# Advancing the Regional Housing Agenda

Commission Workshop

April 27, 2016



# Calling the Bay Area Home February 2016 Event

Approach Relies on Three Key Strategies

- Build market rate and affordable units
- Protect those at risk of displacement
- Advocate for self-help solutions

### Calling the Bay Area Home Event (video)

 Housing Forum: "Calling the Bay Area Home: Tackling the Housing Affordability and Displacement Challenge" — February 20, 2016



Play video

#### **Bay Area's Housing Crisis**

 Since 2010: 500,000 new jobs/ 50,000 new housing units

#### San Francisco Chronicle

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2016

#### Bay Area home prices now higher than before the reces

by David R. Baker

For some, it's a reason to celebrate. For others, a cause of despair.

Bay Area home prices are now even higher than they were before the recession, according to data released Friday by the State Board of Equalization. The Bay Area is the only region in California to claim that distinction.

The median price of an existing, detached, single-family house in the Bay Area hit \$1.25 million in 2015, 7 percent above the peak in 2006. The median throughout all of California last year reached \$473,995, about 15 percent below the 2006 level.

"It's great that housing prices have recovered, and then some," said Fiona Ma, the board's chairwoman

"However, it also highli critical need to assure a housing options are ava working families in the B

Median single-family ho in the Los Angeles area. remain 18 percent below level. In the Inland En Lafayette, where more than 20 percent of reshit by the mortgage c are still 24 percent belc

Higher rents mean more calls for rent control, said Dean Preston, executive director of

### San Jose Mercury News

#### Skyrocketing rents prompt Lafayette council to consider emergency moratorium on increases

by Jennifer Modenessi "Increasingly, there are higger institutional investors that are buying up properties and

are pushing up the rents very rapidly," Pre-

ston said. "When you have soaring rents, it

is natural that tenants are going to demand

"We consider it one of the avenues cities and

counties have in their toolbox for promot-

ing affordability." Evan Gerberding, an HCD

Suck Properties sent out letters in February

informing tenants of the ownership change.

First notices of rent increases went out to a

small percentage of units. Rent hikes are

being "phused in" to select apartments

undergoing repairs and improvements,

Kirby Sack, president and CHO, wrote in an

email. The improvements include deferred

maintenance, exterior paint and upgraded

amenities and interiors

spokeswoman, said in an email.

LAFAYETTE - Spurred by a group of tenants facing skyrocketing rents and forced evictions, city leaders are eyeing a possible emergency moratorium on rent increases.

Lawmakers will discuss May 11 a temporary halt of rent hikes in response to complaints from residents of three downtown apartment complexes recently purchased by San Francisco real estate investment firm Sack Prop-

Should Lafayette pass a moratorium, it would be the first Contra Costa city to do so after Richmond failed to pass one earlier this month. Concord is the only city in the county with rent control, although it only applies to mobile home parks.

Lafayette residents say the new owner is increasing the rents as much as 90 percent, pricing families, seniors, disabled residents and other tenants out of their one-, two- and three-bedroom apartment homes. Some residents have received 90-day eviction notices. Anumber of families have already left.

While astronomical rent increases and tenant displacement are common in large Bay Area cities such as San Francisco and Oakland, they're also on the rise in the suburbs, including smaller, affluent cities such as

While she denied that tenants have been served eviction notices, Sack acknowledged that nonrenewal notices for units that must undergo major improvements have been sent. Rents for the more than 100 apartments known as "1038 on 2

Stanley Middle School teacher Jennifer Sutherland says a potential \$500 per month rent hike on the three-bedroom apartment she shares with her 8-year-old twins will price her out. For others, the hike is even

According to the state's Department of Housing and Community Development, which Longtime resident Damilia Loupy said she oversees housing growth, many local govwas surprised to receive a notice last week ernments successfully use rent control to raising her monthly rent 90 percent. Loupy maintain and promote affordable workforce told lawmakers she has been paying a 7 to 10 percent increase every two years

"The rent increase and the manner in which they're dealing with it is immoral," she said.

Some lawmakers expressed concern about the large rent increases, while also acknowledging the city would not be able to craft a rent control ordinance before some rent hikes and evictions take place.

"That seems completely beyond the pale to me. That's cruzy," said Councilman Mike

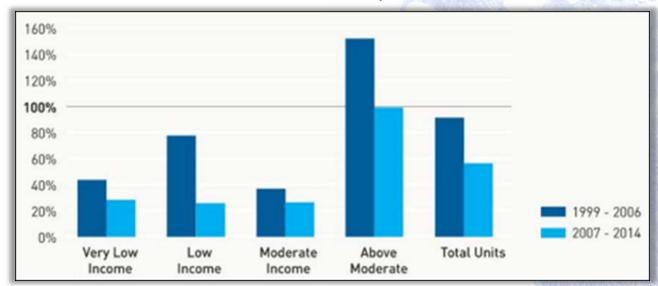
Councilman Don Tatzin called for the emergency ordinance and asked city officials to meet with the property owner, whom residents say has refused to discuss the rent

Landlords of smaller complexes also aired their views, asking the city not to penalize them for what they called an in-



#### **Lagging Supply**

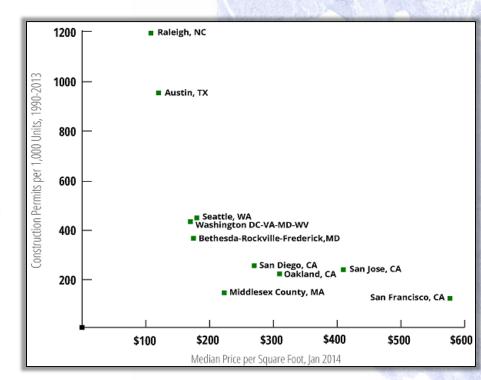
35% of low & moderate homes permitted since 1999



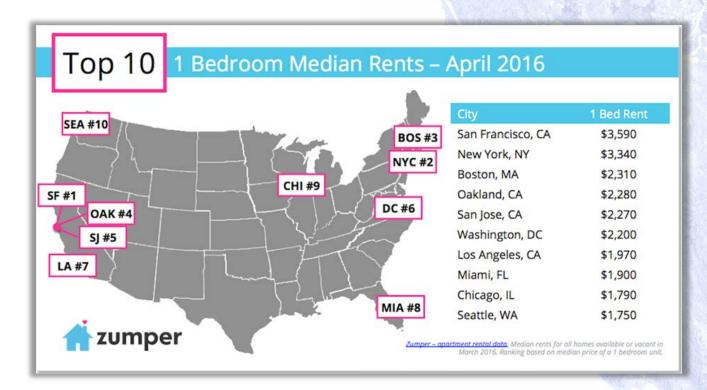
125,000 low & moderate homes that were not permitted

#### Nation's highest hurdles for new construction

- Barriers to by-right development
- Loss of redevelopment funding
- CEQA used to impede infill development
- Extreme disconnect between location of jobs-housing

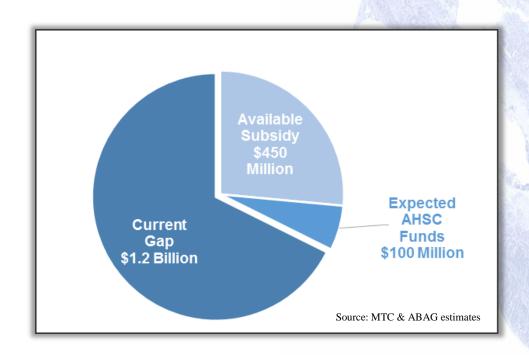


#### High Rents Put Tenants at Risk of Displacement

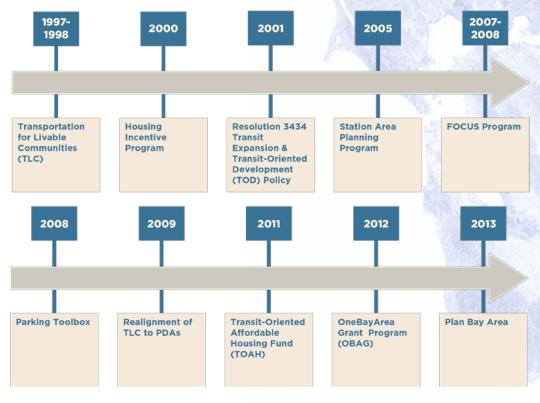


### **Housing's Funding Shortfall**

Reflects loss of RDA and 80% of federal funding



## MTC's Historic Housing Role: Focused but growing



#### Self – Help for Housing?

- Bay Area Self Help for Transportation
  - 1990 \$0 annually
  - 2016 \$1 billion <u>annually</u>
    - County Sales Taxes & Vehicle License Fees
    - Regional Measure 2
- County Housing Bonds One Time Funding
  - \$300 million San Francisco (adopted)
  - \$500 million Alameda (anticipated ballot fall 2016)
  - \$50 million Oakland (anticipated fall ballot 2016)
- Should MTC develop a self-help housing strategy?



