



San Francisco Waterfront Flood Study – Draft Plan Release Community Engagement Summary

Port Commission June 11, 2024



AGENDA

- 1 Flood Study and Draft Plan**
- 2 Summary of Draft Plan community engagement initiatives and events**
- 3 Common themes and questions collected from the community**
- 4 Overview of next steps in the Flood Study process**



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Flood Study and Draft Plan



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FLOOD STUDY – NEPA PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- The **Flood Study** analyzes **coastal flood risk** and the effects of **sea level rise** to the San Francisco waterfront along the Port's 7.5-mile jurisdiction over the next 100 years.
- The Flood Study is led by the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)** in collaboration with the **City of San Francisco**.
- **Draft Plan** released for public comment January 26, 2024. Release of Draft Plan initiated a **60-day public comment period**.
- Draft Plan **proposes actions** to defend the shoreline against rising sea levels and includes an **environmental analysis**.
- The proposed solutions are estimated to cost **\$13.5 billion** (high-level, preliminary cost estimate) and, if approved by Congress, the Federal government may pay **65% of the cost**.

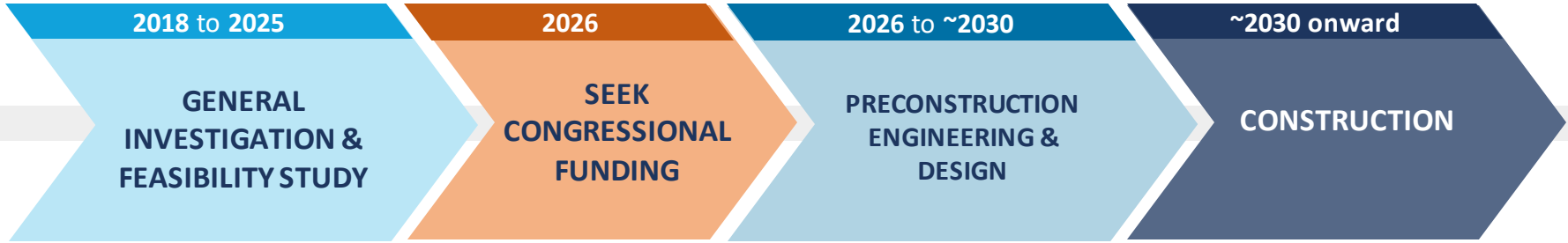


San Francisco Waterfront
Flood Study



WHERE ARE WE IN THE FLOOD STUDY PROCESS?

We are here
Release of Draft Plan



What to expect

Draft Plan for public engagement and technical reviews (*Winter 2024*), and Recommended Plan (*2025*)

What to expect

USACE Chief of Engineers recommends the project to Congress.

Congress will then decide whether to authorize and fund the project

What to expect

Detailed design and engineering, implementation, and phasing pending Congressional funding

