



Association of Bay Area Governments
Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Bay Conservation and Development Commission
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

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JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE — REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM

Date: March 7, 2013

To: Joint Policy Committee

From: Bruce Riordan
Climate Consultant

Subject: **DRAFT Summary: Findings & Recommendations from Kresge/JPC Project**

At the March 15th meeting, we will brief you on the DRAFT findings and recommendations from the Bay Area Climate & Energy Resilience Project. This memo gives a headline-view summary of the key findings. The complete reports, with a rich level of information, can be viewed and downloaded at: <http://www.abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/projects.html>.

Project Framing:

- All impacts on Bay Area—including sea level rise, extreme storms, water & energy disruptions/shortages, heat waves, ocean acidification, and distant events that will affect food/energy prices, business supply chains, etc.
- Near-term, mid-term, and long-term effects (not just 2100)
- Focused on Bay Area adaptation but directly linked to GHG reduction

Activities:

- 4 independent papers (sub-consultants) on key issues and next-step “roadmaps”
 - Social equity and community engagement
 - Multi-jurisdictional, multi-sector governance
 - Getting the right science information to decision-makers
 - Win-Win strategies (Adaptation and GHG reduction)
- Interviews/group discussions (JPC Consultant) with 100+ stakeholders
 - What does your organization need to move forward in 2013?
 - How can we best work together to accelerate planning in 2013?
 - What projects are you conducting?

Top-line Recommendations:

1. Stakeholder Interviews (Bruce Riordan, JPC)

Near-Universal Needs Expressed by Stakeholders:

- A. Bay Area Campaign: Make the Case for Climate Adaptation Work Now
- B. New Resources/Efficient Use of Existing Resources for Local/Regional Planning

- C. Better Information on Climate Impacts and Guidance on How to Use It.
- D. Information on Bay Area Projects, Programs and Major Initiatives

Stakeholder Requests: 11+1 Strategies to Accelerate Progress

- A. Create A Bay Area Planning Process
- B. Help Cities/Counties Plan and Convene Local Working Groups
- C. Work Smarter with State Government
- D. Focus on Vulnerable Communities
- E. Secure Resources for the Public Health Sector
- F. Integrate Climate Adaptation with Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness
- G. Make Nature-Based Solutions an Integral Part of the Bay Area Approach
- H. Focus on Extreme Events
- I. Work Together on 21st Century Regulatory Reform
- J. Create Center for Work on Proposed Mega-Strategies
- K. Reward Innovation
- L. Link Adaptation with GHG Reduction and Carbon Sequestration

2. Independent Investigations of Top Adaptation Issues

Community Engagement and Equity (Kirsten Schwind, Bay Localize)

- A. Partner with organizations in vulnerable communities from the very beginning (process design), include organizations in leadership roles (with funding support), and continue partnerships through all steps.
- B. Include economic impacts on low-income households as a major adaptation issue, especially rising costs of food, water and basic needs.
- C. Identify and invest in existing community resilience, including connecting job seekers with these activities

Multi-Jurisdictional, Multi-Sector Governance (Steve Weissman, Berkeley Law)

- A. Conduct deeper research to answer specific questions
 - Authority: Existing, gaps, needed, forms
 - Collaboration: Roles, local-best vs. multi-jurisdictional required, carrots/sticks
- B. Hold leader discussions on needs for multi-jurisdictional governance
- C. Conduct Bay Area climate impacts simulation exercise to ID governance issues
- D. Continue learning from other major adaptation efforts—NYC, CHI, LA, SD, etc.

Getting Information to Decision-Makers (Andrew Gunther, BAECCC)

- A. Support science/info user partnerships to identify data products — focus on specific info needs for general plans, SCS, hazard plans, etc.
- B. Facilitate the development of a Bay Area Climate Monitoring Network
- C. Coordinate downscaled projections for local and regional planners
- D. Create Bay Area scenarios based on projections and monitoring data
- E. Create demo projects to test and learn from innovative “climate smart” solutions, especially nature-based approaches (start with “resilient shorelines”)

Win-Win Strategies for the Bay Area (Laura Sasso, Climate Corps Bay Area)

A. Focus on 10 promising strategies in four categories

- Integrated Development: Cooling Communities (urban heat islands); PDAs and PCAs; Integrated New Building and Development Design
- Energy Infrastructure: Local Renewable Power and Intelligent Grid; Community Choice Aggregation; Energy Efficiency for Existing Buildings
- Water Management: Wetland Systems as Infrastructure; Low-Impact Development/Stormwater Management: Water Conservation and Efficiency
- Community Resilience: Local Food Supply Chains

B. Develop projects for each Bay Area sub-region based on:

- Top local impacts (e.g. sea level rise, storms, heat, water shortages, prices)
- 10-point evaluation framework (e.g. builds economic resilience, increases social equity, reduces GHGs, scalability, potential partners)