



**San Francisco Bay Regional CHARG: Coastal Hazards Adaptation Resiliency Group
 April 20, 2016 Funding Working Group Action Items + Meeting Minutes
 Location TBD**

Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Bob Spencer	Urban Economics	Martha Whetstone	SFO Airport
Ellen Cross	Strategy Driver, Inc.	Matt Gerhart	State Coastal Conservancy
Joshua Polston	Port of Oakland	Paul Okada	County of San Mateo
Kathy Schaeffer	UC Berkeley	Sybil Hatch	Convey, Inc.
Ken Schreiber	Land Use Planning & Services	Tim Shimizu	County of San Mateo
Kirsten Struve	City of Palo Alto	Warner Chabot	San Francisco Estuary Institute

Action Items:

- May 16th all-group meeting cancelled.
- Supervisor Pine to send contact information developed for regional campaign coordinators and information about the Bay Restoration Authority ballot measure to be communicated via mailing lists and social media
- Kathy and Matt to contact Office of Emergency Services (Christina Curry) and FEMA (David Kennard) with request for meeting regarding FEMA grants. Meeting targeted for mid-May. Bob Spencer and Ken Schreiber volunteered to join the meeting.
- Kathy to forward Ellen’s example of a policy paper from the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce Capital-to-Capital initiative.
- Group to consider who should reach out to Bay Area Council, Silicon Valley Leadership Group, (and other organization) to spearhead Cap-to-Cap type initiative for Bay area sea level rise issues.
- Group to consider technical and political messages to include in Funding Brief.
- Next meeting June 15, 2016 9:30-11:30am at Port of Oakland

General Discussion:

- Introductions
- FEMA preparedness grants
 - Question of pursuing FEMA preparedness grants presented during last meeting, with effort from funding working group or larger group of stakeholders

- Post-disaster grant raises questions that would bring disparate science and people into a hypothetical discussion about debris and how it will be treated in the wake of an earthquake: Focus on pushing debris into the Bay (as it has been historically) in such a way that it ultimately gets covered with wetland material? Or highlight why debris should NOT to be pushed into the Bay? Funding would require a collective approach
- Range of possible disasters is broader than water-related; there are advantages to how regions respond to disasters that could have ramifications on the Bay
- FEMA gives the Office of Emergency Services (EOS) criteria for the grants, which the OES administers, deciding how funds are distributed. There is interest from FEMA for a group like CHARG to pursue the grant and might be supportive
- Pre-disaster planning versus post-disaster infrastructure grants question
 - While some issues are Bay-wide there are individual efforts being or needing to be undertaken and there is not a strong Bay-wide network to consider these
 - May not get funds for Bay-wide efforts but might get a grant for dealing with post-disaster debris
 - Need a process by which to sort grant topics, as it's been demonstrated that there is a lot of nuance – focus on topic, geography, etc.
- Consensus met on researching FEMA grants - Kathy and Matt Gerhart will reach out to David Kennard and ask Christina Curry from Cal OES if she'll talk to the group in more detail, and the group will come up with a strategy for pursuit.
- Next meeting will be focused on FEMA grants
- Update on Bay Restoration Authority ballot measure: Supervisor David Pine, San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (SFBRA) Chairperson
 - Unprecedented 9-county \$12 parcel tax measure on the ballot for June election would generate \$25M/year, providing funds for tidal land restoration. The measure needs 2/3 support to pass. A recent field poll was encouraging, suggesting that when voters read the specific language of the measure itself ~74% supported it; wording is critical and has been tested. Extensive polling has been done over years tracking people's appetite for this kind of measure.
 - Media campaign: Poll shows that many people don't know this will be on the ballot. Focus paid to raising funds to pay for \$3M media campaign. Due to absentee ballots being submitted starting 30 days prior to the election, there is a pressing question about when first push on major campaign advertising will happen; Supervisor Pine has no specifics other than that the \$3M has been mapped out
 - Measure allows for construction of levees but no grayscaping; it's all about wetlands and public access, focused on 35,000 acres that are in public hands today and could be restored with funding
 - Bob Spencer is on the SFBRA advisory board - update to the Baylands habitat goals divides the current century into two halves; one with slow sea level rise, increasing mid-to-late century. Projections and inundation maps raise question of whether we'll have *any* wetlands in future
 - Measure would be good for twenty years and likely fund against future revenue stream.

