

Adapting to Rising Tides



The **Adapting to Rising Tides (ART)** assessment of vulnerability and risk of San Francisco Bay Area shoreline and community resources to sea level rise and storm events has revealed a number of overarching vulnerabilities. These fall into five themes: population characteristics, certain land uses, emergency preparedness and response, information gaps and networked infrastructure.

Certain Land Uses

Certain types of land uses are particularly difficult to protect, evacuate, or rebuild because of the functions they serve. Land uses that are most vulnerable to sea level rise and storm events include:

- Elder care, long-term care, skilled nursing facilities
- Hospitals
- Residential development of all kinds
- Schools and childcare facilities
- Animal shelters, farms, zoos

Most plans, policies and practices that guide land use and capital investments do not consider sea level rise or storm events, and many existing shoreline communities were built in a manner that makes them difficult to protect from future floods.

Without significant changes in planning and development practices at the local, regional, state and federal levels, growth in the region will follow existing approaches that do not address future flooding due to sea level rise and storms, putting even more people at risk.



Example Adaptation Actions

Create and implement a framework that agencies, organizations, the private sector, and community partners can use to engage in **open, transparent and well-publicized climate planning and decision-making.**

Evaluate the consequences of siting certain land uses (schools, hospitals, childcare facilities, animal shelters, and residential development) **in areas at risk, and identify specific siting, design and construction methods** needed to increase their resilience.

Develop and implement a community outreach process to **educate a broad audience on the risks, costs, and benefits of hazard mitigation versus avoidance.**

