



Date: March 23, 2015

To: Regional Planning Committee

From: Miriam Chion, ABAG Planning & Research Director

Subject: Overview Session April 1, 2015

Since we met in February, we had a successful State of the Region conference. If you missed the conference, you can still access the online report (<http://reports.abag.ca.gov/sotr/2015/index.php>), which provides detailed data and interactive graphs. Also in March, the criteria for the Priority Development Areas was approved by the Executive Board, based on recommendations from the Regional Planning Committee and the Administrative Committee.

At our February meeting, we discussed ongoing efforts on entitlement efficiency and created a working group to follow up on potential opportunities. Drawing upon insight and feedback from the February meeting, this group will include committee members as well as developers and policy experts. It will identify opportunities to improve implementation of community-based plans in PDAs, focusing on steps to reduce barriers to development. The outcome of the Working Group will be a staff memo highlighting the group's key findings and recommendations. The group is currently being formed and will meet in the spring and summer of 2015, with deliverables provided to the RPC in late 2015.

This Spring meeting is focused on economic strategies and prosperity. Jobs and the regional economy were identified in the recent Plan Bay Area as a priority. The Joint Policy Committee also identified those tasks as an important component of regional policies and interjurisdictional collaboration. The first item of the agenda will include an overview of the regional framework followed by three presentations focused on industrial activities. The second item will include an update of the Regional Prosperity Plan, a three-year HUD grant that encompasses 50 projects and will conclude in the summer.

We are welcoming three new Regional Planning Committee members:

- Carmen Montano, Vice-Mayor of Milpitas, will represent cities in Santa Clara County. She is a school teacher and has worked on issues related to economic development, schools, flood control and planning.
- Katie Rice, Marin County Supervisor, will represent Marin County. One of her core concerns has been the protection of environmental resources. She has also played key roles in flood protection, recreation and infrastructure improvements.

- Diane Burgis, East Bay Regional Parks Board member, will represent Recreation and Open Space stakeholders. She has worked on protecting, restoring, and enhancing watersheds.

### **Ongoing efforts**

- In partnership with FEMA Region IX, the ABAG Resilience Program team is launching the planning process to support cities in the development of Local Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plans.
- ABAG General Assembly: April 23, Oakland Asian Cultural Center.
- Regional Prosperity Plan Capstone conference: April 13-14, Oakland Asian Cultural Center
- We will have the first round of Plan Bay Area public workshops starting at the end of April. We will have one workshop per county.
- PDAs and PCAs revisions and designations deadline: May 2015.

*The ABAG Administrative Committee may act on any item on this agenda.*