



Background Research to the EJ Bay Plan Amendment

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San Francisco Bay Conservation
and Development Commission

Overview

1. Agency Analysis
2. Definition Analysis
3. Engagement Analysis and Strategy

Environmental Justice and Social Equity BPA



Project Goal:

Amend the San Francisco Bay Plan to incorporate principles of environmental justice and social equity into the planning, design, and permitting of shoreline projects in and along the San Francisco Bay

Agency Analysis

- One of many
- Visions, programs, tools, workplace practices, dedicated staff/member
- CNRA directive
- EJ/SE policy can take many forms at BCDC
 - BPA, regulations, workforce development, communications, outreach, legislation



Questions

1. How do you see BCDC's EJ/SE work fitting into the EJ movement around the region/state?
2. What coordination opportunities do you anticipate?
3. Are we missing any other initiatives that we could learn from?



Definition Analysis

- 3 main terms to define: EJ, Social Equity, Communities
- Overall challenge is striking a balance between broad and narrow definitions
- What role should communities play in defining these terms?



Definition Analysis: EJ



- “The fair treatment of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies” (Cal Government Code)
- Pros:
 - Most agencies have adopted this (consistency)
 - Broad and allows flexibility for BCDC in tailoring policies/practices
 - Demonstrates that BCDC’s work fits into larger picture
- Cons:
 - Too broad to be actionable/implementable
 - Involvement is missing (as opposed to US EPA’s definition)
 - “Fair treatment” may not be strong enough, it is missing recognition of historical and current disproportional envi. burdens/benefits

Definition Analysis: EJ



- Potential BCDC definition: “The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the implementation and enforcement of the McAteer-Petris Act, Suisun Marsh Preservation Act, San Francisco Bay Plan and amendment process, BCDC Regulations, BCDC Permit Process, including the Design Review Board and Engineering Criteria Review Board, and Adapting to Rising Tides Program, as well as the development of BCDC’s Strategic Plan”
- Pros:
 - the narrower scope can lead to more actionable policies
- Cons:
 - as issues and solutions morph, this definition can become restrictive or outdated.

Definition Analysis: Social Equity



- Broad vs. Narrow
- OPR views equity as overarching framework of which EJ is a piece and offers several definitions in their 2017 General Plan Guidelines
- Some have tailored equity to their work, such as health equity and climate equity

Definition Analysis: Social Equity



- Potential BCDC definition: “Bay equity refers to BCDC’s efforts to ensure that this and future generations have full and equal public access to San Francisco Bay and that development approved through BCDC’s permit process promotes everyone’s opportunity to participate.”

Definition Analysis: Communities

- Used to identify communities and therefore has large implications
- Most have defined communities related to their programmatic work and missions (i.e. DACs, EDACs, CoC, impacted communities, vulnerable communities, etc.)
- Empirical/quantitative vs. aspirational/qualitative vs. combination
- Use ART vulnerable communities mapping indicators as a starting point?



Questions

- Does BCDC want to use the state definition of EJ or use a tailored definition?
- Does BCDC want to view social equity as a broad framework or use a tailored definition?
- Does BCDC want an empirical or qualitative community definition (or a mixture of both)?
 - What indicators should be included?



Engagement Analysis

- Currently, there is a focus on how to improve public engagement around the state
- Engagement is integral as local knowledge leads to better planning and EJ is about listening to impacted communities
- Best practice is to move from inform/consult to collaborative/empower



Figure 4-1 / IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum

Increasing Level of Public Impact

Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
Public Participation Goal	Public Participation Goal	Public Participation Goal	Public Participation Goal	Public Participation Goal
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives, and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives, and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision, including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
Promise to the Public	Promise to the Public	Promise to the Public	Promise to the Public	Promise to the Public
We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to, and acknowledge concerns and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for direct advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
Example Tools	Example Tools	Example Tools	Example Tools	Example Tools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fact sheets ➤ Websites ➤ Open houses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Public comment ➤ Focus groups ➤ Surveys ➤ Public meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Workshops ➤ Deliberate polling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Citizen Advisory Committee ➤ Consensus-building ➤ Participatory decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Citizen juries ➤ Ballots ➤ Delegated decisions

