

## **Contra Costa County ART Project Meeting #5**

The goal of this meeting is to shift from the Define into the Plan step (see ART Approach webpage for more info on ART planning process at [www.adaptingtorisingtides.org](http://www.adaptingtorisingtides.org)). To do this, we will be reviewing and confirming the key planning issues and then start to brainstorm adaptation responses.

### **Questions about ART Program Updates**

What is CHARG: Collaborative planning primarily among flood control agencies working on adaptation options for flooding. Unique from other regional efforts in that it is action-focused as opposed focusing on long-range planning, and has participation at fed and state level (e.g., FEMA)

*For communities looking to get involved, how best to be involved (especially when organizations need to prioritize their time)?*

Answers:

- If you are participating in Policies for Rising Bay – know that info/input is being pulled into Commissioner workshops, ART projects, and BARC.
- Prioritize participation wherever activity is taking place at the local, more focus scale. And participate in Commission Workshops.
- Ask us to come to you.

Comment from Paloma Pavel, Breakthrough Communities: Resilient Communities Initiative is having a workshop on how agencies can communicate with communities more effectively (June 7). Following this with series of topical workshops. Please consider yourselves invited and encouraged to come!

### **Questions about Communications:**

*Establishing goals for communication is difficult politically. Would assume that findings from this assessment would affect mitigation choices/options. Has ART prioritized high vulnerabilities so you can ID key stakeholders to engaged?*

Answer: Yes, and we are going to talk about this today. Can already say that Caltrans, rail, EBRPD and Bay Trail need to be part of most of the conversations.

*Education and outreach to the business community, has there been direct engagement?*

Answer: In Hayward we engaged the Chamber of Commerce to learn about what the business community relies on. In Contra Costa we have a better sense of these dependencies, and we have done some direct outreach to some of bigger refineries, industries. But haven't done outreach to smaller or more widespread industries.

*We need to talk to community residents (community groups, municipal advisory councils, neighborhood groups) prior to hammering out solutions.*

Answer: Yes, as we move into looking at adaptation responses that is a good time to involve working group member stakeholders, decision makers, and the public. This is something we will do with the working group members.

*The county is doing County-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan update (City of Richmond is participating). The Sheriff's office taking lead, but county is involved. Good to combine ART and this effort as well as other plan updates (e.g., stormwater plans update for compliance with NPDES).*

Answer: Yes, early on flooding response is about hazard mitigation response and then building from that to adapt to changing conditions. BCDC ART team and ABAG have been working together to support the region's LHMP updates and had the intention of bringing the assessment outcomes and adaptation responses into the county HMP update.

#### Proposed Communications Committee

- Meet in person and via phone
- Notes will be shared with working group
- Purpose will be to discuss and make recommendations for how to make the Contra Costa project relevant to each community, agency, and audiences
- Determine what support ART can provide to support the working group and others in communicating the project findings (assessment and adaptation responses)
- ART will keep communicating with the working group about how we are communicating with Federal, State and Regional agencies/levels.
- Volunteers:
  - Paloma is willing to participate and wants to engage most with communities most impacts in disadvantaged communities, and BTC can help with identifying and connecting with these
  - Michael Kent, CCHS
  - Anne O , East Bay Economic Development Alliance
  - Adam Lenz, City of Richmond
  - Holly Smyth, Hercules

#### **Update on the Contra Costa Assessment**

People Analysis includes number of people and housing units exposed, will include demographics in the next stage.

- *Definition of "exposed"*: If you are in this zone and census block you are captured in this. It is a ground exposure level analysis but not a home-by-home analysis. The hazards included were the FEMA Floodplain (100-year) and 6 feet sea level rise.

- *Is riverine study part of floodplain analysis?* For floodplain we used new FEMA special hazard flood zones (adopted in September 2015) produced with new coastal flooding study combined with older riverine studies.
- *Are new updates coming for riverine studies?* Not for this study area.
- *Are households parcels?* No, they are households – so if apartment complex, each household is counted.

### **AECOM Shoreline Maps and Technical Report**

- *What does “normalized shoreline” mean?* Normalized shoreline is the elevation of the shoreline relative to mean high or high water. (Vertical elevation).
- We have sharable geodatabase – talk to us if you are interested in getting the data.
- Definitions are at the start of the map book!!
- The ART Contra Costa maps show 77” because this represents 3 feet of SLR plus the 100-year extreme high tide that is relevant to the study area.
- Remember: For the land use data based on the county assessor’s data, only parcels that are exposed are shown (e.g., in color). Had to make this call, because showing all of the parcel boundaries was too intense/difficult to read. (We have all of the underlying parcel data).
- *What about east CCC?* There is no high quality inundation or shoreline data available for East County. It is a priority to work with FEMA, MTC, the County and others on getting accurate mapping for east county which will require funding.
- *Do maps consider grade of parcels, elevations, and existing protections in place?* Yes. The maps are based on 1m digital elevation model (DEM). Also have very detailed shoreline delineation by SFEI that was groundtruthed and we have other high res data from Paul Detjens, County Flood Control. And, we mapped elevations that are occurring today and groundtruthed these with folks who know conditions on the ground.
- *Is CalAdapt going to be updated with each CCC data when it is updated?* No: CalAdapt current has two inundation maps/SLR maps: (1) Old 2009 inundation maps (include east CCC), based on old topo data and outdated. (2) Our Coast Our Future data for east CCC. NOAA SLR Viewer is not on CalAdapt yet but will be soon. CalAdapt is a statewide tool so local mapping is not included.
- *In communicating these maps with colleagues we will get some fairly in-depth questions about data sources and review and whether these are trusted sources. One idea is bringing together folks who know the science to help answer questions in series of small group meetings with.* This is a great idea. The ART team can come to any meetings or workshops. If needed, we will ask the Coastal Engineering team to join us.
- *Are hazardous/contaminated sites mapped (e.g. Superfund)?* Yes! Using publically available data from the US EPA and CA DTSC. There are some issues with this data (sometimes it doesn’t align perfectly to the location of the facility or property).