At its Wednesday, February 12, 2020 meeting, the Policy Advisory Council received presentations on the Plan Bay Area 2050 Draft Blueprint Growth Geographies and the proposed strategies for integration into the Plan Bay Area 2050 Draft Blueprint.

After the presentation on the proposed Growth Geographies, the Council voted unanimously to recommend that staff test Option B as the growth strategy with the inclusion of the Council’s recommendation to consider the need for improved transit and infrastructure in Priority Production Areas, e.g., sidewalks, street lighting, bus and bicycle lanes, and green space, in order to stimulate growth in these areas.

Following the presentation on the proposed strategies, Council members expressed the following concerns:

- the equity issues raised by per-mile tolling;
- the need for higher levels of required affordable housing production (beyond the proposed levels of 10 to 20 percent) and the need for public funding to reach a higher goal;
- the barriers created by limited transit availability for shift workers and students;
- the inclusion of persons with disabilities, who may be solo drivers, in proposed toll discounts; and
- the need to study whether in lieu fees are providing affordable housing and the location of that housing.

The Policy Advisory Council recommends that these concerns be addressed in staff’s analysis of the proposed strategies before any findings are released in spring 2020 for additional public feedback and policymaker refinement.