



Resilient Coast Santa Cruz 2.0 - Shoreline Adaptation Blueprint

Advisory Committee Meeting #3

Meeting Notes

Meeting Time: April 30, 12:30pm – 2pm

Meeting Location (Hybrid):

- Microsoft Teams:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/29739458215899?p=w3uGXkyEYeBJRLjnKz>

Dial in by phone

[+1 872-242-8054](tel:+18722428054), [324381389#](tel:+1324381389) United States, Chicago

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 324 381 389#

- In-person: City Hall Room 106 (Planning Conference Room), 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz CA 95060

Total Attendees: 30 Advisory Committee participants, 3 City of Santa Cruz staff, 2 consultant staff

In-Person Attendees (13):

- Tiffany Wise-West – City of Santa Cruz
- Hilary Papendick – City of Santa Cruz
- William Kelley – City of Santa Cruz
- Hilary Bryant – Save West Cliff
- David Carlson - County of Santa Cruz
- Ryan Diller – State Parks
- Valerie Mishkin – Smart Coast CA
- Scott Rohlf – State Parks
- Steve Svete – Retired resident
- Katie Thompson – Save Our Shores
- Felicia Van Stolk – Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History
- Bennett Williamson – Ecology Action

- Tracy Weiss - O'Neill Sea Odyssey

Microsoft Teams attendees (22)-

- Alexis Harrison – CA Fish & Wildlife
- Bella Bonner – Black Surf Santa Cruz
- Borja Ruegero - UCSC
- Catalina Foster - CalTrans
- Claire Bonham-Carter - Pathways Climate Institute (project consultant)
- Christopher Huitt – State Lands Commission
- Dion Shattuck-Baker
- Doug George- NOAA
- Eric Lombardo – Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
- Fifer Garbesi - Future Forum
- Foster Andersen – Shared Adventures
- Gino Garcia - Ventures
- Ivan Blumberg – Santa Cruz Beach Volleyball Club
- Jane McKenzie – Santa Cruz Longboard Union
- Jason Adelaars – Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
- Jesse Traller Ojeda – California Marine Sanctuary Foundation
- Jonathan Hicken - Seymour Center
- Juliette Hayes – US Army Corps of Engineers
- Maria Elena de la Garza – Community Action Board
- Megan Kelso – UCSC Coastal Resilience Center
- Shaun Burns (Save The Waves)
- Suzi Clark - Pathways Climate Institute (project consultant)

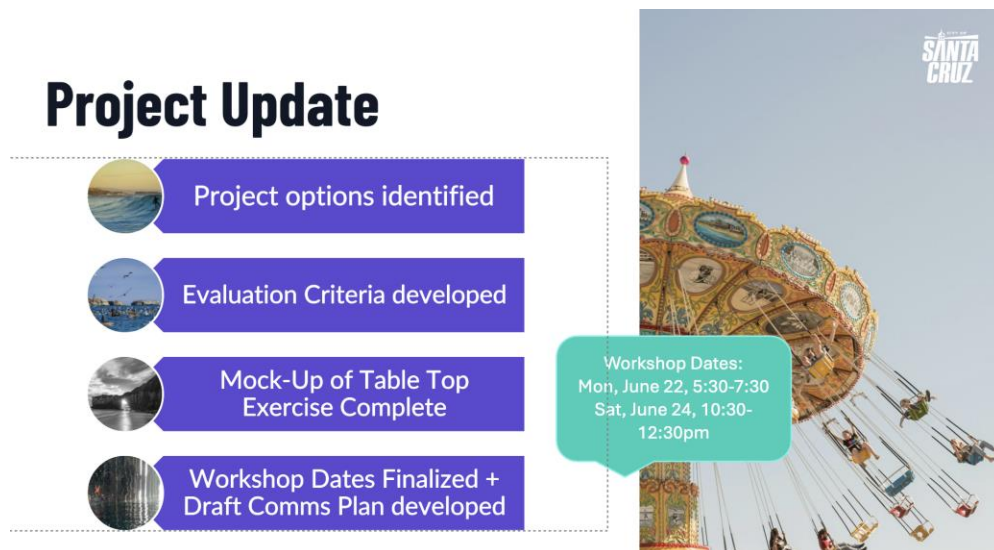
Agenda Topics

1. Welcome + Project Update

- Tiffany kicked off the meeting, went over ground rules, and gave an update on what has been accomplished on the project. As a reminder, the project outcome is a set of Blueprints, one for each subarea (West Cliff, Main/Cowell Beaches, and Seabright/East Cliff). The Blueprints are short, 10-page documents that will outline the approach in each area. The Blueprints will be accompanied by Shoreline Adaptation Management Plans, that will explain in detail the approach.

