Improving the Local Coastal Plan Update Process

Webinars for Cities
June 23, 2021
Christina George
Manager, Education and Events
cgeorge@cacities.org

Staff Contacts

Derek Dolfie
Legislative Representative
ddolfie@cacities.org

Caroline Cirrincione
Policy Analyst
ccirrincione@cacities.org
1. This session is being recorded and will be shared after the webinar.

2. You will receive a copy of the slide deck following the webinar.

3. All attendees have been muted upon entry.

4. Write questions in the Q&A box.
How to Ask a Question

To write in a question, select the ‘Q&A’ button on your tool bar.

You can also “up vote” attendee questions using the thumbs up button.
Moderator

Mayor Ed Waage, Pismo Beach
Chair of the Coastal Cities Group
ewaage@pismobeach.org
Presenters

Jack Ainsworth  
Executive Director, California Coastal Commission

Madeline Cavalieri  
Coastal Program Manager, California Coastal Commission
Presenters

Eric Friedman
City of Santa Barbara

Marc Wiener
City of Laguna Beach

Melissa Hetrick
City of Santa Barbara
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AT RISK
SLR Planning Guidance for California’s Coastal Zone

Guidance Overview

Madeline Cavalieri, Statewide Planning Manager

June 23, 2021
**Purpose:** Promote resilient coastal infrastructure and protection of coastal resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This document <strong>IS:</strong></th>
<th>This document is <strong>NOT:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guidance</td>
<td>Regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dynamic</td>
<td>Static</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose for multiple audiences</td>
<td>Meant to be read cover-to-cover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A menu of options</td>
<td>A checklist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCOPE OF GUIDANCE

- Most frequently addressed in CCC and local government permitting and planning
- Planning features in common with other sectors

- Wastewater
- Stormwater
- Water Supply

- Highways
- Local Roads
- Railways

Water Infrastructure

Transportation Infrastructure
Role and purpose of infrastructure

Physical characteristics – size, jurisdiction extent, networks

Significant costs and consequences of critical infrastructure vulnerability
Analyze SLR scenarios up to and including the extreme/H++ SLR scenario

Consider phased adaptation
- Address most vulnerable assets first
- Set timeframes for current operations/policies
- Regular updates for future phases

Plan new development in safe areas

HOW INFRASTRUCTURE ADAPTATION IS DIFFERENT
“For high consequence projects with a design life beyond 2050 that have little to no adaptive capacity, would be irreversibly destroyed or significantly costly to relocate/repair, or would have considerable public health, public safety, or environmental impacts should this level of sea-level rise occur, the H++ extreme scenario should be included in planning and adaptation strategies...”
H++ SCENARIO: IMPLEMENTATION

- Conduct analysis of multiple SLR scenarios, including H++
- Decide what strategies to implement in today's design versus future adaptation phases
- Plan for adaptation to occur at appropriate future triggers to ensure infrastructure remains resilient
KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR COASTAL INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Coordinated Planning
2. Environmental Justice
3. Phased Adaptation
4. Adaptation Costs & Funding
5. Nature-based Adaptation Strategies
CASE STUDIES

Surfer’s Point Shoreline Management

Piedras Blancas Highway 1 Realignment

North Coast Corridor PWP/TREP

Morro Bay WWTP Relocation

Cardiff State Beach Living Shoreline
NEXT STEPS

Agency Review Early 2021

Draft for Public Release in Summer 2021

Public Comment Period

Commission Hearing

Webinars
THANK YOU!

https://www.coastal.ca.gov/climate/slr/
InfrastructureAdaptation@coastal.ca.gov
Components of LCP Update Program

• New Post-Certification Permit Appeal Jurisdiction Map  
  *(Certified 2017)*

• Coastal Land Use Plan Update  
  *(CCC grant funded; certified 2019)*

• Lower-Cost Overnight Accommodations Study  
  *(CCC grant funded; completed 2020)*
Components of LCP Update Program

