

Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Policy Advisory Council Equity & Access Subcommittee

February 12, 2020

Agenda Item 3

Regional Equity Working Group (REWG) Update

Subject: Update on the work of the REWG to provide input on the development of Plan Bay Area 2050.

Background: In 2015, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments (MTC/ABAG) established a Regional Equity Working Group as a parallel advisory body to the Regional Advisory Working Group (RAWG), both of which are specifically designed to provide feedback on Plan Bay Area. Bringing together stakeholders from RAWG, from MTC's Policy Advisory Council, and from other equity-oriented organizations, REWG is designed to provide input at critical junctures on how equity can be integrated into Plan Bay Area.

REWG has convened four times since September 2019 through webinars and workshops, including a deep-dive workshop on Plan Bay Area 2050 Draft Blueprint strategies and equity mitigations on Wednesday, December 12, prior to the Policy Advisory Council meeting. More recently, REWG convened on Wednesday, January 22, as staff sought feedback on an initial list of desired equity outcomes for Plan Bay Area 2050 based upon the adopted vision for the Plan: to ensure by the year 2050 that the Bay Area is **affordable, connected, diverse, healthy and vibrant for all**. Furthermore, staff also sought feedback for a second time on the set of strategies to be included in the Draft Blueprint for Plan Bay Area 2050. Key highlights of feedback received during this workshop are presented in **Attachment A**.

Issues: None identified.

Next Steps: The next REWG meeting is slated for spring 2020, when staff will share the regional outcomes resulting from the Draft Blueprint. This meeting will be held as part of the Equity and Access Subcommittee. REWG members will have opportunities to provide feedback for further refinements to all strategies, in advance of the Final Blueprint. Staff will present and solicit input from the MTC Policy Advisory Council before moving and recommendation forward to the Commission.

Attachments: Attachment A: PowerPoint

The background is a collage of three images. The top image shows a mountain peak with several communication towers on its ridge. The middle image shows a yellow and green checkered hot air balloon floating in the sky. The bottom image shows a green field with a fence line. The collage is composed of several rectangular panels of different shades of blue and green.

