



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Association of Bay Area Governments

September 21, 2023

Personnel

New Appointments

- **Mike Aycock** – Mike started with MTC on Sept. 5 as the Assistant Director of Human Resources in the Administration and Human Development section.
- **Valerie Coleman** – Valerie started with MTC on Sept. 5 as a REAP 2 Program Coordinator in the Funding Policy and Programs section.
- **Nafis Majd** – Nafis started with MTC on Sept. 5 as a Principal Engineer in the Design and Project Delivery section.
- **Irene Cordon** – Irene started with MTC on Sept. 5 as a Billing and Accounts Receivable Accountant in the Financial Reporting and Operational Accounting section.
- **Amarpal Bajwa** – Amarpal started with MTC on Sept. 5 as a 511 Senior Software Developer in the Technology Services section.
- **Saheed Adepoju** – Saheed started with MTC on Sept. 5 as a 511 Senior Software Developer in the Technology Services section.
- **Will Giovinco** – Will started with MTC on Sept. 5 as a Quality Analyst in the Electronic Payments section.
- **Katelyn Huang** – Katelyn started with MTC on Sept. 5 as a Junior Financial Analyst in the Treasury and Revenue section.
- **Anna Tang** – Anna started with MTC on Sept. 18 as an Assistant Budget and Grant Analyst in the Budgets and Financial Planning and Analysis section.
- **Yijia Ma** – Yijia was rehired with MTC on Sept. 18 as a Senior Accountant in the Financial Reporting and Operational Accounting section.

Key Updates

- Last week, ABAG Executive Board member and Walnut Creek Mayor Cindy Silva testified in Sacramento as the lead witness in favor of **ACA 1**. Mayor Silva represented the League of California Cities on this measure to lower the vote threshold for local and regional bonds and special taxes from 2/3 to 55% of voters. ABAG-MTC strongly supported ACA 1 as well and heavily lobbied the Bay Area delegation in the run up to the final vote on Sept. 14.
- ABAG and MTC have wrapped up the first round of public engagement for **Plan Bay Area 2050+**, a limited and focused update to the regional vision for transportation, housing, economic development, and environmental resilience. For six weeks, MTC/ABAG staff held pop-up workshops in all nine counties at community events, with a specific focus on Equity Priority Communities, to get early input on the planning process. Staff also sought input on the parallel Transit 2050+ network plan and heard residents' priorities for the potential 2026 regional transportation revenue measure at those events. Staff also collected input via an online survey, which was completed over 2,000 times, and held two virtual workshops for partners and stakeholders. A webinar on updated planning assumptions will be held on October 19. For more information on the webinar, visit planbayarea.org.



- More than 550 people attended recent [public workshops hosted by the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority \(BAHFA\)](#) to provide information on a possible housing bond measure and strategies to work toward meeting the Bay Area's housing needs. Recordings of the workshops and related materials are available on [the BAHFA webpage](#).
- At a Sept. 12th workshop, staff provided an update on **the Priority Conservation Area (PCA) Refresh** process and sought input on three possible changes to the PCA Framework. Feedback from workshop attendees will guide revisions to the PCA Framework in the months ahead.
- The deadline to **nominate Priority Sites** in your community is Sept. 30, 2023. Priority Sites are locally identified, regionally significant places that will offer homes affordable to people of all incomes, backgrounds and abilities. Nomination information is available on [the Priority Sites webpage](#).
- MTC's Climate Team invites Bay Area transit agencies or local governments in partnership with transit agencies to apply to the September 6th release of **the Transit Station Public Charging Program** – a grant opportunity to purchase and install publicly accessible charging stations for electric vehicles and/or electric mobility devices (bikes, scooters, assistive mobility devices, etc.) at transit stations. The charging infrastructure must be publicly accessible and is envisioned for transit customer and community member use. Applications are due Wednesday, October 18, 2023. For more information or to apply, visit [the grant webpage](#). If you have any questions, contact James Choe, jchoe@bayareametro.gov.
- The **Bay Trail SFO Gap Study** will identify potential Bay Trail alignments to close a three-mile Bay Trail gap around San Francisco International Airport and an opportunity for a new Bay Trail segment through Millbrae and San Bruno connecting to existing Bay Trail segments. A survey is open now through Sept. 30, 2023, and MTC/ABAG staff is seeking information from the public about key destinations they want to access in the study area, route preferences, and general information about future users of the trail.

Items to Note

- **Bay Days 2023**, a month-long celebration of the San Francisco Bay, runs Sept. 8 through Oct. 7. The San Francisco Bay Trail is a sponsor of this event.
- I attended the July 27 **League of California Cities, East Bay Division's** meeting in Pittsburg, where I gave an update on ABAG and MTC.
- The **Bay Area Metro Center**, managed by Cushman & Wakefield, was named the 2023 International TOBY Award winner in the Historical Category. Announced on June 25th at the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International Conference in Kansas City, The Outstanding Building of the Year (TOBY®) Award is the commercial real estate industry's highest recognition, honoring excellence in commercial building management and operations in specific categories of building type or size. Judging was based on criteria that include community impact, tenant and employee relations programs, energy management, accessibility, emergency evacuation procedures, building personnel training programs, and overall excellence. Congratulations to the team for their hard work and efforts toward this achievement.

Andrew Fremier
Executive Director