

SAN MATEO COUNTY

CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE

Eddie Flores, Chairperson
Pranita Venkatesh, Vice Chairperson

Sukhmani S. Purewal, Secretary
500 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, 94063
650-363-1802

TO: MAYORS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY
FROM: SUKHMANI S. PUREWAL, SECRETARY
SUBJECT: SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE

Mayor Eddie Flores, Chairperson of the San Mateo County City Selection Committee called for a **Special** meeting of the Committee at **1:00 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 2025**. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom:

To join the Zoom meeting, please click the following link: <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/93603461145>
The meeting ID is **936 0346 1145**.

AGENDA

- 1) Roll Call

- 2) Selection of two (2) Councilmembers to serve as Regular members on the Executive Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) representing **Cities** (*all Cities are eligible*), for a term of two (2) years beginning July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027 each.
 - i. *Mark Nagales, Councilmember of City of South San Francisco is seeking reappointment*
 - ii. *Carlos Romero, Councilmember of City of East Palo Alto is seeking reappointment*
 - iii. *Sissy Riley, Councilmember of City of Millbrae is seeking appointment*

- 3) Selection of two (2) Councilmembers to serve as Alternate members on the Executive Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) representing **Cities** (*all Cities are eligible*), for a term of two (2) years beginning July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027 each.
 - i. *Rob Newsom Jr., Mayor of City of San Mateo is seeking reappointment*
 - ii. *Phoebe Shin Venkat, Councilmember of City of Foster City is seeking appointment*
 - iii. *Sissy Riley, Councilmember of City of Millbrae is seeking appointment if the nomination for Item No. 2 is unsuccessful*

- 4) Oral Communications and Announcements
 - i. *Public Comment – Opportunity for the public to address the San Mateo County City Selection Committee.*
 - ii. *Any subject not on the agenda may be presented at this time by members of the City Selection Committee. These topics cannot be acted upon or discussed, but may be agendaized for a later meeting date.*



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

May 27, 2025

City Selection Committee
C/o Sukhmani Purewal
Secretary of City Selection Committee/Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
RE: Re-appointment to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)

Dear Honorable Mayors and Councilmembers,

I seek your support for re-appointment as an Executive Board Member of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) representing San Mateo County.

As one of the first Filipino Americans elected to the South San Francisco City Council, I understand how important it is to have a seat at the table. As a former aide to Assemblymember Gene Mullin and Congresswoman Jackie Speier, I have over 10 years of legislative experience addressing various regional issues. I currently serve on the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA) and I previously served on the Board of HEART of San Mateo County. I was President of the Peninsula Division of the League of California Cities and served on the League's Housing, Community, and Economic Development Policy Committee. I currently work at BART as a Senior Government and Community Relations Representative.

As a member of ABAG, I have brought to the Board my firsthand experience in tackling regional housing issues. Together with the South San Francisco City Council, we helped our residents by implementing a renter's assistance program weeks before the COVID pandemic began, became the first city in San Mateo County to launch a Guaranteed Basic Income pilot program, and provided grants to support small businesses during the pandemic. South San Francisco is building more housing around transportation hubs such as our new and improved Downtown Caltrain station and the El Camino corridor. These housing developments support our goals of encouraging residents to take alternate modes of transportation, reducing car emissions and traffic, and promoting connectivity and walkability in our neighborhoods.

I will continue to be a representative for all cities in San Mateo County to voice your concerns, questions, and priorities to the entire ABAG Board. I have spoken with many of you about wildfire protection, affordable housing, transportation, the economy, and the environment. Having representation from both the northern and southern portions of our county will bring a balanced regional perspective to ABAG. I would be honored to serve again as your advocate on ABAG. Thank you for your consideration.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Nagales".

Mark Nagales
Councilmember, District 2
City of South San Francisco



CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO

Mayor Martha Barragan
Vice Mayor Mark Dinan

Council Members

Ruben Ábrica
Webster Lincoln
Carlos Romero

May 28, 2025

Re: ABAG Executive Board Re-Appointment

Honorable Mayors and Council Members:

I respectfully seek your support for re-appointment to the Association of Bay Area Governments' (ABAG) Executive Board. I have served on the Executive Board since December 2020 and I was recently elected ABAG's vice president. Previously, I served as an ABAG Board Alternate Member for four years.

My continued interest in serving on ABAG's governing board stems from a commitment to regional transportation and housing planning that takes into account appropriate local land use, sound economic and housing policies, and respect for the environment. I have a firm respect for regionalism yet understand the need to always take into perspective local needs and concerns. In addition, I intend to seek the two-year ABAG presidency next year in order to have San Mateo County's voice firmly centered in vital ABAG regional discussions.

Over the next two years, ABAG will begin working on the development of Plan Bay Area 2060, a major update to the nine-county regional vision for transportation, housing, the economy, and the environment. ABAG will also begin, in 2027, to engage our cities and the state in the upcoming Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process. My leadership as ABAG Housing Committee chair and my service on ABAG's RHNA Housing Methodology Committee, where we grappled during an 18-month process to determine our region's RHNA housing allocation methodology, have primed me to continue forcefully representing our cities and county in this often times vexing process.

Of equal importance during the next two years, ABAG and MTC, through the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (BAHFA), a vital regional entity our cities need to fund moderate and low-income housing, will be discussing and strategizing how to move forward with a regional housing funding measure on the 2028 ballot. I want our cities to receive the lion's share of this possible \$10-\$20 billion-dollar effort. Given the depth and breadth of my understanding of housing finance and development as an affordable housing developer and consultant, I am well positioned to help move BAHFA's efforts forward.

