

#### **Member Agencies**

Fred Shaw City of Carpinteria

> Kyle Richards City of Goleta

Carmen Ramirez
City of Oxnard

Steven Gama City of Port Hueneme

Christy Weir, Vice-Chair City of San Buenaventura

Eric Friedman City of Santa Barbara

Gregg Hart, Chair Das Williams County of Santa Barbara

> Steve Bennett John Zaragoza County of Ventura

**Executive Director**Marc Beyeler

#### Santa Barbara Address:

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#### Ventura Address:

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### **NOTICE MEETING**

# BEACH EROSION AUTHORITY FOR CLEAN OCEANS AND NOURISHMENT (BEACON)

## January 15, 2021

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** of a **MEETING** of the Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON). The date, time, and place of the meeting shall be as follows:

DATE: Friday, January 15, 2021

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

PLACE: TELECONFERENCE (see details below)

The agenda of business to be conducted is below.

Gregg Hart, Chairperson

BEACON

**Date: January 15, 2021** 

Per guidance of California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Stay at Home Executive Order N-33-20 issued on March 19, 2020, the December 3, 2020 State Public Health Officer's Regional Stay At Home Order, and the December 6, 2020 State Public Health Officer's Supplement to the Regional Stay At Home Order to protect the health and well-being of all Californians and to establish consistency across the state in order to slow the spread of COVID-19, BEACON Board of Directors meetings will temporarily no longer provide in-person participation.

The following alternative methods of participation are available to the public:

1. You may observe the live meeting of the Board of Directors via Zoom Meeting; https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84723278877?

Meeting ID: 847 2327 8877

**Passcode: 878624** 

For audio - dial:16699006833

Code: 84723278877

- 2. You may call in to listen live to the Board of Directors meeting by dialing 16699006833 with code 84723278877
- 3. If you wish to make a general public comment or to comment on a specific agenda, the following methods are available:
  - a. Distribution to the Board. Submit comments via email to <a href="Staff@Beacon.ca.gov">Staff@Beacon.ca.gov</a> prior to 5:00 p.m. on January 14, 2021, or through mail to BEACON at 501 Poli Street, Ventura, Ca 93001



to be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2021. Your comment will be placed into the record and distributed appropriately.

- b. Read into the record at the meeting. Submit comments of 250 words, or less, via email to <a href="Staff@Beacon.ca.gov">Staff@Beacon.ca.gov</a> prior to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2021 prior to the Board meeting. <a href="Please indicate if you would like to make a general public comment, a comment on a specific agenda item, or both">Dease state in your email</a>, or mail, if you would like the comment "read into the record." Every effort will be made to read your comment into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments timely received on an agenda item will be placed into the record and distributed accordingly.
- c. By Zoom. Log onto Zoom as described above. The meeting will be controlled by the BEACON Chair, Mr. Gregg Hart. If you wish to make a comment during the meeting, please raise your hand using the Zoom instructions on your computer. By using the typed messaging capability of Zoom you should also indicate to the Chair which Agenda Item you wish to speak on or if you wish to make a general comment that is not specific to an Agenda Item. BEACON Staff will make every effort to call you during the indicated item so that you may comment.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations to participate in the meeting should contact BEACON at least three working days prior to the meeting.

### **MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. Administrative Items
  - A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Introductions Gregg Hart
  - B. Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting
  - C. Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meetings held on November 20, 2020.
  - **D.** Election of Officers
    - **Recommended Action:**

Elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to serve a two-year term for 2021 and 2022.

- 2. Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda
- 3. Presentations-None for this meeting
- 4. Projects Projects Update
  - **A.** Presentation from the City of Ventura on the Surfers Point Project Receive a presentation from City of Ventura on the Surfers Point Project.



# 5. BEACON Organization and Program

# A. Board Member Reports

Directors are invited to provide reports and updates on items of interest in their County or City.

# **B1.** BEACON Program – BEACON Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives Recommended Actions:

- i. Review, and provide any additional input, as needed, on the Draft Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives 2021-2026 (Exhibit 1).
- ii. Direct staff to return with Final Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives at the March 2021 Board Meeting for approval.

# **B2.** BEACON Legislative Program Priorities

# **Recommended Actions:**

- i. Receive a Staff Report on Legislative Program Priorities.
- ii. Authorize the Chair to send a letter to State Legislative Representatives that identifies selected funding and policy actions that would assist BEACON in accomplishing its goals and objectives (Attachment 1).

# C1. Auditor-Controller Budget Actions and Financial Reports Recommended Actions:

- i. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Unadjusted Budget-to-Actual report for the year-to-date period ending December 31, 2020 (Exhibit I).
- ii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to FY 2020-21 Biennial Audit Contract with Fedak & Brown LLP for Financial Auditing Services to extend the term of performance for an additional 4 months revising the end term date to June 30, 2021 (Exhibit II).

#### 6. Executive Director's Report and Communications

The Executive Director will report on activities and achievements of BEACON, upcoming events of interest to the Board of Directors and the public, and general status of BEACON major projects.

- Federal Grants Administration Support Professional Services Agreement
- Local Government Working Group Coastal Commission Public Meeting, 12-17-20 (Attachments included)
- BEACON Science Advisory Committee (January 19; January 29)
- Coastal & Shoreline Management Conference BEACON Presentation (Jan 22, 2021)
- South Ventura County Sand Summit (February 18, 2021)

Upcoming March 20, 2021 Meeting Agenda:

a. BEACON Regional SLR Adaptation Policies Report-Member Agency Presentation



- b. Project Updates
- c. Adoption of BEACON Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives
- d. Receive and Review Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget

### Adjourn in the memory of Jon Sharkey.

A true Coastal Warrior, and along with being a former Mayor and long-time Councilmember for the City of Pt. Hueneme, Jon served on the BEACON Board for well over 20 years.

He will be missed by all that knew and loved him and his legacy of coastal advocacy for the BEACON coastline lives on in the decisions this board makes on a regular basis.

All of Jon's correspondence as an elected official culminated with his favorite quote regarding public service:

"Your elected representative owes you not his industry only, but his judgment, and he betrays instead of serving you if he sacrifices it to your opinion".

--- Edmund Burke

Next regular meeting is scheduled on March 20, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

#### **Late Distribution of Materials**

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the City Clerk to all or a majority of the members of the BEACON Board less than 72 hours prior to that meeting are available for inspection in the City Clerk Office, at 5775 Carpinteria Ave, Carpinteria, CA. 93013 and on the Internet at: BEACON.CA.GOV.

Any written ex-parte communication subject to disclosure by members of the BEACON Board may be published online as an attachment to the corresponding item.



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**Executive Director** 

Marc Beyeler

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# **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 1B

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Executive Director

Date: January 8, 2021

Subject: Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda

Posting

## **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

Approve and File.



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# **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 1C

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Executive Director Date: January 8, 2021

Subject: Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON

Meeting held on November 20, 2020

# **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

Approve and File.

DATE: Friday, November 20, 2020

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

Item	1 Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions – Chair, Gregg Hart.
	Directors Present:
	• Gregg Hart (County of Santa Barbara)
	• Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara)
	• John Zaragoza (County of Ventura)
Minardaal	• Steve Bennett (County of Ventura)
Minutes/ Actions:	• Christy Weir (City of Ventura)
Actions.	• Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara)
	• Fred Shaw (City of Carpinteria)
	• Kyle Richards (City of Goleta)
	• Carmen Ramirez (City of Oxnard)
	• Steve Gama, (City of Port Hueneme)

Item	Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting Action: Approve and file.	
Minutes/	The Agenda was unanimously approved by the Board.	
<b>Actions:</b>	Moved by Shaw / Second by Zaragoza.	

		Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meetings		
Item	1C			
		Action: Approve and file.		
	Dire	Director Richards noted one change. The minutes reported on my comment as follows: "Director		
	Rich	Richards indicated that the City of Goleta does not have a SLR Adaptation Plan currently." Director		
	Rich	Richards clarified that the City of Goleta does have a Coastal Hazards Vulnerability Assessment and		
Minutes/	Fiscal Impact Report, which was approved by the City Council in December 2015.			
<b>Actions:</b>				
	The Board unanimously approved the minutes as posted with the change requested by Director			
	Richards.			
	Moved by Ramirez/Second Weir.			

Item	2	Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda Receive public comments.
Minutes/ Actions:	None.	

DATE: Friday, November 20, 2020

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

		Ventura County Presentation on Sea-Level Rise Adaptation Plan
Item	i. Receive a presentation from the Ventura County on the County's Sea-Level Rise Adaptation Plan.	
Minutes/Actions:	The Ada Sant to di	<u> </u>
	•	Alternate Director Laura Hernandez asked if sand could be moved from the dunes to Port Hueneme Beach as a by-pass? Aaron Engstrom indicated that a dune sand movement project would have to be designed so as not to encroach on the dredging operation for Port Hueneme Beach.  Alternate Director Hernandez indicated that this informs the Port Hueneme General Plan
	The	Update.  Board received and filed.

DATE: Friday, November 20, 2020

**TIME: 9:00 AM** 

PLACE: TELECONFERENCE

# Mondo's Cove Beach Access. Item **4A Recommended Actions:** Receive a presentation on status of the Mondo's Cove Beach Access Stairway Project. Marc Beveler reported that a brief presentation would be made by Jim McCoskey of Jensen Design on the status of the Mondo's Cove Stairway Project. Marc indicated that the Board had approved a contract with Jensen Design in January 2020 to perform preliminary design services funded through Coastal Commission sediment mitigation fees. The project had recently had a public meeting which elicited excellent community input. Marc also mentioned that there are other ongoing infrastructure improvement projects underway in this same area, by Caltrans and the County. Jim McCoskey of Jensen Design provided a presentation on the proposed design of the stairway and its location on the cove. A copy of presentation will be posted on the BEACON website. Director Shaw indicated that he liked the design option that was offset. He also asked if Caltrans was implementing any traffic calming improvement along Route 1 given the high Minutes/ **Actions:** traffic speed in this location? Mr. McCoskey indicated that Caltrans was looking at preliminary designs for traffic calming elements. Mr. Brian Brennan indicated that the State has allocated \$1.2M to bike and ped improvements in this area. Director Bennett indicated that Caltrans had been very responsive and are considering a central island for a ped refuge area. Director Richards indicated that he liked the stair design but indicated that angled stairs can be difficult to use. Mr. McCoskey indicated that the stair angle was being considered. Director Weir asked if public input influenced the angle of the stairs? Mr. McCoskey responded that the public wanted a 45-degree angle. Director Bennett indicated that while we do want the best possible design, it is critical that whatever is built lasts for a very long time and can withstand the punishing environment within which it will lives. The Board received and filed.

DATE: Friday, November 20, 2020

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

Item	5A   BEACON Organization and Program - Board Members Reports.
Minutes/ Actions:	<ul> <li>Director Friedman indicated that the City of SB's Sea-Level Rise Adaptation Plan Subcommittee is reviewing the revised SLR Adaptation Plan. Mr. Friedman also indicated that in his role as a participant of the League of California Cities, he will be attending the Coastal Commission's Local Government Workshop on December 17, 2020.</li> <li>Director Shaw reported that the City of Carpinteria's Train Station Project has become very contentious because of the additional parking it creates. Mr. Shaw also indicated that this would be his last BEACON meeting as an elected official. He expressed his great pleasure in serving on the Board and vowed to continue to participate as an interested citizen.</li> <li>Director Hart expressed what a great representative Director Shaw has been as well as Director Weir, who will also be departing the Board.</li> <li>Director Weir indicated that she also would stay involved with BEACON. Director Weir also indicated that the construction phase cost estimate for Surfers Point had been established and the figure is exceeding high. The biggest cost is to bring in cobble, which is very frustrating. There has to be a better way.</li> <li>Director Richards indicated that he had misspoken at the last meeting with regards to the status of Goleta SLR adaptation plan. Director Richards also reported that the City of Goleta had approved the Creek and Watershed Management Plan. The Executive Director indicated that staff had received Director Richards' email on the meeting minutes edit, and it would be corrected and posted as such on the website.</li> <li>Director Gama reported that he was pleased with the commencement of the new USACOE dredge cycle and appreciated all the assistance BEACON provided in getting that completed.</li> <li>Director Bennett expressed his gratitude to both Directors Shaw and Weir for their implementation of good government.</li> <li>Director Ramirez reported that the City of Oxnard approved a short-term rental agreement. Directo</li></ul>

Item	BEACON Organization – BEACON Science Strategy Recommended Actions: i. Confirm appointment of Co-Chairs and Members of the Science Advisory Committee.	
Minutes/ Actions:	Executive Director explained that to support BEACON Staff in the implementation of the Science Advisory Committee, staff is recommending that the Board confirm the appointments made by the Chair, consistent with BEACON Bylaws and as spelled out in the Staff Report.  BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions.  Moved by Shaw /Second by Ramirez.	

