

# **ABAG MTC Governance: Important Next Steps**

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
April 22, 2020**

## Where We Left Off

### 1. Conduct initial Field Visits – March/April

- Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG)
- Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)
- San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)
- Met Council (Twin Cities, MN)

❖ STATUS: Defer due to COVID-19 travel restrictions

### 2. Develop Board Protocol Alignment proposal for ABAG General Assembly and MTC approval in June 2020

❖ STATUS: Recommendations being advanced to ABAG EB and General Assembly

## Where We Left Off

### 3. Bring Committee restructuring proposal to Joint Governance Committee by June 2020

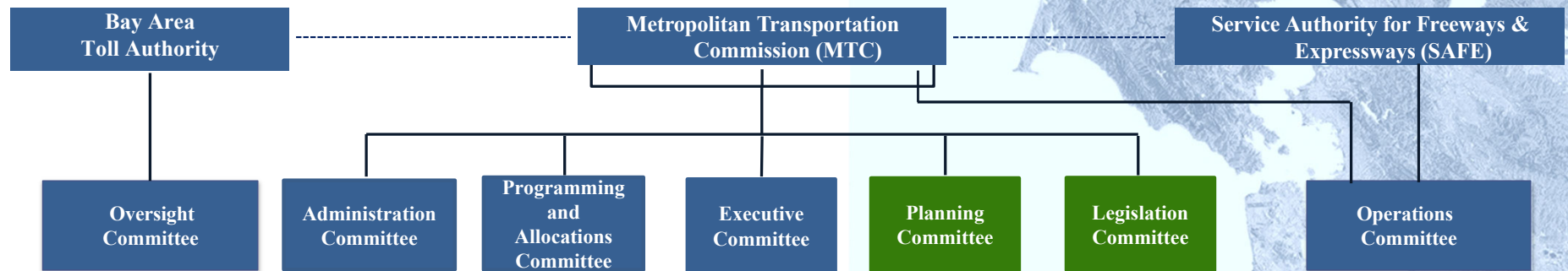
❖ **STATUS: Current Proposal → Committee Consolidation Framework**



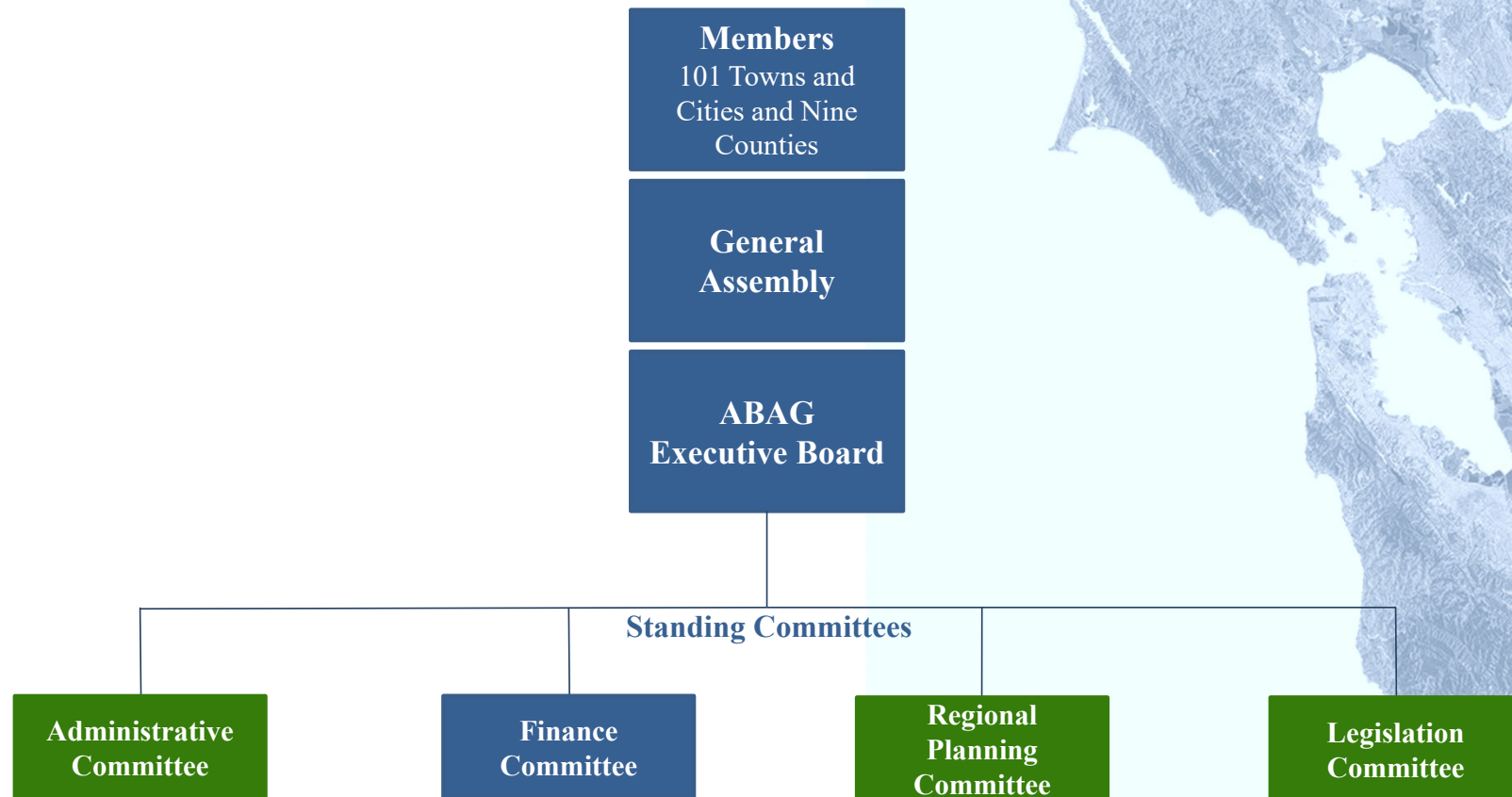
## Committee Consolidation Framework: Core Principles

