

City of San Diego
RESILIENCY ADVISORY BOARD



2026 Annual Work Plan

[Date of Adoption]



Overview

The 2026 Resiliency Advisory Board Work Plan (Work Plan) establishes a program for the Resiliency Advisory Board to carry out its duties and functions during calendar year 2026. The Work Plan focuses the Board's efforts on its primary mandate to advise the Mayor and City Council on climate resilience and biodiversity matters associated with various City plans, policies, regulations and initiatives; and two Priority Goals identified by the Board as of particular importance and timeliness.

Duties and Functions

The Resiliency Advisory Board (RAB) was established in 2023 to advise the Mayor and the Council and assist the City of San Diego (City) in attaining its goals in natural resource conservation, climate resiliency and adaptation, wetlands, habitat preservation, biodiversity, and the Climate Resilient SD Plan. Section 26.1003 of the San Diego Municipal Code specifies the duties and functions of the Board as follows:

- Advise the Mayor, City Council and relevant City departments on resiliency-related policies, including the City's Climate Resilient SD Plan, as amended from time to time, Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), Biodiverse SD, Climate Action Plan Strategy 5 Resilient Infrastructure and Healthy Ecosystems, and other conservation and open space programs.
- Advise the Mayor, City Council and relevant City departments on issues related to climate mitigation and adaptation, natural space restoration, biodiversity, and conservation as they relate to the purposes of the Board, and on the best approaches for implementing the City's resiliency, biodiversity, and other related goals.
- Develop recommendations on how the City can engage residents, communities, and non-governmental organizations to guide the implementation of the Climate Resilient SD Plan and other relevant plans or strategies, including providing input on plans, measures, budget priorities, and other community engagement initiatives.
- Engage with regional businesses, political leaders, and public interest groups in the areas of resiliency, climate, conservation, biodiversity, environmental justice, and wetlands, and hold public forums for such input.
- Coordinate with other City advisory boards and City departments, such as the Community Forest Advisory Board, Planning Commission, the Climate Advisory Board, and Open Space Community Advisory Committee as needed and as it relates to the purposes of the Board.
- Provide periodic reports to the Environment Committee and make recommendations for the City to engage in regional resiliency and biodiversity issues at the state and federal levels, including securing state and federal funding for resiliency-related issues.

2026 Goals

Primary Goal: Advise on climate resiliency and biodiversity related matters.

Advise the Mayor, City Council and relevant City departments on climate resiliency and adaptation, wetlands, habitat preservation, and biodiversity matters associated with various City plans, policies, regulations and initiatives

Priority Goal 1: Stormwater management and response

Unprecedented flooding in January 2024 disproportionately impacted residents in southeastern San Diego, causing devastating damage and underscoring the need for communities to be prepared for more intense weather events exacerbated by climate change. The City of San Diego Stormwater Department consistently has insufficient funding to meet current and future needs and cannot accomplish the projects it has prioritized.¹ Poorly functioning stormwater infrastructure results in human health impacts, water quality degradation, and cumulative and complex ecological impacts. All these are environmental justice issues felt differently by communities throughout the City.



The RAB will invite presentations and discussions on this subject, including on regional predictions for climate-driven storm events; a review of City's response to 2024 floods and more recent storm events; Stormwater Department operations and financing, community and business readiness, impacts on human populations and ecosystems, and best practices and comparable municipalities' approaches.

The Board will hold up to two special meetings in Southeastern communities to hear and receive feedback from residents and business owners. This year's Annual Report will feature a set of pragmatic recommendations.

Priority Goal 2: Improve Board process and accountability

¹ Think Blue San Diego, *Stormwater Infrastructure*, www.thinkblue.org/stormwater-infrastructure (last visited Feb. 1, 2026).

The Board's role advising City leadership on resiliency priorities necessitates its members truly understand the needs across Council Districts, residents, economic sectors, and ecosystems. The RAB will strongly engage with the communities most vulnerable to climate change impacts. Objectives include: (1) holding up to two special meetings in Council Districts 4, 8, and/or 9 (at convenient times and in hybrid format for maximum community participation) and (2) proactive outreach to community-based organizations, local businesses, and faith entities. Board Members (jointly or individually) will be responsible for identifying at least one presenter on a topic relevant to the Board and securing their presentation.

The Board will also collaborate with the Mayor and City Council to fill the three vacant Board seats.