DATE: Friday, November 20, 2020

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

Item	BEACON Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives. Recommended Actions: i. Receive, review, and provide input, as needed, on the Draft Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives 2020-2025 (Exhibit 1); and ii. Direct staff to return with Final Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives; and iii. The actions described herein are not a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.			
Minutes/ Actions:	<ul> <li>iii. The actions described herein are not a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.</li> <li>Executive Director, Marc Beyeler indicated that as previously discussed, following the Board's approval of BEACON's Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan in 2009, Staff had prepared a draft Strategic Plan which was not actually adopted. Before the Board today is a new document, the Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives, for consideration by the Board. This plan has seven goals, and we want to focus on using science, proof of concept and implementation of pilot projects. Staff is pleased to be graded on the delivery of this plan. The plan identifies short term delivery items during the first two years and longer-term delivery for years three to five. The plan is recommended to be updated annually. The plan will be posted on the BEACON Website. Mr. Beyeler continued, that staff is asking that the Board consider this draft and be prepared to discuss it at the January 2021 Board meeting. At the March 2021 Board meeting, the Board could consider adopting the plan.</li> <li>Director Hart indicated that he felt this document was a good first draft and he would review it.</li> <li>Director Richards indicated that he thought it was a great document and asked if it made sense for the Science Committee to review it? Marc Beyeler responded that the Science Committee has already provided input.</li> <li>Director Richards suggested the Strategic Planning document should be dated from 2021 through 2026.</li> <li>Director Weir indicated that she felt the plan was helpful as an action plan for member agencies decision makers.</li> </ul>			
	BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions. Moved by Gama / Second by Friedman.			

DATE: Friday, November 20, 2020

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

		BEACON Legislative Program Priorities	
		Recommended Actions:	
Item	5B3	i. Receive a Staff Report on BEACON Legislative Program Priorities (Exhibit 1) and	
		provide input, as needed; and	
		ii. Direct staff to return with legislative action items for 2021.	
		utive Director Marc Beyeler indicated that at the request of the Board, staff has prepared a draft	
		ative program priority. Historically, BEACON has been unsuccessful in securing adequate	
		ing and implementation funding to update its Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan	
		MP), to update its Opportunistic Sediment Enhancement Program, to implement new	
		rative demonstration coastal resource enhancement and restoration projects, or to secure	
	funding for regional sea-level rise adaptation. Therefore, direct pursuit of legislative initia		
	allow the direction of funding to BEACON for regional projects and policy implementation is		
Minutes/	appropriate. Marc added that with Director Bennett moving to the State Legislature		
Actions:	valua	ble ally in Sacramento.	
rections.			
		Director Bennett indicated that historically BEACON has had legislative initiatives and it is	
		ppropriate to re-establish this and indeed establish a legislative agenda for all regional	
		gencies. However, it is unlikely BEACON will be able to secure funding in 2021 given the	
	C	condition of the State budget. However, 2022 will hopefully be different.	
	DOA	DD ACTIONS, The Decoder section of the Decomposite Advances	
	BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions.		
	MOVE	ed by Shaw /Second by Ramirez.	

		BEACON Board Meeting Schedule for 2021
Item	5B4	Recommended Actions:
		i. Review and Adopt a Board Meeting Schedule for 2021.
	Executive Director, Marc Beyeler presented the Board Meeting schedule for 2021 for adoption by	
Minnedagi	the Board.	
Minutes/		
Actions:	BOA	RD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions.
	Move	ed by Ramirez /Second by Freidman.

Item	5C1	Auditor-Controller Budget Actions and Financial Reports Rei. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Unadjusted B the year-to-date period ending October 31, 2020 (Exhibit lii. Authorize the Auditor-Controller's Office to make the follows (requires 6/10th vote):  iii.	udget-to-Actual report for [].
		iv. INCREASE Other Professional and Specialized Service v. DECREASE Contingency	s \$ 5,000 \$ 5,000
Minutes/ Actions:	Mr. Carlos Maldonado of the Ventura County Auditor Controller's Office presented the Budget to Actual report and requested budget adjustments.  BOARD ACTIONS: The Board approved unanimously the Recommended Actions.  Moved by Weir /Second by Richards.		

DATE: Friday, November 20, 2020

**TIME:** 9:00 AM

**PLACE: TELECONFERENCE** 

Item	6	6 Executive Director's Report and Communications	
	Ex	ecutive Director Marc Beyeler provided the following executive report:	
	a.	BEACON has received all dues from member agencies that allow the funding of the Executive	
		Director and the Staff Team which is a testament to the perceptions of BEACON's value.	
	b.	Staff have been static in securing new grants. Two grants were recently applied for, one	
		unsuccessfully and one is still in review. Staff is looking for funding for the next phase of	
		Mondo's Cove project.	
Minutes/	tes/ c. BEACON sits on the Government Affairs Committee of the American Shores and Beach		
Actions:			
	d.	BEACON is also a member of two climate collaboratives which provides opportunities to lean	
		from other agencies.	
	e.	The next Board meeting is January 15, 2021 which will once again be held remotely. At this	
	meeting, amongst other things, we will elect the two-year term for the new Chair and Vice		
	Chair.		

Adjourn to next regular meeting January 15, 2021 at 9:00 AM by Teleconference or Video Conference.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.



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## **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 1D

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Executive Director

Date: January 8, 2021

Subject: Election of Officers

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to serve a two-year term for 2021 and 2022.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The BEACON By-laws specify that the Election of Officers, Chair and Vice-Chair, shall be held every other calendar year and elected by a majority vote of a quorum present at the first meeting of a calendar year.

In 2020, the BEACON Board approved a change in the Bylaws to allow for a term of two years. The last election of Officers was held in January 2019.

The current Chair is Board Director Gregg Hart and the Vice-Chair was held by Board Director Christy Weir. Board Director Weir's term on the BEACON Board representing the City of Ventura ended in December 2020.

#### Attachment:

BEACON Officers, 2010-2021 and Excerpt from BEACON By-laws

#### Attachment

# History of BEACON Officers, 2010-2021

January 2021<sup>1</sup>

Officers to be selected for two-year terms

2019

Gregg Hart, Chair Christy Weir, Vice-Chair

2017

Jon Sharkey, Chair Gregg Hart, Vice-Chair

2015

Janet Wolf, Chair Jon Sharkey, Vice-Chair

2012

John Zaragoza, Chair Janet Wolf, Vice-Chair

2010

Salud Carbajal, Chair John Zaragoza, Vice-Chair

# BEACON Bylaws (excerpt):

# ARTICLE III Membership and Organization

## Section 3: Officers

- 1. Election of Officers shall be held every other calendar year, or upon resignation of an officer.
- 2. There shall be a Chair and Vice Chair.
- 3. All Officers shall be elected for a term of two years and shall serve until their successors are elected. Officers shall begin their term of office immediately following election.
- 4. Officers shall be nominated from the floor of the Board of Directors and elected by a majority vote of a quorum present at the first meeting of a calendar year.

<sup>1</sup> March 2020 Bylaws changed to formally reflect two year term of Officers.



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## STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 2

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Executive Director Date: January 8, 2021

Subject: Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda

# **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

**Receive Public Comments.** 



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## **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 4A

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Executive Director Date: January 8, 2021

Subject: Presentation from City of Ventura on the Surfers Point Project

# **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

i. Receive a presentation from the City of Ventura on the Surfers Point Project.

# **DISCUSSION:**

A presentation on the status of the Surfers Point Project will be made by the City of Ventura.



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# **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 5A

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Executive Director Date: January 8, 2021

Subject: Board Member Reports



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# **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 5B1

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Executive Director

Date: January 8, 2021

Subject: BEACON Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives

# **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

- i. Review, and provide any additional input, as needed, on the Draft Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives 2021-2026 (Exhibit 1).
- ii. Direct staff to return with Final Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives at the March 2021 Board Meeting for approval.

# **DISCUSSION:**

At the November BEACON Board meeting staff presented draft five-year strategic planning goals and objectives for board consideration. The staff indicated that the draft document would be posted to the BEACON website and comments could be provided by Board members and interested members of the public through December. In addition, the Board requested that the Science Advisory Committee (SAC) review the draft document and make any comments they thought appropriate.

A few comments were provided by BEACON Board members at the November Board meeting and a revised draft document has been attached to this staff report. However, no substantive changes in the draft document have been made to the document. No additional comments have been provided by Board members or the public in the interim since the November Board meeting. Following the SAC meeting in late January 2021, any comments received by the SAC will be addressed in a final document to be provided for final consideration by the BEACON Board at the March 2021 meeting.

As indicated at the November Board meeting, considering multi-year strategic planning goals will ensure that any multi-year budget and financial planning will be able to be reviewed against a set of goals and objectives that the Board has reviewed and discussed. Adopting Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives will also allow the Board to better understand progress to its goals and objectives and will allow the Board to



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be better able to evaluate the performance and the accomplishments of its executive and consultant staff and be best positioned to evaluate the integration of new initiatives into programs and projects.

Developing Strategic Planning goals has been a priority of BEACON since the adoption of the Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan (CRSMP) in 2009. At its January and July 2010 meetings, the BEACON Board discussed and subsequently approved creation of a Board Subcommittee to review a Draft Strategic Plan for implementing the CRSMP. At its January 2011 Board meeting, the Board approved additional actions to support development of Strategic Plan "project prioritizations." At its March 2011 Board meeting, the Board received a presentation by Noble Consultants on the CRSMP Strategic Plan, however the Board did not consider any approval of the project prioritizations. Significant time and conditions have changed since 2011 and it is appropriate to revisit project and program priorities at this time. In 2014, BEACON staff prepared strategic action priorities, but the Board did not review nor approve these action plan items.

Staff is seeking comments and suggestions from the Board and any interested stakeholders for modifications, changes, or additions to the revised draft Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives attached to this staff report and staff will be returning in March 2021 with a final document for approval by the Board.

Exhibit 1: Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives 2021-2026



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# BEACON Strategic Planning Goals, Objectives and Work Plan Actions 2021-2026

# Draft November 2020 Revised Draft January 2021

# Background

BEACON's policies, projects, and programs seek to accomplish important complimentary goals and objectives. BEACON's Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan (CRSMP, 2009) is intended to outline the ways and means to conserve and restore the valuable sediment resources along the Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties coastline.

BEACON's programs and projects seek to reduce shoreline erosion and coastal storm damages, protect sensitive environmental resources, increase natural sediment supply to the coast, preserve and enhance beaches, improve water quality along the shoreline, and optimize the beneficial use of material dredged from ports, harbors, and other opportunistic sediment sources.

However, BEACON has not adopted formal multi-year Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives in the past. At this point in its history, it is appropriate for BEACON to consider specific goals and objectives for the next several years as BEACON evolves and further develops its projects and programs.

BEACON staff have developed the draft Strategic Planning Goals, Objectives, and Work Plan Actions for consideration by the BEACON Board to guide its investments in staff and in project and program support for the next five years. In addition, BEACON staff have included draft statements addressing BEACON's Mission, its Vision, and its Operating Principles.

# BEACON Mission, Vision, and Operating Principles

#### **BEACON Mission**

Provide venue for regional coordination of beach nourishment, coastal resources restoration, and protection of coastal water quality within Ventura and Santa Barbara counties to ensure that beaches are sustainably maintained and preserved, coastal shoreline resources are enhanced, coastal water quality protected, and coastal beach access provided.