# SHORT TERM OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION FOLLOW-UP

#### **Program Status**

November 18, 2015

OBAG 2 adopted

MTC Resolution No. 4202

December 4, 2015

FAST Act signed

New 5-year authorization

June 2016

**OBAG 2 Revisions** 

(tentative)

- Placeholder for potential affordable housing policies
- County CMA process delayed accordingly



\$72 million in additional program revenues

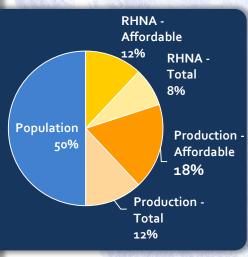
- Potential housing policies
- Distribution of FAST revenues
- Revise deadlines for County CMA process

## OBAG 2 Overview

#### **Program Funding**

	OBAG 1	OBAG 2*	
Regional Planning Activities	\$8	\$10	
Pavement Management Program	\$9	\$9	
Regional PDA Planning	\$20	\$20	
Climate Initiatives Program	\$22	\$22	
Priority Conservation Area (PCA)	\$10	\$16	
Regional Operations Programs	\$184	\$170	
Transit Priorities Program	\$201	\$189	
County CMA Program	\$372	\$354	
Regional Subtotal	\$454	\$436	
County CMA Subtotal	\$372	\$354	
Total OBAG Program	\$827	\$790	

### **County Distribution**



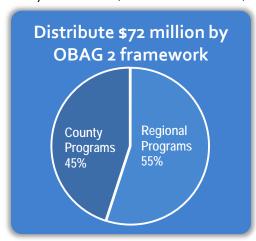
Millions \$, rounded

<sup>\*</sup> As adopted on November 18, 2015.

## Additional FAST Revenue — \$72 million: Distribution Options

#### **OBAG Framework**

Stay the Course (Not Recommended)



Option A.

Transportation Focus
Bay Bridge Corridor Capacity

Direct a portion of \$72 million to address core capacity constraints



Option B.
Housing Focus

Direct all \$72 million to support housing



## **A. Transportation Focus**Bay Bridge Core Capacity

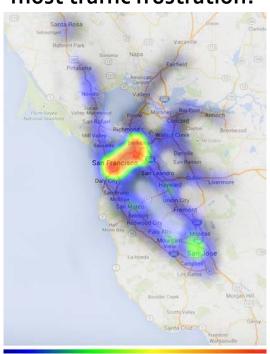
 Bridge is at maximum vehicle capacity in peak hours, but increasing vehicle occupancy can address growing demand

- ► Goal to increase *person* throughput [move more people in fewer cars]
  - HOV improvements
  - Transit core improvements
  - Shared mobility services
- Tie-in with Core Capacity Transit Study, Bay Area Express Lanes Network, All Electronic Tolling Study

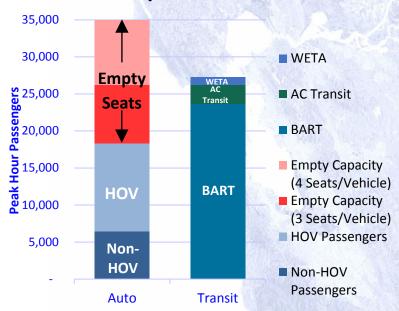


#### **Opportunity: Utilize Empty Seats**

Where do Bay Area residents experience the most traffic frustration?



#### **Transbay WB Peak Hour**



4 seats/vehicle → 48% seats are empty

16,000+ empty seats/hour = 70% of BART Tube Capacity

Source: 2015 Bay Area Council Poll

Source: BATA 2015, Caltrans 2014, MTC 2015

### Bay Bridge Core Capacity Project \$40 Million Near-Term Strategies





#### **B.** Housing Focus **Conceptual Approaches**

- Reward Jurisdictions Bonus for cities/counties (2015 – 2019)
- **Direct Investment** Pilot preservation loan fund
- Regulatory Approach Additional funds conditioned on adopted housing policies, affordable housing production, and/or current affordability



Photo: Bridge Housing, Armstrong Place

### Moving Forward – OBAG 2 & Short-term

#### June 2016 (tentative)

#### Adopt OBAG 2 program revisions:

- Distribute additional FAST revenues (\$72 million)
- Address placeholder for affordable housing policies

## **Option A. Transportation Focus**Bay Bridge Corridor Capacity



### Option B. Housing Focus



#### <u>Decision on</u> Conceptual Approaches

- Reward/bonus for jurisdictions
- Direct investment (preservation fund)
- Regulatory Approach (condition funds on affordability factors)



# MEDIUM TERM INITIATIVES WITHIN EXISTING AUTHORITY

#### Infrastructure Finance Fund

- Use BATA's approved investment policy
- Provide low interest infrastructure loans to support
   Infill projects consistent with Plan Bay Area



# MEDIUM TERM INITIATIVES OUTSIDE EXISTING AUTHORITY

### Regional Jobs-Housing Linkage Fee

Establishes a fee on location inefficient commercial development

- One time
- Employer threshold TBD
- Fund affordable housing for low- and moderate- income households
- Fund TDM programs



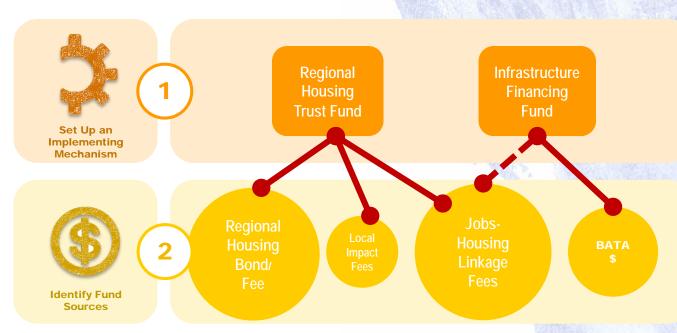
#### Regional Housing Bond/Fee and Trust Fund

- Establish a Regional Housing Trust Fund
- Funding from Regional Housing Bond or Fee
- Provide a regional funding vehicle for new initiatives e.g. Jobs-Housing Linkage Fee





#### mechanisms and fund sources







### **Moving Forward — Medium-term**

Potential Regional Housing Strategies	Potential Impact	Timeframe		
Within MTC's Existing Authority				
Infrastructure Finance Fund	Medium	1-3 years		
Outside MTC's Existing Authority: State Legislation and Voter Approval				
Regional Jobs-Housing Linkage Fee	High	2 – 5 years		
Regional Housing Bond/Fee Program and Trust Fund	Medium	2 – 4 years		





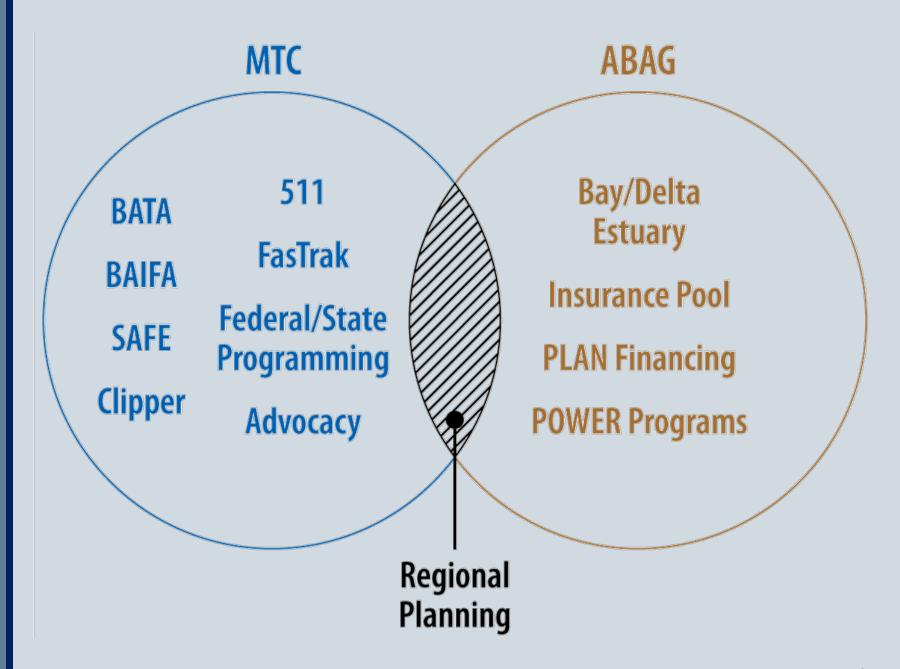
# MTC/ABAG Merger Study

COMMISSION WORKSHOP

APRIL 27, 2016



Regional Planning Overlap



### Three Problems – identified by consultant

- 1. Preparation of the region's sustainable community strategy to reduce greenhouse gases is statutorily split between two regional agencies.
- 2. Two agencies responsible for regional land use and transportation planning and associated services and programs are not formally linked by an integrated management, leadership, or policy structure.
- 3. ABAG's ongoing ability to implement its mission is compromised by its dependence on discretionary funding that will challenge its fiscal sustainability over the long run.