- Tiffany explained that since the last Advisory Committee meeting in February, City staff have identified project options for the three subareas. Tiffany explained that the strategies have three large buckets: 1) Protect, 2) Move back, 3) Accommodate. The actions and specific projects fall into those categories

Staff developed draft evaluation criteria and a mockup of the table-top exercise for review at this meeting. Staff also set the dates for the 2nd community workshops: June 22nd 5:30-7:30pm and June 27th from 10:30-12:30pm. The project team is working on an outreach plan for the workshops. The team is also working on partnering with different organizations to conduct focus groups and targeted outreach with hard-to-reach communities. Once finalized, we will be in touch with more details on these efforts.



2. Summary of 2nd Advisory Committee Meeting

- Hilary provided a summary of the feedback from the February 24th meeting, where City staff went over the concept for the table-top exercise. Advisory Committee members said that the exercise was too complex and overly technical. They also suggested that the exercise show the cost of doing nothing, so people know the consequences of not taking action.
- Advisory Committee members emphasized using short, easy to understand videos to educate the community about adaptation strategies in advance of the workshops. Tiffany explained that the UCSC Coastal Science and Policy grad program is producing 2 videos explaining adaptation strategies and tradeoffs.

February 24th meeting



Keep table-top exercise simple, avoid overly technical information, show cost of doing nothing



Provide supplemental information in a poster-board rather than a packet



Share technical information in short, easy-to-understand videos, shared through social media, collaborate with other organizations on posts

3. Draft Evaluation Criteria for Projects and Policy Options

- Hilary talked through why we have developed Evaluation Criteria. The evaluation criteria are a way to evaluate whether project options align with vision statements and the LCP policies. It also allows some objective comparison between project options, as scores can be compared. The evaluation criteria are based on the guiding principles and policies in the 50-year West Cliff Vision adopted by City Council, the Local Coastal Program, including the Beaches and Bluffs Chapter recently adopted by the Coastal Commission, and the City's Health in All Policies.
- Hilary talked through all of the guiding principles and policies.
- Fifer asked about a guiding policy around species protection and water quality. And Tiffany explained this was an omission and we will update the guiding policy list.
- Hilary talked through each of the Evaluation Criteria and the scoring. Evaluation criteria are each 12 points except for the feasibility and equity criteria.
- MariaElena asked about workforce development and who will be doing the work – i.e. local vendors, City, contractors, etc. Tiffany responded that this would come into play more when we are building the projects, but it should be considered now.
- Steve Svete mentioned that the Active Transportation Plan was adopted Tuesday. It did not include any active transportation along West Cliff because it will be considered as part of this effort. Tiffany responded that this is a medium-term plan,

and things like Sharrows should be completed irrespective of the plan. The Active Transportation Team has been involved in this project, and Tiffany will connect with them to discuss making sure active transportation elements are fully integrated into the SAMPs. Items that City staff has already discussed include ADA compliance curbs, crosswalks, and bike parking along West Cliff, including at the Lighthouse.

Discussion on Evaluation Criteria

- Suggestion to look into City of Oceanside, where they are considering artificial reefs off their coast to better understand regulatory requirements.
- Alexis - CA Fish and Wildlife - suggested City staff contact the Marine Region of CA Fish & Wildlife to find out more about artificial reef efforts and permitting. Look up CARP Funding Feasibility.
- Felicia (SCMNH): commented that in #5, we are bundling a lot of things. Consider a higher score. There is a lot of overlap/crossover between criteria, which could double the weight of certain things.
- For #5, specifies protection and water quality are both in this criterium but are quite different. Suggest separating out, and increasing weight of criteria focused on ecosystem protection.
- Another suggestion to break out #5.
- There was a note that for #1, storm effects are included in elements of safety.
- Traffic impacts – there was a suggestion to lower the scoring for traffic impacts.
 - o Tiffany explained that a major part of the West Cliff 50 Year Vision was mitigating impacts on Westside residents, for example from traffic on residential streets.
 - o Westside resident -> I'd prefer someone park in front of my house and walk to W. Cliff than to drive up and down the Rec. corridor
- Big picture comment – lower the number of points for safety and quality of life/ traffic concerns.
- We had a question around scoring: Who is doing the scoring/how will it work?
 - o Tiffany explained that City staff are planning to conduct an initial scoring with consultant team, then vet scores with this committee
- There was a question about how these criteria will be used?
 - o Tiffany explained that these will be used to compare possible options (strategy options) in specific areas
- One participant stated that ideally, the scoring is complete BEFORE the table-top exercise to add a tool for people to use in their evaluation and prioritization
- There was a question about whether cost is included?

