PLAN bay area 2060

Launching Plan Bay Area 2060: Environmental Considerations

San Francisco Estuary Partnership Implementation Committee

November 2026

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Photo: Noah Berger

Background: Plan Purpose & Requirements

Plan Bay Area...

- **Is the region's long-range plan**, integrating transportation, housing, land use and the environment to accommodate future growth in the right places.
- **Sets regional priorities** through a framework that evolves with emerging needs and challenges.
- **Does not** override local land use authority, award money to projects or strategies, or propose specific legislation.

State & Federal Rules

✓ **Fulfills** the federal Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and state Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) planning requirements every four to eight years.
✓ Engages the **community** through a robust, collaborative process.
✓ Identifies and prioritizes **transportation** investments over the next few decades.
✓ Accommodates existing and future **housing** needs across all household income levels.
✓ Meets ambitious **climate** targets, including per-capita greenhouse gas reduction targets set by the state.

Note: *Several additional requirements of the planning process are not shown.*

Background: From Plans to Implementation, 2010-today

Caltrain Electrification



SMART Train & Pathway



Napa Valley Vine Trail



India Basin Waterfront Park



East Contra Costa BART Extension



Suisun Valley Farm-to-Market



Bay Meadows Urban Village



San José Tamien Station



East Bay Greenway Multimodal Project



Plan Bay Area 2060: Proposed Approach

- ❑ **Ambitious in its vision,** while **grounded in today's realities.**
- ❑ Meaningfully respond to:
  - **Pressing issues** facing the Bay Area
  - **Planning trends** and best practices
  - **Core regulatory requirements**
  - Furthering **shared vision** for 2060



Photo: Karl Nielsen

Early Scoping Feedback

Policy concerns



- Transportation safety and accessibility.
- Housing affordability, growth forecasts, wildfire risks and RHNA.
- Sea level rise, local plan alignment and managed retreat vs. adaptation.
- Emerging technologies like AI, automation and e-bikes.

Process goals



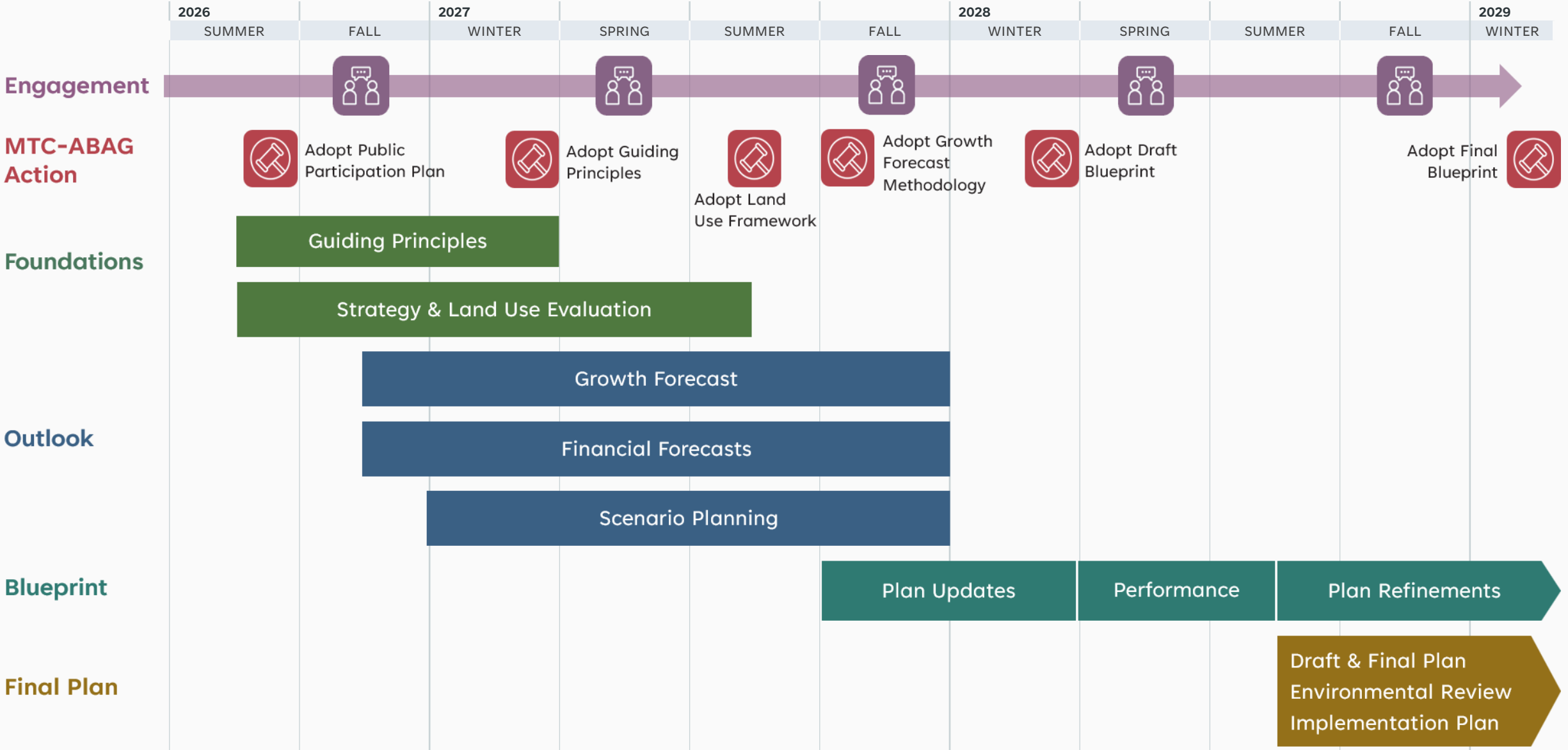
- Deepen and sustain partner engagement and feedback coordination.
- Balance utility, clarity and consistency in a revamped land use framework.
- Revisit how projects are prioritized given increased constraints and hard tradeoffs.

