

SFEP Implementation Committee
May 18th, 2022

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees:

IC Members: Tom Mumley, Amanda Bohl, Arthur Feinstein, Ashley Cooper, Ashley LaBass, Barbara Salzman, Beth Campbell, Brad Paul, Casey Arendt, Debra Kustic, Elke Rank, Greg Martinelli, Jane Lavelle, Jessica Martini-Lamb, Kristen Isom, Lindsay Corea, Lorien Fono, Luisa Valiela, Mark Gold, Pat Eklund, Sandra Scoggin, Sarah Azat, Stuart Siegel, Warner Chabot

SFEP Staff: Caitlin Sweeney, Alex Thomsen, Athena Honore, Carmen Zamora, Darcie Luce, Diana Fu, Heidi Nutters, James Muller, Josh Bradt, Karen McDowell, Leslie Perry, Natasha Dunn, Sarina Seaton

1. Welcome/Intros

Tom Mumley called the meeting to order and introduced the attendees.

2. Approve 3/16/22 Meeting Summary (ACTION)

Motion to approve 3/16/2022 meeting summary by Amanda Bohl, seconded by Arthur Feinstein. Motion carried.

3. Directors Report

Caitlin Sweeney highlighted several items in Director's Report

- Gratitude for all who worked on the Estuary Blueprint. Looking for feedback for continued engagement and successful implementation
- Celebrate completion of Urban Greening project. 1.75 million funded by EPA
- New Project: Continue partnership to support Oro Loma Horizontal Levee Living Laboratory
- Received \$5 million for Petaluma watershed drought resistance
- Highlight communications- Dockside Podcast, NPR, Open Road

Tom: *Lots of Green stormwater infrastructure planning. Hoping you all will be supportive of your local community efforts.*

Luisa: *Wants to call out efforts and Oro Loma outdoor laboratory & showcase for resiliency.*

Tom: *wants to highlight the enhancement of the living laboratory in treating reverse osmosis concentrate. Key issue in the future. Valley water is pursuing an increase for treated wastewater which creates the concentrate. Opportunity to discharge in the Bay. Horizontal Levee system at Oro Loma seems very promising. Will it be cost effective? Better if these proj. are spread across different agencies.*

4. FY Final Budget and Workplan (ACTION)

Caitlin presented the final FY 22 Work Plan and Budget for IC approval. March 16th the Draft was proposed. Two changes have been made to the draft: 1) Incorrect amount for BIL Year One funds (\$915k) amended to correct amount of \$909,800; and 2) EPA NEP funding corrected from \$700k to \$750k. Minor changes.

Would like to add a 2nd California Sea Grant Fellow from additional NEP funds. Am recommending approval. Workplan and budget due to EPA by June 1st.

Motion to approve by Barbara Salzman, seconded by Arthur Feinstein. Motion carried.

5. 5-Year Strategy and Year 1 Workplan (INFORMATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

Josh Bradt, SFEP presented overall strategy and draft Year 1 workplan. Discussion ensued.

Tom: Would like a clarification on timing.

Luisa: Best to follow through with already established process. We will be out in front. Best to get systems in place now.

Tom: Oct 1 earliest funding?

Arthur: Why do we have two years of planning to get communications out? We don't have huge amounts of time to get the message of adaptation. Would like to see implementation and continued planning before 2 years.

Josh: Not the intent that existing communication efforts would not continue. Staff capacity is going to take about 2 years to come out with a long term strategy.

Tom: not clear by this outline. This will pay for program planning but we're projecting tapping year 2 funds? Line item to continue the planning work in year 2. No project in year one except for a report?

On the oro loma, 100k on top of 1 million, not clear what is actually being done with these funds. Are they going to Oro loma or are they going to cover staff time?

Josh: Going to Oro Loma directly.

Tom: 2 observations. 1.) Equity program. Very important partnership need. Want to emphasize partnership in the broad concepts. Needs overlap with partners.

Expectation/ask effort to accommodate as possible communicate with partners how we can use these efforts to complement partnerships needs in this as my group has limited capacity. Synergistic benefit, not a siloed effort. Coordinated voice on these issues.

Danielle Meiring from the City of Alameda gave presentation on the San Leandro Operational Landscape Unit (OLU) Adaptation Project. Discussion ensued.