## Overall Rankings

	Operational Effectiveness and Accountability	Transparency in Policy Decision Making	Core Service Delivery and Financial Sustainability	Ease of Implementation	Implementation Support
MTC Res 4210	7	5	3	10	4
Option 1. No structural change	3	3	7	10	5
<b>Option 2.</b> Independent planning director	6	5	6	10	5
Option 3. New JPA	6	5	6	6	5
Option 4. Create new agency	9	10	10	4	9
Option 5. Pursue comprehensive agency	9	10	10	1	9
<b>Option 6.</b> Consolidate all planning staff and create new agency	10	10	10	4	9
<b>Option 7.</b> Consolidate all staff and pursue new governance options	10	7	10	4	8







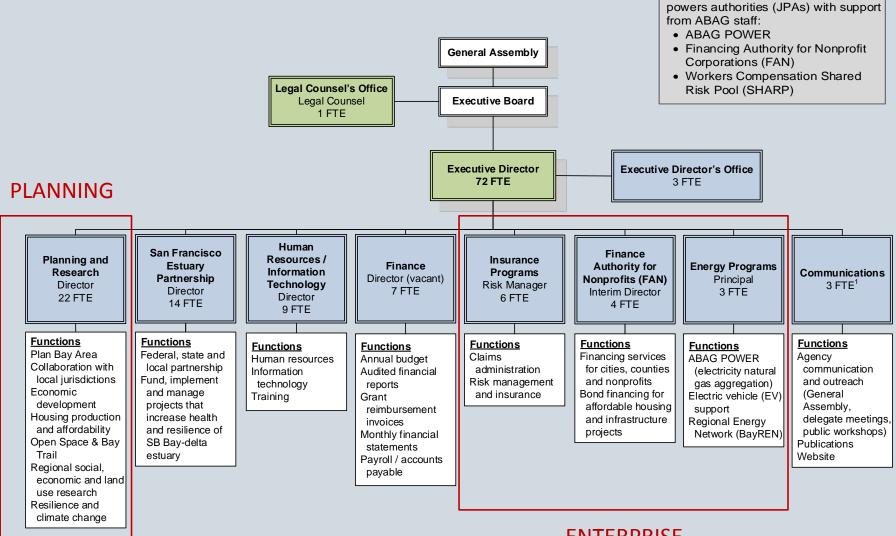
### Caveats

- Rough cut needs further analysis
- Reflects only limited involvement by ABAG staff
- Financial issues only organizational, labor, other issues to follow

### Functional Organization Chart: Association of Bay Area Governments

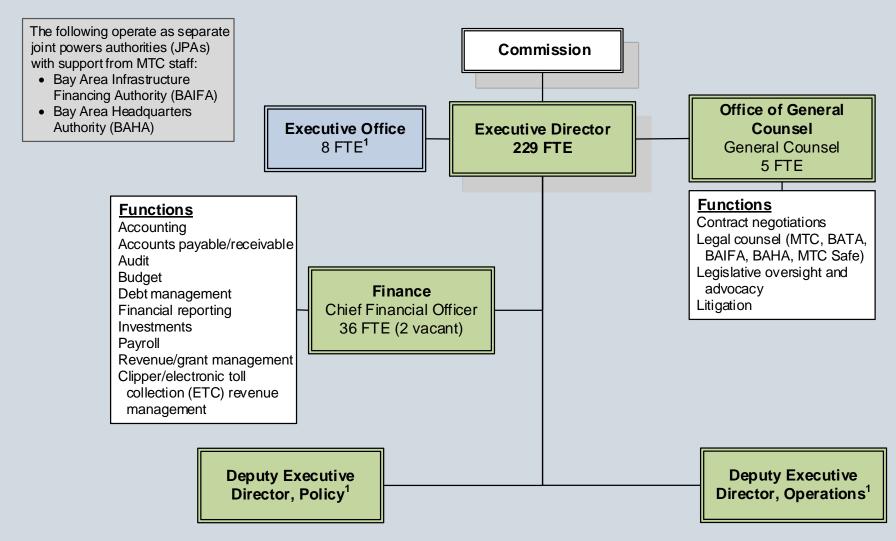
Management

**Partners** 



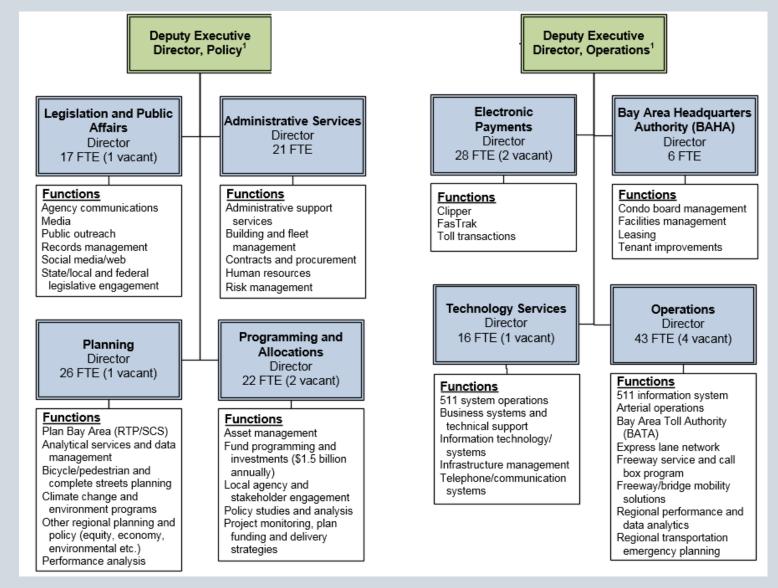
The following operate as separate joint

### Functional Organization Review: Metropolitan Transportation Commission





# Functional Organization Review: Metropolitan Transportation Commission (continued)





# 2014 Funding Framework Manageable Structural Shortfall

	(\$ in millions)							
ABAG Revenues:	<u>14-15</u>	<u>15-16</u>	<u>16-17</u>	<u>17-18</u>	<u> 18-19</u>	<u>19-20</u>	<u>20-21</u>	<u>21-22</u>
<b>Total MTC Revenues</b>	4.32	4.44	5.07	5.19	5.27	5.34	5.41	4.89
Other Revenues	33.71	22.71	53.15	54.21	55.30	56.40	57.53	58.68
Total	38.03	27.16	58.22	59.40	60.56	61.74	62.94	63.57
ABAG Expenses:								
Planning & Research	5.01	5.13	5.51	5.69	5.86	6.02	6.15	6.27
Other Programs	32.18	21.97	52.71	53.90	55.01	56.13	57.25	57.78
Total	37.19	27.11	58.22	59.59	60.87	62.15	63.39	64.05
Personnel (Direct+Indirect)	11.37	11.59	11.83	12.24	12.58	12.91	13.18	13.44
Consultant Services	14.16	10.78	28.25	28.81	29.39	29.97	30.57	31.18
Pass-Through	9.48	2.45	15.76	16.12	16.43	16.74	17.07	16.79
Other Expense	2.17	2.29	2.38	2.43	2.48	2.53	2.58	2.63
Total	37.19	27.11	58.22	59.59	60.87	62.15	63.39	64.05
ABAG Balance:								
Net Revenue (Expense)	0.85	0.05	-	(0.19)	(0.31)	(0.41)	(0.45)	(0.48)
Available Fund Balance	1.84	1.89	1.89	1.71	1.40	0.99	0.54	0.06
GASB 68 Pension Liability	(11.83)	(11.43)	(11.04)	(10.65)	(10.25)	(9.86)	(9.46)	(9.07)
<b>Avail Balance After GASB 68</b>	(9.98)	(9.54)	(9.15)	(8.94)	(8.85)	(8.87)	(8.93)	(9.01)
Avail balance After GASB 66	(9.90)	(9.54)	(9.15)	(0.94)	(0.00)	(0.07)	(0.93)	(9.01)



