

**San Francisco Estuary Partnership
Implementation Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, March 6, 2019
Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, San Francisco

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Welcome and Introduction: *Carol Mahoney, Chair*

Tom Mumley called the meeting to order and everyone introduced themselves.

There was no call to make changes to the Agenda.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approve 11/07/2018 Meeting Summary (Action)

The November 11/07/2018 Meeting Summary was approved. Motion to approve by Adrian Covert, seconded by Chris Potter. Motion carried.

4. Director's Report: *Caitlin Sweeney, SFEP*

Caitlin Sweeney highlighted several items from the Director's Report.

New Initiative: Transforming Urban Water, from Grey to Green Shorelines

Wetland Regional Monitoring Program (p2)

We will host 2 workshops Mosquito and Vector March 21, 2019

Question about proactive vs reactive – Luisa – This is proactively engaging these stakeholders

Wildlife Workshop – Focused on developing monitoring questions tools and methods. This will focus on tidal wetland wildlife.

Environmental Justice and Racial Equity

Completed Projects

New Funding

Collaborating with integrated planning staff at MTC to advance action 23 to integrate water into Plan Bay Area. We have been given funding from the planning department to engage the Horizon effort. This effort will work to integrate sustainable streets concepts into Plan Bay Area and will set the stage for future work on SS in the Bay Area.

San Pablo Ave Stormwater Spine Project – The BATA has granted SFEP an additional \$2m to being construction at several of the sites. These funds are mitigation funds from impacts from the bay bridge stormwater. Construction in April

CVA Team – Awarded another grant from DBW. Expanding the work into Santa Cruz and Monterey and will continue working on the Pumpout Nav App.

Communications

BARC – Metro Talk Event tomorrow on Indigenous people and land in the bay area – film and panel discussion. Caitlin encouraged the IC to attend. Event begins at 5:30pm

IHEW – Feb 12 – 14 – This effort included a robust social media presence, FB live video, and the digital board.

EXTRA ITEMS NOT IN DR

HR1132 was introduced in February by Jackie Speier – identical to bill from last year. Establish an office in EPA region 9 to implement the SF Bay area CCMP. It would bring \$22m per year for 4 years. Darcie and Caitlin will be in DC next week and will work to inform our local reps.

MTC has a new Executive Director – Therese McMillian. She spent 25 years at MTC and left 10 years ago to work in the Obama administration as the Administrator for FTA. She then worked at the LA Metro. She is very engaged and focused on teamwork, transparency, racial equity and accountability.

New 2019 Sea Grant Fellow Jillian Burns.

5. Estuary Blueprint Progress Report: *Caitlin Sweeney, SFEP*

There has been little change since the last report. Willing to accept questions.

Carol – there are some that are at a low percent or 0% and we would like to know if you would like any assistance from us. Caitlin – We have scheduled an all day planning retreat with the IC in November where we will bring our analysis of the actions we've been able to advance and those that haven't made a lot of progress. We plan to have a discussion about these tasks that haven't progressed far and how we might address them.

6. Blueprint Updates

a. Transforming Urban Water Initiative (Action 14)

Heidi Nutters and Adrien Baudrimont presented the Transforming Urban Waters Initiative.

This is a new initiative that came about as a result of the award winning Oro Loma Horizontal Levee project. Oro Loma was a pilot project that analyzed the efficacy of various ecosystem compositions to remove various water pollutants like nutrients, pharmaceuticals, and pesticides. Water quality results show that horizontal levees significantly remove wastewater derived contaminants while providing valuable habitat.

With the success of the Oro Loma project, SFEP has started working with POTW's around the bay to implement horizontal levee projects throughout the bay. This is a multibenefit approach that will provide an array of benefits to local communities and ecosystems. SFEP is looking to advance these projects around the bay and to support capacity building and collaborative approaches to nature-based shoreline infrastructure projects. This initiative

will focus on advancing designs to increase capacity into the system, testing out different substrate materials, decreasing planting density, placement of reverse osmosis concentrate, testing for more contaminants of emerging concerns, and possibly shorter levees. TrUW will also work to build regional capacity to transfer lessons learned, share emerging information, and designing new sites.

The newest project for this initiative includes Palo Alto (habitat, SLR, Water Quality). Funds have been granted by the EPA to advance the designs in Palo Alto. Another new initiative includes EBDA property adjacent to Mission Bay in San Leandro. Additional projects include sites in San Leandro, Novato Sanitary Dist, Hayward Water Pollution Control Facility.

