

From: [REDACTED]
To: [MTC-ABAG Info](#)
Subject: Proposed RHNA Methodology and Subregional Shares
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 9:34:31 AM

External Email

January 15, 2020

Mayor Jesse Arreguin, President
Executive Board, Association of Bay Area Governments
375 Beale Street, Suite 700
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Proposed Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Methodology and Subregional Shares
- Support for **Option 8A** using the Plan Bay Area 2050 **Households** Baseline with the **Equity Adjustment**

Dear President Arreguin and ABAG Executive Board,

I am writing to provide comment on the proposed RHNA Methodology and subregional shares for ABAG RHNA Cycle 6.

My understanding as a Bay Area resident is that the RHNA methodology is designed to "reduce the cost of living in the Bay Area," "provide housing affordability for low-income families," and "reduce racial inequities;" while growing the middle class. That is why I stand with a diverse set of organizations and stakeholders from across the region focusing on housing, the environment, and the economy in **strong support of ABAG's proposed RHNA methodology, known as the "High Opportunity Areas Emphasis & Job Proximity" methodology ("Option 8A"), but believe the methodology needs to be further refined to more fully meet the statutory objective for affirmatively furthering fair housing.**

This adjustment will result in thousands of more affordable units in high-opportunity exclusive neighborhoods which will move us closer to an inclusive and prosperous region where all residents have a safe and affordable home and equal access to environmental, economic, and educational opportunity.

ABAG adopted the Housing Methodology Committee's recommendation due to its strong performance on the statutory objectives of RHNA. A majority of the Committee also supported an equity adjustment. We urge you to continue to respect the integrity of this process and move forward with the Committee's recommendation, with the equity adjustment.

Housing is the foundation for healthy, strong communities. Housing, and affordable housing

especially, has been proven to revitalize distressed areas, reduce traffic and improve air quality, and promote economic and social integration while building community. For the Bay Area, housing opportunities give our region a competitive edge and help keep our communities diverse and equitable. The RHNA process offers our region a tangible opportunity to actively plan for our future housing needs for the next eight years — while actively designing strategies to address existing housing affordability, patterns of residential segregation, and exclusionary zoning practices.

Now is the time for all Bay Area cities and counties to come together and move collectively toward a more equitable, sustainable, inclusive future where people of all racial and economic backgrounds have access to housing and resources.

ABAG's proposed methodology with the Equity Adjustment will help us get there. For these reasons, I am pleased to support **Option 8A** using the Plan Bay Area 2050 **Households** Baseline with the **Equity Adjustment**.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback.

Sincerely,

William Goodwin