 GASB 68 does not affect cash; reflects present value of unfunded pension liability; assumes liability amortized over 30 years

### MTC Resolution 4210

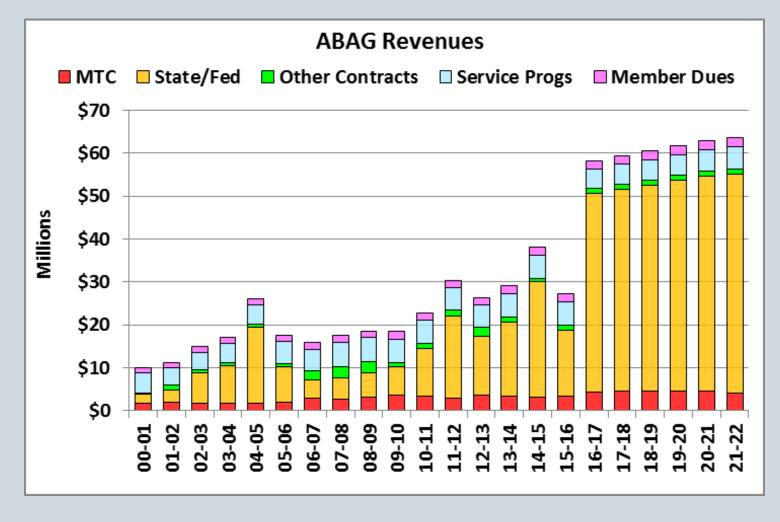
# Balance Decline Accelerates, Deficit in 4 Years

	(\$ in millions)							
ABAG Revenues:	<u>14-15</u>	<u>15-16</u>	<u>16-17</u>	<u>17-18</u>	<u> 18-19</u>	<u> 19-20</u>	<u>20-21</u>	<u>21-22</u>
Total MTC Revenues	4.32	4.44	2.47	2.54	2.55	2.57	2.58	0.80
Other Revenues	33.71	22.71	53.15	54.21	55.30	56.40	57.53	58.68
Total	38.03	27.16	55.62	56.75	57.85	58.97	60.11	59.48
ABAG Expenses:								
Planning & Research	5.01	5.13	3.35	3.49	3.61	3.73	3.82	3.91
Other Programs	32.18	21.97	52.71	53.90	55.01	56.13	57.25	57.78
Total	37.19	27.11	56.06	57.38	58.62	59.87	61.07	61.68
Personnel (Direct+Indirect)	11.37	11.59	9.76	10.12	10.43	10.72	10.95	11.18
Consultant Services	14.16	10.78	28.25	28.81	29.39	29.97	30.57	31.18
Pass-Through	9.48	2.45	15.76	16.12	16.43	16.74	17.07	16.79
Other Expense	2.17	2.29	2.29	2.33	2.38	2.43	2.48	2.52
Total	37.19	27.11	56.06	57.38	58.62	59.87	61.07	61.68
ABAG Balance:								
Net Revenue (Expense)	0.85	0.05	(0.44)	(0.63)	(0.77)	(0.90)	(0.95)	(2.20)
Available Fund Balance	1.84	1.89	1.46	0.82	0.05	(0.84)	(1.80)	(4.00)
GASB 68 Pension Liability	(11.83)	(11.43)	(11.04)	(10.65)	(10.25)	(9.86)	(9.46)	(9.07)
Avail Balance After GASB 68	(9.98)	(9.54)	(9.58)	(9.82)	(10.20)	(10.70)	(11.26)	(13.07)



 GASB 68 does not affect cash; reflects present value of unfunded pension liability; assumes liability amortized over 30 years

# 2014 Funding Framework ABAG Revenue Structure



- Major growth in state/federal grants (estuary and energy grants); assumes continuation for several years
- Much of these grants are consultant costs and passthrough, but also support various staff





# 2014 Funding Framework Total Cost and Funding of ABAG Planning Function

				(\$ in m	illions)			
ABAG Planning Function:	<u>14-15</u>	<u>15-16</u>	<u>16-17</u>	<u>17-18</u>	<u> 18-19</u>	<u>19-20</u>	<u>20-21</u>	<u>21-22</u>
Total Planners (22 FTE)	3.36	3.45	3.70	3.82	3.93	4.04	4.13	4.21
Other Costs @4%	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17
Subtotal	3.50	3.58	3.85	3.98	4.09	4.20	4.29	4.38
Indirect Costs @44.95%	1.51	1.55	1.66	1.72	1.77	1.82	1.86	1.89
Total	5.01	5.13	5.51	5.69	5.86	6.02	6.15	6.27
Planning Revenue Sources:								
MTC Sources	3.69	3.74	3.80	3.86	3.91	3.97	4.03	4.09
Other Revenue Sources	1.32	1.39	1.72	1.84	1.95	2.05	2.12	2.18
Total Sources	5.01	5.13	5.51	5.69	5.86	6.02	6.15	6.27
MTC Share of Funding	74%	73%	69%	68%	67%	66%	66%	65%

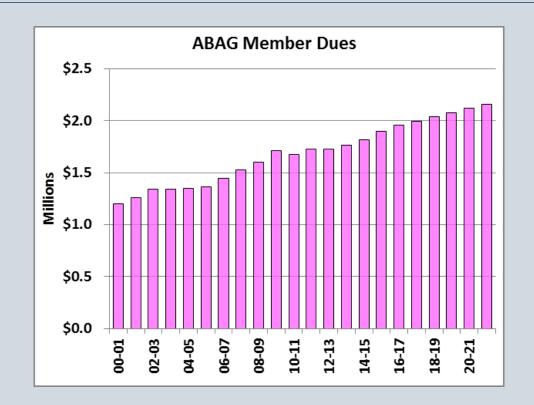
- MTC covers most, but not all, of ABAG planners' costs
- Planners charge time to various projects

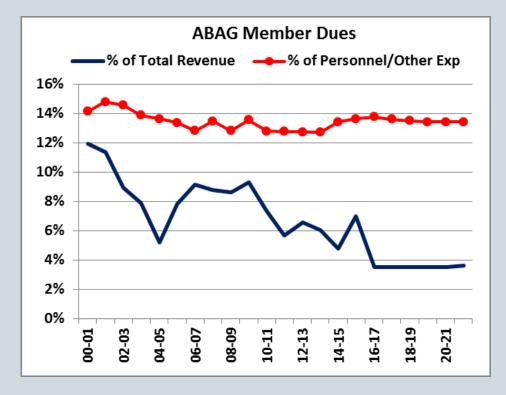






# Relative Importance of Dues





- Current dues plan increases rates annually by CPI
- Revising plan would require vote of ABAG Assembly (majority of a majority of 110 members voting)
- Dues lower as % of total revenues, but steady at 13% of personnel/ other expense





# Near-Term MTC Budget Impact: Resolution 4210

Financial Considerations	Annual Cost/Revenue (in Million \$s)	
EXPENSE		
Salary Increase	2.3	
Annual OPEB Increase	0.3	
Supplies/Equipment	0.1	
Transition Payment*	1.2	* Through
ABAG TIs*	0.6	FY2020-21
Subtotal	4.4	
REVENUE		
MTC Funding Framework Commitment**	3.8	** \$0.6M Prop. 84
Gain/(Loss)	(0.6)	eliminated

# Near-Term MTC Budget Impact: Option 7

Financial Considerations	Annual Cost/Revenue
Financial Considerations	(in Million \$s)
EXPENSE*	
Salary Base	11.4
Salary Increase	1.1
Annual OPEB Increase	1.0
Supplies/Equipment	0.1
Subtotal	13.6
REVENUE*	
Funding Framework	3.8
BATA Bay Trail	0.8
Member Dues	1.9
OH Reimbursement	3.2
Other Staff Grants (est.)	1.8
Subtotal	11.5
Gain/(Loss)	(2.1)

