

# Resiliency Advisory Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 1:00 P.M.

Seated Board members: Ian Clampett, Jamie Garrett, A-bel Gong, Cynthia Rose Harris, Eric Lardy,

Andrew Meyer, Erika Morgan, Stan Williams

Staff Liaison: Julia Chase, Chief Resilience Officer, City Planning Department

#### Item 1: Call to Order and Roll Call (1:01pm)

Board Member	Attendance
lan Clampett	Present
Cynthia Rose Harris	Present
Erika Morgan	Present
Stan Williams	Tardy (1:03)
Eric Lardy	Present
A-bel Gong	Present
Jamie Garrett	Present
Andrew Meyer	Tardy (1:03)

#### **Item 2: Land Acknowledgement**

### Item 3: Adoption/Modification of Agenda Order

Move item 9c to after item 8a.

Motion: Board Member Clampett Second: Board Member Lardy

**Passes Unanimously** 

### **Item 4: Announcements and Board Member Comments**

Staff Liaison: June meeting date will be change. Need to find date with quorum. Climate Action Plan Strategy 5 presentation in May and Biodiverse presentation in July to Resiliency Advisory Board. Both as information items.

Board member Gong: June 23<sup>rd</sup>, San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative is holding Risk and Insurance workshop.

### Item 5: Approval of Minutes (March 20, 2025)

Motion: Board Member Morgan Second: Board Member Gong

**Passes Unanimously** 

#### Item 7: Unfinished Business (none submitted, no items.

#### **Item 8: Action Items**

- a) **Coastal Resilience Master Plan and Programmatic Environmental Impact Report** Discussion of draft plan and PEIR and adoption of recommendation(s).
  - City Planning Staff (Julia Chase, Jordan Moore, and Zaira Marquez) presented on the draft Coastal Resilience Master Plan and PEIR.
  - Board Member Morgan- how are sites prioritized?
    - Julia Chase: Sites prioritized based on overall ranking, sea level rise vulnerability, public safety concerns, and feasibility. Some sites (La Jolla) need additional community engagement.
  - Board Member Morgan- How much of public engaged? How aware of sea level rise is public?
    - Julia Chase: Good general awareness of sea level rise but opportunity for further engagement and education.
  - Board Member Meyer- Re: Access for disadvantaged communities = communities of concern?
    - Julia Chase: Yes.
    - Board Member Meyer shares idea to encourage access in future, via free transit for youth, etc.
  - Board Member Meyer- For diminishing usable land due to sea level rise: has City thought about acquisition of land?
    - Julia Chase: City is not prioritizing eminent domain as an approach to sea level rise planning, but there are opportunities to consider shifting land use.
  - Board Member Gong: Can public transit offset transit?
    - Julia Chase: Opportunity to look into.
  - Board Member Gong: For sites moving forward, what elements of arts and education will be included?
    - Julia Chase: Not set in stone yet, still collecting ideas for this and will determine as project designs move forward. From Tribal engagement, opportunity for signage about native plants including native names, etc.
  - Board Member Gong: How will funding (or lack of) impact this project?
    - Julia Chase: Encouraging that Prop 4 funding is coming from State. But will continue looking at federal funding.
  - Board Member Clampett: Will Point Loma outfall be combined with Sunset Cliffs?
    - Julia Chase: No, that is a separate project.
  - Board Member Clampett: OB with OB Pier, combined?
    - Julia Chase: No, separate project, depends on funding availability, could be opportunity to combine.
  - Board Member Lardy: How will Tribes be consulted?
    - Julia Chase: Reaching out to Tribes since project initiation. Will continue to outreach and engage as projects move forward.
  - Board Chair Harris: Are plans in place for additional funding for additional projects or project phases?
    - o Julia Chase: Not yet. Staff will seek additional funding as projects move forward.

