



# Service Matters

## ABAG Fall General Assembly

### Greening Our Communities: Healthy People, Healthy Bay, Healthy Economy

Thursday, October 13th, Westin St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco

**Elected officials and civic, nonprofit, and private sector leaders** are invited to attend ABAG's Fall General Assembly on October 13<sup>th</sup> in San Francisco. Attendees will hear how the Bay Area is leading the state in building healthier and more sustainable communities and protecting the Bay with better flood control and water quality. Speakers will address why green cities are good for the environment and economy and how we can create sustainable, healthy neighborhoods and communities. A local government panel will provide a practical look at local infrastructure projects that are helping to create a healthy Bay, healthy people, and a healthy economy. A conference brochure with full information will be mailed in mid-September. Online registration is also now available at [www.abag.ca.gov/events/ga](http://www.abag.ca.gov/events/ga). For additional information, contact ABAG at 510/464-7900.



## Helping Local Governments Adapt to Changing Climate

**In the San Francisco Bay Area, unavoidable climate change** impacts such as sea level rise will most likely add to and exacerbate the existing stressors and management challenges that face our human-built environment and infrastructure, our natural systems, and governmental systems. While the Bay Area is making progress toward mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, the adaptation efforts which serve the other half of a comprehensive climate change strategy and increase resilience



to these unavoidable impacts, have received less attention. Local decision-makers and agency staff have called for a regionally organized and coordinated effort to assist them in overcoming the planning hurdles of limited funding and staff resources, the lack of accessible and relevant scientific and policy information, and even political will for adaptation planning efforts. The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) staff has taken a lead in developing an adaptation assistance program

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(AAP) to provide Bay Area local and regional governments the critical information and resources that would assist them in planning for and adapting to the impacts of a changing climate.

### Local Government Adaptation Assistance Program (AAP)

The AAP outreach efforts will primarily focus on addressing the needs of land use planning, public works, park and open space districts, flood control districts and wastewater authorities, as well as resource-based managers. The method and intent is to build the capacity within local governments to assess climate change issues, and to plan for and implement adaptation strategies. To accomplish this objective, BCDC has identified five broad program components that include building partnerships that cut across jurisdictional boundaries and engaging in public outreach to build community and institutional support and capacity for adaptation planning. The creation of a “one-stop shop” website and information clearinghouse is part of these program priorities to provide education to help planners and managers develop knowledge and skills for adaptation planning. The AAP is about helping San Francisco Bay Area communities achieve coordinated and region-wide adaptation to climate change impacts.

### Activities

As part of initial AAP efforts, which began the Fall of 2009, five well-attended educational workshops and a week-long training for local government staff on “Incorporating Adaptation into Climate Action Plans and General Plan Updates” have been held. They were developed and held in partnership with the Association of Bay Area Governments, the San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, NOAA Coastal Services Center, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, ICLEI Institute for Local Governments, and the Center for Ocean Solution at Stanford University.

AAP next steps will include trainings on data and tools to support adaptation, and more communication regarding climate change impacts and adaptation. Case studies of projects and planning efforts that address climate change impacts and adaptation are being prepared and recommendations for assessing sea level rise impacts and risks for Bay shoreline projects are being developed. BCDC staff will also work with local government staff to test and refine planning and analysis tools through the ART Project, a pilot adaptation planning project for a sub-region of the Bay shoreline.

Visit [www.bcdc.ca.gov/planning/climate\\_change/climate\\_change.shtml](http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/planning/climate_change/climate_change.shtml) for more information and local government case studies, or contact Sara Polgar, (415) 352-3654, [sarap@bcdc.ca.gov](mailto:sarap@bcdc.ca.gov), or Heidi Nutters at (415) 352-3647, [heidin@bcdc.ca.gov](mailto:heidin@bcdc.ca.gov).

