



Project funded by



# Shoreline Adaptation + Management Plans

## Data Summary Technical Brief Snapshot

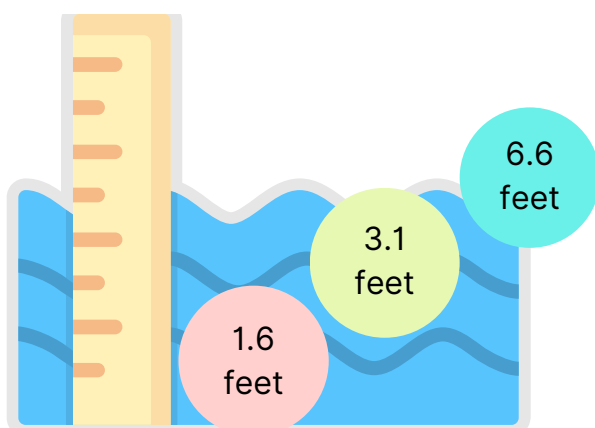
### What's Happening and Why It Matters

Santa Cruz's coastline is facing growing risks from erosion and flooding due to intense storms, sea level and groundwater rising - made worse by climate change. This project builds on years of planning to address these hazards by creating clear, community-supported resilience blueprints for three coastal areas: West Cliff, Main/Cowell Beaches, and East Cliff. Together, we will prepare Santa Cruz for future coastal change over the next 20 – 30 years by producing Shoreline Adaptation and Management Plans (SAMPs) and fundable implementation blueprints that will help Santa Cruz preserve its coastline, neighborhoods, and natural and recreational resources for generations to come.

### What is the Data Summary Technical Brief?

The Data Summary Technical Brief is the first of four technical reports that, together with the implementation blueprint, will comprise the SAMPs. It inventories prior coastal planning work, documents compliance with SB 272 and Ocean Protection Council (OPC) criteria, and establishes baseline and updated projected conditions for sea level rise, flooding, erosion, and groundwater impacts.

### Sea Level Rise Scenarios



## Key Findings by Subarea

West Cliff	Main/Cowell Beaches	Seabright/East Cliff
Sensitive habitats, cultural resources, surf breaks, public access, and critical infrastructure are at risk.	Sensitive habitats, cultural resources, recreational activities, surf breaks, public access, and critical infrastructure vulnerable to flooding.	Sensitive habitats, cultural resources, recreational activities, and critical infrastructure are at risk.
Beach widths may increase or remain stable until 2050, then decline by 2100.	Beach widths projected to steadily decrease through 2100.	Current beach width equilibrium will decline significantly by 2100.
Unarmored areas will erode faster; however armored areas may lead to faster beach loss.	Groundwater rise could mobilize contaminants, and increase flood risk in this low-lying subarea	Emergent groundwater widespread under moderate/high scenarios.
Wave overtopping and storm damage projected to worsen; storm drain infrastructure already deteriorating.	High risk of combined coastal and riverine flooding under high sea level rise scenarios.	Flooding and erosion risks persist under all scenarios.

## Compliance with SB 272 and OPC Sea Level Rise Criteria

The Data Summary Technical brief demonstrates that the City of Santa Cruz has met most of the SB 272 and OPC sea level rise criteria through prior work. The remaining gaps are addressed through this and forthcoming technical briefs, and include 1) Groundwater and contaminated site vulnerability analysis (Data Summary Technical Brief), 2) Documenting Cultural resource considerations and tribal engagement (Ongoing), and 3) Financing strategies for adaptation implementation (Forthcoming).



**Next Steps** for this project include refinement and development of 20-30 year adaptation strategies across the three subareas, creation of funding plans for priority coastal resilience and adaptation projects, development of Local Coastal Program policies, and ongoing community engagement.

## **Working Together: Make your Voice Heard! Get Engaged!**

Between community conversations, focus groups, online feedback forms and surveys, there are many opportunities to help shape the outcomes of this project. A diverse advisory group consisting of over 30 community members representing a wide range of interests is helping to ensure the engagement activities are accessible and equitable as the project progresses. And City Council will be updated at key milestones, making decisions along the way.

Although the City team is using flyers, mailers, social media, media releases, and its network of partners to spread the word about this project, the best way to be informed about upcoming opportunities to engage in is to sign up for the City Manager's Update. You can also follow project progress and view project materials at the project webpage.

### **City Manager's Update**



[bit.ly/CM\\_Update](https://bit.ly/CM_Update)

### **Project Webpage:**



[bit.ly/RCSC2](https://bit.ly/RCSC2)

***Resilient Coast Santa Cruz 2.0 is the next wave of the  
City's Coastal Hazard Planning Projects***