- Board Chair Harris: What has been done for Tribal engagement?
  - Julia Chase / Zaira Marquez: Standard noticing has been done, if we would like, we can have a more robust summary of how Tribes are being engaged and updated on project plan, milestones, etc. Outreach is done via phone, email, inperson event attendance, surveys, etc.
- Board Chair Harris: What is co-management of coastline? (With regards to Tribal)
  - Julia Chase: Open definition, for this project, looking for co-stewardship opportunities.
- Public Comment: John Pierce- President La Jolla Shores Association. City is not listening to community at all. Recommend attend meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month. Recommend La Jolla Shores from list.
- Public Comment: Mike, La Jolla Shores. Expressed lack of urgency for this project. He
  attends beach regularly and has only seen 1 day where water was too high. Parking has
  already been lost. Don't take more parking. It will be 25-50 years before we really need
  to prioritize La Jolla Shores.
- Public Comment: Meredith Houlton. Cosmos modeling software is not local (out of Washington), so is this relevant here? Verify models since if they're not accurate, can cause more issues. Also, for Glossary- many words can be added. How can different terrains be addressed? Also, where are additional technical studies (they lack in engineering detail). Have studies in IB been consulted? Noted lawsuit regarding Tijuana River Valley. Referenced set of stairs and the long time period to review and move this project forward.
- Public Comment: Lynne Miller. There are a lot of plans, but not a lot of funding to back up plans. Will time be taken to study funding? The City is waiving CEQA and Coastal Zone requirements for building (in Sunset Cliffs area). City adding to the issue with ADUs and other high density living. Where does 2 way street begin in Sunset Cliffs? Should dogs be on transit to get to Dog Beach?
- Public Comment: Nat. Likes the direction of the project, nature-based solutions, and that City is thinking about sea level rise. Has other ideas for moving parking. Makes sense to consider Ocean Beach projects as one (project). Supports moving parking lot.
- Public Comment: Mitch Silverstein with Surfrider. Supportive of effort. Need to focus on preserving beaches so people can continue having some of the "best days of their lives." Support concepts with the most resilience, if a choice on each project. So, for Mission Beach, Perched Beach is preferred. For Ocean Beach, prefer relocation of bathroom. For Dog Beach, can shrink the park between street and parking lot because nobody hangs out there anyway. Support Sunset Cliffs concepts as it creates buffer for beach. For La Jolla Shores supports moving boardwalk. For Tourmaline support pulling back parking lot.
- Board Member Williams: smart move on funding consideration. Recommend moving as fast as possible forward to access funding.
- Board Member Lardy: Good to move forward with next steps. Priority for investment.
- Board Member Clampett: If La Jolla decides to move forward later, what are next steps?
  - Julia Chase: Would need to find additional funding. Current funding includes 15% design for 3 sites, additional technical studies and community engagement. More funding would be needed to actually build projects.
- Board Member Meyer: Will this replace the current effort to construct berms at beaches.

- Julia Chase: This plan intends to replace that winter berm program. Encourage next phase to quantify the reduction of that effort.
- Board Member Meyer: A study he read says City of SD is "bad" at getting match funds for infrastructure funding. Are there plans to optimize funding in future? (Match, etc.)
  - Julia Chase: Future funding not yet secured. There are many funding opportunities available and designated grant staff who coordinate across city departments to identify and be successful in acquiring grants.
- Board Member Morgan: What is expectation for City to fund this vs grants?
  - Julia Chase: Goal is to maximize external grant funding. Staff resources will be dedicated to maintaining site. Hopefully some tradeoffs.
- Board Member Meyer: Perched beach in Mission Beach and relocation of restroom in Ocean Beach are good ideas.
- Board Member Morgan: Should choose options that are more resilient that protect the beach.
- Board Member Garrett: Reference points of past similar projects that worked or didn't work could be powerful (Imperial Beach, Cardiff) etc.
- Board Member Gong: More resilient options are more favorable.

**Motion:** Board Member Gong: Move to generally support the Coastal Resilience Master Plan with preference for the more resilient options for Mission Beach and Ocean Beach.

Second: Board Member Morgan

**Amended Motion:** Board Member Lardy: Recommend City Adopt Staff Recommendation for 3 projects, Prioritize Perched Beach option at Mission Beach and Resilient Relocation at Dog Beach.

