

Plan BayArea 2040

FINAL AIR QUALITY
CONFORMITY
ANALYSIS

FINAL EIR

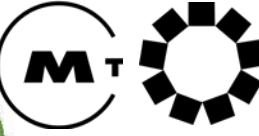
FINAL PLAN

ASSOCIATED TIP
AMENDMENT (2017-14)

July 14, 2017

*Joint MTC Planning &
ABAG Administrative
Committee*

Ken Kirkey
Bay Area Metro Staff





Extensive outreach to the public, key stakeholders, and elected officials in April and May spurred some revisions to the Plan & EIR.

Plan
BayArea
2040

298

letters & online
comments
received

17

meetings held
across all nine
counties



How has MTC/ABAG responded to comments received?

Letters received, as well as testimony from public hearings, have been posted on planbayarea.org.

For comments related to the Draft Plan Document/Action Plan:

Attachment B of this memorandum provides a summary response to each comment.

For comments related to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR):

The **Final EIR** provides a specific technical response to each comment.



Comments:

- Support for identifying short-term solutions to address regional affordability crisis; more specificity required in Action Plan in this regard
- Greater emphasis needed on increasing job opportunities in economically-challenged communities

Response/Revisions:

- Revisions to the housing component to the Action Plan were made to incorporate feedback from stakeholders and to underscore a comprehensive produce/preserve/protect strategy to tackle the housing crisis
- The economic development component of the Action Plan was expanded to highlight the need for a diverse range of middle-wage jobs and to place a greater emphasis on economic revitalization
- Given significant comments received on this topic, additional discussion and response can be found in Attachment D of the Staff Memo



Comments:

- Concern that the Plan does not go far enough to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and decrease vehicle miles traveled
- Request for additional specificity in resource land mapping
- Improvements suggested for resilience component of Action Plan to broaden scope beyond sea level rise as the primary issue area

Response/Revisions:

- More information was added to the Strategies chapter to highlight the region's commitment to climate solutions and to various EIR mitigations
- Revisions and improvements were made to Resource Lands maps
- The resilience element of the Action Plan was expanded to emphasize a broader range of climate change impacts and to incorporate additional partner agencies



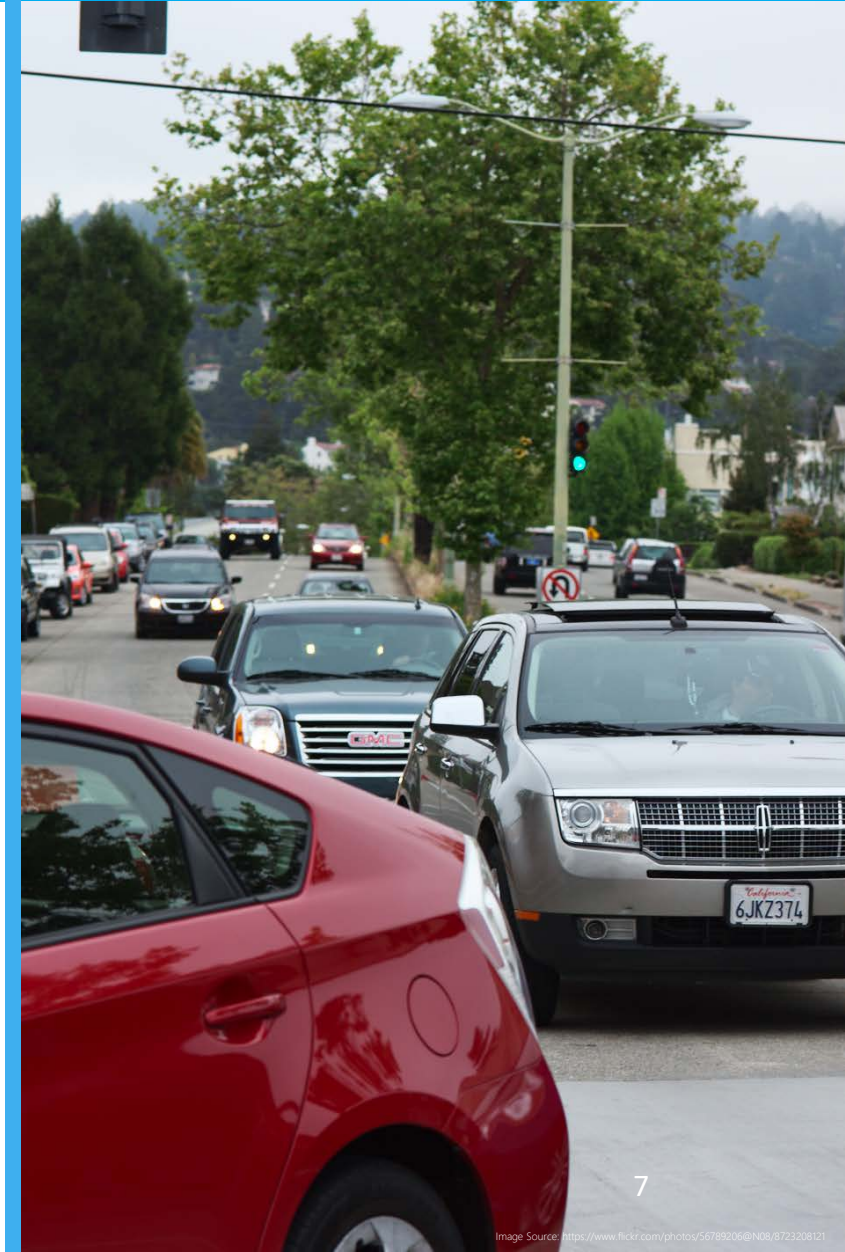
Comments & Associated Revisions – Growth Constraints

