

San Francisco Chronicle April 30th Letters to the Editor

For regional planning

The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area strongly supports the process of regional planning that is coordinating land use and transportation planning for Plan Bay Area ("What's the vision for Bay Area growth?" Open Forum, April 26).

Plan Bay Area is a good example of successful collaboration among the Bay Area's regional agencies, primarily the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments.

The draft environmental impact report for the plan is designed to result in 100 percent of the Bay Area's population growth being housed in urban areas, with no new sprawl development, during an 18-year period.

Overall, over two-thirds of all regional growth by 2040 is allocated within priority development areas, which are expected to accommodate 79 percent of new housing and 63 percent of new jobs. We believe that the plan must provide robust incentives for affordable housing.

The League places a high priority on reducing carbon and other emissions from cars and light trucks that worsen air quality and the impacts of climate change. We are pleased that the draft plan slightly exceeds the threshold of a 15 percent per-capita reduction in greenhouse gases within the Bay Area by 2030 that is required under SB375.

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