'Absurd' projections

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) released its latest projections for Marin and they are absurd.

**ABAG is projecting population growth of 33,000 by 2040.** This is radically different than the projections by the state Department of Finance Demographic Research Unit.

The Demographic Research Unit is designated as the single official source of demographic data for state planning and budgeting.

**The Department of Finance projects the total population for Marin from 2010 to 2020 will decline by 1,370 people, with a projection of a growth of 6,818 or 2.7 percent from 2010 to 2040. ABAG says this unit, that is designated as the single source of demographic data for the state, is incorrect.**

Really?

The ABAG projection, used to decide affordable housing allocations, are nearly five times higher than the Department of Finance. How does ABAG explain this outrageous variance?

The difference per ABAG is projected jobs — 18,400 — that of course don't exist and in no way reflect past job growth in Marin.

ABAG's other reason is excluding growth in the late 1990s and including the downturns that have occurred in the past years. This of course is ignoring the most recent trend data and hand picking data that increases the numbers.

I believe it is time for Marin County to exit ABAG, with its flawed formulas based on "one size fits all," and take control of our own local and county needs.

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