What to expect

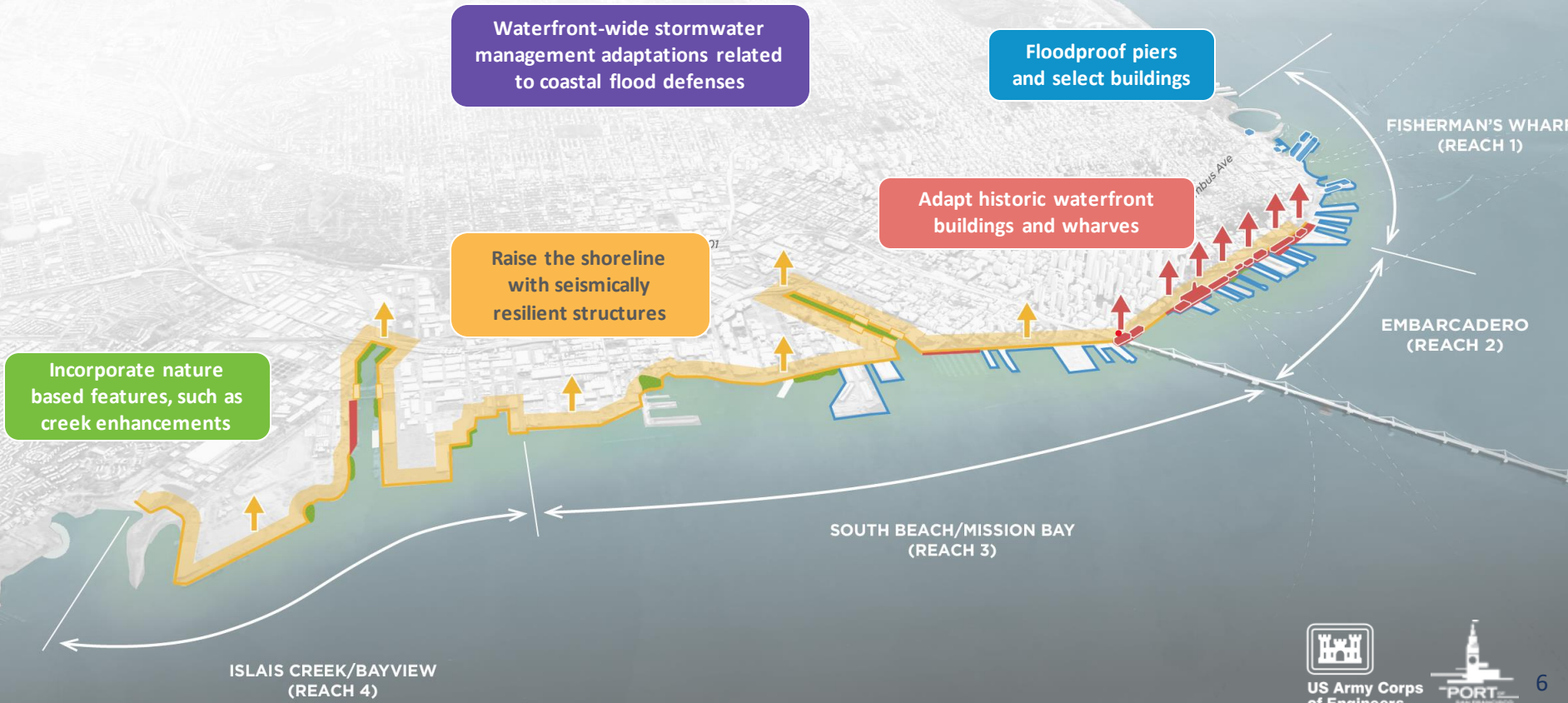
Phased construction of coastal flood defense infrastructure, related seismic stabilization, and other improvements



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Note: Dates are approximate and subject to change. Projects will occur in phases which will extend over decades.

THE DRAFT PLAN



Waterfront-wide stormwater management adaptations related to coastal flood defenses

Floodproof piers and select buildings

Adapt historic waterfront buildings and wharves

Raise the shoreline with seismically resilient structures

Incorporate nature based features, such as creek enhancements

FISHERMAN'S WHARF (REACH 1)

EMBARCADERO (REACH 2)

SOUTH BEACH/MISSION BAY (REACH 3)

ISLAIS CREEK/BAYVIEW (REACH 4)



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ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Events: January – March 2024



Focused on sharing the Draft Plan and collecting Public Comments

Engagement included:

- **14 events open to the public:** community workshops, waterfront walking tours, and webinars
- **50+ Briefings** to Community Organizations, Community Advisory Councils, agencies, and Port tenants
- **970+ people participated** in all events combined

ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Other engagement: January - April 2024



- **StoryMaps** – online interactive way to explore the Draft Plan in multiple languages
- Social media, website content, email campaigns, post cards, print/TV media campaign, and recorded presentation
- **SFUSD & SF Fellows (DHR)** Collaboration:
 - SFUSD Climate Action Fellows workshop
 - Career Pathways for SFUSD

