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**From:** Elida <>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 05, 2016 12:03 PM  
**To:** MTC Info; info@abag.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Plan Bay Area 2017

To: **MTC / ABAG Board of Directors**

Re: **ABAG – Plan Bay Area Update 2017**

Dear MTC and ABAG Board of Directors,

On June 4th, I attended the Plan Bay Area workshop scheduled at the Corte Madera Community Center. The invitation was from 8:30 AM to 1 PM. I did not see, on line, an agenda for the workshop and there was not one attached to the notice I received.

I arrived at 8:30 AM to find out that the actual presentation was not to start until 10 AM. Until that time, I reviewed your informational boards and hand outs. Once the presentation time started, we were introduced to each government elected representative in attendance (about 15), to staff members (about 6) and, to my surprise, to the candidates running for office (about 6). All of these introductions were followed by a request for applause. Then, the speakers were introduced with all their credentials and accomplishments. All of the above adds up to precious time that could have been used to listen to the public and respond to their questions. This meeting was about the future of the Bay Area and not about our elected officials that most of us already know very well. And, for certain, it was not a place to recognize those running for office.

It is not easy for concern citizens to take time from work, leave responsibilities and family obligations behind to attend meetings that are important to our future. I don't think that the way your workshop was run catered to the average public's life reality: we have limited time available. I will think twice before leaving my daily responsibilities to attend an ABAG meeting with the example I had on Saturday.

In contrast to the Plan Bay Area workshop, last week, I attended the Mill Valley Annual State of the City community meeting. The Mayor gave a very short informational presentation and then opened it to the public. Between the responses to neighbor's questions by Council Members, the Mayor covered very valuable information for the Mill Valley residents. In Mill Valley, we have several issues that need to be resolved but the City Council listen during last year's meeting, and last week, we left with the clear feeling that we were heard again and that the Council is focused on our needs. Maybe you can take some pointers from Mill Valley.

My desire is to participate on the decisions to be made for the future of the Bay Area, so I hope that you are able to organize future meetings with the public's needs in mind.

Sincerely,

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