

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

455 Market Street, Suite 228
San Francisco, CA 94105
FAX (415) 904-5400



W6a

September 9, 2020

TO: California Coastal Commission and Interested Parties

FROM: John Ainsworth, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report, September 2020

LCP Grants Status Report

The Commission has funded 40 local jurisdictions through six rounds of LCP Grant funding since 2013, for a total of approximately \$8.3 million awarded through 50 LCP grants. Rounds 1 through 4 are now complete. For Round 5, all five LCP grant projects are fully underway through December 2020, with extensions possible to ensure completion of grant projects (see [Appendix A](#) for a current status report on Round 5 LCP Grants). For Round 6, 11 of 12-awarded LCP grant projects have been executed, with most grantees now fully underway with their proposed work through December 2022 (see [Appendix B](#) for a current status report on Round 6 LCP Grants). For past LCP Grant status reports related to Rounds 1 through 4, please see the following: the [LCP Grants Status Update](#) from June 2016 for the final status report on Round 1 LCP Grants; the June 2019 [ED Report](#) for a final status report on Round 2 LCP Grants; and the [June 2020 ED Report](#) for final status reports on Round 3 and Round 4 LCP Grants.

For Round 6, CCC staff recommended the Commission award twelve LCP grants, including \$175,000 for the City of Malibu's Adaptation Plan and LCP Update for sea level rise. During its discussion, the Commission attached the following special conditions to Malibu's award:

In addition, the grantee shall revise the work program to include a baseline assessment of public access, including existing and potential enforcement cases, and establish benchmarks to ensure new public access policies are developed to ensure consistency with the Coastal Act under current and future conditions, and to resolve and avoid violations of the Coastal Act.

The City stated in a letter to Commission staff that it believes the special condition would involve a much broader scope of work and staff time commitment than the City anticipated when it submitted its application. The City has determined that the additional commitment is

not currently feasible due to the City's ongoing Woolsey Fire recovery efforts and as a result, the City has declined the CCC LCP Planning Grant award. The City also indicated that if the CCC reconsidered its inclusion of the special condition, the City may accept the grant award. Commission staff is currently looking at potential options to reallocate the funds.

Meetings and Events

Parks California

In August, staff and I were very pleased to make the Zoom acquaintance of Kindley Walsh Lawlor and her team at Parks California--the new Non-Profit that functions as a "strategic partner" for State Parks. Parks California was created from SB 1111, the bill that codified many of the recommendations of the Parks Forward Commission. It's charged with supporting the work of the department and other park partners by bringing new resources, expertise, and flexibility to assist the department in accomplishing its mission. Parks California's goal is to increase park access and visitation in ways that serve all Californians and visitors to the state, and supporting the protection and stewardship of California's natural, cultural, and historical lands, sites, and resources.

Coastal staff had an initial virtual "meet and greet" call with Kindley and her staff in early August, followed by a more focused call later in the month where we discussed specific coastal projects and programs. I am very excited to be working with another parks-oriented partner organization that has the potential to further the goals of both State Parks and the Coastal Commission, and we are looking forward to future, 3-way collaborations that bring creative new tools to our efforts to protect coastal resources and enhance public access particularly for underserved groups.

Public Education Unit

Coastal Cleanup Month

A reminder that since it is now September, we are in the heart of Coastal Cleanup Month. Staff and partner organizations have been working to get the word out and activate volunteers around the state to get involved by cleaning up in their neighborhoods, parks, and natural areas. We are encouraging everyone in California to help protect the coast and ocean by removing trash before the rains come and wash it out to the ocean. Details on how to participate are at www.coastalcleanupday.org.

Online Clean Boating Quiz.

The Clean Boating Educational Quiz was held online from July 28 through September 7. Over 5,000 boaters participated.

CA Fishing Line Recycling Program.

