

3.12 Written Comments Submitted at Public Hearings and Responses

Plan Bay Area 2040 Final Environmental Impact Report

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Number	Source	Name	Comment	Category (as assigned by staff)	Comment Applies to Which Draft: (as indicated by the commentator)	E-mail provided by the commentator
1	Alameda written	Alameda County	Waste of taxpayer money. Top down central planning. Leave control with cities. No Plan.	PBA: Does not support the plan; a waste of money	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR;	
2	CCC written	Marita Platon (#1)	All your assumptions are based on erroneous data. There are more economical ways to help the environment without vested interest benefiting from these ways.	Data: flawed assumptions	Draft TIP & AQ Conformity Draft EIR	maritaplanton@yahoo.com
3	CCC written	Mike Garrabrants	The OneBayArea plan is deeply flawed. 1. It is based on a flawed presumption that to be "one", we need to have all regions be homogenous and occupied with high-density transit villages. This flawed assumption arises from the failed government philosophy that the government knows more about what people want than the people, or perhaps worse, the government seeks to impose its will through "strong arm" tactics. Practically, these plans are flawed because they are based on flawed assumptions. California is shrinking and will continue to do so.	Data: flawed assumptions and thus thinks govt. using strong arm tactics	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity	MSGPUBLIC-EC@yahoo.com
4	CCC written		Told us that the officers who are elected officials are deciding what will happen to their cities with the consent of the people living in their cities. Why is this being imposed on us? Why not put these on the ballot box and see what the majority of the residents want for their city?	Local Control	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR;	
5	CCC written	Eric Stratmann, Contra Costa County	I just found out about this plan 1 month ago and most people I talk to in my community of Orinda have never heard of it. Actually, I have yet to meet a single person who knows about this. Changes are being pushed upon our local communities without any opportunity for people to have an appropriate say. This should be put to a vote city by city. This will irreversibly damage the unique character of my city, my property value, schools. At the very least 6 months should be allowed (not 45 days) for the public to weigh in.	Local control; longer public comment period	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
6	CCC written	Colleen O'Connell, Contra Costa County	The EIR and OneBayArea plan are based on flawed set of data. California has a shrinking population, not a growing population. The supposed need for every community to absorb ultra affordable housing in packed-in 4 story buildings is therefore greatly overstated. The imposition of these projects on the remaining productive taxpayers in California will only hasten the exodus under way.	LU: Suburban Communities can't absorb affordable packed multi-story buldgs.	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
7	CCC written	Jewilia Eisenberg, Alameda County	Thank you for thinking regionally! We can't solve our housing or transportation issues without working together for a more sustainable future.	PBA: Supports regional planning	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	Jewilia@CharmingHostess.com
8	CCC written	Janet Maiorana, Contra Costa County (#1)	1. Citizens need more time to analyze the Plan and draft EIR. Ninety days would be appropriate.	Process: longer review period	[blank]	vjnjmm@comcast.net
9	DEIR Hearing Marin written	Pam Drew, Marin County	You have not adequately dealt with 1) water supplies for increased population; 2) endangered species and Bay wet lands; 3) increased local traffic congestion and air pollution; 4) improper projections artificially inflated projections and your refusal to correct these projections; 5) densification being improper for the land form: 30 U/A not appropriate for Novato, San Rafael or any of the rest of Marin, aesthetically or other wise.	EIR: Water, congestion, improper projections, too much density	Draft EIR	drew.pam@gmail.com
10	DEIR Hearing Marin written	Ericka Erickson, Marin County (#1)	First, I would like to call attention to the time and place of the public hearings: a public hearing held during a weekday in the morning - and where public transit doesn't reach is not accessible to working families and the ones that are most affected by the plans regarding transit and affordable housing.	Process--prefers evening mtg.	Draft EIR	
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1	DEIR Hearing Marin written	Ericka Erickson, Marin County (#2)	I would also highlight the fact that the Alternative 5 - EEJ - is the environmentally superior alternative - and most of its aspects should be included in the final plan, especially the elements related to transit and housing (affordable).	Supports EIR Alt. 5	Draft EIR		
12	DEIR Hearing San Jose written	Michael Ludwig Santa Clara County	It's hard for me to judge the overall environmental impact of Plan Bay Area, because I feel some of the projects in it will increase pollution (many of the projects to add new general purpose lanes to roadways will just encourage people to drive more), while some of the other projects in it will decrease pollution (most of the projects that make taking transit easier, such as additional transit lines and/or service hours).	Environment: part of plan will increase pollution and other parts will decrease pollution	Draft EIR		
13	DEIR Hearing San Jose written	Ed Mason Santa Clara County	Housing/land use is an unfunded mandate. 5.5% of federal discretionary budget is for housing and community proposed social security payment reduction attempts to balance the budget and I do not want to pay for this. Future housing will be funded by local bonds for below market rate housing.	Taxpayer costs -- does not want to pay for low-income housing	Draft EIR		
14	Marin written	Carla Giustino, Marin County	We do not want high density housing in an area that cannot support it, i.e., Marin Civic Center area. This area is not designed for high density housing. The water, traffic was designed for parks and open space by Frank Lloyd Wright and this should stay that way. I am for development but not in this area.	Housing: Opposed to high density housing	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity	carlarealestate@aol.com	
15	Marin written		599 of the 852 affordable housing units slated for unincorporated Marin are planned for my District 1. 70% of the new housing units. This will create a huge influx of people and students in our school district. Affordable housing will mostly be exempt from paying property taxes -- leaving us -- our neighborhood -- with the responsibility to shoulder the added cost of this extra 20% increase in population. If the plan is developed it will severely impact our small (Marinwood/Lucas Valley) community. It will increase population and strain our schools. It will also result in displacement -- current and potential new families will leave or won't move in due to these changes. It will increase number of drivers in Marinwood and Lucas Valley and it will create a physical division of our community in the above ways. I am against accepting 70% of the new housing units slated for Marin to be built in our small 2,900 household community for these reasons.	LU/Dev: Opposed to high housing # in unincorporated Marin in District 1 due to congestion; impact on schools	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity		
16	Marin written	Liz Sprecht, Marin County	I am a founder of El Porvenir, a nonprofit organization which works with Nicaraguans to develop clean drinking water projects. For 23 years I have been studying and using facts and figures about potable water. If Plan Bay Area should actually be put into effect, where would the drinking water for all the additional homes come from? If PBA is considering a desal plant, they should realize this would defeat the purpose of the Plan: increased greenhouse gases would result from any desalinating activity. The net result would be more greenhouse gases.	Other Infrastructure: Water needed for growth; desal plants result in more GHG	Draft EIR	liz@edliz.com	
17	Napa written	Jack Simonitch Napa County (#2)	Please make water taxi or vaporette service a reality from Mare Island on the Napa River. Please make my comment part of the public record.	Transit: Water taxi service from Mare Island on Napa River	Draft Plan Bay Area and Draft EIR		
18	Napa written	Nathan Stout, Solano County (#1)	Please extend capability of Napa County Wine Train to reach Mare Island as a new destination and transfer point to the ferry in order to make a possible travel from San Francisco to Napa, which would generate more environmentally friendly tourism. Please make my comment part of the public record.	Transit: Wine Train service to Mare Island	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity		
19	Napa written	Sofia Lozano-Paliores	I am a community member interested in getting to know more about the ideas for future development. Great that you are having open houses to discuss this. I however would like to see what projects are ideas and which ones are already funded and development is starting or about to start. I would like to see concrete information or places where I can get it.	General: wants info on projects about to get under construction	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity	contact@sofialozano.com	

