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To: info@planbayarea.org
Subject: Public input to The Blueprint and Equity and Performance Outcomes 7-20-2020
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External Email

Dear PBA Staff,

I am working on comments to your efforts on PBA 2020. In my research I found that the article linked below captures many of my core concerns, and want to submit it in its entirety, including all citations, as Public comment for PBA 2050.

You can blame me. William Mayben, [REDACTED]

There is no need for this article to be buried as a citation, or quoted extensively in my comments, It is something all of us need to think about. I began citing examples of the same public projects Adam Brinklow investigated in his article. Given the scope of work envisioned in PBA2050, Adam's article should be a seminar for everyone involved, including each citation.

The central theme regarding a public works project as extensive as PBA2050, given our recent history with large but admittedly much less ambitious projects; is that all of them have completed far over budget, and far behind schedule. Worse for PBA 2050, would be its failure to deliver on its promises.

Please distribute this cautionary article broadly. It is well written, and well-documented.

Respectfully, I realize all of you have mind-bending amounts of data to read, budgets to process, schedules to maintain; however, it is important to step back and realize what we are up against to pull this off.

If I walked your halls, I would call Adam and ask him if he would consider presenting. My preliminary work in providing hopefully salient commentary on The Plan in its present stage; contains a number of similar red flags.

The main concern, also clearly expressed several times in the Brinklow article, is "who is in charge?" Tremendous amounts of money with weak management inevitably lead to cost and schedule overruns.

Let's step back.

PBA 2050 proposes that the works of The Plan be under the direction of the 9 Counties and the 101 municipalities within the project area; as well as a list of agencies. All red flags are up

for me; as a former Division President with bottom line responsibility for “only” thousands of new homes every year. The success of the goals of the Plan rest in project management of a scale previously contemplated only by a State, or a Nation. We don’t want our streets running in red ink; and neither can we fail in the scope of our vision.

As always, I am willing to participate in this discussion, and the process it can lead to. All of us need to have “skin in the game” for PBA 2050.

Yours,

Bill Mayben

<https://sf.curbed.com/2019/8/12/20801711/san-francisco-megaprojects-late-over-budget-broken-transbay-subway>