Comments:

- Local jurisdictions and residents are concerned about constraints that make it challenging to grow, leading to perception that places are “built out”
- Issues in this category ranged from water availability to local street capacity

Response/Revisions:

- A discussion of the growth related benefits and challenges was added to Chapter 4 of the Plan Document
- The Land Use Modeling supplemental report was enhanced with additional technical details on the development of the preferred land use pattern in 2016



Comments & Associated Revisions – Planning Coordination

Comments:

- Stakeholders and public sector agencies wanted to better understand how the Plan relates to the Clean Air Plan and the California Transportation Plan 2040
- Local jurisdictions need better information to assist with CEQA streamlining enabled by Senate Bills 375 and 743 and the Final Plan

Response/Revisions:

- Additional content was added to the Draft Plan to highlight its relationship to BAAQMD's Clean Air Plan and the state's California Transportation Plan 2040
- Improvements were made to various maps needed for local implementation when determining Plan consistency based on requests from stakeholders, as well as a commitment to develop web-based maps in the near future



Comments:

- A number of comments expressed opposition to the Plan process as well as skepticism about the value of planning, smart growth, and regional coordination

Response/Revisions:

- No specific changes were made in response to these comments



Comments & Associated Revisions – Land Use & Transportation

Comments:

- Local jurisdictions asked for changes to the policy levers or specific housing and jobs forecasts for their communities, beyond revisions made in the fall before adoption of the Final Preferred Scenario
- Some comments asked for projects to be added to the Final Plan

Response/Revisions:

- No changes have been made to the land use pattern or transportation investment strategy in the Draft Plan since it was approved as the Final Preferred Scenario in November 2016
- However, alternatives to the Draft Plan have been evaluated in parallel through the EIR process



The Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis demonstrates that the Plan and TIP are consistent with the federal air quality plan.

Plan
BayArea
2040

Background:

- Federal planning regulations require that we demonstrate that the transportation activities of the Plan and Amended 2017 TIP will not cause new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the federal air quality standards
- The Conformity Analysis was conducted consistent with the U.S. EPA's transportation-air quality conformity regulations and with the Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Protocol (MTC as Resolution No. 3757)
- The Conformity Analysis demonstrates that both the Plan and Amended 2017 TIP are consistent with ("conform to") the federal air quality plan, which is referred to as the state implementation plan (SIP)

Comments:

- Staff received no significant comments on the Draft Conformity Analysis Report

Response/Revisions – Conformity Analysis:

- Minor revisions were made to the Draft Conformity Analysis Report to provide additional background detail on federal ozone standards



The Final EIR includes responses to comments received and revisions to the Draft EIR.

Final EIR:

- **Comments on the Draft EIR** lists all agencies, organizations and individuals who submitted either written or oral comments on the Draft EIR.
- **Responses to Comments** provides responses to written and oral comments, including “Master Responses” which respond to frequently raised issues referenced by multiple commenters, the Master Responses include:
 - Population and Employment Forecasts
 - Displacement and Housing Affordability
 - Water Supply and Drought
 - SB 375 and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Analysis
 - Programmatic EIR
 - Range of Alternatives
 - MTC/ABAG Role and Authority
 - Climate Initiatives Program

The Final EIR includes responses to comments received and revisions to the Draft EIR.

Final EIR (continued):

- **Revisions to the Draft EIR** lists revisions to the Draft EIR by chapter and page, in the same order as the revisions would appear in the Draft EIR.
- **Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program (MMRP)**
 - Outlines a program for the implementation and monitoring of the mitigation measures included in the Draft EIR
 - Identifies who will be responsible for implementing each mitigation and describes the anticipated timeframe for implementation

Draft Findings:

- **Presents the conclusions of MTC/ABAG in support of certification of the Final EIR**

TIP Amendment 2017-14 ensures consistency between the TIP and the soon-to-be-adopted Plan Bay Area 2040.

Background:

- Federal planning regulations require that the TIP be consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan
- TIP Amendment 2017-14 includes proposals to revise or remove 47 projects currently in the 2017 TIP and add 14 new projects to maintain consistency between the 2017 TIP and Plan Bay Area 2040
- The 2017 TIP as revised with TIP Amendment 2017-14 remains fiscally constrained as required by federal regulations

Comments:

- Staff received no significant comments on Draft TIP Amendment 2017-14

Response/Revisions – TIP Amendment 2017-14:

- No significant revisions were made to TIP Amendment 2017-14

Staff requests referral of the four items to the Commission and ABAG Executive Board, as detailed below, to consider for adoption.



- Section 1** – The Bay Area Today*
- Section 2** – What is Plan Bay Area 2040?*
- Section 3** – Forecasting the Future*
- Section 4** – Strategies and Performance*
- Section 5** – Action Plan*
- Supplemental Reports***
- Environmental Impact Report***
- Air Quality Conformity Report***



This amendment to the 2017 TIP makes it consistent with the proposed Plan.

MTC Resolution 4298
Adopts Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis/ Determination

Planning Committee

MTC Resolution 4299
ABAG Resolution 09-17
Adopts Final Environmental Impact Report

Planning Committee & Administrative Committee

MTC Resolution 4300
ABAG Resolution 10-17
Adopts Final Plan Bay Area 2040

Planning Committee & Administrative Committee

MTC Resolution 4275
Adopts Amendment to 2017 Transportation Improvement Program

Planning Committee