



Memo

To: Bay Adapt Leadership Advisory Group

From: BCDC staff

Date: 6/14/21

Re: Summary of the Bay Adapt Outreach Efforts (November 2020 – June 2021)

This memo describes the Bay Adapt outreach efforts between November 2020 and June 2021. At the October 2020 Leadership Advisory Group (LAG) meeting, the LAG reviewed the first draft of the Bay Adapt Joint Platform. In response, the LAG requested that more outreach with frontline communities and other stakeholders take place to ensure that stakeholder voices were adequately captured in the Joint Platform before sharing it more broadly with a wider public. LAG members also suggested additional refinement to ensure more focus on incorporating equity throughout each of the proposed actions and to make the Joint Platform clearer and more accessible to a wider audience.

In response, BCDC staff paused the broad “outreach” blitz previously scheduled for November/December 2020, including the planned Public Forum. Instead, BCDC staff and LAG members have spent the last six months engaging a wide range of discussions, gathering feedback through various avenues. BCDC staff and LAG members:

- Met with a LAG Outreach Committee to develop a multi-partner outreach strategy.
- Held 10 focus groups with key audiences (frontline community, elected officials and local government, business, and environment) from January to March to help clarify and concretize actions.
- Conducted background presentations on Adapting to Rising Tides Bay Area and Bay Adapt primer with over 50 boards, organizations, and groups.
- Convened a LAG Joint Platform Subcommittee that met four times between January and April to refine and clarify actions.

The extensive feedback received through these discussions has shaped the revised Draft Joint Platform 2.0 presented to the LAG for discussion at its June 2021 meetings. The outreach efforts outlined in this memo include the focus group meetings and meeting notes, a summary of other outreach presentations, and a description of the role of the Joint Platform subcommittee and a list of its members.

Community and Stakeholder Focus Groups

A series of focus group meetings were held in January, February, and March to gather feedback on the Bay Adapt initiative and Joint Platform actions. The objectives of the focus groups were to discuss the draft Joint Platform with community and subject-matter experts to discern (1) if it was clear, relatable, and meaningful, (2) how it could be strengthened, and (3) if the community could support the actions



and participate in their implementation. The target audiences were frontline communities, elected officials and local governments, the civic/business community, and the environmental community.

The focus group strategy was thoughtfully developed with an Outreach Committee consisting of select LAG members and CBOs. The content for each session meant to reach the objectives outlined above, but the presentation and process was tailored to each audience to be efficient with the participants' time and to collect meaningful feedback.

Focus Group Outcomes

The focus group sessions were co-led and hosted by representatives from the Leadership Advisory Group. In total, there were ten focus group meetings diverse in subject matter and geography, with a total of about 120 participants.

Use of Community Feedback

The feedback received from the focus groups was reviewed, categorized, summarized, and organized to be incorporated into the updated actions in the Joint Platform Draft 2.0. Much of the feedback from the focus groups is represented in the revised actions. One potential next step is to re-engage with the focus groups during the next phase of outreach to ensure their feedback was captured and figure out ways to partner on next steps.