Source: International Association of Public Participation

Engagement Analysis

- Understanding limitations
- Multipronged approach
 - CWG
 - 1-on-1s
 - Public Workshops
 - Surveys
 - Public Hearing
 - Web Presence
- Leverage resources



Engagement Timeline

- Ongoing – CWG meetings (open to the public)
- May 2018 – Develop relationships by having 1-1s with EJ-related orgs
- Jun-Aug 2018 – Plan and facilitate public workshops and surveys
- Sept 2018 – Preparing initial staff background report
- Oct 15, 2018 – Publishing Public Notice of Public Hearing, including background report
- Nov 15, 2018 – Public Hearing
- Dec 2018 – Commission vote (may be postponed until 2019)



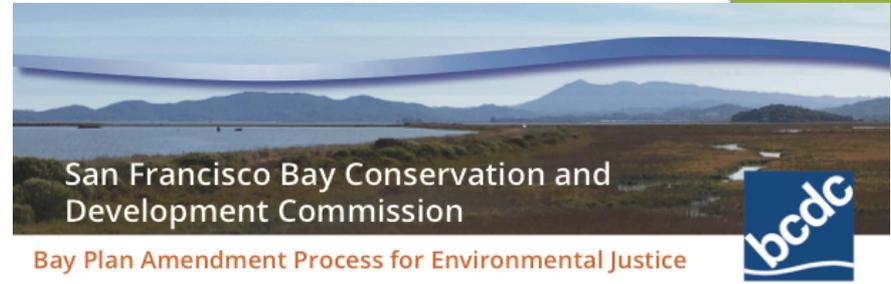
Relationship Development

- Agencies
- Community and EJ groups
 - Statewide
 - Regional
 - Local
- See list in memo



Informational Flyer

- Staff attending community events, speaking with residents, and distributing flyer
- Flyer will also be distributed at BAAQMD's AB617 workshops



What is BCDC?

The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) is a California state planning and regulatory agency with regional authority over the San Francisco Bay, the Bay's shoreline band, and the Suisun Marsh. BCDC was created in 1965 and is the nation's oldest coastal zone management agency. Our mission is to protect and enhance the San Francisco Bay and to encourage the Bay's responsible and productive use for this and future generations.



Source: Dai Sugano/Bay Area News Group/The Mercury News (2017)

What is the San Francisco Bay Plan?

The Bay Plan is the regulatory framework that guides BCDC's permitting decisions for proposed development in the San Francisco Bay and the Bay's shoreline band. Its findings and policies provide guidance to BCDC in balancing shoreline development with protecting the Bay's natural resources and the public's right to access the Bay shoreline.

Why incorporate environmental justice and social equity into the Bay Plan?

Shoreline flooding often affects low-income and minority communities disproportionately for a variety of reasons. These impacts include loss of housing, schools, jobs, and communities, as well as access to recreational opportunities, such as parks and trails, and potential exposure to pollutants mobilized by flood waters from nearby contaminated and industrial sites.

How can you be involved?

We want to hear from you about how we can best fulfill our mission to protect and enhance the San Francisco Bay, its shoreline, and residents in an equitable manner as we experience new and unprecedented challenges posed by rising sea level. We want to understand your concerns and priorities and how best to address them moving forward. Our hope is that this will be a collaborative process with policy changes rooted in needs identified by communities.

For more information, please visit our website at:
<http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/ejwg/BPAEJSE.html>

Or contact:
Clesli Bennett at clesli.bennett@bcdc.ca.gov

Public Workshops

- Coordination!
 - ART, SLC/CCC,
Community/EJ Organizations
- Accessibility
- Transparency/limitations
- Addressing past failings



Surveys

- 2-fold: scope problem and assess solutions
- Can be taken online and distributed by identified organizations or redesigned for in-person surveying at public workshops (i.e. sticker voting, drawing, paper surveys, etc.)
- See memo for sample questions



Questions

- Is this approach achievable? What might limitations be?
- Are there other partnerships that you envision?
- What are your reactions to the survey questions?
- What are your thoughts on long-term sustained engagement at BCDC? How do you envision it? Can this process inform that vision?