Implementation



- Measure progress, taking stock of what has and has not worked in past plans.
- Lean into near-term actions with an even stronger focus on implementation.
- Consider fiscal realities and funding alternatives for implementation priorities.

Plan Timeline: Fall 2026 to Early 2029



Note: *Approximate schedule; subject to change. Final plan adoption anticipated in early 2030.*
Thematic coordination roadmaps and a more comprehensive project schedule now available at: planbayarea.org/2060

Scope Highlight: Foundations Phase



Foundations

Establish shared priorities and examine key components of past plans

2026-2027

Area of Work	Core Question
Guiding Principles	What is our shared vision for the future of the Bay Area?
Strategy Evaluation	How effective are existing Plan Bay Area 2050+ strategies?
Land Use Framework	Where and how should we plan for growth as a region?

Scope Highlight: Outlook Phase

Outlook

Assess emerging trends, examine uncertainties and update forecasts

2026-2027

Area of Work	Core Question
Scenario Planning	**How might external forces and the choices we make affect the region's trajectory, given significant uncertainties about the future?**
Growth Forecast	**How much population, jobs and housing growth does the region need to plan for?**
Financial Forecasts	**What revenue can reasonably be anticipated for our transportation, housing and environmental needs?**

Scope Highlight: Blueprint Phase

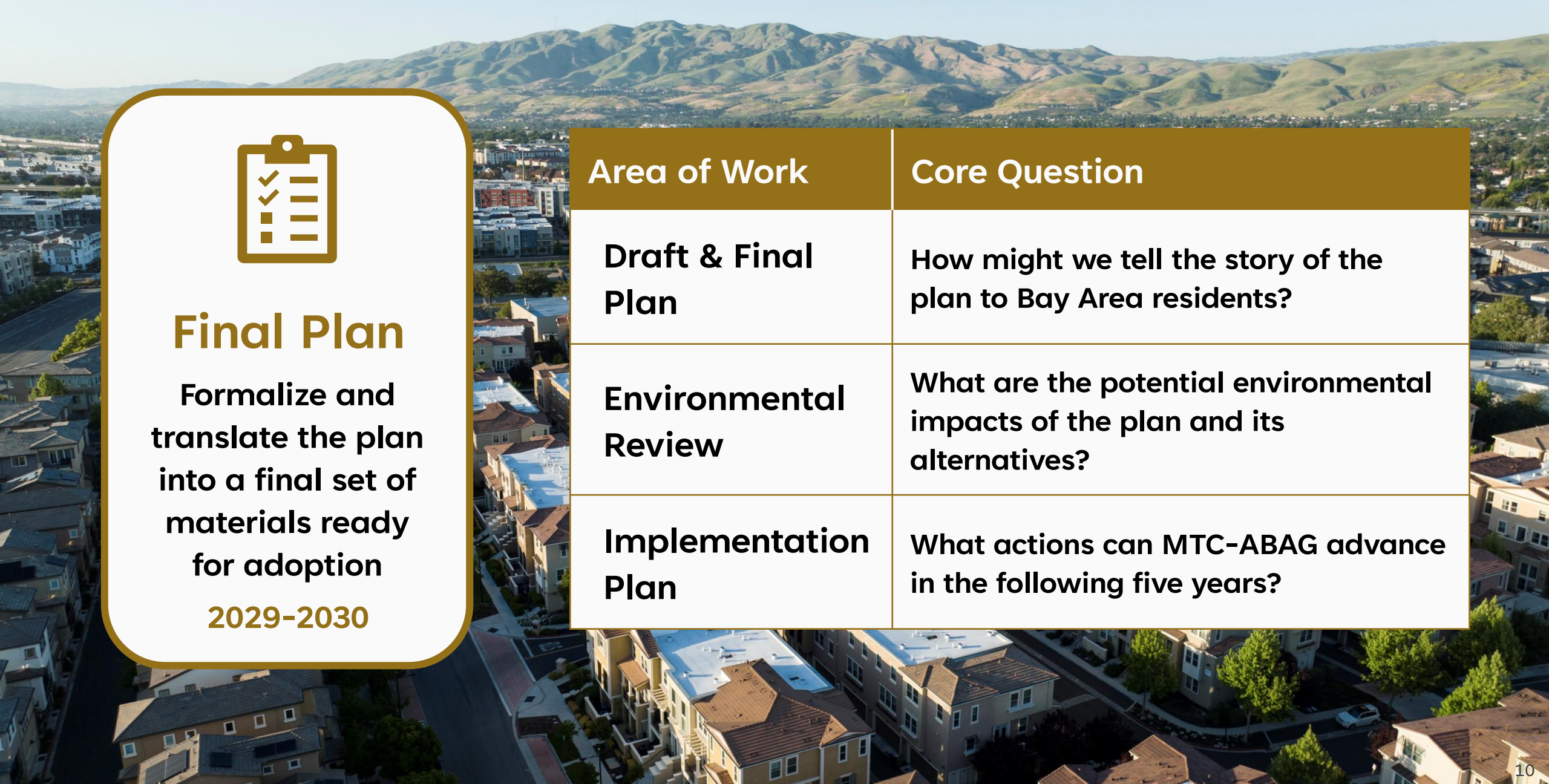
Blueprint

Update, analyze and refine the plan's building blocks

2027-2029

Area of Work	Core Question
Plan Updates	How do we piece together the revised strategies, Land Use Framework and projects into a Blueprint for the plan?
Performance	How effective is the Blueprint at making progress toward regional goals?

Scope Highlight: Final Phase



Final Plan

Formalize and translate the plan into a final set of materials ready for adoption

2029-2030

Area of Work	Core Question