#### **BEACON Vision**

The BEACON coast, its beaches, and its natural coastal resources are preserved, enhanced and sustainably managed in perpetuity through close coordination and collaboration among its member agencies, the public, and its community and private partners.

# **BEACON Operating Principles**

Collaborative: Partnering with Others

Inclusive: Informing and Including all interested Stakeholders

Science-based: Utilizing the Best Available Science to Support Decisions

Transparent: Open Communication of Intentions and Plans

Accountable: Documenting and Measuring Outcomes

# Goals, Objectives and Actions

#### Goal 1 Promote Beach Preservation and the Beneficial Use of Sediment

The most significant source of natural sediment supply to the BEACON Coast is that delivered by the numerous creeks, streams, and rivers that discharge within the BEACON region. The Ventura River and Santa Clara River are the most dominant sources, but the sediment budget is also critically dependent upon the lesser known and smaller streams that drain the southern face of the Santa Ynez Mountains watershed. Unfortunately, many of the creeks and rivers contain debris basin and other barriers that obstruct the natural transportation of sediment. As a result, a large portion of the natural sediment never reaches the BEACON coast. Opportunities to remove or mitigate these obstructions is a priority of the Plan.

Sand supply in the Santa Barbara Littoral Cell is affected by numerous manmade coastal improvements, mainly a series of public harbors, including Santa Barbara, Ventura, Channel Islands, and Port Hueneme. Harbor development has interrupted natural sand littoral transport at important locations, including both Santa Barbara Harbor and at Port Hueneme. BEACON has supported local and regional efforts to provide for regular dredging and bypass initiatives to supply sand needed to retain East Beach in Santa Barbara and Hueneme Beach in the City of Port Hueneme. A major goal of Regional Sediment Management and BEACON's Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan is the beneficial use of sediment.

# Objective 1.1 Preservation and restoration of natural sources of sediment delivery

The creation of appropriate sediment preservation policy is intended to prevent further degradation of the coastal sediment system and hopefully provide the opportunity to allow for recovery and enhancement where possible.

# Objective 1.1.1 Collaborate with local watershed agencies to maintain natural sediment delivery.

Complete implementation of the Santa Barbara Debris Basin project with Santa Barbara County Flood Control and investigate development of similar project with Ventura County Flood Control District.

Action: Complete Ocean Protection Council (OPC) funded debris basin grant project (Years 1-2)

# Objective 1.1.2 Support the removal of Matilija Dam.

Assist and support project partners in securing remainder of final planning funding and in securing funding for project implementation.

Action: Support Requests for Funding for Final Planning and Project Implementation (Years 1-5)

# Objective 1.2 Beneficial Reuse of Sand trapped at harbors to Replenish Regional Beaches

Sand bypass and dredging projects have been a regular part of sand replenish projects along the South Coast at both Santa Barbara and Channel Islands/Hueneme Beach for the past several decades. Actively support local efforts to maintain sand re-supply at local beaches and provide lobbying and coordination support to ensure adequate dredging and bypass efforts to maintain local beaches. Given the potential impact that each harbor could have on the cost if sand were not regularly bypassed around them, it is important to preserve the existing practice and seek opportunities whereby the trapped sand may be placed on nearby beaches to maximize benefits. Support Plans to Reuse sand trapped by harbors from Santa Barbara to Pt Hueneme.

**Action:** Establish a regional long-term program of sand re-use.

# Objective 1.2.1 Channel Island Harbor Sand Trap Bypass

West Hueneme Beach is critically dependent upon sand re-nourishment from Channel Islands Harbor bypassing. This activity would ensure an adequate level of the bypassed sand to maintain a desirable beach width.

**Action:** Work with County of Ventura, Channel Islands Harbor, Oxnard Port District, Federal Representatives, and City of Pt. Hueneme to ensure federal authorization fulfilled bi-annually to nourish Pt. Hueneme beach.

- Assist in organizing and conducting annual sand summit with partners to review progress to goals
- Assist local lobbying efforts to secure full project funding for Channel Islands dredging for Pt. Hueneme beach nourishment.

# Objective 1.2.2 Port of Hueneme Dredging and Hueneme Beach Nourishment

Support opportunistic program of beach nourishment using dredged sand from the Port of Hueneme.

# Objective 1.3 Beneficial use of inland sediment and sand sources

Develop a new program to allow for real-time deposition of inland sediment and sand to supplement existing coastal sediment resources. In 2005, BEACON established the South Central Coastal Beach Enhancement Program (SCCBEP) which successfully secured permits for the placement of sand for nourishment purposes at five selected beach locations. However, the program was only utilized on two occasions and when the permits expired in 2010, they were not renewed. This task is intended to review the performance history of the historic SCCBEP opportunistic sand program and create a new version with a modified scope as appropriate to support smaller scale projects and increase its utilization within the region.

#### **Actions:**

- A1 Develop Scope of Work and Funding for Opportunistic Sediment Management Program (OSMP). (Years 1-2)
- A2 Undertake necessary project evaluation and assessment of opportunistic sand management program (OSMP). (Year 3)
- A3 Complete Permitting and Approvals for OSMP Regional Permits. (Year 4)
- A4 Undertake sediment deposition projects. (Years 5-10)

# Goal 2 Expand use of Best Available Science in BEACON's Programs and Policies

In the past twenty years, BEACON has supported several science support efforts, including data collection and various research efforts involving partner organizations, such as the United States Geological Service (USGS). Based on these efforts, BEACON developed innovative beach nourishment, sediment disposal, and coastal resources restoration policies and projects. Currently, several data collection and research efforts are underway by partner organizations focused on coastal sediment processes, coastal and ocean physical and ecological systems, and climate adaptation needs, which could inform future BEACON activities. Increasing the level of understanding of BEACON staff and board members about these efforts will improve policy and decision-making about pressing issues, including climate adaptation and climate resilience. In addition, it is important for BEACON to understand how BEACON can better support and utilize this data and information. While local jurisdictions have completed climate adaptation plans that suggest strategies to address regional adaptation

actions, BEACON is developing a work plan for such a regional adaptation strategy. Therefore, further integration of best available science into BEACON's activities and programs and the inclusion of science goals into BEACON strategic planning goals and objectives is needed.

# Objective 2.1 Establish Science Advisory Committee (SAC)

A Science Advisory Committee would assist in implement enhanced science assistance as part the BEACON Strategic Plan, including: identifying science support resources; developing ways to better integrate science into its policy and decision-making; identifying data collection and scientific research initiatives that could benefit BEACON programs and policies, and that BEACON should support; collaborating with academic and agency partners on new science initiatives; providing up-to-date science data and research results to regional and local program managers; and where needed and appropriate, providing scientific advice on new BEACON projects or identifying scientific expertise to be consulted on project evaluations.

#### **Actions:**

- A1 Board Approve Formation of SAC and SAC Bylaws; (Year 1)
- A2 Chair Appoints initial Co-Chairs and SAC Members and Board Confirm; (Year 1)
- A3 SAC Holds Initial Annual Meeting and Manager Workshop (Years 1-2)

Objective 2.2 Integrate Current Climate Science into BEACON program documents, policies and projects Climate change and sea level rise represent the most serious threat to successful sediment management and coastal adaptation within the BEACON coast. BEACON must integrate up-to-date climate science into its policies, programs, and projects. Considerable new science and policy guidance addressing climate and sea level rise impacts on coastal erosion and storm damage has been developed since the original regional plan was adopted by BEACON in 2009. The completed studies and reports should guide BEACON's effort to incorporate climate change and sea level rise considerations into a SLR update to the CRSMP.<sup>1</sup>

Objective 2.2.1 Develop updated regional plan to address impacts of climate and sea level rise on local sandy beaches

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> National Academy of Sciences (2012); CA Coastal Commission (2013, 2015); Ocean Protection Council (2013; 2018; 2020); CA Governor Executive Order (2015).

Currently BEACON's coastal regional sediment management plan (CRSMP) does not include the best available science regarding climate change and does not contain complete preservation strategies to address sea level rise threats to its sandy and coble beaches. BEACON is planning to work with cooperating science and technical agencies, including US Geological Survey staff, and is proposing to coordinate closely with the CA CSMW.

**Action:** Update CRSMP to incorporate best available science and adaptation policies to address the impacts of climate change and sea level rise to BEACON south coast recreational beaches.

## Objective 2.2.2 Develop Regional Climate Adaptation Strategy

**Action:** Compile Inventory of Regional Adaptation Actions; Prepare Draft Regional Adaptation Policies Report

# Objective 2.3 Strengthen Regional Monitoring Program

Long range planning and management of the shoreline requires accurate data and continuing monitoring of the key shoreline and watershed processes. This task would establish a long-term agreement whereby the USGS would formally partner with BEACON to monitor sediment delivery to the coast, how it moves alongshore, and short term and long-term trends so that planning decisions can be made.

#### Action:

Formalize the ongoing relationship with USGS to continue long-term monitoring of the shoreline and sediment delivery processes.

## Objective 2.4 Promote Interdisciplinary Science Efforts

BEACON's programs and projects have to address combined social and ecological systems (SES) if they are to be successful. Regional Sediment Management (RSM) approaches emphasize the development of multiple benefit projects that address both environmental and social benefits. Interdisciplinary studies are growing within the BEACON coast and BEACON could play a catalyst role to further expand those efforts. Through the SAC activities, BEACON will have the requisite information to intentionally encourage interdisciplinary science for improved decision-making.

Action: Support SAC activities that generate interdisciplinary work

# Goal 3 Demonstrate Effectiveness of innovative Techniques to Retain Sand and Sediment on Beaches

Demonstrate and implement new and innovative sand retention technologies that are more compatible with the Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties shoreline setting and provide multi-purpose benefits of beach preservation, biological enhancement, and increased recreation opportunities. Preservation of beaches and beach renourishment will require sand retention solutions in order to effectively and economically achieve the goal of beach stability and enhancement. However, traditional approaches to beach stabilization are less acceptable to the permitting agencies and stakeholders.

# Objective 3.1 Seek funding to study innovative planning and technical approaches

**Secure grant funding to study** new and innovative planning and technical approaches that will address multiple objectives, comply with the concerns of the permitting agencies, provide environmentally sensitive project designs, and be accepted by stakeholders.

# Objective 3.2 Identify, analyze, and develop innovative sand retention projects

Identify and develop alternative multi-purpose sand retention solutions to find feasible ways to retain, preserve, or enhance beaches.

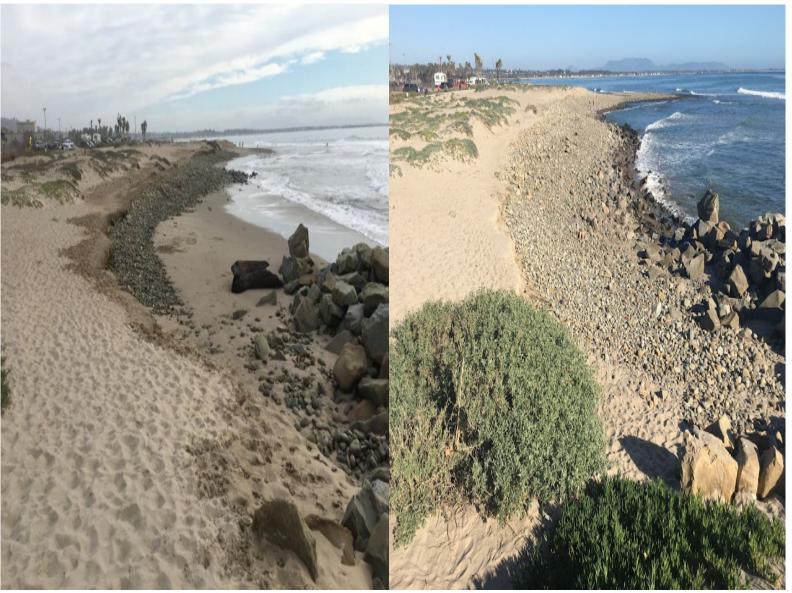
# Objective 3.3 Complete the final engineering and implementation of the Surfers Point Living Shoreline and Managed Retreat Demonstration Project

The Surfers Point Living Shoreline Project (Surfers Point Project) provides an innovative means to return the encroached shoreline to a more natural beach state by using buried cobble, which occurs naturally in the area, covered with sand dunes. The project is a model demonstration project that will help show 'proof of concept' for both living shoreline treatments and managed retreat. The intent is to use unique shoreline stabilization methods which will help to preserve and restore the beach, mitigate for past land use encroachment practices. Project components include, removal of all existing parking and bike path improvements seaward of Shoreline Dr., shorten the length of Shoreline Dr. by 1,200 feet, protect the beach with natural buried cobble stone, create sand dunes over the buried cobble, relocate and rebuild the State-Owned Omer Rains beach front bike path, and construct Fairgrounds parking lot improvements drainage/water quality improvements on the north side of Shoreline Dr.

