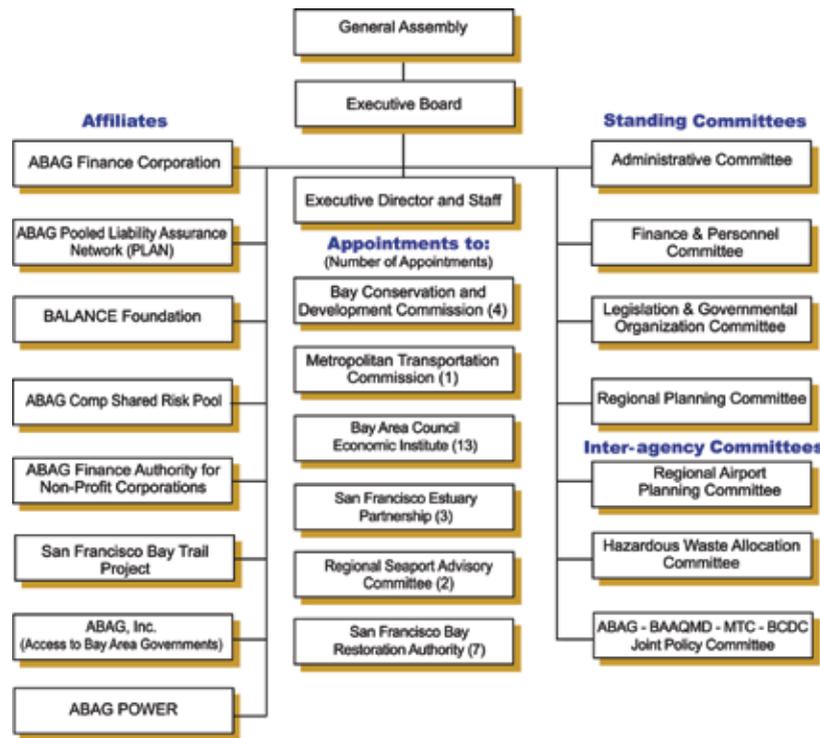


GOVERNANCE

ABAG is governed by a 38-member Executive Board comprised of locally elected officials based on regional population. The Executive Board makes operating decisions, appoints committee members, authorizes expenditures, and recommends policy. Executive Board meetings are bi-monthly (January, March, May, July, September, and November) on the third Thursday of the month. ABAG also appoints elected officials who are approved by the Executive Board to standing committees.

The General Assembly determines policy, adopts the annual budget and work program, decides how ABAG's resources will be allocated, and reviews policy actions of ABAG's Executive Board. Each delegate has one vote, and a majority of city and county votes are required for action.



ABAG is committed to enhancing the quality of life in the San Francisco Bay Area by leading the region in advocacy, collaboration, and excellence in planning, research, and member services.

Serving Local Governments for over 50 years...



 Association of Bay Area Governments

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

All nine counties and 101 cities and towns within the Bay Area are voluntary members of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), representing all of the region's population – more than seven million people. Members have a voice in regional decision-making. ABAG is governed by an Executive Board of local elected officials, and an elected official from each member city, town, and county serves as a delegate to ABAG's General Assembly.

- Receive direct benefit from ABAG's programs and services designed to meet the specific economic, social, and environmental needs of their counties, cities, and towns.
- Use service programs to pool resources and save money.
- Benefit from technical assistance and training in energy efficiency and other areas of interest.
- Benefit from high impact legislative advocacy. ABAG tracks state-wide legislation. Working in partnership with other Councils of Governments, ABAG was instrumental in ensuring that local governments and the region receive their share of Proposition 84 funding. ABAG also helped reform the State Regional Housing Need Allocation process, which now permits counties to manage their own allocations.
- ABAG's three standing committees: the Regional Planning Committee, Legislation and Governmental Organization Committee, and the Administrative Committee, and subject matter task forces examine regional issues such as Youth Gun Violence, Disaster Resilience Planning, and Hazardous Waste.
- Special subject matter workshops and conferences are designed and conducted based on local government interests and need.
- The ABAG *Growing Smarter Together* awards recognize cities and counties regional achievements. The awards showcase innovative approaches and significant achievements of local governments, regional agencies, and leadership collaborating to build complete communities to improve the quality of life in the Bay Area.



Benefits of Membership

For more information, call (510) 464-7900 or visit the website at www.abag.ca.gov.

ABOUT ABAG

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) is the comprehensive regional planning agency and Council of Governments for the nine counties and 101 cities and towns of the San Francisco Bay region. The Bay Area is comprised of nine counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma.



