Hello,

I’m pleased to submit the below comment on Plan Bay Area 2040.

Thank you and best regards,
Alyson Greenlee

**

Currently, one in three jobs in the Bay Area are in industries that make or move goods, and $1.0 trillion in goods are moved in Northern California, according to the MTC Regional Goods Movement Plan. Manufacturing, transportation and logistics industries are a valuable source of middle-wage jobs for our Bay Area economy.

And yet, the world is changing rapidly, and so is the way goods are made and moved. Manufacturing and logistics in the U.S. and around the world are undergoing dramatic transformations that are having profound effects, including in the Bay Area. The rate of change—already rapid—is accelerating. At the same time, geographic regions are growing in influence, and regional policies are becoming even more important to the competitiveness of these industries. There is a need for regional manufacturing and logistics companies to connect and work together with policymakers to evolve at or close to the rate of change in order to remain competitive.

East Bay Transportation & Logistics Partnership (www.ebtlp.org) is a regional, business-driven partnership of transportation & logistics companies dedicated to making the East Bay a globally-competitive distribution hub, supported with access to markets; available land; road, rail, water, and air freight corridors; a prepared workforce; a supportive regulatory environment; technology innovations; and community cooperation.

We commend the fact that Plan Bay Area 2040 is the Bay Area’s first regional plan with dedicated discretionary revenue allocated toward goods movement to implement the recommendations of the Regional Goods Movement Plan. We commend the fact that this plan will meet and exceed a target to increase by 38 percent the number of jobs in predominantly middle-wage industries. We also commend the fact that this plan will meet and exceed the target to reduce per-capita delay on the Regional Freight Network by 20 percent.

We agree that while the region has made substantial transportation investments, it still has unmet capital maintenance needs and some of the worst transit crowding and traffic congestion in the nation. The region should continue advocating for increases in funding for critical expansion projects, as well as maintenance of existing infrastructure.

Moving forward, we look forward to working with MTC to implement the Action Plan. Specifically, we look forward to working with MTC to:

- Strengthen middle-wage job career paths for goods movement through the Megaregional
Goods Movement Cluster Study,

- Preserve and enhance existing industrial lands through identifying criteria for Priority Production Areas, and

- Preserve existing infrastructure and expand capacity of transportation infrastructure through advocacy for new revenues.

The regional coordination described in this plan is critical for maintaining industrial land and investing in goods movement infrastructure, and in doing so, retaining our manufacturing and distribution industries and middle-wage jobs. We look forward to working with MTC in the successful implementation of this plan, and contributing to the long-term, sustainable competitiveness of the Bay Area region.

--
Alyson Greenlee
Director, East Bay Transportation & Logistics Partnership
(510) 995-0040 (mobile) | alyson@ebltp.org | www.ebltp.org
2323 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94612