Arthur: exciting project. Didn't see any environmental groups except for greenbelt alliance. Big mistake to not have environmental groups included.

Danielle: Not too late to add groups. We do have a number of groups pushing for habitat

Casey: Eelgrass habitat?

Danielle: Coastal Conservancy at last working group meeting. We have a federal earmark for veterans court area.

Casey: If you need more people, Audobon would like to participate in focus groups on eelgrass.

Luisa: *Wondering about if the group has engaged the regional park district. Related to Alameda dunes?*

Danielle: *coordinating closely with East Bay Regional Parks. Doolittle Drive. Alameda Beaches. Addressing sand loss at crown beach memorial.*

Luisa: *Excited by everything. Possibility for Restoration Authority funding?*

Danielle: *Restoration Authority funding would be welcome.*

Luisa: *History of Alameda regulatory land use not what we would want it to be. Are land use planning choices being made differently due to climate change.*

Danielle: *Idk if things are being done differently but we have a lot of support. More urgency now. Challenge for Alameda in terms of balancing sea level rise & housing needs.*

Brad: *The connection btwn what's happening in Alameda & Housing. Appealing RHNA, the planning director wanted help with Sea Level rise issue. Showing issue of how many housing would be uninhabitable.*

Tom: *Question on local efforts are starting to gel. Using the platform as a starting point. We develop adaptation atlas with suite of units. They will be adapted to location and politics. With that in mind, this unit includes the areas, what is the initial feeling about the imprint, is it going to work. To work collectively not independently.*

Danielle: *How do we stay at the subregional level but also drill down on these smaller areas. Balance hyperlocal with subregional.*

Tom: *we can figure out an alternative if need be for eg: San Leandro. We all have a stake in the shoreline. Yimby's & Nimby's. How to accommodate competing interests.*

Motion to approve the BIL 5-year Funding Strategy and Year 1 Workplan and Budget by Arthur Feinstein seconded by Casey Arndt. Motion carried.

6. 2022 Estuary Blueprint

Darcie Luce provided an update on approval and release of the Blueprint. Discussion ensued.

Question about Op-Eds from Luisa.

Darcie: *Great to have executive council member as co-author. Poll results. What excites you most about Estuary Blueprint 2022? What will the Estuary Blueprint help you and the region achieve? Next Steps*

Tom: *Thank you Darcie, now we can get on with implementation*

7. IC Member Announcements

- Barbara: We're happy to have received a Grant from Ocean Protection Council to continue our work at Tiscornia marsh have also received funds from the Restoration Authority.
- Lorien: Darcie and I have been collaborating with the One Water Network on Bay Area water conservation. Workshops limited to stakeholders but outcome will be distributed to all communities report out late this summer.
- Sandra: Nearing completion of Implementation Strategy - Restoring the Estuary 2022 - in August. Joint Venture will be announcing 2 new staff positions hopefully in June.
- Tom: Regional water board approved plan. Key issues Green Stormwater infrastructure. Expanded required projects that are required green infrastructure. Very controversial

inclusion of certain types of road rehabilitation. Conflicting with limited resources. Want to make sure they don't create unintended consequences. Revised from TOD to affordable housing element. Providing clarification on effect on cost of housing. Discharge trash compliance. Challenges remain but progress has been made as well. Lastly enhanced attention to control of PCBs in old industrial areas.

Barbara: *As a resident of one of the counties that is not included? What is the plan for us? Can we participate in the projects?*

Tom: *All the municipalities are covered by a stormwater permit.*

Barbara: *No plans to update requirements for these communities.*

Tom: *requirements are in the process of being updated. But existing requirements already provide a driver for infrastructure funds.*

Barbara: *Why would they separate it out.*

Luisa: *Phase I and Phase 2?*

Barbara: *Permit issue for some counties on the bay and not others.*

Tom: *Permitting done in 2 phases. Population with 100k or greater. All other communities subject to a follow up rule. Why Marin Sonoma & Napa had different incorporations. Our Board is expected to bring closure on Basin Plan Amendment which adds climate change & sea level rise in a non regulatory way for current & future Baylands.*

Jane: *A quick thanks to everyone for their efforts. Formal announcement that Michael B. Carlin is retiring as COO SFPUC.*

8. Meeting Roadmap

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.