



**Waterfront Plan Update  
Resilience Subcommittee**  
November 2, 2016 Meeting Notes

**Subcommittee Members Present:** Mike Buhler, Pia Hinkle, Aaron Hyland, Earl James, Peter Summerville, John Tobias, and Dilip Trivedi. **Absent:** Grant Ballard, Jacquelyn Omotalade

**Other Working Group Members Present:** Ellen Johnck, Linda Fadeke-Richardson, Alice Rogers

**Advisory Team Members Present:** Max Lowenstein, Justin Semion, Keith Primdahl

**Port Staff:** Diane Oshima, Carol Bach, Anne Cook, David Beaupre, Kirsten Southy, Rich Berman

**Agency Staff:** Diana Sokolove (SF Planning), Tim Doherty (SFMTA), Maggie Wenger (SF Planning), Mark Palmer (SF Environment)

**1. Welcome & Meeting Goals:**

- Chair Dilip Trivedi welcomed attendees, introductions were made, and meeting goals were discussed.

**2. Discussion of Resilience Subcommittee [Draft Meeting Plan](#)**

- Anne Cook provided an overview of the Draft Meeting Plan, including Guiding Principles that relate to topics that will be discussed in Resilience Subcommittee Meetings. The Meeting Plan is a living document, subject to change as the work of the Subcommittee proceeds.
- Port staff recommends a new Waterfront Plan goal and policies to reflect, elevate and improve on environmental sustainability work underway at the Port. This topic (environmental sustainability) will be the focus of tonight's meeting.
- The discussion will be informed by Carol Bach's presentation of current environmental programs and policies at the Port, which also are the subject of a background report provided for the meeting. (see below)
- The Subcommittee is invited to comment and recommend new policies or content, or staff can develop proposed policy language for further review by the Subcommittee. (The Committee both provided some early input at the meeting and asked Staff to bring back draft policy language for Subcommittee consideration at a future meeting.)

- Subsequent meetings (November 30, 2016 and January 18, 2017), will focus on a new resiliency goal and policies.
- For the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, staff currently is considering a joint meeting with the Land Use Subcommittee to address waterfront urban design and historic resource issues that should guide the development of new resilience policies and updated land use policies. Staff is contemplating holding this joint meeting in February 2017.

#### **Responses to Questions:**

- What happens if the Subcommittee cannot get through all the topics suggested for each meeting? More meetings can be added. Committee Chair Dilip Trivedi further explained that the Subcommittee will not be required to draft specific Plan language. Rather, Staff will develop draft language based on comments and guidance received during Subcommittee meetings, and bring it back for Subcommittee comment.
- Will there only be 1 policy each for sustainability and resilience? No, consistent with the current WP goal structure, staff is envisioning a goal for sustainability, followed by several policies that address that goal, and then the same for resilience (i.e. a goal for resilience, followed by multiple policies)
- Will the Subcommittee propose specific solutions to specific resilience challenges like, for example, the seawall? Although there may be exceptions, for the most part the Subcommittee will focus on defining the public values, design criteria and/or other high-level policy guidance about priorities that should be considered for resilience projects.
- How will financial issues be addressed? The Working Group Co-chairs have directed that Subcommittees address the financial implications of their recommendations, which will be further considered when the full Working Group reconvenes to look at all financial issues collectively. [The Port Budget and Finance Overview Report](#) prepared for Part 1 of the Waterfront Plan Update process was developed to help support these discussions.
- How can Waterfront Plan goals and policies be more aspirational? There are many sustainability topics not yet addressed or given adequate attention in the Waterfront Plan. Staff will suggest proposed language to address these shortcomings, while also looking closely at where we think we can push beyond existing City and Port best practices.
- How can we avoid “siloeing” of issues? Creative and aspirational proposals likely will reflect and integrate multiple perspectives and policy objectives (e.g. environmental enhancements can be part of “gray” (hardscape) resilience projects like the Seawall).
- How does the Port communicate sustainability values to Port tenants? We will address this in a future meeting.

#### **Additional Comments and Discussion:**

- The Netherlands and other cities around the world are addressing resilience in different ways. Resilience plans vary in how they address the many interconnections between resilience, equity, environmental sustainability, and other waterfront enhancements.

- Waterfront Plan recommendations should address roles, participation/collaboration, and funding to support seawall improvements. Recommendations also can include new financial resource ideas to support new plan policies or desired improvements.
- Environmental sustainability also can be viewed in the context of cultural landscapes, which embrace historic resources and other design elements, built and natural, that are valued features of the waterfront.
- The Plan should define characteristics, features, and a new overarching vision for an improved future waterfront in light of sea level rise.
- We should also think about specific improvements that could be “ready to go” when resources are available through governmental agencies and grant programs.
- The Update should address communication and “marketing” required to convey important imperatives to the public.
- Incentives for tenant environmental improvements should be considered.

### 3. Discussion of Environmental Sustainability at the Port

- Carol Bach presented an overview of the Port’s existing environmental sustainability goals and polices, which can be found in this [background report](#)
- Staff also invited comments on a [Draft Outline for Environmental Sustainability Goals and Policies](#), including environmental sustainability priorities above and beyond existing regulatory and environmental requirements.

#### Comments and Discussion

- The new environmental sustainability goal should expressly state that the Port is seeking to limit “the Port’s” contributions to climate change.
- The goal should capture all Port activities (operations, maintenance, development, leasing, etc.)
- Policies should address funding required for environmental programs and improvements, including limited Port and non-Port resources as well as new funding sources.
- Plan should identify regional partnership opportunities
- Mark Palmer from the City’s Department of the Environment suggested that there are “frameworks” to group multiple environmental objectives together to attain broader environmental goals (e.g. triple-bottom line, 0-50-100 Roots program, or carbon reduction goals)
- Additional ideas and suggestions:
  - Consider shoreside power systems for additional maritime industries
  - Consider sustainability criteria/requirements for procurement, operations, leases and development RFPs
  - More emphasis on renewable energy sources at Port
  - Develop or improve regular collection and updates of baseline data to set sustainability improvement objectives and measure progress
  - Port should lead efforts to improve sediments to improve healthy fishing (this is an aspirational regional goal but maybe Port could take first step)

- Port should focus on improving water quality (protect against wind-blown garbage and cigarette butts, as well as stormwater management)
- Plan should address how to protect contaminated lands from inundation caused by rising seas
- Consider living shoreline approach to shoreline stabilization and SLR adaptation where feasible
- Consider how the Port can further contribute to achieving the City's biodiversity goals and objectives
- Highlight where the Port already is an environmental leader (e.g. Eco-center)

#### **4. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 6-8pm at Pier 1. The focus will include a very preliminary draft outline of topics to be included in a new Resilience goal and policies for the waterfront, much like today's meeting focused on a new Environmental Sustainability goal and policies.