Draft & Final Plan	How might we tell the story of the plan to Bay Area residents?
Environmental Review	What are the potential environmental impacts of the plan and its alternatives?
Implementation Plan	What actions can MTC-ABAG advance in the following five years?

Starting Point: Plan Bay Area 2050+ Environment Strategies

Environmental resilience strategies work to protect the Bay Area's land, air, water and people from natural hazards and improve access to parks and open spaces.

Theme	Plan Bay Area 2050+ Environment Element Strategies	
Reduce Risks from Hazards	EN1: Adapt to Sea Level Rise	Today
	EN2: Seismic & Wildfire Home Retrofits	
	EN3: Energy & Water Building Retrofits	
Expand Access to Parks and Open Space	EN4: Maintain Urban Growth Boundaries	
	EN5: Protect & Manage Conservation Lands	Today
	EN6: Modernize and Expand Parks & Trails	Today

Note: Three other strategies (EN7, EN8, EN9) in the Environment Element reduce transportation emissions.

Updating Our Approach: Sea Level Rise (EN1)

Sea Level Rise in Plan Bay Area 2050+:

- **$96B need** for shoreline adaptation: local, placeholder, and green/grey infrastructure.
- **Protects** growth areas, equity priority communities, transportation, critical infrastructure, and shoreline ecosystems.
- **Excludes** very low-density locations lacking these factors.

Considerations for Plan Bay Area 2060:

- **Planning Assumptions & Strategy Evaluation:** Align assumptions and strategy scope with the best available evidence from literature and ongoing planning initiatives.
- **Financial Forecast & Scenario Planning:** Test fiscal constraints and varying funding levels for adaptation, including prioritization pathways.



Photo: Noah Berger

Updating Our Approach: Parks and Open Space (EN5 & EN6)

Parks & Open Space in Plan Bay Area 2050+:

- **$35B need** to protect and manage high-value conservation lands and open space.
- **$27B need** for green stormwater infrastructure, street trees, urban parks in Equity Priority Communities, and regional trails.

