

Thursday, September 3, 2020

TAC Agenda Item 7.1

Continued From: New

Action Requested: **INFORMATION**



NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY TAC Agenda Letter

TO: Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Kate Miller, Executive Director
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SUBJECT: Plan Bay Area 2050 Update

RECOMMENDATION

Information only

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) staff will provide an update on Plan Bay Area 2050, which is the 25-year long-range plan for the Bay Area with focus on four areas: the economy, the environment, housing and transportation.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Is there a fiscal impact? Not for this report.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

In March, MTC released the Draft Blueprint for Plan Bay Area 2050 which weaves together the transportation, housing, economic, and environmental strategies alongside an expanded set of *growth geographies* to advance climate and equity goals. Over the last several months, MTC staff has been evaluating the Draft Blue Print strategies in how they address the guiding principles to ensure an affordable, connected, diverse, healthy, and vibrant Bay Area for all. The Plan forecasts 1.5 million new homes and 1.4 million new jobs over the Plan's horizon. The Draft Blueprint integrates strategies to address the severe and long-lasting housing crisis in the Bay Area and explores which policies and investments are best prepared for an uncertain future – from rising telecommute levels to economic boom & bust cycles to consumer preference shifts.

Key Findings from MTC Staff Analysis:

- *Improving Affordability for All:* For a typical household, the cost burden for housing and transportation as a share of income declines by 9 points between 2015 and 2050. Reductions are even greater for low-income households – a decline of 26 points – with means-based fares and tolls yielding further dividends in advancing equity goals.
- *Expanding Housing Opportunities for Low-Income Residents:* With robust regional measures in play – as well as an expanded inclusionary zoning strategy – the Draft Blueprint includes funding capacity for the construction of over 400,000 permanently-affordable homes through 2050.
- *Focusing Growth in Walkable, Transit-Rich Communities:* The majority of future housing and job growth is located in walkable communities with frequent transit; the Final Blueprint may make further performance gains via additional transit strategies under consideration for the Final Blueprint.
- *Saving Lives and Protecting Communities:* Reduced speed limits and roadway redesigns help play a critical role in saving thousands of lives through 2050, even as more progress is needed to achieve Vision Zero goals. Investments in sea level rise infrastructure saves 98 percent of at-risk homes through 2050, and funding for seismic home retrofits protects 100 percent of homes at high risk of damage.
- *Positioning the Region for Robust Economic Growth:* Despite over \$200 billion in new taxes in the decades ahead to pay for the bold strategies approved in February 2020, Bay Area businesses are forecasted to rebound robustly, with per-capita gross regional product soaring by 65% through 2050.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT

Attachment 1: PBA 2050 Draft Blueprint Strategies

HELP US DRAFT THE BLUEPRINT.



DRAFTING THE BLUEPRINT

WHAT IS THE PLAN?

Plan Bay Area 2050 is the long-range plan now being developed by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments to guide the growth of our nine-county region for the next generation. Scheduled for completion in 2021, the Plan will integrate strategies for transportation, housing, the environment and the economy and lead the Bay Area toward a future that is affordable, connected, diverse, healthy, and vibrant for all by 2050.

WHAT REQUIREMENTS MUST THE PLAN MEET?

Among many statutory requirements, the Plan must be fiscally constrained and rely on reasonably expected revenues; it must meet or exceed a 19 percent per-capita GHG reduction target for light-duty vehicles by 2035; and it must plan for sufficient housing at all income levels.

WHAT IS THE DRAFT BLUEPRINT?



Creating the Blueprint is the first step toward developing Plan Bay Area 2050. The Draft Blueprint integrates 25 equitable and resilient proposed strategies from the Horizon initiative and offers bold solutions to address nine primary objectives across key areas including: transportation, housing, the environment and the economy.

WHAT IS A "STRATEGY"?