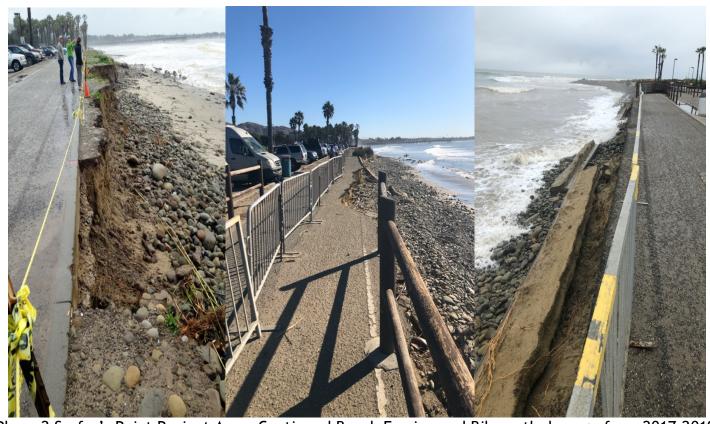
Actions: complete OPC funding final engineering grant project; complete final development plan; seek implementation grant funding



Surfers Point Phase 1 Cobble, sand beach and dunes 'Living Shoreline' and new bike path moved out of hazard zone



Phase 1 Cobble, sand beach and dunes post 2015 El Nino Storm impact with 'room to move'



Phase 2 Surfer's Point Project Area: Continued Beach Erosion and Bike path damage from 2017-2019

# Objective 3.3 Oil Piers Demonstration Reef Project

The goal of the project is a submerged reef system is to stabilize future beach nourishment efforts through wave rotation and energy dissipation. The proposed structure will be constructed of sand-filled geotextile containers. The offshore submerged reef will reduce wave heights at the shoreline during high wave events, while still allowing sediment to bypass alongshore between the structure and the beach, and will provide a sediment retention mechanism for Oil Piers beach. The prototype was designed to also provide multipurpose recreational surfing benefits and potential habitat enhancement.

**Action:** Update the feasibility of using a multipurpose offshore reef sand retention demonstration project.

# Goal 4 Support Expanded Coastal and Marine Resources Restoration

An important goal of BEACON is to maintain, enhance, and restore coastal resources. BEACON has committed staff and technical support to projects which seek to restore coastal habitats and resources at different locations along the BEACON Coast, and will continue to pursue projects that seek to achieve this goal.

# Objective 4.1 Support Natural Infrastructure Demonstration Projects

# Objective 4.4.1 Goleta Kelp Demonstration Project

Since 2014 BEACON has supported the Goleta Kelp Demonstration Project. BEACON seeks to continue its sponsorship of this project and to evaluate the effectiveness of the project in order to determine if the project should be expanded.

Action: Document Project Success Metrics and Evaluate Feasibility of **Project Expansion** 

# Objective 4.4.2 Dunes Demonstration Model Project

BEACON seeks develop one or more Dune Restoration Demonstration Projects at different locations along the BEACON Coast in order to evaluate a range of suitable locations for beach and dune restoration.

**Action:** Identify and Secure Project Funding

# Goal 5 Maintain and enhance coastal water quality as part of beach restoration

An important goal of BEACON is to maintain and enhance coastal water quality. BEACON seeks to further develop project designs and implementation protocols that address maintaining and enhancing coastal water quality.

# Objective 5.1 Integrate coastal water quality objectives into multi-purpose beach restoration and preservation projects

BEACON's legislative authority seeks to balance and integrate beach erosion and nourishment goals with protecting and enhancing coastal water quality. BEACON needs to better understand the coastal water impacts from its beach restoration projects and develop project guidelines and protocols integrating these complimentary values.

Action: Support development of specific project protocols addressing coastal water quality criteria in project design and implementation.

# Goal 6 Support Coastal Access and Recreation

# **Objective 6.1 Surfers Point Project**

BEACON has long supported the Surfers Point Managed Retreat and Living Shoreline Project (Project). The City and the Fairgrounds have agreed to cooperate on the completion of the Surfers Point Project through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Phase 1 was constructed in 2011-2012. The completed portion of the larger project, Phase 1, has become a national model of a multiple benefit living shoreline and managed retreat adaptation project. The City has been actively planning for Phase 2 since 2016-17, and is currently completing final design of Phase 2 of the Project, supported by a grant from the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) administered by BEACON. Final design will be completed in 2020 and the next step involving securing funding to construct Phase 2 starting in 2021.

### **Actions:**

A1- Secure Funding

# A2 Complete Phase 2 Construction

# Objective 6.2 Mondo's Cove Beach Access

In 2014, BEACON and the California Coastal Commission signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), establishing a Shoreline Sand Supply and Public Access Fund, including a payment of \$60,000 in mitigation funds for public access as a result of the issuance of Coastal Development Permit (CDP) #4-07-154. Mondo's Cove beach was identified by BEACON staff, working in cooperation with staff of the Coastal Commission, as a priority location for the use of the monies. Mondo's Cove is among the most popular and heavily visited beaches along the Ventura coastline with a large supply of parking located across from the beach. Mondo's provides beach and ocean access and water sports opportunities for visitors of all ages and all abilities and skills. In 2019 the BEACON Board approved use of the monies for final planning, design and engineering for a beach access stairway at Mondo's Cove. The final engineering will be completed in 2020 and working with local stakeholders a final design selected and approved. Following final design and engineering, BEACON staff will coordinate project approvals and project implementation funding.

#### **Actions:**

A1-Complete Engineering, Select Final Design A2-Secure Project Approval and Funding and Install Beach Stairway



# Mondo's Cove Beach: Very Popular Ventura County Beach Destination



Currently No Safe Public Access to Beach

# Objective 6.3 Ensure coastal access and recreation is maximized in BEACON projects

The BEACON beach nourishment goal is driven in large part on the desire of local citizens and local member agencies to preserve area beaches for public access and recreation. It is paramount that BEACON beach nourishment and enhancement projects be designed and implemented to preserve the use of beach areas for public access and coastal recreation.



Carpinteria City Beach During Beach Nourishment and After Beach Nourishment: 2019

### Goal 7 Improve Long-term Planning, Governance, and Finance

BEACON effectiveness will depend on deepening its planning, governance and funding. BEACON should continuously examine its program and funding priorities. BEACON should adopt Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives and periodically review same and revise as necessary. BEACON should periodically examine its governance structure to ensure the most effective regional coordination, collaboration, and successful outcomes. Collaboration with state and federal agencies will remain as the most viable means to fund sediment management and beach preservation and enhancement programs. However, these partnerships will continue to require local cost sharing in order to move forward. Therefore, BEACON will need to continue the collaboration with external partners and participate in state and federal program initiatives. At the same time BEACON will need to develop and maintain sustainable local funding necessary to produce the required state and federal matching funds.

### Objective 7.1 Develop Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives

BEACON has never adopted Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives. As BEACON develops its complementary program goals and employs executive staff it needs to better define its priorities for utilizing its staff and fiscal resources. Adopting a set of measurable and feasible goals and objectives will allow the BEACON Board to better evaluate progress and be better able to make changes and adjustments to its programs and personnel assignments.

# Objective 7.2 Strengthen Governance Partnerships

Increase participation in the California Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup, the California Shore and Beach Preservation Association, California Marine Affairs and Navigation Council, and the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association in order to strengthen BEACON's effectiveness.

### Objective 7.3 Develop Sustainable Local Funding

Federal and state funding programs require a local cost sharing match. BEACON staff should analyze a range of local revenues sources that are politically feasible and economically sustainable that could be utilized as local matching funds. In addition, Funding to support science research from state and federal sources is inadequate to meet current needs. BEACON needs to support the development of increased funding for science research initiatives important to the successful implementation of BEACON's programs and projects.

### **BEACON Strategic Planning Outcomes and Success Metrics**

### **Outcomes**

Increase Awareness of Role and Contributions of BEACON

Increase Political Support for BEACON

Provide project implementation and funding assistance to local member agencies projects

Maintain and Increase Partnership Funding

Provide Timely and Useful Information to Member Agencies

Compete project planning, feasibility, design and engineering, and secure approval and funding for

implementation projects

### **Success Metrics**

## Participating in Partnerships:

**CSMW-Strategic Planning** 

ASBPA-Government Affairs, Local Funding

4C-Central Coast Climate Collaborative

Santa Barbara Co Regional Collaborative-SLR Subcommittee

Regional Sand Summit-So. Ventura County/Hueneme Coast

## Developing and Competing Plan and Projects:

Feasibility Analyses

**Funding Assistance** 

**Implementation** 

### Fiscal Health:

Retain Healthy Reserve Funding

Secure Annual Budget Revenues-Collections

Successfully Manage Reimbursements

Making Grant Requests

Success in Raising Funds

# Work Plan Actions 2020-2025

SP Work Plan Actions	1-2 years	3-5 years	Continuous
Goal 1 Promote Beach Rest/Beneficial Use of Sediment	-	_	
Obj. 1.1 Restoration Natural Sand Supply			Х
Obj. 1.1.1 Complete SB Debris Basin Project	Х		
Obj. 1.1.2 Support Matilija Dam Project		Х	
Obj. 1.2 Support Harbor Sand By-pass Dredging			Х
Obj. 1.2.1 CI Sand Bypassing	Χ		X
Obj. 1.2.2 Port of Hueneme Sand Dredging	Χ		X
Obj. 1.3 Opportunistic Sand-Regional Permit	A1; A2	A3; A4	
Obj. 1.4 Support Harbor Sand Bypass Dredging			X
Goal 2 Expand Science Support to BEACON			
Obj. 2.1 Create Science Advisory Committee	A1; A2; A3		
Obj. 2.2 Integrate Climate/SLR Science in BEACON Policies	Χ		
Obj. 2.2.1 Complete SLR Update to CRSMP	Χ		
Obj. 2.2.2 Complete Regional SLR Adaptation Strategy	Χ		
Obj. 2.3 Continue and Expand Regional Shoreline Monitoring			X
Obj. 2.4 Promote Interdisciplinary Science Research Efforts			X
Goal 3 Develop Innovative Sand Retention Projects			
Obj. 3.1 Seek funds to study innovative approaches	Х		
Obj. 3.2 Identify and develop innovative demo projects			X
Obj. 3.3 Surfers Point Project-Complete Final Engineering	Χ		
Obj. 3.4 Oil Piers Reef Project-Update Feasibility Analysis		X	
Goal 4 Support Expanded Coastal and Marine Restoration			
Obj. 4.1 Support Natural Infrastructure Demo Projects			X
Obj. 4.4.1 Expand Goleta Bay Kelp Demo Project	Χ		
Goal 5 Maintain and Enhance Coastal Water Quality			
Obj. 5.1 Integrate Water Quality Criteria in Projects			Х
Goal 6 Support Coastal Access and Recreation			
Obj. 6.1 Support Completion of Surfers Point Project	A1	A2	
Obj. 6.2 Complete Mondo's Cove Beach Access Project	A1	A2	
Goal 7 Improve Planning, Governance and Funding			
Obj. 7.1 Develop Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives	Χ		
Obj. 7.2 Strengthen Governance Partnerships	A1	A2	Х
Obj. 7.3 Develop Expanded Local Funding			Х
<u> </u>	14	8	12

Italics: Work Program priority years 1-2



A California Joint Powers Agency

### **Member Agencies**

Fred Shaw City of Carpinteria

> Kyle Richards City of Goleta

Carmen Ramirez
City of Oxnard

Steven Gama City of Port Hueneme

Christy Weir, Vice-Chair City of San Buenaventura

Eric Friedman City of Santa Barbara

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### **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 5B2

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Executive Director

Date: January 15, 2021

Subject: BEACON Legislative Program Priorities

### **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

- i. Receive a Staff Report on Legislative Program Priorities.
- ii. Authorize the Chair to send a letter to State Legislative Representatives that identifies selected funding and policy actions that would assist BEACON in accomplishing its goals and objectives (Attachment 1).

