Planning and Practitioner Workshop Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP) July 23, 2024 | Meeting Summary

RSAP Planning and Practitioner Workshop in Brief

BCDC hosted a Planning and Practitioner Workshop to engage local city and county planners and practitioners in the development of the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP). The RSAP is an implementing project of the <u>Bay Adapt Joint Platform</u>, that is serving to meet BCDC's requirements within <u>SB 272 Sea Level Rise: Planning and Adaptation</u>, and is funded by the Ocean Protection Council and State Coastal Conservancy.

The RSAP includes a region-wide vision for the future Bay shoreline known as One Bay Vision, Strategic Regional Priorities that must be prioritized in local planning efforts, and guidelines and standards for local governments to utilize in the development of their own localized plans. BCDC is currently in the progress of developing the RSAP. Registrants received an early draft of the RSAP and were encouraged to review the document prior to attending the workshop. Registrants had the opportunity to provide written feedback to BCDC staff following the workshop.

The workshop began with opening remarks by Dana Brechwald, Assistant Planning Director for Climate Adaptation at BCDC, who welcomed participants and thanked them for attending the three-hour workshop. This was followed by brief presentations by BCDC staff introducing BCDC's role in regional sea level rise adaptation planning, requirements for BCDC and local jurisdictions as outlined in SB 272, and the purpose of the RSAP.

After the introductory presentations, participants broke into small groups and were able to join two out of four sessions covering different aspects of the RSAP. Each 30-minute session included brief presentations by a BCDC staff or consultant lead, with time for participants to ask questions and/or offer recommendations or suggestions on content for the next draft. Following the first two rounds of sessions, participants then choose one of three final sessions on topics related to supporting local implementation of the RSAP.

BCDC staff will use the comments and notes from this Planning and Practitioner Workshop to inform the next iteration of the RSAP. The next draft of the RSAP is anticipated to be released for a 30-day Public Comment Period in September 2024. BCDC staff will be presenting to BCDC's Commission at multiple meetings over the fall and winter 2024.

Goals for the Planning and Practitioner Workshop

The purpose of hosting a Planning and Practitioner Workshop on the RSAP was to ensure that local planners from every city and county touching the San Francisco Bay had the opportunity to learn about and participate in the development of the RSAP. The workshop included three key goals and outcomes:

- 1. Introduce BCDC's Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP) and SB 272,
- 2. Provide opportunities for comments, questions, and discussions about the current approach in the RSAP draft, and
- 3. Learn how BCDC staff can improve the RSAP draft in the next iteration to be most actionable and effective for local jurisdictions.

Workshop Agenda

Main Presentation Slide Deck here

9:00amWelcome, Workshop Overview, and Viewing of the RSAP video: "<u>The Bay</u> <u>Area: Our Region's Challenges and Opportunities with Sea Level Rise</u>"

9:25pm Introduction to BCDC, the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP), and SB 272 Presentation by Dana Brechwald, Assistant Planning Director for Climate Adaptation, BCDC.

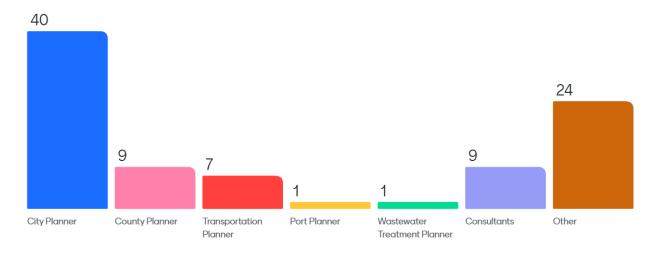
9:35am Overview of the Current RSAP and Draft Requirements Presentation by Jaclyn Perrin-Martinez, Senior Climate Adaptation Planner, BCDC.

- 10:00am Thematic Discussions on the RSAP Draft: Breakout Groups Round 1 Participants can choose to attend one of the four sessions for a 30-minute deeper dive discussion into key aspects of the RSAP. Presentations and notes from all sessions will be available following the meeting. The sessions include:
 - <u>A. Local Planning</u>: Multi-Jurisdictional Planning and Plan Integration
 - B. Meaningful Engagement: Equity Assessment and Outreach in Planning
 - C. Vulnerability Assessment: Flood Hazards and Minimum Standards
 - D. Adaptation Strategies: Land Use and Adaptation Strategy Standards
- **10:30pm** Short Break
- **10:40pm** Thematic Discussions on the RSAP Draft: Breakout Groups Round 2 Participants will choose a second session (A-D) to attend.
- 11:10pm Supporting Local Implementation of the RSAP: Break Groups Round 3 Participants will select one of three technical and policy assistance discussion groups for a 30-minute discussion.
 - D. Mapping Needs: Developing an RSAP Mapping Platform
 - E. Technical and Policy Assistance: Shaping BCDC's Future Program
 - F. Funding Plans and Projects: Learn about State Funding Available

11:20pm Wrap Up and Next Steps

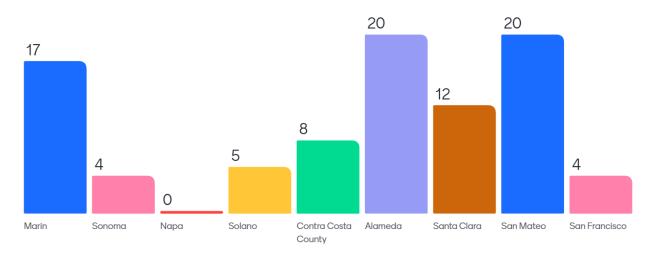
Who joined us at the meeting?

Approximately 104 attendees joined the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan Planning and Practitioner Workshop. At the beginning of the meeting, participants were asked a series of questions, including how they would describe themselves, where they work in the region, how familiar they are with the RSAP and SB 272, and what they were hoping to get out of the meeting.



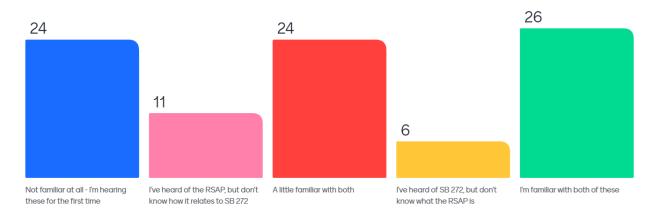
How would you describe yourself?

What county do you work in?



Participants at the workshop included practitioners from eight counties within the nine-county Bay Area, and consisted of a range of planners at cities, counties, the transportation sector, and a port and wastewater treatment plant planner. Other participants included individuals from city and county departments including public works, sustainability, flood control, community development, and academia.

