

Celebrate the San Francisco Bay with Bay Day!



Bay Day is a newly dedicated annual celebration spearheaded by Save the Bay to designate October 1, 2016 as a special day when the Bay Area comes together to celebrate San Francisco Bay. On Bay Day, dozens of cultural attractions, community organizations, small businesses, non-profits and parks all around the Bay Area will host special, Bay-themed programs so residents can explore, enjoy, and learn more about our Bay.

The cities of San Francisco, Oakland, and San Jose have already officially recognized October 1, 2016 and the first Saturday of October in future years as Bay Day.



As the administrator of several regional projects working to enhance San Francisco Bay, including the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, the San Francisco Bay Trail and the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail, ABAG is requesting that all cities and counties in the Bay Area pass proclamations recognizing October 1, 2016 and the first Saturday of October in future years as Bay Day, in recognition of this valuable resource that defines our region.

The resolution template is available [here](#) for members' use. When your Council or Board of Supervisors has passed the resolution, please email [Laura Thompson](#) and we will update the list of cities, towns, and

counties that are participating in the effort to celebrate this great resource that shapes the Bay Area. A full list of participating jurisdictions is available [on the website](#).

Thank you for joining together to celebrate San Francisco Bay!

Coalition of Governments, Led by ABAG, Wins US EPA Brownfields Grant Providing Funding for Environmental Site Contamination Assessments in the East Bay

Oakland, San Leandro, Hayward, and Alameda County, along with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) as the coalition lead, have received an US EPA Brownfields Grant for \$550,000. This grant funds environmental site assessments, which will confirm or remove suspicion of contamination on land with the potential for new housing and businesses. Part of the East Bay Corridors Initiative, these communities are reinvesting to improve health and access to opportunity in identified areas near transit. "Without ABAG serving as the coalition lead, we would not have access to this funding. We are very pleased that this grant will allow us take the next step to revitalizing our communities and work toward meeting regional carbon emissions goals," stated Hayward Mayor Barbara Halliday.

The coalition's proposal focuses on a 15 mile corridor of downtowns and mixed-use neighborhoods that have been identified by coalition members as Priority Development Areas (PDAs) -- transit-rich places planned by cities for mixed-income housing, commercial development, and local services. The five BART stations within this corridor connect residents to nearly a million jobs, as well as regional educational and cultural opportunities. The region's first Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route is scheduled to start along this corridor in 2017.

In 2013, Bay Area elected officials adopted Plan Bay Area's blueprint for growth and transportation investment that achieves the State of California's GHG emissions reduction target for the region. The foundation of Plan Bay Area's sustainable growth strategy is a network of PDAs.

The PDAs that make up the grant target area are expected to add 44,000 new housing units and 58,000 new jobs by 2040. Land use plans recently adopted by coalition members for these PDAs set the stage for implementation by identifying opportunity sites for a mix of housing, employment, local services, and public spaces to create dense walkable communities. These sites are typically vacant, large enough for significant redevelopment that fulfills a community vision, and in need of assessment to confirm or remove suspicion of contaminants presence. Grant-funded assessments are expected to begin Fall 2016.

Plan Bay Area 2040 Regional Conversation on Housing and Transportation - What We Heard



During May and June, more than 1,100 members of the public attended open houses or took an online quiz to learn about and comment on an update to the region's long-range transportation and housing roadmap known as Plan Bay Area 2040.

Bay Area residents who attended these open houses had the opportunity to view displays and offer comments on long-term goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light-duty trucks, house the region's projected population, improve public health, maintain the region's transportation infrastructure, and preserve open space, among others. Open house participants posted comments on display boards, took the online survey and filled out comment sheets to elaborate on their positions.

Overall comment themes

Housing: * Strong support for more housing of all types, especially for low- and middle-income residents * Major concern with lack of affordable housing and displacement of long-time residents, particularly in disadvantaged communities * Suggestions for easing displacement included stronger policies for rent control, protection against evictions, inclusionary zoning and living wages * A number of participants called for conditioning state or regional funding to ensure cities are approving sufficient low-income housing and adopting strong anti-displacement policies * Many called for more streamlined approval processes for new housing * There was support for more robust transit-oriented development and more vibrant, walkable downtowns in cities of all sizes.

Transportation: * Widespread support for public transit service - going more places at increased frequencies * Strong support for increased rail - most notably BART, as well as Caltrain and commuter rail, and enhanced bus service, including bus-rapid-transit * Support for electric vehicle charging stations * Some expressed concern about transit crowding, called for a second Transbay Tube * Major concern about freeway and traffic congestion: many seek relief from long commutes * Strong support for more robust bicycle and pedestrian facilities to lay the groundwork for a more carless future (though a small number strongly oppose investments in bicycles).

For the full report, and to see details about the open houses by county, [click here](#).

Meeting Calendar - August 2016

ABAG POWER Executive Committee

8/17 @ 12:00 noon, 375 Beale Street, Golden Gate Room (8102), San Francisco

San Francisco Estuary Partnership Implementation Committee

8/24 @ 9:30 a.m., Elihu M. Harris State Building, Room 10 (2nd floor), 1515 Clay Street, Oakland

ABAG PLAN Claims Committee (teleconference)

8/25 @ 1:30 p.m., 375 Beale Street, Mayacamas Room (7104), San Francisco

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