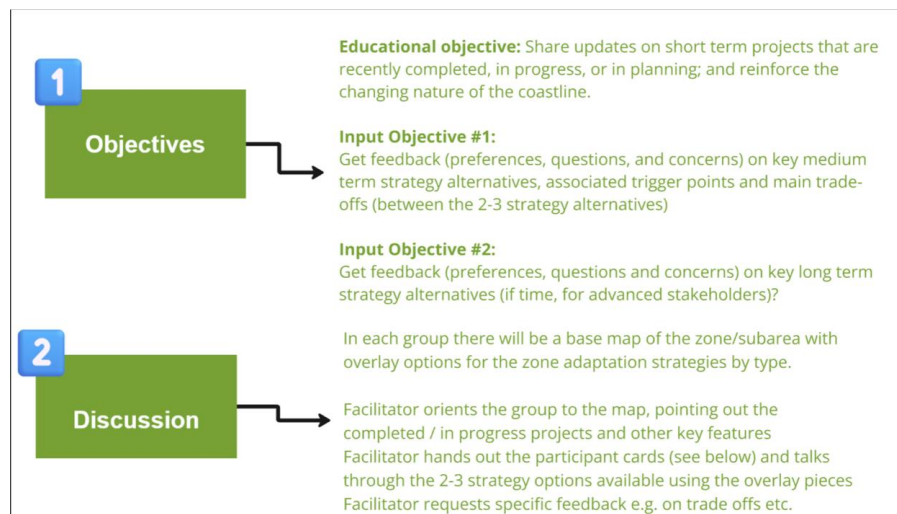
- Tiffany explained that we didn't include cost in the criteria but will evaluate costs after. We don't want costs to hinder the development of possible options.

4. Draft Table-Top Exercise Mock Up

Tiffany gave an overview of the Table-Top Exercise Mock Up, and introduced the project consultants Suzi Clark and Claire Bonham Carter from Pathways Climate Institute. They worked on a similar exercise for Plan Princeton in San Mateo County.

The objectives of the exercise include:

- Educate a bit on the history and context
- Input Objectives
 - Feedback on medium term strategy, trigger points for action, and trade-offs
 - Feedback on long term strategy alternatives (not the MAIN focus of this project but acknowledging that what we do in this project will impact future options.)



- The exercise will start with Vision Statements that give participants an understanding of what the starting point is.
- Then the Facilitator will orient the group to a map, talk through future expected conditions, and provide overlays to show project options.
 - Example:
 - Overlay #1: Protect (3 associated projects)
 - Overlay #2: Move back (3 associated projects)

- Option --> maybe we need to do a combination of projects from Overlay #1 and #2
- Tiffany encouraged Advisory Committee members to check out Santa Cruz County's survey for their Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and Local Coastal Program Amendment on Adaptation Scenarios and Strategies. It has good information on tradeoffs between different strategies. It is available through Community Document: <https://communitydocument.com/viewPulse/sccslrva>. You have to create a login to access.

Discussion:

- MariaElena: Do we have any strategies besides folks coming to us?
 - Tiffany replied that there will be an online feedback options associated with each in-person event
 - Also have a number of focus groups coming up.
 - City staff are working to confirm our partnerships with different groups and community-based organizations to reach hard-to-reach community members. We are currently planning to do focus groups with Black Surf Santa Cruz and Homeless Garden Project and are planning to table with Shared Adventures at Day On the Beach in July. We are in discussions with Ventures and Community Action Board about additional activities. We will also be conducting 2nd focus group in the Beach Flats community this summer. We conducted a first focus group in December to introduce the project.
 - And also, are planning on doing a lot of tabling at community events, including Juneteenth
 - If Advisory Committee members have ideas for upcoming events where we could table or could share materials, please let us know. We will try to attend based on capacity.
- Scott asked: Regarding the Online Survey -> will it be zipcode blocked? Will people have free reign?

- Tiffany replied: the Story Map will incorporate zip code question but is not limited to City residents. We are looking to capture visitor/tourist perspective as well
- Bennet (EA) --> color coding projects according the "Strategy" they pertain to is very helpful
 - Adding some "impact" associated with each project (on the back of the card) would also be helpful
 - Have everyone take a moment before starting to identify something they prioritize (recreation, nature, traffic, etc.) before starting the exercise. Suggests a prompt to the participants to “Reflect on who and what you are representing” before the activity starts.
- Another Committee member commented: Mixing people up across their affinity groups will help produce more genuine perspectives. E.g. not having "all surfers" or all neighbors doing it together to avoid bubbles.
- Megan K. -> what are the takeaways from this exercise?
 - Tiffany responded:
 - Participant cards will be collected
 - Exit survey
 - UCSC grad students will maybe be notetakers to capture conversations
- Tiffany explained we are trying to identify DIFFERENCES in opinion as much as similarities. Where are the pressure points and difficult trade-offs?
- Jesse -> +1 to notetaker separate from the facilitator. Plus, also incorporate the "Circle" process to equalize voices across a group.
- Bennett -> explain "trigger points"
 - Tiffany explained that triggers are probably the least thought-out component as of right now
 - Basically, triggers try to capture when actions need to be taken, while acknowledging that the political, social, and environmental context could change a lot before actions we plan today could be necessary.

- Since we don't know the rate of SLR, we can plan to be more agile and only take actions when we need to.
- Maybe triggers are layered on top of desired Strategies / Projects as secondary consideration?

5. Community Engagement Updates

- Meetings scheduled for June 22, 5:30-7:30pm (West Cliff), and June 27, 10:30-12:30pm (Main/Cowell and Seabright/East Cliff).
- Locations tentatively – West Cliff at Shrine Church and Main/Cowell at Londen Nelson Center.

6. Closing