



San Leandro Bay
Oakland-Alameda Estuary
Adaptation Working Group

Notes for Working Group Meeting on June 21, 2023

Location

Meeting included 48 participants from 28 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

Notes

1. Check-in/Light Refreshments - NA

2. Welcome and Overview

- Danielle Mieler/City of Alameda gave an overview of adaptation issues in the subregion and working group background.

3. Community Partner Introductions- NA

4. Key Agency Adaptation Project Highlights

Oakland Airport

- The highway on the north side of the airport is important for the local area as a means of transportation and emergency evacuation.
- A Working Group member mentioned how groundwater in areas surrounding the Port property, such as West Oakland, is also impacted by the airport and port.

Oakland Alameda Estuary

- A Working Group member made a comment about how Chinatown should be included on the project map as it is an important local community.

Caltrans

- A Working Group member asked how local jurisdictions can work hand-in-hand with Caltrans using nature based solutions to help reduce air pollution and negative externalities caused by freeways and vehicle infrastructure. Caltrans mentioned that the project they presented on is too early in the process for those solutions but has made it a point to involve the public more in recent years and welcomes that input.
- Caltrans made a note about how they appreciated the Working Group to learn about solutions and receive input on their projects.

- A Working Group member asked if there were any plans to relocate the community from the flood plain in the North Field neighborhood but no such plan is in place.
- A Working Group member asked if the proposed bike lane on Doolittle Drive was feasible due to the traffic and air pollution on that road. Caltrans said the bike lane is not set in stone and could be relocated if that was what the public wanted.
- Caltrans said there is no schedule for the proposed project on Doolittle but they could share that information at the next meeting. The project deadline is summer 2024.
- A Working Group member made a comment about how Caltrans should consider all aspects of their project if they are looking for more nature based solutions – in particular, stopping their spraying of RoundUp around the local creek.

San Leandro Creek

- One Working Group member asked if we could invite a representative from Union Pacific Railroad to the meeting because relations with their company have been difficult to establish.
- The creek project has been delayed by multiple factors but is scheduled to begin construction this year and be completed in 2024.

East Bay Regional Parks District

- A Working Group member asked if the project design was complete for this project. EBRPD was not sure but would get back to the group.

5. Announcements

- A Working Group member wanted to hear more about the Bay Trail at next meeting.
- A Working Group member wanted to hear more about if any other groups were working on habitat restoration projects.

6. Estuary Park Project Walking Tour

Estuary Park Presentation

- A Working Group member asked if air monitoring was being done in the park. The Estuary group said not right now but they would consider it.
- A Working Group member asked if the rowing/paddling facility at the park would be removed – Estuary group said it will remain.
- A Working Group member asked if unhoused populations living in the park are being considered in this project – the Estuary group said yes.
- Liquefaction of the ground as water levels rise is not a major concern in this project. The bathroom facility will have a special foundation to prevent any damages to the structure.
- A Working Group member asked who was responsible for taking care of the park and mentioned that management and maintenance of park is necessary.
- Estuary Group said that the shore line will recede slightly from where it is now and there will be a net export of materials in this project.
- The pier at Estuary Park is not being replaced or restored and it still has some life remaining.
- A Working Group member asked if the road between the park and the private property next door will be elevated for future sea level rise – Estuary group said it will not for reasons about water runoff and the road being a fire lane.

Next meeting: September 13, 2023 (via Zoom)