Staff worked with Hesperia Recreation and Park District to install eight new fishing line recycling stations, bringing the statewide total to 290. In addition, staff has been in conversation with NOAA Marine Debris Program regarding expansion of the program.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

455 Market Street, Suite 228
San Francisco, CA 94105
FAX (415) 904-5400

**Appendix A****4th Status Report on Round 5 Local Coastal Program Grants**

The following is a summary of the work completed from April 1, 2020 through July 30, 2020 under the five Round 5 Local Coastal Program Grants awarded in November 2018 (listed from North to South). Funds spent through July 30, 2020 total \$266,187.47 of \$750,000 awarded.

In light of the 2020 Covid-19 outbreak and both California and Countywide Shelter in Place orders, many Round 5 Grantees are evaluating their grant project schedules and task work, in particular, their Public Outreach and Engagement tasks. Throughout the summer LCP Grant staff will work with each grantee to amend the grants as needed to address these delays and modifications.

1) City of Arcata – Grant Total \$75,000

- **Project Summary:** The City of Arcata will complete a comprehensive update to the City's Local Coastal Program (LCP) to address climate change and sea level rise. The grant project will include public outreach activities targeting vulnerable communities and revisions to the draft Land Use Plan (LUP) and draft Implementation Plan (IP), both of which were prepared under the City's Round 1 LCP Grant. The LCP update will include measured retreat strategies and measures to address the root causes of climate change, establishing thresholds and incentives for high efficiency developments that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The City will adopt the LCP and submit to the Commission for certification.
- **Work Completed:**
 - Public Engagement (Task 1): *In Progress.* The City is working to move out community engagement dates due to COVID 19, along with the schedule for the Planning Commission and City Council meetings.
 - Land Use Plan (Task 2): *In Progress.* The CLUE Administrative Draft of the LUP is complete. Staff had one coordination meeting with Commission staff and will set up monthly meetings going forward. The public release is planned for 8/15/20.
 - Implementation Plan (Task 3): *In Progress.* The Administration Draft of the IP is complete, and the public release is planned for 8/15/2020. A consultant contract has been executed and bi-weekly meetings set up.
- **Grant Term:** 4/17/2019 – 12/31/202

2) County of Sonoma – Grant Total \$175,000

- **Project Summary:** The County of Sonoma will complete a comprehensive update to its Local Coastal Program (LCP) which will integrate the County's 2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan and address the Commission's 2018 Sea Level Rise Policy Guidance. While continuing County traditions of coastal protection and agricultural preservation, the update will establish innovative policies and programs for watershed and forestry management and consider opportunities to reduce vehicle miles traveled. Additional goals of this update are to improve land use/zoning naming consistency; clarify design requirements and thresholds for modern uses such as vacation rentals, events, and cannabis; and to create an easy-to-access electronic document with updated and improved maps. The project includes a robust public outreach plan with multiple public workshops and opportunities for the public to be involved. The County will adopt the LCP and submit to the Commission for certification

- **Work Completed:**

The County of Sonoma was impacted significantly by the Kincadee and Tick wildfires during the summer of 2019, causing significant delay in the County's efforts on this grant project as they address the needs of their residents. We are working with the County to update the project schedule to accommodate the County's needs as they address their community's recovery.

- Plan Development and Policy Comparison (Task 1): In Progress. The public review draft was published 9/25/2019; some revisions were made to the format and organization based on public input. The Planning Commission Draft is in development and is anticipated by 9/7/2020.
- Stakeholder Engagement (Task 2): In Progress. Project outreach materials are still being compiled, and the County's Local Coastal Program [Website](#) has been updated. The [photo contest](#) is complete, and the winners were announced August 5th. Five of the planned Public workshops were held during previous reporting periods, and a final virtual workshop with the Board of Supervisors is planned for September/October 2020.
- Adoption and Certification (Task 3): In Progress. Presentation materials for public hearings and a Board of Supervisors public workshop are being prepared. Planning Commission hearings are anticipated for late October/early November 2020. Board of Supervisors adoption hearings are expected in Winter 2021, and Planning Commission hearings are expected by February 2021 at the earliest.