Considerations for Plan Bay Area 2060:

- **Planning Assumptions & Strategy Evaluation:** Align assumptions and scope with the best available evidence from literature and ongoing planning initiatives.
- **Financial Constraint & Scenario Planning:** As with sea level rise, test varying funding levels. Fiscal constraint could reshape the scope and scale of both strategies.



Photo: Ben Botkin

Updating Our Approach: Land Use Framework

Plan Bay Area 2050+ Land Use Framework:

- Encourages homes and jobs in Growth Geographies.
- Supports transit-oriented and complete communities.

Plan Bay Area 2060 Land Use Framework Update:

- Likely to keep encouraging growth where housing, transportation, and environmental goals align.
- Acknowledge tradeoffs between hazards and other goals. Work with partners to find the path forward that best advances regional goals.



Photo: Karl Nielsen



Next Steps

- ❑ **Fall/Winter:** Ongoing engagement to revisit the plan's Guiding Principles
- ❑ **Fall/Winter:** Updates on Foundations and Outlook phases of work
- ❑ **Early Spring 2027:** Adoption of Guiding Principles

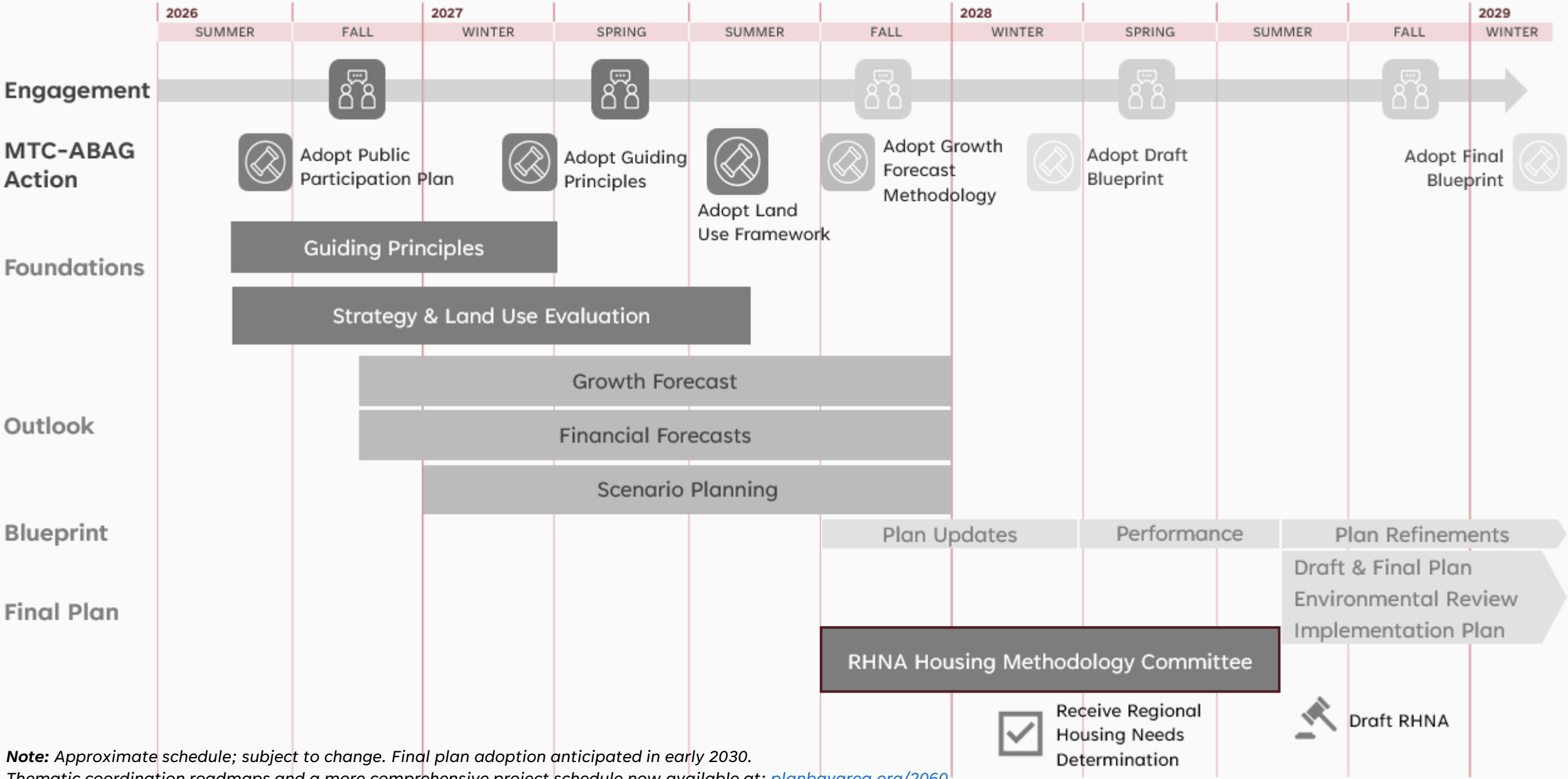
Want to help shape the Plan Bay Area 2060 Environment Element?
Find a detailed roadmap on our website:
https://planbayarea.org/2060Environment