Second: Board Member Williams

Passes unanimously

### **Item 9: Information Items**

 Hazard Mitigation and Safety Planning: City Planning Department to present on Hazard Mitigation and Safety Planning, including SB99 and AB747

Presenters: Sean McGee: Principal Planner, Suchi Lukes: Senior Planner

- Update on the how the City is addressing compliance to these bills
  - General plan is the City's constitution
  - Does and needs to address fire safety, and points to other City documents.
  - Community Plans:
    - Designate land uses and include community goals and policies.
    - As new development is proposed Fire-Rescue reviews development plans.
  - General Plan was updated in 2024 as Blueprint SD. This responded to state mandates and expanded wildfire planning.
  - SB99: Ongoing mapping work with CalFire that addresses developments that lack two evacuation routes
    - Defines 'constrained parcels'.
  - o AB747:
    - Review and update General Plan Safety Element:
    - Blueprint SD meets these requirements
    - Using CalFire's Very High Fire Safety Zone maps, incorporating them in

- Board Member Lardy asks that the plan (Safety Element update) come back before the Resiliency Advisory Board before finalized with new safety measures (per SB99) before finalized in 2026.
- Board Member Morgan: Keep us informed about interim updates leading up to 2026.
- Board Member Meyer: What is City's feedback loop to avoid building in high risk zones
  - Sean McGee / Julia Chase: Provide awareness and a reference point. There is no banning of building in high-risk zones but there are extra requirements for "hardening" than if they are built in other zones.
- Public Comment: Mike. Only so much City can do with roads to accommodate the flood of cars (during evacuation). Need to think about including bike and walking paths for evacuations.

#### **Item 8: Action Items**

- b) Selection of focus area for Priority Goal #2 on Community Wildfire Resilience. Select topic or topics for fact finding and presentations.
  - Board Member Lardy: City is still working on complying with SB99 and AB747. Our role will be to just stay informed and weigh in when ready. For Goal #2, should we focus elsewhere?
  - Board Member Williams: Should we come up with a set of monitoring metrics to track City's progress based on their many goals and initiatives for State compliance, etc.? Hold City accountable and to help elected officials understand how well City is meeting State requirements in this area? Include consideration for outreach?
  - Board Member Morgan: For communities that now are in "designated" risk zones, do they
    realize this? Are they knowledgeable of their evacuation plan? Or should we focus on
    recovery? (Microgrid etc.)
  - Board Member Meyer: Should we encourage to City to better communicate proactively to residents/public better? As a focus area.
    - Julia Chase says City has webpages with many compiled resources. Board could review and advise on what's missing and/or how to make more accessible to communities.

**Motion:** Board Member Lardy: City continue to prioritize completion and communication of Fire Hazard Mapping with SB99 and AB747 and other state plans and return to Resiliency Advisory Board with any updates.

**Second:** Board Member Meyer

**Amended Motion:** Board Member Morgan: Board recommends City continue to prioritize completion and communication of Fire Hazard Mapping with SB99 and AB747 and other state plans and prioritize communities that lack emergency evacuation routes. Board requests City return to Resiliency Advisory Board with updates.

Second: Board Member Garrett

Passes Unanimously.

#### **Item 9: Information Items**

a) Resilience Topic: Presentation on the SoCal Heat Hub and extreme heat research by Mark Merrifield, Ph.D. – (Needs to be rescheduled due to timing.)

b) Ad Hoc Subcommittee Report: 2025 Work Plan Priority Goal #1: Ad-Hoc Subcommittee to present on outreach conducted since meeting of March 20, 2025.

## **Item 10: Proposed Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

- a) Primary Goal Objective 2 Informational presentations on Climate Action Plan, Strategy 5 and Biodiverse SD at future meetings.
- b) Confirm order of Resilience Topics.
- c) Two resiliency topics next month, can move Item 9 a) to unfinished business.

Item 11: Adjournment (3:19pm)