### **DISCUSSION:**

At the November BEACON Board meeting, staff presented Legislative Program Priorities for consideration by the BEACON Board. At the November Board meeting, the Board directed staff to return with legislative action items for 2021. BEACON staff is recommending that BEACON communicate initial legislative priorities to BEACON's California Legislative representatives, so they may be considered in the current legislative session. Staff is recommending that the Board authorize the Chair to send a letter that identifies selected funding and policy actions outlined below that would assist BEACON is accomplishing its goals and objectives.

As indicated in its November staff report, BEACON is being tasked with many responsibilities for project and program development essential to sustainable and resilience regional sediment management, coastal protection and enhancement, and regional climate and sea-level adaptation planning and implementation. BEACON's work could be supported with additional funding and the State's Regional Sediment Management and Coastal Adaptation efforts could be supported by BEACON contributions.

# Providing Expanded Funding for BEACON and Regional Sediment Management in California.

Over the course of the past several years, BEACON has sought funding to implement its programs and projects from a range of state sources, successfully securing limited funding to implement its programs and



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projects. However, BEACON has been unsuccessful in securing adequate planning and implementation funding to update its Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan (CRSMP), to update its Opportunistic Sediment Enhancement Program, to implement new innovative demonstration coastal resource enhancement and restoration projects, or to secure funding for regional sea-level rise adaptation. Implementation of Regional Sediment Management Plans, including BEACON's CRSMP, could be accelerated and expanded with enhanced state funding.

There are several potential funding initiatives that the State Legislature could examine to increase the opportunities for expanded funding to BEACON to support its projects and programs, including line-item designations in existing state General Obligation Bond Acts (e.g., Prop 1 and Prop 68), funding from specialized sources (California Cap and Trade Program), or inclusion in planned State bond acts (e.g., Resilience Bond Act proposed for state ballot in March 2022) (Exhibit 1).

Importantly, BEACON could assist in evaluating State program needs and evaluating a range of funding options to advance Regional Sediment Management statewide. The legislature could direct BEACON to undertake one or more assessments or studies to assist its State agency partners in developing innovative funding and program initiatives, with the goal of establishing a dedicated programmatic funding source for State and regional sediment management initiatives supporting coastal adaptation and resilience.

There are a variety of sources available for funding other than bond act funding that could be tapped for programmatic funding of regional sediment management, including proceeds from state tidelands and Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) revenues and proceeds from cap-and-trade revenues connected to climate adaptation planning and implementation.

A strong nexus can be made between state tidelands and OCS revenues derived from coastal resource extraction and from climate change impacts and coastal regional sediment management planning needs. A minimum level of State funding for Regional Sediment Management planning is essential to advance statewide coastal sediment management program implementation. AB 552 championed in 2019 which would dedicate 30% of the State's tidelands oil revenues to coastal resilience programs could be modified to require funding for regional sediment management projects utilizing natural infrastructure and living shoreline treatment approaches.

# **Contributing to advancing Regional Sediment Management and Coastal Adaptation**

BEACON could be directed to complete a study of Climate Adaptation and Regional Sediment Management on behalf of the State, wherein the Legislature directs



Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 5B2

BEACON to prepare a study of the role of Regional Sediment Management in Climate Adaptation implementation on behalf of California Sediment Management Workgroup (CSMW), including an analysis of the costs of implementing and options for sustainable funding for Regional Sediment Management in California.

To date, according to the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO), there is "significant uncertainly associated with estimates of the fiscal impacts of climate change" and at the same time no systematic estimates of the costs of regional sediment management, nor any "comprehensive statewide assessment of future costs to the state or local governments" from climate and Sea-Level Rise (SLR) impacts. Better information on the fiscal impacts of coastal climate change, as well as the costs of regional sediment management and coastal adaptation initiatives would assist the state in its planning.

BEACON's regional sediment management and climate adaptation efforts are absolutely essential to successfully address the regional impacts of climate changes and sea-level rise in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties through developing innovative natural infrastructure and resources conservation, enhancement, and restoration projects consistent with state priorities for coastal climate adaptation. BEACON's regional programs support significant statewide and federal interests and BEACON staff will continue our coordinated efforts with State and federal agency representatives.

BEACON could assist the State in analyzing innovative governance and management initiatives to advance integrated Regional Sediment Management and coastal climate adaptation, wherein the Legislature directs BEACON to prepare a study of Governance Innovations in Regional Climate Adaptation that may further investigated for implementation in California.

As a complementary effort, BEACON could be directed to complete an Analysis of 'Green' Sand Retention Structures, Options and Pilot Projects for Regional Sediment Management. The State Legislature could direct BEACON to analyze 'Green Groins,' and other 'natural infrastructure-type' sand retention experimental demonstration structures as possible options for implementation as part of coastal Regional Sediment Management to support resilient coastal climate and SLR adaptation. BEACON has been a leader in promoting natural infrastructure and living shoreline treatment approaches to regional sediment management, supporting innovative beach and dune projects in Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, and Ventura, including the living shore beach and dune component of the Surfers Point project.

Staff requests the Board authorize the Chair to send a letter to BEACON's state legislative representatives outlining actions the State Legislature could support that would advance BEACON's goals and objectives.



Meeting Date: January 15, 2021 Agenda Item: 5B2

Attachment1: Letter to California State Legislative Representatives



A California Joint Powers Agency

#### **Member Agencies**

Fred Shaw City of Carpinteria

> Kyle Richards City of Goleta

Carmen Ramirez
City of Oxnard

Steven Gama City of Port Hueneme

Christy Weir, Vice-Chair City of San Buenaventura

Eric Friedman City of Santa Barbara

Gregg Hart, Chair Das Williams County of Santa Barbara

> Steve Bennett John Zaragoza County of Ventura

Executive Director
Marc Beyeler

### Santa Barbara Address:

105 East Anapamu, Suite 201 Santa Barbara, CA 93101

#### Ventura Address:

501 Poli St. P.O. Box 99 Ventura, CA 93001

### Email:

Office@Beacon.ca.gov

#### Website:

http://www.beacon.ca.gov

January 15, 2021

Honorable Senator Monique Limón California State Senate, District 19 SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY

**Subject: BEACON 2021 Legislative Priorities** 

Dear Senator Limón:

BEACON, a Joint Powers Authority consisting of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, and the six coastal cities of Goleta, Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, Ventura, Oxnard, and Pt. Hueneme, is responsible for coordinating Regional Sediment Management, regional beach nourishment, environmental protection, and coastal water quality. The BEACON coast extends from the Los Angeles County line in the south to the San Luis Obispo County line in the north.

BEACON is writing to request that you consider sponsoring one or more legislative proposals directed at BEACON's responsibilities. Sediment management projects are important elements of coastal adaptation and contribute to natural infrastructure project objectives to ensure long-term community sustainability and resilience. BEACON is updating its Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan to incorporate climate and Sea-Level Rise adaptation focusing on regional adaptation needs within the Santa Barbara-Ventura Coast (140 miles of the 1100-mile CA Coast).

Regional and local climate and Sea-Level Rise adaptation is identified in California as a major focus of the State's climate efforts. Regional and local governments are tasked with major adaptation responsibilities. However, State efforts to support regional and local adaptation are falling short of projected needs and State efforts to support regional and local adaptation efforts need to be increased to meet projected needs.

Providing Expanded Funding for BEACON and Regional Sediment Management BEACON is most well suited to implement regional adaptation priorities. BEACON's existing efforts could be expanded and accelerated with additional resources from the State, including targeted increased funding. BEACON can become a significant component in the state's coastal climate and SLR adaptation implementation priorities with sufficient funding from the State.

Implementation of Regional Sediment Management (RSM) Plans, including BEACON's Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan (SRSMP), could be accelerated, and expanded with adequate funding from General Obligation Bond Act monies (such as the proposed 2022 Resilience Bond) funding from the State's Cap and Trade funds, State Tidelands and Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas revenues, or specific general fund legislative appropriations.

### **BEACON Legislative Priorities**

Importantly, BEACON could assist in evaluating state program needs and evaluating a range of funding options to advance Regional Sediment Management (RSM) statewide. The legislature could direct BEACON to undertake one or more assessments or studies to assist its state agency partners in developing innovative funding and program initiatives, with the goal of establishing a dedicated programmatic funding source for state and regional sediment management initiatives supporting coastal adaptation and resilience.

### Contributing to advancing Regional Sediment Management and Coastal Adaptation

BEACON could complete A Study of Climate Adaptation and Regional Sediment Management on behalf of the state, wherein the Legislature directs BEACON to prepare a study of the role of Regional Sediment Management in Climate Adaptation implementation on behalf of the California Sediment management Workgroup (CSMW) including an analysis of the costs of implementing RSM in CA and options for sustainable funding for Regional Sediment Management in California.

As a complementary effort, BEACON could assist the state in analyzing innovative governance and management initiatives to advance integrated RSM and coastal climate adaptation, wherein the Legislature directs BEACON to prepare a study of Governance Innovations in Regional Climate Adaptation that may further investigated for implementation in California.

Finally, BEACON could be directed to complete An Analysis of 'Green' Sand Retention Structure Options and Pilot Projects for Regional Sediment Management. The Legislature could direct BEACON to analyze 'Green Groins,' and other 'natural infrastructure-type' sand retention experimental demonstration structures as possible options for implementation as part of coastal RSM to support resilient coastal climate and SLR Adaptation.

BEACON is eager to partner with the State Legislature and with State agency colleagues to advance its work and the work of RSM and climate adaptation statewide. If you need further information, please contact Marc Beyeler, BEACON Executive Director. Marc can be reached at beyeler@beacon.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Gregg Hart
BEACON Chair, on behalf of the
BEACON Board of Directors

Attachment: BEACON Legislative Priorities Staff Report, January 2021

cc: Honorable Monique Limon, Senator, District 19
Honorable Steve Bennett, Assemblymember, District 37
Honorable Jacqui Irwin, Assemblymember, District 44
BEACON Board of Directors



A California Joint Powers Agency

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### **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 5C1

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Ventura County Auditor-Controller's Office

Date: January 8, 2021

Subject: Auditor-Controller Recommended Actions and Financial Reports

# **RECOMMENDATION ACTION:**

- i. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Unadjusted Budget-to-Actual report for the year-to-date period ending December 31, 2020 (Exhibit I).
- ii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to FY 2020-21 Biennial Audit Contract with Fedak & Brown LLP for Financial Auditing Service to extend the term of performance for an additional 4 months revising the end term date to June 30, 2021 (Exhibit II).

### **DISCUSSION:**

### **Recommendation i:**

Receive and file report from Ventura County Auditor-Controller's Office on the Unadjusted Budget-to-Actual for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for the period ending December 31, 2020 (Exhibit I).

### Recommendation ii:

Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Biennial Audit Contract with Fedak & Brown LLP for Financial Auditing Service for FY19 and FY20. The original contract was approved at the July 24, 2020 Board Meeting with the term of the contract extending from July 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021. Amendment No. 1 amends Article 1: "Services to be Performed by Contractor" revising the date Contractor shall complete its audit and file its report to on or before May 31, 2021, and Article 5: "Term" extending the contract from February 28, 2020 to June 30, 2021 (Exhibit II).

