



Date: March 14, 2014
To: Executive Board
From: Miriam Chion
Director, Planning and Research
Subject: **Rockefeller Resilient Cities**

Executive Summary

Four Bay Area cities have been selected by the Rockefeller Foundation as part of the Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities Centennial Challenge as exceptional cities working towards innovative resilience solutions. The selected cities were each one of only 33 cities selected worldwide, and the Bay Area is honored to be the only region with multiple cities selected.

Cities were selected based on their current and future initiatives towards planning for resilience to decrease vulnerabilities. Each recipient will receive support to hire a Chief Resilience Officer to lead and oversee future resilience efforts; support to develop a resilience plan with actionable initiatives; access to a platform of services for implementation, including solutions to financing initiatives, information technology, or policy models; and connection to the other cities worldwide to share best practices and increase global dialogue on resilience.

As the regional planning agency for the nine counties and 101 cities and towns of the San Francisco Bay region, the Association of Bay Area Governments is the most direct conduit for policy and program implementation among the Bay Area cities. Building on ABAG's previous regional resilience and long-term recovery planning, the agency takes regional planning to local implementation by leveraging existing planning work and expanding institutional collaboration. ABAG serves as a gateway to the rest of the Bay Area on resilience best practices and implementation.

ABAG has a unique opportunity to help support communication and facilitation of regional coordination between the Resilient Cities as well as leverage the groundbreaking work done by the Chief Resilience Officers. The selected cities are our regional thought leaders and have the unique opportunity to be on the forefront of implementing innovative policies and projects to build resilience. Through partnership with ABAG, we have the opportunity to share knowledge and best practices with others in the region, strengthening our regional systems and building regional resilience among all of our neighbors.