Contact Information:

Kate Lyons, Environment Element Lead
klyons@bayareametro.gov

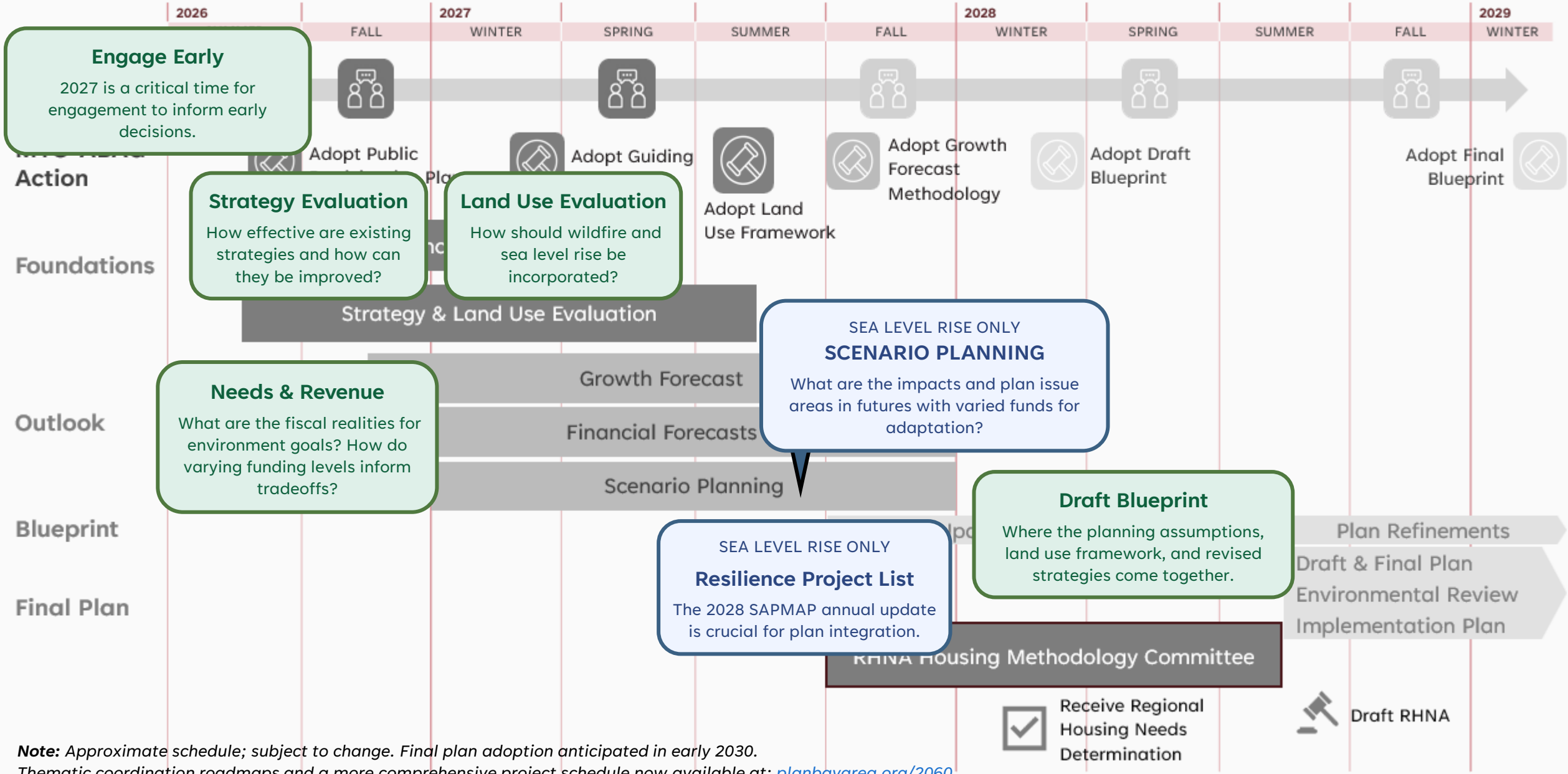
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