

Bay Area Regional Listening Session For Climate Adaptation in California

October 12, 2015
6:00pm to 8:00pm

MetroCenter Auditorium
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Listening Session Objectives:

This series of listening sessions seek to:

- Learn about local and regional climate adaptation priorities, challenges, ongoing efforts and successful models and programs.
- Communicate the State's current actions and plans for adaptation initiatives.
- Provide a forum to discuss collaboration and connection between state adaptation initiatives and efforts at the local and regional level.
- Engage with disadvantaged communities to meaningfully address their vulnerability to climate impacts.
- Gather ideas and input on a model for state adaptation policy that prioritizes holistic local and regional visioning, implementable actions, and institutional reform rather than sector-specific recommendations for incremental change

AGENDA

6:00 Welcome

6:05 Presentation on State's Climate Adaptation Activities

State representatives will provide an overview of developing state adaptation policy and a summary and key points from the Draft Sector-Based Implementation Action Plans. State representatives expected to attend include:

- **Joey Wall and JR DeLaRosa**, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)
- **Michael McCormick**, Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR)
- **Abe Doherty and Nick Sadrpour**, Ocean Protection Council, CNRA

6:25 Questions responding to Presentation on State Activities

6:35 Presentation on Key Regional Adaptation Issues

Brief presentations from diverse local and regional organization on important regional adaptation issues, including an overview of ongoing adaptation efforts, priorities for the region, and opportunities to engage vulnerable populations in adaptation planning and action.

- **Abigail Kroch**, Director of Epidemiology, Planning & Evaluation at Contra Costa County Health Services
- **Jose Lopez**, East Oakland Community Organizer, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE)
- **Miriam Torres**, Coastal Planner, San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission (BCDC)
- **Jack Liebster (invited)**, Planning Manager, Marin County Community Development Agency
- **Shirley Qian**, Planner, Capital Corridor Joint Powers Authority
- **Salote Soqo (invited)**, Bay Area Program Coordinator, Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
- **Matt Gerhart**, Deputy Program Manager, San Francisco Bay Area, State Coastal Conservancy
- **Wendy Goodfriend**, Senior Planner, BCDC (Representing work by ABAG & BCDC)

7:15 Public Input & Discussion

Participants will have the opportunity to share their comments and suggestions for improving climate adaptation efforts in the region and coordination with the State. Some questions to help guide the discussion include:

- What is a helpful role for the State from your perspective in helping build resilience at the local level? What are some ideas for specific actions that State agencies could take to fulfill this role or roles? Are there any specific priorities you can identify?
- What can the State do to help build a more holistic vision for regional adaptation that works across sectors?
- How can the State better connect state actions to local needs and priorities?
- What are some suggestions to restructure current State initiatives, and in particular the Safeguarding California plan, to better promote integrated climate adaptation action, that effectively helps break down silos?
- What are some additional strategies for better engaging disadvantaged and vulnerable populations at the local and regional level in cross-sector adaptation efforts?

7:50 Closing Remarks

State representatives and host will summarize key take-aways from the listening session and outline next steps.

8:00 Adjourn

Expectations for Participation

The listening session will bring together a large, diverse group with representatives from different areas of expertise, responsibilities and perspectives. To create an atmosphere of open dialogue, maximum participation and helpful feedback, please see below a few expectations for participation.

Full Participation

All participants are encouraged to engage in the discussion and share their comments. Although we realize that there is not much time before this meeting, we encourage you to review the draft implementation plans to prepare as much as possible for the discussion. Please keep comments concise to allow time for everyone to participate.

Open Dialogue

To create an inclusive atmosphere that fosters open and honest dialogue, please respect all participants regardless of their level of knowledge and point of view. While strong opinions are certainly expected and appropriate, please express them in a respectful manner. Feel free to ask any question to the local host and state representatives to open lines of communication.

Constructive Feedback

We want to make this listening session as meaningful as possible with key take-aways that are actionable. When sharing frustrations or criticisms, please provide concrete suggestions for improvement, such as:

- If you would like to advocate that the State use more funds for a specific cause, please suggest how existing revenue streams might be better used or targeted instead.
- If you have issues with specific state departments or programs, please provide a proposal on how they can be improved.
- If you are frustrated that state policy has not provided enough opportunities for public input, please suggest a framework that would give you and your community the ability to meaningfully contribute.