



Service Matters

A New Regional Trail – San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail

ABAG has partnered with the State Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy), San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), and California Department of Boating and Waterways (Cal Boating) to implement the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail program. The new Water Trail is a growing network of launch and landing sites for people in non-motorized small boats such as kayaks and canoes to enjoy the historic, scenic, cultural, and environmental richness of the San Francisco Bay through multiple-day and single-day trips on the Bay. The Water Trail program was created by the



Stand Up Paddleboard at McNears Beach, Marin County Penny Wells

California Legislature (2005, *Hancock, AB 1296*) with its implementation guided by a plan developed by BCDC. The Conservancy certified the final Environmental Impact Report in March 2011, and awarded ABAG a grant of \$1,000,000 to work with Conservancy staff and other project partners on site-specific Water Trail implementation.

The grant awarded from the Conservancy funds a limited-term staff position

at ABAG, the development of outreach materials, and a Water Trail grant program for improvements to Water Trail sites. ABAG is a natural partner because of its experience coordinating the completion of the Bay Trail, its strong working relationships with public and private land managers along the edge of the Bay, and a successful ten year partnership with the Conservancy to improve shoreline access and recreation.

Water Trail Highlights

This nine-county Water Trail program is intended to promote recreational water access opportunities and increase an appreciation of the Bay and its unique resources. Many shoreline jurisdictions are seeing how improved waterfronts and access to the Bay are contributing to their communities. The Water Trail program will benefit shoreline recreation by providing funding,

publicity, and contributing to economic growth and tourism opportunities of businesses related to water-oriented recreation (such as rental concessions or nearby restaurants and hotels).

An important Water Trail program milestone was the recent launch of the Water Trail website. In addition to providing information about Water Trail sites that have joined the trail network, the website provides information on how to experience the Water Trail using safe and environmentally friendly boating practices, as well as links to real-time tide and



Kayakers in Richmond

Ann Buell

weather information. Additionally, the website has information potential Water Trail site owners can use to find out more about how to join the trail network.

Next steps for the Water Trail include designation of additional launch sites into the trail network, an expansion of partnerships with shoreline jurisdictions, and an increase of outreach efforts and presentations to various agencies and organizations. For additional participation, local governments and other stakeholders should note that the Water Trail grant program Request for Proposals is expected to be released February 2013. *To find out more information, request a presentation, or be placed on the Water Trail email list, visit www.sfbaywatertrail.org or contact Galli Basson, Water Trail Planner, Gallib@abag.ca.gov or Ann Buell, Project Manager at the State Coastal Conservancy, Abuell@scc.ca.gov.*



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BAY AREA
WATER
TRAIL

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Housing Everyone in the 21st Century—BAPDA Conference

Over 100 local government directors and staff attended the Bay Area Planning Directors Association's (BAPDA) Fall conference (*Housing Everyone in the 21st Century, Part II: Getting Housing Elements Certified – Getting the Housing Built*) which was hosted by ABAG on November 30, 2012. Expert panelists described the Housing Element process and recent economic and policy changes. They examined how to plan for the housing needed and discussed funding mechanisms for getting housing built. The meeting allowed for an interactive discussion between local housing representatives and heads of the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the California Housing Finance Authority.



Photo (L-R): Mike Moore, Director of Planning & Building, Mill Valley, and Bay Area Planning Directors Association Chair; Linn Warren, Executive Director of HCD; Lisa Bates, Deputy Director of HCD; Claudia Cappio, Executive Director of the California Housing Finance Authority

Linn Warren, HCD Executive Director, and Claudia Cappio, Executive Director of the California Housing Finance Authority, discussed the latest State Initiatives to support housing and improve the Housing Element Update process. Lisa Bates, HCD Deputy Director, presented new guidelines for the Housing Element Update process. HCD Program Manager Paul McDougall described new resources to help with the Housing Element Update process, such as the streamlined update template and new completeness checklist for HCD certification.