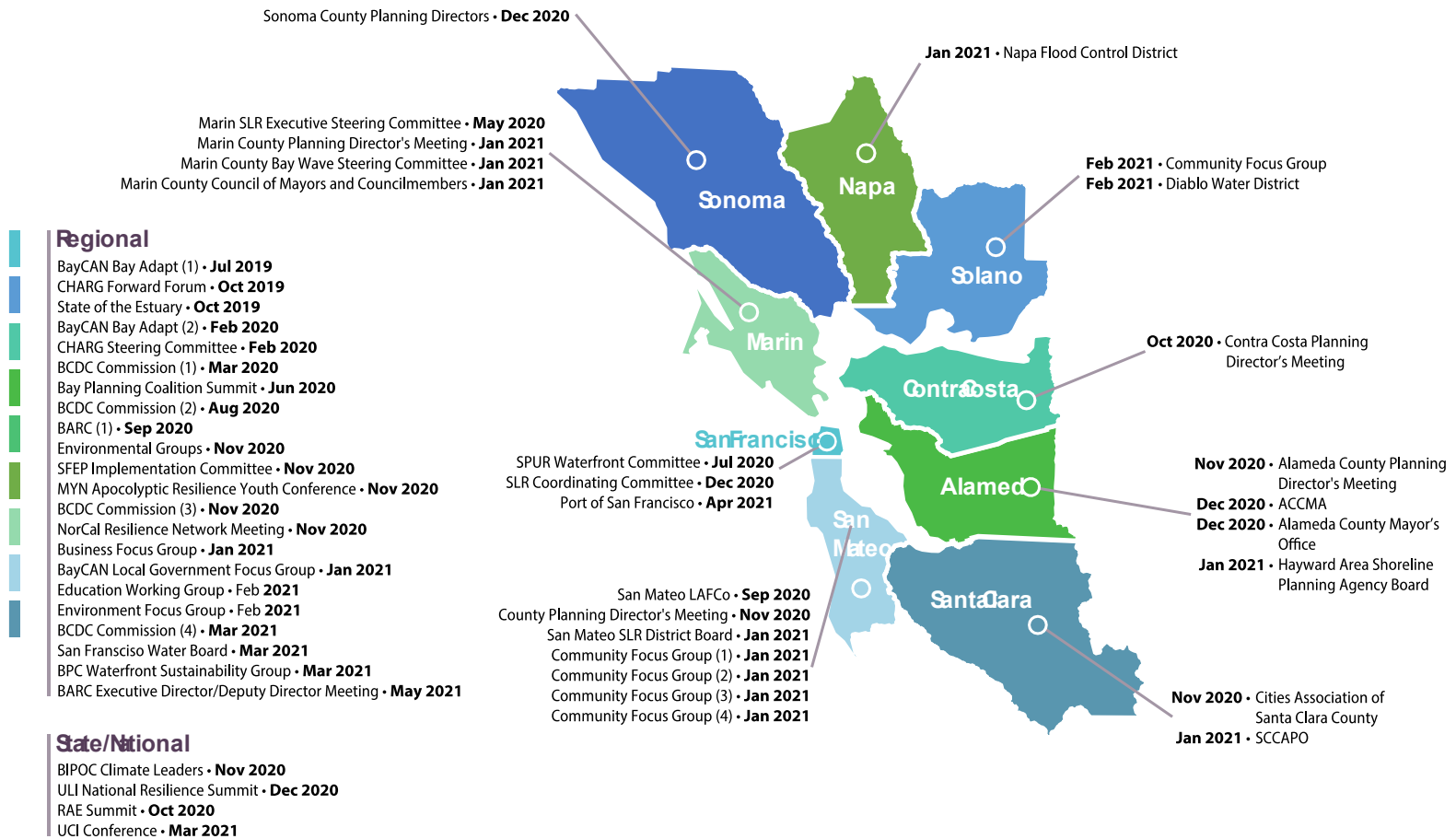
The following table describes the focus groups “Key Takeaways” The detailed meeting notes are in Appendix 1.

Target Audience	Participants	Focus Group Lead	Key Takeaways
Frontline Communities	5 Focus Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>African American Cohort (East Palo Alto (EPA))</i> • <i>Pacific Islander Cohort (EPA)</i> • <i>Latino Cohort (EPA) (held once in English and once in Spanish)</i> • <i>Vallejo Cohort</i> <p><i>(43 participants from diverse racial and geographic communities)</i></p>	Nuestra Casa, Vallejo Housing Justice Coalition, BARHII, BCDC, Water Board	Concerns Raised Among All Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong desire for more education and awareness • Would like Bay Adapt to provide leadership opportunities and local capacity building • Need to include intersectional issues—housing, transportation, food, mental health • Youth education and engagement is key • Need to connect more business and NGO partnerships, and neighbors and regional support • Need dedicated, long-term funding for capacity • Getting people to participate, interest/time can be challenging • City isn’t taking SLR seriously and issues with trust with government lead to communities not providing input • Don’t reinvent the wheel
Elected Officials/ Local Government	3 Focus Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Regionwide Electeds & Staff</i> • <i>Marin BayWAVE Steering Committee</i> • <i>San Mateo Flood & SLR Resiliency Board</i> <p><i>(39 participants including elected officials and staff from</i></p>	BayCAN, Sup. Dave Pine, Greenbelt Alliance, Water Board	The Joint Platform has the right elements, is very comprehensive, and describes a robust regional SLR program. Overall, supportive of the effort. Key concerns and suggestions for improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is not going to attract and engage elected officials or the general public — far too technical • Very vague and unclear about WHO will run all of this — Is this BCDC or someone else? • What does “collaborative structure for administering adaptation” mean (for us)? • Should have more focus on why we need to work collaboratively around the Bay

