



August 6, 2020

TO: Bay Adapt Leadership Advisory Group
FROM: Jessica Fain, Planning Director, BCDC (415/352-3642; jessica.fain@bcdc.ca.gov)
SUBJECT: Meeting Summary for the July 31, 2020 Bay Adapt Leadership Advisory Group Meeting

Meeting Outcomes

On July 31, 2020, the Bay Adapt Leadership Advisory Group met virtually.

During this meeting, members of the Leadership Advisory Group:

1. Shared how they have been advancing social equity, inclusion, and environmental justice in their work since the last Leadership Advisory Group meeting.
2. Reviewed the main topic areas that have come out of the first two Working Group meetings as well as a potential framework for the Joint Platform.
3. Discussed the topic areas that emerged from the first round of Working Group meetings: environmental justice; local-regional adaptation; data, science and technical support; and local project support. The group completed a preliminary survey to inform its discussion focused on these questions: What would add most value in the Joint Platform? Should it go broad or deep? Are there any must-haves or no-go topics?
4. Key takeaways included:
 - Breadth is helpful to contextualize and present a complex problem.
 - Narrowing in or prioritizing community-driven planning and sequencing on shorter term needs, particularly given health outcomes, equity, and impacts to funding, would be valuable.
 - Strong support exists for funding regional work and funding regional equity.
 - Relying on existing relationships or bodies is preferable where possible. However, convening the EJ Consortium may be an important step if the existing structures are inadequate (and most agree they are lacking).
 - Knitting together plans and where possible reorganizing or reworking existing entities will help achieve Bay Adapt goals.
 - Viewpoints differ on mandates and regulation, and whether Bay Adapt can adequately address the challenge without them.

Action Steps

- BCDC's staff, in collaboration with Working Group chairs, will take the feedback gathered during the meeting, distill it, and bring it back to the Working Groups as they develop more specific actions for the Joint Platform for your consideration.
- The next LAG meeting will be held in October (date TBD).



- BCDC staff will present to the BCDC Commission Meeting on August 20th and to the Bay Area Regional Collaborative (BARC) Governing Board on September 18th. Both of these meetings are open to the public and we welcome your attendance and participation.
- We want to hear your continued thoughts and feedback on these topics. Contact Jessica Fain at Jessica.Fain@bcdc.ca.gov.

Meeting Summary

The Leadership Advisory Group (LAG) members or alternates in attendance included: BCDC Chair Zack Wasserman, Lisa Horwitz-McCann, Barry Nelson, Mark Lubell, Bruce Riordan, Anne Halsted, Michael Barber, Ms. Margaret Gordon, Warner Chabot, Sam Schuchat, Tessa Beach, John Coleman*, Julio Garcia, Alicia John-Baptiste, Melissa Jones, David Lewis, Therese McMillan, Brad Paul, Dave Pine, Caitlin Sweeney*, Laura Tam, Will Travis, Adrian Covert (alternate for Jim Wunderman), Zoe Siegel (alternate for Amanda Brown-Stevens), Mike Mielke, and Paul Campos. Working Group Co-Chairs, in addition to those with an asterisks, in attendance Phoenix Armenta, Jack Liebster, Jeremy Lowe, Erika Powell.

Also in attendance: Emma Greenbaum, Andy Gunther, and Susan Schwartzberg. BCDC staff included: Jessica Fain, Dana Brechwald, Shannon Fiala, Nahal Ghoghaie, Karen Tanner, Amber Leavitt, Samantha Cohen, Dan Hossfeld, Nick Sander, Todd Hallenbeck, Megan Hall, Brad McCrea, and Steve Goldbeck. Members of working groups were also invited to attend.

LAG members not in attendance: Ana Alvarez, David Behar, Allison Brooks, Terrie Green, Michael Montgomery, Sheridan Noelani Enomoto, and Tony Tavares.

Gina Bartlett of the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) facilitated the meeting, with technical assistance from Maggie Osthues.

Welcome

Zack Wasserman (BCDC Chair) provided opening remarks, welcoming and thanking everyone for participating. He believes the group is making good progress and reminded everyone that the goal of Bay Adapt is the protection of our built and natural environment from rising sea level, keeping in mind our guiding principles and social and environmental justice. He then reflected on the preceding LAG meeting, which focused on social equity and environmental justice, and shared how he is continuing his education on how to be an anti-racist.