Following the panel of state representatives, local housing managers and stakeholders shared tips for producing Housing Elements that meet state requirements and serve as effective tools for getting housing built. Presentations were made by housing directors and managers from Sonoma County, the City of Oakland, and the City of San Bruno on the nuances of their Housing Element updates. Key issues explored included the importance of completing housing elements and making sure to comply with the Regional Housing Need Allocation

statute; the necessity for preliminary site inventory and review of constraints; and the value of working closely with an HCD analyst; and collaboration with regional agencies.



Photo (L-R): Mike Moore, Director of Planning & Building, Mill Valley, and Bay Area Planning Directors Association Chair; Pete Parkinson, Director, Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management; Paul McDougall, Program Manager, Housing & Community Development; Jeffrey Levin, Housing Manager, City of Oakland; Mark Sullivan, Housing Manager, City of San Bruno; Barbara Kautz, Esq., Goldfarb & Lipman LLP; Amie Fishman, Executive Director, East Bay Housing Organizations

Mike Moore, Bay Area Planning Directors Association Chair and Mill Valley Director of Planning and Building, presided over the half-day session. *For more information about the Housing Element process, contact HCD Program Manager Paul McDougall, at (916) 322-7995.*



The conference was co-sponsored by ABAG, the American Planning Association, and the City of Oakland's Community and Economic Development Agency. This twice annual BAPDA conference brings together Planning Directors from the nine counties and 101 cities and towns to discuss critical and timely issues.

San Francisco Bay Regional Energy Network (BayREN) Will Provide Millions in Assistance to Bay Area Homeowners for Energy-Saving Upgrades

\$26.5 million in assistance will be available to Bay Area Homeowners for energy-saving upgrades over two years, starting in January 2013. A new ABAG-administered pilot program has been approved by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to implement effective energy savings programs throughout the Bay Area. The BayREN (Regional Energy Network) is led by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and composed of public agencies representing the nine-county Bay Area. This coalition of governments was previously aligned for the launch of Energy Upgrade California.

“Our ABAG led, stimulus-funded program gave local jurisdictions more confidence in implementing this type of program,” explained Jerry Lahr, ABAG Energy Program Manager “We fully expect the BayREN to continue and expand on the understanding developed during the Energy Upgrade California program,” Lahr added.

BayREN’s proposed activities will design and implement effective energy savings programs, drawing on the expertise, experience and proven track record of Bay Area local governments. The program will leverage and benefit from region-wide consistency, scale, and awareness of local community needs.

\$9 million to programs for single-family homes, and \$7.5 million to multi-family properties. Almost half of the funding for single-family homes, approximately \$4 million, will be in the form of direct incentives.

“BayREN allows for a more moderate entry-point,” Lahr observes. “People can make upgrades and get something of a rebate” instead of having to do everything at once with a higher price tag. The funds will come from ratepayer fees to investor-owned utilities like PG&E, which are allocated by the California PUC to support energy efficiency programs. The total BayREN program could save over 11 million KWh over two years, enough energy to power 458 additional households using an average 1000 KWh/month for two years. Additionally, the program will save almost 5,500 KW or over 600,000 therms. Benefits from the program will continue as upgrades continue to save energy for homeowners and tenants, and as new practices and codes come into effect. *For more information, contact Jerry Lahr, ABAG Energy Programs Manager, Jerryl@abag.ca.gov or (510) 464-7908.*

Pilot Sub Programs include:

Single family retrofit

- Flex package incentive
- Home upgrade advisor
- Marketing and outreach

Multi-family retrofit

- Bundled measure incentives
- Customized assistance
- IT tool development
- Marketing and outreach