ABAG HISTORY

RECENT MILESTONES

- The ABAG-administered San Francisco Bay Trail Project completed 325 miles of recreational and alternative commute trails.
- ABAG was also awarded a grant to work with the State Coastal Conservancy and other project partners on site-specific San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail implementation and outreach.
- The Estuary Partnership finalized contracts with local jurisdictions to assist with trash capture efforts to make our streams and Bay cleaner and healthier for people, fish, and wildlife.
- ABAG Finance Authority has provided over \$8 billion in low cost investment capital for projects in more than 240 local jurisdictions for construction of new hospitals, transit systems, affordable housing, schools, water and wastewater and other member-owned services, and infrastructure.
- Developed and launched by ABAG over 15 years ago, the Bay Area Green Business Program was the first in the nation to recognize small businesses that comply with environmental regulations and take additional steps to conserve resources and prevent pollution and waste. The high standards of this model program have been acclaimed by the State of California and now over 2300 certified businesses are recognized as both Bay Area and California Green Businesses.
- Approximately 170 Priority Development Areas (PDAs) and 100 Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) were designated between 2010 and 2012.

HISTORICAL MILESTONES

- ABAG developed the Bay Area's first "Regional Open Space Plan: 1970-1990," which was the boldest open space system designed for any metropolitan area in the world with a target of 3.4 million acres.
- An ocean coastline plan, an airport systems plan, and regional information systems and technology support were also developed by ABAG.
- ABAG was the first Council of Governments on the World Wide Web (online) in 1994 and the second public agency to establish a web presence in California.
- In 1995, ABAG launched the online government network and online training. To date, more than 7,000 students receive ABAG Hazmat School training each year to meet the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Many great accomplishments have been achieved over this half century. Many more are in store, as ABAG and partners work together for a sustainable Bay Area.

ABAG continues to make significant strides in the areas of land use, environmental stewardship, energy efficiency, hazard mitigation, water resource protection, and hazardous waste management.



In 2011, ABAG celebrated 50 years of service to the cities, towns, and counties of the Bay Area. ABAG was formed by local government leaders who recognized the need to address common issues from a regional perspective. ABAG was the first Council of Governments formed in California (1961).



PLANNING & RESEARCH

ABAG's innovative programs, projects, and partnerships have led to state, national, and international recognition. In response to critical environmental and resilience challenges, ABAG administers the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, the Hazardous Waste/Green Business Program, the Bay Trail Project, and the Earthquake and Hazards Program. These specialized programs and projects are highly recognized for their efforts to preserve and protect the region's natural resources.

Plan Bay Area

In collaboration with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), ABAG is developing the region's first Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) pursuant to state legislation. The SCS, known as Plan Bay Area, will tackle pressing issues such as accommodating population growth while keeping the region affordable for all residents, preserving open space, protecting the environment, accommodating transportation needs, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

A milestone in the development of Plan Bay Area was the adoption of a preferred growth pattern that was developed by ABAG and unveiled in the "Jobs-Housing Connection Strategy" in May 2012. The report highlights Priority Development Areas (PDAs), the centerpiece of the region's framework for future growth. These areas are locally identified opportunities for infill development that represent 3% of the region's land mass and have the capacity to accommodate 80% of projected housing



growth and 66% of new employment over the next 30 years. As part of the regional growth framework, local governments also nominated Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) – areas that are regionally significant open space with broad consensus for long-term protection. Both PDAs and PCAs will receive priority for investment funds through a newly adopted OneBayArea grant program. Plan Bay Area will be released in spring 2013 in coordination with the Regional Transportation Plan and the Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA).

ABAG's Planning and Research staff is comprised of a diverse group of professionals that collaborate with other regional agencies, support local government partners, and build capacity with community based organizations. Regional planners focus on advancing the development of complete communities including housing, economic development, equity, open space, and infrastructure, in collaboration with local governments and other stakeholders. The research group focuses on existing conditions, forecasting changes to the population and economy, and assisting local governments to identify policies that address a changing environment.

SERVICES

A variety of cost-effective member service programs address the comprehensive needs of local governments such as financing, risk management, natural gas, and employee training. ABAG Financial Services issues tax-exempt capital financing on behalf of local jurisdictions in California for acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of affordable multifamily housing, health care facilities, schools, and other community facilities. The ABAG Pooled Liability Assurance Network (PLAN) Corporation offers affordable general liability, property insurance, claims management, risk management, and bond coverage to 30 municipalities. The ABAG POWER Natural Gas Pool conducts pooled purchasing of natural gas on behalf of 38 local governments and special districts and allows participants to work collectively to save resources. ABAG's POWER staff recently won a \$26 million award from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for a San Francisco Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN). The BayREN will design and implement effective energy efficiency programs in collaboration with the nine Bay Area counties.

PLANNING PROGRAMS

- Plan Bay Area
- Priority Development Area Implementation
- San Francisco Estuary Partnership
- Bay Trail
- Earthquake and Hazard Program
- Green Business

SERVICE PROGRAMS

- ABAG Financial Services
- ABAG PLAN
- ABAG POWER
- ABAG Training Center