



Service Matters

“Creating a Resilient Region— Protecting Our Investments”

The Interconnection of Economic Resilience with Long Term Disaster Recovery Planning



Exploring why economically resilient cities, towns, counties, and long-term disaster recovery planning are interconnected was the focus of ABAG’s Fall General Assembly on Thursday, October 18th in San Francisco. Keynote speaker Enrico Moretti, Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, and Director of the Infrastructure and Urbanization Program at the International Growth Centre-London School of Economics and Oxford University, helped frame the economic resilience discussions with his perspective on today’s labor and urban economic vitality as described in his newly released book, *The New Geography of Jobs*.



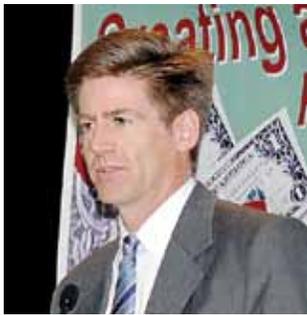
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Photos clockwise from left to right: Supervisor David Chiu, President, San Francisco Board of Supervisors; Dr. Enrico Moretti, Economics Professor, UC Berkeley, and author of *The New Geography of Jobs*; ABAG President Mark Luce, Napa County Supervisor; attendees —165 Bay Area elected officials and business and community leaders.

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This set the stage for the Bay Area Council Economic Institute's first release and presentation of *A Regional Economic Assessment of the San Francisco Bay Area*, a comprehensive analysis of the Bay Area as a business and economic center quantifying the Bay Area's economic resilience and vitality. Jon Haveman, Bay Area Council Economic Institute's Chief Economist, presented the report, and a panel of business leaders and elected officials moderated by Bay Area Council Economic Institute's President and CEO Sean Randolph, discussed its regional economic assessment, regional economic investments, issues and priorities, and public-private partnership recommendations. This discussion of the region's economic resilience was a bridge to the importance of planning for long-term disaster resilience and recovery.

Region-Wide Decision-Making for Long-Term Disaster Recovery Planning

A panel of local government leaders closely examined Disaster Recovery Planning Resilience issues and challenges. They singled out vulnerabilities related to recovery in the months after a catastrophic disaster. Discussion findings included the critical need for cross-sector and multi-jurisdiction collaboration, the fact that holistic community recovery is integral to a successful regional rebound, and that regional situational awareness during recovery is essential for local decision-making. It was suggested that the Regional Planning Committee and Joint Policy Committee serve as conduits to mobilize ABAG cities on disaster and climate resilience.

In the hands-on practical work session for local governments, the focus was how to make post-disaster land use planning and policy-making a practical reality. There was a wide range discussion of the following issues: regulatory issues, multiple hazards, seismic resilience, time compression, and the geographic scale of a disaster from neighborhood to community to region-wide. Other issues identified included the tension between rebuilding quickly and rebuilding

well; the fact that multiple recoveries happen at the same time; the pressure to rebuild what was (the "first plan"); information needed to make decisions not readily available; and financing since money fuels disaster recovery. A flashdrive distributed to attendees provided detailed follow-up to these many issues (see inset for kinds of materials provided on page 3). *The GA opened the door to many collaborative discussions about the link between economic investments and long term disaster recovery planning for local governments and the region that will follow in coming months.*



Photos from left to right, top to bottom: Sean Randolph, President and CEO, Bay Area Council Economic Institute; Jon Haveman, Chief Economist, Bay Area Council Economic Institute; Jim Wunderman, President and CEO, Bay Area Council; and Economic Resilience panelists: Supervisor John Gioia, Contra Costa County; Assemblymember Richard Gordon, 21st District. Local government panelists: Moderator-ABAG Vice President Julie Pierce, City of Clayton Councilmember; Mayor Yiway Yeh, City of Palo Alto; Vice Mayor Peter Ohtaki, Menlo Park, and Executive Director, California Resiliency Alliance; and Supervisor Diane Dillon, Napa County.

Scenario presenters: Chris Poland, Chairman and Senior Principal, Degenkolb Engineers; Tom Tobin, President, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute. Hands on workshop panel: Charles Eadie, Principal, Hamilton Swift Land Use; Sarah Karlinsky, Deputy Director, SPUR, moderator; Laurel Prevet, Deputy Director of Planning, City of San Jose, and Laurie Johnson, Principal, Laurie Johnson Consulting + Research.

A Regional Economic Assessment of the San Francisco Bay Area

The Bay Area Council Economic Institute recently released in October *A Regional Economic Assessment of the San Francisco Bay Area*. This report highlights significant economic indicators, underscores the strong competitive position of the region in comparison to the rest of the nation, and makes recommendations for the region. The report suggests that the economic decisions of cities, towns, and counties directly impact neighboring jurisdictions and emphasizes that overall collaboration on economic strategy is critical, because more than 50 percent of Bay Area workers commute to jobs beyond their county of residence.

According to the report, the growth of the economy will continue to center on technology and innovation. The region has significant demand for skilled, highly educated workers and the highest median income (\$76,000) in the U.S. The Bay Area unemployment rate remains above 8 percent, but should eventually return to levels between 4 and 6 percent, which are more characteristic of the region. An estimated 700,000 jobs are projected between 2010 and 2020, although nearly 300,000 of these jobs represent recovery of jobs lost during the recession. The high number of retiring baby boomers is also one of several trends that will impact the economy.