- Existing Standing Committees at MTC and ABAG are building blocks for integrated decision making
- Not all Standing Committees would be tapped; only those with oversight and interest in shared agendas (flagged as green in following charts)
- “Alternative framework combinations” that follow suggest “building block” committees, and potential modifications for consideration

# MTC Standing Committees



# ABAG Governance and Standing Committees





## NEXT STEPS: Committee Consolidation Framework

**Premise:** Combining similar ABAG and MTC committees could help us better address *shared* decision making in areas of *shared* interest, including:

- **Legislation** focused on transportation, housing, land use and resilience
  - **Planning work** involving PBA, housing, transportation and resilience
  - **Housing** programs/funding (AB 1487) to help alleviate regional housing crisis
  - **Citizen Input** on PBA Blueprint, RHNA, REAP, BAHFA, etc.
- ❖ Objective: Structure a set of consolidated committees to help our agencies and staff provide more effective, efficient regional leadership on these issues.

## Example of Committee Consolidation #1

**LEGISLATION:** Currently operates as separate MTC and ABAG Legislative committees meeting jointly

### Areas of Shared Interest:

- Transportation
- Land use
- Housing
- Environment/Climate/Resilience

### Alternative Framework Combination

- Current MTC Legislation Committee
- ABAG Legislation Committee with modifications
  - Better represent breadth of interests and geographies on Exec Board



## Example of Committee Consolidation #2:

**PLANNING:** Currently operates as MTC Planning and ABAG Administrative Committees meeting jointly

### Areas of Shared Interest

- PBA 2050: Regional planning for transportation, housing, resilience, etc.
- Work supporting local jurisdiction's housing elements (e.g. RHNA, REAP)
- Implementation of AB1487 (*NEW as of Jan. 2020*: noting legislated decision making roles between ABAG and MTC)
- Environmental issues/climate change/resilience

### Alternative Framework Combination

- MTC Planning Committee
- ABAG Administration Committee's *planning function* with modifications
  - Adjust county and city balance to capture range of local experience with Planning and Housing issues/programs

**Assess how to integrate the funding/finance function of Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (assigned to MTC by AB 1487) with housing policy and implementation assigned to consolidated Planning committee**

## Example of Committee Consolidation #3

**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT:** PBA Blueprint, RHNA, REAP, BAHFA

**Some Combination of our Existing Committees that Lead Advisory Engagement**

- MTC's Policy Advisory Committee (non-elected officials)
- ABAG's Regional Planning Committee (non-elected officials and elected officials)

**Proposed Framework Combination**

- Decide what sectors should be represented on single Committee (environment, equity, business, senior disabled mobility, youth)
- Appointments equally between MTC and ABAG leadership