Next, Nahal Ghoghaie (BCDC Environmental Justice Manager) reviewed the concept of Kuleana, or one's personal sense of responsibility, in relation to social and environmental justice. Nahal facilitated introductions by asking LAG members to share how they have been learning about and advancing social equity and environmental justice in their personal and professional lives.

Meeting agenda



Gina Bartlett reviewed the meeting agenda, technology, and working agreements, including: all ideas and points of view have value; dialogue over debate through mindful listening; take space, make space; assume positive intent; and acknowledge difference between intent and impact.

Where We Are in the Process and Working Group Outcomes to Date

Jessica Fain (BCDC Planning Director) gave a presentation to refresh the LAG and remind them of the purpose of Bay Adapt which has three main components: 1. Develop Guiding Principles, where we clearly identify shared beliefs and values that should guide regional adaptation decisions; 2. Develop a Joint Platform, where we identify the top 10 to 15 priority actions that the region must take; 3. Adopt the Joint Platform, a commitment to act together to implement the agreed-upon actions through our respective roles and authorities. She reminded everyone that the goal is to develop an actionable platform, not one that just sits on the shelf, and asked: how do we ensure this happens?

Jessica reviewed what progress has been made over the last few months, acknowledging the feedback that the LAG provided in April on the launch of the three Working Groups, the success of the first public workshop, and the discussion at the May LAG meeting on how to embed equity into this process. She noted that the timeline for this process was extended by two months in response to concerns that the process felt rushed. Jessica also thanked the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP) and Phoenix Armenta for reviewing and providing feedback on the Bay Adapt outreach and engagement strategy, and shared that BCDC staff have been talking with the Exploratorium about ways to involve youth in this process.

Then Jessica asked the LAG to consider the following questions while listening to a presentation on the list of topic areas identified in the first two Working Group meetings:

- Are these the right set of topic areas to focus on for the Joint Platform?
- Will they advance our goal to adapt the Bay to sea level rise, and do they embody the guiding principles we identified?
- Are there too many proposed topic areas? Too few?

Dana Brechwald (Adapting to Rising Rides Program Manager) reviewed the structure of the Working Groups (20-30 members each) and the main questions they were asked to consider. She shared that over 150 comments, concerns, and possible solutions resulted from the first two Working Group meetings. BCDC staff found that these outcomes could be organized into a set of common themes emerging across the Working Groups, which provides a helpful way to review and think about the results so far. Dana also noted that these are not final actions yet and the details would be worked out later in the process.

Next, the Working Group Co-Chairs presented the key takeaways from the first two meetings of the Working Groups:



Regional Consistency Working Group, Co-Chaired by John Coleman (Bay Planning Coalition) and Caitlin Sweeney (San Francisco Estuary Partnership):

- There is a need for a unifying regional vision/framework that will:
 - Account for longer term, challenging, and complicated solutions
 - Coordinate existing processes
 - Identify regional priority projects and ensure local projects meet regional goals
 - Embody a transparent process that includes all voices in its development
- This should not be rushed; we should take a step back and focus on the regional framework and vision

Local Planning Working Group, Co-Chaired by Phoenix Armenta (West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project) and Jack Liebster (Marin County):

- Local planning and action is at the core of effective Bay Area adaptation
- A more community-centered local planning approach should be encouraged and supported
- Specific modeling, data, and technical support is best done at the regional level
- There is a lack of staff and community capacity for sea level rise planning and a need for co-education for staff and the public
- Historically marginalized groups are lacking representation and there is a need to build trust and relationships with community partners
- Funding for proper community engagement is needed as well as an inter-generation approach to planning

Project Implementation Working Group, Co-Chaired by Jeremy Lowe (San Francisco Estuary Institute) and Erika Powell (USACE):

