



A Bright Future

Para Nuestra Comunidad

Community Leadership in the Peninsula on Groundwater Rise & Contaminated Sites

State of the Estuary

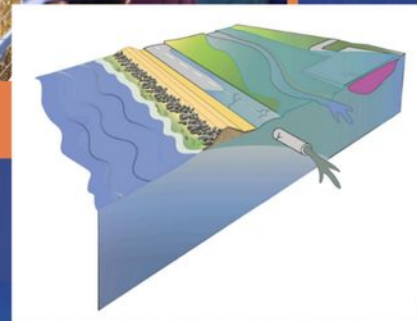
October 29th, 2025

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From Tap Water to Contaminated Sites





Menlo Park

Palo Alto

East Palo Alto



Source: San Francisco Creek
Joint Power
Authorities



Source: San Francisco Creek
Joint Power Authorities



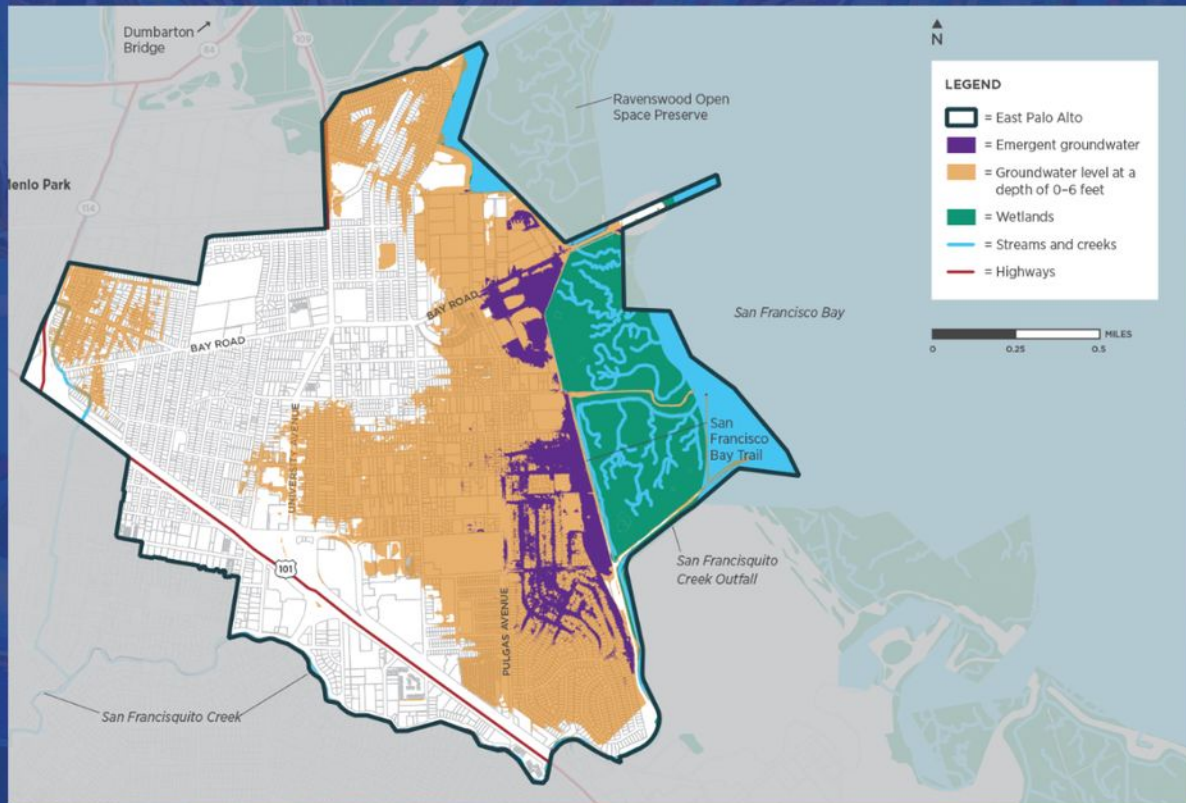
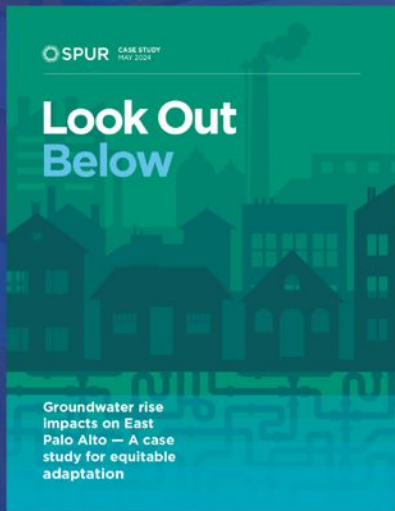
Source: Valley Water