How familiar are you with the RSAP or SB 272?



Attendees had a range of reasons for their familiarity with the RSAP and SB 272. The spread from "not familiar at all" to "I'm familiar with both of these" and the range in between was fairly consistent. Slightly more participants were more familiar with the RSAP than SB 272.

What are you hoping to get out of today's workshop?



The top priority for participants was to learn more about RSAP and SB 272, though many were also interested in providing and asking clarifying questions about the RSAP draft.

Introduction to BCDC, the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP), and Senate Bill (SB) 272

The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) is a California state agency with regulatory and planning functions in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. Since BCDC updated the San Francisco Bay Plan to include Climate Change Policies in 2010, the agency has taken an increasingly active role in supporting the region to prepare for sea level

rise and related coastal flood hazards. This includes research and studies conducted by the Adapting to Rising Tides program and Bay Adapt initiative.

In 2023, the California State Legislature passed SB 272: Sea level rise: planning and implementation (Laird). This bill mandates that local governments within BCDC's jurisdiction develop a "subregional San Francisco Bay shoreline resiliency plan" that is subject to approval by BCDC. It further names BCDC as the lead agency responsible for developing guidelines that the plans must follow. BCDC is required to complete these guidelines by December 2024, and for local jurisdictions to complete their subregional shoreline resiliency plans by January 2023.

BCDC staff have been working to develop the guidelines as part of the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP), which serves as our vehicle for implementing SB 272. The Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP) is a region-wide plan for the Bay shoreline that guides the creation of coordinated, locally planned sea level rise adaptation actions that work together to achieve a regional One Bay Vision. The RSAP includes a vision for the future Bay shoreline, Strategic Regional Priorities that must be prioritized locally, and guidelines and standards for local governments as they develop their own plans as part of a regional solution to rising sea levels. The project has been supported to date by a large and diverse Advisory Group, including planning practitioners, coastal engineers, equity partners, environmental and business advocates and more. Please see below questions and responses that occurred during this portion of the presentation.

- Q: Currently the Our Coast Our Future (OCOF) model shows some confusing water surface elevation discrepancies in the upper reaches of tidal inlets/sloughs. Will updated mapping use different tools than OCOF? For jurisdictions that have developed their own sea level rise flood maps, will BCDC require usage of other mapping tools?
 - A: We have produced some of our tools for you to use with the RSAP Mapping Platform. We will get into this more in the RSAP Mapping Platform breakout room.
 - A: BCDC will be providing regional hazard data for use by local jurisdictions if they don't have locally refined data. This includes Sea Level Rise/Extreme Tide data from BCDC's Adapting To Rising Tides program as well as OCOF shallow groundwater rise maps. If local jurisdictions have locally refined data for the hazards we are requiring to be addressed in their plans, we encourage those to be used.
- Q: Are county flood control/management agencies integrated into the process?
 - A: These agencies are able to be partners on the plans and should coordinate in the creation of plans with the City/County they are located in.
- Q: Confirming the local plans are to be developed by 2034? So jurisdictions have 10 years to develop them.
 - A: Yes, that's true, but there are some incentives for the plans to be submitted before that, as approved plans will be prioritized for state funding.
- Q: Is there any communication between BCDC and San Francisco Bay Regional Coastal Hazards Adaptation Resiliency Group (CHARG)?
 - A: Yes, we coordinate with CHARG often.
- Q: We recently (Nov 2023) had done a sea level rise vulnerability assessment for the city. Do we need to have another sea level rise assessment again in the near future?
 - A: It depends. Our plan guidelines do have minimum requirements that will have to be met, but we want to avoid folks repeating work as much as possible.

Orientation to the Current Draft of the RSAP

BCDC staff introduced the outline of the current draft of the RSAP. These main chapters included the following: Introduction, One Bay Vision for Regional Adaptation, Developing Subregional Shoreline Adaptation Plans, Plan Guidelines, Complete Plan Submittal Checklist, Minimum Standards, Resources, and Glossary. The presentation highlighted key content in each of these sections to orient participants to the current draft. The presentation also provided a brief introduction to the RSAP Online Mapping Platform, a tool in development by BCDC to support local jurisdictions in accessing data and information related to the guidelines.

Please see below questions and responses during this portion of the presentation.

Questions (Q), Answers (A) and Comments (C) from this session included:

- Q: How do we get inland people to care about this process? If we have to raise billions of dollars, folks inland of the shoreline are definitely integrated.
 - A: We set out guidelines, but we hope that our technical assistance will help locals facilitate those jurisdictions. Within the document, we have minimum assets like transportation and emergency services that would extend to inland of the shoreline.
- Q: Much of the vulnerability assessment data exists along a lot of the shoreline. Is it possible to have a regional plan developed by BCDC with local input for more detail where it exists? Could the technical assistance be used to help integrate the local input?
 - A: The RSAP really is the broader regional plan. Our role is not to do jurisdictions' work locally, but there is support we can provide with the mapping platform, and we hope to build it out more in the future.
- Q: Out of curiosity, could you clarify how/whether these efforts are coordinated with regional transit agencies as well (e.g., BART, Caltrain, etc.)?
 - A: We do have an advisory group where we have been engaging those folks.
- Q: There seems to be some overlap between SB 272 and SB 1425 that requires local open space plans to be completed by Jan 1, 2026, and include elements of climate resilience. Were requirements of SB 1425 looked at when developing RSAP?
 - A: I am not familiar with SB 1425, but we will look into it.
- Q: Similar to the previous comment overlap with SB 379. Has BCDC reviewed SB 379 requirements and OPR guidance (incorporating climate adaptation and resiliency strategies into local safety elements) and identified key differences or conflicts in the guidance/standards that locals may need to consider?
 - A: We have reviewed SB 379, yes, and we hope to encourage folks to integrate this work with past or current planning efforts.

Breakouts Rounds 1 & 2: Thematic Discussions on the RSAP

Participants had the opportunity to select two out of four breakout rooms to engage in discussions with BCDC staff on specific areas of the RSAP project. In the sections below, there is a description of the content covered in each of the five breakout rooms, a link to the presentation, and a summary of the questions, answers, and comments from each room. Please note that the responses below have been edited for clarity. In instances where participant's questions were not answered during the meeting, BCDC staff responses are available below.



