

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLUTION NO. 1-2025

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR VICE PRESIDENT JESSE ARREGUÍN

WHEREAS, Executive Board Vice President Jesse Arreguín has joined the California State Senate and stepped down from his leadership role at ABAG, where he has served Bay Area residents since 2017; and

WHEREAS, with his election as Mayor of Berkeley, Jesse became the first Latino and youngest person elected to the office in a century. As mayor, Jesse established the Alameda County Mayors Working Group on Homelessness to coordinate and fund plans to reduce homelessness across the region and led the city in a housing build renaissance that included the construction of its largest ever affordable housing development; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Jesse was reelected as mayor and began the first of two two-year terms as ABAG President, and in this role guided the development and unanimous approval of Plan Bay Area 2050 and its associated strategies for ushering in a wave of investments in resiliency, transportation, housing, and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, under Jesse's leadership, ABAG in partnership with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission advocated for the establishment and initial funding of the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (BAHFA), a first-of-its kind agency dedicated to producing more affordable housing, preserving existing affordable housing and protecting residents from displacement; and

WHEREAS, Jesse's visionary leadership to improve housing affordability led to the formation of the ABAG Housing Committee, which has institutionalized the partnership between ABAG and the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority, guided the expansion of the regional agencies' housing portfolio, and strengthened the bonds between regional and local governments on housing planning, policy, and program administration; and

WHEREAS, in his work with the Executive Board, Jesse stewarded the development of the region's most ambitious regional housing needs allocation (RHNA) in 2021 by creating a strategic RHNA methodology that united efforts to bolster housing production at all income levels, advance the values of fair housing and affordability, and promote compact transit-oriented development to create more housing in walkable neighborhoods close to public transit service to enable the region to grow while achieving the region's greenhouse gas reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, during Jesse's tenure, ABAG, along with partners MTC and Community Planning Collaborative received the 2023 Planning Agency Award of

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Excellence from the American Planning Association (APA) California Chapter for the Regional Housing Technical Assistance (RHTA) Program, bringing state-level recognition to this program which has assisted all 109 Bay Area jurisdictions with their Housing Elements; and

WHEREAS, Jesse has contributed his leadership to other regional bodies including serving as Chair of the Bay Area Regional Collaborative, among others; and

WHEREAS, through his calm demeanor and even-handed leadership style combined with his commitment to regional collaboration, Jesse has facilitated cross-jurisdictional partnerships, brought bold and innovative thinking to decision making, and encouraged cross-county investment and involvement to help meet the Bay Area's housing, climate and transportation needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Board and staff of ABAG-MTC thank Jesse for his tremendous leadership and commitment to regional solutions to the formidable housing, transportation, environmental and economic challenges facing the Bay Area, congratulate him on his election to higher office and look forward to continuing to work with him in his new role as a California State Senator.

The foregoing was adopted by the Executive Board on the 16th day of January, 2025.

Belia Ramos
President

CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVAL

I, the undersigned, the appointed and qualified Clerk of the Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments (Association), do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the Association at a duly called and noticed meeting held in San Francisco, California, and at other remote locations, on the 16th day of January, 2025.

Frederick Castro
Clerk of the Board