



Service Matters

Sustainability in Action: Bay Trail Offers Alternative Commute Corridors

The Bay Trail Project administered by ABAG is a creative model for meeting the public need for alternative modes of transportation and recreation near the Bay. With 300 miles of shoreline trail completed and approximately 2.7 million people living within two miles of the San Francisco Bay Trail, the Bay Trail enhances vital economic and public health needs with its access to jobs and recreation. Some of the region's largest employers are currently located adjacent to the Bay Trail: Oracle (Redwood Shores), Google (Mountain View), Yahoo! and Lockheed (Sunnyvale), Gap Inc. (San Francisco), Cargill (Newark), Genentech (South San Francisco), and Bio-Rad (Hercules).

The newly completed Bill Lockyer Bay Trail Bridge, which closes a significant gap in the Bay Trail, is a prime example of alternative ways to get around the Bay. This Bridge provides a continuous 20-mile alternative commute corridor for bicyclists and pedestrians, linking the cities of Oakland, San Leandro, and Hayward. Located over the San Leandro Slough between the Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline in Oakland and the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge, this 300-foot pedestrian/bicycle bridge offers Bay Trail users a direct route to businesses, schools, regional recreational opportunities, and transit stations in the area. Within the vicinity of the bridge, bicyclists and pedestrians can also see a diversity of wildlife and experience spectacular views.

In the same area, Oyster Bay Regional Shoreline, located just south of the Oakland International Airport, has been identified as the site for a future link between the Coliseum BART Station and the Bay Trail. Building on a 2003 feasibility study completed by Alameda County, this project has received a federal transportation grant with the first phase of engineering underway.

The Next 200 Miles

With the Bill Lockyer Bay Trail Bridge marking completion of the Bay Trail's 300th mile, the challenge ahead is completing the remaining

200 miles. The future of the Bay Trail will require continued creativity and building of new partnerships, both public and private, and is dependent on securing the necessary funding to complete the remaining gaps and to maintain and upgrade the existing Bay Trail sections. *For more information, contact Laura Thompson, Bay Trail Project Manager, at 510/464-7935, email LauraT@abag.ca.gov.*



The Bill Lockyer Bay Trail Bridge was named after State Treasurer Lockyer to honor his vision of the 500-mile continuous shoreline trail. The Bridge was a cooperative effort among the City of San Leandro, the Alameda County Transportation Commission, the East Bay Regional Park District, the Port of Oakland, Coastal Conservancy, California State Parks, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and ABAG's Bay Trail Project.



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Moffett Field Bay Trail Opens

The **San Francisco Bay Trail** Project, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project are hosting a special event open to the public at Moffett Field on **Monday, September 20, 2010**, 10:30 a.m. - noon to celebrate the completion of this Bay Trail segment.



The trail opening culminates years of collaboration among many agencies including the NASA Ames Research Center, Cargill, the 129th Air Rescue Wing of the California Air National Guard, the City of Mountain View, the City of Sunnyvale, and the Coastal Conservancy. Completion of this 2.4-mile gap is a significant step that will link Sunnyvale Baylands to Shoreline at Mountain View and will open a 26-mile continuous stretch of Bay Trail between East Palo Alto and San Jose.

For further information, contact **Laura Thompson**, Bay Trail Project Manager, 510-464-7935, laurat@abag.ca.gov.

FOCUS FORUM: San Francisco Bay Area Job Landscape

In spite of a slow economy, some business sectors are growing and making plans to expand into locations which may not, in the long term, be sustainable – for those sectors and the region. This raises the question: Will employers' locations be sustainable? The San Francisco Bay Area Job Landscape forum, scheduled for **October 7th**, will examine economic and environmental forces that may shape office, commercial, and industrial development—where employers are located. Led by ABAG FOCUS staff and the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR), this discussion about sustaining economic growth, while addressing global warming and climate change, will also explore growing concerns about the availability and price of non-renewable fuels.

The Forum will be held in the MetroCenter Auditorium in Oakland, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.



Public Engagement—A Vital Leadership Skill in Difficult Times

City and county leaders are using new public involvement and civic engagement strategies to create policy solutions to budget and land use challenges. Previously, policy decisions were reached through bargaining at the “stakeholder” level, but the size and scope of today’s budget deficits and longstanding planning battles are prompting leaders to reach out and better involve residents. Managed effectively, public involvement on important decisions can lead to creative and collaborative solutions. Elected officials, city managers, county administrators, planning directors and staff have the opportunity to learn more about how to use public involvement to inform decision making at the *Public Engagement Leadership Skills Workshop* on **Thursday, September 30, 2010**, from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Fremont Fire Administration Training Room, 3300 Capitol Ave., Bldg A.

Presented by Common Sense California at the Davenport Institute for Public Engagement and Civic Leadership, Pepperdine School of Public Policy, the workshop will be facilitated by Ed Everett, Senior Fellow, Civic Engagement Practice. Everett is the recently-retired city manager of

Redwood City where he focused a great deal of research on “community building” and what makes a real community. Pete Peterson, the Executive Director of the Davenport Institute at Pepperdine’s School of Public Policy, will also facilitate the half-day seminar. Peterson manages the organization’s annual Citizen Engagement Grant Program, which has offered over \$200,000 in grants to over two dozen municipalities, school districts, and civic organizations across the state, supporting their efforts to involve citizens in important policy decisions.