PLAN BAY AREA 2050

Regional Equity Working Group (REWG) Update

February 12, 2020

Policy Advisory Council Equity & Access Subcommittee

REWG Process and Timeline

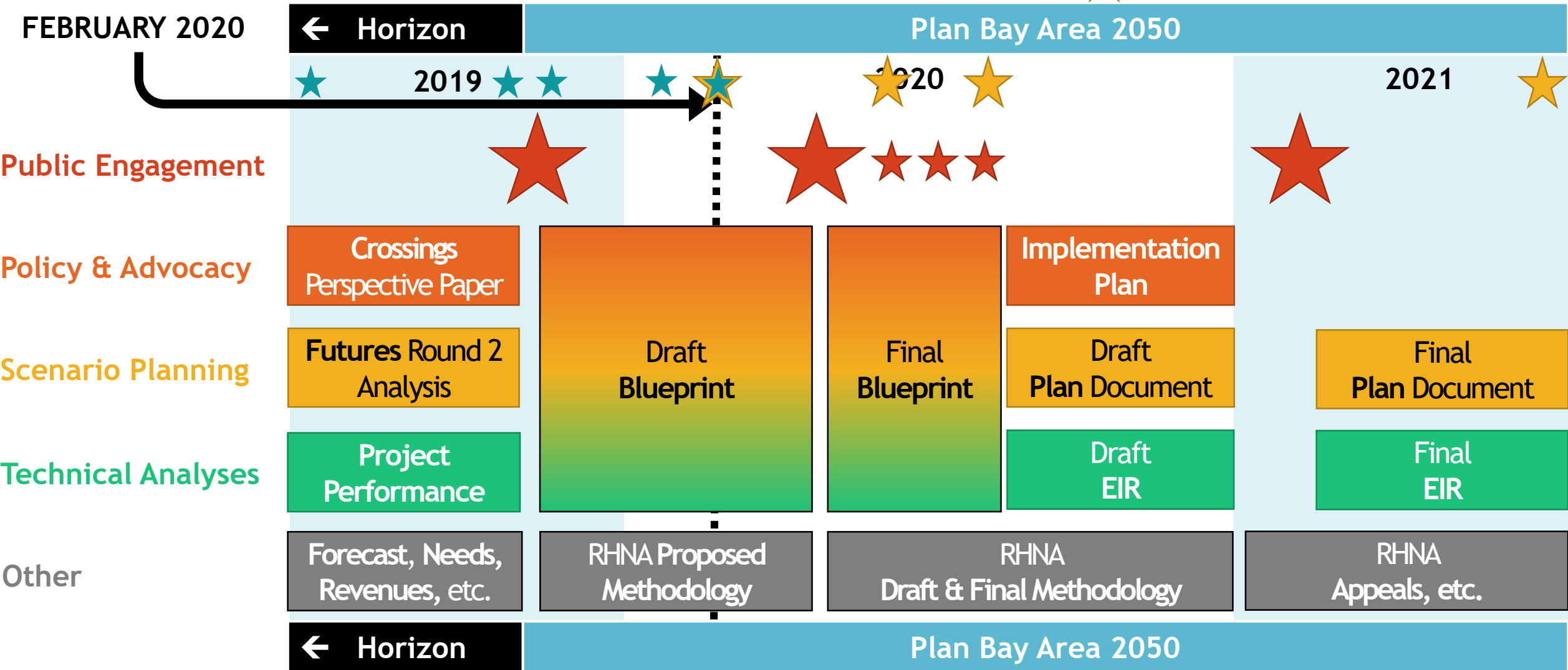
E&A Subcommittee

Policy Advisory Council

<i>Key Tasks and Milestones</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Format/Location</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orientation to the Agency-Wide Equity Platform, PBA 2050 Process and REWG Process 	September 18, 2019	Kick-Off Meeting 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of Bay Area Inequities and Challenges 	November 13, 2019 E&A Subcommittee	Webinar 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refine Draft Strategies (sourced from Horizon Futures) 	December 11, 2019 E&A Subcommittee	Workshop 
Policy Advisory Council: Draft Blueprint Strategies for Transportation and Environment Jan 7, 2020		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and Discuss Revised Strategies 	January 22, 2020	Workshop 
Policy Advisory Council: Draft Blueprint Strategies for all topic areas Feb 12, 2020		

Plan Bay Area 2050 Schedule

★ = Policy Advisory Council Inputs on strategies
★ = Major Policy Board Decisions



January REWG Workshop Agenda

1:05pm - 1:20pm

Identifying Desired Equity Outcomes based on the Adopted Plan Bay Area 2050 Vision

Feedback requested: Do these desired outcomes sufficiently resonate with you?

1:20pm - 1:30pm

Quick Overview of Strategies

1:30pm - 2:50pm

Review Strategies by Topic Area

(Breakout into two rooms)

Room 1: Transportation, Environment

Room 2: Economy, Housing

Feedback requested: What additional revisions does the REWG propose?

2:50pm - 3:00pm

Next Steps



PLAN BAY AREA 2050

REWG Feedback on Desired Equity Outcomes

Adopted Vision for Plan Bay Area 2050

To ensure by the year
2050 that the Bay Area is
affordable, **connected**,
diverse, **healthy** and
vibrant for all.



**What are the
desired equity
outcomes based
on this vision?**

Proposed Equity Outcomes and REWG Feedback

Equity Outcome



Reduced housing + transportation costs for disadvantaged populations.



Improved accessibility to jobs, schools and other amenities, prioritizing disadvantaged populations.



Inclusive communities where disadvantaged populations can stay in place and have increased access to the region's assets and opportunities.