- Resources and partnerships are needed to allow community advocates, vulnerable communities, and agencies to incorporate environmental and social justice from project planning through implementation
- Existing community led groups should be supported and funded in leading local project planning and implementation efforts
- There needs to be more transparency and awareness about contamination around the shoreline; the public should be notified of actual or potential exposure early in permitting phase
- Policies should be modified to support multi-benefit projects, and we need to consider the value of people and communities as well as built infrastructure
- Pilot habitat restoration, flood management, and community projects are happening around the Bay; how can these be scaled up, and how can lessons learned be applied around the region
- Permitting is overly complex; Bay Adapt can convene regulatory and regional leadership to discuss long-term adaptation vision and determine what short-term impacts can be tolerated in exchange for longer-term gains
- Construction challenges include shortage of skilled workers, specialized equipment, dirt supply, etc. Technical groups could be convened to systematically address construction issues



- Funding operations and maintenance over the whole life of the project, not just planning and implementation, is important and challenging

Next Dana Brechwald presented the main topic areas of the results of the Working Group meetings and a potential framework for addressing them through the Joint Platform:

Environmental Justice Topic Areas:

- *Environmental Justice Consortium*- support an Environmental Justice Consortium to empower and expand community-led adaptation
 - *Inclusive Planning*- increase government's inclusion of community voices in adaptation
 - *Community Leadership*- empower the community to lead adaptation decision-making
 - *Equitable Outcomes*- ensure equitable outcomes in all adaptation actions
 - *Education and Information*- provide transparent information and education to the community and empower the community to educate government

Regional Adaptation Topic Areas:

- *Local-Regional Adaptation Consortium*- develop a Local-Regional Adaptation Consortium to Coordinate Sea Level Rise Response
 - *Regional Vision*- establish a long-term Bay Area vision to guide adaptation planning and decision-making
 - *Integrated Planning*- expand regional planning and integrate local plans with neighbors and the region
- *Permitting, Design, and Construction*- streamline and enhance permitting processes and design construction standards to facilitate project implementation
 - *Funding*- coordinate, advocate for, and expand funding and financing for adaptation plans and projects
 - *Legislative Agenda*- engage, empower, and coordinate elected officials to advocate locally, in Sacramento, and in Washington

Data and Support Topic Areas:

- *Technical Consortium*- develop a data and technical assistance consortium to enhance data and science transparency and ease of access
 - *Access to Data*- expand, amplify, and facilitate community, local, and regional data and analysis
 - *Technical Assistance*- provide technical assistance to communities, cities, and counties

Local and Project Topic Areas:

- *Local Plan Alignment*- align and streamline local planning processes and documents
- *De-Siloing Local Adaptation*- rethink local governance structures to enhance adaptation
- *Complex Projects*- organize and advance complex project planning and implementation

Group Discussion: Shaping the Joint Platform

Facilitated by Gina Barrett (CBI)

Jessica Fain (BCDC): Our goal at this point is to begin shaping the joint platform – in thinking about the reports from our working group co-chairs, is this too much/too broad? Should we go deep on just a few issues, or try to be expansive and inclusive of all ideas? Should we limit ourselves to ideas that have a regional nexus or would benefit from a regional approach? Are there any non-starters, ideas that are too far afield of what our goals should be here? And what are the must-haves? And as we mull over these questions together, we want to remain mindful of how to achieve equity in all areas.

Ms. Margaret Gordon (WOEIP): We are already setting up a pattern and practice here by developing this platform without the input of communities – it will be harder to ask communities to engage on something that they have not been involved in shaping. You need representatives with direct experience and engagement in these communities, what they want, and BCDC staff doesn't have that. From my experience it's too much, too fast, with this group already making decisions about how we want to roll things out. There may be some equality in this process, but not equity. Many members of the LAG don't even have a community partner, and this will escalate into a bigger problem if we don't address those shortcomings now. We need to move to a model that is more inclusive, and we need to do that now. If the pattern and practice is already established when we invite community participation, it's not going to go over well.

Therese McMillan (MTC/ABAG): Acknowledges there is a lot going on here and some focus is needed. There is a risk in adding on new processes, groups, structures – as opposed to thinking about how to modify existing processes, groups, structures. As an example, MTC/ABAG's long-range plan (Plan Bay Area) for the first-time added resilience into the work and analysis priorities and resource needs; this was a great improvement, and an example of overhauling something already in place rather than setting up a new one. To pick up on Ms. Margaret's concerns, if we see a gap, but start something new instead of changing the existing structures, we can make things more complicated for ourselves, and it's even more confusing and complicated from a community point of view. This is just a running concern that I have with developing a joint platform.