Source: San Francisco Creek
Joint Power Authorities



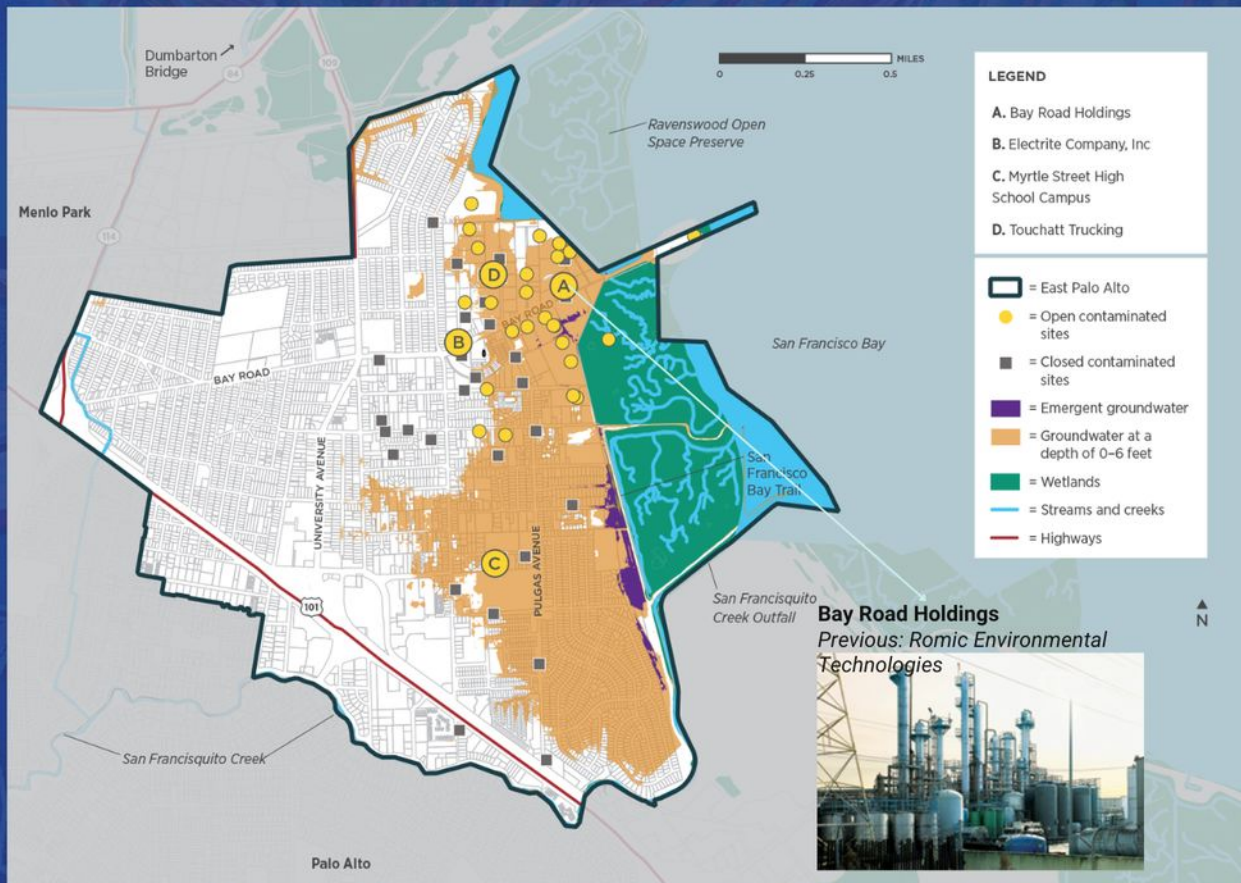
Ground Water Rise With 2 Feet of Sea Level Rise (2070 -2080)



Source: SPUR Look Out Report



Contaminated Sites in East Palo Alto

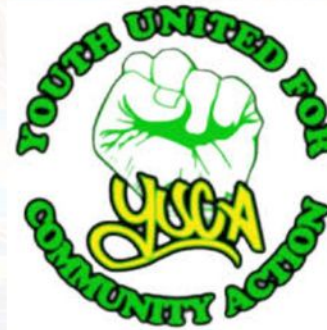


Source: SPUR Look Out Report

Peninsula Accountability for Contamination Team (PACT)

Mission Statement:

Our mission is to advocate alongside community members to advance **contaminated site clean-up and infrastructure resilience**, addressing the impacts of sea level and groundwater rise in **low-lying areas of the Peninsula**. Through this work, we aim to safeguard the health and well-being of our community for generations to come.





Romic Environmental Technologies (Bay Road Holdings)

- In 1964, the toxic technological waste facility began operation
- Starting in 1991, they would operate off a temporary permit for 10 years and dispose of waste in groundwater
- A 13-year campaign led by Youth United for Community Action (YUCA) would see Romic finally close in 2007
 - After rallies, meetings, and letters to the DTSC and EPA
 - And data of adverse health impacts





Leadership in Action

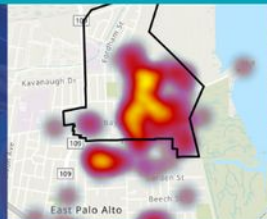
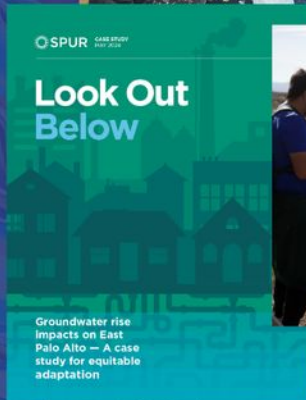
- **Science Communication and Outreach to the Community**

- Town halls, Workshops, Tabling
 - Public Health Assessment

- **Sharing Our Story**

- **Policy Advocacy**

- Presenting to the local jurisdictions
 - Federal policy: Groundwater Rise & Infrastructure Preparedness Act





Launching VOC Testing Pilot

- **The Problem:** The Romic site was ordered to shut down in 2007, but remediation is slow, which poses ongoing contamination risks to local residents
- **The Science:** Inspired by Dr. Kristina Hill's research on volatile organic compound (VOC) remobilization from rising groundwater
- **Community + Data = Power:** Combining scientific testing with community voices and lived experiences to drive policy action
- **Next Steps:** Credible data collection that officials can't ignore and advocate for clean up and other mitigation measures to protect the human & non-human community





Thank You!