A strategy is either a public policy or set of investments that can be implemented in the Bay Area over the next 30 years. A strategy is not a near-term action, a mandate for a jurisdiction or agency, or a legislative proposal. In addition, because Plan Bay Area 2050 must be fiscally constrained, not every strategy can be integrated into the Plan given finite available revenues.

WHO IMPLEMENTS THESE STRATEGIES?



Strategies in Plan Bay Area 2050 can be implemented at the local, regional, or state levels. Specific implementation actions and the role for MTC/ABAG will be identified through a collaborative process for the Implementation Plan in late 2020. **See inside to learn more about the Draft Blueprint's objectives and proposed strategies.**

WHAT ABOUT PUBLIC INPUT? WHAT'S NEXT?

In addition to robust analysis conducted as part of the Horizon initiative and ongoing feedback from elected officials, thousands of comments from Bay Area residents and stakeholders helped define and refine the 25 proposed Blueprint strategies. Staff will now conduct a detailed analysis and report back on outcomes from the Draft Blueprint strategies this spring. Planned public engagement will provide additional opportunities for strategies and projects to be revised and integrated into the Final Blueprint, with the Final Blueprint scheduled for completion later in 2020.

DRAFT BLUEPRINT STRATEGIES

OBJECTIVES



TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIES

1. Maintain and Optimize Existing Infrastructure



Operate and Maintain the Existing System. Commit to operate and maintain the Bay Area's roads and transit infrastructure, while ensuring that all Priority Development Areas have sufficient transit service levels.

Enable Seamless Mobility with Unified Trip Planning and Fare Payments. Develop a unified platform for trip planning and fare payment to enable more seamless journeys.

Reform Regional Transit Fare Policy. Streamline fare payment and replace existing operator-specific discounted fare programs with an integrated fare structure across all transit operators.

Implement Per-Mile Tolling on Congested Freeways with Transit Alternatives. Apply a per-mile charge on auto travel on select highly-congested freeway corridors where transit alternatives exist, with discounts for carpoolers, low-income residents, and off-peak travel, with excess revenues reinvested into transit alternatives in the corridor.

2. Create Healthy and Safe Streets



Build a Complete Streets Network. Enhance streets to promote walking, biking, and other micromobility through sidewalk improvements and 7,000 miles of bike lanes or multi-use paths.

Advance Regional Vision Zero Policy through Street Design and Reduced Speeds. Reduce speed limits to 25 to 35 miles per hour on local streets and 55 miles per hour on freeways, relying on design elements on local streets and automated speed enforcement on freeways.

3. Enhance Regional and Local Transit



Advance Low-Cost Transit Projects. Complete a limited set of transit projects that performed well in multiple futures and require limited regional dollars to reach fully-funded status.

Build a New Transbay Rail Crossing. Address overcrowded conditions during peak commute periods and add system redundancy by adding a new Transbay rail crossing connecting the East Bay and San Francisco.

OBJECTIVES



ECONOMIC STRATEGIES

4. Improve Economic Mobility



Expand Childcare Support for Low-Income Families. Provide a 50 percent childcare subsidy to low-income households with children under 5, enabling more parents with young children to remain in (or to enter) the workforce.

Create Incubator Programs in Economically-Challenged Areas. Fund pre-incubation services or technical assistance for establishing a new business, as well as access to workspaces, and mentorship and financing in disadvantaged communities.

Retain Key Industrial Lands through Establishment of Priority Production Areas. Implement local land use policies to protect key industrial lands identified as Priority Production Areas, including preservation of industrial zoning.

5. Shift the Location of Jobs



Allow Greater Commercial Densities in Growth Geographies. Allow greater densities for new commercial development in select Priority Development Areas and select Transit-Rich Areas to encourage more jobs to locate near public transit.

Assess Transportation Impact Fees on New Office Developments. Apply expanded county-specific fees on new office development that reflects associated transportation impacts.

Assess Jobs-Housing Imbalance Fees on New Office Developments. Apply a regional jobs-housing linkage fee to generate funding for affordable housing when new office development occurs in job-rich places, thereby incentivizing more jobs to locate in housing-rich places.

