Bay Area Council
2018 Policy Committees & Policy Agenda Overview

To maximize the benefits of your Bay Area Council membership, we encourage you and your employees to explore the many opportunities for engaging in our policy work by participating in the committees below.

**Carbon Reduction and Renewable Energy**
Committee Chair Geisha Williams, President & CEO, PG&E
Staff Contact Adrian Covert, Vice President, Public Policy; acovert@bayareacouncil.org

**Healthcare Reform**
Committee Chair Janet Liang, President, Northern California, Kaiser Permanente
Staff Contact Micah Weinberg, President, BACEI; mweinberg@bayareacouncil.org

**China Initiative**
Committee Co-Chairs: Andrew Giacomini, Managing Partner, Hanson Bridgett; Lilly Chung, Principal, Deloitte
Staff Contact Del Christensen, Chief of Global Business Development; dchristensen@bayareacouncil.org

**Housing & Sustainable Development**
Committee Co-Chairs Carla Boragno, Vice President of Site Services, Genentech; Lou Vasquez, Founding Partner and Managing Director, Build Inc.
Staff Contact Matt Regan, Senior Vice President, Public Policy; mregan@bayareacouncil.org

**Gender Equity and Workplace Diversity**
Committee Co-Chairs Peg McAllister, SVP, Lee Hecht Harrison; Stuart Newton, Deloitte; Christopher Ruhl, PwC
Staff Contact Rachele Trigueros, Policy Manager; rtrigueros@bayareacouncil.org

**Transportation**
Committee Co-Chairs Chris Rivielle, President & CEO, Plant Construction; Michael Matthews, Director, California Public Policy, Facebook; Ed Del Beccaro, Senior Managing Director, Transwestern
Staff Contact John Grubb, Chief Operating Officer; jgrubb@bayareacouncil.org

**Government Relations**
Committee Co-Chairs Andrew Giacomini, Managing Partner, Hanson Bridgett; Melinda Franklin, Managing Director/Corporate, Government & Public Affairs, Western Region, United Airlines
Staff Contact Matt Regan, Senior Vice President, Public Policy; mregan@bayareacouncil.org

**Water and Resilience**
Committee Co-Chairs Jim Levine, Managing Director, Montezuma Wetlands; Andy Ball, President, RAD Urban
Staff Contact Adrian Covert, Vice President, Public Policy; acovert@bayareacouncil.org

**Water Transit**
Staff Contact John Grubb, Chief Operating Officer; jgrubb@bayareacouncil.org

**Workforce of the Future**
Committee Co-Chairs Glenn Shannon, Vice Chairman, Shorenstein Properties; Teresa Briggs, Vice Chair & West Region Managing Partner, Deloitte; Julius Robinson, Managing Director/Corporate Social Responsibility for the Americas, Union Bank
Staff Contact: Linda Bidrossian, Senior Vice President, Public Policy; lbidrossian@bayareacouncil.org
In the 2007-14 Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) cycle, the Bay Area permitted just 57% of the units needed to meet projected population growth; 17,500 per year. Our objective is to hit 125% of the 2015-2023 RHNA target and average 29,500 units a year (including accessory dwelling units). We will also promote the adoption of new construction techniques to reduce the per unit costs by 20%.

### 2018 ACTIVITIES

- **Support Legislation to increase production**: Advocate for Bay Area Council supported housing bills. Three priority bills are still moving through the legislature: AB 2890 (Ting) relieves remaining barriers to accessory dwelling unit (ADU) production; SB 1227 (Skinner) provides density bonus for student housing, and SB 828 (Wiener) reforms the Regional Housing Needs Allocation process.

- **ADU local advocacy**: Promote awareness of ADUs through speaking engagements and media; Explore innovative finance mechanisms to lower ADU costs. Advocate for affordable housing bond carve-outs to finance ADUs for low income homeowners.

- **North Bay reconstruction**: Hasten North Bay fire rebuild through ADU production, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and permitting streamlining, etc. Support AB 2267 (Wood) to expedite North Bay rebuild efforts.

