

M E M O

Date: June 6, 2012

To: ABAG Regional Planning Committee (RPC)

From: Kenneth Kirkey, ABAG Planning Director

Re: Moratorium on Priority Development Area (PDA) Applications Until 2015

Summary

Staff is presenting a proposal to institute a moratorium on new applications for Priority Development Areas (PDAs), Employment Investment Areas, and Rural Community Investment Areas until 2015 following adoption of the currently proposed PDAs, Employment Investment Areas, and Rural Community Investment Areas.

Background

During the Sustainable Communities Planning Strategy (SCS) planning process, the number of PDAs in the region has grown from more than 120 to greater than 200. In a separate agenda item presented at today's RPC meeting, staff is requesting adoption of a number of Rural Community Investment Areas and Employment Investment Areas, as well as an additional PDA. This expansion in the number of areas targeted for regional planning and project funding reflects the detailed planning process undertaken by the region's jurisdictions to focus new growth into places capable of supporting a variety of housing options and providing access to employment and other opportunities. This process culminated in the adoption of the Jobs- Housing Connection Strategy as the preferred scenario for the SCS by the ABAG Executive Board at its May 2012 meeting.

To ensure efficiency in the use of planning and project funds, and equitable competition for these funds, staff is requesting direction to institute a moratorium on new applications for PDAs, Rural Community Investment Areas, and Employment Investment areas until 2015. During the next SCS planning cycle, the PDA and Investment Area planning program will be evaluated, providing an opportunity to recommend adjustments to the program and to assess proposals for new PDAs and Investment Areas.

Requested Action

- Recommend adoption of a moratorium on new Priority Development Area, Employment Investment Area, and Rural Community Investment Area applications until 2015 by the Executive Board at its July 2012 meeting

Next Steps

- Adoption of the recommended moratorium on new Priority Development Area, Employment Investment Area, and Rural Community Investment Area Applications by the Executive Board at its July meeting