 Financial mitigations could offset nearterm annual deficit

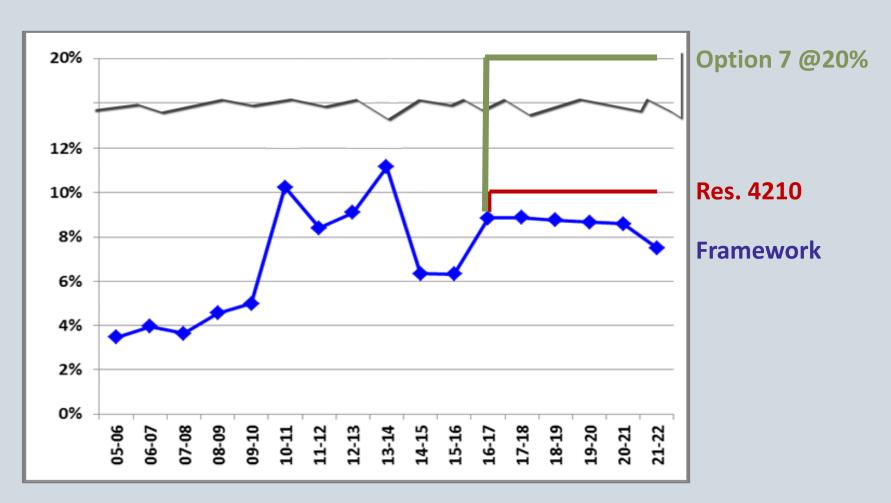
\* Assumes TI obligation to BATA is forgiven

# Long-Term MTC Liabilities: PERS and OPEB Considerations

• From a modest increase to a full transfer of pension and retiree health benefit costs

	Resolution 4210		Option 7		
Liability	ABAG	MTC	ABAG	MTC	
PERS	\$11,357,673	_	(\$11,357,673)	\$11,357,673	
OPEB	(888,514)	888,514	(\$4,921,000)	\$4,921,000	
MARA to OPEB	_	2,207,735	_	\$6,113,728	
TOTAL BALANCE SHEET CHANGE	\$10,469,159	\$3,096,249	(\$16,278,673)	\$22,392,401	
% FUNDED	66%	76%	N/A	68%	
Annualized Change		400,978		2,762,000	

# ABAG Cost as % of MTC Total Expense



• ABAG costs (planning & tenant improvements) average around 8% of total MTC expense in recent years





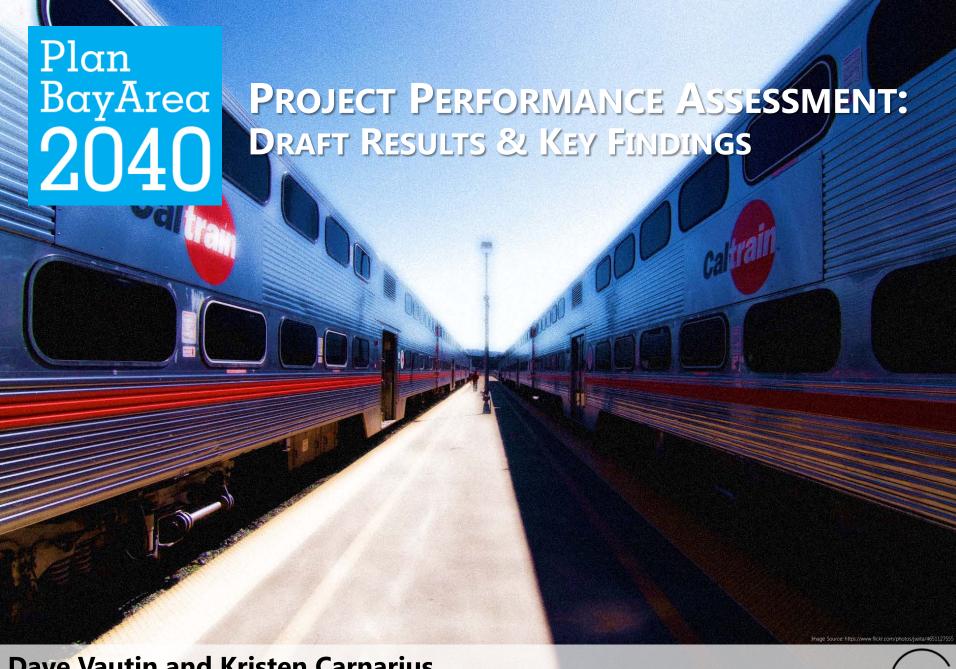


# Option 7 Risks

- Dues revenues
- Grant funding
- Undisclosed/unforeseen liabilities

# Recommended Next Steps

- Comprehensive Financial Review:
  - Supplement joint staff analysis with an independent integration audit
- ABAG Action Plan:
  - ABAG develops and recommends plan to avoid imposing undue costs on MTC



**Dave Vautin and Kristen Carnarius April 28, 2016 –** *Commission Workshop* 



# What's the role of project performance?

**To inform a robust dialogue** about regional priorities and trade-offs in a fiscally-constrained environment

To evaluate proposed transportation investments on a level playing field using the same methodologies

To understand how specific projects support – or adversely impact – targets adopted by the Commission



# **The Big Picture**



## How do we evaluate projects?

# Rely upon the framework established in Plan Bay Area.

- Consistently evaluate uncommitted major transportation investments
- 2 Identify <u>outliers</u> in performance
- Prioritize funding for high-performing projects

## Which projects?

Does the project...

- Need regional funding AND
- Cost more than \$100M AND
- Increase capacity or address state of good repair?

**If so,** then the project is evaluated as part of the performance assessment!



**Transit Expansion** Road Expansion

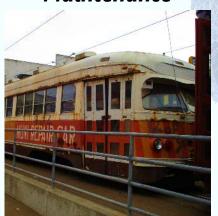






**Road Efficiency** 



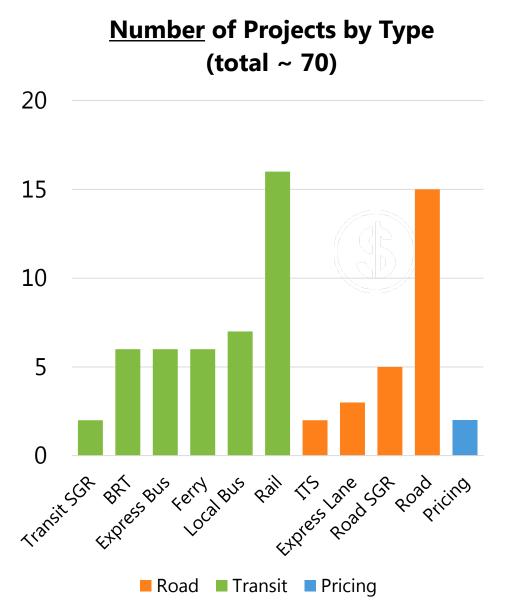


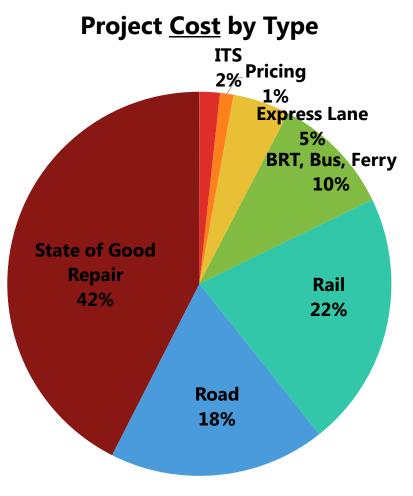
**Transit Efficiency** 

Regional Road Maintenance



## **Project Performance List**





**Total Cost = \$115 billion** 

## **Analysis Components**



### **TARGETS ASSESSMENT**

Assessed qualitatively using targets scores

Determine impact on adopted targets

# BENEFIT-COST ASSESSMENT

Assessed quantitatively using MTC Travel Model

Evaluate relative costeffectiveness



#### TARGETS ASSESSMENT

Assessed qualitatively using target scores



Climate Protection



Affordable Housing



Non-Auto Mode Share



Adequate Housing



Displacement Risk



Road State of Good Repair



Healthy & Safe Communities



Access to Jobs



Transit State of Good Repair



Open Space & Agricultural Preservation



Job Creation



Housing & Transportation Costs



Goods Movement **Maximum score:** 

**13** 

if the project supports all 13 targets strongly

### **BENEFIT – COST ASSESSMENT**

Assessed quantitatively using MTC Travel Model One

Plan BayArea 2040

## **Benefits (\$)**

Travel time + cost
Emissions
Collisions
Health

## Costs (\$)

Capital
Net operating & maintenance

### **Key Assumptions:**

- Baseline transportation network ~ 2018
- Adopted 2040 land pattern from Plan Bay Area

