

Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments
Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee

June 11, 2021

Agenda Item 5a

Draft Plan Bay Area 2050

Subject: Presentation highlighting the Draft Plan Bay Area 2050 Document, Environmental Impact Report, and Implementation Plan and seeking feedback from the committees prior to anticipated fall 2021 adoption.

Background: In February 2018, MTC and ABAG kicked off the Horizon initiative, tasked with exploring resilient and equitable strategies for an uncertain future. Since then, staff has conducted three years of policy and technical analysis for Horizon and Plan Bay Area 2050, engaging with over 19,000 Bay Area residents in-person and virtually to shape the most comprehensive regional vision to-date. This culminated in January 2021 with unanimous approval of the Plan Bay Area 2050 Final Blueprint as the Preferred Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Alternative by both the Commission and the Executive Board.

The final phase of the long-range planning process includes development of the official Plan Document and associated supplemental reports, the EIR to meet requirements identified in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the Implementation Plan to identify near-term actions to advance the Plan. In the last two weeks, MTC and ABAG have released each of these deliverables in draft form for public review and comment, kicking off the final round of public engagement for Plan Bay Area 2050.

Draft Plan Document:

The **Draft Plan Document**, entitled “Plan Bay Area 2050: A Vision for the Future”, summarizes the vision, strategies, and outcomes associated with the Final Blueprint as adopted in January 2021. Furthermore, it integrates the **Draft Implementation Plan**, which features nearly 70 specific implementation actions for MTC/ABAG to tackle over the next five years to advance each of the 35 strategies approved by the Commission and Executive Board. The Implementation Plan will be further refined this summer through the Partnership Phase, which will shape a broader range of actions, complementary initiatives, and more specific role recommendations beyond MTC/ABAG.

Furthermore, the Draft Plan Document and Implementation Plan are augmented by a series of technical and statutory reports; the Draft Plan Document is included in this agenda item as **Attachment B** and supplemental reports can be found on <https://www.planbayarea.org/>.

Draft EIR:

The **Draft EIR** is intended to analyze and disclose the potential range of environmental effects from the implementation of Plan Bay Area 2050 to better inform decision-makers, agencies, and the public. It identifies the range of environmental impacts, recommends mitigation measures for significant adverse impacts, and analyzes reasonable alternatives to the Preferred Alternative (Final Blueprint/Draft Plan). The Draft EIR explored 14 environmental areas and identified 36 significant and unavoidable impacts of the Draft Plan, prior to mitigation measures identified in Draft EIR. The executive summary of the Draft EIR is available in **Attachment C**, with more information available on <https://www.planbayarea.org/>.

Building upon direction from the Commission and Board to explore regional issues of gentrification and displacement through the EIR alternatives analysis, staff developed three alternatives based upon scoping comments as shown below:

- The **No Project Alternative**, which explored what the Bay Area would look like if the Draft Plan is not adopted
- **Alternative 1**, which further concentrated housing growth in transit-rich areas while focusing more funding toward core capacity transit
- **Alternative 2**, which further concentrated housing growth in high-resource areas while focusing more funding toward bus service, fare discounts, and bike/ped infrastructure to create lower-VMT communities

As shown in **Attachment C**, key findings from the alternatives analysis included:

- **The Draft Plan would have dramatic, and positive, impacts on the region's future.** As explored in the No Project Alternative, a “status quo” region would not be able to achieve its statutory greenhouse gas targets, nor make significant headway towards the Plan Vision of a more affordable, connected, diverse, healthy, and vibrant region for all.
- **A more concentrated growth pattern in Transit-Rich Areas would yield the most beneficial environmental outcomes.** Alternative 1 demonstrates that focusing an even greater share of growth near high-quality transit, while scaling back investments in highways and express lanes, would yield the smallest growth footprint, least environmental impacts, and most balanced growth pattern, while enabling the most low-income residents in Equity Priority Communities to remain in place (*i.e., lowest displacement risk*).
- **At the same time, “displacement risk” as a metric captures more than just displacement.** Alternative 2 shows that revised strategies - paired with complementary transportation investments - can allow for more low-income residents to relocate to increasingly inclusive High-Resource Areas. Yet at the same time, this relocation to communities of higher opportunity may change the character of legacy Equity Priority Communities, as these places experience gentrification without displacement.

Next Steps:

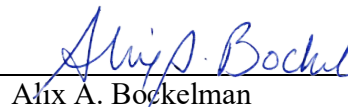
MTC/ABAG staff are focused on public engagement in June and July through a series of public workshops and public hearings, as shown in **Attachment A**. Public comments on all of the Draft Plan deliverables are due by July 20th at 5:00 PM; more information on how to submit comments can be found on <https://www.planbayarea.org/>

After the conclusion of the public comment period, staff will report back to the Joint MTC Planning/ABAG Administrative Committee and make revisions as appropriate based on feedback received. Plan Bay Area 2050 remains on track for the Commission and ABAG Executive Board to jointly consider for adoption this fall.

Recommendation: Information

Attachments:

Attachment A: Public Workshops and Public Hearings (June & July)
Attachment B: Draft Plan Bay Area 2050 Document
Attachment C: Draft EIR – Executive Summary
Attachment D: Presentation


Alix A. Bockelman

Public Workshops and Public Hearings (June & July)

Online Public Workshops

Each public workshop will have a special emphasis on one subregion of the Bay Area, but all workshops are open to residents of any county.

East Bay Workshop

Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

Monday, June 14, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

<https://bit.ly/33uXj0y>

Passcode: 179826

Webinar ID: 862 3482 0389

West Bay Workshop

San Francisco and San Mateo Counties

Monday, June 28, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

<https://bit.ly/3eBJZhj>

Passcode: 628755

South Bay Workshop

Santa Clara County

Thursday, June 17, 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

<https://bit.ly/3hftHwn>

Passcode: 047953

Webinar ID: 847 2011 1308

North Bay Workshop

Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma Counties

Wednesday, June 30, 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

<https://bit.ly/3uBiie0>

Passcode: 012057

Webinar ID: 865 5893 1464

Public Hearings

Each public hearing is composed of two distinct hearings; first focused on Draft Plan Document, Implementation Plan, and Supplemental Reports, and the second focused on the Environmental Impact Report [starting one hour later, or upon the conclusion of the first hearing].

Hearing #1

Friday, June 11, 9:40 a.m.

<https://bit.ly/33xhpav>

Passcode: none required; regularly-scheduled committee meeting

Webinar ID: 874 2787 4017

Hearing #2

Tuesday, June 22, 5:30 p.m.

<https://bit.ly/3y0ZiYp>

Passcode: 177176

Webinar ID: 812 0345 4209

Hearing #3

Wednesday, July 7, 2:30 p.m.

<https://bit.ly/2SIduFK>

Passcode: 908706

Webinar ID: 854 5833 8822