

Supervisor Glover,

ABAG Special General Assembly 05/17/2016

I'm Sharon McCreadie and I came to work for ABAG in the '90s, retiring a few years ago with my husband (who passed away in 2012). I've spoken once at hearings regarding the future of ABAG and MTC, so I only want to make 3 points here:

First, too many times this discussion has represented ABAG as a planning (only) agency. It's obvious just by looking at ABAG's website what this agency brings to the Bay Area. Much better than I am able to, others have already pointed out ABAG's many forwarding-looking programs serving the people, the environment, the safety and quality of life in our area--quite a number of these programs have earned accolades in our area, the state, and the nation.

Second, what has brought this entire situation to a head? In addition to misrepresenting ABAG as a planning agency to be acquired, the reasons given were essentially claiming that ABAG and MTC cannot "get along"--cannot work together, citing instances where they did not communicate well and differences in agency philosophies (MTC being more project oriented, and ABAG being more collaborative, visionary). Since the two agencies have performed successfully together for years, and given that many believe a combination of these two types of corporate philosophies are the ideal match--desirable in fact--I'd like to state the obvious: The response and "resolutions" proposed seem disproportionate and inappropriate to the circumstances.

Last but not least, this is NOT only about the good of our Bay Area community, but also about the retirees and employees at ABAG who have made such incredible contributions to the San Francisco Bay Area. It's The People. And, were things to continue as they have been, these employees and retirees would indeed receive their due, what we've worked for, what we've counted on for us and our families to survive. We do not need to be "rescued" from manufactured problems. Please do not leave any ABAG employees out in the cold; and any reduction to my pension or medical benefits would be critical to me as well as other ABAG retirees and is also unacceptable.

I believe, because anything may be improved and because I trust we're all reasonable people, that Management Partner's Report Option 4 is the ONLY way to proceed from here.

Thank you for hearing me.

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