Session A. Local Planning: Multi-Jurisdictional Planning and Plan Integration

Breakout Room Presentation: <u>A. Local Planning</u>: Multi-Jurisdictional Planning and Plan Integration The purpose of this breakout room was to discuss the roles of local governments in developing local adaptation plans, review and discuss the suggested planning process for developing local adaptation plans, and discuss how these local adaptation plans can integrate into existing local plans. The presentation discussed who is required to do a plan, options for single jurisdiction and multi-jurisdiction plans, submitting and updating plans, and resources available for help with the planning process. The presentation also went through Element A: Planning Process, and posed the question of how existing plans can provide content and alignment with plan updates and timelines.

- Q: Are minor updates required every five years after plan adaptation?
 - A: Yes, minor updates will be required after five years and major updates after 10 years.
- Q: If a jurisdiction submits early (before 2034) does the update cycle start when the plan is approved by BCDC, or after 2034?
 - A: The cycle starts when the plan is approved by BCDC.
- Q: Can the subregional plan be updated earlier than 5 years after adoption? In case the jurisdiction would like to update to align with other County plan updates?
 - A: Yes, local governments are welcome to do that.
- Q: Will there be more guidance about CEQA?
 - A: BCDC is not doing CEQA for the release of the guidelines themselves, but there are still lots of questions about when and how CEQA will need to occur. BCDC is scoping the technical assistance program right now too, so if CEQA guidance is helpful, BCDC can focus on that.
- C: The Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit approach to regional projects like this may be a good model where the County level implements/oversees some tasks that benefit everyone for efficiency, and individual cities tackle specific tasks for their city.
- Q: Question about Strategic Regional Priorities and how they are related to development and land use. How does Plan Bay Area align with the SRPs and BCDC's online mapping platform?
 - A: BCDC is using three of MTC's identified growth geographies. And if you have one of those along the shoreline that is exposed to flooding, we are asking you to look more closely and consider how it may be adapted.
- Q: Emeryville is a very small jurisdiction, but the neighboring cities of Oakland and Berkeley are huge. How is this going to work out in terms of collaboration on a plan like

this? Also, Emeryville will be starting a general plan update at the beginning of this year, how would you suggest integrating that work with the RSAP?

- A: As part of the Technical Assistance program, BCDC will likely start by coordinating a meeting for each county to begin those discussions. Regarding the general plan update, one possibility is through the safety element. You could take the processes required by RSAP and hopefully perform one process to meet the requirements of the RSAP and other general plan update requirements. You could combine multiple plans into one and submit that, and BCDC will accept it as long as it meets the plan guidelines.
- C: BCDC should write direct letters to counties and cities to make sure they understand the breadth and depth of the RSAP and its requirements (also contact the League of Cities). It can be difficult for planning level staff to get the attention of elected officials and others who need to know the requirements and resources that an initiative like this takes.
- Q: Follow up question about technical assistance- does BCDC have plans to develop or provide jurisdictions with language or a template for the report itself, or language for resolutions?
 - A: BCDC is finalizing a contract with a consultant. We have a lot of ideas about what to include in the technical assistance program. It probably will not include a complete template plan, but we will assess the most critical and helpful things to provide. There will be more opportunities to provide input on what the Technical Assistance program should focus on.
- Q: Can plans include elements of each jurisdiction's maps and plans as well as the multijurisdiction plan?
 - A: You can knit together different plans, as long as the regional element is clear and BCDC can review it against the planning guidelines. The plan just needs to meet the requirements for all jurisdictions.
- Q: Do regional transit agencies have a seat at the table here, or are they beholden to whatever the plans of local governments are? Does SB 272 speak to regional transit agencies?
 - A: SB 272 doesn't speak specifically to transit agencies, many of which already have their own adaptation plans in place. We will need to coordinate with each other and make this a collaborative process. The only authority at the local level is who has to submit these plans for approval.
- Q: How can existing efforts be incorporated into their subregional plan, especially since they are at different stages of completion? How will BCDC be establishing a baseline for existing conditions?
 - A: There is not necessarily an important distinction between "baseline" not baseline. If you are already working on projects that meet the requirements of the RSAP guidelines then you do not need to do anything else. BCDC will also recognize that some projects are already baked in, and that's OK too. BCDC will work closely with each jurisdiction as they create these plans to answer these specific questions.
- Q: What is the timeline that local governments would need to show protection for minimum assets? 100-year protection, or what standard?
 - A: The most detailed requirements will be for 2050, but BCDC will ask for adaptation pathways beyond that time, once that level of protection is not sufficient for adaptation. Also asking for a little bit about 2100, but only as a qualitative description about what that adaptation pathway could look like.
- Q: The 3.1 Sea level rise number is a bit concerning. OPC says that this number really only applies to very low risk uses (like park benches). Occupied buildings fall into the intermediate/high of 4.9. Would like some clarity as to why the 3.1 was selected because

it does not seem like that matches the state standard for occupied buildings. Also, some projects will be contingent on changes to zoning, etc. What is BCDC's standard going to be? Will the local governments need to already have those changes completed to work for this plan?

- A: It depends on the timeline. For near-term projects, BCDC will want to see more details, but for others, we will just want to see the master plan/roadmap for how you are going to achieve those. There will be implementation requirements, so you will be able to describe what needs to happen to get approval for those projects.
- A: BCDC has not yet gotten into the specific asset categories for those sea level rise scenarios but has heard these considerations before. BCDC can explore this more as part of the technical assistance program. This is not totally baked yet either, so we may incorporate changes.
- Q: Who starts this coordination process between local jurisdictions and counties for multijurisdictional plans?
 - A: There is no requirement for who makes the first move, but BCDC will most likely host county gatherings and invite the county and city planners to all meet together, with BCDC helping to facilitate those conversations. BCDC is generally encouraging counties to take the lead in the process. BCDC is not being too prescriptive about this, because in some cases, that coordination is already happening and BCDC does not want to supersede that, but BCDC can help to convene stakeholders.

Session B. Meaningful Engagement: Equity Assessment and Outreach in Planning

Breakout Room Presentation: <u>B. Meaningful Engagement</u>: Equity Assessment and Outreach in Planning

The purpose of this breakout room was to discuss the different types of engagement required in the RSAP and to examine the Equity Assessment. The following questions were submitted prior to the presentation: 1. How does the RSAP guide the selection of participants in your planning process? 2. How does the RSAP ask jurisdictions to think about engagement and outreach? And 3. How can outreach be done with equity at the forefront? The presentation looked closely at the engagement requirements in Element A: Planning Process and provided an overview of the Equity Assessment. The presentation also reviewed the recommendations for engagement in the Resources Section of the RSAP focused on organizing and compensating RSAP participants. Conversations began by asking the participants to discuss their outreach efforts and what had been effective in their previous or current engagement plans. Participants were also asked to describe perceived barriers to engagement and to strategize about how best to overcome those barriers.