The region has a larger share of jobs in high value added sectors, such as computer and mathematical occupations, architecture and engineering, business and financial operations, and management, than elsewhere in the U.S. It will be necessary to identify how the region will fill jobs, with baby boomers retiring, and how schools and training will prepare students for jobs in innovation.

Recent trends also demonstrate the need for closer collaboration between businesses and governments to further strengthen the region's economic competitiveness and foster a positive environment for economic growth and job creation. **For the full report, go to www.bayeconfor.org.**

**Luncheon keynoter
Lauren Alexander Augustine,**
Director, Disasters Roundtable,
National Academies, commended
ABAG for taking the lead
nationwide in spearheading Disaster
Recovery Resilience, during her
discussion of the seminal federal
publication *Disaster Resilience:
A National Imperative*.



ABAG Recovery Toolkit for Elected Officials:

A suite of topical handouts (more than 20 in-depth reports) was distributed to each attendee at General Assembly on a flashdrive. This resource provides a sampling of some of the work done by ABAG, other local, state, and federal partners, other local governments, and academics on the topic of long-term disaster recovery. It includes some conceptual and theoretical work as well as practical, usable tools such as model ordinances. While the toolkit aims to provide tools that are useful to individual jurisdictions, content that explores the role of jurisdictions within their larger region during the recovery phase has also been included. The tool kit, **which can also be accessed at quake.abag.ca.gov/recovery/toolkit**, includes the following:

- 1. Checklists and Plans:** top resources designed to assist local governments in navigating disaster recovery. They provide concise directions for actions to take to expedite and streamline the recovery process.
- 2. Recovery Ordinances and Tools:** practical, usable tools for cities to adopt ordinances and pieces of policy that can speed recovery. Pieces in this section include policy guidance, recommended actions with explicit instructions, planner tools for post disaster recovery, and model ordinances.
- 3. Funding and Economic Issues:** resources providing case studies from other disaster events on how they managed money flows and economic impacts during their own recovery to address key question surrounding recovery, e.g. how money will flow, both to fund recovery and to maintain a strong economy.
- 4. Recovery Concepts and Frameworks:** section featuring fundamental theories and concepts of long-term recovery as distinct from disaster response, with unique players, skills, and implications.
- 5. Twelve Case Studies and Additional Thinking, from San Francisco to Oakland to Katrina and more**

From the Keynote Speaker: The New Geography of Jobs

In *The New Geography of Jobs*, Dr. Enrico Moretti, UC Berkeley Economics Professor, explores the economic map of America today and cites how America has become three increasingly different countries. There are cities like Seattle, San Francisco, Raleigh-Durham or Austin, with a strong innovation-based economy and workers who are among the most creative and best paid on the planet. At the other extreme are former manufacturing centers like Detroit, Flint or Cleveland, where jobs and salaries are plummeting. In the middle, there is the rest of America, apparently undecided on which direction to take. The difference between the three Americas was small in the 1980s and has been growing ever since, with education and location affecting job creation and economic vitality. This book explores this "new geography of jobs," and especially its root causes and what it means for the country.

Mark Your Calendar!

NOVEMBER 2012

November 14
San Francisco Restoration Authority Governing Board 12:00 PM
MetroCenter, Room 171

November 15
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

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

November 28
San Francisco Estuary Partnership Implementation Committee 9:30 AM
Elihu M. Harris State Building
1515 Clay Street, Room 10, Oakland

DECEMBER 2012

December 5
Regional Planning Committee Meeting 1:00 PM
MetroCenter, Auditorium

PLAN Executive Committee 10:00 AM
ABAG Conference Room B

December 12
ABAG POWER Executive Committee 12 NOON
ABAG Conference Room B

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

Notable Numbers

A Regional Economic Assessment of the San Francisco Bay Area

415,000
Bay Area jobs, the equivalent of 12.5 percent of Bay Area employment, were in the high technology sector in 2011.

51 percent
Of Bay Area employees reside in the county that they work in, according to 2010 estimates.

40 percent
Of all U.S. venture capital investment occurred in the Bay Area.

\$76,000
Was the 2010 median Bay Area household income.

101,800
Jobs, the equivalent of 3.3 percent employment growth, occurred between July 2011 and July 2012.

700,000
Jobs are projected between 2010 and 2020, although nearly 300,000 of these jobs represent recovery of jobs lost during the recession.

Bay Area Economic Institute Report, October 2012



The 7th Biennial Bay-Delta Science Conference 2012, in October, "Ecosystem Reconciliation: Realities Facing the San Francisco Estuary," brought together more than a thousand scientists, managers, and policymakers in Sacramento to discuss technical analyses and results for improving the health of the Delta. ABAG San Francisco Estuary Partnership, as part of Delta Science Program and Delta Stewardship Council, coordinated the three day conference. Links to oral and poster presentations showcasing the latest advances in scientific information and ideas on resources and ecosystem functions in the California Bay-Delta, can be accessed at <http://scienceconf.deltacouncil.ca.gov/>.

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