
From: D. Muirhead <>
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2016 9:42 AM
To: info@planbayarea.org
Cc: John Ristow
Subject: comments on Plan Bay Area SCC Open House

I attended the Scenarios Open House for Santa Clara County on May 26 at The Tech Museum in San Jose. I would have appreciated an opportunity to prepare and not just be presented with the 3 alternative scenarios at the meeting. My preference is for connected neighborhoods.

While you define connected as intra-city, I think a case can also be made for inter-city. At both the scoping meeting earlier in the day, and at the open house, your people claimed that you could only take a view from a high level, since the lower level was the responsibility of the jurisdictions.

I would like to push back on that. Who better than you to connect local jurisdictions, especially when you have grant money to get their attention.

My interests are agricultural land preservation, cross-county corridors for bikes and trails, and cross-valley corridors for wildlife. In urban areas, I would like bike and pedestrian trails separated from roads to reduce air and noise pollution and vehicle conflicts. Wildlife corridors are where I think inter-city connections are relevant.

You had some written material on your forecasts. I also had a chance to talk about forecasting with ABAG analyst Aksel Olsen. I noted that in the cities, we often used Department of Finance housing and job projections, which differ from ABAG/MTC forecasts for Plan Bay Area. Mr. Olsen went into some detail on the different methods.

I did say that I desired to see traffic forecasts not just for vehicles but also for bikes and pedestrians. I understand that active transportation does not have the same economic impact as motorized transportation. And we do not have good use data.

Your open houses are well organized and well staffed. Your people are open to questions and well informed. I enjoyed this Open House as well as the one last year.

Doug Muirhead, Morgan Hill, Santa Clara County