- Q: Not seeing how to do outreach and engagement. What methods are there to bring communities into the planning process? I do appreciate budgeting and compensation recommendations that are specific. But I think talking about specific outreach methodologies could be helpful, maybe even technical advisories early in the process.
 - A: Good comment, methodologies are not currently included.
- Q: In San Mateo county bus service and operational bases are right on the shoreline. I am concerned that when we talk about engaging transportation groups/stakeholders, there is a lot of emphasis on roadways and not on infrastructure for operation and maintenance of the bus base that might get lost or forgotten. I want to make sure that is not lost in part of the engagement, and recognize that that is a vulnerability.
 - A: RSAP does recognize the importance of transportation, speaking with people riding buses is effective.

- C: This is part of the issue we need to access the bases, beyond just the bus riders.
 - A: Yes, this could be something to include in vulnerability assessment.
- C: I am working on the Environmental Justice (EJ) element in the general plan for Palo Alto. The main issue is focused EJ in Belle Haven on the east side of the city and Bayfront, which are defined as underserved by the census tract. We have worked with the Belle Haven community (which has faced historical racism and zoning) and found that on top of linguistic barriers, the issue of literacy has also come up. That additional communication barrier is newly found, so now we are asking what are ways to bring in the whole community, and having more than a single primary method of communicating?
- Q: What have you been doing to bridge this barrier?
 - A: CRC has helped the city connect with various CBO's and churches, etc. that help get the word out. We have also used email and listservs, social media, and mailing physically to properties. These methods all help reach people and keep them informed, but CRC as a CBO has helped directly connect with communities, creating a trusting relationship with that community that has historically mistrusted the city.
- C: There is a chronic lack of outreach to youth and children, and they are the ones living with these plans. I wish we had been able to put more energy into this. This is not listed in the RSAP draft explicitly, how can we engage children creatively, alongside elders?
 - A: This is an interesting point because youth engagement is part of the joint platform, but not mentioned in RSAP. It could be brought out more explicitly. BCDC is working with Mycelium Youth Network as well.
- C: We did summer camp outreach and did workshops with youth, which was helpful and also fun.
- C: I've noticed barriers. When working on tenant protection, it is very challenging to get renters involved. In the past, we have gone door to door which is helpful, but difficult to do. Mailing does not really work that well. Recently we have been trying to set up design standards at off the grid events and at booths, which have not been heavily interacted with. We have also had pop ups at various events. But it is a challenge to get people involved. Partnering with organizations and clubs, and then instead of city folks having town hall meetings and workshops during a date and time that works for us, maybe try to attend an event they are having, present, get people involved.
 - A: Yes, it is challenging. Trying to convince people they need to comment is really difficult. One thing for the RSAP that was helpful was a series of tabling events with a board listing what people care about — people really interacted with that. Spin boards and candy bring people in too. BCDC relies heavily on CBO partners to get the word out.
- C: During the pandemic, outreach online at lunch/midday times seemed to get a broader segment of people. Laundromats, bus stops, places where people are bored and might be willing to talk to you because they're already there are effective too. \$5 gift cards can help. Nothing will get everybody.
- C: In our outreach to the unhoused community, we did not do it directly, but did go through the shelters, and food banks. You do not know if people are specifically unhoused, but a higher population generally is at the places. Also at certain parks, to increase the likelihood of getting certain demographics of people.
 - A: Going directly to encampments and providing \$10 gift cards was very effective, people were receptive.
- C: Budgeting for community engagement has taught us to put a much bigger contingency, because the contingency was used for outreach and engagement in most projects. Successful and effective outreach often requires a lot of money, so contingency funds often go to outreach.

- Q: Have you engaged in resilience planning in the past?
 - A: We do have plans for a resilient shoreline plan for Contra Costa county. We are actively engaging with 8 shoreline cities to engage in a multijurisdictional plan including outreach to vulnerable communities.
 - Q: Could you elaborate what 'vulnerable communities' means?
 - A: BCDC has a social vulnerability map, and we consider anything "moderate" and above to be "vulnerable". This is based on 10 different attributes.
- C: The City of San Francisco has also done community outreach. I appreciate the flexibility provided in the second draft. This will really help the City because we have done outreach in many parts of the City already. We would thus consider targeting places where we have not yet done outreach in advisory groups.
 - A: We want you to build on existing work as much as possible, and the plan allows for that source of flexibility.
- C: I am new to the space of equitable engagement, working with the Palo Alto pilot project with Nuestra Casa and local native tribes. We do blanket outreach to the community, but identifying what BCDC is talking about when we say "vulnerable" would be helpful. Strategy or guidance for how to reach out to those specific populations would be helpful.
- C: Looking at jurisdictional and multijurisdictional plans we could in theory team up with the county, but depending on how we divide up jurisdictional boundary, people might not be included (ie. East Palo Alto).
 - A: Social vulnerability map also has a CBO map attached. When BCDC does outreach for permits, it looks for CBOs in the area. Also, EJ Advisors represent CBOs throughout the area.
- Q: CBO's are their own outreach mechanism?
 - A: Yes, recently outreach from BCDC has included CBOs to help guide community visits and lead meetings.
- Q: We are thinking about trying to build the capacity for 90 miles of shoreline in Contra Costa, including a dozen unincorporated communities. What are tools to build something for a central county that we have not been able to identify? We are asking CBOs in West county how they might be building these tools. We are working through county supervisor offices to reach into the community because of municipal advisory councils for unincorporated communities. We have not identified people to bring to the table even though we have identified stipends and other funding.
 - A: BCDC is trying to build capacity by sending funding to CBO partners so they are ready to help. Working with grants, BayCAN is building a network of CBOs to work on these issues too.
- C: Populations in eastern Contra Costa have moved to where they are living in order to "be left alone" and do not want planning/building/new requirements, and do not need or want whatever city is selling and planning.
- Q: I am a consultant, working with Marin county on a sea level rise project, thinking about how to ensure materials developed and questions asked about broad stakeholder engagement are appropriate for stakeholders groups are meeting with. We can not assume everyone has the same amount of knowledge about sea level rise. I am thinking about whether there will be a technical assistance program offered by BCDC with questions to ask depending on the audience?
 - A: Yes, in the previous session we had a conversation about illiteracy. We have definitely faced that issue in outreach, where language was not simplified enough. Practitioners paired up with people helped, because practitioners were good at explaining concepts to people.
- C: I am starting to understand the idea of capacity building as knowing we will have an intensive engagement period, and different levels of understanding and policy related

terms, and understanding of why the topic is important will be in the all. In the summer, we are doing capacity building by reaching out to CBO's to understand what they need to get to the table, including assistance in advance. I encourage people to start early.