# BEACON FUND 0025 YEAR TO DATE UNADJUSTED BUDGET TO ACTUAL FY 2020-21 FOR THE MONTH ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020

Unit N	Account Number			Budget		-			
	Number		Adopted	Mod	Revised			Total Revenue/	
OI	INIASSIG	Title NED FUND BALANCE	Budget		Budget	Actual	Encumbered	Obligation	Variance
	NAOOIO	Appropriation of Fund Balance	5,643	-	5,643	206,624.11		206,624.11	200,981.11
	5950	Unassigned Fund Balance	5,643	-	5,643	206,624.11	-	206,624.11	200,981.11
RI	EVENUE	:							
5665	8911	Investment Income - (Interest Earnings)	4,000	-	4,000	538.39		538.39	(3,461.61
5665	9371	Other Governmental Agencies - (Member Dues)	299,960	-	299,960	294,710.00		294,710.00	(5,250.00
5665	9252	State Other - OPC Grant (Debris Basis Modification)	14,000	-	14,000	-		-	(14,000.00
5665	9252	State Other - OPC Grant (Surfer's Point Project)	218,320	-	218,320	(82,818.98)		(82,818.98)	(301,138.98
5665	9252	Coastal Commission Mitigation Fees (Mondo's Cove Stairway Project)	37,075	-	37,075	24,601.25		24,601.25	(12,473.75
		Total Revenue	573,355	-	573,355	237,030.66	-	237,030.66	(336,324.34
		TOTAL SOURCES	578,998		578,998	443,654.77		443,654.77	(135,343.23
E	XPENDI	TURES							
5665	2072	Insurance	3,500	-	3,500	3,741.79	-	3,741.79	(241.79
5665	2131	Memberships and Dues (American Shore & Beach Preservation Assoc.)	2,000	-	2,000	500.00	-	500.00	1,500.00
5665	2159	Miscellaneous Expenses (Communication and Outreach)	5,000	-	5,000	119.88	-	119.88	4,880.12
5665	2159 2183	Miscellaneous Expenses (CRSMP Update/SCCBEP)	20,000	-	20,000		-	-	20,000.0
5665 5665	2183	Engineering and Technical Surveys (Science Support Services) Engineering and Technical Surveys (Dr.Douglas George)	15,000 15,000	-	15,000 15,000	6,734.63	-	6,734.63	15,000.00 8,265.37
5665	2183	Engineering and Technical Surveys (Program Management - COM3)	43,500	-	43,500	14,840.00	28,660.00	43,500.00	0,203.31
5665	2183	Engineering and Technical Surveys (Geographic Information Systems)	3.000	-	3,000		-	-	3.000.00
5665	2185	Attorney Services (County of Santa Barbara)	12,000	-	12,000	-	12,000.00	12,000.00	-
5665	2199	Other Professional & Specialized Services (Executive Director)	134,900	_	134,900	56,400.00	78,500.00	134,900.00	-
5665	2199	Other Professional & Specialized Services (Jensen Design & Survey)	36,898	_	36,898	24,601.25	12,296.25	36,897.50	0.50
5665	2199	Other Professional & Specialized Services (Accounting Svcs-VC ACO)	15,000	_	15,000		-	-	15,000.00
5665	2199	Other Professional & Specialized Services (Biennial Audit Services)	10,380	-	10,380	_	10,380.00	10,380.00	-
5665	2199	Other Professional & Specialized Services (Pam Baumgardner)	2,000		2,000	525.00	3,975.00	4,500.00	(2,500.00
5665	2273	Education, Conferences, and Seminars (Registration Fees)	1,000	-	1,000	(67.65)	-	(67.65)	1,067.65
5665	2292	Travel Expense (Mileage, Travel & Conf.)	2,500	_	2,500	-	_	_	2,500.00
		Total Overhead Expenditures	321,678		321,678	107,394.90	145,811.25	253,206.15	68,471.85
		Grant Funded Expenditures	,				•	,	,
		OPC - Debris Basins Removal:							
5665	2183	Admin+ Management & Best Practices Manual (Tasks 1, 8 & 9) - COM3	6,000	-	6,000	-	6,000.00	6,000.00	-
5665	0400	Planning, Engineering, Construction, CM, Monitoring & Restoration -	0.000		0.000				8,000.00
	2183	(Tasks 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7) - SB County Flood Control District  Total Grants - OPC - Debris Basins Removal:	8,000 <b>14,000</b>	-	8,000 <b>14,000</b>		6,000.00	6,000.00	8,000.00
		Grants - OPC - Surfer's Point Project:	1 1,000		. 1,000	-	0,000.00	0,000.00	,
5665	2183	Engineering and Technical Surveys - OPC Grant - Surfer's Point Project - City of Ventura	210 220		219 220	51,969.73		51 060 72	166,350.27
		Total Grants - OPC - Surfer's Point Project:	218,320 <b>218,320</b>	-	218,320 218,320	51,969.73		51,969.73 <b>51,969.73</b>	166,350.27
		Total Grant Funded Expenditures	232,320	-	232,320	51,969.73	6,000.00	57,969.73	174,350.27
5665	6101	Contingency	25,000	-	25,000	-		-	25,000.00
		TOTAL EXPENDITURES	578,998	-	578,998	159,364.63	151,811.25	311,175.88	267,822.12

Note: Amounts with "( )" in the ACTUAL column reflect FY20 accruals in excess of actual expenditures and revenue to date.

BEACON - FUND 0030 - BEACON Sand Supply and Public Access

Unadjusted Balance, as of December 31, 2020:

10,026.70

### Amendment No. 1

January 15, 2021

It is mutually agreed that the Financial Auditing Service Contract FY 2020-2021 between Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON) and Fedak & Brown LLP is amended as stated below.

### >> Amend Article 1 "Services to be Performed by Contractor" to read:

In consideration of the payments hereinafter set forth, Contractor will perform services for BEACON in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications set forth herein. The Contractor will perform a biennial audit, in accordance with the most current revision of the Yellow Book: Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS), of the financial statements of BEACON for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2019 and 2020. The Contractor shall complete its audit and file its report on or before May 31, 2021.

### >> Amend Article 5 "Term" to read:

This contract will be in effect from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, subject to all terms and conditions set forth herein, unless terminated prior to that date in accordance with the provisions of this contract.

These modifications to the agreement are in compliance with Article 14 "Addenda", of the above referenced agreement. This amendment is hereby made a part of the Biennial Financial Auditing Services Contract FY 2020-2021.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this amendment to the Biennial Financial Auditing Contract FY 2020-2021 on the day and year below written, but effective as of the day and year first set forth above.

BEACON	Contractor: Fedak & Brown LLP		
Ву:	Ву:		
Authorized Signature	Charles Z. Fedak, Managing Partner		
Name: Title: Chair			
Date	Date		
Approved as to Form: County Co			

Page 1 of 1 January 15, 2021



A California Joint Powers Agency

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> Kyle Richards City of Goleta

Carmen Ramirez
City of Oxnard

Steven Gama City of Port Hueneme

Christy Weir, Vice-Chair City of San Buenaventura

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# **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 15, 2021

Agenda Item: 6

To: BEACON Board of Directors

From: Executive Director Date: January 8, 2021

Subject: Executive Director's Report and Communications

### **AGENDA**

# California Coastal Commission (CCC) Local Government Workshop

Date: Thursday December 17, 2020	Livestream Via: www.cal-span.org
Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Virtual Hearings Procedure: Reference document link

<sup>\*</sup>Please check in a few minutes early for any potential technical troubleshooting needs.

### Meeting Goals:

- Present the approved Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning
- Seek support for the Sea Level Rise (SLR) Working Group efforts in 2021 from the Commission and Local Governments
- Collect public input on goals for the Working Group efforts in 2021

#	Time	Topic & Objective	Presenter
1	9:00 am	Opening Procedures  - Call to Order  - Roll Call  - Agenda Review and Workshop Process	Commission Chair/ Director Ainsworth Facilitator
2	9:10 am	Opening Statements  - Reflect on Joint Statement and goals/ priorities for 2021 coordination on Sea Level Rise  - Describe potential activities and work products for 2021	SLR Working Group Members
3	9:35 am	Public Comments  Members of the public wishing to provide comments must sign up using the "Submit Speaker Request Here" button on the CCC Hearing Agenda website. Speakers' time will be limited to 1-2 minutes at the discretion of the Coastal Commission Chair.	Members of the Public
4	10:35 am	Break	
5	10:45 am	Workshop: Discussion of Goals and Objectives for the Local Government SLR Working Group in 2021	Commissioners & Local Government Representatives
6	12:00 pm	Break	
7	12:10 pm	Work Planning for 2021  - Observations on priorities for the Working Group efforts and deliverables in 2021	SLR Working Group Members
8	1:00 pm	Adjourn	

<sup>\*</sup> NOTE: There will be no more than one (1) hour for public comment. Due to the significant level of interest in this item and the limited time available, speakers' time will be limited to 1 to 2 minutes, depending on the number of speakers, and at the discretion of the Commission Chair. Speakers will be limited to verbal comments only (no presentations, recorded videos, etc.). We urge written comments or other materials be submitted to: <a href="mailto:statewideplanning@coastal.ca.gov">statewideplanning@coastal.ca.gov</a>)

### **CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219 FAX (415) 904-5400 TDD (415) 597-5885



W6d

October 28, 2020

TO: California Coastal Commissioners and Interested Public

FROM: John Ainsworth, Executive Director

Madeline Cavalieri, Statewide Coastal Program Manager

Kelsey Ducklow, Environmental Scientist

SUBJECT: Briefing and consideration of adopting the Local Government

Working Group "Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning"

# SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Following the July 2019 Local Government Workshop, a Local Government Working Group consisting of representatives from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), the League of California Cities, and a Coastal Commission subcommittee (Commissioners Groom and Wilson) was formed. Over the past year, this group has worked to develop a joint statement to serve as a foundation for our collective efforts on sea level rise adaptation planning. A draft version of the Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning was released in October. After considering the input received from the public and Coastal Commissioners during the October hearing, the Working Group revised the Joint Statement to clarify the intent to be consistent with State efforts related to sea level rise planning and to broaden the focus of the last action item to address the need to explore all types of phased adaptation strategies as well as regional opportunities for mitigation. The final version of the Joint Statement is included as Exhibit 1.

The Joint Statement includes a set of guiding principles, challenges, opportunities, and actions associated with proactive and effective sea level rise adaptation for California's coastal communities. It focuses specifically on what the three entities which make up the working group can do to address sea level rise, specifically relating to Local Coastal Program (LCP) policy development, adaptation planning, and project decision making.

The Joint Statement is consistent with and complementary to the Coastal Commission's ongoing work to address sea level rise, including the Statewide Principles for Aligned State Action which were adopted by the Coastal Commission in May 2020.

Staff is recommending **adoption** of the Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning.

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	3. Summary of the Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning	
	C. Relationship to Statewide Principles for Aligned State Action on Sea Level Rise	

# **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1 – Local Government Working Group Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning

# I. MOTION AND RESOLUTION

### **Motion:**

I move that the Commission adopt the Local Government Working Group "Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning".

### Staff Recommendation of Approval:

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. Passage of this motion will result in the Commission's adoption of the attached Local Government Working Group joint statement on sea level rise adaptation planning. The motion passes only by an affirmative vote by a majority of the Commissioners present.

# **Resolution of Approval:**

The Commission hereby adopts the Local Government Working Group "Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning".

# II. DISCUSSION

# A. Background

Following the July 2019 Local Government Workshop, a priority action item was to establish a local government working group to develop strategies to improve collaboration and communications between local governments and the Commission on sea level rise adaptation planning and Local Coastal Program (LCP) updates. This Local Government Working Group includes representatives from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), the League of California Cites, and a Coastal Commission subcommittee (Commissioners Groom and Wilson).

Over the past year, the Local Government Working Group has worked to develop a set of shared principles that will provide a foundation for our collective efforts on sea level rise adaptation planning going forward. The Joint Statement outlines guiding principles, opportunities, challenges, and actions associated with proactive and effective sea level rise adaptation for California's coastal communities. It highlights what the entities that make up the working group can do, while working together, to address sea level rise in coastal California. The Joint Statement focuses specifically on Local Coastal Program (LCP) policy development, adaptation planning, and project decision-making. A draft version of the Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning was released in October. After considering the input received from the public and Coastal Commissioners during the October hearing, the Working Group revised the Joint Statement to clarify the intent to be consistent with State efforts related to sea level rise planning and to broaden the focus of the last action item to address the need to explore all types of phased

adaptation strategies as well as regional opportunities for mitigation. The final version of the Joint Statement is summarized below and included as Exhibit 1.