• Sea-Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment (CCC grant funded; completed 2018)
• Sea-Level Rise Adaptation Plan (CCC grant funded; approved by Council Feb. 2021)
• Update Shoreline Hazards Map (Underway)
• Zoning Ordinance Update (Underway)
• Airport LCP Update (Underway)
Coastal Land Use Plan Update

• 6 years and over 40 meetings with CCC staff
• Major accomplishments:
  - Defined numeric habitat and creeks buffers
  - Coastal bluff policies and maps
  - Established process and regulations when buffers can not be met
  - Nonconforming development and redevelopment
Coastal Land Use Plan Update

• Interim policies addressing SLR in permitting while Adaptation Plan prepared:
  - SLR factored into erosion buffers and design
  - Larger urban flood hazard area addressed programmatically
Adaptation Plan

• Vulnerability Assessment
  - What would happen if we do nothing?
  - Considers: 0.8’ by 2030; 2.5’ by 2060, 6.6’ by 2100; and H++

• Adaptation Plan
  - Provides framework for future planning
  - Includes guiding principles for prioritization of actions
  - Analyzes adaptation options (protect, accommodate, retreat)
  - Considers economic and fiscal impacts
Phased Approach

- Based on monitoring of conditions and trigger-based actions when thresholds are reached
  - Recommends and prioritizes specific near-term (ten-year) actions
  - Proposes structure for decision making in mid- and long-term

- Five-year Implementation Plan
  - Would further prioritize near-term actions and identify costs, funding, timelines, and required resources

- Shoreline Monitoring Program

- Re-evaluation every five to ten years
LCP Amendment Lessons Learned

- Every LCP Amendment takes a lot of effort.
- Make a big push with regular meetings
- Document decisions
- Start with definitions (substantial redevelopment) and non-conforming development
- Don’t try to take on every issue.
LCP Amendment Lessons Learned

- Many issues better addressed programmatically
- Limit strict regulations to only the areas where they are needed most
  - Key public access parking areas
  - Shoreline and creek hazard areas
- When negotiations stall go back to Coastal Act
- Policies must take into account property takings
SLR Lessons Learned

• Phased implementation is crucial
  - Focus on achievable near-term actions
  - Design life of structures is no longer 75 or 100 years.
• Flood areas need to be addressed programmatically
• Property rights and takings are key considerations
• Interdepartmental Team and Subcommittee crucial
• Regional shoreline monitoring needed
Contact:
Eric Friedman
Councilmember
City of Santa Barbara
EFriedman@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

Melissa Hetrick
Community Development Department
City of Santa Barbara
MHetrick@SantaBarbaraCA.gov
Laguna Beach:

- City Size = 8.8 square miles
- Population = 23,000 residents
- Miles of Coastline = 7
- Majority in Coastal Zone
- LCP Certified January 13, 1993
CDP Process

- Defining types of repair and maintenance activities that are exempt from requiring a CDP
- Created an exemption process
- Established an administrative CDP process
- Clarified the CDP appeal process
Short-Term Lodging Certified

- Created a program that prohibits in residential districts
- Permitted in commercial districts closer to coast
- Limitations that protect long-term housing stock
Parking Regulations

• Innovative parking solutions
  • Offsite valet parking
  • Shuttle service

• Outdoor seating parking credits

• In-lieu payments when parking cannot be met
Downtown Specific Plan/Historic Preservation

DSP
• Establishes new business permitting standards
• Blended rate parking standards in the Downtown

Historic Preservation
• Added incentives to be on the Historic Register
• Program is primarily voluntary unless required by CEQA
Blufftop/Major Remodel

• Establishes standards for property improvement adjacent to the bluff edge.
• Performed a study of the shoreline indicating that it is generally stable and erosion rates are slow.
• Greater flexibility for property improvements
• Major Remodel – Establish separate threshold for properties in more erosion prone areas.
Marc Wiener,
Community Development Director
mwiener@lagunabeachcity.net
(949)497-0361
Questions?
How to Ask a Question

To write in a question, select the ‘Q&A’ button on your tool bar.

You can also “up vote” attendee questions using the thumbs up tool button.
Final Thoughts