



# SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY (SCS) INITIAL VISION SCENARIO

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City of Menlo Park  
City Council Meeting  
May 3, 2011

# Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)

**BayArea Plan**  
Initial Vision Scenario  
Overview  
For Public Discussion  
March 11, 2011

Association of Bay Area Governments  
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

# OneBayArea

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A video introduction:

## OneBayArea

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Our region has often risen to big challenges. From economic downturns to natural disasters, we are resilient and know how to bounce back. Inspired by breathtaking natural beauty that surrounds us, we launched the environmental movement and joined forces to save San Francisco Bay. Our people are innovators, having sparked the high-tech revolution and the nation's first modern rapid rail system. Yet despite this progress, our region must do more. We must rally our civic and business institutions, and our forward-looking citizenry, around a unified campaign to take actions big and small to help protect our environment, our enviable climate and our quality of life.

Let's join together!  
One Bay Area is an acknowledgment that we can do this — all 101 cities, nine counties and 7 million of us! We need to join together to address issues like climate change, sustainable growth and development, transportation, and protection of our air and water. Through this initiative, we hope to harness the creativity, resources and force of will to build a better Bay Area today, and for future generations.

One challenge for our region is to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy called for in 2008 state legislation (SB 375). This law calls upon our region and other areas throughout California to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions. The Bay Area's regional agencies, together with their local government partners, nonprofit organizations, business and community groups, and interested Bay Area residents, are working together through this effort to tackle pressing issues such as accommodating population growth while keeping the region affordable for all our residents, preserving open spaces, protecting our environment, and getting residents where they need to go, when they need to get there.

We invite you to join in the dialogue to make our region, a better, more sustainable place! Please explore our site and [get involved!](#)

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Is English your second language? Do you need one of our documents translated? Do you need an interpreter who speaks your language present at one of our meetings?

We can help! You can request assistance by calling 510-817-5757 or 510-817-5769 for TDD/TTY. We require at least three days notice to provide reasonable accommodations. We prefer more notice if possible. We will make every effort to arrange for assistance as soon as possible.

# Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)

- “ Derived from 2008 State legislation (SB 375)
- “ Metropolitan regions required to:
  - “ Provide a 25-year land use strategy that identifies areas to accommodate all of the region's population
  - “ Forecast a land use pattern that reduces greenhouse gas emissions
- “ MTC and ABAG are the primary agencies for the Bay Area SCS process
- “ SCS to be generated through iterative process
- “ Local governments asked for input, but not formal approval
- “ Does not change local land use authority

# Initial Vision Scenario

- “ Overall Bay Area projected to grow by over 2 million people over the next 25 years (7,350,000 today to approximately 9,430,000 by 2035)
- “ 12 percent per capita GHG reduction (below 15 percent target)
- “ Menlo Park projected to grow from 12,432 households in 2010 to 17,563 households in 2035 (41.3% increase)
- “ 81% of Menlo Park's new growth projected to occur in and around downtown and the El Camino Real corridor

# Draft Comment Letter

- “ Support of overall climate change goals and acknowledgement that MTC/ABAG are operating under approved State law
- “ Significant concerns with the local environmental and fiscal impacts of the projected growth (not known at this stage)
- “ Contrast with Draft El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plans housing projections (680 housing units over same planning period)
- “ Uncertainty on basis for overall Bay Area housing/employment projections

# Meeting Process

- “ City Council clarification questions of staff
- “ Public Comment
- “ City Council direction/action on draft comment letter; may include changes to be subsequently finalized by City Manager (or Mayor, if preferred)