



HAYWARD AREA SHORELINE PLANNING AGENCY

Memorandum

DATE: April 8, 2021

TO: Hayward Area Shoreline Planning Agency (HASPA) Board of Trustees

FROM: Erik Pearson, Environmental Services Manager

SUBJECT: Continuation and Possible Expansion of Hayward Area Shoreline Planning Agency

Recommendation

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) recommends that the HASPA Board discuss and provide guidance on the continuation and possible expansion of the Hayward Area Shoreline Planning Agency Joint Powers Authority (HASPA JPA).

Background

Established in 1970, HASPA is responsible for coordinating planning activities related to sea level rise to ensure the Hayward Regional Shoreline's natural, recreational, and man-made resources are protected for future generations.

In 2010, HASPA completed a [Preliminary Study of the Effect of Sea Level Rise on the Resources of the Hayward Shoreline](#). In 2011 through 2013, HASPA partnered with the Bay Conservation and Development Commission's Adapting to Rising Tides (ART) Program to conduct a [Resilience Study](#) which further assessed vulnerabilities and identified potential adaptation strategies. From 2019 to 2021, HASPA prepared the Hayward Regional Shoreline Adaptation Master Plan. The JPA is now tasked with building on these previous studies and implementing the Master Plan.

Historically, the HASPA JPA has been renewed every five years with the role of lead agency rotating among the member agencies. However, on July 9, 2020, the HASPA Board unanimously approved to extend the HASPA JPA for one additional year through December 31, 2021 so that the City of Hayward could remain as the host agency to maintain continuity through the finalization of the Master Plan. The current JPA will expire on December 31, 2021. As a result, there is an opportunity at this time to reevaluate the composition of HASPA as well as the governance structure and funding to effectively implement the Adaptation Master Plan.

Discussion

Member Agencies

HASPA's current member agencies are the City of Hayward, the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD), and the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD). The City, HARD and EBRPD each have one Board member serving on the Board of Trustees. In addition, HASPA's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is made up of staff from the three member agencies. In the past, the JPA has also included San Lorenzo Unified School District and Hayward Unified School District. With HASPA considering the implementation of the Adaptation Master Plan, it has become clear that coordinated partnerships among the various landowners and stakeholders throughout the Hayward Regional Shoreline, as well as with the larger Bay planning effort, will be instrumental for the success of all future projects.

The Master Plan identified several agencies outside of the HASPA's member agencies that need to be involved in the implementation of the short-term projects. These agencies include Alameda County Flood Control District (ACFCD), Oro Loma Sanitary District (OLSD), East Bay Dischargers Authority (EBDA), City of San Leandro, Bay Trail, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The HASPA TAC has started collaborating with ACFCD and OLSD on a grant application for a short-term project identified in the Master Plan. Additionally, EBDA is also beginning work on two projects identified in the Master Plan. The inclusion of additional agencies is essential to improve collaboration, coordination and securing grant funding for the Master Plan implementation.

Governance Structure

Building upon the opportunity for expansion, HASPA could also explore a different governance structure. There are several good examples of organizations whose missions are similar to HASPA with various organizational structures within the Bay Area.

One example is the San Francisquito Creek JPA that is responsible for coordinating restoration, recreation and mitigation projects along the Creek. The JPA includes the City of East Palo Alto, the City of Palo Alto, the City of Menlo Park, San Mateo County and the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The JPA has four dedicated staff members and is currently funded through annual member agency contributions (which pays for operating expenses) and grants, member agency contributions and donations (which pay for planning, design and construction of projects). A significant amount of flood protection funding comes from Valley Water's Safe Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program. To learn more about the San Francisquito Creek JPA, visit <https://www.sfcjpa.org/>.

Another example is OneShoreline, also known as the Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District, in San Mateo County. OneShoreline plans for sea level rise, secures funding, builds protection projects, and creates recreational opportunities along the shoreline. OneShoreline, formed in January 2020, includes the County of San Mateo and the twenty cities and towns within the County, all of which are contributing start-up funding to the District. The District has three dedicated staff and a seven-member board of directors, made up of elected officials from the member agencies. To learn more about OneShoreline, visit <https://oneshoreline.org/>.

Fiscal Impacts

Currently, the member agencies of HASPA make an annual contribution of \$12,000 to cover expenses including the Climate Corps AmeriCorps Fellow position. Within the past two years, the member agencies have also collectively contributed \$37,000 for a cost estimate for the Master Plan and a total of \$175,000 in staff time for the Master Plan. This is equivalent to approximately 1,500 hours of staff time for the Master Plan alone. HASPA has no dedicated staff and all member agency staff have primary responsibilities outside of HASPA.

The implementation of the Master Plan will require staff time and consultant assistance to seek funding for projects. For example, consultant assistance from Arcadis for preparation of a grant application for FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program is \$35,000. There may be a need to increase annual contributions to cover the Fellow, additional staff and consultants depending on the structure and responsibilities of HASPA. However, the HASPA agencies want to avoid creating any additional long term financial liability for themselves. If HASPA increases membership, expenses could be shared among a larger number of agencies.

Next Steps

With guidance from the Trustees, the TAC will explore options for continuing and expanding the JPA. The TAC will provide an update at the HASPA Board Meeting on July 8, 2021.