

San Francisco Local Coastal Program Amendment

Fall 2015 Information Sheet #1



Taking Action to Address Sea Level Rise

Rising tides from global climate change have already started impacting the shoreline of Ocean Beach. The effects will continue for decades in the form of beach and land erosion, damage to parking and roadways, reduced access to the coastline, and eventual damage to major public infrastructure.

Utilizing the best available science, the City/County of San Francisco is taking action to reduce and manage the effects of sea level rise and intensified storm activity. A course of adaptive management will provide for long-term resiliency by balancing environmental resources, maintaining coastal access, addressing community needs, and protecting our investment in public infrastructure and operations. Because action will be focused along the coastline, the first step is the amendment of the San Francisco Local Coastal Program (LCP). The LCP is a policy document required by the California Coastal Act.

Focus of LCP Amendment

The LCP establishes land use, development, and environmental policies for the area designated as the Coastal Zone by the California Coastal Commission (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/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/County and a host of federal, state, and local agencies 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/County of San Francisco and the California Coastal Commission over 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, go to www.sf-planning.org/LocalCoastalProgram and sign up. To contact Diana Sokolove, LCP Amendment Project Manager, please email diana.sokolove@sfgov.org



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

For over a decade, the City/County 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. The San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR), an urban planning nonprofit organization, made substantial progress by completing the Ocean Beach Master Plan in 2012. The Master Plan represents the cooperation and involvement of the City/County and a host of 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 Master Plan recommendations focus on six “key moves”:

1. Reroute the Great Highway behind the 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

Importantly, because of the urgent need for action, this LCP Amendment will only address implementation of the Master Plan recommendations

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 LCP.

related to sea level rise and coastal erosion. 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 area are anticipated to be addressed in a future, broader LCP Amendment.

SPUR will continue to serve an advisory role in the LCP Amendment process. SPUR's role will include 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 LCP Amendment

This process chart shows the steps and timing for completing the LCP Amendment. In addition to City/County of San Francisco and the California Coastal Commission requirements, the process weaves together a science-based methodology, transparency, and continued public involvement.

Several public meetings will be conducted, and a community advisory group will work with the project team to provide feedback. Significant time is allocated for the public review periods for the proposed new policy and the public hearings conducted by the City/County 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 Planning Commission Briefing Board of Supervisors Briefing	LCP Advisory Group Meeting Planning Commission Briefing Board of Supervisors Briefing	LCP Advisory Group Meeting Public Meeting
	Fall 2015	Fall 2015	Fall 2015
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
	Winter 2015/2016 & Spring 2016	Summer 2016 & Fall 2016	Winter 2016/2017 & Spring 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 6 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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