

Date: March 25, 2026
W.I.: 1121
Referred by: Planning

ABSTRACT

MTC Resolution No. 4750

This resolution adopts Plan Bay Area 2050+, the long-range regional plan for the San Francisco Bay Area. Plan Bay Area 2050+ also serves as the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy.

Further discussion of this subject is contained in the Planning Committee Summary Sheet dated March 13, 2026.

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Re: Adoption of Plan Bay Area 2050+

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 4750

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area pursuant to Government Code Section 66500 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), a joint exercise of powers entity created pursuant to California Government Code Sections 6500 et seq., is the Council of Governments and the regional land use planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code § 65080 et seq. requires MTC to prepare and update a long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), including a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) in conjunction with the ABAG, every four years; and

WHEREAS, MTC and ABAG jointly adopted the first Plan Bay Area in 2013 (Plan Bay Area 2013) (MTC Resolution No. 4111 and ABAG Resolution No. 06-13), and the second Plan Bay Area in 2017 (Plan Bay Area 2040) (MTC Resolution No. 4300 and ABAG Resolution No. 10-17), and the third Plan Bay Area in 2021 (Plan Bay Area 2050) (MTC Resolution No. 4485 and ABAG Resolution No. 09-21); and

WHEREAS, in summer 2023, MTC and ABAG initiated an update to Plan Bay Area 2050, known as Plan Bay Area 2050+ (the “Plan”), with a 2050 horizon year, which is intended to serve as the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy for the San Francisco Bay Area, in conformance with applicable federal and state requirements, including Senate Bill 375; and

WHEREAS, the Plan, including both the RTP and the SCS, which is attached hereto as Attachment A, and incorporated herein as though set forth in length, contains an integrated set of fiscally-constrained strategies across each of the four elements of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, MTC and ABAG jointly adopted the Vision for Plan Bay Area 2050 in September 2019, emphasizing that resilient and equitable strategies should be prioritized to ensure by the year 2050 the Bay Area is affordable, connected, diverse, healthy, and vibrant for all (MTC Resolution No. 4393 and ABAG Resolution No. 09-19); and

WHEREAS, this Vision is carried forward into Plan Bay Area 2050+;

WHEREAS, ABAG approved the Regional Growth Forecast Methodology in September 2019, which guided the development of the Plan Bay Area 2050 Regional Growth Forecast and which is carried forward into Plan Bay Area 2050+; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Regional Growth Forecast was shared in draft form in November 2023 and was carried forward into the Final Blueprint phase as the Final Regional Growth Forecast for Plan Bay Area 2050+; and

WHEREAS, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has set a -19 percent per capita greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) reduction target for the year 2035 for cars and light-duty trucks for the long-range regional plan; and

WHEREAS, the MTC Planning Committee and ABAG Administrative Committee approved the analysis of proposed Draft Blueprint Strategies as well as corresponding Draft Blueprint Growth Geographies for the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Draft Blueprint in January 2024; and

WHEREAS, MTC and ABAG approved revised Final Blueprint Strategies, including the Final Transportation Project List and Final Resilience Project List, and revised Final Blueprint

Growth Geographies in January 2025 (MTC Resolution No. 4687 and ABAG Resolution No. 04-2025); and

WHEREAS, MTC and ABAG advanced the Final Blueprint into the environmental review phase in June 2025 (MTC Resolution No. 4687 and ABAG Resolution No. 04-2025), and;

WHEREAS, MTC and ABAG analyzed Draft Plan Bay Area 2050+, previously known as the Final Blueprint, through the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), releasing the Draft Plan Document and Draft Environmental Impact Report for review in October 2025, and;

WHEREAS, public and stakeholder engagement activities were held on Draft Plan Bay Area 2050+ from October 20, 2025, through December 18, 2025, with all comments considered and, when appropriate, integrated in Final Plan Bay Area 2050+ prior to its release in early March 2026, and;

WHEREAS, MTC and ABAG developed a detailed Implementation Plan with more than 60 discrete actions identified to advance the 35 strategies featured in the Final Plan Bay Area 2050+, to be implemented by MTC and ABAG in close coordination with partner organizations over the next five years, and;

WHEREAS, Final Plan Bay Area 2050+ was informed by extensive stakeholder engagement, including outreach to more than 17,600 residents across the Bay Area through over 117 public and stakeholder events and activities, resulting in more than 15,600 public comments and over 40,500 data points; and

WHEREAS, the Plan advances regional affordability through strategies to address the region's long-standing housing crisis by preserving existing affordable housing and supporting the production of new housing units across all income levels, while advancing means-based strategies to improve affordability for low-income transit riders and motorists; and

WHEREAS, the Plan advances regional connectivity through strategies to invest in a next-generation transit network and active transportation networks, improving the frequency, reliability, and reach of transit services and creating safer streets for walking, biking, and rolling, while improving access to destinations across the nine-county region and enabling shifts to healthier and more sustainable transportation modes; and