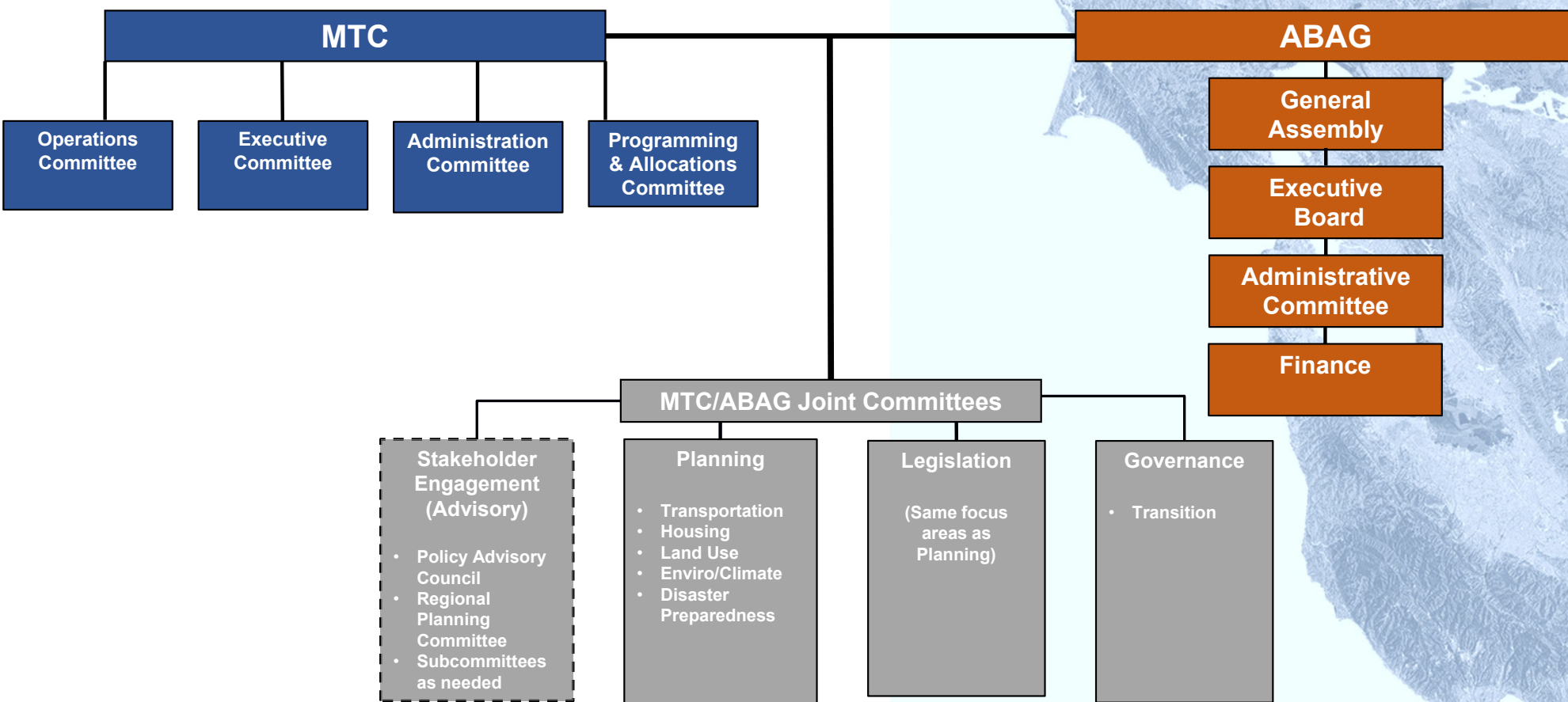
## Existing Consolidated Committee

### GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- MTC and ABAG have already created a unified Governance Committee made up of members both governing boards
- Consider retaining to oversee transition to consolidated committee structure, and periodic review



# Consolidated Committee Framework: View from the Top



## Benefits of Adopting Consolidated Committees

**A system of combined committees could help further discussion between our two agencies on how best to structure our relationship based on the shared interests discussed above, one that could help address...**

- How best to carry out the shared work in our two work plans (e.g. PBA 2050, housing/BAHFA, resilience/climate change);
- How irrespective of color of money and the amount—the two governing boards can be jointly accountable for implementing this shared work plan—with a clear understanding of the available resources— and the opportunities and limits of such;
- How the two boards can navigate appropriate Discussions versus Decisions within this shared work plan — restructured combined committee meetings may aid in that effort.

## **April 10<sup>th</sup> ABAG/MTC Governance Committee Action**

- **Committee voted unanimously to recommend proposal to ABAG and MTC governing boards with several modifications including:**
  - Retain MTC ABAG Governance Committee to oversee this transition to a consolidated committee structure and provide for periodic review
  - Establish periodic reevaluation
  - Present concept to PAC and RPC and report back their response as part of staff due diligence before ABAG or MTC take any final action on proposal to consolidate Advisory Committees



## **NEXT STEPS: MTC/ABAG Initial Board Decision**

- **If ABAG and MTC governing boards agree conceptually with this approach (Phase 1) to consolidating similar committees, then**
- **Staff would bring back a more detailed set of administrative issues and questions that would have to be discussed and agreed to by ABAG and MTC before implementing such a proposal (Phase 2)**

## NEXT STEPS: Implementation

### Factors to Consider in Implementing Committee Consolidation Concept

- Membership of each consolidated committee must sufficiently represent the breadth of interests, geographies and jurisdictions of the Bay Area.
- Enough MTC and ABAG board members should be assigned to each committee to ensure a balance of views from each board, while maintaining a total number conducive to effective decision making.
- Existing representation structures underlying MTC Commission and ABAG Executive Board remain the same; consolidated committees must strike a balance between each, e.g. how are counties and cities represented within any single committee.
- Procedures will need to address consideration of issues unique to either MTC or ABAG that may fall within consolidated committee jurisdiction