



Memorandum

Date: April 20, 2018
To: Transportation Authority Citizens Advisory Committee
From: Maria Lombardo – Chief Deputy Director
Subject: Update on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)/Association of Bay Area Government’s (ABAG’s) *Horizon* planning effort

<p>RECOMMENDATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information <input type="checkbox"/> Action</p> <p>SUMMARY</p> <p>MTC and ABAG have recently initiated a new planning initiative called <i>Horizon</i>, which will explore a range of questions that usually fall outside the traditional regional transportation planning processes. <i>Horizon</i> will explore long-range policy and investment trade-offs in the face of potential impacts from external forces such as climate change, widespread autonomous vehicle adoption, and national and international geopolitical and economic shifts. Policies and projects that make sense in these varied future scenarios will be prioritized for inclusion in the next Plan Bay Area 2050, the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, which will kick-off in mid-2019. The public will be encouraged to submit transformative project ideas to potentially be analyzed through this process, alongside projects submitted by public agencies and other organizations. We will provide an overview of the <i>Horizon</i> initiative at the April CAC meeting. We expect to return to the CAC periodically with updates and to seek input over the coming year.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Fund Allocation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fund Programming</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Policy/Legislation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plan/Study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Capital Project Oversight/Delivery</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Budget/Finance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Agreement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p> <hr/>
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DISCUSSION

Every four years, MTC and ABAG are required to develop and adopt a Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), with the most recent plan adopted in 2017 (known as Plan Bay Area 2040). The scope of these plans is limited, as the RTP/SCS must respond to state-imposed population and job growth numbers, and must only include transportation project investments that fit within a reasonable fund estimate, among other requirements. Plan Bay Area 2040 also includes an action plan covering such topics resiliency, housing affordability, and displacement, but the bulk of staff time and effort for the RTP/SCS is focused on transportation investments and assigning housing and employment growth across the region.

This year, MTC and ABAG are embarking on *Horizon*, which will serve as a precursor to the next RTP/SCS or Plan Bay Area 2050. *Horizon* is a blue sky planning effort that will allow the region to explore a broader range of topic areas through a scenario-planning process. Political, environmental, economic and technological uncertainties will be incorporated into several “futures” which will be

used to assess the performance of projects, policies and scenarios that the region might choose to implement.

Horizon has three main components:

- **Futures planning:** In lieu of traditional scenario planning where funding and growth are distributed based on fixed control totals and fixed future assumptions, *Horizon* will create a handful of divergent futures where the Bay Area must respond in very different ways. The purpose of this work would be to identify strategies and investments that perform well regardless of what happens in the decades ahead. Various external factors will define these futures, including assumptions about autonomous vehicles, climate change impacts, overall regional growth, gas prices, and others. MTC and ABAG will begin developing these futures at the end of April, and anticipate completing the futures report in mid-2019.
- **Project evaluation:** Transformative transportation investments will be evaluated across the various futures to better understand how they would perform with differing assumptions about external factors (as described above). Projects that perform well in this analysis will be prioritized for inclusion in the Plan Bay Area 2050. The project evaluation process will take place from May through September of this year. The call for projects will be open to the public as well as to non-profit organizations and public agencies, and will be limited to projects costing over \$500 million.
- **Perspective papers:** To address a limitation of past planning cycles where individual policies were not explored in depth outside of the scenarios framework, MTC and ABAG will conduct between five and seven analyses of broad, topical focus areas. The primary objective of each analysis will be to identify high-impact policies that support the region's guiding principles. The topics and schedule for release are listed below:
 - Autonomous vehicles & future mobility: June 2018
 - Travel demand management & climate mitigation: September 2018
 - Regional growth strategies: December 2018
 - Future of jobs: March 2019
 - Regional governance: June 2019
 - Design & better buildings: September 2019
 - Connections: a potential new transbay bridge: TBD

MTC and ABAG have been conducting public outreach events over the past few months to kick-off *Horizon*, and to gather community input to inform the regional guiding principles. In early April, MTC and ABAG presented their preliminary Guiding Principles based on this feedback:

- **Affordable** –All Bay Area residents have access to housing options they can afford – households are economically secure.
- **Connected** –An expanded, well-functioning transit system connects the Bay Area –fast intercity trips are complemented by frequent service between neighborhoods.
- **Healthy** –The region's natural resources, open space, clean water and clean air are preserved –the region actively reduces its environmental footprint and the impacts from climate events.
- **Diverse** –Bay Area residents support an inclusive region where people from all backgrounds, abilities, and ages can access the region's assets and resources.