- A: Through the Shoreline Leadership Academy, we are building capacity in Contra Costa and elsewhere. The program pays people from socially vulnerable communities to learn about sea level rise to be advisors for projects. It builds people up to be leaders in the community. Recruitment is done through schools, CBOs, etc. in the application process. Now NOAA funds through BCDC will support stipends.
- C: I would appreciate guidance specifically about things like how to answer questions such as "how to avoid tokenization."

Session C. Vulnerability Assessments: Flood Hazards and Minimum Assets

Breakout Room Presentation: <u>C. Vulnerability Assessment</u>: Flood Hazards and Min Standards The purpose of this breakout room was to discuss the RSAP guidelines for conducting vulnerability assessments, including what aspects of data, science, and information, are required to be completed by local jurisdictions. The following questions served to frame the session: 1) What is considered in a plan's vulnerability assessment? 2) What flood hazards and minimum assets are included? And 3) How does this align with existing local efforts on these topics? The presentation introduced guidelines in Element C: Vulnerability Assessments and related Minimum Standards including Coastal Flood Hazards and Sea Level Rise Scenarios, Minimum Categories and Assets, and the Equity Assessment. Conversations from participants included a discussion on what should be required vs recommended coastal flood hazards, regional vs local identification of key assets, and how existing former analysis will be evaluated in newly submitted plans.

- C: Overall this is really great. I think the coastal flood hazard and sea level rise scenarios look good. The more we can integrate this with what the Engineering Criteria Review Board (ECRB) and Design Review Board (DRB) are saying (or vise versa) the better. The ECRB looks at bay fill projects, with a long lifespan and high vulnerability. The ECRB has started to distinguish that less risky assets might be designed for less extreme sea level rise scenarios. On the table shown, I would suggest you include its life safety risk, project lifespan, as well as economic risk.
- Q: Are there guidelines on the definition of existing conditions and how projects that are in progress/in design can be included in the RSAP?
 - A: Element B is where we are outlining these conditions. B.2.D is where you would lay that all out. Including those projects as part of your adaptation strategies could be an advantage as they would be prioritized for funding. BCDC does not have a clear outline on what has to go where, some of these questions might be taken in front of BCDC in their technical assistance program. It is a balancing act, trying to not be overly prescriptive and allow jurisdictions to us their own discretion.
- Q: What role will the jurisdictions plan in identifying their minimum assets, or will BCDC provide these?
 - A: There is a table of minimum assets that will be required, but local jurisdictions are welcome to supplement this with local or additional data that they want to include. The local jurisdiction would be the ones mapping and submitting the local data, but the mapping platform will provide a lot of the data for analysis and support in submission.
- Q: Palo Alto is struggling with groundwater and sea level rise. Recently we had a sea level rise assessment done as required by the Waterboard, in the plan we have short

term adaptation and long term adaptation. How is this connected with the State Water Board? How can we plan and start implementing the guidelines, are there grants we can apply for?

- BCDC has been doing alot of outreach to different agencies, not sure how these two efforts dovetail, but BCDC is trying not to require a redo of work as much as possible. Yes you should absolutely still be able to use those resources, there might be some additions to get them to the level that BCDC wants them to. BCDC has been doing extensive coordination with the regional water quality control board on contaminated sites. There is a callout box in the document on how you can use past work to achieve subregional plan requirements.
- Q: Wondering if more clarity has been given to the shoreline reaches of this?
 - A: Local jurisdictions have a lot of flexibility in defining the shoreline reach, the jurisdiction is free to divide up the areas in a way that is most valuable to them.
- C: I recommend the RSAP modify the RSAP maps to better resemble the FEMA flood maps and include erosion and the effects of sea level rise, the idea being that most planners and engineers are used to looking at the FEMA flood maps. I think if the hazard maps could look like those but include future conditions it would be a little easier to think about future conditions.
 - R: The ART Flood Maps are based on the FEMA flood maps.
- Q: I am wondering about the audience here and if the process has been vetted and if there have been any pilots.
 - A: We have not done any full pilots, but did do 5 local workshops around the Bay. We have also been working with a 40-person advisory group with different representatives from around the Bay that has helped define the process.
- Q: The City of Hayward completed a shoreline master plan that we started a few years ago, using 2ft, 4ft, and 7ft of sea level rise. Is BCDC going to be providing the mapping or do we need to start over?
 - A: BCDC certainly wants to encourage any jurisdiction that got out of the gate early, and does not want people to have to redo a lot of work especially in this first round. Future iterations will need to be more inline, but if a city has already done a vulnerability assessment with different values we encourage you to use the ones closest to what you have now, as long as they are within the acceptable range of the standards.
- Q: We noticed in the draft that some areas we consider vulnerable are not identified as a vulnerable asset. Not sure if we give a comment now to say this should be on your list or if that is just something we should include. Is there still time for that to be considered or is there a comment we should be making in the RSAP?
 - A: The particular assets and exposure that are being mapped should show up on the RSAP mapping platform. The critical infrastructure should be reflected as local data, added to the regional dataset. I would imagine that there is quite a bit of underground infrastructure related to water supply, wastewater, and other critical services. The regional dataset would not capture these important details.
- Q: Would something not provided in this report mess us up for funding later?
 A: It should not affect funding. It is you local jurisdiction plans priorities.
- Q: Can upwelling of Groundwater be looked at at a regional level?
 - A: Absolutely, groundwater is included on the combined hazard map in the online mapping platform.