- **Grant Term:** 3/21/2019 – 3/28/2020

3) City of Santa Cruz – Grant Total \$200,000

- **Project Summary:** The City of Santa Cruz will complete an Urban Climate Adaptation Policy Implication and Response Strategy Evaluation Technical Report, an Adaptation Plan and a Local Coastal Program (LCP) Update. To do this, the City will continue analyses of sea level rise adaptation strategy and policy options; conduct extensive public outreach and engagement, including development of an Engagement Plan and leveraging of a Sea Level Rise Virtual Reality Mobile Phone Application; develop recommended adaptation strategies and policies, and develop a LCP amendment focused on sea level rise. The City will adopt the LCP amendment and submit to the Commission for certification (certification to occur outside the grant term).
- **Work Completed:**
 - Project Management, Administration, and Coordination (Task 1): Ongoing. Early project initiation tasks are complete. The City has continued regular progress reporting.
 - Urban Climate Adaptation Policy Implication and Response Strategy Evaluation (Task 2): Complete. The City met with historically underrepresented groups in December 2019 and January 2020. The [Draft Urban Climate Adaptation Policy Implication and Response Strategy Evaluation](#), and the [Final Urban Climate Adaptation Policy Implication and Response Strategy Evaluation Technical Report](#) are complete.
 - Community Engagement (Task 3): In Progress. Implementation of the Outreach and Engagement Plan is in progress, with 8 focus groups and 125 door to door interviews completed so far along with the deployment of the virtual reality sea level rise viewer, 12 meetings with historically underrepresented groups, and outreach through academic partnerships. A Synthesis Summary of Outreach and Engagement is currently being prepared.
 - LCP Adaptation Policy Guidance (Task 4): Not Started.
 - LCP Update (Task 5): In Progress: Ongoing participation in meetings regarding the City Beach Resource and Management Goals and activities.
- **Grant Term:** 4/3/2019 – 12/31/2020

4) City of Manhattan Beach – **Grant Total \$225,000**

- Project Summary: The City of Manhattan Beach will complete a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, Adaptation Plan, and other technical studies as part of its Local Coastal Program (LCP) Update. The City will prepare a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Risk Assessment; develop an Adaptation Plan and other sea level rise-related technical studies; conduct a public outreach effort; and complete the LUP Update, including local adoption and submittal to the Commission (certification to occur outside the grant term).
- **Work Completed:**
 - Project Initiation (Task 1): *In Progress*. All deliverables for this task are complete, including the RFP, ESA Contract, Climate Access Contract, Whitespace VR contracts, a kick-off meeting in March with Contractor on the stormwater confluence modeling; a project team kick-off meeting, Commission staff coordination meetings, and a regularly updated webpage. City staff are currently working with Commission staff on an updated work program and schedule.
 - Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Risk Assessment (Task 2): *In Progress*. An SLR Research Memo & SLR Maps/GIS layers were completed during a previous reporting period. The Draft SLR Vulnerability and Risk Assessment is in progress. Confluence modeling on stormwater infrastructure began, and a preliminary presentation on results is expected on 8/18/2020 along with a draft report in 9/2020.
 - Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan (Task 3): *Not Started*. The City issued the SLR memo in July 2019 that included some of the SLR Adaptation research completed to date, but the actual Adaptation Plan will be developed after Task 2 is complete. The City is moving forward with a Beach Dune Restoration project as a climate adaptation pilot project/living shoreline with outside funding.
 - Develop LCP LUP Language (Task 4): *Not Started*.
 - Public Process and Outreach (Task 5): *In Progress*. The City executed contracts with Climate Access and WhitespaceVR and completed Virtual Reality Visualizations Site Brief & Public Engagement Plan. The following presentations were completed during this reporting period: AdaptLA in June 2020, Heal the Bay Knowledge Drop in June 2020, LARC in March 2020.
 - Agency and Regional Coordination (Task 6): *Ongoing*. City and District CCC staff meet every four weeks.
- **Grant Term:** 3/11/2019 – 12/31/2020

