



Date: July 23, 2014
To: Regional Planning Committee
From: Miriam Chion, ABAG Planning & Research Director
Subject: Overview Session August 6, 2014

At our last meeting, the Regional Planning Committee sent a set of recommendations for the **approval of the new PCA criteria** to the ABAG Executive Board. The recommendation was adopted with one minor change indicating that only urban parks funding will be prioritize for disadvantage areas. This opens the window for PCA designations and revisions until May of 2015.

This August session focuses on housing and the approach to Plan Bay Area 2017. **Housing planning and strategies** is one of the most important components of Plan Bay Area. It is a particular challenge for the region today given the increasing cost and limited affordability for our workforce. ABAG is working with local jurisdictions on the Housing Element updates and local policies; coordinating with HCD and the Strategic Growth Council on funding and policies; and with for-profit and non-profit developers on housing needs and investments. This session focuses on one particular effort, the Regional Prosperity Consortium, which is an implementation activity of Plan Bay Area focused on access to affordable housing.

We will also review the **tasks and approach to the Plan Bay Area 2017 update**. We were unable to cover this item at the last meeting. We are including the same memo of your June packet plus an additional memo that provides an overview of the general schedule for the implementation of Plan Bay Area 2013 and preparation for Plan Bay Area.

On the **composition of the Regional Planning Committee**, we are welcoming our new representative from the Congestion Management Agencies. Martin Engelmann, Deputy Executive Director of Planning at the Contra Costa Transportation Authority, is replacing Linda Jackson, Planning Manager at the Transportation Authority of Marin.

For this and our **subsequent sessions in 2014 and 2015** we will retain a major theme for each session, but will also include an item related to the Plan Bay Area process. Given that we have expanded our schedule to three hours and are increasing the efficiency of our discussions, we are confident that we will be able to manage two items at each meeting.

For the remainder of 2014, we have the following sessions:

- October - Resiliency efforts in the Bay Area and PDA Criteria
- December - Place-making in PDAs

For 2015, we will present the regional forecast at two or three sessions, one of which would need to be scheduled at night. We will send an email to check your availability. We will also present the Regional Prosperity Consortium findings and the State of the Region report.

Among major upcoming events, we have the **25th anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake and the Bay Trail** opening. The Loma Prieta conference will take place at the Kaiser Center on Thursday, October 16. It will highlight actions that strengthen the resiliency of Bay Area communities. Local, state and national elected officials, along with subject matter experts, will address multidisciplinary planning strategies and policy actions.

The Bay Trail anniversary includes a number of events in the Fall: Bay Trail smart phone tour for the Napa River, American Canyon Bay Trail segment, and for the South Bay Pond A16 trail, near Alviso as well as the opening of the 1.7-mile Carquinez Scenic Drive section of the Bay Trail. To date, 338 miles of the alignment - over 67 percent of the Bay Trail's ultimate length - have been completed.

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