The workshop fee is \$50 and lunch is included. **Online registration is available at <https://www.commonseca.org/about/training.php>.**



ABAG Executive Board Welcomes New Executive Director

Ezra Rapport was named new Executive Director by the ABAG Executive Board to succeed Henry Gardner, who is leaving after seven and ½ years with ABAG and six years as Executive Director, completing 25 outstanding years of public service. Mark Green, ABAG President and Union City Mayor, announced that Rapport was chosen after a two-month search saying, “He will bring strong leadership and recognized expertise in municipal management, governmental operations, land use, and transportation to ABAG and continue to advance regional collaboration among Bay Area cities, towns and counties.” Beginning September 1st, Rapport will oversee and supervise ABAG’s planning and service programs, and its multiple support functions, serving as a liaison with the region’s elected officials and city, town, and county managers and administrators.

In response to his appointment, Rapport said, “It is a tremendous privilege and responsibility to be appointed as ABAG’s Executive Director. ABAG has been making great progress in its mission to plan for a prosperous and sustainable Bay Area, complete the Bay Trail, restore wetlands and habitat around the Bay, and provide many other services to our member local governments. We look

forward to continued partnership with local governments, regional agencies, and the Bay Area’s diverse communities in advancing our regional interests.”

Rapport, who has served ABAG as its Deputy Director since 2008, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in both the public and private sectors. He served as Deputy City Attorney and Assistant City Manager for the City of Oakland and as Principal Consultant for the California Senate Select Committee

on Bay Area Transportation. Rapport was manager of the DeSilva Group land development division and served as the Chief Operating and Development Officer for the City of New Orleans recovery operations.

His strong academic background includes a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the State University of New York at Buffalo, a Master of City and Regional Planning from the University of California at Berkeley, and a Juris Doctor from Hastings College of Law, San Francisco. Rapport is a long-time resident of the Bay Area and resides in Oakland with his wife and children.



Sustainable Purchasing Workshop Buying Green, Buying Smart Part II

Policies, Programs, and Prioritization will be the workshop focus. Attendees will learn about new green purchasing resources that can help a community meet climate protection, zero waste, toxics reduction, and other sustainability goals. Participants will find out which environmentally preferable products can save money, and hear about sustainable procurement trends and success stories. Attendees will also be able to plug into regional and national green purchasing networks, and share experiences with other jurisdictions. The Sustainable Purchasing Workshop will be held October 20th, 9 a.m - 3 p.m. at ABAG MetroCenter Auditorium.



For more information or to register, call Ceil Scandone at 510/464-7961 or email ceils@abag.ca.gov.

SAVE THE DATE

ABAG

Fall General Assembly 2010

Jobs, the Economy and Sustainability



San Jose
Hilton Hotel
300 Almaden Blvd.
9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Thursday
October 21



Mark Your Calendar!

SEPTEMBER 2010

September 10
Joint Policy Committee in conjunction with ABAG Administrative Committee 10:00 am
MetroCenter, Auditorium

September 16
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 21
Urban Pesticides Committee 9:00 am
MetroCenter, Room 171

September 24
Regional Airport Planning Committee 9:30 am
MetroCenter, Auditorium

September 27- 29
6th Biennial Bay-Delta Science Conference 2010 8:00 am
Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 J Street, Sacramento

OCTOBER 2010

October 6
Regional Planning Committee (RPC) 1:00 pm
MetroCenter, Auditorium

October 14
Bay Trail Steering Committee 1:30 pm
ABAG Conference Room B

October 20
Buying Green—Buying Smart Part II: Sustainable Purchasing 9:00 am
MetroCenter, Auditorium

October 21
ABAG Fall General Assembly 8:30 am
San Jose Hilton Hotel
300 Almaden Blvd, San Jose

October 26
PLAN Risk Management Committee 1:30 pm
ABAG Conference Room B

October 27
San Francisco Restoration Authority Governing Board 12 noon
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 11 Floor, San Francisco

October 28
ABAG POWER Executive Committee 10:00 am
MetroCenter, Auditorium

October 29
Hazardous Waste Management Committee 10:00 am - 12:30 pm
ABAG Conference Room B

Notable Numbers

California Air Resources Board Proposed Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Targets

7 percent is the Air Resources Board proposed Bay Area per capita greenhouse gas emission reduction target to be achieved by 2020 and **15 percent** reduction is proposed by 2035.

40 percent of the Bay Area's greenhouse gas emissions come from cars and light trucks.

Climate Action Fast Facts from Green America Today

539 million Vehicles comprise the number of passenger cars in the world, growing by up to 9 million vehicles annually.

8.2 million Barrels of oil are consumed by US cars and light trucks, which translates to over 300 million metric tons of carbon coming from those vehicles.

55 million metric tons of carbon emissions would be reduced, if fuel economy were improved by 5 miles per gallon.

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Mayor, Union City

Susan L. Adams
ABAG Vice President
Supervisor, Marin County

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

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