BAWSCA
Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency

October 14, 2016

Ms. Megan Espiritu
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale St #800,
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: BAWSCA Comments on ABAG's Draft Plan Bay Area 2040 Preferred Scenario

Dear Ms. Espiritu,

The Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) appreciates the opportunity to review the Draft Plan Bay Area 2040 Preferred Scenario (Draft Preferred Scenario) and to provide comments.

BAWSCA represents the interests of 26 cities, water districts, and private water companies that serve over 1.7 million residents in San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Alameda Counties. Many of the BAWSCA member agencies utilized ABAG Plan Bay Area 2013 household and economic growth projections in the preparation of their 2015 Urban Water Management Plans to determine the long-term water supply needs for their communities in normal and dry years. The 2015 Urban Water Management Plans demonstrated that several water agencies within the West Bay Corridor were approaching the limits of their available normal year water supply by 2040 based upon the Plan Bay Area 2013 projections.

In the Draft Preferred Scenario, the economic and household projections for the West Bay Corridor, most of which is within the BAWSCA service area, are 60% higher and 17% higher respectively than in Plan Bay Area 2013. Therefore, as you may hear from local cities and water agencies in their individual comments, some may not be able to accommodate the additional growth projected by Plan Bay Area 2040 within the limitations of their existing water supplies. Additional growth will also impact drought year reliability for all BAWSCA agencies, limiting the region's ability to reduce its water use during drought periods.

We strongly urge you to work with local water suppliers to consider the long-term water supply reliability implications of your regional land use planning effort.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (650) 349-3000.

Sincerely,

Nicole Sandkulla
CEO/General Manager

cc: Michael Germeraad, Resilience Planner, ABAG