From: Stephanie Beechem

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 1:40 PM

To: MTC-ABAG Info

Subject: Comment -- 6/25 ABAG General Assembly -- Regional Housing Needs Allocation item

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Dear ABAG General Assembly,

Thank you all for your work on long-range housing planning for the Bay Area. I'm writing to comment on the Regional Housing Needs Allocation item on the agenda for tomorrow's meeting of the ABAG General Assembly.

As an Oakland resident, I've been closely following the current RHNA process. I'm writing to urge you to initiate an appeal of the current RHNA goal of 440,000 units, which does not come close to reflecting the current housing need in the Bay Area.

Existing levels of crowding and rent burden in the Bay Area are unacceptable, and local leaders should be using all available tools - including the RHNA - to encourage the construction of more housing across the region at *all* levels of affordability.

I urge ABAG and ABAG President Jesse Arreguin to revisit the current RNHA goal and raise it to a level that truly reflects the acute housing problems our region faces. Ultimately, I think a RHNA closer to 1 million units makes far more sense for the Bay Area.

Respectfully, Stephanie Beechem