

## AGENDA

NOTE: DIFFERENT LOCATION !!

Marin Conservation League

Climate Action Working Group

Friday, March 20, 2015, 9:00 AM

**At Marin Conservation League:**

**Muir Woods Conference Room, 175 N. Redwood Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903**

1. Quick introductions
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of minutes
4. Report on meeting with Logan Ferree in Jared's Washington office and subsequent meeting with Beckie Menton at MCE.- Roger Roberts
5. Other reports
6. Discussion:
  - a. What should our next steps be in helping Marin prepare for sea level rise and other climate change issues?
  - b. What should our next steps be to help Marin and MCE implement energy efficiency measures? (Proposed for next month's meeting: conversation between Dana Armanino of Marin County and Jane Elias of Sonoma County's Energy Independence Program)
7. Announcements
8. Adjourn

Note: In preparation for the meeting, you may want to look at Berkeley's outstanding Energy Saving Ordinance, available online at [www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/EnergyOrdinanceUpdate](http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/EnergyOrdinanceUpdate). At some point we may want to contact Berkeley's Sustainability Program Manager, Billi Romain.

**DRAFT**

**MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE**  
**Climate Action Working Group: February 20, 2015**  
**San Rafael Corporate Center, Tamalpais Conference Room**

Present: Co-chairs Pam Reaves and Doug Wilson; also Bob Bundy, Bill Carney, Joyce Clements, San Rafael Councilmember Kate Colin, Nona Dennis, Novato Mayor Pro Tem Pat Eklund, Tom Flynn, Rick Fraites, Heather Furmidge, Randy Greenberg, Ed Mainland, Pat Nelson, Vicki Nichols, Tamra Peters, Kate Powers, Marin County Supervisor Katie Rice, Roger Roberts, Susan Robinson, Bob Spofford, Sue Spofford, Sandy Wallenstein.

Guest Speakers: Debbie Raphael, Director San Francisco Dept of the Environment; Allison Quaid, Energy Efficiency Specialist, SFDE; and Jack Liebster, Marin County Planning, Manager;

Pam opened the meeting at 9:05.

**Quick Intros:** Attendee introductions.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Agenda was approved.

**Program with Guest Speakers:**

**Debbie Raphael was asked to address:**

- 1) What is San Francisco doing to reach its Energy Efficiency (EE) goals: How are programs funded and who administers them? Are there changes that could be made at the CPUC that would make EE programs more effective?**
- 2) How can we work across agency boundaries to tackle issues like sea level rise and other climate related vulnerabilities?**

Debbie said in addressing sea level and climate change, there are two halves of the puzzle 1) mitigation = how do we do less bad in the world, 2) adaptation = how do we deal with the fact that we already have done bad in the world. Building a bridge between the counties to learn from each other is important. Biggest challenge of adaptation is that it's multi-jurisdictional and there are many regional agencies (eg. ABAG, BCDC)

Unique to San Francisco, is the bridging across County departments in linking sea level rise to capital planning. Debbie shared two documents. The first had Table 1, Figure 2, and Table A3-1 from the document "Guidance for Incorporating Sea Level Rise into Capital Planning in San Francisco". The second was the Sea Level Rise Checklist in Appendix 5.

[\*\*https://www.marinhhs.org/sites/default/files/files/SNR\\_CPSMARIN\\_111814r3.pdf\*\*](https://www.marinhhs.org/sites/default/files/files/SNR_CPSMARIN_111814r3.pdf)

With adaptation, need a sense of how big the problem is by taking a granular look at vulnerabilities in terms of sea level rise. Then need to do a risk assessment of all the County assets through the lens of sea level rise. Mean Higher High Water (MHHW) is high tide with sea level rise. For example, need to plan asset for life of project's sea level rise projections. SF is trying to be transparent about these assumptions when budgeting and planning for future projects. They use Checklist to do risk assessment for each asset. Capital Planning Committee and Board of Supervisors see what assumptions are being made about asset's exposure to sea level rise, its sensitivity to flooding, its adaptive capacity and a risk assessment in terms of anticipated damage,

disruption and costs. Checklist is a concrete tool that will move sea level rise out of theoretical and into reality, bringing transparency and accountability into the planning process.