## Did you know

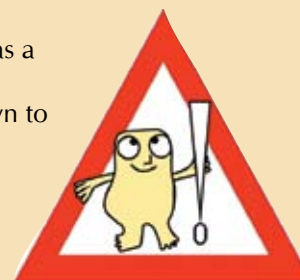
that ABAG offers the following services:

**ABAG TRAINING CENTER**, an ABAG service program, has featured classroom and online training since 1979 for the employees of our member cities and counties. Currently, the courses offered focus on safety training required by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Department of Transportation (DOT). Each year more than 7000 students in the Bay Area and around the world have received training through our web-based identity, [www.hazmatschool.com](http://www.hazmatschool.com).



### ABAG PLAN (Pooled Liability Assurance Network) Corporation

provides property and liability coverage to 31 cities and towns in the Bay Area. Started in 1985 when there was a lack of affordable insurance for local governments, ABAG PLAN has grown to exceed \$50 million in assets, return over \$20 million in dividends, and save its members over \$70 million in premiums. This success has enabled members to improve their organizations and communities by providing grants for better risk management programs, including sidewalks, playgrounds, parks, and police operations.



**ABAG'S FINANCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS** provide convenient, cost saving, and secure means to meet the capital financing of public agencies and their non profit partners serving the public interest. To date, the Agency has provided more than \$7 billion in low cost investment capital for projects in more than 200 local jurisdictions. The various programs of the ABAG Finance Authority continue to offer economical funding for the construction of new hospitals and medical clinics, transit systems, affordable multi-family housing, schools, museums, water and wastewater systems, and other member-owned infrastructure.



*These are just a few services ABAG offers that also include PDA technical planning, Trail planning grants, energy efficiency audits, and hazard mitigation and disaster recovery planning. For more information about the scope of services ABAG offers to member cities and counties, visit our website at [www.abag.ca.gov](http://www.abag.ca.gov).*

## ABAG Events

### State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference

The latest scientific findings about the health of San Francisco Bay will be featured at the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial State of the Estuary Conference on **Tuesday and Wednesday, September 20-21, 2011**, at the downtown Oakland Marriott (City Center BART Station). The State of San Francisco Bay 2011 report will be released at the conference, with a summary presentation given on the first day by Andy Gunther from the Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration, revealing information about the health of our estuary, the issue of Delta management and freshwater flows, climate change challenges, and other key issues. Conference workshop topics will range from restoration to pollution, to beavers and watershed health, to green streets and sustainable communities. A poster session reception will offer attendees an opportunity to talk informally with those involved in current research and restoration activities. Other featured speakers include: Phil Isenberg, Delta Stewardship Council; Fran Spivy-Weber, State Water Resources Control Board; Jerry Meral, California Natural Resources Agency; and Peter Gleick, Pacific Institute. Conference Premier sponsors are ABAG San Francisco Estuary Partnership and California State Coastal Conservancy. *A gala event precedes the conference on September 19, from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Aquarium of the Bay in San Francisco and is included with registration.* For more information, contact Karen McDowell (510) 622-2398. To see the full program and register, go to <http://sfestuary.org/soe2011/>.

September 20-21, 2011  
State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference  
10th Biennial Conference



**SAVE THE DATE**

**YOUTH GUN VIOLENCE FORUM**  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2011

SILICON VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CONFERENCE CENTER  
1300 S. EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 114, SAN MATEO, CA 94402  
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Join San Mateo County Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson, ABAG Immediate Past President, for an informative discussion on the impact of youth gun violence in Redwood City, East Palo Alto, Daly City, and San Mateo.

### Youth Gun Violence Forum

For an informative discussion on the impact of youth gun violence in Redwood City, East Palo Alto, Daly City, and San Mateo, join San Mateo County Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson, ABAG Immediate Past President, on **September 29<sup>th</sup>** at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation Conference Center. The Youth Gun Violence forum provides an opportunity for elected officials, families, physicians, educators, faith-based leaders, community-based organizations, and criminal justice representatives to come together to discuss this complex and troubling issue. Results from San Mateo County focus groups and community surveys will be examined, and the impact of gun-related incidents on the community and the costs associated with gun violence, adjudication, incarceration, and hospitalization will be discussed.

