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July 20, 2021

MTC/ABAG Regional Planning Program
Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 95105

Re: Plan Bay Area 2050 – Draft Implementation Plan Comment

To the MTC/ABAG Regional Planning Program:

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group looks forward to continued engagement and partnership with MTC and ABAG as the Plan Bay Area 2050 process moves through the Draft Implementation Plan phase. We support many Plan Bay Area 2050 goals across housing, transportation, the environment, and the economy that have gone through a substantial public process.

Our primary concern remains strategy EN7 and, to that end, we seek continued engagement and cooperation with MTC and ABAG on policies and programs that employers have a role in coordinating and implementing. Reducing GhG emissions is an important means to the goal of slowing climate change, a goal shared by SVLG, and we encourage the process to focus on incentives for employers to reduce GhGs. Where there are mandates, we strongly recommend that the business community is included in discussions regarding flexibility for employers to meet those mandates.

We envision a partnership role on the related strategy EN9, to meet the challenge of reducing single occupancy vehicle commute trips through robust transportation demand management programs, policies, and funding. We seek continued engagement on Strategy T5 and congestion pricing mechanisms, as well as project delivery paradigms in Strategy T11.

These strategies and others will require MTC and partnering agencies to seek legislative authority. As proposed legislation is being developed, stakeholders including the business community should be informed so as much consensus as possible can be achieved and critical support can be won. SVLG also supports and advocates for complete streets and Vision Zero supportive policies that tie into overall goals of Plan Bay Area 2050.

Finally, SVLG has had historical success with regional ballot measures. We certainly will look to partner with MTC in identifying potential opportunities to address needs in transportation, housing and sea level rise.

The Leadership Group welcomes continued collaboration with MTC and ABAG on the advancement of Plan Bay Area 2050 and other issues for a better region. For questions, please contact Stephen Tu at stu@svlg.org.

Sincerely,

Stephen Tu
Director, Transportation Policy
Silicon Valley Leadership Group