



Oakland Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Regional Resilience

March 16, 2016

Oakland Public Library, 81st Avenue Branch

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction *Devan Reiff, City of Oakland*

2. Presentations –(10 minutes each)

 The Regional Perspective *Dana Brechwald, ABAG Resilience Program*

 Adapting to Rising Tides *Maggie Wegner, BCDC*

 Oakland Hazard Mitigation Plan 2016-2021 Update *Devan Reiff, City of Oakland Bureau of Planning*

3. Mapping exercise and group discussion

4. Q & A

5. Closing Remarks

RESOURCES

- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan update: www.oaklandnet.com/lhmp
- Devan Reiff, Strategic Planning Department: dreiff@oaklandnet.com/ 510-238-3550
- Resilient Oakland:
www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/CityAdministration/d/ResilientOakland/index.htm
- CORE: www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/OFD/s/CORE/index.htm
- El Nino resources: www2.oaklandnet.com/ElNino/index.htm
- Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) Adapting to Rising Tides:
www.adaptingtorisingtides.org
- ABAG Resilience Program: <http://resilience.abag.ca.gov>

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting – 3/16/16 Meeting Notes

Community comments.

General approach

- Need a holistic approach, both in the sense that multiple hazards act together (like earthquake-caused fires) and in the sense that hazards and their causes, impacts and solutions are not limited to one area – can unify Oakland in a holistic approach
- Communication is critical
- Evidence-based, scientific decision-making (for example, with climate change – instead of telling other countries what to do, how do we do our part in the global response to climate change)
- Need out of the box thinking, including public/private partnerships – voters aren't renewing the Wildfire Prevention Abatement District (parcel tax assessment) that was used in the past – need to revise the City Charter, deal with union issues, management of Parks and Recreation (to employ people for vegetation management).
- Community organizations that live in/across from hazard areas (such as fire and flood) can help design the mitigation

Wildfire

- Need regional coordination – the City and State didn't do an adequate job rebuilding after the firestorm; this is a problem beyond the Oakland Hills
- Funding for vegetation management needs to be regional, not just targeted to the disadvantaged 30% of the City. The counterpoint being that disadvantaged communities are in more need because they haven't had the funding in the past.
- Link schools and job training to hazard mitigation; can link funding from multiple sources addressing multiple hazards – employ students and youth and train them in vegetation management.
- The City needs to prioritize a 5-10 year urban forest and vegetation management plan
- Plan for 20 years out to transform the Hills; plant the trees now we want
- Need strategies for maintenance and removal of aging and diseased trees
- Both public and private buildings should have 100-foot clearance
- Need to take a scientific, not aesthetic approach to landscaping and replacing trees
- How do we use our water supply?
- Have a goal of the number of residents who are trained and empowered to put out small fires on their own in their neighborhoods (City's CORE program is doing these more technical trainings)
- Need more holistic hazard-preventing landscaping than just tree removal

Flooding

- Instead of hardscape, put in naturalistic shorelines around the Sloughs
- OWLS (Oak Wildland Stewards) is an organization of “friends of...” creek groups
- Focus on key actions along the entire watershed (particularly the several creeks that drain into the Bay near the Coliseum complex)
- What happens to brownfield sites with toxic waste (particularly sites that aren’t registered as toxic sites) during a flood? Brownfields have a more significant impact overall than the EPA sites.
- The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) needs to map future flood areas, not just current ones
- We need long-term thinking as well as short-term thinking, particularly from developers who don’t think about long-term risks like sea-level rise and just sell the building, saying “it’s not our problem.”
- Retain stormwater in parks with catch basins under playgrounds, use the water for landscaping to save money; see Los Angeles, which is coordinating with utilities and school districts.



Wildlife

- Wildlife populations (such as deer) wander out of their habitat during or after a disaster, and sometimes become aggressive
- Wildlife populations could be separated during disasters; build wildlife bridges (like the hedgehog bridges in Europe) to keep them together and safe and away from humans – Bay Farm Island Road is a possible bridge location.

