

# Service Matters

Association of Bay Area Governments

MAY 2015 • E-NEWSLETTER

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## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

### Green Streets and Infrastructure Strategies: Sharing Best Practices Around Creating Complete Communities, Drought Protection, and Water Management

#### ABAG 2015 SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND BUSINESS MEETING

##### Best Practices Recognized at ABAG Spring 2015 General Assembly

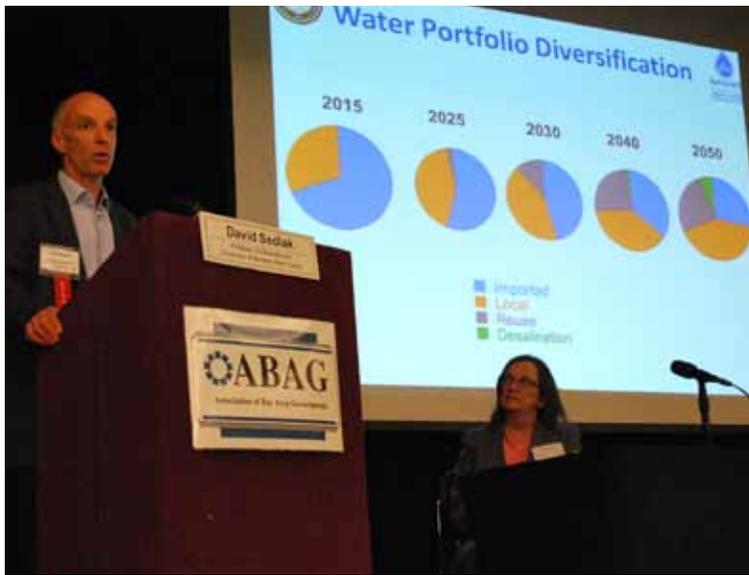
Sharing best practices around creating complete communities, drought protection, and water management was the focus of the Spring General Assembly and Business Meeting, Thursday, April 23, 2015 in Oakland. With California experiencing



ABAG President and City of Clayton Councilmember Julie Pierce

a fourth consecutive year of historic drought, the conference provided a platform for Bay Area environmental water quality engineers, water agencies, elected officials, business, and community leaders to examine new measures and technology advances that could radically transform the Bay Area's urban water supply system, making our existing water infrastructure even more sustainable and resilient than it is today.

Conference speakers and a panel of distinguished local government leaders fostered dialogue with nearly 125 attendees to discuss unique approaches to providing comprehensive strategies for decreasing the region's historic dependence on imported water, local water supplies and water reuse, conservation and meeting the governor's executive order to reduce water use in urban areas by 25 percent in 2016. Keynote speaker David Sedlak, Professor, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Berkeley Co-director of Berkeley Water Center presented "2050: The Year We Completed Our Urban Water Transformation." Professor Sedlak's presentation can be viewed online at [www.abag.ca.gov](http://www.abag.ca.gov). Conference discussions also focused on sharing best practices on drought policy,



David Sedlak, Professor, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Berkeley Co-director of Berkeley Water Center

preparedness and water management included future investments in urban water infrastructure using advanced technologies for water management, desalination, examining the development of drought-resistant water sources, upgrading drainage systems to improve water quality while simultaneously preventing flooding, and preparing for impacts of sea level rise on San Francisco Bay.

A panel discussion moderated by Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, Contra Costa County included Steve Ritchie, Assistant General Manager Water Enterprise, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC); Larry Patterson, City Manager, San Mateo; Sandi Potter, Sonoma County Environmental Review & Comprehensive Planning Manager and former Mayor El Cerrito; and Jay Jasperse, Chief Engineer, Sonoma County Water Agency (pictured below) examined initiatives



Preparing for 2050 panel

that local governments and water districts are implementing to construct Green Streets to treat storm water, learn about General Plan Chapters and associated policies to protect creeks and other waterways, share policies and ordinances that implement Green Streets and protect water resources where similar size cities and towns face common challenges, opportunities, and best practices by local governments to add housing, open space, development and address critical infrastructure challenges.

Participants then attended breakout sessions for jurisdictions of similar populations (Small Cities and Towns,



Breakout Session

larger suburban communities, and larger cities and connecting corridors) to discuss common challenges, opportunities, and relevant best practices.

Another breakout was a presentation by Ken Chin, Public Works Project Manager, City of San Mateo on the City of San Mateo Sustainable Streets Plan, which provided and overview and project background on goals and policies, current transportation conditions and trends, recommended programs and projects, and next steps.