**Jack Liebster was asked to address:**

- 1) Current progress Countywide**
- 2) Challenges we face for jurisdictions to work together to achieve coherent collaborative progress.**
- 3) Steps the community can take to help achieve progress**
- 4) Stakeholders, missing stakeholders**
- 5) County run energy efficiency programs in place. Who is in charge of these and how are they funded?**

Jack said Marin County needs to do what SF is doing. Jack described some of the steps in the process. Marinslr.org is County's webpage on sea level rise.

Evaluating science to get best projections: King Tide levels are going to be more frequent. Not only is sea level rising, but storms are becoming more frequent and energetic. Best practice is taking the best projections and assessing risks for each asset; then to come up with plan and subsequently see how the plan is working and how the environment is changing.

USGS made projections. The ranges in the projections are larger the further out in time. Our Coast Our Future website enables one to see how sea level rise is projected to affect their home or other area according to various scenarios. <http://data.prbo.org/apps/ocof/index.php?page=flood-map>

Sea level rise components include expected sea level rise projections, daily tides, expansion of seawater seasonally, water level rise from storm surge, and additional heights due to energy that waves carry.

There are two County planning efforts: the one on the coast side of Marin is about a year ahead, and there is one on the Bay side. Mapping and inventorying of assets includes public's input.

Potential impacts: Asset maps look at what's likely to be affected and under what conditions.

Adaptation options: County is looking at green solutions like horizontal levees and is including school-kids in planning process.

**Allison Quaid addressed SF's mitigation efforts to reduce green house gas emissions (GHGs) through its energy efficiency (EE) programs:**

Allison manages SF's team of energy auditors who encourage multifamily residences and businesses to upgrade to energy efficient technologies through financial incentives. Program is funded under CPUC through monies collected from PG&E ratepayers. Allison discussed how auditors get leads. The program relies heavily on face-to-face contact. Environment Now is a job development program that employs multi-lingual low-income residents to be initial ambassadors.

Financial incentives are limited to heating and cooling, computer network software, refrigeration and mostly lighting. Energy Watch has saved San Franciscans an estimated \$42 million, \$35 million of that saved by commercial businesses. The program has been in existence for 14 years and has paid out \$23 million. Bay Area Regional Energy Network is another program that focuses on multi-family retrofits. The key is to design energy efficiency programs that incent based on baselines for particular buildings. Want to be able to incent a whole bandwidth of capacity for energy efficiencies.

How much of a dent are these EE programs making? Don't know total energy load reductions. It's hard to get data from PG&E because of privacy laws around energy use.

Debbie mentioned SF energy benchmarking ordinance for commercial buildings over a certain size need to go through Energy Star certification so they understand their energy efficiency. It's hard to enforce.

San Francisco is looking at creating a Community Choice Aggregate. Currently in SF, PG&E does energy efficiency, as do SF's Department of the Environment and SF's CPUC. A CCA will change who will deliver EE services going forward.

Jack said that Dana Armanino of Marin County coordinates equivalent program outlined on County's Sustainability page. Marin focuses on commercial, especially public buildings like schools, County and City buildings, parking lots and on lighting.

<http://www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/sustainability/energy-programs/energy-watch?p=1>

Debbie said energy efficiency will evolve in Marin. Jack said County works with MCE and sorts out who offers which programs.

With sea level rise, after analysis and risk assessments, need to start implementation and that will be expensive and will require political will by communities and businesses. That will be the largest nut to crack. What kind of leadership will electeds have? Advocates will need to light the fire. Kate Colin said a subcommittee of Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers, led by Claire McCauliffe, is beginning to collaborate on what each City and the County are doing. Marge Macris is the group's consultant.

Roger suggested that adaptation efforts include the analysis of assessment district creations including predicted costs and how costs will be spread.

Pat Ekland serves on ABAG Board. She hopes cities and counties don't reinvent the wheel. Plan Bay Area 2017 (draft available in 2016) will have a chapter on climate change and sea level rise in the nine-county area with projections and implications. Highway 37 is projected to be flooded by 2030. Models and measurement efforts are underway by Cal Trans. Challenges are to know who is doing what and how to maximize everyone's efforts in a collaborative and integrated approach over time.