5) City of San Clemente – **Grant Total \$75,000**

- Project Summary: The City of San Clemente will prepare an Adaptation Plan (called the Coastal Resiliency Plan), as well as its first Implementation
 - Plan in order to achieve full Local Coastal Program (LCP) certification. Development of a Coastal Resiliency Plan will help the City to address the impacts of climate change and will build on the findings and recommendations contained in the Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment prepared under the City's Round 3 LCP Grant. The grant project will also include public outreach and education with a special emphasis to reach disadvantaged and low-income populations in the City.
 - Work Completed:
 - Coastal Resiliency Plan (Task 1): *In Progress*. The Public Review Draft Coastal Resiliency plan was developed in Spring 2020 after receipt of Commission staff comments on Draft Coastal Resiliency Plan. Public outreach on draft Coastal Resiliency Plan was initiated in August 2019 as part of the Draft SLR vulnerability assessment outreach effort. Additional public meetings are anticipated with the Coastal Advisory Committee and Planning Commission in August 2020.
 - LCP Implementation Plan (Task 2): *In Progress*. The Administrative Draft IP is complete and was transmitted to CCC staff electronically in December 2019, and internal City staff review of Admin Draft IP occurred concurrently with CCC review. Comments from CCC were received on 4/17/20, and the Revised Administrative Draft IP were sent electronically to CCC staff on July 9, 2020. Additional Public Meetings are anticipated with the Coastal Advisory Committee, and Planning Commission and City Council.
- **Grant Term:** 3/20/2019 – 12/31/2020

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

455 Market Street, Suite 228
San Francisco, CA 94105
FAX (415) 904-5400



Appendix B

1st Status Report on Round 6 Local Coastal Program Grants

The Coastal Commission awarded the sixth round of LCP Local Assistance Grants to twelve local governments in November 2019, and eleven of the grant agreements were executed by March 2020. The following is a summary of the work completed under each grant during the first reporting period: February 15, 2020 through June 30, 2020. Of the \$1,500,000 awarded for the twelve projects, \$7,108.77 was spent during this reporting period.

In light of the 2020 Covid-19 outbreak and both California and Countywide Shelter in Place orders, many Round 6 Grantees are evaluating their grant project schedules and tasks, and in particular, their Public Outreach and Engagement tasks. LCP Grant staff will work with each grantee to amend the grants as needed to address these delays and modifications.

1) County of Humboldt – Grant Total \$100,000

- **Project Summary:** The County will conduct a feasibility study to develop options for a regional coordination effort on sea level rise adaptation in the Humboldt Bay area. The feasibility study will identify options and mechanisms for regional coordination amongst the County and Cities (i.e., the Cities of Eureka, Arcata and Humboldt County, which are in the process of preparing LCP updates), various asset managers (e.g., Caltrans, PG&E), property owners (including those with land on which protective dikes and levees are located), and other interested parties. The regional coordination and feasibility study will be a first step toward creating a framework and regional plan leading to coordinated LCP amendments and other efforts to support regional sea level rise adaptation in the future.
- **Work Status:**
 - While the County has not started work specifically on grant tasks, it has begun the process of recruiting a CivicSpark fellow to join staff and assist with the project.
 - Outreach (Task 1): *Not started.*
 - Research (Task 2): *Not started.*
 - Feasibility Study (Task 3): *Not started.*
- **Grant Term:** 2/15/20 – 3/31/2022

2) County of San Luis Obispo – Grant Total \$130,000

- **Project Summary:** The County will coordinate with the San Simeon Community Service District (SSCSD) to develop a Coastal Hazards Response Plan related to the inland relocation of the existing San Simeon wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) and wastewater facilities away from the coastal hazard zone, and to develop and submit associated LCP amendments.
- **Work Status:**
 - In addition to securing and executing this LCP Local Assistance Grant, the SSCSD has pursued and secured additional funding for this project through the National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) and the Ocean Protection Council. The next step will be to publish a Request for Proposals for the preparation of the required plans.
 - Project Initiation and Kickoff (Task 1): *Not started.*
 - Agency & Stakeholder Coordination (Task 2): *Not started*

- Coastal Hazards Response Plan (Task 3): *Not started.*
- Draft LCP Amendments (Task 4): *Not started.*
- Hearings and Adoption of LCP Amendments (Task 5): *Not started.*
- **Grant Term:** 3/1/2020 – 3/31/2022