Alicia John-Baptiste (SPUR): I appreciate the breadth of what has been presented - seeing the whole picture of what needs to be considered to roll the ball forward. From that standpoint I find the discussion clarifying. In thinking about the two proposed consortiums – one community-led and one government-led. How do we keep them from getting out of sync and misaligned? Sea level rise adaptation and more broadly climate adaptation are of course important, but there are also community needs that are shorter term. And these needs may fall outside an adaptation frame, but deserve consideration.

Phoenix Armenta (WOEIP): I'd like to return to the question about overhauling existing structures - the EJ consortium is really something that does not currently exist. There are EJ organizations that you can hire to work on a particular policy, but there is a need to strengthen those networks and connections. At the regional level, we have BayCAN, etc., maybe one of those entities could be reorganized to fit with the structure we decide on?



David Lewis (Save the Bay): I appreciate the work and organized way you presented the ideas generated from this process so far. I would like us to find room for two things in particular, which may be challenging if the goal of this is consensus. First, updating regulations and mandates for planning for sea level rise in a regional level. Second, more of an emphasis on funding to prioritize equity. I don't want us to be silent on either of these things because they are crucial for advancing regional sea level rise planning. For example, the Coastal Commission's Local Coastal Program creates an opportunity for standardization and consistency among local communities on the Pacific Coast. BCDC doesn't do that in the Bay and has no mandate for that activity. So whatever we recommend creating, I think we need an underlying mandate to get communities on board with the program. Second, on funding: There is a wide range among cities in terms of funding capacity; for example, Foster City and San Francisco can come up with funds for this kind of work, but others don't have the resources, due to tax base, etc. We need a regional funding mechanism to create a funding pool that can level that playing field. And the program should have equity as a top priority goal – we need to avoid situations where poor communities are punished for lack of resources. I recognize this is ambitious, but it would be noticed if we were silent on these issues.

Melissa Jones (BARHII): I also appreciate the breadth of this discussion – I prefer to see the full picture and then narrow down from there. One thing that is important is to prioritize projects that hit the intersection of social determinants (e.g. health equity) and address sea level rise impacts. This will be one of the most important pieces – how will our public resources be allocated; how will these decisions be made? We have seen through the ART work that communities subject to early sea level rise impacts also overlap with health burdens and other vulnerabilities communities. We need to identify these areas of overlap and prioritize them for funding. Especially now - communities impacted prior to COVID are more so now.

Ms. Margaret Gordon (WOEIP): Agree that we need to start with maps of impacts to all communities and prioritize.

Gina Bartlett (CBI): We invite you to participate in a live survey now – many have said they appreciate the breadth of the issues raised by the working groups, but we've also heard some concern about how to address these components with existing structures versus creating new structures, and addressing the links between environmental justice, social equity, health, funding, all in a way that is responsive to community needs. And also, how short-term needs fit into the adaptation framework. We'd like to get your read on the topic areas that have been raised and how we should better frame the platform in terms of deep versus broad, and to identify the must-haves for our work.

Will Travis (independent consultant): I agree with David Lewis. My concern is that if we try to absorb sea level rise into everything else we do, using existing structures, I'm afraid it will get lost. We need a clear mandate on expectations and timelines. If we expect local governments to do this on top of everything else they are doing they will never get to it. We need leadership and funding for local governments to do this kind of work from the regional level.

Barry Nelson (Alternate Commissioner, BCDC): David mentioned a regional mandate for local planning, and I think that's makes sense. What is the right timing for that mandate? This is critical, so that we don't jump the gun. Our efforts here should be linked to development of an integrated regional plan, the ART program, and providing ample opportunity for communities to engage. And we need to



recognize that some communities will be slower to engage due to lack of resources. We need to link those.

Gina Bartlett (CBI): The need for a mandate has now come up three times; should this be a core component of the joint platform, or an outcome of it?

Paul Campos (Building Industry Association): I disagree with the prior 3 comments. I don't think additional mandates are needed for this effort. If we consider the mandate driving outcomes for California coastal cities through an equity lens – I don't think of that as an example of equitable outcomes. To follow up on Therese's concern about additional structures, Plan Bay Area is a forum where many of these issues are being discussed with lots of participation. Including sea level rise linkages between the local and regional. I don't support the idea of this group coming up with more mandates for local governments.

