

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
SAN FRANCISCO



EDWIN M. LEE
MAYOR

December 8, 2014

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Attn: Government Audit and Oversight Committee
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

Attached please find a summary of the status of recommendation updates for the following Civil Grand Jury recommendations:

- 2013-2014 Civil Grand Jury Report, *Rising Sea Levels...At Our Doorstep*, Recommendations 1a, 1b, 2a, 3, 11d, and 12b.

This status of recommendations report should be included in the official legislative file for consideration at the Government Audit and Oversight Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Howard", written over a horizontal line.

Kate Howard
Mayor's Budget Director

RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSE REQUIRED	ACTION PLAN	RESPONSE TEXT
1a: The City should prepare and adopt a risk assessment in preparation for developing its comprehensive plan regarding the rising sea level issue	Mayor or Mayor's Designated Agency Board of Supervisors DPW Dept. of Environment Dept. of Emergency Management Planning Port PUC	Recommendation Implemented	On September 22, 2014, the Capital Planning Committee adopted the "Guidance for Incorporating Sea Level Rise Into Capital Planning in San Francisco: Assessing Vulnerability, Risk to Support Adaptation."
1b: The City should adopt a citywide comprehensive plan for adaptation to rising sea levels, especially along its shores and its floodplains. Said plan should include the provision that construction projects' approval should take into account the anticipated lifespan of each project and the risks faced as outlined in said plan. Special consideration should be given to those anticipated to survive for more than 30 years. Said plan should include a provision that the plan be reviewed and reassessed every 5 years	Mayor or Mayor's Designated Agency Board of Supervisors DPW Dept. of Environment Dept. of Emergency Management Planning Port PUC	Recommendation Implemented	On September 22, 2014, the Capital Planning Committee adopted the "Guidance for Incorporating Sea Level Rise Into Capital Planning in San Francisco: Assessing Vulnerability, Risk to Support Adaptation."
2a: The Planning Code should be amended to include maps showing the areas in the City that are most at risk from the impacts of sea level rise. The Planning Code should be amended to prohibit development in said at-risk areas unless there is compliance with the provisions of the City's Building Code and the Port's Building Code (if applicable to the project) outlined in Recommendations 3a and 3b. The Planning Code should include a provision that the amended sections of the Code regarding the impact of rising sea levels be reviewed and reassessed every 5 years	Board of Supervisors Planning	Recommendation Will Not Be Implemented	The SFPUC and the Port have published maps depicting areas along San Francisco's bay and ocean shorelines that are potentially vulnerable to future flooding due to projected sea level rise through 2100. These maps have been incorporated into the Planning Department's geographic information system, and the Planning Department considers these maps in evaluating potential flood hazards for projects located in areas vulnerable to sea level rise. CEQA provides the Planning Department with sufficient authority to require projects to be designed to minimize and mitigate potential hazards related to sea level rise, and maps of areas that are vulnerable to impacts from sea level rise have already been developed. Amendments to the Planning Code to include the maps are not necessary. Amendments to the Planning Code to prohibit development are not warranted at this time and better addressed in recommendation 3.

3: The City's Building Code and the Port's Building Code should be amended to include: (1) provisions addressing the impacts associated with sea level rise, especially when combined with storm surges and king tides; (2) construction methods that would ensure a project's resistance to and protection from the impacts of rising sea levels, especially when combined with sudden storm surges and king tides; (3) amendments written to protect the most vulnerable systems, including but not necessarily limited to, electrical, telecommunications, and fire protection systems; (4) provisions relating to rising sea levels be reviewed and reassessed every five years.	Board of Supervisors Planning	Requires Further Analysis	City departments are actively working with one another and with regional and state agencies to evaluate and develop consistent guidance and policies to address sea level rise. This includes researching adaptation and resiliency measures implemented by other municipalities, including building and planning code changes; and considering incorporating similar changes to the CCSF codes. The Planning Department is currently seeking funding to add sea level rise adaptation planning to its work program. The proposed work program includes consideration and development of municipal code amendments as necessary to implement the adaptation plan.
11d: The City should request an insurance premium estimate from FEMA and then compare that estimate with the funding it could acquire from FEMA for mitigation and adaptation against future flooding.	Mayor Board of Supervisors City Administrator Controller	Recommendation Will Not Be Implemented	FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) does not offer flood coverage to municipalities; only to private property owners in jurisdictions that participate in the program. According to City's FEMA representative, there is insufficient claim history as a basis to contend for FEMA flood mitigation funding.
12b: The City should create a local working group of community citizens and stakeholders to feed into the regional group.	Mayor Board of Supervisors Planning	Will Be Implemented in the Future	The proposed work program for developing a comprehensive city-wide sea level rise adaptation plan would provide for robust outreach to and collaboration with local and regional community members and stakeholders. The exact nature of the program has not been determined yet.