3) City of Morro Bay – Grant Total \$65,000

- **Project Summary:** With support from previous grants, the City of Morro Bay drafted updates to the LCP, General Plan, and Downtown Waterfront Strategic Plan, which are collectively referred to as “Plan Morro Bay.” This project will continue the work on the draft Plan Morro Bay documents and conclude with a comprehensive update to the LCP. The work will address climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, sea level rise, and environmental justice, among other topics.
- **Work Status:**
 - Project Management (Task 1): *In Progress.* Staff analyzed input and comments on the draft LUP from CCC staff, the Planning Commission (PC), the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), and the public. An extensive comment summary cataloging all comments and edits received from CCC, PC, GPAC, and the public was compiled.
 - Plan Morro Bay (LUP) (Task 2): *In Progress.* City staff worked with the consultant team to ensure Coastal Commission, PC, GPAC, and public comments and edits were incorporated into the Adoption Draft of the LUP.
 - Implementation Plan/Comprehensive Zoning Code Update (Task 3): *Not Started*
- **Grant Term:** 2/15/2020 – 3/31/2022

4) City of Pismo Beach – Grant Total \$170,000

- **Project Summary:** The City of Pismo Beach will complete a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan, building upon the Existing Conditions Report and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment completed under a previous grant. The City will also complete a General Plan/LCP update, resulting in a comprehensive LCP Update.
- **Work Status:**
 - Project Administration and Management (Task 1): *In Progress.*
 - Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan (Task 2): *Complete.* The Draft Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan was completed for City Staff review on 3/20/2020, and following review and feedback, the final plan was completed on 5/1/2020.
 - General Plan/Local Coastal Plan Update (Task 3): *In Progress.* Information is being compiled for the Admin Draft Existing Conditions Report. Additionally, the Admin Draft Land Use Element was submitted to City staff for review and comment; it was also provided to City’s LCPAC and CCC staff for preliminary feedback, and CCC staff returned comments. The Admin Draft Noise Element was completed.
 - Zoning Code/Implementation Plan Update (Task 4): *Not Started.*
- **Grant Term:** 2/15/2020 – 3/31/2022

5) City of Carpinteria – Grant Total \$190,000

- **Project Summary:** With support from a previous grant, the City of Carpinteria completed a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan as well as drafted policies for a LUP/General Plan update. This project will build upon that work by completing the preparation of the Coastal Land Use Plan and a Zoning Ordinance update (Implementation Plan update). It will address sea level rise, environmental justice, environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHA), and coastal access and recreation, among other topics.
- **Work Status:**
 - Draft CLUP/General Plan (Task 1): *In Progress.* The City has initiated review of the Administrative Draft GP/CLUP, and the document is undergoing revisions. The Public Draft GP/CLUP is anticipated for public release this fall.
 - Environmental Review (Task 2; not funded by grant)
 - Public Hearings & Adoption of LUP/GP (Task 3): *Not Started.*