	<i>regionwide and subregion government)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make this something that cities and others will WANT to participate in • Lead with the benefits — how this will help locals and the region (funding, science, etc.) • Make it very clear how this is linked to Plan Bay Area, housing, affordability, etc. • Be more explicit about social equity <u>goals</u> — What does it look like when we get there?
Civic/Business	1 Focus Group <i>(17 participants from development, utility, insurance, and consulting companies)</i>	Bay Planning Coalition, Building Industry Association, Silicon Valley Leadership Group, Bay area Council	<p>Generally, would need to see more details to form an opinion, but:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize the need for a regional strategy • Consistent approach around the Bay would be well-received from building industry, if economically feasible • Lots of ideas around permitting • Lots of ideas on funding (i.e. Financial risk management, insurance, role of private sector) • Share early success stories and examples. How would this impact a specific site? How are other cities and regions dealing with this? • Ready to engage on legislation that brings more resources to the Bay
Environmental	1 Focus Group <i>(21 participants from various non-profit and advocacy orgs)</i>	SF Estuary Partnership, Sierra Club, BCDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevate the preservation of the ecological health of the Bay to same level as the needs of shoreline communities and infrastructure • Include protection and enhancement of biological resources in metrics that measure success towards regional goals • Prioritize natural and nature-based approaches • Protect existing resources/undeveloped shorelines with combination of bigger “sticks” and larger “carrots” • Use platform as educational opportunity to promote value of Bay ecosystems • Engage climate scientists, environmental scientists, biologists, resource agencies • Recognize environmental community as critical stakeholders and decision makers

Outreach Presentations

Throughout the Bay Adapt development process, BCDC staff and LAG members conducted extensive outreach via a “Road Show” highlighting the regional risks we face. This included over 50 virtual presentations to national, state, regional, county, cities, ports, conferences and interest groups.





Joint Platform Subcommittee

The first draft of the Joint Platform was created through an intensive, 4-month process involving nearly 100 volunteer Working Group members. To address unresolved comments from the Working Groups and LAG on the first draft, a Joint Platform Subcommittee was formed. The purpose of the Subcommittee was to strive to provide consensus-based recommendations to refine the Joint Platform, particularly focusing on the structure, readability, refinement of content, and inclusion of an equity voice.

The composition of the Joint Platform Subcommittee aimed to bring together a diverse range of perspectives. Therefore, care was taken to have at least one member representing the following voices: equity, environmental, regional, industry, local planner, regulatory, finance, analyst/research, engineering/project. The 17 Subcommittee members were:

Phoenix Armenta, *West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project*

David Behar, *City and County of San Francisco; BayCAN*

Allison Brooks, *Bay Area Regional Collaborative*

John Coleman, *Bay Planning Coalition*

Adrian Covert, *Bay Area Council*

Laura Feinstein, *SPUR*

Xavier Fernandez, *Bay Area Regional Water Quality Control Board*

Julio Garcia, *Nuestra Casa*

Michael Germeraad, *MTC/ABAG*

Vinita Goyal, *Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative*

Rachael Hartofelis, *MTC/ABAG*

Jack Liebster, *Marin County*

Jeremy Lowe, *San Francisco Estuary Institute*

Mark Lubell, *UC Davis*

Erika Powell, *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

Stuart Siegel, *San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*

Caitlin Sweeney, *San Francisco Estuary Partnership*

Between December 2020 and April 2021 BCDC convened the Subcommittee four times to provide additional review and editing support at a series of meetings.