David Lewis (Save the Bay) [in chat]: Unfortunately Plan Bay Area currently gives insufficient attention and importance to sea level rise planning. Instead of a precautionary principle (First, do no harm), Designated Priority Development Areas include places at significant risk of flooding. We hope there's still time to rectify that.

Paul Campos (Building Industry Association) [in chat]: Plan Bay Area 2050 has been in development and BCDC fully engaged for several years. Broad spectrum of stakeholders fully engaged for several years. I disagree with your characterization of current efforts and suspect agencies would as well.

Jack Liebster (County of Marin Community Development Agency) [in chat]: To follow up on David's comment, obviously strengthening MTC/Plan Bay Area's focus on sea level rise would be needed and could be done to fulfill the roles that can best be accomplished at the regional level. Another important function at that level would be to untangle the requirements and barriers created by single-focus regional authorities.

Adrian Covert (Bay Area Council): I appreciate the high-level perspectives being shared. I think we have many good ideas but feel cautious that too many goods could equal a bad. The challenge here is to enact the good in a way that does not add time and cost to projects, and that does not conflict with existing regional plans. We don't have a good track record of achieving equitable outcomes in planning for coastal California, maybe the worst in the US. Not sure what the right answer is, but in terms of funding mechanisms, the lesson from Measure AA is that we need something broad-based, that if possible, links to existing planning efforts already underway.

Gina Bartlett (CBI): The live survey results can shed light on our conversation here, many have finished filling it out.

There are 5 topic areas: Environmental Justice, Location-Regional Adaptation, Data Science and Technical Support, Local & Project Support. Do you have other thoughts as we wrestle with breadth versus depth, and how we can provide value through the Joint Platform?

Environmental Justice

Answered: 33 Skipped: 7

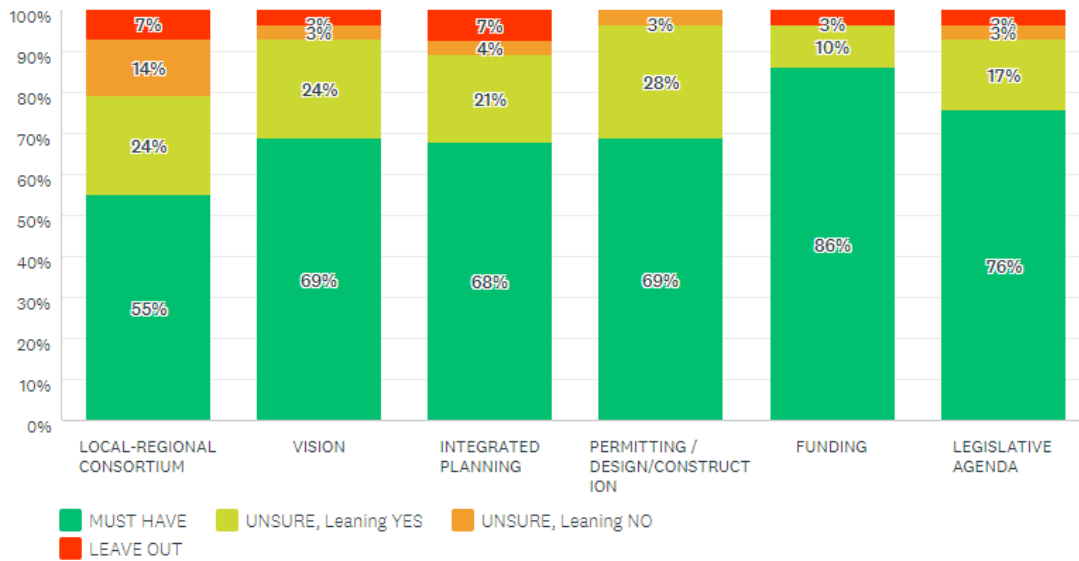


Preliminary Bay Adapt Topic Areas - for discussion

🔍 (0)