- **Innovative cost reduction**: Advocate for innovative approaches to lower the cost of building housing such as modular off-site manufacturing, which reduces cost and timeline by 20%; Partner with the Council’s Workforce of the Future team to address the construction talent shortage, which drives up housing costs.

- **“Tiny homes”**: Explore the expansion of “tiny homes” and micro units to create naturally affordable housing and help address homelessness.

### BAY AREA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

- **Carla Boragno**, Vice President of Site Services, Genentech
- **Lou Vasquez**, Principal, Managing Director, Build Inc.
Archives

• Pass RM3: Measure successfully passed in the June election, winning 55% of the vote. RM3 will have a transformative impact on regional transit systems and highway congestion.

• Protect SB1: Repeal measure appears likely to secure necessary signatures for November ballot; Council has joined the coalition to defend SB1. California Transportation Commission adopted favorable guidelines for SB1 Congested Corridors program.

• County Transportation Measures: Promising movement towards a November 2018 San Mateo transportation sales tax, including funding for Caltrain and 101. Anticipated San Francisco transportation tax measure currently less certain, due to local focus on mayoral race. Marin County considering a transportation sales tax in November, with strong polling (73% yes).

• Go Big or Go Home: Following the successful passage of RM3, coalition will test appetite to organize for a Go Big or Go Home/Megameasure. focused on transformational change, and major project delivery reform to maximize tax payer investment.

• Megaregion: Hosting summit in Merced in September to organize economic and political leaders.

• Expand ferries: RM3 ferry funding will enable large expansion. At Council urging, WETA currently considering addition of smaller ferries, and commensurate with RM3 will develop a plan to expand service and purse new route.

• Advanced transportation: Conducted poll showing public support for advanced transportation technology and services; coordinating with San Francisco to expand white curbs for ride hail activity.

• Carpooling: Investigating potential to increase carpooling (and reduce traffic) with cash incentives.

• Project delivery: Working with Senate Transportation Committee on an informational hearing to identify legislative and management strategies to expedite project delivery.

BAY AREA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Chris Rivielle, President and CEO, Plant Construction

Michael Matthews, Director of California Public Policy, Facebook

Ed Del Beccaro, Senior Managing Director Greater East Bay, Transwestern

2018 Policy Priorities
WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE

OBJECTIVE

In 2018, the Workforce of the Future Committee is working to increase employer engagement with educators from community colleges and training organizations by 30 percent (from 40 employers to over 50). Facilitate alignment between employers, educators, and regional talent to address workforce skills gaps of middle-skills occupations across member industry sectors. Connect 500 individuals, from historically underrepresented populations, to professional development and career opportunities.

2018 ACTIVITIES

• **Grow talent pipelines:** Running ongoing and new Occupational Councils, our primary mechanism for aligning employers, educators and trainers. Expanding engagement in current industries of focus (aviation, construction, healthcare and manufacturing) and overseeing outcomes such as curriculum revision, employer classroom facilitation, development of work-based learning opportunities, career fairs, etc.

• **Provide transparent data and connect talent to open jobs:** Expanding OurFutureWorkforce.org to include updated talent supply and employer demand-side data, industry expert feedback, skills and competencies tracking, and job matching with Bay Area employers.

• **Strategic hiring fairs:** Hosting curated career fairs for specific historically underrepresented populations, including youth of color, veterans, and immigrants and refugees across industries. Partnering with key, high-performing nonprofits who function as talent intermediaries.

• **Best practices:** Hosting two employer-led best practices workshops focused on upskilling/retraining and mentorship. Collecting, studying, and publishing best practices to share with employer members.

• **Education pathway bridges:** Partnering with local community college programs and school districts to ensure educational alignment with employer needs and career-oriented support for students from K-12 to higher education.