Feedback from REWG

- Measure effects on disadvantaged populations relative to average
- Distinguish failure of affordable housing construction by jurisdictions to highlight ownership
- Provide more specificity: “by how much?”
- Improve connections between transit agencies
- Focus on accessibility
- Increase diversity in current “exclusive” communities, and not only where disadvantaged populations already are
- Compare burden of housing production borne by existing low-income communities vs. high-resource communities

Proposed Equity Outcomes and REWG Feedback

Equity Outcome

Feedback from REWG



Healthier and more resilient communities with investments prioritized for disadvantaged populations.

- Consider rephrasing language for historically underserved areas rather than disadvantaged populations



Greater economic mobility for disadvantaged populations.

- Need to vet language with the disadvantaged populations (applicable to all equity outcomes)



PLAN BAY AREA 2050

REWG Feedback on Strategies for Draft Blueprint

List of Strategies shared at REWG Workshop

(note: updated list of strategies will be shared at 1:30pm PAC meeting)



Transportation

Maintain and Optimize Existing Infrastructure

- T1: Operate and Maintain the Existing System
- T2: Enable Seamless Mobility with Unified Trip Planning & Fare Payments
- T3: Reform Regional Transit Fare Policy
- T4: Apply Means-Based Tolls on Congested Freeways with Transit Alternatives

Create Healthy and Safe Streets

- T5: Build a Complete Streets Network
- T6: Advance Regional Vision Zero Policy through Street Design and Lowered Speeds

Enhance Regional and Local Transit

- T7: Advance Highly-Resilient Transit Projects
- T8: Build a New Transbay Rail Crossing [\[Blueprint Plus only\]](#)

will not be reviewed today given pending modifications to projects



Economy

Improve Economic Mobility

- EC1: Expand Childcare Support for Low-Income Families [\[Blueprint Plus only\]](#)
- EC2: Create Incubator Programs in Economically-Challenged Areas
- EC3: Establish Priority Production Areas to Retain Key Industrial Lands

Shift the Location of Jobs

- EC4: Allow Greater Commercial Densities in Growth Geographies
- EC5: Assess Transportation Impact Fees on New Office Developments
- EC6: Assess Jobs-Housing Imbalance Fees on New Office Developments

will not be reviewed today given ongoing strategy development



Housing

Spur Housing Production and Create Inclusive Communities

- H1: Allow a Greater Mix of Housing Types & Densities in Growth Geographies
- H2: Reduce Barriers to Housing Near Transit and in Areas of High Opportunity
- H3: Transform Aging Malls, Office Parks, and Underutilized Public Land into Neighborhoods

Protect, Preserve, and Produce Affordable Housing

- H4: Fund Affordable Housing Protection, Preservation & Production [\[Blueprint Plus only\]](#)
- H5: Require 10 to 20 Percent of All New Housing to be Affordable
- H6: Further Strengthen Renter Protections Beyond State Legislation



Environment

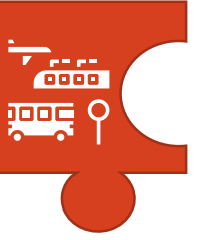
Reduce Risks from Hazards

- EN1: Adapt to Sea Level Rise
- EN2: Provide Means-Based Financial Support to Retrofit Existing Buildings (Energy, Water, Seismic, Fire) [\[Blueprint Plus only\]](#)

Reduce Environmental Impacts

- EN3: Maintain Urban Growth Boundaries
- EN4: Protect High-Value Conservation Lands [\[Blueprint Plus only\]](#)
- EN5: Expand the Climate Initiatives Program

Key Feedback from REWG: Transportation



Maintain and Optimize Existing Transportation Infrastructure

- Prioritize transit maintenance and expansion in low-income communities
- Rationalize existing service while maintaining costs - provide higher frequencies where needed in low income communities
- Protect existing infrastructure from sea level rise (*connects with Environment Element*)
- Improve connectivity among the different transit agencies with both fare and schedule integration
- Combine highway strategies such as tolling or express lanes with regional express buses
- Enhance signage to make transit seamless (as a low-cost, easy to implement alternative to MaaS)