Resiliency Topics

The 2026 Annual Work Plan focuses primarily on the Primary and Priority Goals, but the Board may continue to invite presentations and discussion on other resiliency-related topics. Potential areas of interest include climate change implications for homelessness, public health, emergency management, and energy and the electrical grid.

Below is a proposed schedule of meetings and topics. All presentations are subject to change due to staff/presenter availability. Special meeting locations and dates may change based on availability.



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Schedule of Meetings

<p>Green: Board administration Blue: City presentations. * <i>Overview of department work program.</i> Fuchsia: Resiliency Topic Red: Priority goal topic</p>
<p>January 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering and Capital Projects: Mission Bay 10-Year Improvement Plan Programmatic Environmental Impact Report <i>Stormwater Department</i> • Review draft 2026 Annual Work Plan • Officer elections
<p>February 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority goal topic: Stormwater 101 and Current Challenges <i>San Diego Coastkeeper</i> • Resiliency topic: Climate Change Implications for Homelessness <i>Jolly Noor, Institute for Mental Health Policy Research, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health</i> • Finalize and adopt 2026 Annual Work Plan
<p>March 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority goal topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Atmospheric rivers, flooding, and the changing climate in the San Diego region <i>Scripps Institute of Oceanography</i> (b) Impacts to people and the ecosystem <i>TBD</i> • City of San Diego Public Utilities: Overview of Operations and Resilience Work <i>Public Utilities Department</i> • Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Restoration <i>Stormwater Department</i>
<p>April 23 <i>Special meeting</i> (Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority goal topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) City of San Diego Stormwater management (water quality, flood mitigation, green infrastructure, financing, industry/developer/residential incentives) <i>Stormwater Department, Districts 4 and 8, Council Office, Community Emergency Response Team, community organization(s)</i>
<p>May 28</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Forestry Program* <i>Transportation Department, Community Forest Advisory Board</i> • Resiliency topic: Energy Resiliency 101 <i>Energy Policy Initiatives Center</i> • <u>Priority goal topics:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Regulatory framework governing stormwater management (federal, state, and local)
<p>June 25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Senate Bill 99</u> implementation update <i>City Planning Department</i> • Crest/Gonzales Canyon Natural Resource Management Plan <i>Parks & Recreation Department</i> • <u>Priority goal topic:</u> Community flooding preparation and response (industry, social services, and/or community-based organizations) (RAB lead needed)
<p>July 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Water Management Plan and Integrated Master Plan* <i>Public Utilities Department</i> • Select Ad-hoc Subcommittee to draft Annual Report & Recommendations • <u>Priority goal topic:</u> Model approaches and best practices for stormwater infrastructure funding mechanisms <i>Environmental Finance Center at Sacramento State</i> (RAB lead needed)
<p>August – recess</p>
<p>September 24 <i>Special meeting</i> (<u>Mountain View/Beckwourth Library</u>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazard Mitigation Plan <i>Office of Emergency Services</i> • Review and edit draft Annual Report & Recommendations
<p>October 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Resilience Master Plan Phase 2 update <i>City Planning Department</i> • Finalize and adopt Annual Report & Recommendations • 2027 Annual Work Plan: discussion and establish Task Force <p><i>Board chair presents Annual Report & Recommendations to Environment Committee</i></p>
<p>November 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tecolote Natural Resource Management Plan

Parks & Recreation Department

- Extreme Heat Action Plan

City Planning Department

- Hazard Mitigation Grant for Resilience Hubs

General Services Department

- Resiliency topic: Local Energy Distribution Systems
- Bylaws review

December - recess



Boardmembers and Staff

Eric James Lardy

Chair, District 6 Member, University City

Andrew Meyer

Vice Chair, General Member

Jamie Garrett

Secretary, General Member

Ian Clampett

District 1 Member, Serra Mesa

Cynthia Rose Harris

District 2 Member, Clairemont

Erika Morgan

District 3 Member, Little Italy

Vacant

District 4 Member

Vacant

District 5 Member

A-bel Yee Gong

District 7 Member, Linda Vista

Grace Jones

District 8 Member

Vacant

District 9 Member

*** Staff Liaison**

Julia Chase

The Resiliency Advisory Board typically meets monthly on the third or fourth Thursday at
1 p.m., at the Civic Center Plaza
1200 3rd Ave, 4th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101
For more information on the City of San Diego Resiliency Advisory Board,
please visit the [website](#) or email ResiliencyBoard@sandiego.gov.