- **Meeting #1:** Re-introduced the purpose of the Joint Platform and defined the role of the Subcommittee; debriefed on work to date and the status of the Joint Platform. Did a deep dive into major structural issues: i.e., overlaps and redundancies, dependencies, or “foundational” actions, and how well the overall Joint Platform addresses Guiding Principles and meets Bay Adapt’s purpose and goals.
- **Meeting #2:** Reviewed the reorganization and consolidation options and discussed the process for consolidation. Also, discussed big outstanding issues present in the actions.
- Between Meeting #2 and #3, Subcommittee members reviewed and edited actions in small group meetings via google docs. BCDC staff consolidated and incorporated all edits.
- **Meeting #3:** Reviewed small group edits, focusing on any items flagged for group discussion, and assessed the whole Joint Platform one last time. Discussed any additional edits or changes that remain and how to resolve them. The Subcommittee also discussed implementation and governance.



- Between Meeting #3 and Meeting #4, Subcommittee members continued to edit the new draft of the Joint Platform individually via google docs.
- **Meeting #4:** Discussed final draft of Joint Platform to finalize draft to recommend to LAG for review.

Appendix 1: Bay Adapt Focus Group Summary Notes

Community Focus Groups

Pacific Islander Nuestra Casa Focus Group (East Palo Alto) – 1/20/2021

Community concerns:

- Alarming Stats. Statistics on homes, jobs, cars was new information and the visual was “quite alarming”
- Education: We should have a community education program to bring awareness. Coming here brings me more knowledge
- We’re not ready: Concerned about the issues but there isn’t a solution, the community is not prepared for the next big flooding event
- Related issues. Health concerns, mental health issues, primary housing and unemployment. People feeling overwhelming sense of emotions and now COVID on top of it all
- Flood insurance: Already expensive, fixes on creek still not enough
- Current impacts with rain: People already impacted during rain, cars flooded during king tides, lack of drainage in the area leads to flooding issues today. Flooding pools in front yard now.
- Need to build community awareness: At certain time of year like King Tides city is especially vulnerable to flooding. Few people at this meeting but we need to build awareness around the city. Facts about flooding (e.g. number of houses) is helpful, more engagement from homeowners and schools
- Infrastructure is a current problem.

Comments about what was presented:

- Purpose and Existing Partnerships: We already have partnerships (e.g. Acterra) that do this work locally. Brings in local stakeholders, communities, and local government. Why regionally? What other communities look like EPA regionally? How can we amplify and not duplicate efforts?
- Making Information More Fun: Need to bring more people into this conversation and share information that is more interesting and visual. We need to come together and spread the word. For example, make videos and skits (music videos), challenge (e.g. trying to win \$1,000), videos, music, skits, dancing, Tik Tok, make it fun with social media.
 - Zoom is so boring. They’re gathering and receive info from fb live and others. We need to be there and bring the right information to them. Going through organizations like NC and others who are doing this line of work. Where can we add environmental justice to their program. Where Bay Adapt can start with. EPA team. Represent
- Training the Community In A Way That Is Culturally Appropriate: We need to raise awareness in the community, but we can’t take away certain priorities (like putting food on the table), but we need training for those interested and vulnerable to volunteer (like CERP). We also need people

who are linguistically trained and culturally appropriate and speaks the language (for example, SLR is not new to Pacific Islanders)

- Funding: Need funding (as stipend, or part time position or seasonal job). Not every community will need Pacific Islander, [but need someone who know the community]
- Need Action: We've done enough research, now we need to get to solutions
- Leadership Opportunities Critical: One of the questions from the beginning is from listening to these concerns, we see all the concerns, and it's about time to make a move to how we can slow it down, providing leadership opportunities for communities, I support this. Should include churches as well. That's one of the platforms that will reach a lot of people in community is through churches. We're sister pastor to our church. I've been thinking as we've been listening I'm thinking about a lot of ways to get these concerns to our church members
- Doesn't Seem Real to Many People/Other Pressing Concerns: Lot of people don't care, it hasn't happened to them. Scientists do say in 2030 they will be underwater, some people think they won't be in the area, somewhere where SLR won't be a cause of the issue.
- Need Support From Surrounding Businesses and Cities: Would love it if more surrounding cities would come together to protect our little city, Google, FB, and others moving into the area. Some of the funding should come from them.
- Using grant opportunities: Prop 68 funding is out. No one is talking about using that money to support SLR, that's what that prop is for. You can improve climate changes, but right now people are using Prop 68 funding to build new parks and football field. No one is talking about using prop 68 for this funding. Not sure if we're not reaching enough people. On FB, nobody is talking about sea level rising
- Not just about SLR, but about climate change: We're not fighting just SLR is not the only problem, we're fighting the whole thing. If we trace back to the roots, it all comes back to ... all of this is a result of climate change. It's time to make action and something we need to look at. Listening to the views and discussion tonight we need everyone to be on the same page

What more information do you need?

