



M E M O

January 12, 2011

To: Executive Board

From: Ken Kirkey, Planning Director

Re: Initial Vision Scenario - Sustainable Communities Strategy

This Initial Vision Scenario will provide a preliminary overview of the Bay Area's future development; its land use pattern and distribution of housing and jobs. It will also provide a first assessment of the future region's performance on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions as well as other adopted regional performance targets.

The Initial Vision Scenario will be developed as an unconstrained scenario by ABAG and MTC with input from local jurisdictions and county Congestion Management Agencies (CMA). The Initial Vision Scenario serves as a starting point for the development, analysis and discussion of detailed scenarios that will lead to a preferred SCS by early 2012.

**UPDATE ON KEY ACTIVITIES**

**1. City Council Presentations**

In December 2010, ABAG and MTC provided planning directors and CMAs a report and a visual material to present before their city councils to explain the SCS and the process for local government input into the strategy. Over the past month, a few cities have already scheduled their presentations or presented before their city councils. Other cities are working on this task; some are seeking collaboration from the CMA for the presentation. Some elected officials serving on ABAG and MTC boards have offered to make the presentation for their peers.

**2. Input from local jurisdictions**

To provide for local input to the Initial Vision Scenario, ABAG and MTC sent a request for information on unconstrained growth to all city and county planning directors. Local jurisdictions identified places that can accommodate the region's future population growth and employment and policies, strategies, and incentives to support this growth. More than 90 percent of all cities submitted a response by January 5, 2011.



### **3. Assessment of growth and future land use pattern**

Based on local input, ABAG and MTC staff is currently defining the land use strategy to accommodate 3.6 million households and 4.4 million jobs by 2035. This land use strategy will focus on transit corridors, Priority Development Areas and new opportunity areas for sustainable development proposed by local jurisdictions. Regional staff will likely identify higher levels of growth than those proposed by cities in order to meet the housing target. The Initial Vision Scenario will identify key policies, strategies, and investments that will be required to support the proposed land use pattern. Land Use and Transportation models will be used to analyze the Initial Vision Scenario.

### **4. Release of the Initial Vision Scenario**

The Initial Vision Scenario will be released at the meeting of the ABAG Administrative Committee, MTC Planning Committee, and Joint Policy Committee on March 11, 2011. This Scenario will then be presented in each of the nine Bay Area counties.

The Initial Vision Scenario will include

1. A report that describes the concept, policies, and strategies.
2. A set of maps that describes places that will accommodate sustainable development.
3. A presentation that describes the approach, benefits, and resources that would be needed to implement the Initial Vision Scenario.