

PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMISSION: Plan Bay Area 2050 Draft Implementation Plan

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**\*External Email\***

My comments below are regarding EN4, EN 5 and EN6:

Strategy EN4: Maintain urban growth boundaries ..... 33  
 Strategy EN5: Protect and manage high-value conservation lands ..... 34  
 Strategy EN6: Modernize and expand parks, trails and recreation facilities ..... 35

These strategies are good as far as they go, but they miss the larger Bay Area issues for maintaining a healthy, vibrant environment for all Bay Area residents. The entire Bay-Delta ecosystem is in serious decline, as documented by numerous scientific studies. San Francisco Bay, a key part of the Bay-Delta ecosystem, needs special attention in Plan Bay Area 2050.

Within the above strategies, EN5 comes closest to this issue. No one can dispute that San Francisco Bay and its surrounding wetlands are “high-value conservation lands.” In my view, this strategy should be made more specific, or other strategies should be added to address the importance of conserving San Francisco Bay.

A further comment on the Draft Implementation Plan as a whole:

The California State government has an important role to play in Plan Bay Area’s implementation. Personally, I don’t see the potential role of the state in the implementation strategies. It seems that most – if not all – of the drafted strategies are worded as if the Bay Area were an isolated region with full control over its boundaries and actions. As we well know, this is far from the true lay of the land. I would urge you to explicitly address the important role of California state government as a partner in implementing Plan Bay Area 2050.

Thank you very much.

William L. Martin

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