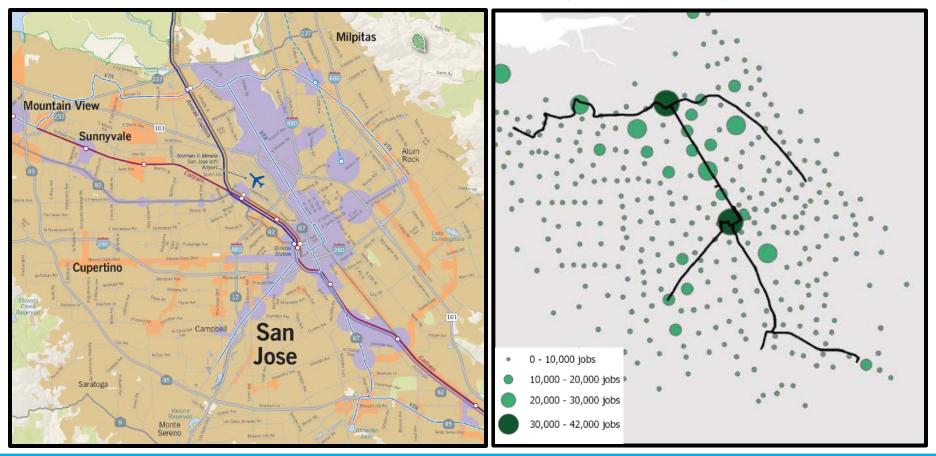


## The Bay Area in 2040

### From Plan Bay Area:

Almost **40%** of the **jobs** and **housing units** added from 2010 to 2040 will be in the region's 3 largest cities: **San Jose, San Francisco, and Oakland** 

San Jose job distribution in year 2040



## **Additional Assessments**



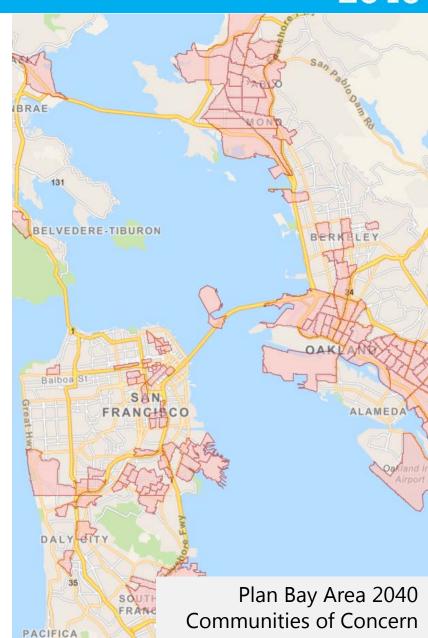
# **Project-Level Equity Assessment**

- Equity Targets Score
- Relationship to Communities of Concern



### Benefit-Cost Supplemental Assessments

- Sensitivity Testing (testing input assumptions)
- Confidence Assessment (disclosing limitations)



# **Key Findings**

Maintaining regional transit infrastructure ranks as the **top priority**, given its high level of cost-effectiveness and strong support of adopted targets.



**Land use matters** – projects that support Plan Bay Area growth patterns showed strong performance.





# **Key Findings**

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Highly-used highways and transit systems remain the **backbone of the region** – both efficiency and maintenance investments prove highly cost-effective.



Projects in **chronically congested corridors** generally provide the biggest bang per buck.





# **Key Findings**

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In general, road efficiency projects **outperform road expansion projects**, reflecting lower costs and fewer environmental impacts.



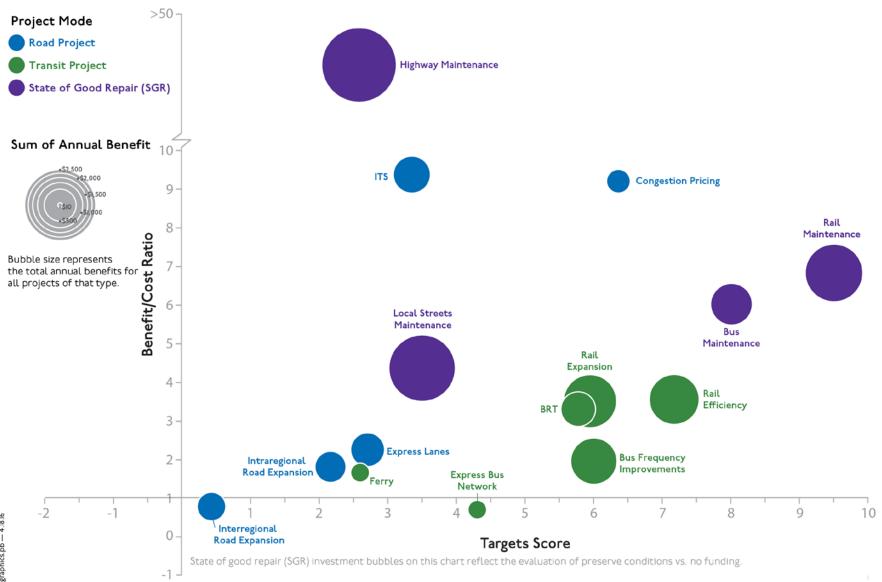
All of the region's highestperforming projects **increase access to Communities of Concern**.

