



Service Matters

Preferred Scenario: Jobs-Housing Connection To Be Released The Bay Area’s Sustainable Communities Strategy

Given the assets of the Bay Area, ABAG has forecasted that the Bay Area should be able to generate over one million new jobs by the year 2040, assuming a United States recovery to full employment or five percent unemployment by 2017-2020. Preparing the Bay Area for job growth, however, requires a thoughtful analysis and solid strategies to overcome current constraints and barriers. The region needs to address a slower national and regional economy and continued industrial restructuring, as well as a growing senior population and housing needs. These challenges require an assessment of our infrastructure systems, such as transportation, water, housing, and urban neighborhoods to support adequate levels of economic growth. Local, state and federal policies over this time period will be needed to bring together the resources necessary to accommodate this growth.

The goal of the current Bay Area Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) planning effort is to ensure that this growth not only strengthens our economy, but also enhances our quality of life, including the ability to move freely around the region, retain the natural beauty of the area, and provide quality schools, services, and security to Bay Area residents. To move the SCS Plan Bay Area efforts forward, *the SCS Preferred Scenario, Jobs-Housing Connection*, will be released on March 15th for additional comments. On May 17th, ABAG will release the *Jobs-Housing Connection Preferred Scenario* for comments by local governments, and stakeholders. Public hearings will also be held for public review and comment. This will lead to a final adoption of the SCS in April 2013.

Two key principles inform the proposed Preferred Scenario, which is a hybrid of other scenarios and reflective of input from local jurisdictions and stakeholders: the **economy and jobs, and people and neighborhoods**. In relation to the principle of economy and jobs, the intent is to provide sufficient space for a full spectrum of economic activities including incubator space for emerging industries, in order to support the regional economy and provide jobs at a range of skill levels for residents. The plan is also about creating

economic development strategies for a range of *places* from small towns to large urban centers, and *people* to increase opportunity and bridge skills with jobs (to develop human capital etc.).

Regarding the principle of people and neighborhoods, the aim is to encourage new housing at appropriate locations and make it as affordable as possible to a range of current and future Bay Area residents. The second part is to plan for transportation, open space, community facilities and other critical elements of complete neighborhoods. The production of *affordable workforce housing* is one of the main goals of the SCS, providing housing for existing and future residents who are overburdened by their housing costs.

In recognition of the Bay Area’s many diverse communities—which vary in their character, scale, activities, population, and accessibility—the proposed *Jobs-Housing Connection* emphasizes investing in existing

neighborhoods in ways that enhance the qualities of each place and provide diverse housing types and transportation choices as defined by each community. Based on initial input from local jurisdictions and community members, the proposed Jobs-Housing Connection envisions a pattern of growth and investment tailored to each community where transit, jobs, schools, services and recreation are conveniently located near people’s homes. This SCS proposal is also focused on identifying the strategies and policies beyond transportation and land use changes that will help foster complete communities—including support for improved public schools, expanded parks and recreation facilities, and efforts to reduce crime and make neighborhoods safer. For more information about the SCS Preferred Scenario, Jobs-Housing Connection, go to www.abag.



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Moving Forward: Plug-In Electric Vehicle Planning

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), as part of the Bay Area **Electric Vehicle (EV) Corridor and EV Streamlining Projects**, plans to establish the greater San Francisco Bay Area as an electric vehicle leader by accelerating the deployment of EV-ready infrastructure and EV-friendly policies and incentives. ABAG will assist efforts to deploy charging infrastructure throughout the Bay Area with an emphasis on addressing the needs of the “garageless” EV driver, especially in densely populated cities. The goal is to provide battery-electric vehicle (BEV) drivers with the ability to travel across and within the region. The EV Corridor Project will install up to 423 charge points for the region. The charging installations will service neighborhood electric vehicles, legacy EVs that take 110 volt connections, and new EVs that require 240 volt connectors. In addition, DC fast charges will be installed in centrally located, high use locations and will be able to “fuel up” an electric vehicle in under 30 minutes.

As part of the funding, The California Energy Commission (CEC) will be providing \$1,493,165 in Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Program funds, and participating agencies will provide match funding of \$2,745,843. Besides ABAG, the project management partners include EV Communities Alliance, and Ecology Action.

Plug-In Electric Vehicle Planning Grants

A **Department of Energy Grant** was awarded to the Air District in partnership with ABAG, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and three Bay Area Clean Cities Coalitions (East Bay, San Francisco, and Silicon Valley) to develop an outreach plan for Bay Area **Plug-In Electric Vehicles (PEV)**. The PEV plan will address permitting/inspection, building codes, zoning and parking ordinances, marketing, education and outreach and a utility provider plan for PEV expansion.

A **California Energy Commission Plug-in Electric Vehicle Grant** was also recently awarded to the Bay Area for adoption of plans for PEV, charging pattern data collection plans, greenhouse gas emissions estimation,

integration of PEV into the Sustainable Communities Strategy, and sharing of best practices. Planning for these grants are in progress and more information will be provided when available. Visit <http://www.abag.ca.gov/electric-vehicles/view> for the latest information or contact Jerry Lahr, ABAG POWER Manager, at jerryl@abag.ca.gov.

