BCDC’s Bay Plan Environmental Justice and Social Equity Policies

Presentation to SFBRA Advisory Committee
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Outline

- Background
- Amendment process
- Findings and policies
- Implementation
The Regional Vulnerable Communities Picture
Amend the San Francisco Bay Plan to incorporate principles of environmental justice and social equity into the planning, design, and permitting of shoreline projects in and along the San Francisco Bay.
Environmental Justice Bay Plan Amendment Process

- EJ Commissioner Working Group Meetings
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Attending lectures, events, and workshops

Initiated July 2017

June 2018 and January 2019

July 2019 and October 2019
EJ Commissioner Working Group and EJ Review Team

BCDC’s EJ Commissioner Working Group members, EJ Review Team members, and BCDC staff. Source: Eddie Ahn
What does this amendment do?

• Recognize BCDC’s role in environmental injustices and social inequities around the region
• Add definitions and guiding principles to shape the Commission’s work
• Require meaningful community involvement in certain projects
• Identify and address disproportionate impacts of projects within BCDC's authority and jurisdiction
What does this amendment do?

- Use inclusive design principles in the evaluation of public access projects
- Identify and address potential adjacent adverse impacts of shoreline protection
- Incorporate sea level rise science into remediation projects
- Consider distribution of mitigation benefits
Meaningful Community Involvement

- Equitable, culturally-relevant community outreach and engagement
- Conducted by local governments and project applicants
- For major projects and appropriate minor projects in underrepresented and/or identified vulnerable and/or disadvantaged communities
- Continue throughout the Commission review and permitting processes
- Provide evidence
Public Access

- Barrier-free for people with disabilities, people of all income levels, and for people of all cultures

- Community involvement in the design of public access spaces and amenities to ensure public access is inclusive
Public Access

- For in-lieu public access that cannot be near the site, create public access in public access-poor communities.

- Signage should be in the appropriate languages and/or icon-based.

- BCDC’s Design Review Board should encourage inclusive public access.
Implementation - Phase 1  
(Fall/Winter 2019/2020)

- Develop implementation guidance
- Make BCDC’s vulnerable communities data publicly available
- Training for regulatory staff
- Training for Commission and Design Review Board
- Outreach and trainings for applicants and local governments
- Capacity exchange and relationship building between CBOs and BCDC staff
Implementation - Phase 2 (2020+)

- Improve BCDC’s community outreach and engagement
- Improve public meeting and material accessibility
- Improve agency collaboration and coordination
- Explicitly address equity in day-to-day operations
  - Communications and public education
  - Examine recruitment, hiring, and retention
Implementation - Phase 2 (2020+)

- Update Public Access Design Guidelines
- Update Regulations
- Explore amending the McAteer-Petris Act
- Build capacity to address tribal issues
- Ensure EJ and equity are central to regional shoreline adaptation planning
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