- Need partnerships and bring community in better: This information should be connected to local partnerships such as the CCT and Anamatani – pacific island voices of Polynesia [Polynesian diapora group].
- Why regional is we don't have local: Let's see how things are going on the ground and then do it regionally
- Concerned about duplication
- More engagement of kids: This should be taught in schools, the delivery of information is important and should be culturally appropriately. Kids need to know about inequity too. Kids know more than me. Need to utilize kids love for social media and creating creative content. Train them to be influencers, compensating them, use incentives to draw attention.

Anything unclear?

- Terms like regional and adaptation: Didn't understand it in the presentation, but Tiffany made it clear that it's about how the community comes together and swaps information, and uses advice
- Lots of moving parts, how to connect it to community

African American Nuestra Casa Focus Group (East Palo Alto) – 1/20/2021

Community concerns:

- Timing. Urgency to learn information. Concerned about timing. Are we moving fast enough? Are we educating the community fast enough? Are we doing what we can to help the community?
- Education. Desire to educate themselves and their community on SLR
- Backup Plans/Gentrification/Displacement. Are we planning a backup plan if flooding does happen? What do they do with folks who lost homes? How can residents stay in the community if they're forced out by flooding?
- Silicon Valley vs Community. How do corporate levees engage with city levees? (Facebook example gave)
 - Repercussions. Do other people's levees push water back into other places?
- Understanding. Where is everyone sending their water?
- Working with Government.
 - Their major concern is being involved in project planning.
 - Want to meet more than once and actually work with the community hand in hand. Follow through is important.
 - More details on how we plan to put the meetings into action. Get feedback after the meeting: we went and spoke to this group and this was the outcome. Now, next steps is xyz. Give the community reassurance that you're actually taking the information and implementing the ideas. That lets the community know if we are aiming too big and too small and which direction to go.
 - Pay community members for expertise.
- Communicating with Communities.
 - Regional newsletter. Is there any way to start a newsletter within the community around this topic? Give out updates on the meetings, next meeting, day, time. Give them an email where they can email any suggestions. They'd be interested in a regional newsletter and if they pertain to their city, and to coordinate with each other. A physical copy to be sent to people's homes or put in certain community locations around the city. This could be at the dentist office, clinic, Nuestra Casa's building. Reach as many members as possible. In East Palo Alto there is a large Hispanic population—need english and Spanish. Listen to visuals/big posters. Next to McDonalds and Bay Bridge is a good spot for posters. Putting out facts of how high it's going to be.
 - Use visuals. This includes flood maps and catchy things
 - Translations. Include English and Spanish, at least for East Palo Alto

- Start in schools. Kids take the information from school and bring it back home. Start in Middle and High School

Questions About What Was Presented:

- timeline of the program—what happens next?
- Is Action 3 and Action 4 education and solutions or just education?
- Will we (BCDC) be partnering with communities for solutions?
 - What is BCDC's role? Are we partnering with the communities or are we just educating?
 - How can BCDC ensure that communities remain involved when it moves to the local level? We are trying to do good community engagement, but we have no control over others

Latino Nuestra Casa Focus Group (East Palo Alto) – 1/20/2021

What stuck out

- Impacts to jobs and housing. Unaware of how bad this would affect the Bay Area, especially East Palo Alto – displacement and loss of jobs.
- Speed of rising sea level. 10 years passes by fast; we need to act now and help people so that we can generate a brighter future for their kids and grandchildren. The idea of sea level rise is scary and it's surprising it's coming so soon

Community concerns

- Funding. Concerned about having the funds, monetary funds, to support community members and their projects.
- Traffic. The “techies” moved out of the area because of the pandemic, but thinking of coming back, which would create more traffic.

