



**Association of
Bay Area Governments**



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

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Attachment 9

noceti

December 29, 2016

The Honorable John Sawyer
Mayor
City of Santa Rosa
100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Room 10
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Dear Mayor Sawyer:

Thank you for your Oct. 12, 2016 letter regarding Plan Bay Area 2040's Draft Preferred Scenario. Please know that we shared your letter with MTC Commissioners and ABAG's Executive Board. You can view your letter and others on the Plan Bay Area website:

<http://planbayarea.org/your-part/your-comments/Comments-Summer-Fall2016-Draft-Preferred-Scenario.html>.

As you may know, the Final Preferred Scenario was approved November 17 at a joint meeting of the MTC Commission and ABAG Executive Board. It will now form the basis of the proposed Draft Plan Bay Area 2040, and will be further analyzed as part of a program-level Environmental Impact Report (EIR) slated for release in spring 2017.

Regarding your specific concern relating to Preferred Scenario's household projections for Santa Rosa within its five Priority Development Areas (PDAs), the Final Preferred Scenario includes reduced PDA upzoning for households in Santa Rosa, which should align more closely with local expectations. It also takes some steps toward improving jobs/housing balance in many parts of the region. Due to constraints on the total number of forecast regional jobs and available building stock, it was not always possible for the regional forecast to fully match local employment aspirations.

In terms of the transportation investment strategy, the Final Preferred Scenario includes a significant investment to increase bus service frequencies in Sonoma County, as well as investments for bicycle and pedestrian projects and the continued maintenance of the region's local streets and roads. The Preferred Scenario proposes that the vast majority of anticipated transportation funds be spent on operating, maintaining, and modernizing the Bay Area's transportation system.

In approving the Final Preferred Scenario, ABAG and MTC also directed staff to develop an Action Plan to be adopted concurrent with Plan Bay Area 2040, currently scheduled for late summer 2017. The Action Plan will be developed starting in early 2017, in consultation with local jurisdictions, interested public agencies, and non-governmental organizations representing

the economy, environment and social equity. The Action Plan will identify near- and medium-term action items for MTC, ABAG and other stakeholders to make meaningful progress on Plan Bay Area 2040's performance targets, with a focus on those targets where Plan Bay Area 2040 is moving off trajectory -- housing affordability, displacement risk and access to jobs.

MTC and ABAG look forward to your continued engagement in the development of Plan Bay Area 2040.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Kirkey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ken Kirkey
MTC, Planning Director

cc: Miriam Chion, ABAG