EVENTS OVERVIEW

Community Workshops & Walking Tours

| Date & Time | Geography/Audience |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Thu, Jan 11, 10:00-11:30 AM | Embarcadero – King Tide Tour |
| Fri, Feb 9, 10:00-11:30 AM | Embarcadero – King Tide Tour |
| Mon, Feb 25, 6:00-8:00 PM | South Beach / Mission Bay |
| Tue, Feb 27, 6:00-8:00 PM | Islais Creek / Bayview |
| Wed, Feb 28, 6:00-8:00 PM | Fisherman’s Wharf |
| Thu, Feb 29, 6:00-8:00 PM | Embarcadero |
| Sat, Mar 2, 9:00-10:30 AM | Fisherman’s Wharf Walking Tour |
| Sat, Mar 2, 1:00-2:30 PM | Embarcadero Walking Tour |
| Sat, Mar 9, 9:00-10:30 AM | Islais Creek / Bayview Walking Tour |
| Sat, Mar 9, 1:00-2:30 PM | South Beach / Mission Bay Walking Tour |
| Sat, Mar 16, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Hispanic/Latinx (Hosted in Spanish) |
| Sat, Mar 23, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Chinese-American (Hosted in Cantonese) |
| Thu, Mar 7, 6:30-7:30 PM | Webinar - Citywide |
| Wed, Mar 13, 12:00-1:00 PM | Webinar - Citywide |

Board & Commission Hearings

| Date | Hearing |
|-------------|--|
| Mon 2/5/24 | Youth Planning Commission |
| Tue 2/6/24 | Port Commission |
| Wed 2/7/24 | Historic Preservation Commission |
| Thu 2/15/24 | BCDC Commission |
| Tue 3/5/24 | SFMTA Board |
| Mon 3/11/24 | BCDC DRB/WDAC Joint Meeting |
| Tue 3/12/24 | SFPUC Commission |
| Thu 3/14/24 | Planning Commission |
| Mon 3/18/24 | Capital Planning Committee |
| Wed 3/20/24 | Historic Preservation Commission – action |
| Mon 3/25/24 | Board of Supervisors – Land Use and Transportation Committee |
| Tue 4/2/24 | SFMTA Board - action |

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS OVERVIEW

February – March 2024



- **4 in-person English workshops** co-hosted with USACE
- **2 in-person in-language workshops** (Spanish and Chinese)
- Format included presentation, opportunity for oral public comment, science-fair style boards with written comment cards
- **398** members of the public participated across all events

WALKING TOURS OVERVIEW

February – March 2024



- **4 Port-hosted walking tours** – one in each of the four waterfront areas – Islais Creek / Bayview, Embarcadero, South Beach /Mission Bay, Fisherman’s Wharf
- **2 Royal Tides walking tours** in partnership with the Exploratorium
- Provided on the ground connection to the risks and Draft Plan components
- City partner agency support

WHAT WE HEARD OVERALL

- Strong desire for nature-based solutions.
- Desire to preserve and expand recreational uses of the waterfront.
- Request for opportunities for local workers and businesses.
- Concerns about public health impacts from contamination and groundwater flooding.
- Concerns about the jurisdiction of the Draft Plan and its implications for waterfront areas not under the Port's jurisdiction, particularly in the southeast.
- Most questions focused on funding, phasing, and construction impacts, including business and Port tenant disruption, tenant relocation, and economic impacts.

WHAT WE HEARD:

FISHERMAN'S WHARF



- Support for nature-based solutions
- Preserve recreational swimming & boating
- Coordinate with planning for projects in the area
- Concerns about construction impacts

EMBARCADERO



- Concerns about the impact of adaptation on the Historic District
- Concerns about construction disruption
- Preserving the Ferry Building Farmers Market
- Opportunities to rethink the future of the Embarcadero

WHAT WE HEARD:

MISSION CREEK / MISSION BAY



- Support for nature-based solutions
- Protect creek habitat and mitigate impacts to wildlife
- Maintain recreational uses in Mission Creek Channel
- More information on wastewater impacts and current overflows and flooding

ISLAIS CREEK / BAYVIEW



- Concerns that the Draft Plan does not include areas south of the Port
- Health impacts regarding contaminated sites
- Concerns about combined sewer/stormwater overflows to the Bay
- Desire for local workforce opportunities and job creation