Resilient Neighborhoods gives info on both adaptation and mitigation and is creating climate

leaders.

Vicki pointed out that all cities and counties need to use the same assessment tools. Jack said Marinslr.org lists all the groups that the County knows of that are working on this. He said none of the models are 100% accurate. Pat Eklund said that climate action plans (CAPs) are critical for implementation.

Bruce Riordan is preparing report for Marin Community Foundation on who is doing what in the County. The report may or may not be public.

Sandy mentioned small pilot projects of adaptation strategies that will help inform what can be done. Sandy said Shore Up is seeing that because many low income residents don't own homes, sea level rise issues become emergency preparedness issues. Additionally, she is working with groups of students with Jack. They recently received a Whale Tale grant.

Debbie mentioned that typically resiliency is what happens when you have an emergency. Communities have greatest resiliency when they have connectedness and often communities of color have best interconnectedness.

Bill said the way to get the general public's attention is through money. Jack said the \$250,000 authorized by the BOS for adaptation is being budgeted within departments of the County that tend to be siloed. Of the grant that the County is about to receive, \$100,000 will be divided up among participating cities. The commitment is to work together to weave a strong fabric.

Rick brought up the issue of takings after catastrophes happen. Debbie said town of Goleta near Santa Barbara is the first she knows of that will allow the shoreline to recede even though there is a resort on the shoreline. It's called adaptive management.

In SF, Rockefeller Foundation funded Resilient Cities Project gave \$1 million for 3 years for a SF Chief Resilience Officer and for consultants to do mapping.

Bob Bundy mentioned an idea for baseline funding presented by the East Bay's Mitch Avalon to maintain stormwater as an assessment district where stormwater is dealt with as a utility.

Ed asked how to get energy efficiency and water efficiency simultaneously. Tamra said all new buildings should not only be energy efficient, but should be designed for gray water use as well. Debbie would like SF's PUC to have recycled water goals. Currently purple pipes don't go anywhere.

In closing, Debbie said government has a role to play and that government networks and meetings are already in place. She sees need in getting community-based activist groups learning from each other and business forums (Nona mentioned the Marin Economic Forum, the North Bay Leadership group and the Climate Protection Group) learning from each other. Government needs the support of that groundswell.

**Next Meeting:** March 20, 9:00–11:00 a.m. Location TBD. Meeting adjourned 11:06 a.m. Notes: KP

**Draft**

**MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE**  
**Climate Action Working Group: January 9, 2015**  
**San Rafael Corporate Center, Boro Conference Room**

Present: Co-chairs Pam Reaves and Doug Wilson; also Tom Flynn, Pat Nelson, Bill Carney, Kate Powers, Rick Fraites, Bob Spofford, Jana Haehl, Heather Furmidge, Nona Dennis, Bill Carney, Ed Mainland. Becky Menten of MCE joined the group for a portion of the meeting.

Doug opened the meeting at 9:00.

**Quick Intros:** Attendee introductions.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Agenda was approved. Later, the order of reports was changed: “c. San Rafael and BCDC” report was moved up to accommodate attendees who had to leave early.

**Approval of December 5, 2014 Minutes:** Minutes Approved.

**Reports:**

**a) Community Marin (Nona Dennis)**

The Community Marin document, written originally in 1991 in advance of the 1994 Countywide Plan, was updated in 1998, 2003, and 2013. A variety of Marin environmental groups have contributed to the document over the years. However, recently Community Marin contributor Marin Sierra Club objected to the 2013 update being used as a policy document for advocacy in the political arena.

In order to forward Community Marin’s recommendations focused solely on sea level rise, Community Marin Action Committee (CMAC) was formed and has been meeting for the past year as an independent group. Priscilla Bull has been chairing CMAC. Marge Macris has been keeping it going. Rick Freitas, Ann Thomas, Don Dickenson, Randy Greenberg, Susan Stompe, Nona, Barbara Salzman are members. The group’s goal is to encourage Marin jurisdictions and groups to create leadership and countywide coordination of a plan of action on adaptation to sea level rise.