Ken Chin, Public Works Project Manager, City of San Mateo

# 2015 GROWING SMARTER TOGETHER AWARDS

Recognizing Local Government Achievements

Following the business meeting, the Ninth Annual Regional Growing Smarter Together Awards was the highlight of the evening, honoring Bay Area leaders for their innovative and collaborative efforts to strengthen and support a more sustainable Bay Area through the development of affordable multi-family housing units near major transportation centers, addressing economic goals to job growth, and protecting our Bay Area environment while supporting social equity and creating a strong economy.



Regional Growing Smarter Together Award Winners  
City of Fremont

**To see the video of each award, visit <http://www.abag.ca.gov/smarter/2015/smarter15.html>.**

ABAG's annual Regional Growing Smarter Together Awards Program showcases planning and development at the local level that advance projects for sustainable communities and promote "focused" growth principles in the Bay Area.

Listed below are the outstanding six award winners in five major categories:

**On the Ground – Getting It Done Award: Accepted by Fremont Mayor Bill Harrison for Warm Springs Community Plan**

Recognition for a decade of work in the making, the Warm Springs/South Fremont Community Plan is a jobs focused transit development plan that establishes a new "Innovation District" combining different land use mixes accommodating housing, office and industrial facilities, convention, hotel, retail and entertainment, near the under-construction BART station, which is slated for completion in December 2015.

**Public Private Partnership Award: Accepted by Union City Mayor Carol Dutra – Vernaci and MidPEN Housing Corporation for Union City Station Mixed Center Mixed-Use Housing**

Awarded for excellence in exemplifying the power of what a public and private partnership can do in creating a thriving

community with transit oriented development and affordable housing built adjacent to the Union City Center BART Station transit hub, epitomizing walkability to commercial businesses, parks, and recreational areas.

**Preserving and Protecting the Environment Award: Accepted by Stop Waste Energy Council President San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter for Stop Waste: Energy Council for Bay Area Multifamily Enhancements Program**

Stop Waste was honored for its work to educate bay area consumers about the importance of energy efficiency and increased awareness of energy savings programs through its free energy consulting to help Bay Area multi-family property owners identify energy upgrades, qualify for rebates and access financing. Enrollment in the program, developed and managed by StopWaste as part of the Bay Area Regional Energy Network's portfolio of energy saving programs has outperformed other multifamily energy upgrade programs in California by a factor of three to four.

**Start It Up Award: City of Concord for Downtown and Concord Specific Plan accepted by Concord Mayor Tim Grayson**

Recognized for its commitment to urban design, high praise

was lavished on the City of Concord for the expansion of its economic vision for developing its historic downtown and core plaza. Concord's downtown serves as the anchor of the city. With input from a variety of community members, including residents, businesses, local and regional stakeholders, and transportation partners, the proximity to BART serves as the red carpet entryway into the city to promote transit use and live, work, and play in the area.

**Public Private Partnership: City of San Leandro and BRIDGE Housing Corporation for Marea Alta Affordable Rental Development accepted by San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter**

Outstanding partnership efforts between the City of San Leandro & BRIDGE Housing played a key role in making downtown the focal point of San Leandro. Making San Leandro relevant for all generations are key goals to bring affordable workforce housing and high tech jobs in a BART transit oriented area, an underground garage, on-site child care through Davis Street Family Resources, redevelopment to the downtown area and making the Marea Alta housing project a safe neighborhood for everyone.

**Sharing the Benefits: Accepted by Alameda Mayor Trish Herrera Spencer for City of Alameda for Jack Capon Villa**  
High praise went to the City of Alameda for the Jack Capon Villa reaching its goal to provide affordable and livable housing for adults with developmental disabilities. Jack Capon Villa demystifies the misconception of what



City of Union City Award Winners

affordable housing is. This project contributes to healthy residential development. Jack Capon Villa is close to transit, has a community garden, and addresses an underserved population that allows adult children to live near aging parents who deserve and need a safe and affordable place to live while exercising their self-independence.

### Honorable Mentions

**Ashland-Cherryland Business District Specific Plan, County of Alameda, Start It Up**

The County of Alameda was recognized by the committee for great resourcefulness in a very soft market with kickstarting development with a library and other public projects. Then early private projects were enabled by relaxing some conventional requirements in exchange for enhanced sustainability measures such as solar panels over parking lots.

**Redwood City Downtown Precise Plan Implementation, City of Redwood City, On the Ground**

This Plan was recognized for creating the "gold standard" for a streamlined and transparent permitting process that has enabled rapid development of well-located housing.