BAY AREA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

**Teresa Briggs**, Vice Chair & West Region Managing Partner, Deloitte

**Glenn Shannon**, Vice Chairman, Shorenstein Properties

**Julius Robinson**, Managing Director/Corporate Social Responsibility for the Americas, MUFG Union Bank

2018 Policy Priorities
CARBON REDUCTION & RENEWABLE ENERGY

OBJECTIVE

California is on an ambitious path towards 50 percent renewable energy and a 40 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030, guided by state policy and regulation, supported by publicly funded incentives, and enabled by technology development and entrepreneurial leadership. Winning this transformation, however, requires more than just bringing renewable energy online; it requires preserving the reliability and affordability that we now take for granted and securing positive economic benefits. The Bay Area Council envisions winning the transformation through smart regulation, grid upgrades, advances in energy storage, cutting-edge demand response, private sector engagement, and nurturing the growth of clean energy technology, businesses, and industries in the Bay Area. Specifically, our goal is to increase production and consumption of renewable energy by 25% over the next five years and to exceed California’s share of carbon reduction targets under the Paris Climate Accord.

2018 ACTIVITIES

- **Western grid**: The variability of production and consumption of renewable energy can be more efficiently handled by expanding the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) to become a western-states grid operator, giving more production and consumption trading partners. The Bay Area Council is supporting Assembly Bill 813 (Holdren) that takes a first step to allow CAISO to evolve into a larger western grid operator.

- **Electric vehicles**: Transportation is the largest contributor of carbon emissions in California. Electrifying transportation can dramatically reduce these emissions. Additionally, electric vehicles are an ideal way to make use of excess electricity that is produced when non-dispatchable renewable production exceeds consumer demand. Expanding the availability of EV charging is an essential element. The Council is supporting the new PG&E EV Charging Network program that will fund 7,500 chargers.

- **Energy legislation**: The Energy Committee considers important state legislation that impacts energy costs, reliability, innovation, and carbon reduction. Where appropriate, the Energy Committee engages in the legislative process to ensure outcomes consistent with our goals.

- **Expertise-sharing**: The state’s climate and renewable energy goals have received much public attention, but the role that can be played by major energy users has received less attention. The Energy Committee drives this awareness by engaging Bay Area Council members with experts from industry, research, and government and by identifying advocacy opportunities and connecting business leaders with resources to manage their energy consumption, expenditures, and carbon footprint.

BAY AREA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Geisha Williams, President and CEO, PG&E

2018 Policy Priorities
OBJECTIVE

The Bay Area Council works to promote gender equity and racial diversity in the workplace by mobilizing the business community and working with civic and political leaders to advance workplace cultures of equality. Our goal this year is to identify top diversity and inclusion best practices and facilitate their implementation within Bay Area Council companies.

2018 ACTIVITIES

- **Public policy advocacy**: Champion policies that promote workplace cultures of equality for women and other underrepresented groups, including policies related to the wage gap, childcare accessibility, workplace harassment, parental leave, and hiring barriers.

- **Represent business interests**: Engage lawmakers to inform them of business impacts of legislative proposals.

- **Educational events**: Partner with organizations to host large events to educate the business community on strategies to promote more inclusive work environments.

- **Guide and disseminate research**: Use findings of the Bay Area Council Economic Institute’s Family Friendly Workplace Policies report to influence the policy agendas of the California gubernatorial candidates. Help guide the Bay Area Council Economic Institute report on expanding opportunity for young men of color through Workforce of the Future’s Bay Area Young Men of Color Employment Partnership (BAYEP).

- **Gender Equity & Diversity Events so far in 2018**:
  - March Committee Meeting: Bain & Company’s innovative workplace policies to grow female leaders
  - April Committee Meeting: State Senator Leyva, author of SB 820 sexual harassment legislation
  - Partner Event: Gender Equality Challenge Forum event to educate employers on best practices
  - May Committee Meeting: Implementing diversity & inclusion programs and promoting youth of color
  - June Committee Meeting: Stacey Abrams, Georgia Gubernatorial Candidate, on women in politics

BAY AREA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Peg McAllister, Lee Hecht Harrison
Stuart Newton, Deloitte
Christopher Ruhl, PwC LLP
HEALTHCARE REFORM

OBJECTIVE

With uncertainty surrounding federal healthcare policy, California is pushing ahead with health insurance and healthcare delivery system reforms designed to improve quality while controlling healthcare costs. The Bay Area Council will work through its members in support of initiatives designed to increase value for medical spending and improve the health of the Bay Area workforce and their families.

