

MONTEREY COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY



Planning Department

Mike Novo, AICP, Director of Planning

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December 20, 2011

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

SUBJECT: Sea Level Rise Coastal Hazards Vulnerability Study, Monterey Bay

Dear Mr. Bosco,

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the proposed *Sea Level Rise Coastal Hazards Vulnerability Study Monterey Bay*. Monterey County is about to embark on updating our Local Coastal Program and any information provided by this study would be essential to a comprehensive look in planning the future for our coastal-related land uses. This project will better study the effects of sea level rise on the Monterey Bay coastline to help inform stakeholders of the potential impacts to their lands and infrastructure in order that a response can be developed. This study will support ongoing local planning efforts that address coastal erosion and flooding in the Monterey Bay region, by calculating and mapping coastal flood and erosion hazards for existing and future conditions using the most recent scientific information and methodologies.

Climate change presents a significant and challenging set of issues for policy makers and resource managers in this region. Preparing for these impacts of climate change through adaptation planning has become a high priority for local decision makers and planners. Current scientific data indicate that the Monterey Bay area coastline will be affected by increased coastal erosion and flooding hazards; however, the extent of these impacts remain uncertain. This vulnerability study would provide important information on what is at risk and provide a realistic assessment on the types of approaches needed to reduce the vulnerabilities.

The development of a robust planning approach and policies to address coastal erosion and sea level rise must rely on the best available science; therefore it is essential to complete this proposed study and incorporate the updated sea level rise information into our local efforts.

An unprecedented number of planning processes are underway or slated to begin in the near future. The data produced from this Hazards Vulnerability Study will complement the numerous existing studies and planning efforts recently completed or underway throughout the region such as LCP updates, Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plans, Climate Action Plans, Integrated Regional Water Management Plans, and other relevant adaptation planning processes.

Specifically, this study would provide our local planners and decision makers with a series of digital maps and GIS data sets. This information is highly valuable for cities, counties and utilities with infrastructure in and near

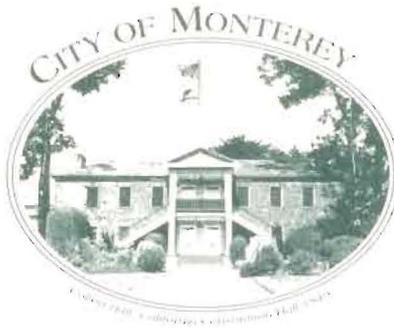
the shore. These data can help inform our General Plan and Local Coastal Program update, as well as transportation planning and water resources planning efforts.

While fiscal constraints limit our ability to directly fund this project, we are willing to support this project with available data sets, facilitating access, and providing staff time to survey existing flood defense elevations and conditions. Thank you for your support of this very important study. If you have any questions on our comments please contact me at (831) 755-5192.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Novo".

Mike Novo, Director
Resource Management Agency
Planning Department



December 28, 2011

MAYOR:
CHUCK DE LA SALA

Councilmembers:
LIBBY DOWNEY
JEFF HAFERMAN
NANCY SELLERIDGE
FRANK SOLLECITO

CITY Manager:
FRED MEURER

California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

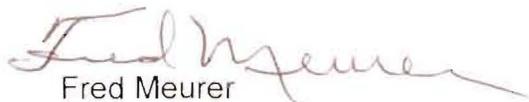
RE: Monterey Bay Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment

Dear Interested Party,

The City of Monterey has enjoyed participating in the Southern Monterey Bay Erosion Control Workgroup. In fact, one of the group's ideas (beach nourishment project) is being pursued.

The City supports the Coastal Conservancy granting funds to the National Marine Sanctuary to prepare the **Monterey Bay Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment**. Additional technical information about future risks is helpful in planning efforts.

