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Cc: [REDACTED] info@PlanBayArea.org
Subject: Bay Area plan 2050 inputs
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External Email

Dear Bay Area plan 2050

I can not make it to the meeting on 22-Jan-2020 in San Francisco.

But I would like to provide my input and comments for future thought. As a senior citizen, and a scientist who spent many years in corporate research inventing the future, I notice large deficiencies in the plan which neglects the equity needs of the senior fraction of the population, which is increasing, and different from younger, more vocal people.

I believe the Bay Area Plan for 2050 has elements that are necessary, but insufficient to achieve equity for all. Especially because the economic section is weak with respect to how all the proposed changes collectively will help drive overall, worldwide economic value and growth for the whole of the Bay Area. While economic growth is not the solution to everything, consider that if there is **NO** economic growth, economic stagnation and social structure decline will rue the day. Achieving balance of growth and equity is not part of Plan 2050.

In the future, if workers do not add value in their jobs, to compete effectively in our worldwide global village, then there will be economic stagnation and social structure decline. Compassion and caring social structures for less fortunate individuals are very important, but in and of themselves, they do not create value or drive growth. Where are the references to avoid the pitfalls of prior failed civilizations and learn from the most successful ones?

The original video "DidYouKnow" released ca 2005 on YouTube really changed my view from local competition to a world wide global village. See link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljbl-363A2Q> Shift happens, exponentially, and the Plan for 2050 does not address the inevitability of future exponential change nor helping existing population groups cope with it. Also see the book "Hot, Flat, Crowded" by Thomas L. Friedman.

So what are the metrics for success of the Bay Area Plan for 2050? What would 10x better success look like?

Previous plans were faulted as they did not provide adequate housing or resiliency against environmental shocks. But I see no metrics for judging success, or how to differentiate Plan 2050 from similar plans in the past, or other regional metro-areas. The essence of the Bay Area resulting in best in class, 40 percent per capita GRP growth has not been articulated. Nor any strategies to sustain or improve that level of growth in the face of worldwide competition, environmental extreme events, or natural disasters.

What part of the plan for increased housing density requires

- LEED certification to use sustainable building materials.
- Energy star certification for to minimize energy waste.

(LED lights, daylight tunnels, solar electric, solar hot water, grey water for landscapes . . .)

What part of the plan for transportation requires

- shift to electrified vehicles as much as possible.
- carbon costs/taxes for gas/diesel vehicles
- increased transportation for the elderly who should not be driving.

To/From Medical or grocery facilities. Many who do not live in high density housing.

The environmental plan focuses only on Climate change rising sea levels. Where are the tactical goals for

- Wildfires over the next 50yrs?. A lot of senior people live in homes with high fire danger [4]
- New building zoning requirements to reduce severe winter storm damage from mega-floods [5], and landslides[6] due to climate induced, increased winter storm intensity[7].
- increased availability of non-methane (non-beef) food solutions in grocery stores.
- increased recycle requirements for plastics

Beyond Economic Growth, what part of the economic plan requires corporations

- to invest more into their employees and local communities.

Examples Employee housing, transportation, re-training for inevitable job changes, etc.

Why should local governments be the sole support for infrastructure and social structures needed by multi-national corporations?

On balance, the companies that benefit the most from a sophisticated, intelligent, workforce with government provided infrastructure should in return invest in the local communities for the future.

Where are the programs to promote that investment?

Shift Happens! ! Are you **Really** ready for the future?

Or just focused on existing problems/complainants which pale in comparison to 50 year, exponential changes.

Regards

Gary Trott



References:

[4] Cal Fire Hazard maps bottom of this [page](#) Statewide pdf [here](#)

[5] California Megafloods: Lessons from a Forgotten Catastrophe Scientific American by B. Lynn
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<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/atmospheric-rivers-california-mega-flood-lessons-from-forgotten-catastrophe/>

[6] USGS Map MF-2325-H by A.S.Jayko et al 1999 \$55M dollars of damage in 1998.

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/mf/1999/mf-2325-h/mf2325h.pdf>

[7] Increasing precipitation volatility in twenty-first-century California

Nature Climate Change volume 8, pages 427–433 (2018) Daniel L. Swain et al Univ Ca Los Angeles

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-018-0140-y>

Wired Magazine “California’s Water Whiplash is only Going to get Worse”. Megan Molteni April
23,2018

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