Agenda Item 12

In each of the three streams of work above, projects, policies and strategies will be evaluated for how well they support these guiding principles, and to identify those that might conflict with these principles.

MTC and ABAG been regularly meeting with the Regional Advisory Working Group (RAWG), which includes staff from various Congestion Management Agencies, transit agencies, cities, and non-profit organizations, and is open to members of the public. This group will continue to meet in order to provide input into each of the *Horizon* work products. We have been actively participating in the RAWG, and have been coordinating with San Francisco Planning Department and SFMTA staff on input into *Horizon*. We will continue to engage with staff at all of our other partner agencies throughout this process. We also anticipate bringing information items to the Citizens Advisory Committee and Board on a regular basis.

To sign up for more information, please visit MTC's website: <https://mtc.ca.gov/our-work/plans-projects/major-regional-projects/horizon/sign-horizon-mailing-list>

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None. This is an information item.

CAC POSITION

None. This an information item

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Attachment 1 – Presentation

MTC and ABAG's
Horizon
Planning Initiative

Citizen Advisory Committee



SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

April 25, 2018

MTC and ABAG's *Horizon*



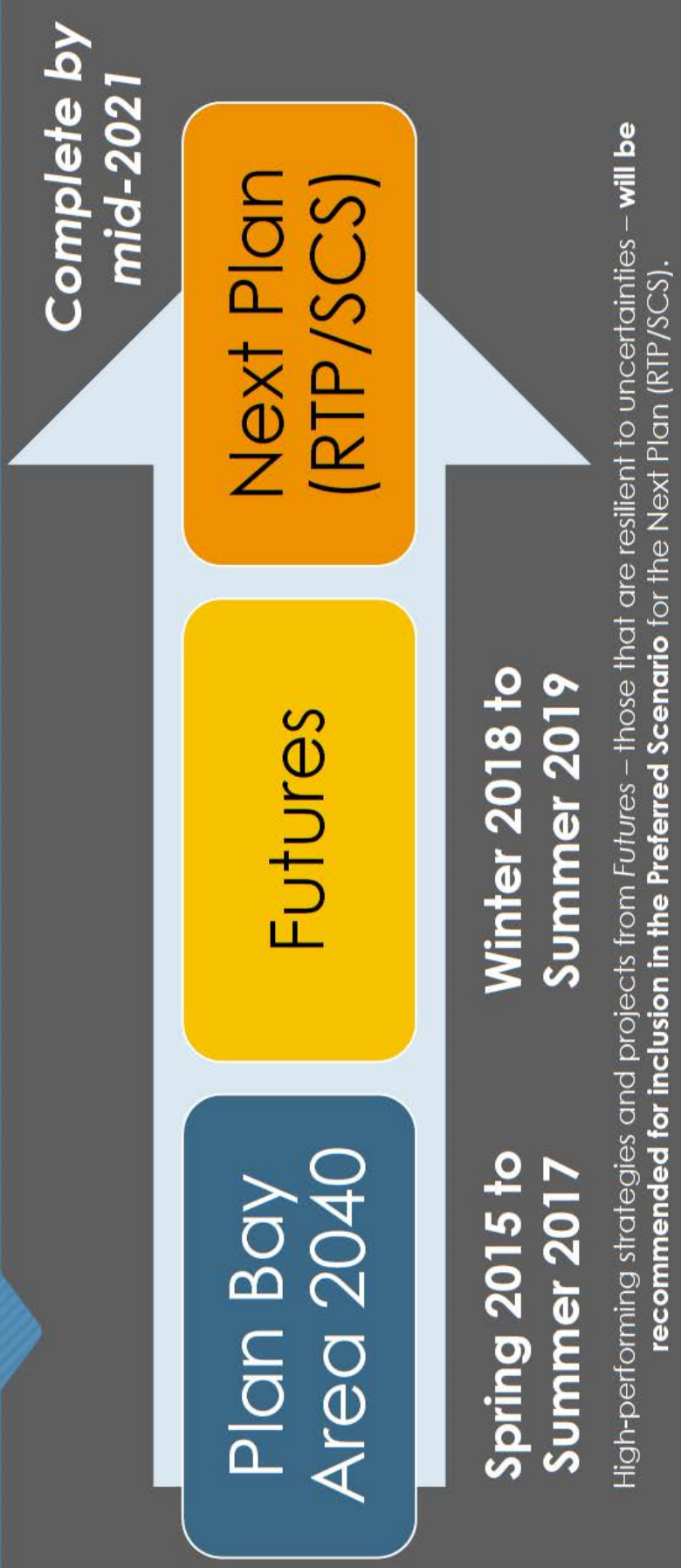
- ▶ What is *Horizon*
- ▶ Project timeline