The California Air Resources Board recently approved regulations that require car manufacturers to cut smog emissions from new vehicles by 75 percent by 2025 and reduce green-house gases by 34 percent. To meet these goals, the number of plug-in electric vehicles in California is expected to double from current levels by 2013 and reach 460,000 by 2020.



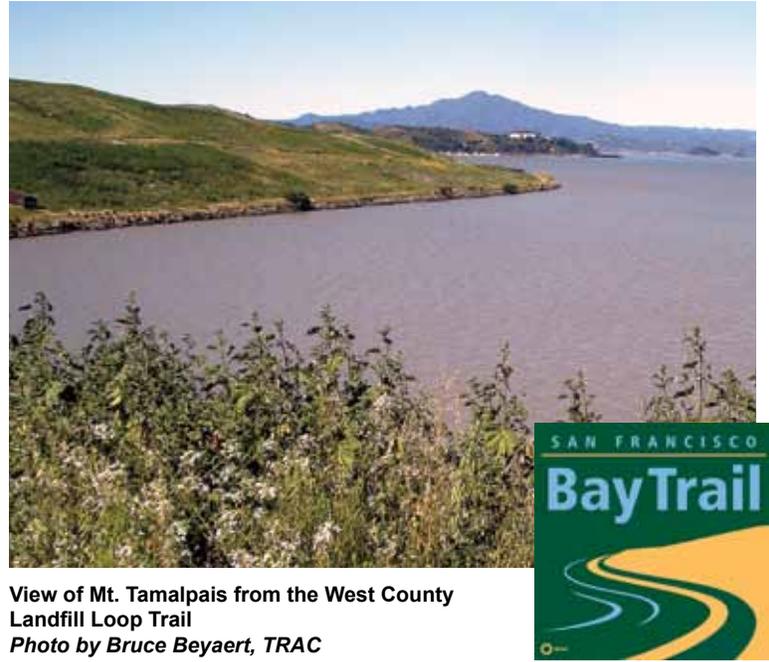
ABAG Legal Counsel Ken Moy (right) presented Jeanne Perkins (left), a Certificate of Appreciation at the February Northern California chapter meeting of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI). Perkins, who served as ABAG Earthquake and Hazards Program Manager and Principal Scientist (1975-2006), was recognized for conducting cutting edge research and managing innovative projects to help the Bay Area handle natural and man-made disasters. At this meeting she also received an EERI Life Time Achievements Award in Earthquake Risk Reduction and a special proclamation from Oakland Mayor Jean Quan. Since retiring from ABAG in 2006, Jeanne Perkins has continued her work in the field and assisted ABAG and other agencies through her private consulting firm.

Green Spaces and Green Energy on the Bay Trail

Enjoy the new **Wildcat Marsh & Landfill Loop Trail** along the **Northern Richmond Shoreline**. The last piece of this four mile trail was recently completed by the East Bay Regional Park District in partnership with the West County Wastewater District and funding from the Coastal Conservancy and the Bay Trail Project. As a part of the Bay Trail, this new trail opens a new portion of the Richmond shoreline to the public, and visitors will experience a combination of green technology and breathtaking views of San Pablo Bay and Mt. Tamalpais as they walk or bicycle along the gravel trails.

From the East Bay Park's Wildcat Creek trailhead off Richmond Parkway, travel westward a quarter mile and then turn on to the 0.8 miles of recently completed trail. As you walk or ride down this trail, you will see the West County Wastewater's treatment facility and experience its amazing array of 89 giant solar panels. If you watch and listen long enough, you will hear the panels adjusting to move with the sun. When you continue onward, you will reach the 2.8-mile Landfill Loop Trail and be rewarded with views of San Pablo Bay, Mt. Tamalpais, and extensive wetlands with pickleweed and coyote brush. You might see red-tailed hawks, egrets, shorebirds, terns, and a variety of ducks and other waterfowl. The Landfill Loop Trail was completed in 2011 by Republic

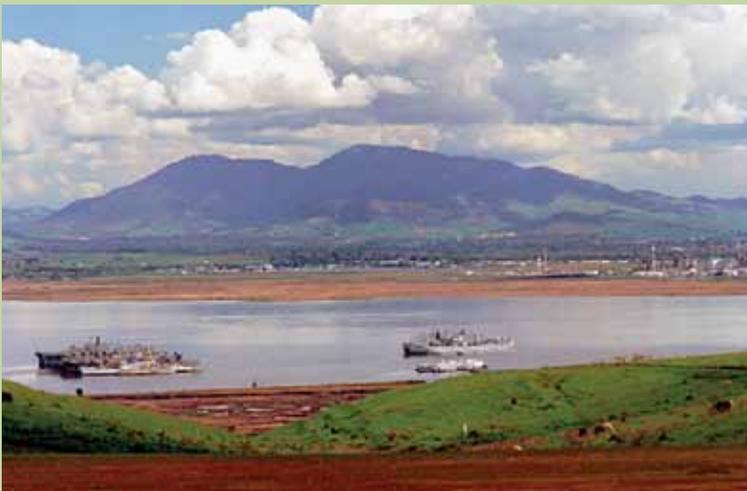
Services and opened as a public benefit to the communities in Richmond and the greater East Bay. For more information about this Bay Trail Link, contact Lee Huo, ABAG Bay Trail Planner, at LeeH@abag.ca.gov or 510/464-7915.