**Climate Action Plan, City of South San Francisco, Protecting and Preserving the Environment**

In 2014, the City of South San Francisco adopted its first Climate Action Plan, to improve the environment of the City and the Bay Area through the reduction of greenhouse gasses (GHG). The judging committee recognized that South San Francisco went beyond to create a strong connection between the city's land-use approach and GHG reduction.

## PUBLIC COMMENT WELCOMED FOR PLAN BAY AREA IN ALL COUNTIES

Plan Bay Area is a roadmap to help Bay Area cities and counties preserve the character of our diverse communities while adapting to the challenges of future population growth. ABAG and MTC are holding a first series of open houses to provide context for this vital planning effort and seek the public's input to help shape the future of each county and the Bay Area as a whole. Each of the nine Bay Area counties will have had meetings by May 28.

The more than 515 Bay Area residents who attended the completed eight county open houses viewed displays and had the opportunity to offer comments on long-term goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light-duty trucks, house the region's projected population, improve public health, maintain the region's transportation infrastructure and preserve open space, among others.

Displays featured the schedule and key milestones for the plan update, offered information on how new housing and employment is forecast, and provided information on transportation improvements in the works at the county and regional level. These displays are available on-line at [http://www.peakdemocracy.com/portals/120/forum\\_home?a=132](http://www.peakdemocracy.com/portals/120/forum_home?a=132) for review and additional public comments.

All comments will be summarized and presented to the Joint ABAG Administrative Committee-MTC Planning Committee Meeting in June. **For additional information about Plan Bay Area, please visit the website: [www.PlanBayArea.org](http://www.PlanBayArea.org).**



# CALENDAR OF ABAG MEETINGS

## MAY 2015

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### MAY 27

**San Francisco Estuary Partnership Implementation Committee** 9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Elihu M. Harris State Building, 1515 Clay Street, Second Floor, Room 10 Oakland, CA 94612

### MAY 28

**ABAG PLAN Claims Committee** 1:30 – 2:30 pm  
Conference Room B

### MAY 29

**Bay Area Planning Directors Meeting** 8:30 am to 1:00 pm  
Nile Hall, Preservation Park  
668 13th Street, Oakland - Registration Required

## JUNE 2015

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### JUNE 3

**Regional Planning Committee** 12:30 -2:30 pm  
MetroCenter Auditorium

**ABAG PLAN Executive Committee** 10:30 am - 1 pm  
Conference Room B

### JUNE 8

**Bay Trail Steering Committee** 9:30am – 11:30am  
Conference Room B

### JUNE 17

**ABAG POWER Executive Committee** 12pm – 2pm  
Conference Room B

### JUNE 24

**San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Governing Board,** 1 pm – 3 pm  
California State Coastal Conservancy, 1330 Franklin Street, 11th Floor Conference Room Oakland, CA 94612

**ABAG PLAN Board of Directors** 9:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Newark Pavilion, Hall 1, 6430 Thornton Ave, Newark, CA 94560

### JUNE 25

**ABAG PLAN Claims Committee** 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm  
Conference Room B

## JULY 2015

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### JULY 16

**Legislation & Governmental Organization** 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm  
Conference Room B

**Finance & Personnel Committee** 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm  
Conference Room B

**ABAG Executive Board** 7:00pm – 9:00 pm  
MetroCenter, Auditorium

### JULY 17

**Bay Area Regional Collaborative Governing Board (formerly Joint Policy Committee)** 10 am – 12 pm  
MetroCenter Auditorium

### JULY 23

**ABAG PLAN Claims Committee** 1:30 – 2:30 pm  
ABAG, Conference Room B

## AUGUST 2015

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### AUGUST 5

**Regional Planning Committee** 12:30 -2:30 pm  
MetroCenter Auditorium

### AUGUST 19

**ABAG POWER Executive Committee** 12 pm – 2 pm  
Conference Room B

### AUGUST 26

**San Francisco Estuary Partnership Implementation Committee** 9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Elihu M. Harris State Building, 1515 Clay Street, Second Floor, Room 10 Oakland, CA 94612

### AUGUST 26

**ABAG PLAN Claims Committee** 1:30 – 2:30 pm  
ABAG, Conference Room B

*ABAG PLAN members have access to additional training activities; please visit the <http://plan.abag.ca.gov/training.html> for the schedule.*

*All meetings unless identified elsewhere are in ABAG's offices at the MetroCenter, 101 Eighth Street, Oakland, CA 94607*