2018 ACTIVITIES

- **National thought leadership to promote value**: The Bay Area Council Economic Institute will continue to publish issue briefs detailing innovative healthcare policies as well as best practices from California and other states. These have been done in partnership with the Hoover Institution, the New America Foundation and others and their findings have been featured in the *New York Times* on *FOX News* and in many other outlets.

- **Convening regional business community**: The Bay Area Council will convene two major events, one on healthcare innovation, the other on the role of employers in advancing the value agenda. These will have high-level nationally recognized speakers and help activate the regional business community towards collective action. Council staff also moderate other major healthcare events such as the San Francisco Business Times’ *Future of Healthcare* conference that focus on our issues.

- **State policy advocacy**: In support of our members and allies, the Council will continue to advocate for policies that improve value for medical spending against policies that would take the state and country backwards. An example is support for SB 910 that would limit short-term health insurance in the state to three months keeping these very limited policies from displacing those with real value and consumer protections that were put in place as a result of the ACA.

BAY AREA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Janet Liang, President, Northern California, Kaiser Permanente
WATER & RESILIENCE

OBJECTIVE

Create one million acre-feet of new water over next five years; defend Bayside communities and infrastructure with new levees and 30,000 acres of restored wetlands; develop fire fuel load reduction policies in California’s upper watersheds.

2018 ACTIVITIES

- **Increase Water Storage**: Leading regional coalition to push the California Water Commission to spend down the entire $2.7 billion awarded by Proposition 1 to water storage projects. The effort follows a Water Commission staff report suggesting none of the 11 project applicants, including 3 Bay Area projects, were eligible for funding.

- **Improved Water Data**: Working with the Governor’s Office of Planning & Research to implement AB 1755 (Dodd), a Bay Area Council-sponsored bill from 2016 to create a statewide water data platform; Supporting SB 919 (Dodd) to reinstall stream gauges across California’s major rivers.

- **Expediting Wetland Permitting**: Leading collaborative effort with local, state, federal permitting agencies to speed multi-benefit wetland restoration projects in SF Bay.

- **California Resilience Challenge**: Building $10m statewide resilience challenge with PG&E to help communities across California implement climate resilience projects.

BAY AREA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

- **Jim Levine**, Managing Partner, Montezuma Wetlands
- **Andy Ball**, President, RAD Urban

2018 Policy Priorities
Support the establishment of at least 12 California companies in China in 2018. Through the guidance of the China Task Force of BAC members, develop a suite of inbound services to bring 20 of China’s 100 largest companies into the Bay Area in the next five years.

2018 ACTIVITIES

- **Expand to new China Office:** Open a Beijing office in Q4, 2018. Acting on the request of Beijing Mayor Chen Jining, the Council is working to develop a research partnership with Zhongguancun Technology Park (Z-Park) and Tsinghua University.

- **Increase Market Access:** Grow relationships with existing partners in Shanghai, Hangzhou and Nanjing to assist Bay Area and California companies seeking to expand in China by hosting delegations, and to identify opportunities for bringing Chinese investment to California.

- **Increase China Market Opportunities for Bay Area Startups:** Initiating the second iteration of the China Business development grant. The new program supports qualified startups looking to access the Chinese markets.

- **Connect Innovation Systems:** Leverage new relationships with Shenzhen and Guangdong government decision-makers to establish an office in the Pearl River Delta and develop partnerships with government, business, and research communities to increase cross-border exchanges.

- **Promote Inbound Investments:** Launch a suite of turn-key services for Chinese companies and investors looking to invest and expand into the Bay Area through strategic partnerships and the guidance of the BAC China Committee.

BAY AREA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Andrew Giacomini, Managing Partner, Hanson Bridgett LLP

Lilly Chung, Partner and West Region Chinese Services Group Leader, Deloitte