OBJECTIVES



HOUSING STRATEGIES

6. Spur Housing Production and Create Inclusive Communities



Allow a Greater Mix of Housing Types and Densities in Growth Areas. Allow a variety of housing types at a range of densities to be built in Priority Development Areas, select Transit-Rich Areas, and select High-Resource Areas.

Reduce Barriers to Housing Near Transit and in Areas of High Opportunity. Reduce parking requirements, project review times, and impact fees for new housing in Transit-Rich and High-Resource Areas, while providing projects exceeding inclusionary zoning minimums even greater benefits.

Transform Aging Malls and Office Parks into Neighborhoods. Transform aging malls and office parks into mixed-income neighborhoods by permitting new land uses and significantly reducing development costs for eligible projects.

7. Protect, Preserve, and Produce More Affordable Housing



Fund Affordable Housing Protection, Preservation and Production. Raise an additional \$1.5 billion in new annual revenues to leverage federal, state, and local sources to protect, preserve and produce deed-restricted affordable housing.

Require 10 to 20 Percent of New Housing to be Affordable. Require at least 10 percent to 20 percent of new housing developments of 5 units or more to be affordable to low-income households, with the threshold defined by market feasibility as well as access to opportunity and public transit.

Further Strengthen Renter Protections Beyond State Legislation. Building upon recent tenant protection laws, limit annual rent increases to the rate of inflation, while exempting units less than 10 years old.

OBJECTIVES



ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES

8. Reduce Risks from Hazards



Adapt to Sea Level Rise. Protect shoreline communities affected by sea level rise, prioritizing areas of low costs and high benefits and providing additional support to vulnerable populations.

Modernize Existing Buildings with Seismic, Wildfire, Drought, and Energy Retrofits. Adopt new building ordinances and incentivize retrofits to bring existing buildings up to higher seismic, wildfire, water and energy standards, providing means-based subsidies to offset impacts.

9. Reduce Our Impact on the Environment



Maintain Urban Growth Boundaries. Using urban growth boundaries and other existing environmental protections, confine new development within areas of existing development or areas otherwise suitable for growth, as established by local jurisdictions.

Protect High-Value Conservation Lands. Provide strategic matching funds to help conserve high-priority natural and agricultural lands, including but not limited to Priority Conservation Areas.

Expand the Climate Initiatives Program. Expand MTC's Climate Initiatives Program, which includes investments in transportation demand management and electrification incentive programs, while simultaneously working with the Air District and the State to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for other transportation sectors.

ADVANCING EQUITY WITH BOLD STRATEGIES

As a cross-cutting issue of Plan Bay Area 2050, staff has worked to weave equity into every single strategy for the Draft Blueprint.



AFFORDABLE



Consistent regional means-based discounts for fares and tolls.



CONNECTED



Service frequency increases in both high-ridership corridors and in currently-underserved PDAs.



DIVERSE



Emphasis on growth in High-Resource Areas to address the legacy of race-based exclusion.



HEALTHY



Prioritization of retrofit assistance and sea level rise infrastructure in lower-income communities.



VIBRANT



Incubator programs and childcare support designed to enable greater economic mobility.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

MTC and ABAG will hold public workshops all around the Bay Area later in 2020 and invite you to help shape the Plan Bay Area 2050 Blueprint. We want to find out what you – and your family, friends, and neighbors – have to say about the 25 proposed strategies and how these strategies could influence the way we will live, work and travel in the Bay Area over the next generation.

MTC and the ABAG Executive Board are scheduled to adopt a Final Blueprint in fall 2020. We look forward to hearing from you!

Visit planbayarea.org to learn more or to check the schedule of public workshops. You can also follow MTC BATA on social media.

SPRING

- Release Draft Blueprint Outcomes and Growth Pattern

SUMMER

- Revise Strategies for Final Blueprint
- Stakeholder and Public Workshops

FALL

- Adopt Final Blueprint
- Advance to Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

WINTER

- Environment Analysis



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