Session D. Adaptation Strategies: Land Use and Adaptation Strategy Standards

Breakout Room Presentation: <u>D. Adaptation Strategies</u>: Land Use and Adaptation Strategy Standards

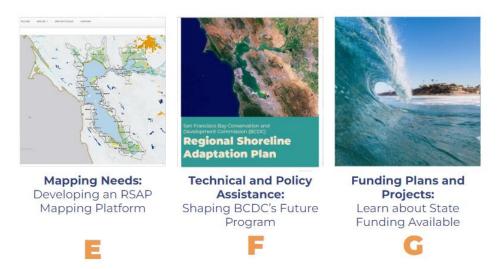
The purpose of this breakout room was to discuss the RSAP guidelines for developing adaptation strategies. The discussion included what hazards and scenarios must be included in the analysis and how the RSAP provides standards to help local jurisdictions identify outcomes that provide both local and regional benefit. The following questions served to frame the session: 1) How does the RSAP guide the selection of adaptation strategies? 2) How does the RSAP ask jurisdictions to think about adaptation and land use? And 3) How does this align with existing local efforts on these topics? The presentation introduced guidelines in Element D: Adaptation Pathways and Element E: Land Use and Policy Plan and related Minimum Standards including Coastal Flood Hazards and Sea Level Rise Scenarios, Minimum Categories and Assets, the Equity Assessment, and Adaptation Strategy Standards. Conversations from participants included a discussion on the challenges of costs and multi-jurisdictional planning, clarity on what parts and at what level of detail the shoreline must include adaptation strategies, and interest in ensuring that existing efforts can be considered for compliance with newly submitted plans.

- C: In the process of creating a subregional plan with neighboring jurisdictions (City and Port of Oakland), we want to make concrete steps now towards adaptation. Cities do not want the highly political portions of SLR planning to undermine the whole effort and create constraints on future flexibility in adaptation responses.
 - A: The RSAP tries to help jurisdictions where they are at and ideally promotes flexibility in strategies.
- C: It is difficult to navigate jurisdictional overlaps on coasts, as happens with regional open space/park agencies in many parts of the Bay. This is especially true in regards to multi-jurisdictional cost-sharing.
- C: We are worried about the costs for creating these plans, as well as gaps in regional collaboration.
- C: Wondering if we could provide more clarity on the matrix, best used at a smaller scale. Wondering about the "weildliness" of the matrix, but could be a useful planning tool.
 - A: You only need to share the matrix on your preferred approaches/alternatives.
- Q: Managed retreat is politically unpopular, but realistically our best option. Can BCDC mandate that managed retreat is explored as an option? It clearly wants it to be explored, but can not come from cities or counties themselves.
 - A: The adaptation standards go to the extent of asking jurisdictions to avoid the development of areas that are currently undeveloped.
- Q: We all should try to adapt to the same water level. How are we going to prevent jurisdictions from planning for different scenarios?
 - A: We are trying to get people to plan for the minimum/likely scenarios because jurisdictions are at very different places in terms of planning for sea level rise.
- Q: You've said that this is not a reiteration of past/existing efforts. How can these previously created plans be integrated into RSAP/SB 272 compliance?
 - A: Ideally, yes, we can put these previously created plans into compliance. We
 do not want to undo or slow down jurisdictions that have already done work on
 this. This is an iterative process, so our guidelines will be updated on a regular
 schedule going forward, and we know local plans will also need to be monitored
 and updated over time as well.

- C: I love what I am seeing! With BCDC having approval authority, it is not clear whether or not we just have to meet state legal guidelines for sea level rise planning, or if BCDC can set "above and beyond" standards.
 - A: You need to comply with BCDC guidelines. These are "above and beyond" standards but we are trying to make it easier for jurisdictions to collaborate on a regional basis, we will provide technical assistance, and give a clear framework.
 - A: The Bay Adapt Joint Platform calls for the development of an investment strategy for the region. There is a carrot for going above the minimum, we are trying to locate sources of funding for "good" projects.
- Q: We are trying to figure out integration. How much of our shoreline does this need to be done for? How comprehensive do we have to be for every mile (110 miles in Marin County) of our county?
 - A: You need to identify areas and assets that are critical or threatened by shortterm sea level rise. We ultimately want adaptation for the whole shoreline, but we set guidelines about which areas should be prioritized in the short term. We want to make sure that we are assessing and documenting vulnerable areas of shoreline, but we might not need to undertake physical adaptation on every inch of shoreline just yet.
- C: Community plans have many iterations in response to changes or jurisdictional gaps that arise. Part of your adaptation pathway could be identifying things that need additional study, not just focus on pure physical adaptation.
 - A: Even designating areas as low-priority is part of adaptation. You are thinking about all possible sites that might need protection/adaptation, you should aim to not leave any gaps.
- Q: How do we bridge local and regional priorities? Especially when funding varies greatly between jurisdictions.
 - A: We are identifying ways to best unify these efforts into a regional perspective.

Breakout Round 3: Supporting Local Implementation of the RSAP

Participants had the opportunity to select one out of three final breakout rooms to engage in discussions with BCDC staff on specific areas for supporting local implementation of RSAP. In the sections below, there is a description of the content covered in each of the five breakout rooms, a link to the presentation, and a summary of the questions, answers, and comments from each room. Please note that the responses below have been edited for clarity. In instances where participant's questions were not answered during the meeting, BCDC staff responses are available below.



Session E. Mapping Needs: Developing an RSAP Mapping Platform

Breakout Room Presentation: <u>D. Mapping Needs</u>: Developing an RSAP Mapping Platform The purpose of this breakout room was to provide information about the context and goals of the RSAP Mapping Platform. This tool is intended to support the development of Subregional Adaptation Plans through data visualization, data downloads, limited data analysis and export. In particular, this session was geared at understanding local jurisdictions' need for a tool like this, help define their specific needs, and provide context for their jurisdictions capacity to conduct GIS analysis. The input gathered in this session will directly guide the next phase of development of the RSAP Mapping Platform, intended to be launched in the Spring of 2025.

Summary of Comments from the Session

- Cities have different levels of GIS capacity and will interact with the platform differently based on that capacity.
- Jurisdictions with limited capacity might partner with their counties or other jurisdictions to conduct data analysis and produce RSAP map submittals, but many may not have those partnerships.
- The RSAP Mapping Platform needs to provide functions that address the needs of the jurisdictions with high and low levels of capacities.
- These functions include basic data visualization (i.e. hazards, existing conditions, assets, exposure), ability to summarize information at jurisdictional and planning scales, help facilitating aspects of the planning process (e.g. identifying relevant jurisdictional and stakeholder partnerships), data uploads, data downloads, and exporting basic maps and tables for RSAP submittals.

