

Dear ABAG Elected Officials and Other Interested Parties

Attached is a staff recommendation to the ABAG Executive Board and the ABAG General Assembly regarding a proposed merger with MTC. As many of you are aware, MTC's Planning Grant to ABAG is due to terminate July 1, 2016, under MTC's Resolution 4210, unless ABAG and MTC vote to adopt a Merger Implementation Plan (MIP).

Contained within this report are two recommendations: That ABAG and MTC should adopt a MIP for either: 1. A simultaneous governance and organizational/staff merger (Option 4); or 2. An organizational/staff merger first with a commitment to engage in a governance merger process by a date certain (Option 7).

We have included in the staff report some principles that could help guide the MIP in the process.

Should ABAG and MTC fail to mutually agree on an MIP, Resolution 4210 automatically takes effect. Staff has previously stated that, in such event, ABAG will likely not be able to sustain itself as an on-going agency.

We think it is important for ABAG's members to express their views on this important subject to both ABAG and MTC. The following meetings are scheduled for both discussion and vote on this item.

- ABAG Special General Assembly – May 19th, noon – 2:30 pm MetroCenter Auditorium
- ABAG Executive Board Meeting – May 19th, 7:00 pm MetroCenter Auditorium
- MTC Commission Meeting – May 25th, 9:00 am, MetroCenter Auditorium
- Joint ABAG Administrative Committee and MTC Planning Committee – May 27th, 9:00 am, MetroCenter Auditorium

MetroCenter Auditorium, 101 8th Street, Oakland CA 94607

ABAG will post all correspondence with comments on the ABAG website. Please send to leahz@abag.ca.gov.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the matter beyond what is in the staff report, please send an email to Ezra Rapport, Executive Director, ezrar@abag.ca.gov.

Thank you for your participation on this urgent matter regarding the future of regional planning in the Bay Area.

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