Comments

- Community engagement and continuation of existing work. Liked the community engagement and involvement, and continuation of the Environmental Justice Parent Academy – education and advocacy training to develop community leaders. Excited about community involved, Community involvement, more opportunities to get youth and families involved, opportunities.
- Bringing community groups together. Liked the idea about forming a community group with all of the regions to exchange ideas and find a collective solution, designating community leaders and bringing them together to cultivate a community group that designs solutions
- Hard to know what communities can do. It's quite challenging to understand what actions the community can do to actually make a difference for the environment, like it's not really up to them what gets decided (who actually gets to make a difference?)
 - Sense of hopelessness in terms of what community can actually achieve
 - Others think that there's a ton that can be achieved and that it's just a manner of coming together and growing together to achieve change
- Support these actions but concerned about resources and funds.



How can Bay Adapt strengthen your work?

- Can be strengthened through learning more about climate change and sea level rise, environmental justice, and methods to achieve sustainability
- Environmental justice projects with participants who actually show up and participate, committed and hold each other accountable to actually showing up and doing the work

Barriers to participation

- People get tired after working long hours, need visuals, it's hard to watch presentations
- Idea: videos showing sea-level rise, informal videos, people can process videos and images better, more creative ways of sharing information, such as ice breakers or visuals or games
- Meeting space - to gather and plan

Questions About What Was Presented

- Everything made sense, just curious about what current efforts are BCDC and what bay adapt is working on right now

Vallejo Focus Group – 2/19/2021

Key community concerns:

- Strong desire for more education and awareness
- Providing leadership opportunities and local capacity building
- Need to include intersectional issues – housing, transportation, food, mental health
- Youth education and engagement is key
- Need to connect more business and NGO partnerships, and neighbors and regional support
- Need dedicated, long-term funding for capacity
- Getting people to participate, interest/time can be challenging
- City isn't taking SLR seriously, trust with government, and communities not providing input
- Don't reinvent the wheel
- We need a shared approach
- Language unclear or culturally inappropriate
- Create heat map of impacts

Detailed/Notes on Concerns Raised:

- Strong desire for more education and awareness
 - The need for greater understanding about the connections between the marsh and sea level rise, and impacts to the people who live there
- Providing leadership opportunities and local capacity building
 - Need to fund people to have conversations with members of the community in different languages (e.g. Spanish, Tagalog, etc.) to reach diverse communities

- Everyone here is a volunteer, we need funded positions for long-term capacity to hire part-time, full-time, and other staff to manage these programs
- More infrastructure is needed to engage communities, there are concerns about capacity as volunteers are already working on other intersectional issues such as police, surveillance, housing, etc. Everyone is already being pulled so thin
- Need to include intersectional issues – housing, transportation, food, mental health
 - As a person of color there are so many issues causing us harm. Where do you focus your attention? Environmental, social, mental health disparities? All the things harming us causes us a lot of stress. We have so much going on, what do we prioritize?
 - Housing, gentrification, displacement, and housing cost burdens are all high concerns
 - Indigenous people bear brunt of many issues, example is police accountability in Vallejo. Intersects with environmental justice and people of color dying from police brutality and environmental pollution
- Youth education and engagement is key
 - Concern about whether youth were involved in Bay Adapt at all so far and reason why as this is their future we are talking about with sea level rise
 - Opportunities to provide young adults with internships that can be a pipeline for their career to get involved in community building organization or government
- Need to connect more business and NGO partnerships, and neighbors and regional support
 - Recognize that Vallejo lags other Bay Area city in terms of funding, and we need to get regional support to help our small city
 - Engage residents with Mare Island development and effects of sea level rise
 - Engage the art community more
- Need dedicated, long-term funding for capacity
 - Described in bullets above: an expressed need for dedicated and long-term funding for capacity building, trainings and hiring local part or full-time staff
 - Need multi-year general fund operating grants to fund existing groups to build their capacity over time
 - Fund movement building work, which needs access to money and unrestricted money that puts the community in the center. Use existing mechanisms and frameworks
- Getting people to participate, interest/time can be challenging
 - Everyone is already stretched thin volunteering and there are so many issues to deal with, it's difficult to know where to start or what to prioritize
- City isn't taking SLR seriously, trust with government, and communities not providing input
 - Concerned the City isn't taking sea level rise seriously because they are allowing residential and other major development along the shoreline where it floods today
 - Government and communities need to set realistic expectations on what can be achieved. Need to be able to see a path toward an outcome for me to get involved
- Don't reinvent the wheel
 - Need to make sure we aren't reinventing the wheel in terms of where we are starting from and the work currently happening in communities
- We need a shared approach

