



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Association of Bay Area Governments

November 14, 2024

### Updates

#### Joint Venture Silicon Valley Poll Briefing

- Staff attended the Joint Venture Silicon Valley briefing in San Jose on Oct. 8 where the [2024 Silicon Valley Poll](#) was introduced and summarized for partners and the public. Some key takeaways include:
  - Seven out of 10 Bay Area residents think their quality of life is declining, with 47% considering moving from the region due to high cost of housing or tax rates.
  - Top issues for people were housing, homelessness, cost of living, and for the first time, the income gap. What's fallen out of the top? Transportation!
  - What do people think we should do? Build more housing!

#### Estuary Partnership Awarded Another Year of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding

- The San Francisco Estuary Partnership was awarded a third year of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding. The just under \$1 million will continue the Estuary Partnership's work on climate adaptation, implementation, equity and communication.

#### BayREN Launches Its New Public Buildings Programs

- The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) recently introduced new no-cost services for local government and special district staff within the region with the launch of its Integrated Energy Services (IES) Program and the Targeted Decarbonization Services (TDS) Program earlier this month.
- IES focuses on providing holistic support for all energy-related building systems and includes the Energy Concierge as well as an Energy Roadmapping service. Just launched, the Energy Concierge Service provides no-cost technical support to help local government staff navigate the complex world of energy programs including funding and financing. The concierge team will provide customized program recommendations and guidance based on the jurisdiction's project needs and goals. In addition, support with program applications is also available upon request.
- TDS is focused on building decarbonization with a showcase pilot as well as education and financing services for local government staff. The Decarbonization Showcase will enroll a small number of buildings across the Bay Area to pilot and demonstrate how different types of buildings can reduce or eliminate carbon emissions while improving their energy performance.
- Jurisdictions interested in these no-cost services can fill out an interest form on BayREN's website. <https://www.bayren.org/public-programs>.



## Planning and Capital Grant Opportunities: 2024 Call for Projects

- On Sept. 30, MTC announced the release of \$60 million in planning and capital funding to support local implementation of MTC's Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) Policy and Climate Program. The funds include multiple grant and technical assistance programs that are being administered simultaneously to help applicants coordinate efforts across funding categories. Visit the [2024 Coordinated Call web page](#) for an overview of the programs.
  - Applications for the TOC Planning and Implementation grants are due on Nov. 22, 2024, at 4 p.m. These funds are focused on TOC Policy implementation and include grants and technical assistance to help jurisdictions develop and implement plans and policies to comply with the TOC Policy.
  - Applications for the Climate Program Implementation grants are due on Dec. 20, 2024, at 4 p.m. These funds are focused on Climate Program implementation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and include grants for capital investments.

## Looking Ahead

### New Housing Laws Webinar on Dec. 11

- The recent state legislative session brings many changes to housing laws in California. Join MTC's and ABAG's [Regional Housing Technical Assistance Program](#) for a webinar on Dec. 11 at 10 a.m. to review these new laws. Staff from Goldfarb & Lipman LLP will discuss some of the most significant legislation and what it means for jurisdictions. [Register via this link.](#)

### ABAG to Vote on PCA Designations This Winter

- MTC's Planning Committee approved \$8.5 million from the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG3) program for 13 Priority Conservation Area projects in November. Subject to final approval by the Commission later this month, the action paves the way for 13 projects across the region to receive funding. ABAG will take action on approving updated PCA designations this winter. This winter, ABAG will be asked to approve updated PCA designations (incorporating recommendations from the multi-year PCA Refresh approved by ABAG in mid-2024).

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