Image Source: Golden Gate (Flickr)

### PLAN BAY AREA 2050

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# Final Plan Bay Area 2050

MTC/ABAG Regional Planning Program October 2021

# Four-Year Journey to a Bold New Regional Vision

Kicked off in early 2018, Horizon and Plan Bay Area 2050 focused on planning for an uncertain future, while advancing more equitable outcomes for all residents.

Ultimately, these efforts shaped the most comprehensive regional vision to date, with deep community engagement & a strong commitment to equity.



### HORIZON

Futures Planning Perspective Papers Project Performance

### PLAN BAY AREA 2050

Draft Blueprint & Final Blueprint Plan Document & Implementation Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR)



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SPRING & FALL 2021

# First Regional Plan for the Bay Area to...





Pivot from predicting the future to **exploring strategies in uncertain futures** 

Lead with equity in all strategies from square one



Pursue **innovative public engagement**, from mobile games to "pop-up" events



Demonstrate what a unified staff can deliver for both boards



Lay out a roadmap showing "what it would take" to tackle the intractable housing crisis

Integrate bold new strategies from all-lane road pricing to lower speed limits



Sketch out an initial vision to mitigate near-term sea level rise impacts along the entire Bay & Pacific Coast



Identify specific nearterm implementation actions for all 35 strategies

# **Deep Community Engagement Throughout**

public meetings featuring 160+ discussion of Horizon & Plan Bay Area 2050

public events including in-150+ person & virtual workshops, pop-up events, focus groups

stakeholder events including **140+** RAWG and REWG meetings, workshops, and webinars

234,000+

public comments received

23,000+

participants in planning process

of events/activities targeted 60%+ or events/activities targeted Equity Priority Communities or other underserved groups





# Listening to & Learning from the Next Generation

# PLAN BAY AREA 2050

### Video:

Highlights of Summer 2021 Youth Engagement on Draft Plan Bay Area 2050 (MTC/ABAG)

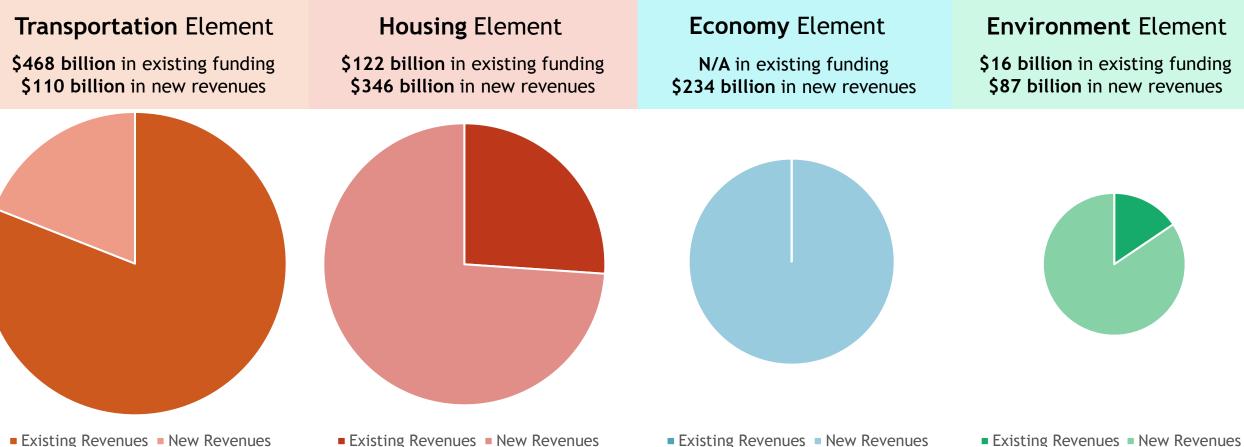
# Refresher: Vision + 11 Themes + 35 Strategies

# PLAN BAY AREA 2050 VISION: Ensure by the year 2050 that the Bay Area is affordable, connected, diverse, healthy and vibrant for all.



# **Refresher:** Existing & New Revenues

While all four elements of Plan Bay Area 2050 rely on existing and reasonably-anticipated new revenues, realization of those new revenues will be critical over the coming decade to fully implement the Final Plan.



Existing Revenues New Revenues

Existing Revenues New Revenues

**Note:** \$13 billion in existing transportation funding is shown in Environment Element for climate & sea level rise strategies.

Note: new housing revenues could come from a mix of federal, state, regional, or local sources.

Note: as Needs & Revenue data is unavailable for economic development and parks & conservation, existing funding is underrepresented.