- C: Shoreline will be changing and not just talking about shoreline, rather coastal floodplain. Built and ecological assets will be moving, and conceptualizing this is one of the hardest things to do. Regional planning and planning that crosses boundaries are critical (Bob Battalio).
- Question posed by BCDC to the Group: How likely are you to use such a tool? If unlikely, then what features or data would make your use more likely?
 - A: Definitely use a tool like this, visualization is a key function for planning (recent example is housing element). Planners are also needing to share maps with stakeholders/a more general audience. Some capacity in house to review data and produce simple maps, but more complex analysis would need to look to other jurisdictions/BCDC. AFFH Data Viewer example of platform used recently

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/834b33b812c949a0820ed25c8ee4eed d/?draft=true (Jackie Oneal)

- A: No GIS capacity in house. Reliant on external platforms/sources for maps/analysis. Really need to have this information provided in one place. Opportunity for maps to be created (Navarre Oaks).
- A: I will definitely love this tool. Will this tool build upon ART's Bay Shoreline Flood Explorer? Will they be combined eventually or stay separate? Thank you! (Patty Boonlue)
 - A: There will be light connections made between the two tools given the shared audiences. The main connection between the RSAP Mapping Platform and the Flood Explorer will be the use of the underlying flood maps in the RSAP Hazard layers.
- A: Here are web-maps that I think are similar to the upcoming Bay Adapt mapping platform: Coastal Resilience Mapping Portal which includes California Pacific coast <u>Coastal Resilience – Mapping portal</u> and <u>Pacifica Sea Level Rise</u> <u>LCP Update - Hazard Exposure Map (arcgis.com)</u> (Bob Battalio)
- A: Contra Costa County has a GIS department and would be most interested in Downloads, but consider how the flow of information can go both ways. Additionally, we are interested in expanding the mapping across the county to facilitate consistent planning between bay and delta (similar comments from Solano county and counties with jurisdiction on the outer coast) (Ryan Hernandez).
 - A: The existing regional planning area is partially defined by BCDC's jurisdiction and the language of SB 272. The ability to expand our mapping to the outer coast and delta is also challenged by the different modeling and hydrodynamics associated with those geographies. BCDC has been coordinating with the Coastal Commission and Delta Stewardship Council.
- Question posed by BCDC to the group: How much GIS capacity does your jurisdiction have for downloading, analyzing, and parsing geospatial data?
 - A: Contra Costa County has a GIS department and would be most interested in Downloads.
 - A: Some counties and cities have GIS capacity, but many do not and would be reliant on the tool, neighboring jurisdictions, consultants to produce map submittals, produce tables of assets, acquire data, etc...

Session F. Technical and Policy Assistance: Shaping BCDC's Future Program

Breakout Room Presentation: <u>E. Technical and Policy Assistance</u>: Shaping BCDC's Future Program

The purpose of this breakout room was to discuss the future role of BCDC in supporting local jurisdictions in implementing the RSAP through a policy and technical assistance program. The following questions served to frame the session: 1) How can BCDC provide resources and support to local jurisdictions to implement the RSAP? 2) What resources and/or services would be most useful and beneficial? And 3) How have you used and engaged with technical assistance already? The presentation introduced the timeline and process for BCDC to develop a technical assistance program and introduced a range of options for *potential* types of assistance. These options ranged from least to most "hands-on," and included options such as an online web portal, developing materials, hosting trainings or workshops, conducting consultants or providing one-on-one support, to co-convening meetings. Conversations from participants included

requests for more one-on-one types of assistance, supporting the application process, BCDC taking a role in communicating to cities and counties about the RSAP, and a future role for BCDC in supporting coordination among regional and state agencies with local jurisdictions.

Questions (Q), Answers (A) and Comments (C) from this session included:

- Q: It sounds like the TA program will just be existing BCDC staff, is that correct?
 - A: BCDC is finalizing a contract with a consultant who will be helping to put together the TA program. BCDC has received funding through the state budget to hire more staff, in part to build out the TA team.
- C: It would be helpful for the TA program to focus on facilitating coordination between local governments.
- C: Two areas of TA that would be especially helpful- 1) templates for the plans, and 2) guidance on how to integrate existing plans.
- C: Having a database of completed plans, similar to housing elements, is helpful! Downloadable data and GIS maps, including contaminated sites is a must. Also found webinars that highlight lessons learned and promising practices are helpful.
- C: Sometimes in the local governmen you have to put an application together just to get technical assistance. It would be great if that process were simple.
- C: One key conclusion from BayCAN (and others') regional inquiries about best practices for effective TA was to have more "office hours" and 1:1 type options to assist practitioners to find the right resources among the others (templates, web portal resources, etc.). From Alameda County, convening jurisdictions at the county level would be helpful.
- C: Need for not just coordinating counties and local governments, but also to be helping with scheduling the planning processes. This being a 10 year timeframe, some governments might be doing things next year and others might in years so it will be very important for BCDC to set expectations. BCDC should also be very clear about when the guidelines will be updated. There will be risk of doing these plans too early and having the guidelines change.
- C: Despite local city efforts to communicate up the chain, it can be very difficult to get word out about the level of effort and funding that is needed to complete plans. It would be very helpful for BCDC to send direct letters to city managers, city councils, etc. to help them get the word out and get their attention.
- Q: What would be the timeframe for the convenings, and could we request a certain timeframe?
 - A: Consultant for the TA is starting soon, BCDC will work with them in the fall and early months of 2025 and hope to have the program launched in ~ Spring 2025.
- C: SB 1425 is another state law to consider that may overlap with this effort.
- C: BCDC should make sure it's coordinating with CHARG.

Session G. Funding Plans and Projects: Learn About State Funding Available

Breakout Room Presentation: <u>F. Funding Plans and Projects</u>: Learn about State Funding Available The purpose of this breakout room was to provide information about funding currently available in the form of the SB1 grant program, discussion about plan contents that can help prime projects for funding, and how the region can plan for meeting funding needs in the future. The presentation detailed components of Element E: Implementation and Funding Plan (focus on the required funding strategy) and Element G: Project List. The presentation also gave a preview of the Regional Investment Strategy, led by BCDC, that will orient projects towards existing funding opportunities and advocate for more funding that aligns with the identified project needs in the region. The presentation ended with the question: How should the region be thinking about meeting the funding needs in the future for plans and projects?

