



TITLE

American Canyon's Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP) Overview

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and File Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP) Presentation

CONTACT

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BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS

In the face of rising tides and mounting climate threats, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) has laid out a new local mandate to plan for the Bay Area's future. By January 1, 2034, American Canyon and every local government along the San Francisco Bay shoreline is required to complete and adopt a Subregional Shoreline Adaptation Plan—a comprehensive blueprint for how our community will adapt to sea level rise.

This requirement stems from California Senate Bill 272, which recognizes that piecemeal efforts are not sufficient to address this enormous issue. Instead, it calls for a unified, science-based approach that integrates local planning with broader regional resilience goals. The backbone of this effort is the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan Guidelines (RSAP), adopted by BCDC in 2024. The guidelines provide the vision, priorities, and adaptation efforts that local governments must follow when crafting their plans.

By law, each Subregional Plan must address region-wide vision and priorities for a resilient San Francisco Bay shoreline:

- A vulnerability assessment that highlights risks to infrastructure, ecosystems, and especially at-risk communities.
- Adaptation strategies and projects tailored to local conditions but aligned with regional goals.
- A clear implementation timeline and identification of lead agencies.
- Use of the best available science, ensuring decisions are grounded in data, not guesswork.

These plans are gateways to state funding. Only approved plans that meet BCDC's standards will be prioritized for financial support, making compliance not just necessary, but strategic.

Is American Canyon a Subregion?

The BCDC RSAP Guidelines requires each to community prepare a ***Subregional*** Shoreline Adaptation Plan. Although a Subregional plan sounds like an area larger than a single city, the BCDC Guidelines permit a variety of geographic areas within the Subregional umbrella as long as the plan complies with the guidelines. These include:

- A Countywide Plan
- A Single Jurisdiction Local Plan (such as American Canyon only)
- Multi-Jurisdictional Local Plan (American Canyon + City and/or County of Napa)
- Combination of related geographical areas (Napa and Solano County, among others)

Assistant Public Works Director Norman Woods will provide a summary of American Canyon's leadership actions to obtain a grant to prepare a Subregional Shoreline Adaptation Plan for our City – and possibly in partnership with the City and County of Napa. A slide deck summary of the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan Guidelines is included as Attachment 1. A copy of the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan Guidelines is included as Attachment 2.

Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan Resources

- You can view sea level rise scenarios and its impact on a variety of outcomes on-line at this link: <https://rsap-atlas.bcdc.ca.gov/>
- For a complete overview of the RSAP Program, visit the BCDC website at this link: <https://www.bcdc.ca.gov/local-sea-level-rise-plans/#plan-status-jurisdiction>

COUNCIL PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Public Safety: "Ensure American Canyon remains a safe community."

FISCAL IMPACT

The City will incur costs to develop a Subregional Shoreline Adaptation Plan in alignment with RSAP guidelines for the following tasks:

- Staff time for planning and coordination.
- Consultant support for technical analysis and mapping.
- Community engagement efforts.
- Integration with existing General Plans, Local Coastal Programs, and hazard mitigation plans.

Potential funding to offset plan development costs, including implementation of adaptation measures may be available from these sources:

- California's SB 1 Climate Adaptation Planning Grants.
- FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program.
- Regional planning grants administered by MTC/ABAG.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The presentation is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). However, the Subregional Shoreline Adaptation Plan itself is subject to CEQA. At this stage, it is too early to

determine what, if any, environmental impacts may result from the City's RSAP.

COMMUNICATION

Level 4: Robust Communication & Engagement

The RSAP Compliance outreach requirements include the following:

1. Inclusive Community Engagement

- Jurisdictions must engage frontline communities, including those most vulnerable to sea level rise and flooding.
- Outreach should be equitable, accessible, and culturally appropriate, using multiple formats and languages as needed.

2. Stakeholder Collaboration

- Plans must demonstrate coordination with regional agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, and relevant stakeholders (e.g., utilities, transportation agencies, environmental groups).
- Collaboration should include public workshops, stakeholder interviews, and feedback loops.

3. Transparency and Documentation

- Local governments are required to document outreach efforts, including:
 - Dates and formats of meetings.
 - Groups and individuals engaged.
 - Key concerns raised and how they were addressed in the plan.

4. Use of RSAP Atlas

- The [RSAP Atlas](#) is designed to support outreach by providing visual tools and data layers that help communities understand risks and adaptation options. [\[BCDC is ex...e RSAP ...\]](#)

5. Alignment with SB 272

- Outreach must meet the standards set by SB 272, which mandates community-informed planning for sea level rise adaptation.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Introducing the Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan \(RSAP\)](#)

[Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan Guidelines](#)