To that end, members of CMAC have met with Cory Bytof of Marin Climate and Energy Partnership; Supervisors Katie Rice, Judy Arnold, Steve Kinsey, and Kate Sears; Marin County Planning’s Brian Crawford and Jack Liebster; Paul Jensen, Director of Community Development, San Rafael; Sandeep Karkal, the GM of Novato Sanitary District; and have talked with Southern Marin Sewer Agency. Marge Macris has met with a subgroup of the Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers including Claire McAuliffe (Belvedere), Kate Colin (SR), Stephanie Moulton-Peters (Mill Valley), Ray Withy (Sausalito), and Kevin Haroff (Larkspur).

CMAC has been following the County’s Climate Action Plan which added a section on adaptation. The Board of Supervisors established adaptation to sea level rise as one of their top priorities for 2015.

Next steps: Marin Community Foundation hired Bruce Riordan, a climate strategist working with ABAG and MTC, to find out who’s doing what in Marin. Nona, and others, have been phone interviewed by Bruce.

CMAC is writing an op-ed for the Independent Journal. In summary it says there are lots of things going on around the topic of adaptation to sea level rise but that the County needs to have a coordinated plan and that all the jurisdictions need to be involved.

**<http://www.marinij.com/general-news/20150118/marin-voice-marin-needs-a-plan-to-adapt-to-sea-level-rise>**

Nona suggested that as long as CMAC is moving forward that MCL, in particular CAWG, not duplicate but support and stay apprised of CMAC's work and supplement as necessary.

Doug – CMAC has great deal of expertise and is focusing on policymakers. They are not primarily community organizers. A problem for CMAC is that it has some tenuous connections with some of the Community Marin groups.

Pam - CAWG would like to continue to be updated with CMAC's efforts so that CAWG's efforts line up.

Tom – While CMAC's focus is on adaptation, CAWG could be focusing on mitigation and opportunities for Marin setting an example in terms of climate change impacts.

Bill – Asked that the other groups represented (Main Street Moms, Sustainable SR, etc.) at the CAWG meeting, also be alerted when those organizations can be mobilized to amplify CMAC's efforts. Bill is concerned that assessment and adaptation, and particularly the expenditure of the County's \$250,000, not be limited to sea level rise but rather the whole suite of climate vulnerability impacts.

Nona and Rick will take points raised back to CMAC.

**b) San Rafael and BCDC – (Pam, Doug, Bill Carney)**

The City of San Rafael is working with BCDC to update their Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and it will include a Climate Overlay. The City of San Rafael has hired a new Emergency Operations Manager, John Bruckbauer, who will work with BCDC and ABAG on the plan. The updated LHMP will position San Rafael to receive grants for planning and implementation. SR's plan will be modeled after Berkeley's LHMP update which had broad community support.

**<http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Mitigation/>**

This came about after FEMA rolled out new flood maps a little over a year ago highlighting cities' need for Local Hazard Mitigation Plans in order for its residents to qualify for flood insurance. Around the same time, Paul Jensen prepared San Rafael's white paper "Climate Adaptation – Sea Level Rise" **[http://www.ca-ilg.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/sea\\_level-issues-paper-city-of-san-rafael.pdf](http://www.ca-ilg.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/sea_level-issues-paper-city-of-san-rafael.pdf)**

Then Priority Development Area funding allowed SR to get money to do a study with BCDC of sea level rise in the downtown San Rafael PDA. Cory Bytof coordinated the various elements. Cory also has been supporting Resilient Neighborhoods' outreach as it brings together adaptation and mitigation, particularly through hazard preparedness.

The County has written a grant proposal to match the \$250,000 they have set aside for adaptation. BCDC had indicated that would be needed for a county-wide vulnerability assessment.

**c) Sustainable groups (Bill Carney)**

Sustainable San Rafael's focus has been on Housing Elements both in SR and the County. SR recently adopted their housing element, as has Novato and the County. The State is trying to create a nexus between housing development and transportation planning. The State responded to San Rafael that they would like to see beefed up language about energy efficiency and green building standards. It might be good for CAWG to look at what the local Housing Elements are actually saying about energy efficiency programs.

