



July 20, 2021

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

RE: Draft Plan Bay Area 2050

Dear Director McMillan:

On behalf of the East Bay Economic Development Alliance, the East Bay Leadership Council, and Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group, organizations that represent a broad spectrum of government, business, and private sector entities across the East Bay, we are writing to express our support once again for a number of strategies identified by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) in the draft Plan Bay Area 2050.

Our cross-sector organizations share many of the goals and objectives outlined in the draft document. We also value MTC/ABAG's desire to weave equity and long-term resiliency into the investments that will be needed to help the Bay Area continue to thrive and grow to 2050 and beyond. Notably, we support policies and projects that align with the following goals:

- Expand and enhance the mobility of people and goods across the region. Our organizations support policies that help to reduce inequities arising from increasingly challenging and complex commute sheds through affordable, reliable, safe, and seamless transportation networks and options.
- Champion the development of varied housing types across the region, particularly in transit-rich and employment areas. We also encourage strategies and policies that ease the financing and construction of housing so that it can be made more accessible and affordable to households at all income levels. We also support balanced and complete communities with access to jobs, recreation, and services to ensure a high quality of life.
- Attract and retain businesses of all sizes and industry sectors to ensure our region remains competitive in a dynamic global economy. We also encourage both physical and human infrastructure investments to create and sustain high-quality jobs and an inclusive workforce pipeline.

In addition to the aforementioned goals, we would like to reiterate our interest in the implementation of the following strategies that we feel are essential to our region's long-term success

Transportation strategies:

T1: Restore, Operate, and Maintain the Existing System

T2: Support Community-led Transportation Enhancements in Communities of Concern

T3: Enable a Seamless Mobility Experience

T6: Improve Interchanges and Address Highway Bottlenecks

- T7: Advance Other Regional Programs and Local Priorities
- T10: Enhance Local Transit Frequency, Capacity, and Reliability
- T11: Expand and Modernize the Regional Rail Network
- T12: Build an Integrated Regional Express Lane and Express Bus Network

Housing strategies:

- H3: Allow a Greater Mix of Housing Densities and Types in Blueprint Growth Geographies
- H4: Build Adequate Affordable Housing to Ensure Homes for All
- H6: Transform Aging Malls and Office Parks into Neighborhoods
- H7: Provide Targeted Mortgage, Rental and Small Business Assistance to Communities of Concern
- H8: Accelerate Reuse of Public and Community Land for Mixed Income Housing and Essential Services

Economic strategies:

- EC2: Expand Job Training and Incubator Programs
- EC3: Invest in High-Speed Internet in Underserved Low-Income Communities
- EC4: Allow Greater Commercial Densities in Growth Geographies
- EC5: Provide Incentives to Employers to Shift Jobs to Housing-Rich Areas Well Served by Transit
- EC6: Retain and Invest in Key Industrial Lands

We greatly appreciate the effort and commitment of the entire MTC/ABAG team in the development of Plan Bay Area 2050. Our organizations, both separately and collectively, look forward to continuing our dialogue with you as you pursue the many strategies that will help the greater Bay Area prepare for the future.

Warmest regards,



Kristin Connelly
President & CEO
East Bay Leadership Council



Stephen Baiter
Executive Director
East Bay Economic
Development Alliance



Lynn Naylor
CEO
Innovation Tri-Valley
Leadership Group

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East Bay Leadership Council (EBLC) is a private sector, public policy organization that advocates on issues affecting the economic vitality and quality of life of the region. EBLC's membership of East Bay employers includes leaders from business, industry, health care, education, local government, labor and the nonprofit community. www.eastbayleadershipcouncil.org

East Bay Economic Development Alliance (East Bay EDA) is a unique cross-sector partnership of private, elected, county/city/town and nonprofit leaders in the East Bay counties of Alameda and Contra Costa, helping to establish the East Bay as a globally- recognized region to grow business and attract capital and resources to create quality jobs and preserve a high quality of life. www.EastBayEDA.org

Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group (ITVLG) is a business leadership association committed to connecting the businesses, research labs, educational institution and civic leaders in the Tri-Valley region of the East Bay, by generating job growth and economic vitality for a region that is globally connected, regionally united and locally unique. www.innovationtrivalley.org