

## Report on ABAG to MCCMC

January 2018

**ABAG EXECUTIVE BOARD:** With the merger complete, it was agreed that the ABAG Legislative Committee would meet jointly with the MTC Legislation Committee. To that end, the joint committee recommended that the ABAG Executive Board and MTC adopt a Joint Advocacy Strategy. The strategy focuses on the following categories for state legislation: 1) Transportation Funding; 2) Housing Supply/Affordability; 3) Climate Change/Energy; 4) Resilience; 5) HOV Lanes; 6) Bus Service; 7) Active Transportation; 8) Shared Mobility; 9) Connected and Autonomous Vehicles; 10) Project Delivery (e.g. CEQA reform); 11) Statewide Bond for Parks and Water; and, 12) Natural and Agricultural Lands. The strategy focuses on the following categories for federal legislation: 1) Transportation and Housing Funding; 2) Infrastructure Initiative; 3) Tax Reform; 4) Climate Change/Energy; and, 5) Connected and Autonomous Vehicles.

On January 18<sup>th</sup>, the ABAG Executive Board approved the proposed joint advocacy strategy with amendments (see changes below) proposed by 2 city representatives on the ABAG Board. The proposed strategy along with the following amendments will go before MTC on January 24, 2018 for approval.

Issue	Goal	Strategy
Housing Supply/Affordability	D. Reform State Housing Law	Engage in efforts <del>anticipated to be led by Senator Wiener</del> regarding ways to update the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process. Potential areas for legislative action include expanding the types of units that the State HCD deems eligible to be counted as part of the its RHNA review and modifying the methodology by which the state develops its overall estimate of total housing units for each region so that it incorporates economic and demographic factors that fuel demand for housing.
	E. Lower Housing Construction Costs and Facilitate Greater Housing Production	Partner with Bay Area and statewide affordable housing organizations, <del>the Bay Area Council, Silicon Valley Leadership Council,</del> and other interested organizations to pursue opportunities to lower the cost of housing construction and facilitate increased production of market-rate and affordable housing units.

The proposed 2018 Joint Legislative Advocacy Program can be viewed at:

<https://abag.ca.gov/abag/events/agendas/e011818a-Item%2008A,%20Revised%20Joint%20Advocacy%20Program.pdf>

**Plan Bay Area 2040:** Brad Paul, Deputy Director of MTC along with other MTC staff is meeting with city managers in each of the counties to talk about the ABAG/MTC merger, Plan Bay Area and other upcoming issues. They met with the Marin Managers Association in December 2017. Also, MTC staff surveyed elected officials on how effective the public outreach was for Plan Bay Area 2040 and solicited improvements for the next Plan in 2021. I emphasized that the combined public workshop and open house format works well in Marin County and should be considered for all Counties. I will be convening the ABAG delegates to begin discussing the proposed public outreach for 2018 and appropriate topics.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS<sup>1</sup>

- February 9, 2018 -- ABAG Administrative/MTC Planning Committees – 9:30 am  
ABAG Legislative/MTC Legislation Committees – 9:40 am
- February 28, 2018 -- MTC Meeting – 9:40 am

Please direct questions to Pat Eklund, Council Member, City of Novato (phone: 415-883-9116; email: [peklund@novato.org](mailto:peklund@novato.org) or [pateklund@comcast.net](mailto:pateklund@comcast.net))

<sup>1</sup> All meetings are held at 375 Beale Street in San Francisco, unless noted otherwise.