July 20, 2021

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

Sent via email to: eircomments@bayareametro.gov

RE: Comment Letter on the Plan Bay Area 2050 Draft EIR

Dear Ms. McMillan,

Stanford applauds the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) on the publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for Plan Bay Area 2050. Thank you for considering Stanford University’s comments on the Draft EIR.

The University is committed to being a living laboratory for sustainability solutions. As a whole, the University’s commitments to sustainable growth are in line with ABAG/MTC’s vision for the region, as the University has successfully built affordable student housing on the campus, is a national leader in Transportation Demand Management, has transformed Stanford’s energy, heating and cooling systems to 100% renewable power, and reduced annual potable water use by 45%.

However, as a member agency of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), Stanford respectfully notes that the Draft EIR fails to account for the Bay-Delta Plan which was adopted in December 2018 by the State Water Resources Board. Importantly, the Bay-Delta Plan notes a significant reduction in water supply for BAWSCA members, in the growth areas in the Plan Bay Area alternatives that would see the most growth. Growth cannot happen without water supply, and as such, the Plan Bay Area EIR should address this disconnect.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Lowe
Transportation and Environmental Planning Manager  
Land Use and Environmental Planning  
Stanford University