- Regional/shared approach is needed to support our small city who has less funding opportunities. We see the value in a regional approach to the problem
- Language unclear or culturally inappropriate
 - Through an indigenous lens, the word “adapt” feels like “assimilate”. Reminds someone of the feeling that, “you better adapt, or you will be crushed by colonialism”.
- Create heat map of impacts
 - Suggest creating a heat map that highlights what areas have pressing needs and what issues should be prioritized in the region in some cities vs others

Elected Officials/ Local Government Focus Groups

Regionwide Local Elected Officials and Staff Focus Group - 1/29/2021

Themes that emerged during the meeting:

- Participants were generally supportive of platform content but:
 - Too much detail, and not clear enough on benefits for elected officials. In general different levels of detail will probably be needed for different audiences
 - Less emphasis on process and more on the problems we face and how the outcomes of these actions will address those problems; provide concrete examples so people understand how their community or economy would be impacted directly
 - Need to work how local vs. regional vs state organizations can best engage with the platform. Critical to convince local jurisdictions that they will gain by participating in this process.
 - Could better position Bay Adapt relative to Play Bay Area and earlier ART projects
 - Language on action 2 - “collaborative structure for administering adaptation activities” - likely to cause concern.

San Mateo SLR District Board Focus Group – 1/25/2021

Comments:

- Process seems complex, elegant, government-y, process-heavy
- Excited about showing collaboration in this process, this may help to receive federal money. We need to figure out a way to prioritize and not compete for funding.
- Individual cities trying to think about work – playbook or thought paradigm to hand to public works – here is what other cities have done that is successful – sea change Burlingame, we would love to share what’s working
- There is a combination of high-level themes and more practical near-term practical things. Could these items be grouped together? Some more thematic actions are harder to track/understand.

- The conversation is different than it would have been 2-3 yrs ago – lots has been done since CHARG came on the scene 10 yrs ago. This would have been more valuable 5 years ago, almost everyone is ahead of this process.
- Concerns about equity, East Palo Alto needs to be treated differently than Facebook in terms of resources
- Action 3 - opportunity to define environmental justice and what it looks like when we've gotten there – can this be a part of this action?
- Streamlining permits very important.
- Action 8 should be prioritized; need to instill confidence that projects will be processed in a timely manner.
- Need coordination so we know what impacts are on neighbors
- Infrastructure on coast – timing is extremely important, dedication to science, resource Hub would be very helpful

Questions:

- How do you envision integrating with ICARP? How do we get through the messiness and move forward?
- How can people/community members get involved/interact with the Bay Adapt process? What does community leadership look like?
- What is the timeline for implementation? What will deliver us to action and getting projects on the ground?
- Any plans to engage business community?
- What is the regional adaptation vision and consistency framework?
- How will these be arranged as to what needs to come first?
- How does this add value as opposed to following cities/counties? Not sure what region could be helpful on?

Marin BayWAVE Steering Committee Focus Group – 1/27/2021

What stuck out

- Numbers of housing units. How is BCDC engaged in communities putting out those development proposals?

Comments

- Incentives. Need to incentive local planning to meet joint planning efforts like PDAs
- Funding. So critical. Mentioned state funding but did not mention federal. Need to include advocacy/legislation at the federal government level
- Existing Structures. Actions very focused on structures, what existing ones can work?
- Open transparent process important. Example in Corte Madera and potential lawsuits
- Need new planning vocabulary. Still causes a lot of confusion. Having “retreat” mentioned in a “plan” implies it’s going to happen. We need a better vocabulary to talk about these things.

- Clear communication when going public. When this starts to go public it's not going to go very well. Need to effectively lay out how bad is the problem, what will it cost me. The value of your work is just becoming evident to the public at large.