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### Refresher: Key Outcomes



Plan would reduce housing & transportation cost burden by 13 percentage points, with even greater improvements for low-income households

Plan would improve access to frequent transit and to safe bicycle & pedestrian facilities, enabling 20 percent of workers to shift away from commuting by auto

Plan would provide more affordable housing in historicallyexclusionary jurisdictions, while helping at least 10 percent of the region's low-income residents to buy their first home

Plan would meet the state-mandated greenhouse gas reduction target, while concurrently protecting nearly all homes from sea level rise impacts through 2050

Plan would improve jobs-housing balance in counties throughout the Bay Area, yielding shorter commutes for all workers 8



### PLAN BAY AREA 2050

# From Draft Plan to Final Plan

Targeted Updates to Final Plan Document & Final EIR

# Minor Technical Updates: Summary

Performance outcomes for Final Plan Bay Area 2050 have slight differences when compared to Draft Plan Bay Area 2050, as reflected in the Final Plan Document, Final Supplemental Reports, and Final EIR.



### Minor Changes to Strategy Funding Levels

 In response to feedback from the California Air Resources Board (CARB), MTC/ABAG staff shifted additional funds from programmatic investments towards Strategy EN8 compared to the Draft Plan to maintain forecasted greenhouse gas emission reductions from electric vehicle subsidies and charging infrastructure.



### Adjustments to Modeled "Stay-at-Home" Levels

- Final Plan modeling corrected a technical issue that assumed an increase in vacation/sick/ personal days taken by workers through 2050.
- Instead, the Final Plan modeling more conservatively assumes that this exogenous assumption remains constant through 2050, resulting in a +1% to +2% across-the-board change in GHG performance when comparing Draft Plan/EIR Alternatives with Final Plan/EIR Alternatives.

### Minor Technical Corrections to Individual Project Coding

• Last but not least, staff **fixed project coding errors for a few transportation projects**, responding both to external feedback from transportation partners and from a final round of internal quality control.



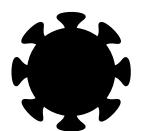
# What's New: Final EIR

The Final EIR includes responses to comments received, as well as minor revisions to the Draft EIR. After the committees make a recommendation on adoption of the proposed Plan, the recommendation, along with the Findings of Fact and Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, will be forwarded to the Commission and ABAG Board.



### **Responses to Hundreds of Public Comments**

• Unlike comments on the Draft Plan which were responded to on a rolling basis, staff **responded to all comments raised on environmental issues through the Final EIR**, totaling just under 150 in total from public hearings, letters, emails, etc.



### Master Responses Addressing Key Issues

- Given that many comments addressed similar issues, eight "master responses" were crafted to provide thorough responses on the following topics:
  - Regional Growth Forecast
  - COVID-19 Pandemic
  - Water Supply
  - EIR Alternatives
  - Sea Level Rise
  - Roles & Authority
  - Fiscally-Constrained Transportation Project List
  - Travel Model Refinements



# Key Takeaways: Final EIR

#1: No significant new information was added to the DraftEIR in the Final EIR that would warrant recirculation.Revisions, refinements, and responses to comments serve toclarify and amplify past analysis in the Draft EIR.

**#2: The Final EIR did not identify any new significant environmental impacts relative to the Draft EIR.** Furthermore, the Final EIR did not identify any substantial increases in the severity of any significant impact. PLAN BAY AREA 2050 PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTA IMPACT REPORT

> ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

> > 12

PLAN BAY AREA 2050

2021

Document available on

planbayarea.org

**#3: The Final EIR does not make a recommendation on which alternative to advance.** The joint committee's direction will shape the CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations for the October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

### What's New: Staff Recommendation









The proposed Plan reflects much greater public and stakeholder input than other EIR alternatives from a four-year planning process. Unlike new strategies introduced during scoping, proposed Plan strategies were stress-tested against a wide range of conditions in Horizon Futures Planning to advance equity & resilience. Unlike some other alternatives explored, the proposed Plan advances all five Guiding Principles and meets all applicable federal & state requirements. The proposed Plan identifies 80+ nearterm implementation actions to expedite implementation of the 35 strategies, making it more actionable than EIR alternatives.

For these reasons, MTC/ABAG staff recommend certification of the Final EIR and adoption of the proposed Plan as the Final Plan Bay Area 2050.



# What's Changed: Final Plan Document

The Final Plan Document sees some focused improvements between Draft and Final, reflecting the latest information while addressing feedback received during the public comment period.



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### New Sidebars Spotlighting Emerging Issues

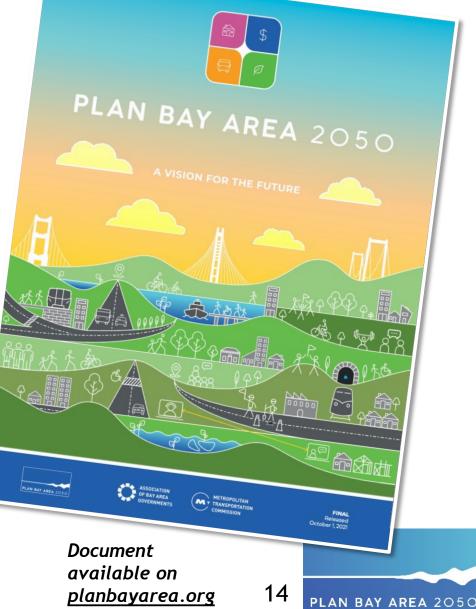
 New sidebars highlight work that further evolved throughout summer 2021, including the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force action plan & COVID-19 pandemic impacts integration.