Local-Regional Adaptation

Answered: 29 Skipped: 11

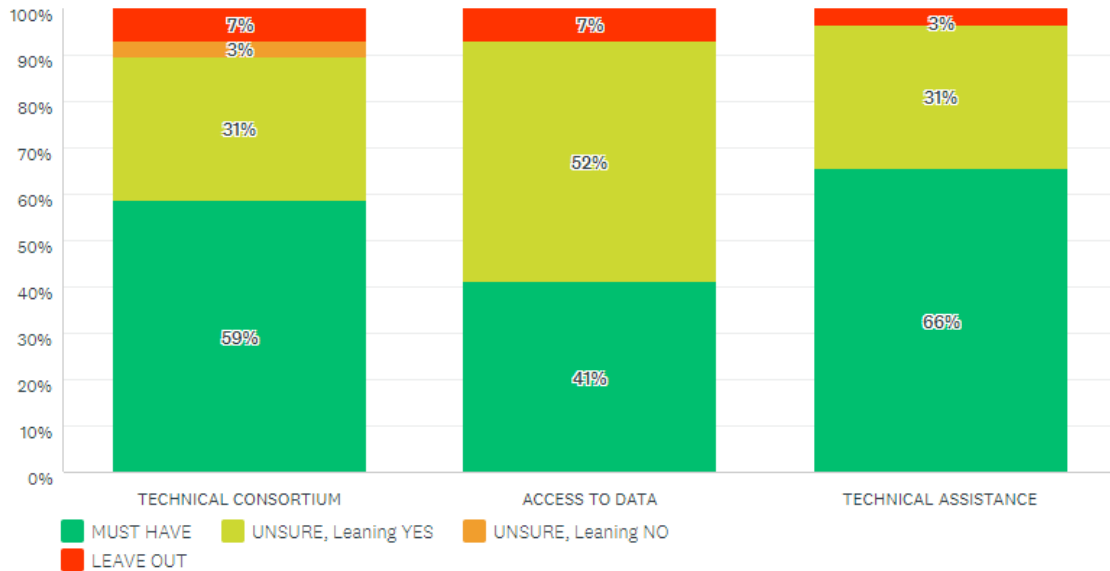


Preliminary Bay Adapt Topic Areas - for discussion

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Data, Science & Technical Support

Answered: 29 Skipped: 11

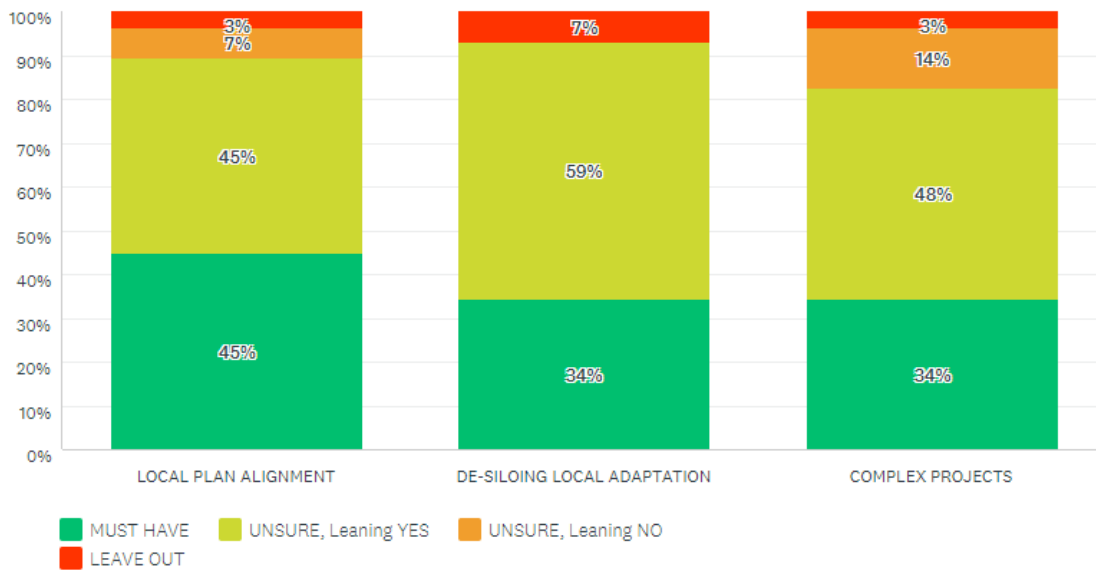


Preliminary Bay Adapt Topic Areas - for discussion

🔍 (0)

