

# Adapting to Rising Tides



**CONTRA COSTA ADAPTING TO RISING TIDES PROJECT  
WORKING GROUP MEETING NOTES  
March 23, 2015**

Department of Conservation and Development  
Zoning Administrator (ZA) Meeting Room  
30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

## **MEETING OBJECTIVES**

- Introduce the Contra Costa ART Project
- Confirm project scope, schedule, objectives
- Develop project resilience goals

## **AGENDA**

### **Welcome – Supervisor John Gioia**

Supervisor Gioia kicked off the meeting by welcoming the working group members in attendance from local, regional and state agencies, non-profits and the private sector. He reflected on the value of collaboration among a broad cross-section of Contra Costa County agencies, organizations and businesses in this adaptation planning effort: “One city, one county cannot handle this alone. Collaboration is an underpinning of this effort.”

### **Meeting Objectives and Introduction to the ART Program – Lindy Lowe, ART Program Manager**

Refer to the meeting presentation slides download (pdf) for Lindy’s introduction to the ART Program.

Discussion questions:

1. *Will agencies be able to use work developed in this project for CEQA analyses (e.g., SLR)?*  
A lot of the info needed for CEQA for SLR can be pulled from ART info. In conducting an assessment, ART collects detailed information about assets and sectors to fully understand dimensions of vulnerability, and build the case for adaptation actions. Though ART/BCDC would not be the lead on CEQA analysis for CCC this detailed information will be very helpful material as background.
2. *How did Alameda County ART project funding tie into/relate to Rockefeller funding that cities in Alameda County have (Oakland and Berkeley)?*  
Berkeley was not in ART project area, but Oakland was. Oakland got funding from Rockefeller after the Alameda ART project. The ART project actually inspired Oakland city staff to seek out funding such as Rockefeller. ART has been coordinating with Victoria Salinas (Oakland Chief Resilience Officer) who has been spearheading these efforts.
3. *Is, or has there been, a schools role or connection with ART?*  
A couple of efforts with which ART has been engaged have an education/outreach component. Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD) is doing a lot of education and outreach on SLR issues using ART materials. This is not in the classroom, but at the Hayward Interpretive Center where schools come for programs. Additionally, Marin County is piloting a program integrating a study on King Tides into school curriculum. (Marina Psaros is contact for this Marin effort).

**Presentation/ Discussion –Contra Costa ART Project – Wendy Goodfriend, Contra Costa ART Project Manager**

Refer to the meeting presentation slides download (pdf) for Wendy’s overview of the project.

Discussion questions:

1. *Certain key players are not in room (e.g., some cities and Union Pacific Railroad (UPR)). How does the ART Program plan to get them involved?*

All cities in the project area (i.e., on the Contra Costa County shoreline) have been invited, but many did not have staff resources available to send someone to this meeting. ART staff will reach out to see how to get them involved. For the ART project in Alameda County, eventually all of the cities did participate actively, and we want to have that here as well. With respect to UPR, ART has been working many years to get them to table. Staff is working with MTC and Shirley Qian from Capitol Corridor JPA in ongoing efforts to help make this happen.

**Poster Session – ART Program Team**

ART team members presented and heard feedback from working group members about the assets that will be addressed in the project, as well as the sea level rise and storm impacts and scenarios and approach to the shoreline mapping and analysis for the project. Refer to the poster download (pdf).

**Exercise – Functions and Values Mapping / Resilience Goal Setting – ART Program Team**

On a large map of the project area, working group members identified functions and values in the project (e.g., people where they live, work and recreate, commuter movement, goods movement, habitat, water quality, etc.) and explored how these overlapping and varied functions form the basis for shared resilience goals. Building from the mapping exercise, working group members then identified specific functions and values that should be considered in each step of the project— that reflect their agencies’ and organizations’ missions and goals. The ART team will use this list to develop draft resilience goals for the project that will be shared with the working group .

**Wrap Up and Next Steps – Wendy Goodfriend, Contra Costa ART Project Manager**

Following on this first meeting, the ART team will be drafting the resilience goals, reaching out to additional stakeholders identified by the working group to engage them in the project, and completing the collection of assessment information and QC’ing this information with working group members. Staff expects to wrap up this assessment work in late May/early June.

In the meantime, the ART staff is available to work with working group members who want assistance with communications materials and/or presenting about ART to their stakeholders or colleagues. Contact Wendy Goodfriend for more information: [wendy.goodfriend@bccdc.ca.gov](mailto:wendy.goodfriend@bccdc.ca.gov).