The recommended adoption of the principles by the Commission, League of Cities, and CSAC will set the stage for the December 17, 2020 Local Government Workshop that will focus on the next steps regarding how we will apply these shared principles to advance the development of meaningful sea level adaptation plans and LCP updates for coastal jurisdictions across the state.

# B. Summary of the Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning

The Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning is built around an understanding that sea level rise, combined with storms and extreme events, will exacerbate the coastal hazards that are already changing the California coastline through increased flooding, inundation, erosion, changing sediment dynamics, and saltwater intrusion. These increasing hazards will cause significant impacts to coastal resources and communities. The type and scale of impacts will vary widely across the State, but without careful planning, sea level rise hazards will threaten critical infrastructure and communities, as well as beaches, recreational areas and habitats. In addition, without careful planning, sea level rise will disproportionately impact the ability of people who cannot afford to live in close proximity to the ocean to access and recreate along the coast, including those from underserved and vulnerable communities. At the same time, sea level rise adaptation strategies can be resource intensive, and different strategies each have their own economic, environmental, and social trade-offs that will change over time.

In recognition of these challenges, the Local Government Working Group developed a set of shared principles for how the Coastal Commission and local governments can move forward to address sea level rise through LCP policy development, adaptation planning, and project decision making. The full set of shared principles can be reviewed in <a href="Exhibit 1">Exhibit 1</a>, and generally include a pledge to do the following:

- Develop creative adaptation strategies that are responsive and flexible, and based on unique local community contexts.
- Engage and collaborate with all stakeholders to ensure equitable participation in adaptation planning processes, and equitable outcomes from decisions.
- Incorporate the best available science on sea level rise and have explicit processes for updates based on new information
- Develop phased approaches to adaptation based on thresholds that trigger future policy and planning reviews and updates.
- Disclose the location, type, timeframe, and severity of coastal hazards due to sea level rise.
- Create and refine new tools to support adaptation that will allow for better environmental, economic, and community outcomes over the long term.

- Strive for agency cultures and procedures that support predictable and efficient planning, permitting and project delivery and commit to progress over perfection.
- Focus on and prioritize public infrastructure planning to model opportunities for innovative adaptation strategies that benefit coastal resources and communities.

The Joint Statement also details three specific topic areas with opportunities for action over the short term to advance sea level rise adaptation planning (see <a href="Exhibit 1">Exhibit 1</a> for more detail).

- 1. Establishing shared vision, scope, and time horizons associated with LCP updates. The Commission and local governments can agree on clear and established timeframes under which the LCP update will be operable (e.g., for the next 10-20 years) to help support actionable sea level rise policies and adaptation planning approaches and, further, to co-develop guidance on an improved LCP update process that supports more frequent and incremental or 'phased' updates to LCPs.
- 2. Maintaining statewide consistency while flexibly addressing unique local issues. The Commission and local governments agree that LCP updates should both address unique local issues and include baseline hazards policies and concepts (e.g., use of best available science, policies on disclosure and assumption of risks, and policies to ensure that new development is appropriately sited) to ensure consistency with the Coastal Act. The Local Government Working Group can draw from recent certified LCP updates to compile successful examples of baseline policies and concepts that achieve an appropriate balance between statewide policy consistency and local LCP flexibility.
- 3. Evaluating coastal resource impacts now and in the future in light of sea level rise, and identifying viable mitigation sites to offset those impacts. The Local Government Working Group recognizes the need for creative phased approaches to adaptation planning to protect communities, infrastructure, and coastal resources and agree to work together to develop shared guidance on approaches that will appropriately evaluate, limit, and mitigate coastal resources impacts over time. In particular, this should include exploring regional planning and mitigation opportunities across jurisdictions.

# C. Relationship to Statewide Principles for Aligned State Action on Sea Level Rise

The Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning directly relates to the Coastal Commission's ongoing efforts to address sea level rise. In particular, a key priority for the Coastal Commission has been to support local government efforts to plan for sea level rise, specifically by integrating sea level rise adaptation into Local Coastal Program updates. The Joint Statement reflects the challenges and opportunities related to LCP updates and sea level rise planning that have been identified over the past several years following the adoption of the CCC Sea Level Rise Policy Guidance and

the provision of funds for LCP updates through the LCP Local Assistance Grant Program. Importantly, the Joint Statement also identifies key action items for continued collaboration among the working group entities to advance the development of meaningful sea level adaptation plans and LCP policies.

Additionally, the Joint Statement is consistent with and helps to implement the <u>Statewide Principles for Aligned State Action</u>, which was co-developed by 17 participating state agencies, including the Commission, and which was formally adopted by the Commission in May 2020<sup>1</sup>. Both documents are built around a shared recognition of a basic set of facts about sea level rise, including that sea level rise, combined with extreme storms and tidal events, will exacerbate coastal hazards along the state's coastline. The documents acknowledge that increasing coastal hazards will likely result in significant impacts to coastal communities, economies, and resources, highlighting the critical need for proactive adaptation planning.

The Joint Statement and the work of the working group help to implement and reflect key goals of the Statewide SLR Principles. In particular, two of the Statewide SLR Principles are to "build coastal resilience partnerships" (principle 2) and to "support local leadership and address local conditions" (principle 4). The working group is designed to increase coordination and collaboration among the Coastal Commission and local jurisdictions and to build understanding of local priorities and needs as well as key statewide goals and baseline targets (all of which are highlighted as key actions within principles 2 and 4).

Both the Joint Statement and the Statewide SLR Principles are built around a shared recognition of the science and projected impacts of sea level rise in our state, including that sea level rise, combined with extreme storms and tidal events, will exacerbate coastal hazards along the state's coastline. The documents acknowledge that coastal hazards will increasingly result in significant impacts to coastal communities, economies, and resources, and reflect a commitment to proactive adaptation planning.

Further, the Joint Statement and the Statewide SLR Principles share many of the same goals and recommended actions. Key areas of alignment include principles in both documents related to:

- Incorporating best available science into planning and decision-making (Statewide SLR Principle 1, Joint Statement Shared Principles Bullet 4)
- Recognizing the need for adaptation that is flexible and based on local conditions (Statewide SLR Principle 4, Joint Statement Shared Principles Bullet 1 and 2)
- Engaging with all stakeholders, including vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, and ensuring members of the public understand the risks

<sup>1</sup> For more information on the Statewide Principles for Aligned State Action on sea level rise, including how the Principles relate to the Commission's ongoing sea level rise work, see the May 2020 <u>staff report</u>

associated with sea level rise (Statewide SLR Principles 2 and 3, Joint Statement Shared Principles Bullet 3 and 6)

- Developing tools, guidance, processes, baseline targets, etc. that help promote efficient and effective permitting for adaptation projects (Statewide SLR Principles 5 and 6, Joint Statement Shared Principles Bullets 2, 7, 8 and 9)
- Recognizing the need for additional research, pilot projects, innovative approaches, and funding to support adaptation efforts (Statewide SLR Principles 5 and 6, Joint Statement Shared Principles Bullets 4, 5, 7 and 10)
- Prioritizing protection of public infrastructure, including critical infrastructure and coastal-dependent uses (Statewide SLR Principles 1 and 6, Joint Statement Shared Principles Bullet 10)
- Prioritizing strategies and approaches that achieve multiple benefits, including better environmental, economic, and community outcomes over time (Statewide SLR Principles 5 and 6, Joint Statement Shared Principles Bullets 7 and 10)

The main difference between the two documents is that the Joint Statement includes more detail that is specific to the LCP planning process as it relates to sea level rise adaptation. Actions within the Joint Statement related to LCP planning and LCP policies include developing guidance and processes that will allow for more incremental or phased LCP updates; identifying policies that will allow for local flexibility while also meeting baseline statewide goals (e.g. use of best available science, disclosures of hazards, and siting for new development); and developing options and policies for phased adaptation, including consideration of how to balance, limit, and mitigate coastal resource impacts on a regional scale across jurisdictions.

Although these topics are not discussed in detail in the Statewide SLR Principles, they are broadly implicated in Principles 4, 5, and 6 which all relate to developing and implementing SLR adaptation strategies that protect the range of coastal communities and resources along the California coast in a way that reflects local conditions and is responsive to changes over time.

Overall, the Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning is consistent with and complementary to the Coastal Commission's ongoing efforts to address sea level rise. Further, adoption of Joint Statement will help to implement many of the Commission-adopted Statewide Principles for Aligned State Action to address sea level rise, notably to build partnerships and to support local leadership and address local conditions. The Coastal Commission is appreciative of the efforts of the Local Government Working Group to develop a shared approach for moving forward to address the challenges of sea level rise through local planning and LCP updates, and staff recommends adoption of these principles.

# **CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

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# W6d

# Joint Statement on Adaptation Planning November 4, 2020

# **EXHIBITS**

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# Sea Level Rise Working Group JOINT STATEMENT ON ADAPTATION PLANNING

The California Coastal Commission, the California State Association of Counties, and the League of California Cities together agree on the following joint statement of guiding principles, opportunities and challenges associated with proactive and effective sea level rise adaptation for California's coastal communities. It focuses specifically on what these three entities, while working together, can do to address sea level rise in coastal California, specifically relating to Local Coastal Program (LCP) policy development, adaptation planning, and project decision making.

This Joint Statement was developed in light of the recent 'Principles for Aligned State Action' (State Principles), which were developed by 17 participating State agencies under the leadership of Secretary Crowfoot of the California Natural Resources Agency and Secretary Blumenfeld of the California Environmental Protection Agency<sup>1</sup>. The Joint Statement aligns with and seeks to carry out the State Principles.

### State and Local Challenges of Adapting to a Changing Coast

- Extreme storm and weather events are changing the coast of California, which sea level rise is
  expected to exacerbate, causing increased flooding and inundation, coastal erosion, changes in
  sediment supply and movement, and saltwater intrusion to water supplies.
- The degree of impact and rate of change sea level rise has on coastal communities and ecosystems varies widely along the State's 1,200-mile coastline.
- These increasing coastal hazards will have significant impacts on coastal economies and put coastal resources and development at risk.
- Sea level rise hazards will disproportionately impact the ability of people who cannot afford to live in close proximity to the ocean to access and recreate along the coast, including those from underserved and vulnerable communities.
- Sea level rise adaptation solutions are resource intensive and each has its own economic, environmental, and social trade-offs; these costs and benefits will also change over time as sea levels continue to rise.
- Choosing an adaptation strategy now may influence options for the future as well as options in adjacent locations. Some options may benefit a few at the expense of many, while others may benefit many at the expense of a few.

### **Shared Principles to Guide Adaptation Planning and Projects**

The California Coastal Commission, the California State Association of Counties, and the League of California Cities together pledge to:

- Plan for sea level rise adaptation in a way that is responsive and flexible, and based on unique local community contexts.
- Work for creative planning solutions that provide for local flexibility at the LCP and community level and statewide consistency at the policy level.
- Engage and collaborate with all stakeholders, including community members, visitors, business owners, and tribal groups, as well as underserved and other vulnerable communities who live,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ media library/2020/05/State-SLR-Principles FINAL April-2020.pdf

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- visit, and recreate along the coast to ensure equitable participation in adaptation planning processes, and equitable outcomes from decisions.
- Incorporate the best available science on sea level rise into guidance, policies, plans, and permits and have explicit processes for updating these with new information.
- Develop phased approaches to adaptation based on thresholds that trigger future policy and planning reviews and updates.
- Disclose the location, type, timeframe, and severity of coastal hazards due to sea level rise to property owners and the public, for example, through risk disclosure policies, conditions on permits, or publicly available vulnerability assessments.
- Create and refine new tools to support adaptation, such as regional mitigation to offset impacts to public beaches, to achieve better environmental, economic, and community outcomes over the long term.
- Strive for agency cultures and procedures that support predictable and efficient planning, permitting and project delivery.
- Commit to progress over perfection; develop policies and plans that highlight incremental progress in the near-term to lay a foundation for, but not preclude, longer-term progress and outcomes.
- Focus on and prioritize public infrastructure planning to model opportunities for innovative adaptation strategies that benefit coastal resources and communities.

