

FW: Comment on the July 16, 2020 ABAG meeting.

MTC-ABAG Info <info@bayareametro.gov>

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[REDACTED]

From: Adam Buchbinder [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 4:25 PM
To: MTC-ABAG Info <info@bayareametro.gov>
Cc: mayor@cityofberkeley.info
Subject: Comment on the July 16, 2020 ABAG meeting.

External Email

Hello! I was unable to connect via Zoom (I'll connect via phone next time). I wanted to share some thoughts I had on Plan Bay Area 2050, and on the RHND numbers.

Plan Bay Area has admirable goals, but its explicit ambitions are horribly weak. If all goes according to plan, most Bay Area workers will still commute by car in 2050, most residents won't live conveniently near transit, and our housing-plus-transit affordability will be worse than New York City's is today. Ann Hidalgo, the Mayor of Paris, raised cycling modeshare fifty percent year-over-year, and we can't raise it that much regionally in *thirty-five* years? The Plan bends over backwards to appease the homeowners, car-driving class, at the expense of all Californians. It is disgracefully unambitious. Is this truly the best we can do?

The RHND numbers are similarly inadequate. The ABAG President, Jesse Arreguin, declared that those numbers are a floor, not a ceiling--a floor which the Bay Area hasn't reached in at least the last twenty-four years! We've locked in homelessness and overcrowding for the foreseeable future when we *know* just how horribly dangerous those things are. This is a failure to lead from ABAG, and the repercussions will harm people inside and outside of the Bay Area for years to come.

Thank you for your time.

Adam Buchbinder