View of Mt. Tamalpais from the West County Landfill Loop Trail
Photo by Bruce Beyaert, TRAC

Did you know that the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary...

- Is one of the largest estuaries on the West Coast.
- Is a vital resource for the state's human and wildlife populations.
- Encompasses roughly 1,600 square miles.
- Drains over 40 percent of the state (60,000 square miles). Provides drinking water to 22 million Californians.
- Irrigates 4.5 million acres of farmland.



- Supports important economic activities including commercial and sport fishing, shipping, industry, agriculture, recreation and tourism.

The protection, restoration, and enhancement of water quality and fish and wildlife habitat in and around the San Francisco Bay Delta Estuary is the work and mission driving the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, as documented in the regional *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* completed in 1993 and revised in 2007. The Partnership is a coalition of resource agencies, non-profits, citizens, and scientists with ABAG serving as the home agency for Partnership staff and finances (<http://www.abag.ca.gov>) with Partnership offices located within the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board offices in Oakland. Working cooperatively, the Estuary Partnership is able to share information and resources that result in studies, projects, and programs that improve the Estuary and communicate its value and needs to the public. Their current strategic priorities include promoting watershed stewardship, supporting climate change resiliency, becoming a resource for elected officials, decision makers, and the public in making decisions that benefit the Estuary, and developing green infrastructure leadership, such as green infill and clean stormwater. For more information about recent projects, visit <http://www.sfestuary.org/projects/list.php>.

Mark Your Calendar!

MARCH 2012

March 12
Special Regional Planning Committee Meeting 1:00 PM
MetroCenter, Auditorium

March 15
Legislation & Governmental Organization Committee 3:30 PM
MetroCenter, ABAG Conference Room B

Finance & Personnel Committee 5:00 PM
MetroCenter, ABAG Conference Room B

Executive Board 7:00 PM
MetroCenter, Auditorium

March 16
ABAG/BAAQMD/MTC Joint Policy Committee 10:00 AM
MetroCenter, Auditorium

APRIL 2012

April 3
Regional Advisory Working Group 9:00 AM
MetroCenter, Auditorium

April 4
Resilience Council Meeting 12:00 PM
MetroCenter, Auditorium

Regional Planning Committee Meeting 1:00 PM
MetroCenter, Auditorium

April 11
ABAG PLAN Risk Management Committee 1:30 PM
ABAG Conference Room B

April 18
ABAG POWER Executive Committee 12:00 PM
ABAG Conference Room B

April 19
ABAG Spring General Assembly 8:30 AM
Oakland Marriott City Center

April 25
San Francisco Restoration Authority Governing Board 12:00 PM
MetroCenter, Room 171

Notable Numbers

Bay Area Projections

20 percent
job growth in the Bay Area is forecast between year 2010 and 2020.

80,000
new wage and salary jobs are forecast in the Bay Area for year 2012 and year 2013.

44 percent
of the Bay Area workforce are college graduates, the highest percentage nationwide.

60 percent
of transit commute trips are for work, while only 20 percent of automobile commute trips are for work.

23 percent
of Bay Area jobs are within a half-mile of regional transit stations.

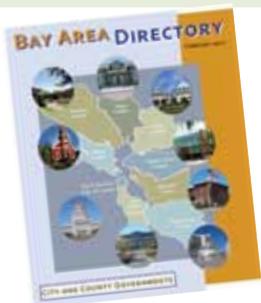
75 percent
of Bay Area jobs are within a half-mile of highway off-ramps.

Stephen Levy, Director of the Center for Continuing Study of the California Economy and Dena Belzer, President of Strategic Economics February 7, 2012

ABAG 2012 Bay Area Directory

ON SALE at:
www.abag.ca.gov –
click Webstore or contact:
ABAG Publications
510-464-7900

Each jurisdiction has received one complimentary copy



SAVE THE DATE • ABAG Spring General Assembly

Join elected officials, business and nonprofit leaders at ABAG's Spring General Assembly and Business Meeting on **April 19th** at the Oakland Marriot Convention Center in exploring the proposed **SCS Preferred Scenario, Jobs-Housing Connection**. Special highlight of the conference will be the presentation of the Sixth Annual Growing Smarter Together Awards to cities and counties and a distinguished leader for their efforts to build a better Bay Area.

Registration will be available on line at www.abag.ca.gov or call 510/464-7900 for additional information.

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