### **Creative Solutions and Actions**

The California Coastal Commission, the California State Association of Counties, and the League of California Cities pledge to working together on the opportunities and actions presented by the following top three challenges:

### Establishing shared vision, scope, and time horizons associated with LCP updates

Historically, the Commission has approached LCP updates based on a presumption that the LCP will not be updated again for many years to come. As a result, Commission staff often suggest policy recommendations that will result in long-term efficacy. Conversely, local jurisdictions often develop LCP policy updates with shorter timeframes in mind. In other words, they draft policies that are digestible and actionable for their communities in the near term. This disconnect often spawns a continuous comment and feedback loop between the state and local entities that results in an unreasonably long, and sometimes failed, LCP update process.

- Opportunity: The Commission and local governments can agree on clear and established timeframes under which the LCP update will be operable. Identifying the appropriate scope and time horizon for the update (e.g., for the next 10-20 years) can help support actionable sea level rise policies and adaptation planning approaches. The entities could agree that the present round of policy updates will not be the last, and commit to multiple, more regular updates rather than one major update.
- Action: The Commission and local governments agree to co-develop guidance on an improved LCP update process that supports more frequent and incremental or 'phased' updates to LCPs, including identifying appropriate time horizons for policy application, 'first order' policy language, and future update requirements.

### Maintaining statewide consistency while flexibly addressing unique local issues

The Commission works to maintain a degree of statewide consistency across LCP updates to remain consistent with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act and avoid inconsistent or arbitrary regulatory

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interpretation. Local governments seek maximum flexibility to address local issues and struggle with 'one size fits all' policies that are born from the state's efforts to maintain statewide consistency.

- Opportunity: The Commission and local governments agree that while some degree of statewide consistency is important, all LCP updates should address unique local issues. As a result, not all LCP updates will look the same from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. However, all LCP updates should include baseline hazards policies and concepts, including requirements to use the best available science, policies on disclosure and assumption of risks related to sea level rise hazards, and policies to ensure that new development is appropriately sited.
- Action: Draw from recent certified LCP updates to compile successful examples of the baseline
  policies and concepts detailed above that achieve an appropriate balance between statewide
  policy consistency and local LCP flexibility. This compilation can serve as a future reference for
  both local jurisdictions and CCC staff when developing and providing comments and feedback
  on future LCP updates.

# Evaluating coastal resource impacts now and in the future in light of sea level rise, and identifying viable mitigation sites to offset those impacts

- Opportunity: California communities need creative phased approaches to adaptation planning to protect communities, infrastructure and coastal resources. Near-term adaptation strategies that impact coastal resources and public trust lands need to be mitigated. The entities can collect the best available mechanisms to value coastal resources and coastal access points to help plan for different activities and accessibility as coastal environments change with sea level rise and mitigate impacts that may arise.
- Action: State and local governments agree to work together to develop shared guidance on pathways to creative solutions while properly evaluating, limiting, and mitigating coastal resource impacts. This should include exploring the concept of regional planning and mitigation opportunities across jurisdictions.

# Making California's Coast Resilient to Sea Level Rise: Principles for Aligned State Action

# **Background**

- California's coast, bays, estuaries, and ocean are critical to the state's environmental and economic security, integral to our quality of life, and an iconic part of the state's legacy. Each generation of Californians has an obligation to be strong stewards of the coast and ocean for future generations.
- However, Californians' safety, local and state economies, critical infrastructure, and natural resources face increasing threats from sea level rise (SLR). Every scientific assessment since California's 2009 Climate Adaptation Strategy has revealed that coastal impacts from climate change-caused SLR will occur more quickly and be more severe than previously projected. California's coast faces a significant risk of experiencing SLR of up to 1.0 feet by 2030 and 7.6 feet by 2100.
- Warming temperatures and a higher frequency of extreme weather, in conjunction with high tide events, have already resulted in SLR impacts at Imperial Beach, Seal Beach, Del Mar, Pacifica, Arcata, areas along San Francisco Bay, and elsewhere.
- Projections of future SLR point to **significant impacts to California communities**, with considerable environmental justice implications, upwards of hundreds of billions of dollars in impacts to property and development, impacts to statewide and regional water supplies, as well as significant damage to and loss of many miles of beaches, tidepools, coastal rivers, estuaries, and wetlands.
- To improve effectiveness in addressing this immediate challenge, state and regional agencies co-developed and endorsed the following Principles for Aligned State Action.



# Goal

- As California has repeatedly demonstrated, a bold, statewide climate agenda benefits our natural resources, health and safety, economy, critical infrastructure, and communities. Our state has led global efforts on climate change mitigation and is poised to do so on climate change adaptation.
- These Principles will enable California to scale up its coastal resiliency efforts through aligned strategies that create consistent, efficient decision-making processes and actions coastwide and improve collaboration across state, local, tribal, and federal partners.
- Action now saves up to six times the cost of action later, allows time for the state
  and communities to test and leverage needed solutions, and prevents untold
  impacts.
- By enhancing alignment and partnerships now, we will significantly improve the climate resiliency of our coast, bays, shorelines, and communities, particularly frontline communities most vulnerable to the impacts of SLR.

California state agencies with coastal, bay, and shoreline climate resilience responsibilities, including for coastal infrastructure and Californians' safety, endorse the following Principles around **Best Available Science**, **Partnerships**, **Alignment**, **Communications**, **Local Support**, and **Coastal Resilience Projects**. These Principles will guide unified, effective action toward SLR resilience for California's coastal communities, ecosystems, and economies.



# **Principles**

# 1. Develop and Utilize Best Available Science

- Apply best available science to planning, decision-making, project design, and implementation. Prioritize frequent engagement with stakeholders to ensure the science is actionable.
- Utilize SLR targets based on the best available science and a minimum of 3.5 feet of SLR by 2050. Develop and utilize more protective baseline 2050 and 2100 targets for road, rail, port, power plants, water and waste systems, and other critical infrastructure.

# 2. Build Coastal Resilience Partnerships

- Partner and coordinate regularly on SLR resilience issues, policies, planning, processes, mandates, permitting, information, funding, and projects, including with federal and local government bodies and tribes, and across issue areas and mandates.
- Regularly and collaboratively collect, share, and publicize the latest information on SLR and how agencies are using SLR projections to reduce risks to safety, property, infrastructure, natural ecosystems, and native species.
- Build strong relationships with all partners at all levels of government, and with the public, nonprofits, businesses, and other stakeholders.
- Consult, learn from, and coordinate and partner with tribes to ensure inclusive and multicultural stewardship of lands and waters subject to SLR.

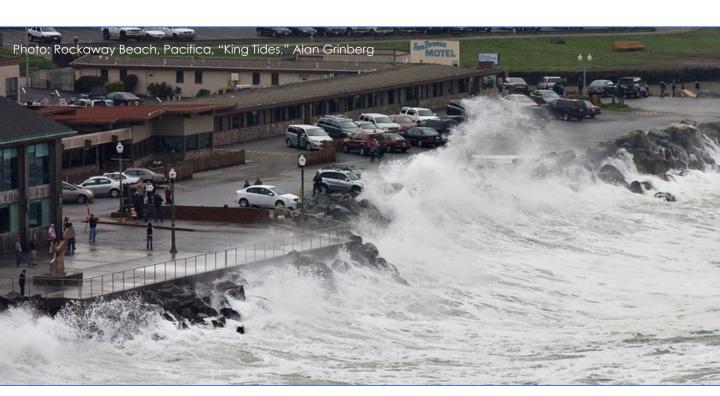


# 3. Improve Coastal Resilience Communications

- Enhance SLR and coastal resilience communications and engagement, including alignment on SLR messaging and implementation of a coordinated public awareness and education campaign.
- Increase transparency, efficiency, and alignment of state and local coastal resilience processes, policymaking, and decision-making.

# 4. Support Local Leadership and Address Local Conditions

- Support local planning and adaptation policies and projects that address local and regional conditions, meet baseline standards for climate impacts, and consider acute increases in SLR caused by storm surges, El Niños, and other events.
- Evaluate and learn from local conditions, including community priorities, health and safety, critical infrastructure, housing, culture, economies, patterns of development, local environment, and other characteristics, to inform risk tolerance and adaptation.
- Particularly in light of the fact that the environmental burdens of development and industry are often borne by under-resourced communities, prioritize early protection of and capacity building for the most under-resourced and vulnerable frontline communities in developing and implementing adaptation plans, projects, and strategies, toward greater social equity and environmental justice.



# 5. Strengthen Alignment around Coastal Resilience

- Develop and apply baseline, Administration-wide SLR assumptions, projections, targets, terms, and standards into coastal projects, retrofits, planning, funding, regulatory, and permitting initiatives. Consider statewide decision-making guidelines to help identify the strongest solutions, establish priorities, and ensure baseline success. Prioritize avoidance of initiatives that shift hazards and impacts elsewhere along the coast or shoreline.
- Ensure that up-to-date SLR resilience planning is in place coastwide and includes alignment on: consistent, minimum baseline targets; vulnerability assessments for communities (particularly frontline communities), infrastructure, property, and natural ecosystems and native species; SLR economic impact assessments, including the cost of resiliency projects and the potential cost of no action; and identification of multi-benefit SLR resiliency strategies.
- Plan for SLR impacts to regional and statewide water supplies and water management.
- Collaboratively work to pursue and develop specific funding sources for state, regional, and local coastal resilience planning, projects, and public outreach.
- Where possible, avoid creating unnecessary duplication of existing state agency authority.

# 6. Implement and Learn from Coastal Resilience Projects

- Protect and enhance public trust natural and cultural resources, such as beaches, wetlands, other habitats, biodiversity, and culturally important areas.
- Protect critical public water-dependent infrastructure, ports, harbor districts, and other evolving public trust needs and uses, given the unique characteristics, significance, constraints, and values of these public trust uses.
- Prioritize the use of nature-based adaptation measures where appropriate.
- Build coastal resilience by increasing the number of restoration and adaptation projects, such as wetland restoration; ensure that adaptation projects do not shift hazards and impacts elsewhere along the coast or shoreline.
- Streamline permitting for high-need coastal restoration projects.
- Realize multiple benefits from coastal resilience projects where feasible.
- Take action to prevent impacts from SLR to public access as feasible, toward the continued protection and enhancement of public coastal access for all.

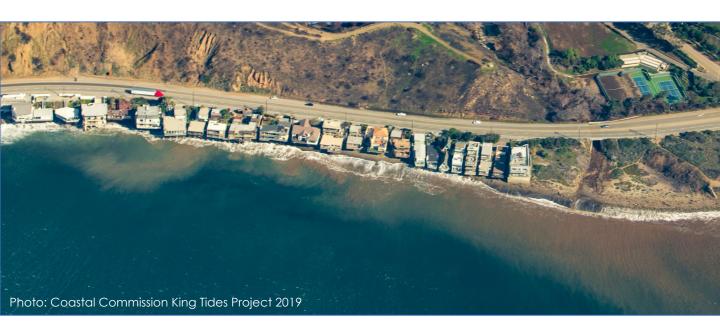


# **Endorsing and Participating Entities**

In early 2020 Secretary Crowfoot, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) and Secretary Blumenfeld, California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) convened two high-level meetings of 17 state agencies (listed below under Participating Entities) to develop and approve Sea Level Rise Principles for use in planning, policy setting, project development, and decision making. The Principles have been endorsed by both CNRA and CalEPA secretaries and all departments within these agencies. The Principles are a living document, and formal endorsement of the Principles from other agencies will be added as received.

# **Endorsing Entities**

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, CNRA, and CNRA Agencies Jared Blumenfeld, Secretary, CalEPA, and CalEPA Agencies Betty Yee, State Controller



# **Participating Entities**

CNRA
CalEPA
SF Bay Conservation and Development
Commission
California Coastal Commission
California Energy Commission
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Caltrans
Delta Stewardship Council

Department of Water Resources
Ocean Protection Council
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
Office of Emergency Services
State Coastal Conservancy
State Lands Commission
State Parks
State Water Resources Control Board
Strategic Growth Council