- By the turn of the century the predictions of sea level rise range from around three to nine feet, raising a fundamental challenge, but making the effort to re-establish wetlands now and over the next couple of decades it's possible but if we do nothing we lose the opportunity.
- SFBRA would only provide grants for which organizations doing the actual work would compete; there isn't a list of projects that they promise to fund, just a set of principles that the Board would use to award grants, and maps showing numerous examples of where money could be put to use all over the Bay Area. Half would be distributed geographically by population – since everyone would be paying the tax – and the other half would be competitive – some areas have more issues than others, the money would be concentrated where it's needed most, e.g. the 50,000-acre South Bay Salt Marsh
- How can CHARG help?
 - A regional campaign coordinator for the measure has been established in each county; Supervisor Pine will send the funding working group participants that contact information so that organizations and agencies can plug into regional effort
 - Private organizations, agencies, and individuals can communicate information about the measure through mailing lists and post on social media
 - Endorse the measure on the [website](#) and encourage others in network to do same – if everyone at the meeting were to tell ten people the information would spread quickly
 - Encourage elected officials to endorse
 - Letters to editors of local newspapers: published letters to the editor of the Marin Independent Journal from vocal voters have been against the measure, despite strong polling; Supervisor Pine believes that Santa Clara County is the important one to focus on
- Stormwater initiative update: No update at this time
- Discussion of status of funding chairs
 - Matt Gerhart and Kathy Schaefer nominated and confirmed as new co-chairs for the funding working group
 - Norma Camacho has been promoted to interim CEO of Santa Clara Valley Water District and will no longer be co-chair
 - David Behar taking a stronger role with the technical working group and the steering committee and will no longer be co-chair
- Funding Brief
 - Funding brief is a product to show accomplishment by the funding working group. Is the funding brief something that we still want to pursue as a strawman and focus efforts on pursuing FEMA grants?
 - Concept is a framework for approaching a federal agency for funding and for informing elected officials about CHARG. Funding brief could be used as a resource for speaking with local or state representatives, and morph into a white paper about what's being done around the Bay Area; one resource to be used to formulate the ask, inform local and state representatives what projects are in progress and what others have done. It's hard to know and understand what other counties are doing and it would be nice to have a resource for information on what's been tried, what's working or isn't; it would be helpful to know what's happening in other areas.

- Great as a case statement and should have a long shelf life in how it's being vetted and how people are providing input; the document should expand as the conversation expands. Include a leadership statement about how the Bay Area should respond: “We’ve done our homework and this is the way we think this should work.” Build upon it and make it a living document, more than a list of grant opportunities or things we're hopeful will materialize.
- Two purposes: a political and a technical statement. Political statement a short treatise or statement of need so we can build region-wide consensus on the kind of work that should be done; technical statement that can be updated constantly to address issues as they arise. Statement for elected officials as a vehicle for gaining consensus with supplementary documentation that looks at issues
- Another purpose is to describe how the Bay Area thinks it ought to be funding sea level rise adaptation at the local/regional/state level, current efforts that could use additional funding. What's going on right now that needs additional support? Therefore, could be used as a summary to track status of projects around the Bay Area; useful to know what people are working on and what the identified needs are
- Elected officials will expect a rough and even number like \$50M to be broken down into details about how that number was reached, at least to the 6- or 7-figure level for types of needed programs, so a city manager can defend the \$50M
- Example of how Funding Brief might be used: Bay Area ports and airports are looking to make federal ask; many local entities going to Washington D.C. to ask for funding for particular projects; funding brief is meant to facilitate these effort.
- Sacramento sends a group to Washington D.C. every spring for “Cap-to-Cap” (Capital-to-Capital)
 - Arranged by Sacramento Chamber of Commerce and includes elected officials, private consulting firms, and individuals. [Cap-to-Cap in 47th year, covering whole spectrum of groups; Chamber of Commerce has been leading it for at least 7-8 years.](#)
 - FEMA goes and coordinates funding requests. FEMA top staff make the pitch to the agencies; they have built a rapport and asked intelligent questions; every year FEMA can count on seeing the same faces, and rapport leads to funding
 - Bay Area does not currently have a group that coordinates a similar regional Cap-to-Cap type initiative.
 - Powerful for the region to come together on behalf of the region to talk about impact to the region as a whole; come up with a message that everyone can agree with, meet with Congress, the Bureau, FEMA, USACE. Make it easy for them to understand how to get the best bang for their buck.
 - Ellen Cross has example policy paper combined with soundbites that communicates urgency. Ellen sent to steering committee, Kathy to forward to funding working group.
 - Question for group: what Bay-wide organization might fill the role of the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce?
 - Organization needs to be a private agency, non-governmental with political muscle and administrative support; takes a full-time staff to organize event and meetings, preparation, outreach. Need an atypical agency for elected officials to take notice; unexpected organizations working together are harder to slot; without earmarks need broader approach, a wide group of people to lobby for funds,

- Possible organizations: Bay Area Council (BAC) Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG), or some combination thereof? Beneficial to bring in an entity from the North Bay
- Add brainstorming to agenda for next meeting; in interim think about what organizations – that can take an advocacy role – we could approach and whether there's a good combination
- Martha Whetstone and Ellen Cross will help Kathy create a draft outline for discussion; look to Cap-to-Cap for example