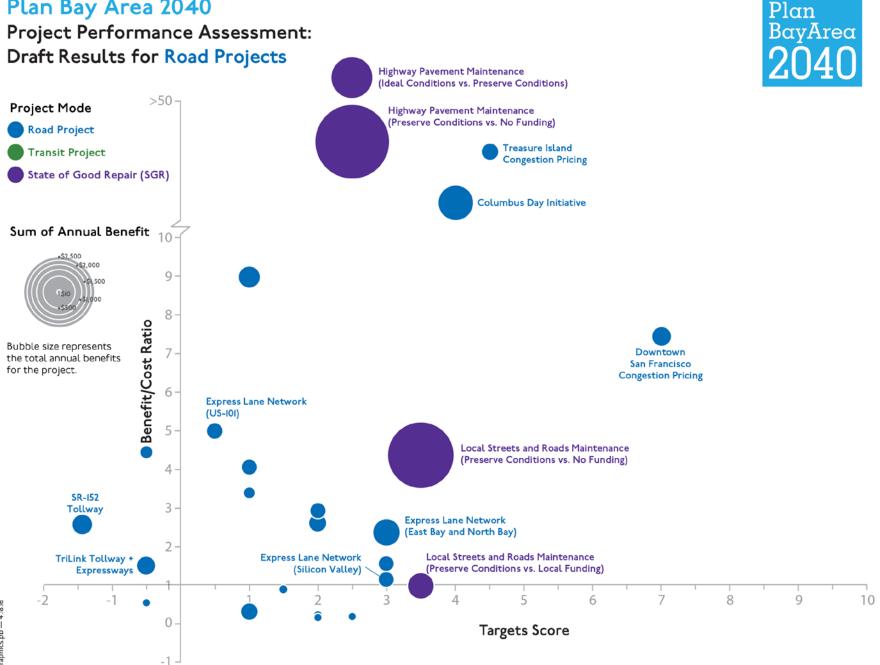




#### Project Performance Assessment: Overall Draft Results by Project Type

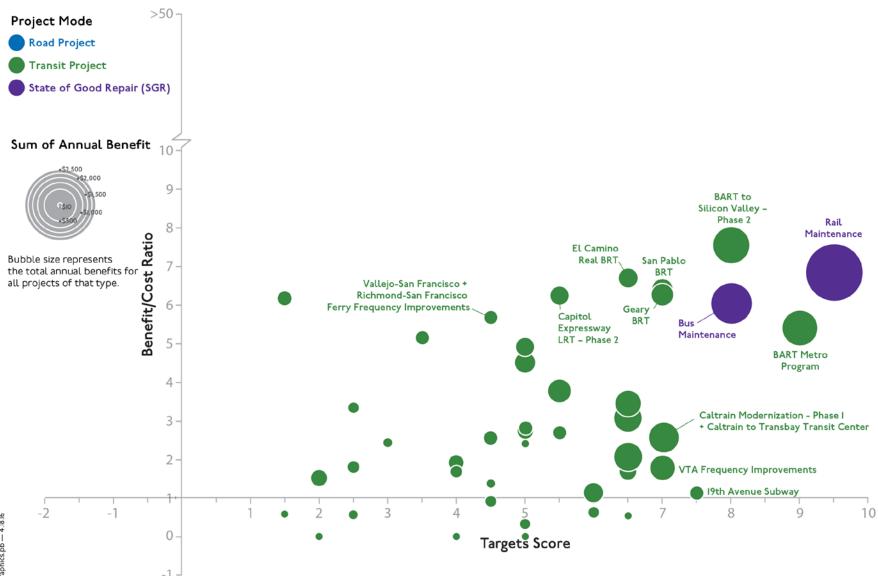






### Project Performance Assessment: Draft Results for Transit Projects





## What have we heard from sponsors?

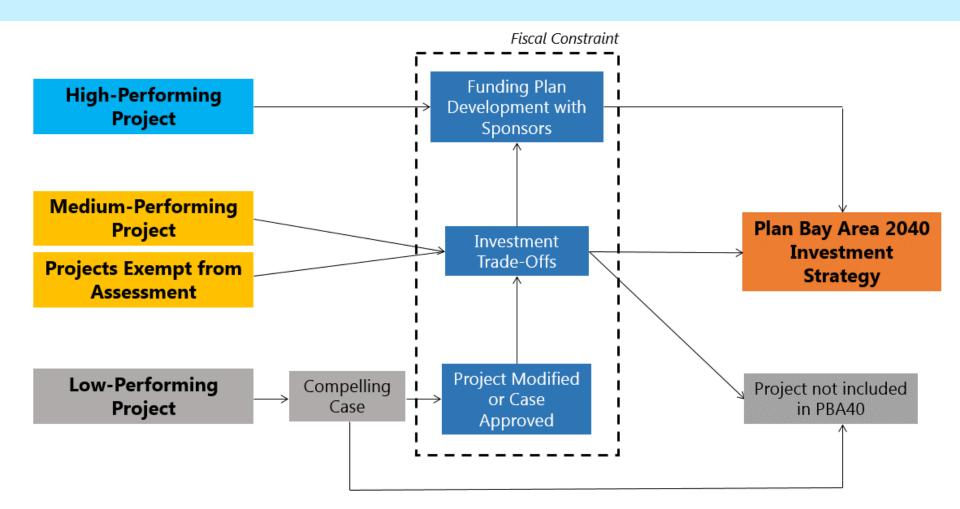
- Generally, there is broad support for the six overarching findings of the assessment.
- 2. Some stakeholders recommend weighting **benefit-cost ratio** more than **targets score**, while others think that targets score should be the primary definition of performance.
- 3. The **benefit-cost assessment has limitations**, mostly due to the application of a single tool to assess all investments.
- 4. Targets score criteria have caught the attention of stakeholders across the region; in particular, scores for **displacement risk** and **middle-wage jobs** have spurred conversation about how to appropriately assess projects.



### What's Next?

At May Planning How do we define a "high-performing" project?

Committee: How do we define a "low-performing" project?



### What's Next?

	A \ /
M	AY

Final performance results and staff recommendation for high- and low-performer thresholds to the MTC Planning Committee

## JUNE

Deadline for low-performing project sponsors to submit compelling case to MTC staff

### **JULY**

Staff recommendation for final actions on project performance assessment to the MTC Planning Committee

### **SEPTEMBER**

Preferred scenario for Plan Bay Area 2040 slated for adoption by MTC and ABAG, incorporating outcomes of the performance assessment

# Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2016 Voter Survey – Preliminary Findings April 28, 2016

By: Corey, Canapary & Galanis Research

# Project Background

## Respondents Surveyed

 Conducted among voters in all nine Bay Area counties

## Key objectives

- Assess perception of factors relevant to Plan Bay Area 2040.
- Gauge support for a regional gas tax measure

# Survey Methodology

- Telephone survey
- Sample size: 2,048
- Margin of error: +/-2.2%
- Fieldwork conducted: March/April 2016
- Surveys conducted in English, Spanish and Chinese
- Conducted among Bay Area registered voters

# Survey Details

- This presentation is a first look at the results.
   Fieldwork was just completed last Sunday (April 24)
- Questionnaire was 44 questions in total
- Average respondent took between 14 -18 minutes to complete
- Detailed report is currently being prepared

# Current Perception of Bay Area

% rating as excellent or good

Issue	% excellent/good
Preservation of open spaces and parks	58%
Economic growth and prosperity	54%
Air quality	54%
Quality of public transit services	29%
Upkeep and repair of Bay Area freeways	23%
Upkeep and repair of local roads	18%
Availability of affordable housing	6%

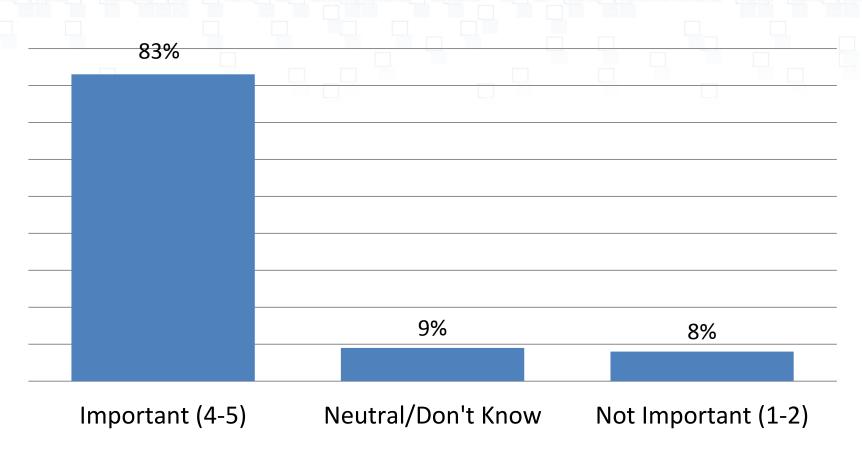
#### Importance of Plan Bay Area 2040

A long-term strategy for the entire Bay Area is currently being developed. . . . This plan is focused on: improving the local economy, reducing driving and greenhouse gases, and providing access to housing and transportation for everyone who needs it.

• In general, how important do you think it is to establish this type of a regional plan?

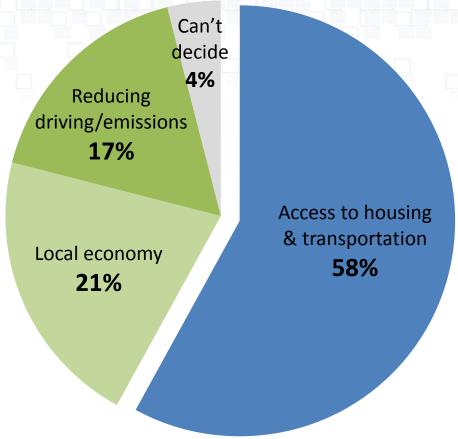
#### Importance of Plan Bay Area 2040

When asked for an initial assessment, 83% of voters believe a regional plan like Plan Bay Area 2040 is important



### Most Important Component

Which part of the plan is most important to the Bay Area's future...

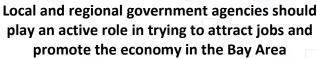


Full text read to respondents:

Access to housing and transportation = "Providing access to housing and transportation for everyone" Local economy = "Improving the local economy"

#### **Attitudinal Statements**

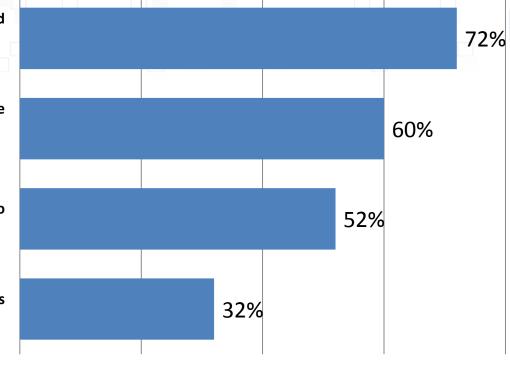
Share who agree strongly or somewhat with each statement...



Cities that allow more multi-unit housing to be built near public transit should get more regional transportation dollars

I would be willing to live in a smaller house to be closer to work, shopping and restaurants

I will take public transit more often if gas prices reach \$4.00 a gallon



## Bay Area Gas Tax

### Bay Area Gas Tax

A ballot measure is being proposed to establish a gas tax which would increase the cost of gasoline by \_\_\_\_\_\* per gallon in all Bay Area counties. The revenue would directly fund <u>local road</u> repairs, as well as improvements for bicycle and pedestrian routes.

• Overall, do you favor or oppose this measure? Is that strongly or somewhat?