Research for this project was made possible in part by a grant from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation. A special highlight will be testimony and video footage from parents and youth impacted by youth gun violence. Seating is limited and an RSVP is required. **Call 650/363-4570 or e-mail [SMCdistrict4@smcgov.org](mailto:SMCdistrict4@smcgov.org) for more information and to RSVP.**

### 2011 Sewer Smart Summit

ABAG PLAN is sponsoring the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Sewer Smart Summit, "*Brave New World—The New Sewer System Reality*" on **Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**, 9a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter auditorium. The Summit will bring together public works directors, city engineers, sanitary district operators, elected officials, and other city and county staff to learn about new

regulations, new technology, catastrophic infrastructure emergency event planning and response, best practices for preventing sewer backups and backflows, and more efficient district operations. Topics will include Clean Water Act and new stormwater treatment regulations, rain gardens, Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) audit, and business continuity during a catastrophic event that shuts down systems. There is no registration fee, but pre-registration is required. **For more information and to pre-register, go to <http://www.sewersmart.org>.**

**Be Sewer Smart!**



## Mark Your Calendar!

### SEPTEMBER 2011

**September 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

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

**September 20**  
**Urban Pesticide Committee** 9:00 AM  
MetroCenter, Room 171

**September 23**  
**Regional Airport Planning Committee** 9:30 AM  
MetroCenter Auditorium

### OCTOBER 2011

**October 4**  
**Regional Advisory Working Group** 9:30 AM  
MetroCenter, Auditorium

**October 5**  
**Resilience Council Meeting** 12:00 PM  
MetroCenter, Auditorium

**Regional Planning Committee** 1:00 PM  
MetroCenter, Auditorium

**October 13**  
**Bay Trail Steering Committee** 1:30 PM  
ABAG Conference Room B

**October 26**  
**San Francisco Restoration Authority** 12:00 PM  
MetroCenter, Room 171

**October 27**  
**ABAG POWER Annual Board of Directors Meeting** 10:30 AM  
MetroCenter, Auditorium

## Notable Numbers

### U.S. data on environmental pollutants

**17 percent**  
Increase in greenhouse gas from transportation was experienced from 1990 to 2009 and transportation was responsible for 33 percent of carbon dioxide emissions in 2009.

**39 percent**  
Increase in travel by passenger cars and light-duty trucks occurred in the U.S. between 1990 and 2009.

**25 percent**  
Of students live within a mile of their schools today, while in 1969 more than 50 percent lived within a mile of their schools.

**14 percent**  
Decrease was experienced in ozone emissions between 1990 and 2008.

**78 percent**  
Decrease in lead and 35 percent decrease in nitrogen dioxide was experienced between 1990 and 2008.

**68 percent**  
Reduction in carbon monoxide and 59 percent decrease in sulfur dioxide were achieved between 1990 and 2008.

*Transportation and Health: Policy Interventions for Safer, Healthier People and Communities report by the Partnership for Prevention and U.C. Berkeley Safe Transportation Research and Education Center, July 2011*

## Energy Upgrade Bay Area Information Call Center

**Call 1-855-464-8484**

### Is your house leaking energy and money?

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) has launched the Energy Upgrade Bay Area Information Call Center to help homeowners connect with experts and resources to take a "whole house" approach to greater efficiency and comfort.

**For more information about Energy Upgrade Bay Area, visit the Energy Upgrade California website at [www.energyupgradeca.org](http://www.energyupgradeca.org).**



**Mark Green**  
ABAG President  
Mayor, Union City

**Susan L. Adams**  
ABAG Vice President  
Supervisor, Marin County

**Rose Jacobs Gibson**  
ABAG Immediate Past President  
Supervisor, San Mateo County

**Ezra Rapport**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Executive Director

**Patricia M. Jones** Managing Editor  
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**Halimah Anderson** Writer  
**Leah Zippert** Writer

**Vicki Rutherford** - Design and Production