Dear ABAG people,

I feel profound sadness about the inevitable adverse consequences of your ill-informed actions to continue to promote growth of population and buildings in the Bay Area. The human species is in overshoot. Dieback is inevitable. The longer we live in overshoot and the more we exacerbate it, the more we degrade the environment on which we and those who follow rely to survive and thrive.

The society we've built on growing human population and growing our conversion of nature to our ends is a Ponzi scheme. Like all such ventures, it will come to an end. Increasingly volatile climate, plummeting biodiversity, and the growing gap between a tiny handful and the masses of humankind promise that end will come sooner rather than later.

A first principle of sustainability is durability. What we build now, if built properly, will last a hundred years or more. Who will occupy it on a planet with a human population much smaller than the current, making its way without the immense energy subsidy of fossil fuels?

Thank you for considering these views.

David Schrom