There is a focus on equity as well as environment and economy.

San Rafael's Climate Change Action Committee's quarterly meeting is coming up that may focus on SR's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and funding. SR's budget planning is coming up.

Bill would like MCL to weigh in on the County's Vulnerability Assessment in a timely way.

**Discussion**

**Energy Efficiency Subgroup (Ed Mainland, Bob Spofford, Tom Flynn)**

The subgroup is taking a look at what MCL might offer in terms of advocacy support of energy efficiency measures in Marin. CA's major energy efficiency targets are a component of the State's greenhouse gas reduction program. One of Governor Brown's new goals in his inaugural speech for 2030, which reaches beyond 2020 goals, is to double the efficiency of existing buildings and make heating fuel cleaner. That's on top of existing state goals of net-zero new buildings.

The state and all communities have their work cut out for them and only by really deep energy efficiency can we meet those goals. The vision of a new energy paradigm is the idea that we can't consume, produce, and use energy the way we have been.

The mandate of the subgroup is to come up with a short list of actionable, feasible measures that MCL can support at the local level to materially move EE forward. And secondly, to propose to MCL an assessment of MCE's 2016 energy efficiency program, so MCL weighs in.

The subgroup generated a list of criteria for an ideal energy efficiency program to stimulate discussion. The list was emailed to CAWG subcommittee members.

Also distributed was a list from Becky Menten (MCE) of the fundamental obstacles that MCE's EE program is facing.

Becky – MCE is currently encouraging feedback on the 2016 program structure they are envisioning as a single platform to access their energy efficiency programs. MCE's 2016 EE program draft is at <http://www.mcecleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/Draft2016EEDesigns.pdf>

Bill – Groups like Sustainable San Rafael would benefit from CAWG EE's subgroup guidance on what comments should be to support drafting their own letters to MCE's 2016 Energy Efficiency Program.

Also MCE has an energy efficiency listserve for those who would like to stay informed on future EE presentations and updates. To sign up, <http://www.marincleanenergy.org/ee>

CAWG's subgroup is currently discussing whether it thinks energy efficiency fits within MCE's business model because the economics of energy efficiency are currently a big problem. The subgroup is also discussing EE ideas about programs that are separate from the incumbent utilities and effective ways to incentivize people to be more efficient.

Tom -- There are programs in the Bay Area that are working and that are cost effective. There are jurisdictional EE required standards and there are incentives.

All jurisdictions have to abide by the State's updated Building Energy Efficiency Program, Title 24. Title 24 currently applies to new construction, but there is potential for folding in existing buildings with triggers, such as time of sale or rental, for efficiency standards being implemented, possibly with some funding.

The heart of action at the state level is at the CA Energy Commission's Energy Efficiency office. How can CAWG and MCL support them?

**Action item:** Ed will send contacts at CEC's Energy Efficiency office to Pam.

San Rafael's "green-building" ordinance Marin Green Building Energy Retrofit and Solar Transformation (BERST) required property owners embarking on new construction or renovation projects to incorporate ways to make their buildings more energy efficient into their plans. Residential resale and remodels are large energy opportunities. But ordinance became bureaucratically hard to enforce. CAWG may want to explore BERST, what worked, and what the problems were.

The meaning and connotation differences between "efficiency" and "conservation" were discussed.

The EE subgroup may start preparation for a presentation to the MCL Board.

**Announcements:**

Marin County Mayors and Councilmembers meet in San Anselmo on January 28, at 6:00 to socialize. It's a good time to lobby for funding from each town for climate action plans. 7:00 is dinner and a meeting.

C-SMART updates as well as other updates are available through the Marin County website.  
Register email address and check the topics you are interested in.

**<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAMARIN/subscriber/new?pop=t>**

**Next Meeting:** February 20, 9:00–11:00 a.m., at San Rafael Corporate Center Conference Room

Debbie Raphael, Director of San Francisco Department of the Environment, her energy efficiency specialist, Allison Quaid, and Jack Liebster, Marin County Planning Manager, will be guests

Meeting adjourned 11:09 a.m.

Notes: KP