SEA LEVEL RISE: A SLOW MOVING EMERGENCY

Over the next 50 years, seas are expected to rise up to two feet, and could rise as high as 5.5 feet by the end of the century.

What’s At Risk?

Sea level rise will lead to an increase in flooding and erosion along our shorelines, and could affect our groundwater. Our airports, wastewater treatment plants, and many of our neighborhoods are at risk. The impacts to our community, economy, and environment could be widespread.

What is Being Done?

The County of San Mateo has embarked on a collaborative process to prepare for sea level rise. The effort, Sea Change SMC, includes coordination across all 20 cities, as well as key agencies, businesses, community groups, and others.

Sea Change SMC Sea Level Rise Preparedness Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>SLR Vulnerability Assessment (VA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Adaptation Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>South Coast VA</td>
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<td>2018</td>
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Understanding what is at Risk Countywide (2015-2017)

The County’s first step is to complete a sea level rise vulnerability assessment to understand what is at risk in the county and identify possible solutions. This effort includes a focus on the use of natural solutions and reducing impacts to underserved communities. The study area includes the bay shoreline and the coastline from Half Moon Bay north.

Overview of Sea Level Rise Planning Steps

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATA GATHERING</th>
<th>MAPPING &amp; ANALYSIS</th>
<th>VULNERABILITY PROFILES</th>
<th>ADAPTATION PLANNING</th>
<th>IMPLEMENTATION</th>
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Raising Public Awareness
The County is working to educate and raise awareness about sea level rise through public workshops, youth education programs, and a sea level rise virtual reality viewer.

Next Steps (2017-2018)

South Coast Vulnerability Assessment: The County will expand the vulnerability assessment from south of Half Moon Bay to the County border, including the Pescadero area.

Further Evaluate County Facilities: The County will complete a detailed assessment of County facilities and unincorporated areas, using results from the countywide Vulnerability Assessment.

Adaptation & Resilience Planning: For priority areas, the County, in partnership with cities and other stakeholders will develop a resilience plans that identify near-, mid-, and long-term strategies.

Pilot Projects: The County is taking action to reduce flooding and erosion risks in areas within County jurisdiction.

Identify Sea Level Rise Governance Options: The County is working in partnership with cities and City/County Association of Governments to identify governance options for addressing sea level rise.

Get Involved

Join our Listserv and Facebook Group: [www.facebook.com/groups/SeaChangeSMC](http://www.facebook.com/groups/SeaChangeSMC)

Take photos of the king tides to visualize the future with sea level rise. Upload photos to: [www.kingtides.org](http://www.kingtides.org)

Are you a high school teacher? Join the Youth Exploring Sea Level Rise Science (YESS) Project at [www.yessproject.org](http://www.yessproject.org)

Reduce your carbon footprint to reduce the amount of sea level rise visit [www.green.smcgov.org](http://www.green.smcgov.org)