### New and Improved Maps

 Additional maps on key issue areas for implementation, such as parks & conservation and express bus upgrades, were added to the Final Plan Bay Area 2050 Document.

### **Refinements from Public Comments**

• When appropriate, staff refined Plan Document language to provide **further clarity or context** in response to public comments received this summer.



### PLAN BAY AREA 2050

### **Pivoting Toward Implementation**

The product

Final Implementation Plan & What's Next for 2022

# What's Changed: Final Implementation Plan

In contrast to the rest of the Final Plan Document, the Final Implementation Plan saw significant changes between the Draft and Final iterations, both as a result of the public comment period and significant stakeholder engagement through the Partnership Phase this summer.



### **Refined Implementation Actions**

- As highlighted at last month's Joint MTC Planning/ABAG Administrative Committee, the 35 strategies included in the Final Plan link to more than 80 near-term implementation actions.
- While implementation actions can be refined in the years ahead, this effort has sketched out a path for MTC/ABAG to lead, partner, or support implementation of every Plan strategy.



### **Expanded Partnership Opportunities**

- Thanks to ongoing engagement throughout the Implementation Plan process, MTC/ABAG received potential commitments from more than 45 potential partners in the public, private, and non-profit sectors to advance strategy implementation in the years ahead.
  - The Implementation Plan chapter, nested at the end of the Plan Document, reflects an expanded emphasis on partnerships identified throughout summer 2021, including a new discussion of potential partnership opportunities with labor organizations.



# 2022 Implementation Spotlight: Housing

- The Expanded Regional Housing Portfolio will advance five pilot projects, from a homelessness prevention system to the "Doorway" affordable housing application platform, leveraging \$20 million in new State monies for BAHFA.
- The Transit-Oriented Development policy update will provide enhanced guidance for local jurisdictions to ensure land use supports current & future transit investments.



# 2022 Implementation Spotlight: Economy

- Through new funding sources like OBAG3 and REAP2.0, MTC/ABAG will explore potential funding sources for the Priority Production Area (PPA) pilot program.
- Staff will consider how to integrate new advocacy priorities in Economy and other elements of the Plan Bay Area 2050 Implementation Plan into the 2022 joint advocacy platform.



# 2022 Implementation Spotlight: Transportation

- Through implementation of nearterm Blue Ribbon priorities, further work on the Major Project Advancement Policy, and completion of the Fare Coordination Study, 2022 will be a prime opportunity to position Bay Area transit for success in the years ahead.
- Deep community engagement on the future of Bay Area freeways and how pricing can play a role will commence through the Next-Generation Freeways Study.



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# 2022 Implementation Spotlight: Environment

- The Sea Level Rise Funding and Investment Strategy, identified as a priority by both Plan Bay Area 2050 and BCDC's Bay Adapt process, will kick off to explore shoreline solutions & funding opportunities.
- MTC/ABAG will continue working closely with the Air District to accelerate implementation of climate strategies, from sustainable commute targets to electric vehicle subsidies & marketing.

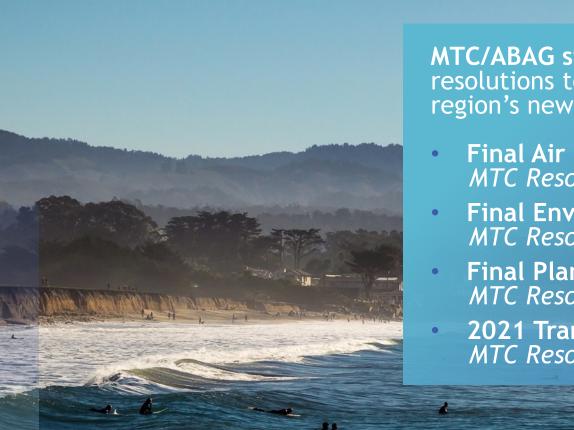
PLAN BAY AREA 2050

Plan Bay Area 2050 reflects input from thousands of Bay Area residents over the past four years that has yielded a bold new vision for our shared future.

We're ready to pivot from planning toward implementation together with our partners.



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MTC/ABAG staff recommend approval of the following resolutions to formally adopt Plan Bay Area 2050 as the region's new long-range plan:

- Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis MTC Resolution No. 4482
- Final Environmental Impact Report MTC Resolution No. 4484 & ABAG Resolution No. 08-21
- Final Plan Bay Area 2050 MTC Resolution No. 4485 & ABAG Resolution No. 09-21
- 2021 Transportation Improvement Program MTC Resolution No. 4475