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1	San Mateo written	Finau Faleofa, San Mateo County	There should be affordable transportation and housing. Transportation locations shouldn't just be in the downtown areas. There should be a schedule change for more transportation instead of just every hour. Samtrans should have a better plan for the future instead of [not legible]. There should be more awareness and involvement with the people in each community. The people of the community should be able to be involved in decisions being made. There should be a variety of ethnicities involved in Plan Bay Area organizations, because most communities are made up by other ethnic groups rather than just white. There should be notification of global harmony, recycling, compost, and being Go Green.	Housing: Affordable housing & transportation; more diverse people should be involved in Planning	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity	faleofa650@gmail.com
22	F-Q1	Jean Ryan, Santa Clara County	Are you planning on passing a vehicle miles driven tax (VMD)? It is mentioned in your EIR report on one of your proposals. Is this to discourage driving? Sounds like you want to get our cars off the road. Where's the fairness in that? You're hurting the farmers, businesses, and low income people.	Driving: Does not like VMT tax	Draft EIR	fjryan60@yahoo.com
23	F-R1	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	I. Will this plan work? 1) Do not know.	General	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
24	F-S1	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	J. Cost of 2-vol. EIR and Plan. 1) What is the cost of these documents?	General: Cost for Plan & EIR	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
25	F-S2	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	B) Sea Level Rise -- Commute with the Fish. 1) California contributes to 2% of greenhouse gas. 2) Transportation is 39% of greenhouse gas in Bay Area but no breakdown of heavy trucks, airplanes, ships, autos or light trucks. 3) Even if 15% reduction goals are met, what is total cost for small impact on world greenhouse gas.	GHG goal: what is cost for small impact on world GHG	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
26	F-S3	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	3) Treasure Island Ferry -- BTU ratio per passenger mile will be excessive. Development for a new San Francisco neighborhood seems ill conceived.	LU/Dev: Treasure Island neighborhood ill conceived.	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
27	F-S4	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	C) Plan Mitigates for Auto -- Poor Message to Change Transportation Habit 1) Old Oakland Road is parallel to Highway 880 which was widened over ten years ago. 2) 75% of Bay Area jobs within 1/2 mile of freeway exits and 25% within one half mile of 88 regional train stations or 50% with frequent bus service. 3) Allows PDA development to escape CEQA review, a sweet deal for developers.	LU: more jobs near freeway exits than train stations	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
28	F-S5	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County (#1)	Library hard copy available March 4, 2013 and review period too short for over 2,000 pages of EIR and Draft Plan. A) Unfunded mandate for local general infrastructure such as schools, parks, police, fire and inadequate sewer treatment capacity in San Francisco. 1) Federal discretionary budget may be balanced with reductions to the entitlements budget and my social security. 2) MTC lobby for federal funds for Housing -- which may be reduced. Will MTC lobby for U.S. corporations to pay their fair share of taxes on overseas profits which have not been returned to U.S.. shore.	Other Infrastructure Needs: unfunded	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
29	F-S6	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	E) Baby Boomers Age in Place: 1) Articles locally written indicate California and San Francisco are not like the rest of the country. 2) Personal experience, round table discussions, etc. indicate seniors desire to age in place at home until an "event" occurs placing them in a care facility. They will not move to the downtown core. Only the few wealthy will move to downtown high rise such as Rincon Tower in San Francisco.	Seniors: Want to age in place	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
30	F-S7	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	H. Social Justice: 1) People do not want to pay the full price at a restaurant for the dishwasher to afford housing. Rather government must implement below market rate housing burdening the property owner tax rate. 2) 40% of college graduates work in jobs requiring less qualifications and earning less money to pay off student debt that will qualify for BMR housing.	Taxpayer costs: taxpayers don't pay full costs so govt intervenes	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
31	F-S8	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	[part of H from above] 3) Ohlone-VTA Parking Lot conversion to housing has cars, garages, and has not increased light rail ridership to the projected 40,000 boarding predicted 20 years ago.	Transit: ridership has not gone up despite investments	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
32	F-S9	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	D) Transit 1) No mention of corporate commuter buses impacting/ clogging neighborhood streets in San Francisco. 2) 24% of San Francisco trips at 103,431 are outboard trips. ABAG housing requirement being imposed appears to satisfy the "bedroom" commuter to the South Bay and San Mateo County.	Transportation: Corporate commuter buses clogging streets	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
33	F-S10	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County	F) Short Commutes By Young Workers: 1) The young workers may desire a short commute but their actions indicate otherwise by riding corporate commuter buses for about an hour or more.	Transportation: Not true workers want short commutes	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR	
34	F-S11	Ed Mason, Santa Clara County				

