



San Leandro Bay  
Oakland-Alameda Estuary  
Adaptation Working Group

## Notes for Meeting on February 15, 2023

### Location

Virtual meeting led by the City of Alameda and included 33 participants from 23 organizations.

### Purpose

The Working Group coordinates San Leandro Bay/Oakland-Alameda Estuary flood and adaptation projects to protect and restore water quality, habitat and adjacent community vitality.

Adaptation Working Group webpage: [www.alamedaca.gov/AdaptationWorkingGroup](http://www.alamedaca.gov/AdaptationWorkingGroup)

### Notes

1. Welcome and Introductions (All)
  - Danielle Mieler gave a land acknowledgement
  - Self introductions
2. Presentation: Regulatory Strategies to Address Groundwater and Sea Level Rise at Contaminated Sites, Lisa Horowitz McCann, SF Bay Water Board
  - Ofurhe: Is this map published anywhere? Response: It is in the PowerPoint, which will be posted to the Adaptation Working Group webpage.
  - Vishal posted: Great mapping effort. Thanks for sharing. I likely missed it - what was the area highlighted in pink? Response: The pink is where sea level rise projections predict a rise in groundwater so that it will be less than six feet below the surface; groundwater rise is connected to sea level rise.
  - Kristina Hill: Asked which dataset it is. Response: It is based on the BCDC Adapting to Rise Tides webpage.
  - Kristina Hill: Groundwater may not rise uniformly and the USGS maps would be helpful to use. In chat stated: I'm curious whether the Water Board is using the USGS predicted groundwater levels (Befus et al 2020)? That's what I'm using in my research now to identify potentially at-risk sites.
  - Ellen Plane: Thanked the Water Board, and stated that SFEI will be presenting at the next Adaptation Working Group meeting on their groundwater study.
  - Chris Velasco: Mentioned that he is working on a grant opportunity regarding sea level rise vulnerability for the City of Oakland. He expressed appreciation for the data, and also mentioned liquefaction as a concern. Dynamic groundwater modeling is key so as to have an accurate predictive model.
  - Joshua Quigley: Asked if the Water Board is looking at capped sites that still may be vulnerable. Response: Water Board is working with ongoing facilities such as landfills that are capped and other

contamination controls. They also are working with sites that are closed yet are expected to have future potential vulnerabilities.

- Devan Reiff posted: Here's a recent and relevant article in Knee Deep Times: <https://www.kneedeep.com/new-maps-reveal-bay-area-flood-threat-from-below/>
- Sarah Atkinson posted: For more info on the liquefaction and sea level / groundwater rise topic: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/b5f973b6e4da45258c0b5a5368ca26f7>
- Ellen Plane posted: If you want to review materials about the recent groundwater study (Pathways/SFEI/Kristina) in advance of the next meeting, you can find them here: <https://www.sfei.org/projects/shallow-groundwater-response-sea-level-rise>

### 3. Adaptation projects kick-off (20 min)

- John Gibbs: Asked if the City of Alameda is having other city partnerships. Response: Oakland is represented on both the Steering Committee and the Working Group. The Caltrans funded estuary project includes both sides of the estuary.
- Ofurhe: Asked about the CBO partnership and if there is a short list of potentially interested CBOs. Response: Danielle mentioned that a number of the CBOs are on the Steering Committee and there are others that we will want to invite into the process.
- Robin: Asked about the slide show availability. Response: Danielle responded that the meeting notes and presentation will be on the Adaptation Working Group webpage.

### 4. Community partner and project updates (10 min)

- Robin: San Leandro Creek greenway is almost ready to go except that the City of Oakland is wanting to upgrade the street crossings at Hegenberger so there is a delay and community involvement is needed.
- John Gibbs: The Estuary Park project in the City of Oakland, WRT and ESA will be studying tidal habitat for this shoreline. Project webpage: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/estuary-park>
- Joshua of Port: Mentioned the North Field vulnerability assessment that is wrapping up for completion.
- EBMUD: Mentioned EBMUD 100 year anniversary - <https://www.ebmud.com/about-us/who-we-are/centennial-celebration/100th-events>

### 5. Announcements and close (5 min)

- April agenda items (tentative)
  - Update on adaptation projects
  - Presentation on Regional groundwater study
  - Air quality?
  - Send any presentation requests/ideas to Danielle

**Next meeting: April 19, 2023**