WHEREAS, the Plan helps to maintain and expand the region's diversity by advancing strategies to protect vulnerable lower-income renters from displacement, while working with Equity Priority Communities to invest in community-prioritized infrastructure and recognizing the need for targeted assistance programs for low-income renters and homebuyers; and

WHEREAS, the Plan advances human and environmental health through strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by electrifying vehicles and buildings, reducing automobile dependence, and investing in parks, conservation, and climate resilience; and

WHEREAS, the Plan helps to maintain and grow the region's economic vibrancy through strategies to expand job training and business incubator programs to create economic opportunities in Equity Priority Communities, while preserving and investing in key industrial lands; and

WHEREAS, Final Plan Bay Area 2050+ meets all relevant federal and state requirements, including those related to air quality, land use, and transportation as described below; and

WHEREAS, MTC conducted a transportation-air quality conformity analysis of the Plan using the latest planning assumptions, emissions model, and consultation provisions, including a quantitative regional emissions analysis that meets emissions test requirements of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency transportation conformity rule, and the Plan contributes to all required emissions reductions; and

WHEREAS, adoption of, and the conformity determination for, the Amended 2025 TIP has been determined simultaneously with the Plan for consistency purposes (MTC Resolution No. 4748); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code § 65080(b)(2)(G), in preparing the Plan, MTC and ABAG considered spheres of influence adopted by the Local Agency Formation Commissions within the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code § 65080(b)(2)(E), federal public participation requirements, and MTC's Public Participation Plan (MTC Resolution No. 4590), the Plan was developed through a strategic, proactive, comprehensive public outreach and involvement program, which included: an adopted public participation plan; routine distribution of information to local/regional media; advertising in local and regional newspapers; distribution of public information materials, such as brochures and newsletters; a dedicated website; meetings with representatives from each county's board of supervisors and city councilmembers; noticed public hearings to receive testimony on the Plan and the EIR; subregional workshops to facilitate public comment on the Plan; and interagency coordination and involvement; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code § 65080(b)(2)(B), the Plan (i) identifies the general location of uses, residential densities, and building intensities within the region; (ii) identifies areas within the region sufficient to house all the population of the region, including all economic segments of the population, over the course of the planning period of Plan Bay Area 2050 taking into account net migration into the region, population growth, household formation and employment growth; (iii) identifies areas within the region sufficient to house an eight-year projection of the regional housing need for the region pursuant to California Government Code § 65584; (iv) identifies a transportation network to service the transportation needs of the region; (v) gathers and considers the best practically available scientific information regarding resource areas and farmland in the region as defined in subdivisions (a) and (b) of California Government Code § 65080.01; (vi) considers the state housing goals specified in California Government Code §§ 65580 and 65581; and (viii) allows the Plan to comply with Section 176 of the Federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7506); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code § 65080(b)(2)(B), in preparing the Plan, MTC was responsible for identifying a transportation network to service the transportation needs of the region; and allowing the Plan to comply with Section 176 of the Federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 7506); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code § 65080(b)(2)(B), in preparing the Plan, MTC and ABAG were jointly responsible for setting forth a forecasted development pattern for the region, which, when integrated with the transportation network, and other transportation measures and policies, will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles and light trucks to achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) set a more ambitious year 2035 greenhouse gas emission reduction target for cars and light-duty trucks (19 percent reduction per-capita) for long-range regional plans in all major California metropolitan regions, as of March 2018; and

WHEREAS, as demonstrated in the Program EIR certified for the Plan, the Plan sets forth a forecasted development pattern for the region, which, when integrated with the transportation network, and other transportation measures and policies, will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles and light trucks to achieve the regional greenhouse gas emission targets set by CARB for the region; and

WHEREAS, prior to taking action on the Plan, MTC has heard, been presented with, reviewed, and considered all of the information and data in the administrative record, including the Final Program EIR, and all oral and written evidence presented to it during all meetings and hearings; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the Plan is accompanied by adoption of the Amended 2025 TIP (MTC Resolution No. 4751) and preceded by certification that the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Plan complies with the CEQA (MTC Resolution No. 4749); and

RESOLVED, that MTC certifies that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated by this reference; and be it further

RESOLVED, that MTC finds that the Plan meets the requirements of Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg, 2008) as codified in California Government Code § 65080, subdivision (b); and be it further

RESOLVED, that MTC finds that the Plan complies with the requirements of all other applicable laws; and be it further

RESOLVED, that MTC does hereby adopt the Plan as included as Attachment A, as well as all associated supplemental reports, subject to additional minor or non-substantive technical corrections and editorial changes (Final Plan); and be it further

RESOLVED, that MTC directs its staff to publish the Final Plan and to submit the Final Plan to relevant state and federal agencies.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Sue Noack, Chair

This resolution was entered into by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at a special meeting of the Commission held in San Francisco, California and at other remote locations on March 25, 2026.

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Attachment A
MTC Resolution No. 4750

Final Plan Bay Area 2050+

The adopted Plan Bay Area 2050+ is on file in the offices of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA 94105.

The adopted Plan Bay Area 2050+ can also be viewed online at

<https://planbayarea.org/finalplan>.