IN-LANGUAGE EVENTS: WHAT WE HEARD

- Increase investment to areas and buildings that have been ignored or abandoned
- More studies on groundwater and contamination
- Timeline and funding, and potential funding opportunities for the city
- Nature preservation
- Opportunities for job creation
- Construction impacts on tourism, transportation networks, and traffic
- Importance of increasing public awareness



REGULATORY & PUBLIC AGENCY LETTERS



(Combined City comments on environmental impact analysis)



University of California
San Francisco



CITY AGENCY FEEDBACK

The Flood Study establishes *federal interest* in the project. By design, it analyzes a project at a less detailed level than is typical. City and USACE staff are continuing to examine refinements and changes to the Plan.

URBAN DESIGN

YOSEMITE SLOUGH

INLAND DRAINAGE &
COMBINED SEWER

ENGINEERING WITH
NATURE

TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENTAL
CONTAMINATION

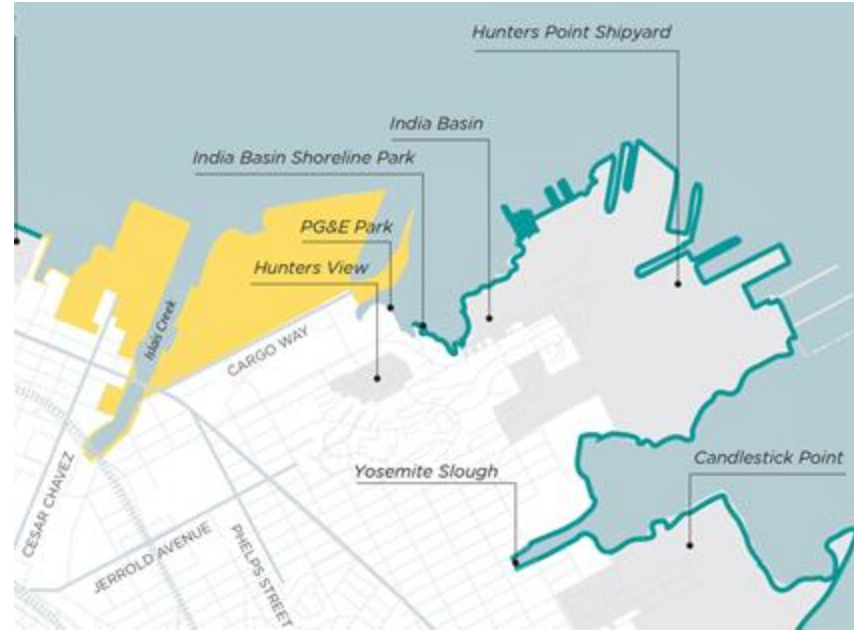
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Cost-shared Draft Plan changes need to be justified by:
reduced costs, increased benefits and/or decreased impacts

YOSEMITE SLOUGH

Desire to secure additional USACE funding for Yosemite Slough Neighborhood Adaptation Plan to improve resiliency for area south of project boundary

Approvals and Timing: Requires approval by the Assistant Secretary of the Army. Congressional authorization in 2028 or later



INLAND DRAINAGE & COMBINED SEWER

Recommend additional work to determine how combined flooding including inland drainage and combined sewer needs will be addressed

Issues:

- *Stormwater management*
- *Groundwater rise*
- *Sea level rise impacts to the SFPUC combined sewer*

Approvals and Timing: *Requires approval by the Assistant Secretary of the Army; most work would occur in the Design Phase*



Utility Infrastructure

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION

Evaluate contamination, assess risk of mobilization, and develop options and responsible parties for remedial actions

Issues:

- *Catalogue prior investigations of contaminated sites on Port property; new investigations planned for the creeks*
- *Sea level rise-induced groundwater rise mobilizing contaminants*
- *Remedial actions*

