

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLUTION NO. 4-2026

ABSTRACT

A resolution recognizing the many contributions of Caitlin Sweeney on her retirement.

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RECOGNIZING THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF CAITLIN SWEENEY ON HER RETIREMENT

WHEREAS, Caitlin Sweeney is retiring from the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission after a 29-year career in public service that culminated in more than a decade of dedicated and outstanding service as the Director of the San Francisco Estuary Partnership; and

WHEREAS, Caitlin started her career at the California Coastal Commission and then served as Chief Deputy Director of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission before leading The Partnership as its Director with a steady hand and sharp wit; and

WHEREAS, Caitlin is only the third Director to have led the San Francisco Estuary Partnership in its 39-year history (clearly someone who enjoys keeping her roles exclusive); and

WHEREAS, Caitlin has long been a role model for leadership in the region, especially for women in science and policy roles, demonstrating through the decades that you can lead with both brilliance and humanity (and a well-timed sense of humor); and

WHEREAS, Caitlin is a dedicated mother and world traveler, who modeled living life to the fullest by spending a year in Costa Rica with her young family between the conclusion of her time at the Bay Conservation and Development Commission and the start of her turn at the helm of The Partnership; and

WHEREAS, Caitlin's leadership, thoughtful care and compassion, and keen mind have buoyed The Partnership through a decade of incredible change, including the consolidation of the ABAG and MTC staff and moving offices to San Francisco from Oakland without anyone noticeably losing their cool; and

WHEREAS, under Caitlin's directorship, over \$360 million in funding was managed by The Partnership staff to protect, enhance and restore the San Francisco Estuary; and

WHEREAS, The Partnership grew to 17 staff through Caitlin's efforts, expanding the ability for The Partnership and ABAG to protect, enhance and restore the Estuary while also proving that good leadership is, in fact, contagious; and

WHEREAS, Caitlin throughout her time at the Coastal Commission, BCDC and The Partnership fostered the careers of many interns, fellows and staff, teaching

countless people how to navigate public service with equal parts skill, good humor, and likely a few reality checks along the way, while also growing the community of environmental practice in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond; and

WHEREAS, because doing things halfway was never really her style, two major Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans were updated under Caitlin's guidance, better aligning The Partnership's work with the region's highest priorities and integrating climate adaptation and equity; and

WHEREAS, six regional State of the Estuary conferences were held during Caitlin's directorship, bringing federal, state, and local agencies together with scientists, academic institutions, nonprofits, community organizations, tribes, and other interested groups to share the latest science, policy and accomplishments across the region; and

WHEREAS, due to Caitlin's efforts to secure EPA funding, novel nature-based solutions were studied at Oro Loma Horizontal Levee, leading to the construction of the first ever Horizontal Levee in the San Francisco Bay and demonstrating her core value of turning science and policy into action, to say nothing of making the term "horizontal levee" sound far more exciting than it has any right to be.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, that the Executive Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments hereby commends Caitlin Sweeney for more than a decade of leadership and service to the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, congratulates her on her amazing record of excellence on behalf of The Partnership and local governments alike, and wishes Caitlin and her family all the best in her well-earned retirement.

The foregoing was adopted by the Executive Board this 21st day of May, 2026.

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 21st day of May, 2026.

Frederick Castro
Clerk of the Board