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1	SF written	James B. Walsh	Global human over population will be the root cause of the collapse of the planet's entire environment and the extinction of the human race. While planning for the future is all well and good, do recognize that these plans ultimately serve to accommodate more population and enable the ultimate destruction of our world. While this issue may lie beyond the purview of your focus, to not put into place some mitigating policies, to not even mention the over population issue within the context of the Plan, I find to be completely disingenuous in any discussion of our future.	General-- should mention over population	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity	
35	F-T1		This process is too complicated and not transparent enough. I want to see the names, job titles, job responsibilities, salaries and benefits of all the government personnel working on this plan published online, along with any other costs associated with the planning process, broken down in detail. I want to see advocates of limited government -- libertarians, constitutionalists, Tea Party supporters, etc. -- included in the nuts and bolts of actual planning. I feel we are just being given lip service on a public process that will not really result in the plan being revised based on our concerns.	Process: wants to see all costs and advocates of limited govt. included in planning	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity	
36	F-T2		I am against the OneBay/Area plan. Let the individual citizens determine the actions of their city government. I want my comments to be part of the public record.	Local control; against PBA	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity	nathanstout@earthlink.net
37	F-U1	Nathan Daniel Stout	Need to stabilize, rather than accommodate population. Need language in plan that advocates for a stable population (no growth or loss). ABAG must not be a front for a home building industry.	Population--advocate for zero pop. growth	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity	
38	F-V1	Michael J. Hayes, Solano	Sustainable agriculture, local food production and distribution should be part of this plan. Review and consider signing the Good Food Pledge of the Los Angeles Food Policy Council. This will benefit local nutrition, air quality (less trucking), farm worker safety and rights.	General--address food production in plan	Draft Plan Bay Area and Draft EIR	rdelaware@comcast.net
39	F-W1	Roger Delaware Sonoma County	More spread-out affordable housing through sustainable affordable transit will bolster the economy across all social strata and ethnic groups, the disabled and people of color and age, as well as support cleaner air, water and physical and mental health. Speed up the Smart Train! And the Bay Area Plan! Three years more of limited transit (after waiting 11 years -- too long -- already).	LU/Dev: More affordable housing with affordable transit will bolster economy	Draft Plan Bay Area; Draft EIR; Draft TIP & AQ Conformity	
40	F-X1	Adam Kirshenbaum	Please note that agencies such as the Post Sustainability Institute are front groups to realtors and developers who will price out the poor who need public transit for work, school, medical care, etc. (not legible) I ride my bike everywhere I can within Sonoma County and take buses through the Bay Area. I have no car and live in dense affordable housing because of my disability.			