Create Healthy and Safe Streets

- Emphasize ADA accessibility
- Bicycle infrastructure should focus on protected bicycle lanes
- Tailor micromobility strategy to community needs; for example, using community shuttles rather than bicycles where appropriate



Key Feedback from REWG: Housing

Spur Housing Production and Create Inclusive Communities

- Target housing growth more in high-resource areas with exclusionary zoning than PDAs
- Tie reduction in barriers to housing/development costs with affordability level of projects
- Prioritize home ownership for lower-income communities
- Condition transportation funding on housing outcomes and local housing policies
- Need backup plan for communities that want exceptions from these strategies

Protect, Preserve, and Produce Affordable Housing

- Prioritize housing stability, whether through permanent affordability, cooperatives, and traditional home ownership
- Set more aggressive affordable housing minimums (30-40%+), especially in high resource areas
- Model different scenarios with in-lieu fees and other options (in addition to affordable housing minimums)
- Need more resources to develop construction workforce for this strategy to be successful



Key Feedback from REWG: Economy

Improve Economic Mobility

- Align childcare subsidy funds with other programs already in place and address gaps
- Expand support beyond childcare - for seniors, and disabled
- Need to determine level of financial support based on income thresholds and any appropriate restrictions on eligibility
- Focus incubator services on Black and Latinx populations; tailor to needs of communities
- Focus support for retention of small businesses too, not only foundation
- Engage with CBOs/non-profits to align with available resources
- Determine proportion of Priority Production Areas (PPAs) located in areas prone to sea level rise and consider planned retreat or resiliency investments
- Tie PPA strategy with creating more middle-wage jobs, especially in housing-rich job-poor areas



Key Feedback from REWG: Environment

Reduce Risks from Hazards

- Maximize green infrastructure vs. armoring
- Need to consider industrial lands in the areas that will be impacted by sea level rise, thinking about managed retreat
- Include habitat conservation in plans to adapt sea level rise
- Consider a regional ordinance to fund these strategies
- Include adaptation strategies for hazards beyond sea level rise and earthquake, such as fire and other hazards

Reduce Environmental Impacts

- Ensure open space has equitable access; pair with strategy to expand urban green areas
- Consider creating “high natural value” areas
- Prioritize restoration of wetlands/green areas in low income neighborhoods
- Expand the charging network, especially in Communities of Concern / near multi-unit homes

Next Steps

Draft Blueprint: What's Next?

Today

25 Strategies (Draft Blueprint Inputs)



Modeling
& Analysis
(Winter)



Growth Pattern,
Performance
Outcomes, etc.
(Draft Blueprint
Outputs in
Spring)



Maintain and
Optimize Existing
Infrastructure



Create Healthy
and Safe Streets



Enhance Regional
and Local Transit



Reduce Risks
from Hazards



Reduce Our Impact
on the Environment



Spur Housing
Production and Create
Inclusive Communities



Protect, Preserve, and
Produce More
Affordable Housing



Improve Economic
Mobility



Shift the Location of
Jobs

REWG Process and Timeline

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Policy Advisory Council: Draft Blueprint Strategies for all topic areas Feb 12, 2020		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Draft Blueprint Outcomes 	May 8, 2020 E&A Subcommittee	Webinar 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and Discuss Draft Implementing Actions 	Summer/Fall 2020 E&A Subcommittee	Workshop 

Note: More meetings may be added and format may be changed as needed; schedule with E&A Subcommittee will be sync-ed with Fare Integration Subcommittee meetings

Questions?

Contact MTC/ABAG staff with any follow-up questions:

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- Anup Tapase, Associate Planner, Regional Planning Program, atapase@bayareametro.gov