Carlos Romero
ABAG Executive Board Re-Appointment Letter
May 28, 2025
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In summary, my service on ABAG's Regional Planning Committee, ABAG's Housing Methodology Committee, my chairmanship of the ABAG Housing Committee, and my role as ABAG vice president give me the deep experience needed to engage effectively as your ABAG Executive Board member. I fully grasp that our twenty diverse cities have varied needs and sometimes divergent concerns. I will continue to listen and learn with the rest of you to find solutions and craft positions that address critical local and regional concerns. I will also continue to report back to you through my oral reports provided at our Council of Cities meetings.

I humbly ask that you support my re-appointment to ABAG. Should you have any questions concerning my candidacy, please contact me at (650) 283-2852 or cromero_ezln@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CR', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Carlos Romero



City of Millbrae

621 Magnolia Avenue, Millbrae, CA 94030

SISSY RILEY
Councilmember

June 2, 2025

City Selection Committee
c/o Mr. Sukhmani Purewal
Secretary of the City Selection Committee / Assistant Clerk
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

Re: Appointment to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Executive Board

Dear Honorable Mayors, Councilmembers, and Colleagues,

I respectfully seek your support for my appointment to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Executive Board. I am interested in being considered for either the regular or alternate seat.

As the first minority woman to serve on the Millbrae City Council, I bring a unique perspective rooted in community engagement and lived experience. In addition to my role on the Council, I have actively contributed to our city through various volunteer and leadership positions. I currently serve as liaison to the Millbrae Senior Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee, School District, and Business Committee.

Beyond my municipal responsibilities, I remain engaged with professional and civic organizations such as the National Association of Realtors, California Association of Realtors, the San Mateo County Association of Realtors, and the Millbrae Cultural Committee.

Originally from China, I was a professional educator specializing in early childhood development and taught hundreds of students before immigrating to the United States in 1995. Like many immigrants, I faced challenges adapting to a new language and culture. Through perseverance, I established a successful business that supports both my family and the local economy. This entrepreneurial experience has given me practical skills in financial management, strategic planning, and problem-solving.

My journey has deepened my commitment to values of resilience, inclusivity, and public service. I am dedicated to representing our twenty diverse cities, each with unique needs and concerns, with integrity and collaboration.

I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to ABAG’s mission and to help shape a vibrant, equitable future for our region. If appointed, I pledge to listen, collaborate, and advocate for solutions that meet the needs of our communities.

City Council/City Manager/City Clerk
(650) 259-2334

Building Division/Permits
(650) 259-2330

Community Development
(650) 259-2341

Finance
(650) 259-2350

Fire
(650) 558-7600

Police
(650) 259-2300

Public Works/Engineering
(650) 259-2339

Recreation
(650) 259-2360

City Selection Committee

Re: Appointment to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Executive Board

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Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (650) 290-2200 or SRiley@ci.millbrae.ca.us.

Sincerely,



[Sissy Riley \(Jun 2, 2025 15:23 PDT\)](#)

Sissy Riley

Councilmember, City of Millbrae





OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

31-May-2025

Dear Mr. Purewal,

As you know, I was nominated by my peers on 13-January-2025 to serve out the balance of retired City of San Mateo Councilmember Rich Hedges's term as an Alternate on the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) representing the Cities of San Mateo County.

I understand that this partial term ends on June 30th 2025, and I would like to continue to serve our county's cities, and I humbly request that my name is put up for the position in our upcoming City Selection Committee Meeting.

I believe that my experiences in the past 2.5 years on the City Council for San Mateo, and my various Boards & Commissions assignments give me a solid perspective, particularly when it comes to Disaster Recover, Land use/Housing, Energy efficiency and Environmental and Water resource protections. I recognize the importance of ABAG, and I would be honored to serve a full term as an Alternate.

Additionally, I support the reappointment of South San Francisco Councilmember Mark Nagales, and East Palo Alto Councilmember Carlos Romero.

Thank you in advance to my fellow San Mateo County Mayors for their consideration.

Kind Regards,

Robert "Rob" Newsom Jr.



PHOEBE SHIN VENKAT

Candidate, ABAG Alternate



Contact



+732-258-5422



phoebe.venkat@gmail.com



784 Vespucci Lane
Foster City, CA 94404



To

**Special City Selection Committee
c/o Sukhmani Purewal, Sec. of
City Selection Committee and
Asst. Clerk of the Board of Sup.**

500 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

June 2, 2025

Dear Esteemed Special City Selection Committee Members and
Asst. Clerk of the Board Purewal,

I am excited to express my interest in the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Executive Board Alternate Member. With years of experience in community engagement, strategic planning, communications, and operations, I am confident in my ability to positively impact the Board.

I currently serve as a councilmember in Foster City, CA, and am Vice Chair for CORA's (Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse) Board of Directors. Prior to being elected last year, I served for nearly three years on the Foster City Planning Commission, and worked in the tech, finance, and pharmaceutical industries in roles that focused on serving customers, employees, and partners through data-led decision making. While the organizations were very different, there was and is one through line – community, communications, and collaboration are at the foundation of everything that I do.

I'm proud to have a vast community of mentors and peers from the political, nonprofit, public, and private sectors across San Mateo County and throughout the nine counties that ABAG serves. Additionally, I collaborate with leaders across the US. My network and proven experience will help our region grow and adapt thoughtfully while addressing sustainability, resilience, and equity.

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of my application, and look forward to speaking with you on June 9, 2025 during the Special City Selection Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Phoebe

Phoebe Shin Venkat