

## Final Plan Bay Area 2040 and EIR Approved by Regional Agencies

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) adopted Plan Bay Area 2040 and its associated Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on July 26th 2017.

The nearly unanimous vote - with 41 of the 43 officials from the two bodies voting in the affirmative on the Plan and 39 for the EIR - caps a three-year process of plan development and intensive public outreach.



The second such regional housing and transportation plan adopted by MTC and ABAG, Plan Bay Area 2040 is a long-range blueprint to guide transportation investments and land-use decisions through 2040, while meeting the requirements of California's landmark 2008 Senate Bill 375, which calls on each of the state's 18 metropolitan areas to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy to accommodate future population growth and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light trucks.

The Plan shines a spotlight on the region's housing crisis - in terms of housing availability and affordability - and calls on citizens to join with business, government, academia and the non-profit sector to solve it. The Bay Area must "pursue a multi-pronged strategy that emphasizes the construction of new homes for residents of all incomes, the protection of the region's most vulnerable households, and the need to advocate for more financial resources to pursue local and regional solutions," the Plan notes.

The Plan points to two recent developments that will improve the region's ability to address its chronic housing and affordability challenges. The recent integration of MTC's and ABAG's staff into a unified team will lead to more effective long-range planning and strengthen the region's housing policy resources. And the newly created CASA initiative - the blue-ribbon Committee to House the Bay Area - is bringing together diverse interests to develop a bold new strategy for housing production and preservation.

The Action Plan portion of Plan Bay Area 2040 also focuses on economic development, particularly improving transportation access to jobs, increasing middle-wage job creation and maintaining the region's infrastructure. Another focus of the Action element is resilience in terms of enhancing climate protection and adaptation efforts, strengthening open space protections, creating healthy and safe communities, and protecting communities against natural hazards.

Leaders of ABAG and MTC applauded the Plan's adoption.

"The ABAG Executive Board's and MTC's passage of Plan Bay Area 2040 recognizes the changes that have occurred to our region's cities and counties and adjusts the actions we need to take to meet our shared challenges," commented ABAG President and Clayton Councilmember Julie Pierce. "This successful second round of Plan Bay Area also highlights the good work that the agencies have done together in conjunction with the cities and counties."

"The updated Plan charts a smart course by identifying the strategic investments and policy directions necessary to keep the Bay Area economy growing while maintaining a high quality of life," stated MTC Chair and Rohnert Park Mayor Jake Mackenzie.

***The draft Plan and approved revisions can be viewed at <http://2040.planbayarea.org/reports>. The final report integrating the comments will be available in the coming weeks at the same location.***

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## **BayREN Codes and Standards Solar Ordinance Forum Supporting Local Adoption of Energy Ordinances**

More than 70 representatives from the local government, energy, and building sectors participated in the second BayREN Codes & Standards Regional Forum entitled ***Local Mandatory Solar Ordinance as a Pathway for New Residential Zero Net Energy Construction*** on June 27, 2017. Participants learned about the California Energy Commission's (CEC) new mandatory solar ordinance and approval process.

Featured panelists including city managers and climate and energy experts from throughout the region discussed the CEC solar ordinance and cost effectiveness study. Expert speakers shared their experiences in developing and implementing mandatory solar installation ordinances, and discussed the decarbonization of domestic hot water systems, and the residential solar marketplace. The event closed with a panel that explored the intricacies of implementing local ordinances to accelerate California climate and Zero Net Energy goals.



All presentation slides and recordings from all previous BayREN Codes and Standards (C&S) forums are available on the [BayREN C&S website](#).

### Upcoming Regional Forum

BayREN Codes & Standards

Municipal Buildings: Leading by Example

**September 26th, 8:30 - 12 at the Orinda Lecture Hall, Orinda Library**

There will be case studies of innovative municipal projects. Additional details will be posted on the [BayREN C&S website](#) in the coming weeks.

### BayREN On-Demand Training

Three ICC approved BayREN trainings are now available to take online. [BayREN on-demand trainings](#) are designed to educate both local officials and the private sector building community in key aspects of code compliance and enforcement. Courses include "Residential Forms and Permit Submittals for Additions with HERS Registry", "Residential New Construction Compliance with HERS Registry" and "Residential Forms and Permit Submittals for Additions and New Construction Compliance." Each course is ICC CEU certified and each registrant will receive 0.1 CEUs upon completion.

*For more information on BayREN C&S activities, to request an Energy Code training, take an on-demand training, or learn more about our future forums, please visit [www.bayrencodes.org](http://www.bayrencodes.org) or email [codes@bayren.org](mailto:codes@bayren.org).*

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## Building Resilient Homes to Build Resilient Communities Workshop

The Building Resilient Homes to Build Resilient Communities workshop on July 25th demonstrated the positive impact of coordinated energy efficiency and seismic safety efforts. This is one of a series of workshops. It featured cost effective resources and initiatives that are designed to create energy efficient and resilient homes and communities. Presenters noted that supportive financing and coordinated

resources will help communities improve health and safety and that regional collaboration is a place to build these integrations.

Using resources featured at the workshop, such as the [Bay Area Regional Energy Network](#), homeowners can make upgrades to insulation, heating, and air conditioning, and windows to increase comfort and efficiency. Another program that will benefit homes is the Earthquake Brace and Bolt Program, focused on seismic safety <https://www.earthquakebracebolt.com/>.



For many homeowners, it is a matter of health and safety, and the featured [Marin Green and Healthy Homes Initiative](#) program, is designed to address improvements that may protect residents from lead poisoning and asthma.

