



**San Francisco Bay Regional CHARG: Coastal Hazards Adaptation Resiliency Group
 March 16, 2016 Funding Working Group Action Items + Meeting Minutes
 Conference Call**

Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Guest speaker: David Kennard	FEMA
Beckie Zisser	Save The Bay
Brian Benn	Environmental Risk & Financial Solutions
Jacqueline Solomon	City of Mountain View - Public Works Department
James C (Jim) Porter	San Mateo County - Department of Public Works
Kathy Schaeffer	UC Berkeley
Kirsten Struve	City of Palo Alto
Liang Lee	SCVWD
Luisa Valiela	EPA
Michelle Iblings	ACPWA
Paul Okada	San Mateo County Office of Sustainability
Robert (Bob) Spencer	Urban Economics
Steve Moore	State Water Resources Control Board
Sybil Hatch	Convey
Ani Thompkins	Convey

Action Items:

- Kathy Schaefer to reach out to Maria Lorenzo-Lee for contact information for State hazard mitigation office or flood plain manager
- Kathy Schaefer, Steve Moore, and David Behar to brainstorm approach to grant-seeking
- Convey to add David Kennard to future funding working group calls/meetings
- Email thoughts on Funding Brief to Kathy Schaefer prior to next month's meeting
- Next meeting: in-person, April 20 at Port of Oakland in Jack London Square

General Discussion:

- Introductions; guest speaker David Kennard
 - David Kennard is the FEMA preparedness grant program manager. The grants he oversees fall into two groups: those related to a specific disaster, and those related to preparedness. The funding sources

support emergency management systems in the US and prepare/assist states and communities to become more resilient to emergencies. Congress sets annual appropriation levels and basic guidelines.

- Disaster-related Grants

- Disaster public assistance is directly related to a specific event that has occurred. Funds go for public assistance, including restoration of infrastructure and hazard mitigation.
- A percent is kept aside for local mitigation projects, not necessarily related to that event, to strengthen infrastructure and facilities in the community so they're more able to withstand a future event. "Build back stronger, better."
- After an event there is pressure to replace the same existing infrastructure quickly so the community can recover. If an alternative plan is in-place in advance of an emergency, the funding can be used to strengthen, relocate, or adapt the infrastructure, thereby gaining to maximize benefit of grant moneys. CHARG could develop such plans related to climate change-based sea level rise and piggyback onto future disasters (not necessarily climate-related) for improved shoreline resiliency.

- Preparedness Grants

- The Emergency Management Planning Grant (EMPG) block grant is made by FEMA to State of California (Cal OES - Office of Emergency Services) and used for a variety of things, mostly POTE (Planning Operations Training Exercise). State decides how to allocate funds; a percentage stays with the state and the rest goes to local communities. State of California has done well in competition for funds. CHARG might want to consider bringing Cal OES into the CHARG dialogue. Governor's Office climate contact is Jeff Le. David recommends coordinating with Christina Curry/Cal OES for emergency preparedness funding options from the state.
- An EMPG is a possible funding source for planning, education and training in communities to strengthen shorelines, but not likely for construction. Could be used for risk analysis in coordination with state; may need to modify for regional approach as money usually goes to state.
- Homeland security preparedness grants are related to terrorism, but also includes some natural disasters. "Security issue" is broadly defined. A large portion goes to urban area security via the Bay Area UASI (Urban Area Security Initiative), which has generally focused on earthquake response planning and resiliency, but could be expanded to consider the effects of climate change as well.
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant (PDM) is a national competitive program to reduce overall risk to the population and structures from future natural hazard events. Two main categories: mitigation plans development funding could be used to develop a regional plan to adapt to climate change. Include regional cost-benefit analysis and strong scope of work with an articulated benefit of return. FEMA now acknowledges importance of inclusion of climate change and green infrastructure.

- David wants CHARG and its members to access FEMA funds and "do great things."

- Funding Brief

- Discuss *Funding Brief* at next CHARG funding working group meeting. Items to consider:

- *Funding Brief* was originally intended to start a conversation about what CHARG would do with \$50M and to use the initial source of funding to help understand how the region might obtain the \$50B that may be needed to actually do the resiliency improvement. In its current form, should CHARG continue to develop the *Funding Brief* and if so what form should it take?

- Should it be an actual (printed) document or used as a strawman used to frame conversations? Perhaps entities going to D.C. seeking money could use this to frame the idea that we need a reliable source of long-term funding for projects in the Bay Area. Perhaps it could be used by elected officers at Capitol-to-Capitol meetings.
- Since current draft of the *Funding Brief* was created, we now have restoration authority activity, Prop 218 reformation, Resiliency by Design initiative, etc. Should we put the document on hold to support those initiatives?
- Operational funding is needed for CHARG facilitation: three working groups, three technical sub-groups, design charrettes, permitting issues being addressed by policy working group, and annual or bi-annual stakeholder meetings. Operational expenses are currently funded by ACFCD. How might we obtain a sustainable long-term source of funding?