- Preliminary Draft Zoning Ordinance Update (Task 4; not funded by grant)
 - Draft Zoning Ordinance Update (Task 5): *Not Started*.
 - **Grant Term:** 2/15/2020 – 3/31/2022
- 6) **County of Ventura** – *Grant Total \$130,000*
- **Project Summary:** The County will adopt and submit for certification LCP amendments on sea level rise and coastal hazards, and transfer relevant climate action planning policies from the County’s Climate Action Plan. This work will build upon work funded through previous grants, including a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment Report, a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategies Report, and preliminary draft sea level rise policies for the LUP.
 - **Work Status:**
 - Education and Outreach and Interagency Coordination (Task 1): *In Progress*. The County developed a Public Outreach Plan for CCC staff comment. Two Interagency Working Group meetings were conducted via Zoom.
 - Prepare LCP Amendments (Task 2): *Not Started*.
 - County Adoption Hearings (Task 3): *Not Started*.
 - **Grant Term:** 2/15/2020 – 3/31/2022
- 7) **City of Malibu** – *Grant Total \$175,000*
- *The City of Malibu has declined its grant award. Commission staff is currently looking at opportunities to reallocate the funds.*
- 8) **City of Avalon** – *Grant Total \$130,000*
- **Project Summary:** The City of Avalon will develop a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan and update the Draft Coastal Hazards section of the LUP. This work will complement work conducted under a previous grant, which included a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and a working draft of a targeted LCP Amendment on sea level rise.
 - **Work Status:**
 - Project Launch (Task 1): *In Progress*. The City issued a Request for Proposals and evaluated the responses. Next, the City plans to issue a notice of intent to award a professional services agreement to the consultant.
 - Adaptation Plan and Policy Development (Task 2): *Not Started*
 - Adaptation Plan and Policy Adoption (Task 3): *Not Started*
 - **Grant Term:** 2/15/2020 – 3/31/2022
- 9) **City of Santa Monica** – *Grant Total \$50,000*
- **Project Summary:** This grant will build upon work completed under previous grants, including: an LUP approved by the City Council in October 2018 and pending Commission hearing and certification; an Administrative Draft IP (i.e., CZO); and a summary table showing where each of the LUP’s coastal policies has been integrated with City zoning regulations. This grant will fund the development and release of the public review draft of the IP and initial community outreach.
 - **Work Status:**
 - Review Administrative Draft CZO and Release Public Review Draft (Task 1): *In Progress*. City staff review of the Administrative Draft, including interdepartmental and legal review, is in progress.
 - Public Engagement (Task 2): *Not Started*.
 - **Grant Term:** 2/15/2020 – 3/31/2022
- 10) **City of Seal Beach** – *Grant Total \$50,000*
- **Project Summary:** This project will build upon work completed under a previous grant, including a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and an Administrative Draft LUP. The City will continue development of a full LCP by going through the following steps: a Public Review draft of the Land

Use Plan, a draft Implementation Plan, a Public Review Draft Local Coastal Program, a Final Local Coastal Program for local adoption, and an LCP submittal to the Coastal Commission.

- **Work Status:**
 - Kick off and Coordination (Task 1): *Not Started*
 - Land Use Plan Finalization (Task 2): *Not Started*
 - Implementation Plan Preparation and Finalization (Task 3): *Not Started*
 - Public Review (Task 4): *Not Started*
 - Final Local Coastal Program Preparation and Adoption (Task 5; not funded by grant)
 - Local Coastal Program Submittal to Coastal Commission (Task 6; not funded by grant)
- **Grant Term:** 2/15/2020 – 3/31/2022

11) City of Huntington Beach – Grant Total \$200,000

- **Project Summary:** The City will update a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment originally prepared in 2014 for a General Plan update. This vulnerability assessment update will inform the development of a Coastal Resiliency Program (CRP) and an update to the Coastal Element and Floodplain Ordinance in the City's LCP.
- **Work Status:**
 - Project Launch (Task 1): *Complete*. The project kick-off meeting is complete and the consultant contract has been executed. This work included work with Commission staff on the project work plan.
 - Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment Update (Task 2): *Not started*.
 - Coastal Resiliency Plan Update (Task 3): *Not started*.
 - Coastal Element Update (Task 4): *Not started*.
 - Floodplain Ordinance Update (Task 5): *Not started*.
- **Grant Term:** 2/15/2020 – 3/31/2022

12) City of Dana Point – Grant Total \$110,000

- **Project Summary:** The City will develop a targeted LCP amendment to address sea level rise, including both LUP and IP amendments. This work will build upon work completed under a previous grant, including a sea level rise vulnerability assessment and development of preliminary draft policies and standards on sea level rise.
- **Work Status:**
 - Kick off and Consultant Contract (Task 1): *Complete*. The City approved the consultant contract and work plan.
 - Draft LCP Amendment (Task 2): *In Progress*. City staff and the consultants are drafting and reviewing LUP and the IP amendments to address impacts of climate change and coastal erosion.
 - Public and Stakeholder Outreach Kickoff Meeting (Task 3): *In Progress*. A draft survey has been developed by City staff and the consultants and is under review by City management staff for final approval before it is released to the public.
 - Decisionmaker Hearings (Task 4): *Not Started*.
 - LCP Amendment Submittal (Task 5): *Not Started*.
- **Grant Term:** 3/1/2020 – 3/31/2022