

**San Francisco Bay Regional CHARG: Coastal Hazards Adaptation Resiliency Group  
 May 15, 2014 Stakeholder Committee Action Items + Meeting Summary  
 Location: Alameda County Public Works Agency, Hayward CA**

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**Action Items**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>
Provide at least three “so that...” comments (i.e. expected outcomes and benefits of goals) that help articulate why it is relevant for each organization to participate in this group. Email to Ellen Cross ( <a href="mailto:e.cross@conveyinc.com">e.cross@conveyinc.com</a> )	All Steering Committee	June 9, 2014
Start to articulate a common vision for this group by writing several bullet point on how this group can achieve tangible and meaningful results. Email to Ellen Cross ( <a href="mailto:e.cross@conveyinc.com">e.cross@conveyinc.com</a> )	All Steering Committee	June 9, 2014
Mark your calendars for the next stakeholder meeting: July 24, 2014.	All Steering Committee	ASAP
Contact Ellen Cross ( <a href="mailto:e.cross@conveyinc.com">e.cross@conveyinc.com</a> ) for any questions or to provide additional feedback.	All Steering Committee	Anytime

**Next Meeting**

The next stakeholder meeting will be held on Thursday, July 24, 12:00 – 2:00 pm at FEMA (1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland – 12<sup>th</sup> Street Bart). Tentative agenda will be a brief presentation by Tim Washburn, Director of Planning with the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, followed by a review and prioritization of key issues that the stakeholder group may want to focus on.

**May 15, 2014 Meeting Summary**

This meeting was the very first for a group of representatives from local, state, federal, and nonprofit agencies to discuss and collaborate on coastal hazards, sea level rise, flood protection, and risk mitigation. The group is being championed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), shepherded by a smaller steering committee, and facilitated by the Alameda County Flood Control District (ACFCD). Stakeholder committee meetings are planned bi-monthly.

Kathy Schaefer/FEMA and Rohin Saleh/ACFCD gave brief introductory remarks. Each attendee then introduced him/herself and gave a brief overview of (a) one or two key issues facing their respective agencies relative to flood control and sea level rise, and/or (b) one or two things the agency has done to address coastal and flooding hazards. The following is a compilation and summary of key issues (in no particular order) that seem to be common to many stakeholders.

**Key Issues Common among Stakeholders**

## **Regional Hydrologic Modeling and Mapping**

- Alameda County Flood Control District (ACFCD) has developed and is using a 2-D hydrologic model.
- FEMA is performing hazards analysis and flood mapping with the intent of reducing future losses.
- Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) is identifying flood hazards and is working with DHI to do hydraulic modeling of its creeks, bay, and levees. SCVWD is using approaches put forth in the California Department of Water Resources Flood Future Report for regional collaboration. SCVWD offers public information to satisfy, in part, its Community Rating System requirements.
- City of San Mateo's flood risks are being re-classified as part of the FEMA hazards mapping and flood hazard mitigation process.
- City of San Leandro's waterways are undergoing new flood mapping, which has resulted in new properties being included in special flood hazard zones.
- City of Redwood City is in the process of certifying its levees. Considering possible solutions for its concrete channels and flooding in low-lying areas.
- California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has developed an RMA finite element modeling tool for the Delta and San Francisco Bay.
- City of Hayward fields the public's calls and helps disseminate public information when the FEMA flood maps change.

## **Levees and Protecting Near-Shore Land and Development**

- City of Oakland Fire Department is combining the scenarios outlined in BCDC's Adapting Rising Tides (ART) with earthquake considerations to focus on Oakland airport and lower-income residences in the flood hazard areas.
- City of Oakley has 10 miles of shoreline and homes protected by levees.
- SCVWD relies on the shoreline levees to provide flood protection to Silicon Valley. Salt ponds have multiple benefits.
- SCVWD is working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and DHI on a South Bay Coastal Study: shoreline modeling from Aviso to Milpitas, including the salt ponds.
- Levees are critical for flood protection for the City of Foster City, especially considering sea level rise.
- The Delta Stewardship Council has developed the Delta Plan and is currently embarking on a levee prioritization study for island levees in the Delta.
- City of San Jose's Alviso community and surrounding areas in northern San Jose are particularly vulnerable to flood hazards and sea level rise. The City is looking at its salt ponds and levees.
- County of San Mateo public works department is responsible for flood protection in unincorporated areas within the county, including the San Carlos airport. Flood protection efforts are currently focused on levee certification, a Bay-front canal, and possibly establishing a San Mateo County Flood Control District, with three zones corresponding to major watersheds.
- City of Alameda will see significant impacts, particularly at Alameda Point (the former Naval Air Station). Its master infrastructure plan incorporates consideration of sea level rise. Looking at Bay Farm Island, with more than 1000 impacted residences, in conjunction with the Port of Oakland.
- South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project expressed a need for consistency in approaches to wetlands restoration as part of the overall solution to mitigating sea level rise.

