterproductive and do not ease displacement.

As a necessary step toward mitigating the housing crisis, we encourage you to adopt MTC staff recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Regan'.

Matt Regan
Senior Vice President, Public Policy
Bay Area Council