The [Marin Homeowner Toolkit](#) was featured as a resource to aggregate all program information and contact information that a homeowner may consider in a single place. If you are interested in developing a toolkit for your city or county and want to use the Marin example as a template, contact Kellen Dammann at [kdammann@marincounty.org](mailto:kdammann@marincounty.org).

Programs such as these are designed to achieve the greatest impact with the least amount of burden on tenants and homeowners. ABAG is working with cities and counties to identify and build on existing examples to help other cities and counties move forward and expand energy efficiency and resilience in their communities.

All workshop materials are available at <http://resilience.abag.ca.gov/building-resilient-homes-to-build-resilient-communities-workshop/>.

*The next workshop in the series is titled **Planning for an Uncertain Energy Future: Energy Assurance for Resilience and Sustainability** and will be held on **September 28th** at the **Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, Yerba Buena Room, in San Francisco.***

*If you have questions, contact **Michael Germeraad** at [michaelg@abag.ca.gov](mailto:michaelg@abag.ca.gov).*

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## **High-Profile CASA Initiative Tackles Region's Housing Crisis**



# CASA

## COMMITTEE TO HOUSE THE BAY AREA

CASA brings together leaders from across the Bay Area to build an actionable political consensus around increasing housing production at all levels of affordability, preserving existing affordable housing, and protecting vulnerable populations from housing instability and displacement.

CASA is a year-long, multi-sector, blue-ribbon initiative that brings together diverse interests to identify game-changing solutions to the region's chronic housing affordability challenges. CASA includes 46 leaders from across the Bay Area who will be working to build an actionable political consensus around (1) increasing housing production at all levels of affordability, (2) preserving existing affordable housing, and (3) protecting vulnerable populations from housing instability and displacement.

CASA was convened by MTC and will include a Steering Committee and Technical Committee. Members of the Steering Committee include elected officials from around the region and representatives from organizations related to affordable housing development, business, environmental protection, equity advocacy, and labor. The Technical Committee is comprised of stakeholders representing small and large jurisdictions, housing and equity advocates, labor, businesses, affordable- and market-rate housing developers, financing institutions, public transit agencies, regional planning, lawyers, and homeownership interests. Additional information is available [on the website](#).

Over the next 16 months - through stakeholder engagement, interviews, and policy and research - CASA will develop a comprehensive Regional Housing Implementation Plan for the nine Bay Area counties. The plan is expected to include innovative financing strategies, state and local legislation, and recommendations to address the current regulatory environment, with a final report slated for release in October 2018.

CASA brings together leaders from every conceivable sector across the Bay Area to build an actionable political consensus around increasing housing production at all levels of affordability, preserving existing affordable housing, and protecting vulnerable populations from housing instability and displacement.

Putting their combined influence behind the unprecedented effort are the mayors of the region's three anchor cities - Ed Lee of San Francisco, Sam Liccardo of San Jose and Libby Schaaf of San Jose - all of whom have signed on for the CASA Steering Committee. Liccardo and Schaaf both serve as MTC commissioners, while Lee appoints a representative to sit on the ABAG Executive Board and on the Commission. Additional members of CASA's Steering Committee include MTC Chair Jake Mackenzie, who serves as the mayor for the city of Rohnert Park; ABAG President and MTC Commissioner Julie Pierce, who serves as councilmember for the city of Clayton; MTC Commissioner Dave Cortese, who serves as president of the Santa Clara Board of Supervisors; and ABAG Executive Board Member Julie Combs, who serves as council member for the city of Santa Rosa.

Overall, the CASA Steering and Technical Committees comprise leaders from the

region's private, philanthropic, governmental and nonprofit sectors, including social equity and environmental advocates, the business and technology communities, labor groups, market rate and affordable housing developers, and representatives from across the region.

CASA will be co-chaired by Fred Blackwell, CEO of the San Francisco Foundation, whose community foundation gives millions of dollars a year to improve life in the Bay Area; Leslye Corsiglia, executive director of SV@Home, the voice of affordable housing in Silicon Valley; and Michael Covarrubias, chairman and CEO of TMG Partners, a developer focused on urban infill projects in the Bay Area. Key advisors to CASA include Estolano LeSar Perez Advisors as well as the University of California, Berkeley. The effort will also be supported by staff at MTC/ABAG, who will be serving as CASA's hosts and conveners. For a full list of committee members, advisors and staff, please see the membership roster at [Casa Roster](#).

## **Background**

CASA was convened by MTC following the release of the draft Plan Bay Area 2040 (<http://www.planbayarea.org/>), the region's long-range transportation and land use plan, which projects the region will see 2.4 million more people, 820,000 new households and 1.3 million new jobs by the year 2040. The plan makes aggressive assumptions about policy interventions and strategies to help accommodate this growth, but falls short on a number of key performance measures including affordable housing, access to jobs, displacement risk, and housing and transportation affordability.

It was the stark challenge of looking at this performance data and understanding the risks posed to the region's low- and moderate-income households, transportation network, economy and environment, that drove the push for game-changing housing solutions.

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## **Meeting Calendar - August 2017**

### **ABAG POWER Executive Committee**

8/16 @ 11 a.m., Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, Tamalpais Conference Room, 7th Floor, San Francisco

### **San Francisco Estuary Partnership Implementation Committee**

8/23 @ 9:30 a.m., Elihu M. Harris State Building, 1515 Clay Street, Room 10, Oakland

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**[More information is available on ABAG's website.](#)**