

From: [SUSAN CANDELL](#)
To: [MTC Info](#)
Subject: ABAG Executive Board
Date: Wednesday, April 08, 2020 3:39:19 PM

External Email

Dear ABAG Executive Board,

Thank you for your work on behalf of communities throughout the Bay Area.

I'm elected to the Lafayette City Council and I'm contacting you as an individual.

I joined the PBA2050 Working Group call on Tuesday, April 7 and was disappointed to learn that the PBA 2050 plan is deeply flawed.

First, the DoF put in their forecasts BEFORE the pandemic shutdown, and therefore is irrelevant. I know this is out of ABAG's control, but what CAN be done is to hold another review of these numbers before the RHNA allocations are set to final for this next round. The current review is 4 years - this is simply unacceptable in our fluid state.

I believe this entire cycle should be delayed for a year, just like the Summer Olympics in Japan. I know this is an outrageous step, just like delaying the Olympics, but as trusted representatives of the people, it's the only way to ensure these forecasts are remotely accurate.

It is clear that the only 'solution' that PBA 2050 puts forward is developing a massive amount of market-rate housing to solve the housing crisis. Oh, but placing it in 'acceptable' locations is also part of the plan. This entire school of thought is erroneous for the Bay Area, and is not addressing the bigger issue of homelessness which will take so very long to 'trickle down' to do any good. This is a non-strategic plan that will fail.

In addition, there has been a long history of not engaging with local officials OR the public. I went to a pop-up in Orinda at the casual carpool for PBA2050, and it was truly a joke. When pressed on details of the plan, I challenged some of their answers, and they didn't even put my ideas on the board with a post-it. All that was up there were post-its from 'good' responses. And there was only one other public outreach event in Contra Costa. There are many people with great ideas, and any agency that claims to have public outreach and think that this suffices is so flawed as to be comical. And any agency that has to hide in the shadows like this is not an agency we can be proud of. You have the ability to change this, so please take the initiative and make the reforms necessary!

We all want long-term solutions. The Regional Growth Forecast does not get us there. Please send it back to the drawing board before recommending approval from the ABAG Board on April 16.

Sincerely,
Susan Candell