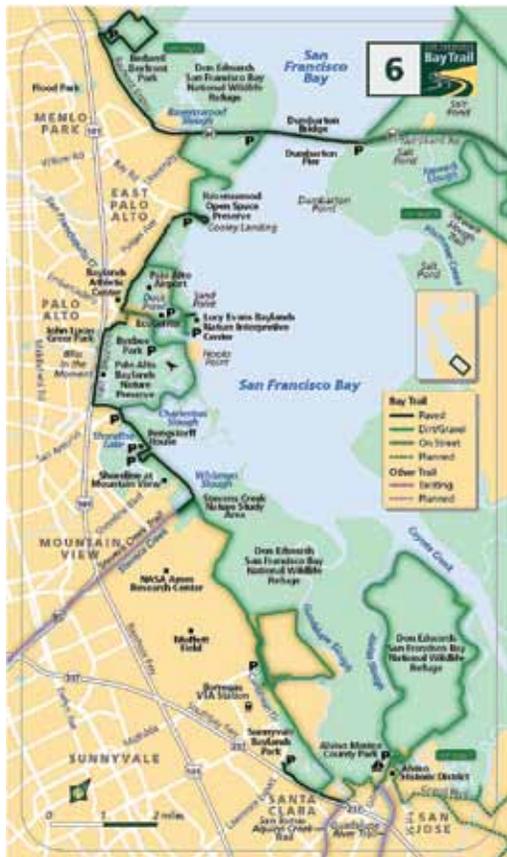
Codes and standards

- Establish code compliance baseline
- Develop compliance metrics
- Training for local code officials

Financing for EE retrofits

- Single family loan loss reserve
- Multi-family capital advance
- PAYS water efficiency pilot.

Implementation begins with four pilot subprograms, including: single family retrofit, multi-family retrofit, codes and standards, and financing for energy efficiency retrofits. The funding is allocated as follows:



New Bay Trail Maps for the New Year

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project has updated and fully re-designed the nine-county Bay trail maps. The new easy-to-use and take along set consists of 25 individual map cards with trail-specific text on the back, as well as one large format fold-out map showing the entire Bay Trail. In addition, a web map is being developed so that hikers and walkers can call up the Bay Trail on a mobile device while enjoying a bike trip or a hike along the shoreline.

Look for both of these new offerings around the first of the year: available for purchase on the ABAG Website, <https://store.abag.ca.gov/baytrail.asp>

Mark Your Calendar!

JANUARY 2013

January 11 Bay Area Regional Prosperity Plan Steering Committee	12:00 PM
MetroCenter, Room 171	
January 17 Legislation & Governmental Organization Committee	3:30 PM
ABAG Conference Room B	
Finance & Personnel Committee	5:00 PM
ABAG Conference Room B	
ABAG Executive Board	7:00 PM
MetroCenter, Auditorium	
January 18 ABAG/BAAQMD/MTC Joint Policy Committee	10:00 AM
MetroCenter, Auditorium	
January 23 San Francisco Restoration Authority Governing Board	1:00 PM
MetroCenter, Room 171	
January 25 Regional Airport Planning Committee	9:30 AM
MetroCenter, Auditorium	

FEBRUARY 2013

February 6 Regional Planning Committee Meeting	1:00 PM
MetroCenter, Auditorium	
February 14 Bay Trail Steering Committee	1:30 PM
ABAG Conference Room B	
February 20 ABAG POWER Executive Committee	12 NOON
ABAG Conference Room B	
February 27 San Francisco Estuary Partnership Implementation Committee	9:30 AM
Elihu M. Harris State Building 1515 Clay Street, Room 10, Oakland	

Notable Numbers

Regional Forecasts

1,120,000
Is the projected job growth and 700,000 is the projected household growth through 2040.

75 percent
Increase in daily transit trips is forecast by 2035, reflecting assumptions that new population and employment growth will be more focused in the urban core and along transit corridors.

14 percent
Decrease in carbon dioxide emission is projected as vehicle and fuel technologies improve due to stricter state and federal mandates and turnover of older fleets.

180,000 acres
Of Bay shoreline could be vulnerable to flooding by mid-century and 213,000 acres could be vulnerable by the end of the century.

1.8 to 5.4 Fahrenheit
Increase is projected for global temperatures over the next century.

From ABAG, MTC, and San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) regional forecasts.

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