Sincerely,


Fred Meurer
City Manager

RECEIVED

DEC 29 2011

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



CITY OF CAPITOLA
420 CAPITOLA AVENUE
CAPITOLA CALIFORNIA 95010
TELEPHONE/ TDD 831 475-7300
FAX 831 479-8879

November 4, 2011

Douglas Bosco
Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Chairman Bosco,

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the proposed *Sea Level Rise Coastal Hazards Vulnerability Study Monterey Bay*. The City of Capitola is currently updating its General Plan, Local Coastal Plan and Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and understanding the future effects of sea level rise is critical.

My understanding is the purpose of the project is to better understand the effects of sea level rise on the Monterey Bay coastline to help inform stakeholders of the potential impacts to land and infrastructure in order that an informed response can be created. This study will support ongoing local and regional planning efforts that address coastal erosion and flooding in the Monterey Bay region, by calculating and mapping coastal flood and erosion hazards for existing and future conditions using the most recent scientific information and methodologies.

Climate change and sea level rise present a significant and challenging set of issues for decision makers and resource managers. Preparing for these impacts of climate change through planning has become a high priority for local decision makers and planners. Broad based scientific data indicate that the Monterey Bay area coastline will be affected by increased coastal erosion and flooding hazards, however the extent of these impacts remain uncertain.

This vulnerability study would provide a realistic assessment on the types of approaches needed to prepare local jurisdictions. It is very important that this proposed study be fully funded so that it can inform local planning efforts. The City has pledged \$20,000 in Disaster Relief Initiative funding and this regional effort will compliment and complete our scope of work needed for a comprehensive study on the effects of sea level rise in Capitola.

It is my understanding this study would provide our local planners and decision makers with a series of digital maps and GIS data sets. This information is highly valuable for cities, counties and utilities with infrastructure in and near the shore. These data can help

inform city and county General Plans and Local Coastal Program updates, as well as transportation planning and water resources planning efforts.

While fiscal constraints limit our ability to directly fund all of the work to study climate change and sea level rise, we are willing to support this project with available data sets, facilitating access, and providing staff time to survey existing flood defense elevations and conditions.

Thank you for your support of this very important study. If you have any questions on our comments please contact Susan Westman at (831) 475-7300.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Norton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dennis Norton
Mayor



The Natural Capital Project
371 Serra Mall
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305-5020
phone: 650.724.3108
fax: 650.723.5920

December 5, 2011

Doug Bosco, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco,

I write in support of ESA PWA's proposed *Sea Level Rise Coastal Hazards Vulnerability Study Monterey Bay*. The project will deliver a much-needed regional assessment of the effects of sea level rise and coastal hazards such as flooding and erosion along the Monterey Bay coastline. It will use the most current scientific and modeling techniques to calculate and map coastal flood and erosion hazards for existing and future conditions. Such information will help inform diverse stakeholders, including ongoing local planning efforts, of the potential impacts of coastal hazards to their lands and infrastructure and serve as critical foundation for the formulation of effective plans to respond to those hazards.

Climate change presents a significant and challenging set of issues for policy makers and resource managers in the region. Preparing for the impacts of climate change through adaptation planning has become a high priority for local decision makers and planners. Current scientific data indicate that the Monterey Bay area coastline will be affected by increased coastal erosion and flooding hazards, however spatially explicit information about the extent and magnitude of these changes in vulnerability within the region is lacking. The proposed study will provide critical information about what is at risk and will provide a realistic assessment of the types of approaches needed to reduce vulnerability.

The development of a robust planning approach and policies to address coastal erosion and sea level rise must rely on the best available science; therefore it is essential to complete this proposed study and incorporate the updated sea level rise information into local efforts. An unprecedented number of planning processes are underway or slated to begin in the near future. The data produced from this Hazards Vulnerability Study will complement numerous existing studies and planning efforts recently completed or underway throughout the region such as LCP updates, Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plans (coming soon to Northern Monterey Bay), Climate Action Plans, Integrated Regional Water Management Plans, and other relevant adaptation planning processes such as the IRWMP process in Santa Cruz County.

Specifically, this study will provide local planners and decision makers with a series of digital maps and GIS data sets. This information is highly valuable for cities, counties and utilities with infrastructure in and near the shore. These data can help inform city and county General Plans and Local Coastal Program updates, as well as transportation planning and water resources planning efforts.

