

PREPARING OUR COMMUNITIES FOR RISING SEA LEVELS

SAN FRANCISCO



WHAT IS THE SHORELINE ADAPTATION PLAN?

The San Francisco Shoreline Adaptation Plan (Shoreline Plan) is a two-year planning effort to develop a coordinated, science-based, and community-driven road map that:

- » **Identifies areas vulnerable to sea level rise** along the ocean and bay shoreline
- » **Builds on existing efforts**, such as the Ocean Beach Master Plan, and **standardizes the level of planning** along the entire shoreline
- » **Prioritizes equity** by centering the needs of environmental justice communities most affected by coastal flood risk
- » **Works with communities and technical experts** to create adaptation strategies that can evolve as conditions change
- » **Creates an implementation plan** that outlines the policies, land use, and funding needed to enact the plan

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

Sea levels are rising. Many parts of San Francisco’s shoreline already experience flooding during high tides and storms, such as recent basement flooding and record high tides in January 2026 that drenched roadways along the Embarcadero and nearby piers.

Without action, more than 10% of the city, including neighborhoods, parks, and critical infrastructure, could face regular flooding later this century.



What is an adaptation strategy? An adaptation strategy is a planned approach to reduce risks and prepare communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems for the impacts of sea level rise.



The study area focuses on the city’s shoreline, which are separated into smaller reaches to guide technical analysis and community outreach.



What does “reach” mean when we talk about the shoreline? A reach is a smaller stretch of shoreline that we look at on its own to understand local conditions and potential flooding. For example, North Beach/ Fisherman’s Wharf is one reach, and Ocean Beach is another.

With community leadership and science-based planning, San Francisco's shoreline can support equity, resilience, ecological health, and public access for people today and generations to come.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

You can get involved by:

- » **Participating in community events** such as workshops, walking tours, community briefings, and other public events
- » **Sharing your knowledge, priorities, and ideas** in surveys, webinars, and other learning and input opportunities

Your participation ensures the plan reflects real community needs and strengthens our collective response to sea-level rise and shoreline change.



What does community-based planning mean for the Shoreline Plan? It's a collaborative process where people who care about the shore help guide every major step of preparing for sea-level rise. Robust outreach and a dedicated working group will ensure that local knowledge informs decisions—from identifying risks to developing goals, strategies, and actions that protect people, homes, jobs, ecosystems, and community spaces.



Learn more:

- Explore maps and project materials
- Track milestones and public meetings
- Sign up for email updates



Visit our website:

sfplanning.org/ShorelinePlan

WHEN WILL THIS HAPPEN?

2026

- » Establish vision and goals
- » Document existing conditions
- » Begin technical analyses

2027

- » Complete technical analyses
- » Outreach - *Check our website for more information*
- » Draft and refine adaptation strategies and pathways

2028

- » Release a draft Shoreline Plan for public review
- » Finalize and adopt the Shoreline Plan

Reach out directly to the project team:

- Request a community briefing
- Provide a written comment
- Discuss other adaptation and flooding issues

Email us at:

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San Francisco
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