What is *Horizon*?



Overview of Proposed Process

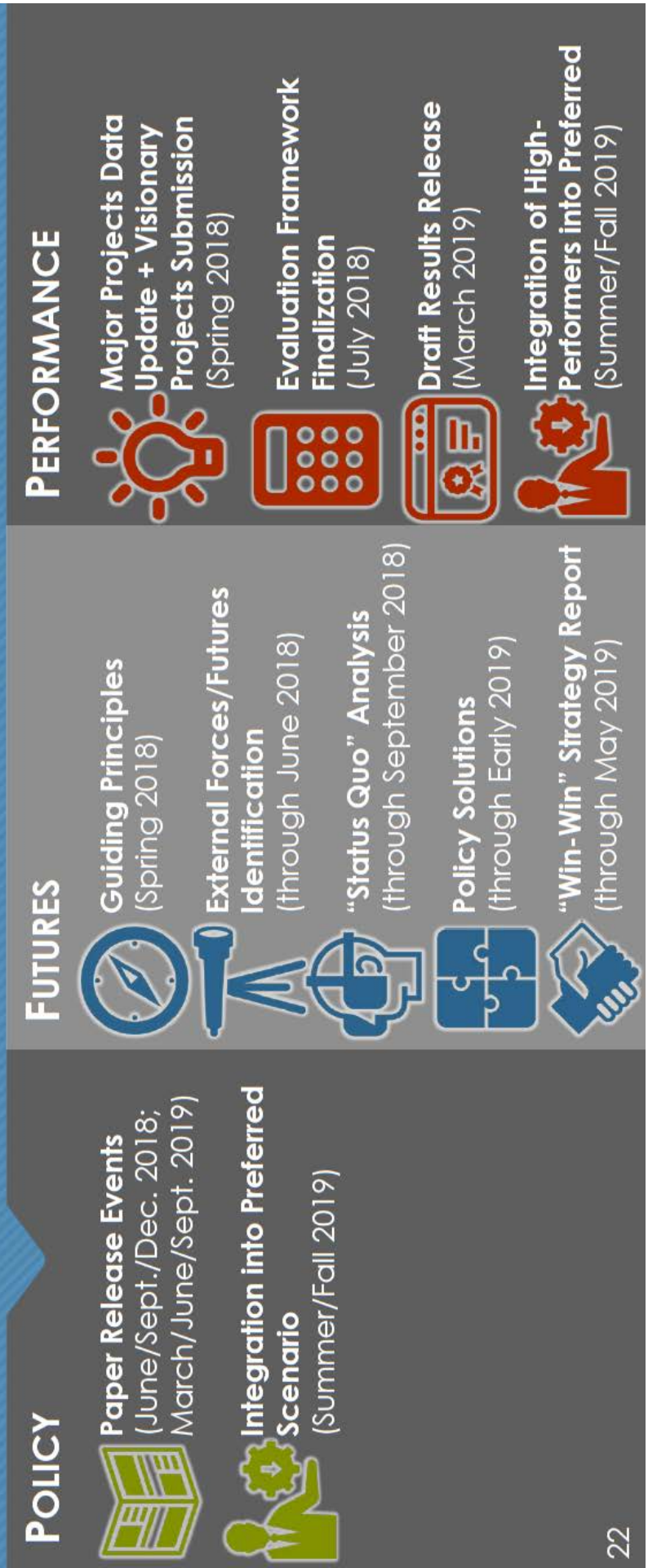


High-performing strategies and projects from *Futures* – those that are resilient to uncertainties – **will be recommended for inclusion in the Preferred Scenario** for the Next Plan (RTP/SCS).

