

San Leandro Bay/Oakland-Alameda Estuary Adaptation Working Group

Notes for Meeting on September 8, 2021

Location

WebEx led by the City of Alameda and included 33 participants from 19 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. Welcome and Introductions (All)
 - Contact information included with notes to the Working Group.
2. History of San Leandro Bay and future opportunities (Professor Kristina Hill, UC Berkeley)
 - Presentation uploaded to Adaptation Working Group webpage
 - Floating cities question and how they work within a seismically active area; *Response*: Can isolate structures using a water displacement foundation to sit on high ground, and there are ways to direct wave actions away from the structures.
 - Process question about phasing adaptation; *Response*: After two feet sea level rise, the bay should see more flooding events, particularly in east Oakland and Doolittle Drive as well as increased pollutants so would need to think differently once one foot of sea level rise occurs. Once six feet of sea level rise occurs, then we may need to roll back to east of I-880 at that point.
 - Caltrans – Vishal Ream-Rao of Caltrans shared: “Our Coast Our Future recently added a groundwater layer to a sea level rise map: <https://ourcoastourfuture.org/hazard-map/> “
 - The Bay Trail by definition is on the shoreline and generally the first line of impact with sea level rise. I'm curious what you have seen in terms of adapting to sea level rise for shoreline trails. Also, have you heard of the use of floating trails to address sea level rise impacts? (Lee Huo, SF Bay Trail in Zoom chat)
3. Operational Landscape Unit (OLU) background and adaptation pathways (Jeremy Lowe, SF Estuary Institute)
 - Resource Link: www.sfei.org/adaptationatlas - SF Bay Shoreline Adaptation Atlas
 - Presentation uploaded to Adaptation Working Group webpage
 - There is a need to include voices and input of historically disproportionately affected communities in East Oakland that are at the heart of these high-risk areas toward funding direct community infrastructure development. Workforce training and education would give tools to get involved and benefit from these massively expensive proposed projects. (Michael Dyer in Zoom chat)
 - What is the goal or change in plan when and if you come across culturally sensitive artifacts/materials? (Deja Gould in Zoom chat)

- A question about how the planning efforts of various agencies are related such as EBRPD, City of Alameda, Port of Oakland and SFEI; (Lee Huo) *Response*: The purpose of the Working Group is to coordinate. This is an opportunity to work towards larger picture goals.
4. California Resilience Challenge Grant (Danielle Mieler, City of Alameda)
- Resource Link: <https://resilientcal.org/>
 - Danielle explained that the draft Working Group grant application would create a needs assessment and a more formalized organizational structure as well as outreach and public engagement, especially with equity priority communities that are most impacted by the shoreline and some initial implementation phases.
 - It is an opportunity to think bigger, be coordinated and inclusive and to create a sub-regional structure.
 - Need to focus on equity, community engagement and economic revitalization to be forefront as part of the process to ensure inclusion. CBOs have the training, skills and experience to address the most impact and vulnerable residents. Collaboration, coordination, environmental justice, community engagement, equity, economic revitalization should be included as well as building leadership capacity for the most impacted to lead and make decisions. (Ms. Margaret Gordon)
 - Professor Hill offered to host a meeting of the CBOs at UC Berkeley or via Zoom if anyone would like that so as to provide an opportunity for them to get to know one another since CBOs are at the center of it.
 - Need to build the community as the center of it, and this is the beginnings of it to reach out and meet people. (Michael Dyer)
 - Ian Wren offered to arrange for Baykeeper to host in downtown Oakland if that is an easier location for anyone (ian@baykeeper.org).
 - If we would like to get started immediately, in person meetings may not be the best platform. I would think that offering a virtual meeting space ASAP would be more effective. (Michael Dyer)
 - SF Bay Restoration Authority – Jessica Davenport: Holding networking sessions and CBOs are receiving funding working in these areas.
New partnerships between community-based organizations and restoration-focused agencies are needed to help project leaders successfully apply for funding, engage communities, and improve habitat. Authority staff want to help facilitate building partnerships by hosting virtual networking sessions. Networking session Sept 21. Register:
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0qcu2oqzkuG9aUik-Gh5NJU9RbeOYpqAfQ>
5. Announcements and Next Steps
- City of Alameda draft Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update available for public comment: www.alamedaca.gov/HazardMitigationPlan
 - Comment on draft [Bay Adapt Joint Platform](#) by **September 25th**
 - Notice of Interest for FEMA BRIC grants due **September 20th**
 - Phoenix Armenta: December 11 Save the Date for project idea presentations to the community <https://woeip.org/olsa>
 - Ian Wren: Discussed a wetland project south of San Leandro Bay, is submitting a Measure AA grant for it and would be happy to present on it as well as host a site visit.
 - Kristin Hathaway, City of Oakland: Oakland is working on a flood study for the San Leandro Creek and will have modeling done by early next year to share.
 - Quarterly meetings with next meeting **Wednesday, December 8 at 10 a.m.**