

San Francisco Local Coastal Program Amendment

San Francisco
Planning

Spring 2016 Information Sheet #1

Taking Action to Protect Ocean Beach

San Francisco's Ocean Beach is part of a highly-dynamic coastal environment. Portions of Ocean Beach – particularly the area between Sloat and Skyline boulevards – have experienced substantial erosion over the past few decades, while the northern portion of the beach has remained stable or expanded. Shoreline erosion has already damaged the Great Highway and beach parking lots and threatens to damage critical wastewater system infrastructure. Sea level rise and the increased frequency and severity of coastal storms anticipated due to global climate change will likely exacerbate these effects in the decades to come.



In response to these challenges, San Francisco Planning is developing a plan that seeks to balance the preservation and enhancement of public access, recreation and natural habitats with the need to maintain critical public infrastructure. Before it's enacted, the City's plan for Ocean Beach must be approved by the California Coastal Commission as an amendment to San Francisco's Local Coastal Program (LCP).

Focus of LCP Amendment

The LCP is a policy and regulatory document required by the California Coastal Act. It establishes land use, development, natural resource protection, coastal access, and public recreation policies for the City's Coastal Zone (see map on back). Originally certified in 1986, the LCP is posted at http://www.sf-planning.org/ftp/general_plan/Western_Shoreline.htm.

The LCP Amendment will establish the City and County's coordinated approach for implementing the sea level rise and coastal erosion recommendations in the Ocean Beach Master Plan (see next page). The Master Plan is a result of the cooperative involvement of the City and County of San Francisco and a host of federal, state, and local agencies and organizations, as well as over a decade of public dialogue about managing the Ocean Beach shoreline.

Public Involvement

Public involvement will continue as part of the LCP amendment process. This will include public meetings, opportunities to review and comment on the draft policies, and public hearings conducted by both the City and County of San Francisco and the California Coastal Commission over a period of approximately 18 months. (see page 3). For project announcements, updates, draft documents, and the Public Engagement Strategy for the LCP Amendment, visit our website at www.sf-planning.org/LocalCoastalProgram.

To receive updates about the LCP amendment process and announcements about upcoming public meetings, sign up at www.sf-planning.org/LocalCoastalProgram. To contact Chris Kern, LCP Amendment Project Manager, email chris.kern@sfgov.org



Implementing the Ocean Beach Master Plan's Sea Level Rise Recommendations

For over a decade, The City and County of San Francisco has explored options for establishing a planning framework to address concerns related to erosion and coastal access through the Ocean Beach Task Force and the Ocean Beach Vision Council. SPUR, the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association, made substantial progress by completing the Ocean Beach Master Plan in 2012. The master plan represents the cooperation and involvement of SPUR, San Francisco Planning and federal, state, and local agencies, as well as community stakeholders in an 18-month planning process addressing seven focus areas: ecology, utility infrastructure, coastal dynamics, image and character, program and activities, access and connectivity, and management and stewardship.

The Ocean Beach Master Plan establishes a comprehensive strategy for proactively addressing sea level rise and coastal erosion. One critical step to implementing the master plan is a supportive policy framework in San Francisco's Local Coastal Program.

The Master Plan recommendations focus on six "Key Moves":

1. Reroute the Great Highway behind the San Francisco Zoo via Sloat and Skyline Boulevards
2. Introduce a multipurpose coastal protection/restoration/access system
3. Reduce the width of the Great Highway to provide amenities and facilitate managed retreat
4. Restore the dunes along the middle reach
5. Create a better connection between Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach
6. Introduce bicycle and pedestrian improvements north of Balboa Street

Because of the urgent need for action, this Local Coastal Program (LCP) amendment will only address implementation of the master plan recommendations related to sea level rise and coastal erosion (Key

Moves 1, 2, and 4). The LCP amendment will cover the entire Coastal Zone, but implementation will largely occur south of Sloat Boulevard, where coastal vulnerabilities are most acute. Master plan recommendations not addressed in this LCP amendment are anticipated to be addressed in future amendments.

SPUR will maintain its advisory role in the LCP amendment process, including recommending strategies for the continued involvement of stakeholders and ensuring continuity with the master plan process. SPUR will also provide data and analysis from the master plan and participate in policy development. The master plan is available at www.spur.org/oceanbeach.

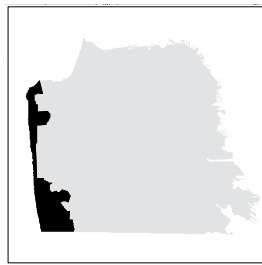
Planning and Approval Process for the Local Coastal Program Amendment

In addition to San Francisco and the California Coastal Commission requirements, completing the LCP amendment will require science-based methodology, transparency, and continued public involvement.

Extensive community outreach and involvement will take place throughout this process, including several public meetings and a Community Advisory Group. Significant time is allocated for public review periods for the proposed new policy and the public hearings conducted by the San Francisco Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors, and the California Coastal Commission. To receive updates and announcements, sign up at www.sf-planning.org/LocalCoastalProgram.



Public Involvement Opportunities	Step 1 Project Launch	Step 2 Sea Level Rise Data Summary	Step 3 LCP Amendment Scope Definition
	LCP Advisory Group Meeting	LCP Advisory Group Meeting Planning Commission Briefing Board of Supervisors Briefing	LCP Advisory Group Meeting Public Meeting
	Fall 2015	Spring 2016	Spring 2016
Public Involvement Opportunities	Step 4 Policy Development and 6-Week Public Review	Step 5 Local Approval Process	Step 6 California Coastal Commission Approval Process
	LCP Advisory Group Meeting Planning Commission Briefing Public Meeting	Planning Commission Initiation Hearing Planning Commission Adoption Hearing Board of Supervisors Introductory Hearing Board of Supervisors Adoption Hearing	Coastal Commission Hearing
	Spring & Summer 2016	Summer & Fall 2016	Winter, Spring, Summer 2017



Coastal Zone Area, San Francisco

- Coastal Zone Permit Area
- Publicly Owned: SFRPD in San Francisco City Limits
- Publicly Owned: GGNRA
- Privately Owned: Olympic Country Club
- Privately Owned: Commercial
- Privately Owned: Residential

Coastal Zone Map

The San Francisco Coastal Zone extends approximately six miles along the western shoreline, from the Point Lobos recreational area in the north to the Fort Funston cliff area in the south, generally spanning the Ocean Beach shoreline.

The LCP Amendment is largely funded by a grant from the California Coastal Commission and Ocean Protection Council.

Have questions?

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