IC discussion followed the presentation.

b. 2019 State of the Estuary Report and State of the Estuary Conference Update (Action 32)

April Robinson of SFEI presented an update on the 2019 State of the Estuary Report. This report will be a shorter, interim report that will include fewer indicators and more narrative. This effort will coordinate with the CCMP, RA, WRMP, Delta. Strategically, SFEP is considering releasing an interim report between each full SOTER moving forward. This “Pocket SOTER” will be around 30 pages, will contain estuary wide indicators including: freshwater flows, fish, tidal marsh, beneficial flooding, urban water use, and public access. These indicators will not be revised but will simply be updated with new data. Our next step is to determine what emerging indicators need to be developed. Possibilities include environmental justice, trash, nature-based shorelines, subsidence, urban greening, wildlife friendly ag, south bay fish, and stormwater stewardship. Narrative updates could include nutria, oyster restoration, harbor seals, measure AA, migration space, San Joaquin flows, evaporative loss in the delta.

IC discussion followed the presentation.

Karen McDowell provided an update on planning for the State of the Estuary Conference, October 21 – 22 at the Oakland Scottish Rite center. Committees have met twice. Funding comes from reg and sponsorship. We will be reaching out to you regarding sponsorships soon! The format of the conference will remain the same: Plenary sessions both mornings with themed concurrent sessions in the afternoons. The poster session will be the same. Liz Juverra and Jillian Burns will be working closely with Karen, so you will likely hear from them at some point. We are still looking for the poster chair and student judging chairs. We may also do a drone demonstration over lake Merit. MTC ABAG are currently sponsoring a climate change video and photo competition for the 9 bay area counties that we may include in the SOE Conference. Topic ideas have almost been settled. Once that is done, we will be reaching out to interested parties to extend invitations before our next IC meeting.

7. Draft FFY 19-20 Work Plan and Budget Caitlin Sweeney, SFEP

Budget:

Estimated revenue is \$12.3m. This year’s budget has decreased due in large part to IRWM’s

successful implementation. NEP funding is expected to be around \$600,000. Our base funding supports efforts that are not grant funded including unfunded blueprint tasks, strategic planning and support for various projects.

Expenditures include passthrough (73%) and staff (27%)

Project tables – this includes all funded projects and their estimated costs for the fiscal year. It's important to keep in mind that this is a slice of multi-year projects. This table also include program management and partnership building activities that are funded through our NEP funds. We typically do not include unfunded projects, however we did include IRWM Prop 1 Round 1 funding as there is a very high level of certainty that we will secure these funds.

Unfunded Blueprint Tasks – these are tasks that SFEP has a major role in developing partnerships and to obtain funding to advance these tasks.

NEP Funds – the EPA requires a more detailed breakdown of the \$600k provided by the EPA, so there is a breakdown of that budget in the packet. The NEP funds are much tighter than they were in the past due to increased staff costs and ongoing efforts including Estuary News Magazine, website support, and participation in the Sea Grant Fellows program. There is no "CCMP Implementation" line item in the budget due to the limited funding available.

8. IC Member Announcements

Name
Item

9. Concluding Business/ Meeting Road Map: *Carol Mahoney, Chair*

Janel Lavelle - Friends has decided to continue meeting to discuss future opportunities but are not putting a lot of time and resources into current endeavors. This is a result of limited funding available to continue the work. There is a desire to continue doing work, but funding is the limiting factor. Friends will continue to issue the outstanding enviro project awards at the State of the Estuary Conference.

Luisa Valiela – Update on fy 18/19 Water Quality Improvement Fund grants. The review team has finished looking at the 9 proposals and are making final funding decisions by the end of March. We had good geographical representation in the proposals. We will not be issuing and RFP next year in favor of funding more projects this year.

John Klochack – USFW is advertising two senior biologist positions, one for measure AA BRITT and one for to support the salt marsh recovery plan.

Matt Gerhart – BRITT is fully funded. The conservancy and the RA are working on agreements with regulatory agencies currently. Priority conservation area program has received a robust set of proposals that are currently being evaluated. Explore the coast, prop 1 round, is out.

Mike Vasey – The NERR was invited by Mission Blue to submit a nomination for SF Bay as a global HOPE spot. We submitted the application and we have been approved! We will be announcing that soon. We'll be asking stakeholders to weigh in on this designation and what it means to

stakeholders and communities. The idea of this designation is to build public awareness of the bay and it's myriad benefits and challenges.

Lucas Patzek – Napa County Water Symposium (May 16) to present case studies on interesting science. NOAA has a grant program on education due B-WET due in April.

10. Adjourn

Attendees:

IC Members: Mike Vasey, Barbara Slazman, Chris Potter, Melanie Strum, Jessica Martini-Lamb, Brian Meux, Adrian Covert, Debra Krustic, Matt Gerhart, Luisa Valiela, John Klochak, John Andrew, Amanda Bohl, David Williams, Lucas Patzek, Alyson Williams, Jane Lavelle, Warner Chabot, Brad Paul, Tom Mumley, Carol Mahoney, Alyson Aquino, Becky Smyth

SFEP Staff: Caitlin Sweeney, Athena Honore, Josh Bradt, Adrien Baudrimont, Darcie Luce, Natasha Dunn, Heidi Nutters, Liz Juvera, James Muller, Karen McDowell, Jillian Burns.

Guests: April Robinson (SFEI)