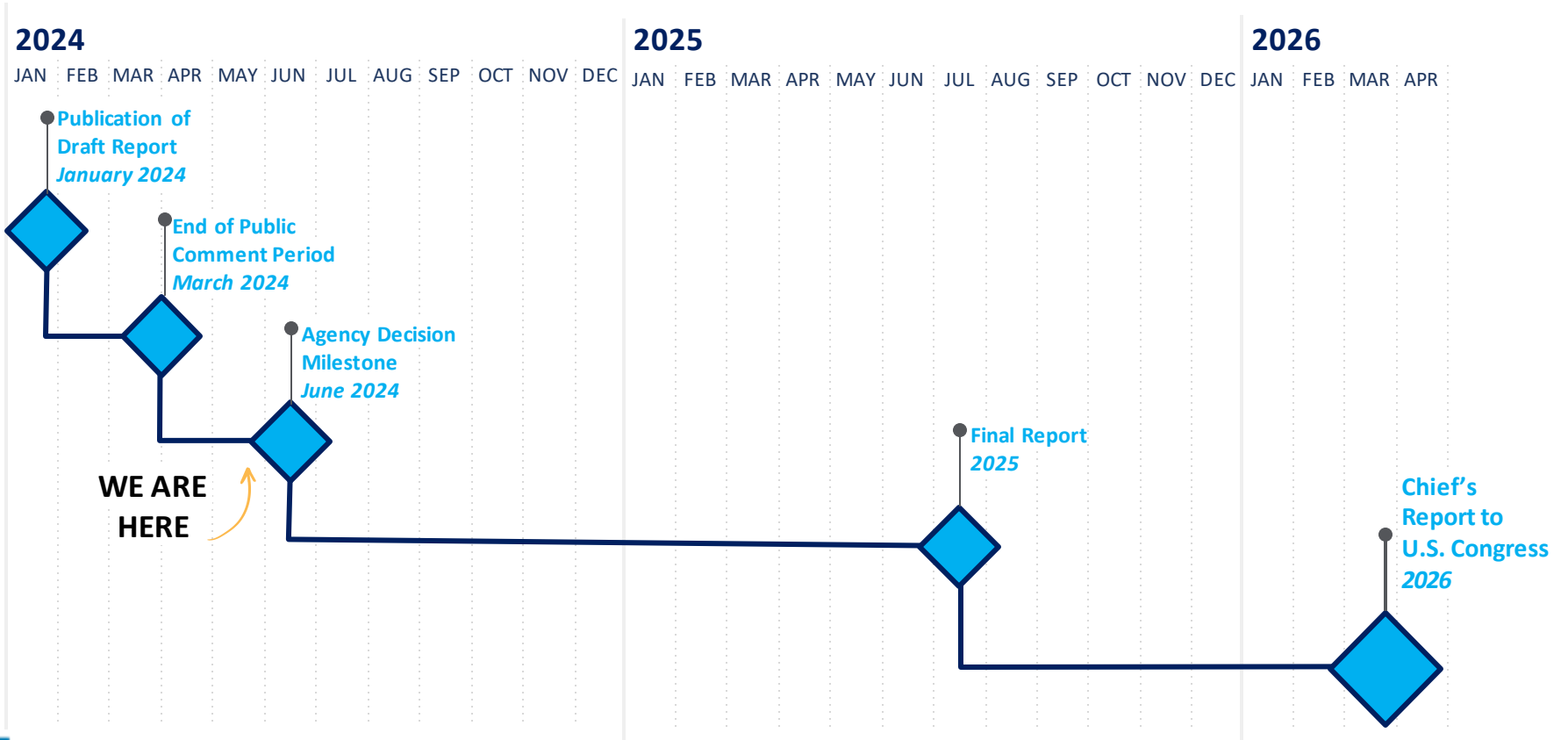
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Hazardous Materials

USACE regulations require that hazardous materials are removed or made safe before construction projects can begin. Working with USACE, the Port has identified and assessed past and recent efforts to clean up contaminated areas within the project area. This assessment also considered the potential risks posed by rising groundwater due to sea level rise. In the next phase, the City and USACE are working together to make sure the draft plan protects people and the environment from hazardous materials.

NEXT STEPS: DRAFT SCHEDULE TO COMPLETE SF FLOOD STUDY

◆ Milestone



Thank you!

