

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

March 13, 2026

Agenda Item 8d

MTC Resolution No. 4750; and ABAG Resolution No. 02-2026. Final Plan Bay Area 2050+

Subject:

Request referral of MTC Resolution No. 4750; and ABAG Resolution No. 02-2026. to the Commission and ABAG Executive Board, respectively.

Background:

In July 2023, MTC and ABAG initiated Plan Bay Area 2050+, a limited and focused update to the region’s long-range plan for transportation, housing, economic development and environmental resilience. Plan Bay Area 2050+ is the region’s fourth integrated long-range plan developed pursuant to Senate Bill 375 and builds on the foundation established by Plan Bay Area 2050.

Plan Bay Area 2050+ refines and advances the policy direction adopted in Plan Bay Area 2050, placing particular emphasis on navigating post-pandemic realities—such as increased remote work, lower transit ridership, and rising office vacancies—while also addressing a more constrained financial environment and balancing climate resilience and emissions reduction.

Rather than redefining the overall long-range planning framework, the update focuses on sharpening strategies, strengthening implementation actions, and improving near-term outcomes.

In parallel with development of Plan Bay Area 2050+, MTC and ABAG advanced Transit 2050+, a comprehensive, long-range planning effort conducted in coordination with the region’s transit operators to reimagine public transit through 2050. Transit 2050+ included extensive technical analysis and stakeholder engagement. Findings and strategies from this effort informed development of Plan Bay Area 2050+, particularly with respect to transit investment priorities, service concepts, and long-term system performance.

Plan Development Process:

Plan Bay Area 2050+ was developed through an iterative process that integrated public engagement and technical analysis to evaluate, test, and refine strategies over time. From 2023 through 2025, this process informed each stage of plan development, including preparation of a Draft Blueprint, refinement into a Final Blueprint, and development of the Draft Plan Bay Area 2050+.

Public engagement was conducted throughout this iterative process and was both robust and inclusive. Since 2023, MTC and ABAG have engaged more than 17,600 residents through over 117 public and stakeholder events, collecting more than 15,600 comments and over 40,500 data points. More than 70 percent of engagement activities focused on Equity Priority Communities and other historically underserved populations, ensuring that communities most affected by regional challenges had a meaningful role in shaping the plan.

Plan Bay Area 2050+ continues to focus on transportation, housing, the economy, and the environment through 35 interconnected strategies. These strategies aim to expand affordable housing options while protecting vulnerable communities from climate risks such as wildfires and sea-level rise; enhance transportation systems to improve reliability, safety, and sustainability; promote economic mobility through initiatives such as job training programs and guaranteed income pilots; and protect natural resources while expanding access to parks and urban green spaces, particularly in underserved areas.

Together, the plan strategies seek to reduce housing and transportation cost burdens, improve access to jobs and services, and expand opportunity for all Bay Area residents, with a particular focus on Equity Priority Communities.

Plan Bay Area 2050+ also identifies more than 60 near-term implementation actions, developed in coordination with public, private, and nonprofit partners, to translate long-term strategies into measurable outcomes over the next five years. Key priorities include expanding affordable housing, improving transit connectivity, and advancing environmental sustainability.

If fully implemented, Plan Bay Area 2050+ would deliver meaningful progress across several key measures, including reducing combined housing and transportation costs for households, increasing the share of residents living within one-half mile of frequent transit, shifting more

commute trips to transit, biking, and walking, and expanding access to parks and green spaces in underserved communities.

These outcomes reflect the plan's commitment to making the region become more affordable, connected, diverse, healthy and vibrant for all. Plan Bay Area 2050+ represents an important step toward addressing the region's challenges while strengthening collaboration among local governments, regional agencies, and communities.

Revisions to Plan Document and Implementation Plan:

Between release of the Draft Plan on October 20, 2025, and the close of the public comment period on December 18, 2025, MTC and ABAG received more than 250 comments, including written comment letters and feedback provided through virtual workshops and other public engagement activities. Comments submitted in fall 2025 are available here:

<https://planbayarea.org/digital-library/draft-plan-bay-area-2050-plus-public-commentspdf>.

Comments on the Draft Plan, including the Draft Implementation Plan, were reviewed in December 2025 and January 2026. All comments were posted online and shared with Committee members in early February, and a related FAQ on the Final Regional Growth Forecast was subsequently posted on the project website: <https://planbayarea.org/draftplan>. In response to this feedback, as well as other minor updates, the following changes were incorporated into the proposed Final Plan documents with further context provided in **Attachment A**:

- **Plan Bay Area 2050+ Plan Document:** Refinements include an added Executive Letter, refreshed engagement metrics, minor map and data updates, new references to the Resilience Project List, and limited clarifications throughout. The overall policy direction, strategies, and structure remain unchanged.
 - **Implementation Plan:** Targeted updates include the addition of one new action, consolidation and refinement of several other actions to improve clarity, and minor edits to enhance consistency and readability. The overall scope and intent remain consistent with the draft.

- **Supplemental Reports:** Technical reports were finalized with modest clarifications, improved documentation, and formatting updates. Select reports were refined to improve transparency and responsiveness to public comments, and one new report—the Resilience Project List Report—was added to consolidate previously released information without introducing new policy or analysis.

The proposed Final Plan documents are available for review online on the Plan Bay Area 2050+ website; in-person and by appointment at 375 Beale Street in San Francisco; or by emailing info@planbayarea.org or calling (415) 778-6757 to make alternative arrangements to access the document.

Looking Ahead in 2026:

Following adoption of Plan Bay Area 2050+, staff will focus on implementing the plan’s adopted actions, working with regional, state, and local partners to advance near-term priorities. Staff will report back to the joint committees annually with updates on overall progress on plan implementation, including progress on key performance metrics monitored through the Vital Signs web platform.

In parallel, in summer 2026, MTC and ABAG will initiate Plan Bay Area 2060, the next major update to the region’s long-range plan. This effort will include both “blue sky” thinking and scenario planning to explore alternative policy and funding trajectories and to examine emerging issues shaping the region’s future, including advances in artificial intelligence, automated vehicles, shifting demographics, and other transformative trends.

Next Steps:

If approved by the Commission and ABAG Executive Board later this month, staff will finalize the document and officially publish Plan Bay Area 2050+ as the new regional long-range plan and submit the plan to state and federal agencies.

Issues:

Because a new regional plan was not adopted within the required four-year federal timeframe, the Bay Area entered a transportation conformity lapse grace period on December 3, 2025.

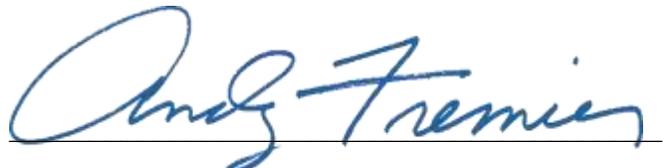
During this period, the Bay Area's ability to advance new or revise existing regionally significant transportation projects is limited. Adoption of the proposed Final Plan Bay Area 2050+ and subsequent federal approval are required to restore full project delivery authority.

Recommendation:

Refer ABAG Resolution No. 02-2026 to the ABAG Executive Board meeting on March 19, 2026, and MTC Resolution No. 4750 to the MTC Commission meeting on March 25, 2026, to adopt the proposed Final Plan Bay Area 2050+.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Summary of Changes (Draft Plan to Final Plan)
- MTC Resolution No. 4750
 - Attachment A
- ABAG Resolution No. 02-2026
 - Attachment A



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