Local & Project Support

Answered: 29 Skipped: 11



Preliminary Bay Adapt Topic Areas - for discussion

🔍 (0)



Bruce Riordan (BayCAN): We recently did a ten-option survey at BayCAN with 85 participants, asking what a regional program should do, but we made participants choose their top four priorities. Most important was regional funding (advocate for and distribute funding); second, work very actively to integrate sea level rise with other planning (housing, etc.); and third engaging with and building capacity of communities and CBOs was ranked third in importance. We may need to focus on 3 or 4 things that would really move this platform and region forward. Maybe specifying a timeframe for the platform would be helpful; perhaps we focus on first on the next 3 years, which allows us to focus on the highest priority items first.

Mark Lubell (UC Davis): In terms of breadth versus depth, we have these three consortiums with action items for consideration under each. I wouldn't say that all of those should be on the platform. Can be narrower – for example, establish an EJ consortium, establish a data and technical consortium, establish a planning consortium. But for the latter, how can we knit together the existing Bay plans (Plan Bay Area, Bay Plan for BCDC, what the regional boards are doing)? Those are places where there is legislative and regulatory authority already, and in some cases funding available. If they are not coordinated around a set of principles that this type of process might be able to deliver, that's where we are at risk of generating platitudes rather than concrete actions. Maybe we need an MOU among regional agencies to coordinate the various regional plans.

Gina Bartlett (CBI): For those of you that appreciate the breadth, what about the idea of focusing and narrowing, and considering a temporal element, maybe like the next three years? How would you wrestle with that?

Therese McMillan (MTC/ABAG): I appreciate the breadth and that this is very complex. But we also need to recognize that we can't do everything at once. We've heard some thoughtful comments today. We must consider the real constraints related to COVID and economic impacts. Given our current situation, it's likely that not much money will be coming from Sacramento or Washington. We may only have existing resources available for some time. Given that, what makes sense to tackle? Phoenix and Melissa brought up the need for an EJ focus and for communities to feel front and center. We should consider leveraging the forums and places where we already have trust established, and ask: What do these communities need right now? Melissa mentioned the intersection of health and other vulnerabilities with sea level rise, etc. This can be a mechanism for establishing priorities on first actions, sequencing through a lens of constraints and opportunities.

Melissa Jones (BARHII): I like the way of figuring out a way – and maybe we can do this through the EJ Consortium – to connect to what are the concerns writ large for the communities. How can we make sure adaptation planning and sea level rise planning are wrapped around that? We can develop some safeguards to make sure the SLR planning happens, while also looking at things more holistically and making it easier for communities to engage. In the regional planning committee, we talked about the value of community partners and officials in dialogue at the same time, rather than receiving a report later – which really contributes to the officials and communities understanding each other. And the balance should be toward community partners.

Ms. Margaret Gordon (WOEIP): Until the building of the relationship with each of the vulnerable communities, there is no equity. We have not talked about the fear factor here, from the community perspective. The conversation has not been about how to build the relationships and capacity, internally



and externally to the communities, to be part of planning and decision-making. Agrees with Therese McMillan. Until those needs are addressed, those communities will not feel listened to or included. If the immediate needs are not recognized, we will have more conflict.

Alicia John-Baptiste (SPUR): To pick up on Ms. Margaret’s comment, there is not much skill or experience built into our processes for effective community engagement. We need to explicitly acknowledge that lack as a starting point for moving forward. In a resource-constrained environment, the idea that you start with what already exists and go to where the need is greatest makes a lot of sense. Realistically, given the bureaucratic process, making sure adaptation is incorporated in all the plans etc. – that is a long-term process. We need to move things in parallel, recognize that things are not going to be perfect, and that should not prevent us from taking some actions.

Will Travis (independent consultant): To pick up on the chat exchange between David Lewis and Paul Campos, I first agreed with David comments but then changed my mind to agree with Paul. I think we need to fully integrate sea level rise into housing planning, transportation planning, etc. It all needs to be in one place, as Paul thinks. And I agree with David that we need money to achieve that, and that we need to try and raise it more locally as opposed to relying on Sacramento or Washington. SLR planning needs to be done comprehensively and shouldn’t be de-prioritized in the face of recent crises.