- C: It does not sound like you are expanding your staff for the technical assistance program.
 - A: We are taking on a consultant to help us develop a staffing plan. The state's budget is variable, there is money in the state budget to help us implement SB 272 through increased staffing.
- C: There is an interest in using our local plans to help BCDC's approach to regional planning, which I think is great. It would be great to see BCDC staff that are really dedicated to outreach and collecting these plans, seeing what we can learn from local governments/planning organizations.
- C: There is a lot of decision-making that is happening at the regional level, BCDC needs to help make coordination and sub-regional plan integration work (so every county is not dealing with CalTrans or State Parks, for example, independently).
 - A: We are developing approaches for these large agencies in how they should work with local jurisdictions, we do not want local governments to individually reinvent the wheel.
- C: It would be helpful to have a preliminary review process so we know we are on the right path before we submit a plan just to have it rejected.
- C: There are such huge disparities across jurisdictions and agencies in their capacity and funding to tackle planning issues, it is hard to develop a one-size-fits-all approach to sub-regional collaboration. The challenge is having jurisdictions build their own flood protections with no one talking to each other along the way.
 - A: BCDC should be able to help local agencies outside of city and county governments to get up to speed on sea level rise planning.
- C: One key conclusion from BayCAN (and others') regional inquiries about best practices for effective TA was to have more "office hours" and 1:1 type options to assist practitioners to find the right resources among the others (templates, web portal resources, etc.). From Alameda County, convening jurisdictions at the county level would be helpful.
- C: It would be helpful to have phased deadlines like other sorts of regional plans. Would also be nice to have a model policy or set of policies that we can reference.
 - A: There are many concurrent elements (general plan updates, Plan Bay Area) that we are considering in our timing and pacing of RSAP planning.
- C: Would be nice to have help with getting out information about RSAP, if you could directly reach out to city managers, public works directors, and other professionals involved in the planning process.
 - A: Yes, we can look into that.
- Q: When will we have an idea of opportunities for locally specific planning guidance, and could we request a certain timeframe?
 - A: We are bringing on our consultant soon, we should have the capacity to fully tackle local plan reviews starting in the late Winter or Spring of 2025. You can also tap into SB 1 funding to conduct the planning now, with compliance discussions being able to happen next year.
- C: We have participated in housing technical assistance programs, which we think provide a decent model for how RSAP technical assistance programs could be conducted. However, the grouping done by these sorts of programs would need to be altered to the specific needs of this.
 - A: Yes, those frameworks could seem to help how we frame our sub-regional technical assistance.
- Q: What is the relationship between BCDC and CHARG, especially in the context of the RSAP?

• A: Roger Leventhal is on our advisory group. We're starting to focus on inland connectivity among jurisdictions that are along the shoreline. There is talks about hydrologically disconnecting jurisdictions to avoid planning conflicts, as is done in the Netherlands.

Meeting Close-Out and Final Thoughts

At the end of the meeting, each group shared via interactive survey their overarching thoughts on the RSAP, including what they are most excited about or looking forward to, and what they are most concerned about. Responses are shown below.

Based on what you heard today, what are you most excited about or looking forward to?

Learning about the schedule	Learning more.
Learning more about regional efforts to comply with SB 272	When will each city have time to provide official feedback. And do we need council resolutions for it to be formal feedback
Learning more!	Understanding how collaborations can happen across
Learn more about what the local jurisdictions will have to do to comply with the state law and what are some of the common resources we can use to learn from each other.	jurisdictions within the framework of the RSAP
	Looking forward to more orderly SLR mitigation efforts
Learning more about RSAP	Just learning the process!
Excited to hear a mix of RSAP vision and nitty gritty specifics!	Adding consideration of risks of toxic groundwater rise to rsap
Seeking better solutions in collaboration with Bay Area community colleagues	Hearing more about the strategic regional priorities.

Collaboration to finding adaptation solutions.	NA
Very capable partners	Collaboration with other jurisdictions
Excited to see the technical assistance and mapping tools	More funding for implementation projects
learning more about what nearby jurisdictions are doing	A coordinated approach to adaptation.
Figuring out how to partner / collaborate	thanks
A more streamlined system to follow for future Bay SLR projects	Learning, execution and implementation, compliance mechanisms, long term goal setting and goal achieving
collaboration and streamlining data analysis	Getting more data on topic. Understanding how to intersect GP, EJ element, and RSAP.
I am excited to see how we can utilize these strategies to improve environmental justice efforts. Considerable overlap exists with sea level rise affecting underserved communities.	In Hayward, we are looking forward to combining this work with our upcoming grant-funded work to consider HASPA governance.

Based on what you heard today, what are you most concerned about?

Να	Schedule
Mandated planning without funding or new regulatory tools	We are a city along the water so we want to make sure we have say in what is designed in our city
RSAP being limited/ impractical/ not pragmatic	Being too constrained in planning and implementation since this is an unprecedented and enormous task.
SLR planning. Regional coordination is my main concern.	Understanding the metes and bounds for what is required in local plans and appropriate resources to develop the local plans.
We may be cut off from that funding source. Unique to SamTrans situation, our operation bases are located at the shoreline. When are bases are flooded, we cannot deploy our buses.	
	Aligning with other ongoing plans and funding
Funding shortfalls	Where to begin. Also resources - staff time, money to implement projects
ensuring the contra costa county has mapping data that covers the entire shoreline	Collaboration and technical assistance
How we'll complete this in the time required and without significant additional resources. We're far along, but this is a big additional effort while we have other priorities and needs	More requirements for very proscribed planning processes - general plans, housing elements, local hazard mitigation plans
Working with neighboring jurisdictions who have done less to plan for SLR.	Timing of implementation and funding.
	Groundwater and toxics, how to plan and address. Lack of funding, especially for small jurisdictions. How to most
coordinating cross-jurisdictional AND cross-existing-plan coordination, esp going into updates over time	efficiently and effectively incorporate into LHMP, GP, EJ element etc.
Wanting to work with other jurisdictions but still wanting to prioritize the interests of our organization and infrastructure	How to incorporate and build on existing efforts such as the LHMP and Safety Element updates required by SB 379.

Next Steps for the RSAP and How to Stay Involved

Following this workshop, BCDC staff will gather the feedback and develop another iteration of the RSAP draft to share for a Public Comment Period in September-October 2024. BCDC staff will be bringing updates on the RSAP to BCDC's Commission and are currently scheduled to present updates to BCDC's Commission on the following dates:

- August 15, 2024
- September 19, 2024 Informational Webinar

- October 17, 2024
- December 5, 2024

Information on how to attend these public meetings can be found on the BCDC website at <u>https://bcdc.ca.gov/events/</u>. Additionally, sign up for the RSAP email list at <u>https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/IICNWAb</u>. to receive project updates and reminders about these meetings and the Public Comment Period.

For questions or comments, please contact Jaclyn Perrin-Martinez, Project Manager for the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan at <u>jaclyn.perrin-martinez@bcdc.ca.gov</u>.