

## Merger Study and Other Related Activities

**A merger study update** was presented at the joint meeting of the ABAG Administrative Committee and the MTC Planning Committee on Friday, February 26th. Management Partners, the merger study consultants, have completed a number of tasks including creating a website - <http://www.mtcabagmergerstudy.com/>, a Merger Study Information Sheet, conducting research on other California and national Council of Governments-Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and analysis of financial information for both agencies.

A series of Regional Public Meetings for the merger implementation study are scheduled, as follows.

**March 2, 2016:** South Bay Regional Forum | San Jose SPUR Offices, 76 South First Street | 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**March 8, 2016:** East Bay Regional Forum | Contra Costa Transportation Authority Offices - Board Room, 2999 Oak Road, Suite 100, Walnut Creek | 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**March 14, 2016:** North Bay Regional Forum | Novato City Hall, 922 Machin Avenue, Novato | 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Please contact Management Partners via the merger website for questions or to submit comments about the Merger Implementation Study.

The next joint ABAG Administrative and MTC Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 25th starting at 9:00 a.m.

**The Select Committee on Regional Planning** in the San Francisco Bay Area, chaired by Assemblymember Tony Thurmond (D-15), met on Friday, February 19th before an audience of more than 70 local elected officials, staff from various agencies, union representatives, and members of the public. This first meeting of the Select Committee examined the planned merger of ABAG and MTC.

ABAG President Julie Pierce, MTC Commissioner David Cortese, and consultant Lynn Dantzker responded to questions from the Committee members representing districts from around the Bay Area.

Additional select committee hearings will address other regional issues, including the lack of affordable housing; environmental issues, such as sea-level rise; strengthening the local economy; and improving public transportation systems.

Additional information and videos of all these meetings are available on ABAG's merger information site, [http://abag.ca.gov/media/2015\\_merger/](http://abag.ca.gov/media/2015_merger/)

# Successful Forum - Calling the Bay Area Home: Tackling the Affordable Housing and Displacement Challenge



ABAG and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), jointly sponsored "Calling the Bay Area Home: Tackling the Affordable Housing and Displacement Challenge," held on Saturday, February 20, 2016. More than 350 attended this free half-day event and participated in a timely and important dialogue among a diverse array of stakeholders on the role that Bay Area local governments and regional agencies, as well as the

state and federal governments, can play in addressing skyrocketing housing costs and the accompanying displacement of long-time residents.

Held at the Oakland Marriott, the forum brought together Bay Area housing and transportation policymakers, city planners, community and business leaders, housing developers and advocates. More details about the event, along with a video record, will be posted shortly on the MTC website <http://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/recap-calling-bay-area-home-tackling-affordable-housing-and-displacement>.

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## BayREN Releases Codes and Standards Annual Report

The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) is pleased to release the Codes and Standards Program 2015 Annual Report. The Codes and Standards Program is part of the BayREN portfolio of energy efficiency programs and is designed to help local building departments understand and comply with Title 24 of the CA Energy Code. Since 2013, the Codes and Standards Program has engaged with building departments and building professionals representing over 75 Bay Area jurisdictions. This report provides a detailed account of Codes and Standard activities in 2015.



To download the Codes and Standards 2015 Annual Report, please visit the BayREN website at <https://www.bayren.org/codes/2015-annual-report>.

Contact the BayREN team at [codes@bayren.org](mailto:codes@bayren.org) for information on how your jurisdiction can take part in BayREN Codes and Standards Program activities in 2016.

*The BayREN Codes and Standards Program focuses on improving enforcement of Title 24, Part 6 of the California Code of Regulations, California Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Standards). BayREN Codes and Standards is funded by California utility customers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.*

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## **Meeting Calendar - March 2016**

### **Economic Census Workshop**

3/14 @ 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., MetroCenter, Auditorium

### **ABAG L&GO Committee**

3/17 @ 3:30 p.m., ABAG Conference Room B

### **ABAG Finance and Personnel Committee**

3/17 @ 5:00 p.m., ABAG Conference Room B

### **ABAG Executive Board**

3/17 @ 5:00 p.m., MetroCenter, Auditorium

### **ABAG Administrative Committee and MTC Planning Committee**

3/25 @ 9:00 a.m., MetroCenter, Auditorium

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**[More information available on ABAG's website](#)**