Concerns

- Need to explicitly mention losses: Private property/housing value loss, public property, and infrastructure
- PCAs missing. Should be called out in this better as areas for resilience and nature-based adaptation
- Actions need to be boiled down and be less complicated. Too many actions. Important for us to focus on the priorities and strategies for engaging with land use planning entities
- Focus on audience. Create useful planning tools. Identify who the target markets/recipients for some of these steps are. City people vs communities might want different things.

Role of this committee in Bay Adapt

- Need help managing communities that will need to move.
- Support my city planners in their work on this and equity
- Could help activate and spread this information through networks (e.g. MCC)
- Share more models of good developments (e.g. BCDC projects that come in on SLR for short-term and longer-term impacts)

Business Focus Group - 1/28/2021

Themes that emerged during the session:

- Who has authority, where does it come from, and where is the funding needed to address the regional strategy? These are all going to be critical and are unaddressed in Bay Adapt. We are going to need legislation. We need to talk to committee consultants, the Bay Area Caucus, Bay Area Delegation, and legislators to understand this could mean for both legislation moving forward and how much the State and Federal government can offer us. Identifying a champion will be key to this.
- Project & Permitting
 - For BCDC permitting, is there a size of project that can be expedited? How will BCDC permitting change in the long-term? Will this change the costs of development projects?
 - It would be best to get more details implemented before BCDC gives this information to the larger business community. We are struggling to understand how this will be implemented on a project level. Perhaps BCDC can give an example of a project on the shoreline to show how it would be impacted in terms of process and costs. Until we have more details it's hard to give effective feedback.
 - We need a consistent strategy around policy and project impacts in the Bay so that we don't have 100+ jurisdictions creating their own rules and regulations. From the private

sector point of view, it's much easier to implement and participate in the strategy if they know it will be a consistent set of guidelines across the region. This makes it more economically feasible for our industry and would make the plan well received by the building industry.

- Building early success stories with key projects will be important
- Financing
 - Has BCDC engaged with the private sector? For our community, a proactive risk-based perspective is important to convey to get significant upfront investments from the private sector.
 - We need to invest in mitigation early on and create financial protection or risk transfer programs that can engage private capital sources. With these two approaches this would provide financial resilience ahead of a disaster and would reduce the risk.
 - For financing, risk-based financing (using parametric triggers), Public Private Partnerships (P3), resilience/catastrophe bonds, environmental/green bonds, and Community Financing Districts will be key.
- Science
 - What are the recent sea level rise numbers showing for the last 2 decades? Which trendline have we been on?

Environment Focus Group – 2/9/2021

Themes that emerged during the session:

- Agree there is not enough nature in the platform – the ecosystems of the Bay are worthy of preservation in their own right, leaving their role in SLR resilience aside, and they wanted to see the natural environment elevated to equal footing with transportation networks, people, etc.
- They want to see a focus on the natural environment integrated throughout all the actions; as currently framed, they think the platform is a failure – but they also think that the existing problems can be readily addressed with some reframing and tweaking of language
- The “Go Green Where Appropriate” guiding principle is too weak. Several people made suggestions for strengthening this language
- The group was very concerned about development projects that build in hard-edged protection, or might require such protection in the future. They do not want to see these kinds of projects in the expedited permitting pipeline, and they want to preserve undeveloped shoreline for marsh migration. Could consider requiring more cumulative impact analysis during the permitting process
- One of the biggest needs identified is legislation or regulatory direction that would allow council members to resist development pressure that would increase their tax base, etc. Weren't opposed to carrots necessarily, but think sticks will be needed
- Several people spoke about the need to avoid redundancy with existing data centers, other resources, and the need to tie into regional plans – with the caveat that Bay Adapt should not

assume that these regional plans are always going to be in alignment with adaptation goals (an example was given about an MTC requirement for a certain amount of housing within a half mile of ferry terminals).

- Do not like reliance on PCAs and thinks that approach does not align with their goals and priorities – but there is some interest in priority adaptation areas
- Need to make sure contractors know how to develop green projects; if people are asking for green projects and contractors know how to do them, that could be an avenue forward that does not require legislation
- Resource agencies are not in the picture and need to be partners in this work (USFWS, CDFW, NMFS etc)
- In general the environmental community felt excluded from the platform. They want to see themselves elevated as stakeholders, as CBOs and EJ communities are.