I am the Lead Scientist for the Natural Capital Project (NatCap), a joint venture among Stanford University, the Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, and the University of Minnesota. At NatCap, we developed marine InVEST—a tool for incorporating nature's benefits in natural resource decision-making. In collaboration with

numerous organizations around the world (e.g. in Canada, Belize and multiple US locations), we are applying this tool in decision-contexts including coastal and marine spatial planning, climate adaptation planning and coastal zone management.

As part of related work funded by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation that we are conducting in the region, we have budgeted \$25K as a sub-award to ESA/PWA for assistance with understanding coastal hazards under current and future climates in Monterey Bay. The ultimate goal of our project is to ensure the sustained delivery of benefits from Monterey Bay in the face of climate change through climate adaptation planning. Our work and the *Sea Level Rise Coastal Hazards Vulnerability Study Monterey Bay* dovetail nicely together—in collaboration we will be able to examine how alternative adaptation strategies will affect a wide range of environmental services (e.g. not only protection from coastal hazards, but also recreation, fisheries, and other benefits). We are very much looking forward to our collaboration with ESA/PWA on this important work.

Thank you for your support of this timely, important study. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne D Guerry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Anne D Guerry, PhD
Lead Scientist
Natural Capital Project
Stanford University
371 Serra Mall
Stanford, CA 94305-5020
anne.guerry@stanford.edu
www.naturalcapitalproject.org



County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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THIRD DISTRICT

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FOURTH DISTRICT

MARK W. STONE
FIFTH DISTRICT

January 9, 2012

Rachel Couch, Project Manager
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

RECEIVED
JAN 10 2012
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Dear Ms. Couch:

I am writing in support of the application to the California Coastal Conservancy from the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation (MBSF) for Sea Level Rise Coastal Hazards Vulnerability Study Monterey Bay which would assess the vulnerability of Monterey Bay communities from potential future impacts of sea level rise. As we build our base of knowledge about climate change, understanding the impacts of sea level rise in the communities around the Monterey Bay will help policymakers develop the necessary regulations to protect and prepare for this new environmental hazard.

Climate change presents a significant and challenging set of issues for policy makers and resource managers in this region. Preparing for these impacts of climate change through adaptation planning has become a high priority for local decision makers and planners.

Current scientific data indicate that the Monterey Bay area coastline will be affected by increased coastal erosion and flooding hazards; however, the extent of these impacts remains uncertain. This vulnerability study would provide important information on what is at risk as well as a realistic assessment of the types of approaches needed to reduce the vulnerabilities.

This project to better study the effects of sea level rise on the Monterey Bay coastline will also help inform stakeholders of the potential impacts to their lands and infrastructure in order that a response can be developed. In addition, this study will support ongoing local planning efforts that address coastal erosion and flooding in the Monterey Bay region by calculating and mapping coastal flood and erosion hazards for existing and future conditions using the most recent scientific information and methodologies.

January 9, 2012

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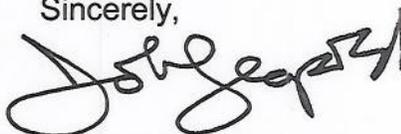
The development of a robust planning approach and policies to address coastal erosion and sea level rise must rely on the best available science. Therefore, it is essential to complete this proposed study and incorporate the updated sea level rise information into our local efforts.

Specifically, this study would provide our local planners and decision makers with a series of digital maps and GIS data sets. This information is highly valuable for Santa Cruz County and will help inform our General Plans and Local Coastal Program updates, as well as transportation planning and water resource planning efforts.

While fiscal constraints limit our ability to directly fund this project, we are willing to support this project with available data sets, facilitating access, and assisting the researchers to survey existing flood defense elevations and conditions.

Thank you for your support of this very important study. If you have any questions, please contact me at (831) 454-2200. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Leopold", written in a cursive style.

JOHN LEOPOLD, Supervisor
First District

JL:ted

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