

July 15, 2021

MTC Public Information
Attn: Draft EIR Comments
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA, 94105

Submitted via email to: eircomments@bayareametro.gov

San Francisco Baykeeper Request for Extension of Comment Period for Plan Bay Area 2050 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

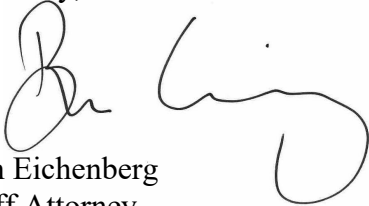
Dear Staff, MTC Commissioners, and ABAG Representatives,

On behalf of San Francisco Baykeeper (“Baykeeper”) and our approximately 5,000 members and supporters who live and/or recreate in and around the San Francisco Bay Area, I write to request a one-month extension of the 45-day comment period for the Plan Bay Area 2050 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report. Baykeeper is a non-profit public benefit corporation organized under the laws of the State of California. Baykeeper’s mission is to defend San Francisco Bay from the biggest threats and hold polluters and government agencies accountable to create healthier communities and help wildlife thrive. Our team of scientists and lawyers investigate pollution via aerial and on-the-water patrols, strengthen regulations through policy advocacy, and enforce environmental laws on behalf of the public.

The EIR contains 875 pages, as well as many prior documents that must be referred back to, which makes comprehensive review by the July 20, 2021 at 5pm deadline very difficult. Because this is a long-range plan with the goal of making the Bay Area more equitable for all residents and more resilient in the face of unexpected challenges, it is especially important that stakeholders be given ample time to review the documents in the EIR and submit comprehensive comments. Equity, in particular, requires that opportunities be extended to all, and especially to individuals and groups that do not have the extensive resources necessary to quickly review such a massive volume of documents and information.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Ben Eichenberg
Staff Attorney
San Francisco Baykeeper
1736 Franklin Street, Suite 800
Oakland, CA 94612
510-735-9700 x105
ben@baykeeper.org