Horizon Components



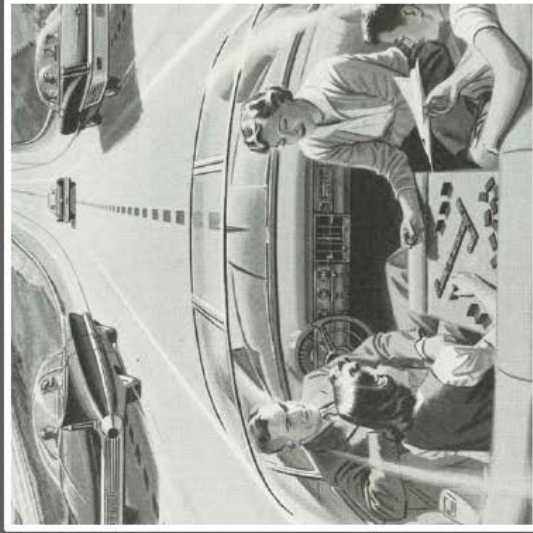
Key Futures Components & Milestones



Horizon perspective papers



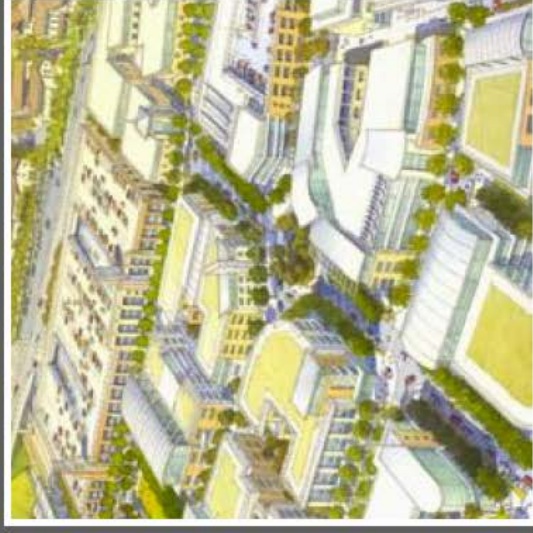
Proposed Policy Analyses (page 1 of 2)