David Lewis (Save the Bay): Plan Bay Area should certainly incorporate more consideration of sea level rise and development in areas that will be affected by it. The point that I’m making about BCDC is that it only gets involved once there is a permit application, while the Coastal Commission requires local communities to have plans independent of active development. There’s a gap there that should be rectified.

Paul Campos (Building Industry Association): I think it’s a little unfair to characterize BCDC’s actions as totally reactive and project driven. I have been involved in all the Plan Bay Area meetings from the beginning, and BCDC has been actively involved all along the way. David and I can disagree about whether our sea level rise approach in Plan Bay Area should be cautionary, involve managed retreat, etc. But I don’t think it’s true that sea level rise has been ignored – there has been ample opportunity for folks to engage with Play Bay Area on this topic.

Michael Germeraad (MTC) [in chat]: Jumping in to provide clarity on the inclusion of sea level rise into Plan Bay Area 2050...the plan currently under development has integrated sea level rise into the process and modeling. It calls out an \$18B need to protect (i) existing communities, (ii) areas slated for future growth (not too many overlap), (iii) key transportation infrastructure, and (iv) vital marsh ecosystems. Plan Bay Area is a regional plan, LOTS of local planning with communities is needed to understand what the exact strategies should be, but at a regional scale we've begun to integrate this issue area. BCDC Adapting to Rising Tides team have been vital for providing data and analysis. Again, more to do, lots of need, but also lots to build on!

Mark Lubell (UC Davis) [in chat]: The integration of SLR into Plan Bay Area is what I was talking about w.r.t to regional plans and Plan Bay Area is not the only existing regional plan. Also, Jack Liebster pointed out existing planning requirements for local government, which also originate from different authorities. If Bay Adapt comes up with a bunch of stuff, but those recommendations are not linked to those existing policy processes, they will float in policy purgatory like many other aspirational documents.



Jack Liebster (County of Marin Community Development Agency) [in chat]: Sea level rise planning cannot be effective as a single-purpose issue. Local governments have responsibility for overall General Planning, for Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, for Climate Adaptation Plans and for expanded authority assigned by the State Legislature through SB 379 specifically for incorporating adaptation into their General Plan safety elements, and infusing Environmental Justice into the core of their plans under SB 1000. These duties are growing with each Legislative session.

Gina Bartlett (CBI): As we're winding down, here are some takeaways I'm hearing:

- Narrowing in or prioritizing around community-driven planning and sequencing on shorter term needs, particularly factoring health outcomes, COVID, equity, and impacts on funding
- Rely on existing relationships or bodies where possible, but convening the EJ Consortium may be an important step if the existing structures are inadequate (and most agree they are lacking).
- Strong support for funding regional work and funding regional equity.
- Knit together plans and where possible consider reorganizing or reworking existing entities to achieve our goals.
- Differing viewpoints on mandates and regulations

Zack Wasserman (Chair, BCDC): Some comments in closing; there is an interesting [NY Times article](#) on Houston's approach on equity in adaptation that we will share. They have a very strong position on equity and vulnerable communities, although not a perfect solution.

I agree in part with Therese's comment about the likely money shortage from state or federal levels, but I think some of our efforts must be focused on generating money from those sources. Representative Jackie Speier is working on some federal funding). I think we need a concerted effort to get some form of an adaptation/sustainability bond on the 2022 ballot. We do need to recognize that our budget is constrained, but we still need to try and get hold of funds that are not self-generated regionally. As a last point, I still think one of the best models we have is the regional transportation plan, in terms of process and outcomes. There is a set of projects with recognized relationships between them, a range of funding sources, and increasingly (but not sufficiently) the social equity and environmental justice filters are being applied. That addresses breadth versus depth, and think we need both. This is going to continue evolving, going through iterations – and that is the basic pathway forward.

Gina Bartlett (CBI): Thank you Chair, and in closing, thank you for all your input – the team will take your feedback, distill it, and bring it to the working groups. From there we'll narrow the ideas down to a manageable number for the Joint Platform, and present a straw proposal for feedback at a public forum in fall (October, date TBD). We will also present to BCDC on August 20th and to the Bay Area Regional Collaborative (BARC) Governing Board on Sept. 18th - both meetings are public, and we encourage your attendance and participation.