

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
SAN FRANCISCO



EDWIN M. LEE
MAYOR

May 5, 2015

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*, Recommendation 3 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".

Kate Howard
Mayor's Budget Director

Status of Recommendations: 2013-2014 Civil Grand Jury Report, Rising Sea Levels...At Our Doorstep, Recommendation 3 and 12b.

RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSE REQUIRED	ACTION PLAN	RESPONSE TEXT
<p>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.</p>	<p>Board of Supervisors Planning</p>	<p>Recommendation Will Not Be Implemented</p>	<p>Building standards for development in flood prone areas are already provided in the City's Floodplain Management Ordinance. The Floodplain Management Ordinance applies to new development and substantial improvements to existing development that is located within the City's 100-year Flood Hazard Zone. FEMA is currently in the process of developing new flood hazard maps for the City's western shoreline that account for projected sea level rise under a West Coast Sea Level Rise Pilot Study, and it is anticipated that future flood hazard maps will account for flood risks related to sea level rise. Within our current regulatory structure, the California Environmental Quality Act provides the City with sufficient authority to require projects to be designed to minimize and mitigate potential flooding hazards related to sea level rise. The best investment that the City can make at this time is to examine the issue; build upon the newly adopted "Guidance for Incorporating on Sea Level Rise Into Capital Planning"; and create an action plan for longer term solutions beyond a building-by-building approach that the Code changes would govern. While the interdepartmental Coordinating and Technical Committees on sea level rise described in detail in our response to 12b below may consider building code changes in the future, that work will require further research and public dialog. As such, the recommended building code amendments are not appropriate at this time.</p>
<p>12b: The City should create a local working group of community citizens and stakeholders to feed into the regional group.</p>	<p>Mayor Board of Supervisors Planning</p>	<p>Will Be Implemented in the Future</p>	<p>This year, Mayor Edwin M. Lee established two interdepartmental committees to manage the City's efforts on addressing sea level rise: the Sea Level Rise (SLR) Coordinating and SLR Technical Committees. The SLR Coordination Committee is a director-level committee co-chaired by Gil Kelley, Director of Citywide Planning at the Planning Department and Fuad Sweiss, City Engineer and Deputy Director at the Department of Public Works. SLR Coordination Committee members also include the Chief Resiliency Officer, and senior staff from the Mayor's Office, the City Administrator's Office, SFO, the Port of San Francisco, the SFPUC, SFMTA, DBI, OCII, OEWD, and the Capital Planning Committee. The responsibilities of the Coordination Committee are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate the efforts of city departments and advise the Mayor's Office on policies, strategies, initiatives, and resolutions to deal with and plan for potential impact on San Francisco from sea level rise;

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Coordinate local efforts and initiatives with the work of other governmental entities and various stakeholders at the regional, state, and national levels such as EPA, HUD, Department of the Interior, California Coastal Commission, California Ocean Protection Council, Bay Conservation and Development Commission, etc.; 3. Provide guidance and specific recommendations to City departments with regard to land use and strategies to protect assets and communities along the shoreline; 4. Oversee and guide the existing SLR Technical Committee and implementation of the Capital Plan Guidance to address vulnerability and risks, and adaptability of the city's physical infrastructure; and 5. Promote coordination and collaboration among city departments, private utility providers, and other stakeholders. <p>The newly formed SLR Coordinating Committee is first charged with assessing the City's risk to sea-level rise. Once the data analysis phase is complete, the SLR Coordinating Committee will coordinate the City's SLR vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning efforts with local, regional, and national governmental and non-governmental organizations and with community stakeholders, as needed. Key to this effort will be determining how to best involve the community.</p> <p>The SLR Technical Committee is comprised of the same membership that developed the Capital Planning Committee's Sea Level Rise Guidance, including the SFPUC, Port, DPW, SFO, SFMTA, SFMTA, Capitol Planning, and the Planning Department, and is chaired by David Behar with SFPUC. This committee is charged with assisting all city agencies with consistent implementation of the Guidance, revising the Guidance as needed, and assisting the SLR Coordinating Committee as requested. In addition to being adopted by the Capital Planning Committee, the Sea Level Rise Guidance was also presented to the following Commissions: SFPUC, SFMTA, SFO, SF Port, and Planning.</p>
--	--	--	---