Re: Alameda hearing on Plan Bay Area 2050 Draft Blueprint

Hello MTC/ABAG,

Thank you for your work on Plan Bay Area. I strongly support your plans to increase transit oriented affordable housing.

I also thank you for being honest in pointing out that the plan, even if successfully implemented, will only achieve 12% per capita GHG reductions, i.e. 7% short (slide 18) of the 19% per capita goal.

But the plan fails to acknowledge that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says we need to eliminate GHG by 2050. The State Executive Order calls for the state to be carbon neutral by 2045. Five counties and over 20 cities in the Bay Area, representing 70% of the Bay Area population, have declared climate emergencies calling for elimination of greenhouse gases. Plan Bay Area should reflect this consensus.

I see on slide 18 the statement "Due to CARB regulations, data shown does not include reductions from fuel efficiency or state electrification programs." This may be true, but it is no reason for MTC to fail to offer vital support for CARB’s efforts for electrification of transportation. Note that MTC’s climate initiatives have been less than 1% of its budget--i.e. much too little compared to the scale of what is needed.
My question:

To eliminate GHGs by 2045 we will need to stop selling gas vehicles by 2030 (assuming a 15 year life span for a car/truck). This gives us a very short time to install the infrastructure for charging all vehicles—in apartments, homes, on-street, garages. This will require cities to dedicate staff for educating the public, training contractors, issuing permits, inspecting installation, . . . MTC needs to play an active role in supporting and coordinating all these efforts. Now is the time to lay plans for this transformation. Why are these plans not included in Plan Bay Area?

Thanks again for your work,

Jack Lucero Fleck