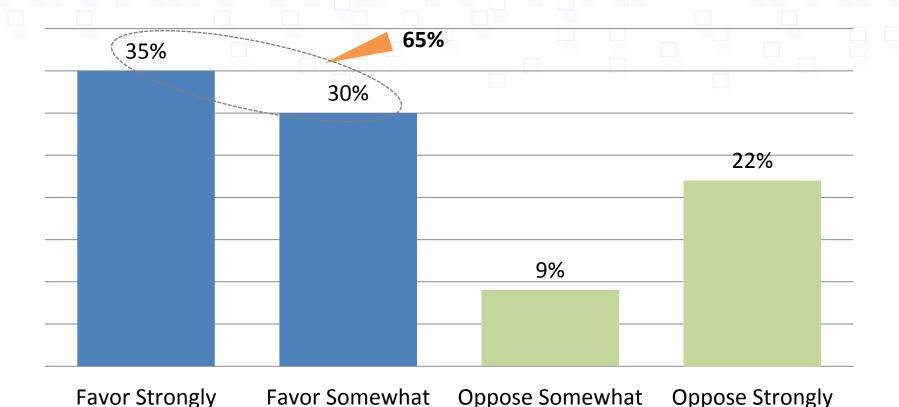
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<sup>\*</sup>question was asked at 5 cents and 10 cents per gallon

### Bay Area Gas Tax - 5 cents/gallon

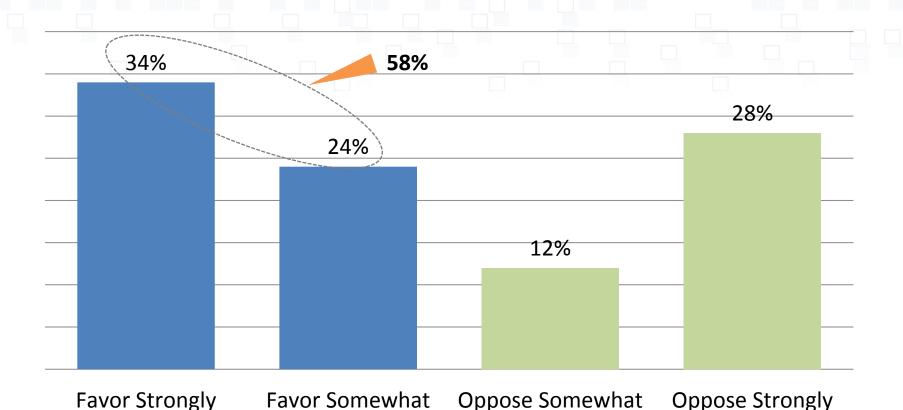
If this tax increased the cost of gasoline by 5 cents per gallon, rather than 10 cents, would you favor or oppose this measure?



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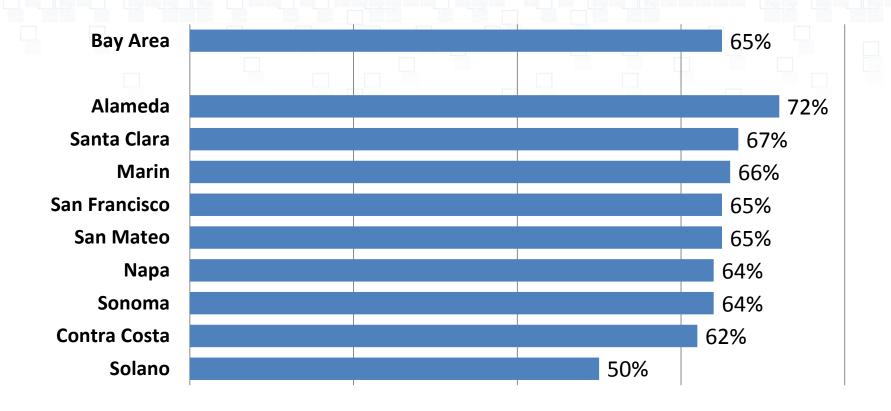
### Bay Area Gas Tax - 10 cents/gallon

Overall, do you favor or oppose this measure?...ls that strongly or somewhat?

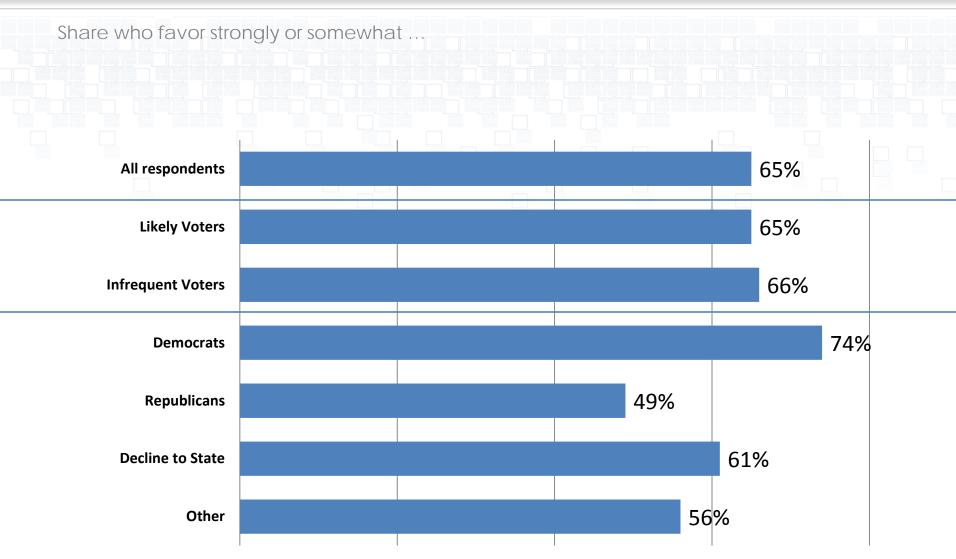


### Support by County - 5 cents/gal

Share who support gas tax strongly or somewhat...



### Support for Gas Tax - 5 cents/gal



### Statements and Impact

- Following initial gas tax question (at 10 cents), voters were read statements in favor and opposed to measure.
- Some statements resonated more than others with voters.
- However, there was no change in overall support for measure when voters were re-asked the measure (at 10 cents) after hearing statements.
- Support <u>DID increase</u> when asked about a 5 cent gas tax

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### Arguments in Favor

% who indicate statement is strong argument in favor of measure

Statement	%
This is a local measure, and the revenue raised can <u>only</u> be used here in the Bay Area to repair our roads. None of the funding can be used by politicians in Sacramento or Washington DC	80%
At least 95% of the taxes each county raises will go directly back to their community for road improvements in their area	78%
State funding for local roads has not kept pace with our needs. We need to fund these repairs now or the cost will continue to increase	78%
A key benefit of this measure is it will get more people out of their cars with improved bicycle and pedestrian routes	48%

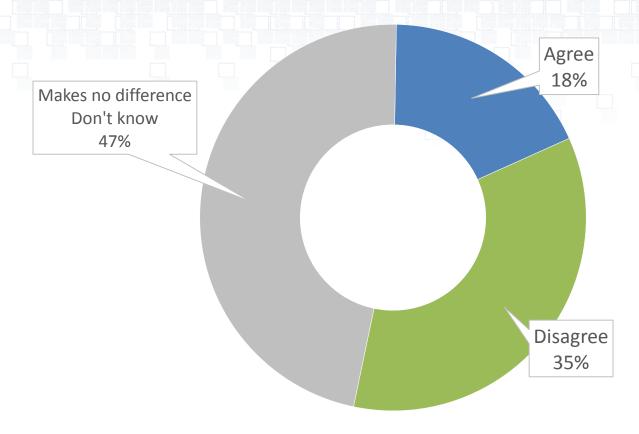
### Arguments Against

% who indicate statement is strong argument against the measure

Statement	%
This tax is unnecessary, our current taxes should be used for improvements to roads	58%
This is an unfair measure because it will hurt the poor in our area the most	51%
It's unfair for drivers to cover the cost of bicycle and pedestrian route improvements in the Bay Area	37%
A local tax like this will have a negative impact on our Bay Area economy	35%

### Local Roads or Freeways

This would be a stronger ballot measure if it funded repairs to Bay Area freeways, rather than local roads. Do you agree, disagree, or does it make no difference?



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### In Summary...

- Majority support for gas tax measure among Bay Area voters
- Two-thirds supermajority may be possible at 5 cents based on survey results
- Arguments for and against don't seem to change voters opinion about measure
- Lower tax amount (5 cents compared to 10 cents) does have an impact on voter opinion

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# Thank you...



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