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is responsible for managing the Don Edwards wildlife refuge, 75 miles of levees, and the South Bay Salt Ponds.
- City of Fairfield is built on a large inland floodplain.
- City of Sausalito has a long bay-front shoreline. Looking at how sea level affects residents and new developments.
- County of Napa performed a major project a number of years ago to improve flood control and provide multiple beneficial use on the Napa River.
- City of Menlo Park is involved in the Bayfront Canal/Atherton Channel Flood Improvement Project. They are also working with the City of East Palo Alto on the Strategy to Advance Flood protection Ecosystems and Recreation along the Bay (SAFER Bay) project.
- San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority is developing an EIR based on a predicted 26-inch sea level rise coupled with a 10-year storm event. Also involved in the Ravenswood Ponds project as part of the South Bay Salt Ponds Restoration project.

## Planning and Policy Initiatives

- SCVWD notes the need for new policies that help guide planning and design moving forward. For example, should planning be based on an adaptive model? Or cost-benefit analyses?
- The Bay Area Joint Policy Committee (JPC) is looking at broad issues around climate change, energy consumption. It has developed a network of agencies and groups focused on climate adaptation and resiliency. Suggested being aware of a recent lawsuit in which Farmers Insurance sued local governments in the Chicago area, claiming that the localities are failing to prepare accordingly for climate change.
- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), in conducting the Adapting to Rising Tides (ART) project, recognizes a lack of many types of information with which to make decisions; for example, who owns the shoreline? Should the sea level rise impacts be considered local? Or regional?
- California State Coastal Conservancy is working with BCDC and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) on regional planning and funding initiatives, including wetlands restoration considering climate change. Noted that, compared to statewide, the majority of wetlands and infrastructure that are at risk due to sea level rise is located in the San Francisco Bay region.
- Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) is looking at multiple hazards (flooding, earthquake) as a member of the JPC Resilient Shorelines Project. Hazards mitigation plans include climate change and flooding. More meaningful input to plans is needed. With a solid disaster plan, more funding can be attracted.
- BCDC has been doing sea level rise planning, developing maps, and performing science and research. The San Francisco Bay is managed as an ecological resource with infrastructure assets.
- ABAG sponsors the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, which has developed a new collaboration to look at the health of the Bay and its watersheds.
- County of San Mateo is looking at a countywide collaboration, in conjunction with the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority. Noted that this group could be a national leader and model for the rest of the country on how to collaborate on issues pertaining to sea level rise and hazards mitigation.
- USACE is leveraging its collaboration with the California Department of Water Resources and local agencies to develop a common vision.

- DWR, in conjunction with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) prepared a guide for planning. DWR and the California Ocean Protection Council performed a LiDAR mapping project to obtain onshore and offshore elevation data.

### **Near-Bay Infrastructure (including Industries, Transportation, Utilities)**

- Contra Costa County Flood Control District (CCCFC) has developed a comprehensive asset management system to adapt to changing land use, over a 50-year planning timeframe. Example: converting concrete channels to other flood management configurations over time.
- East Bay Dischargers Authority (EBDA) is looking at the discharge from the Union Sanitation District and Livermore-Amador Valley Water Management Agency (LAVWMA) facilities. They are considering treatment to remove additional nutrients and putting the water to beneficial use for bayside levee and pond restoration.
- City of Sunnyvale has an industrial base, wastewater treatment plant, and surrounding residential neighborhoods that may be impacted by sea level rise.
- Caltrans has long linear transportation infrastructure near the Bay. In addition to performing ongoing its mitigation and environmental restoration program, Caltrans has convened an inter-district planning group to address climate change.
- City of Fremont's creeks and channels drain to the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge and then to the Bay. Fremont has a strong industrial base in lower-elevation areas. Currently identifying new criteria for development.
- The Alameda County Water District (ACWD) is concerned about greater salt water intrusion at the bay-front into its groundwater basins. Also very active in restoring fish passage in Alameda Creek.
- City of San Jose is undergoing a \$2 billion wastewater treatment plant improvement program at its San Jose- Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility in northern San Jose.
- San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) has been involved in the BCDC ART project. SFPUC's sewer systems improvements are based on data from maps and LiDAR to track areas of inundation. SFPUC is also doing Pacific coast studies. SFPUC is incorporating sea level rise into its infrastructure planning to develop capital improvement plans for the rest of the century.