Topic 1:
Autonomous Vehicles
June 2018



Topic 2:
Climate Mitigation
September 2018



Topic 3:
Regional Growth Strategies
December 2018

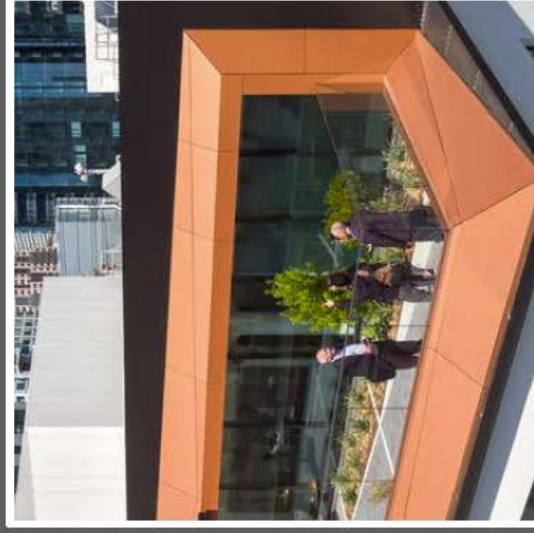
Horizon perspective papers



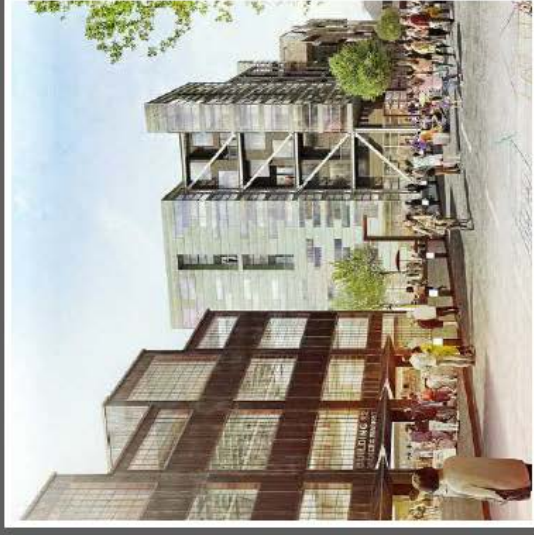
Proposed Policy Analyses (page 2 of 2)



Topic 4:
Future of Jobs
March 2019



Topic 5:
Regional Governance
June 2019



Topic 6:
Better Buildings
September 2019

Preliminary *Horizon* Guiding Principles



Vineyards – Napa County

First Step – Guiding Principles

- **First step:** establish a regional vision based on **guiding principles** over the next three months.
- **Identify aspirations for the Bay Area in 2050** regardless of external shocks & stressors.
- **Official goals and targets will be set later on** during the traditional RTP/SCS process in mid-2019.

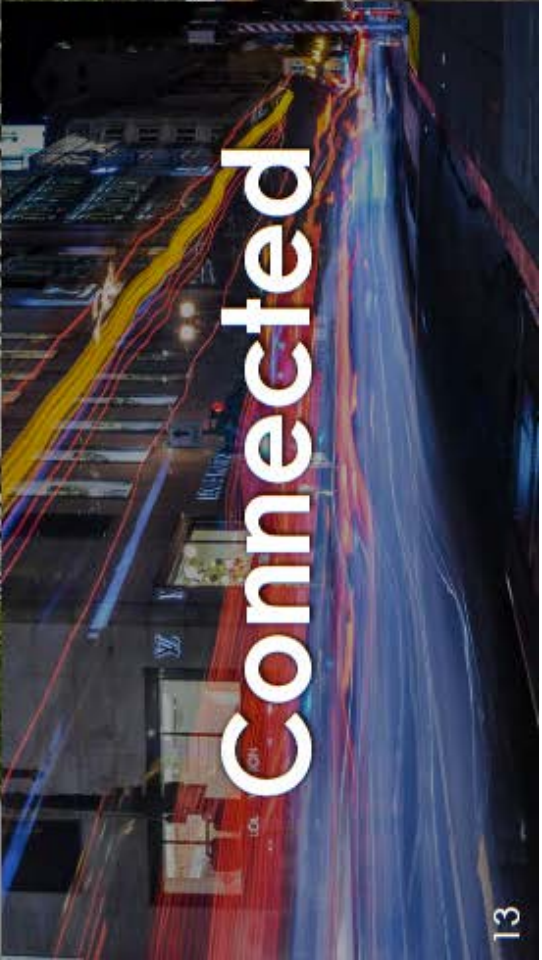
Preliminary *Horizon* Guiding Principles



Affordable



Healthy



Connected



Diverse

Horizon Timeline



Process Overview

	Horizon – “Blue Sky” Planning	Next Plan – RTP/SCS
Outreach	<p>★★★★★</p> <p>Develop policy papers (released on a rolling basis)</p>	<p>★★★★★</p>
Policy		
Futures	<p>Define futures & do initial runs</p> <p>Identify strategies to boost performance</p>	<p>Craft preferred scenario</p> <p>Develop EIR using variants + develop Plan Document</p>
Performance	<p>ID guiding principles</p> <p>Evaluate projects using futures</p> <p>2018</p>	<p>2019</p> <p>2020</p> <p>2021</p>
	Horizon – “Blue Sky” Planning	Next Plan – RTP/SCS

Horizon website and mailing list



For more information on *Horizon*:

<https://mtc.ca.gov/our-work/plans-projects/major-regional-projects/horizon>

To sign-up for the *Horizon* mailing list:

<https://mtc.ca.gov/our-work/plans-projects/major-regional-projects/horizon/sign-horizon-mailing-list>



Questions?
Michelle.Beaulieu@sfcta.org



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