

MEMORANDUM

Date: **June 6, 2025**

To: **Emiko Innes**
County of Los Angeles, Department of Beaches & Harbors

From: **Greg Hearon, P.E.**
Coastal Frontiers Corporation

Subject: **LACDBH Regional Coastal Resilience Strategic Adaptation Plan**
Stakeholder Workshop #1 Summary

CFC Project: 1240

The Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors (LACDBH) is leading an initiative to advance regional coastal resiliency by building a coalition of stakeholders, establishing a shoreline monitoring program, and developing a Regional Coastal Resiliency Strategic Adaptation Plan (RCSAP). Four stakeholder workshops are planned as part of the coalition building effort. This memorandum summarizes the outcome of Stakeholder Workshop # 1.

1. Introduction and Overview

Stakeholder Workshop # 1 convened on May 12 ,2025 at the LACDBH facilities in Marina del Rey, CA. The focus of Workshop #1 was to introduce the RCSAP project, initiate the coalition building process, present potential coalition organizational structures, and introduce the shoreline monitoring program. The agenda for Workshop #1 is provided below:

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Introductions
3. Meeting Purpose and Strategic Plan Goals
4. Overview of Potential Coalition Structures
5. Shoreline Monitoring Program
6. Schedule of Upcoming Milestones

Participation in the initial workshop was limited to representatives of the County, coastal cities, and the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Each of these entities either own, operate or manage beaches in the study area and are anticipated to form the leadership of a coalition. Focusing initial participation on the agencies with beach management responsibilities was envisioned to promote dialogue and coalition building among the likely leadership group and to obtain feedback on preferred coalition structure(s). Future workshops will be open to a larger array of stakeholders.

The list of attendees is provided in Attachment A. Attendees included representatives from the cities of Malibu, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Redondo Beach as well as representatives from Los Angeles County and California State Parks. Representatives from the City of Torrance were invited though they were not present in the initial meeting. The consultant team assisting the LACDBH consisted of representatives from Coastal Frontiers Corporation, Summit Environmental, and Moffatt and Nichol.

The Stakeholder Engagement Survey #1 (provided prior to Workshop #1) is provided in Attachment B, and the survey responses from the attendees will be used to prepare future meeting topics and promote discussions.

The slide deck presented at the workshop accompanies this memorandum. A welcome and opening remarks were provided by Gary Jones, Director of LACDBH. An overview of the project, including meeting purpose, scope of work, and schedule was provided by Emiko Innes, LACDBH Planner for Coastal Resiliency Section.

The remainder of this memo summarizes initial regional coastal resiliency goals and objectives, potential coalition structures described at the meeting, the shoreline monitoring program, accompanying documents, and next steps.

2. Overview of Regional Coastal Collaboration Frameworks

The RCSAP is intended to be a regional, collaborative Strategic Plan which guides and advances implementation of regional shoreline management projects, programs and activities to address eroding beaches in LA County. Development of the RCSAP will be driven by an iterative process informed by stakeholder input and feedback through meetings, workshops, online surveys and review of draft RCSAP materials.

The following coalition goals and objectives were presented to the stakeholder group for consideration and discussion (presented by Chris Webb, Moffatt and Nichol).

- Initiate Regional Coastal Sediment Management Practices
 - Coordinate on RCSAP document to guide planning decisions
 - Leverage Coalition to conduct regional planning and decision-making

- Implement Priority Projects
 - Develop work plans
 - Secure funding
 - Implement projects
- Potential Regional Projects
 - Regional beach nourishment
 - Expanded SCOUP
 - Offshore sand source identification
 - Managed sediment bypassing at Point Mugu
 - Southern California Beach Sand Collaborative

3. Potential Coalition Structures

A range of potential governance structures for regional collaboration and coordination were presented (led by Leslea Meyerhoff, Summit Environmental). The five alternatives presented and listed below are intended as examples for consideration but are not exhaustive and are not intended to be limiting in any way if there is a different or hybrid alternative that emerges based on stakeholder preferences.

- Alternative 1: BEACON Style Coastal Collaborative
- Alternative 2: SANDAG Shoreline Preservation Working Group Style Coastal Collaborative
- Alternative 3: County-Led Coastal Collaborative
- Alternative 4: USACE-Centered Approach
- Alternative 5: Consultant or Nonprofit Led Approach

General organizational elements of formal coalition were discussed. The likely array of stakeholders is outlined below:

- Member Agencies (voting members, usually officials from County & Cities)
- Ex-Officio Members (non-voting members, such as regulatory agencies)
- Scientific, Technical and Academic Advisors (non-voting members)
- Community Advisors, NGO's and Environmental Organizations (non-voting members)
- Tribal Representatives

At the present time, there are two established regional coastal coalitions. One coalition is focused on Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties (BEACON) and the other coalition covers San Diego County (SANDAG). These examples of coastal-focused collaborative structures serve as contemporary reference points for evaluating the advantages and disadvantages of each organizational structure, functions, and various member roles.

4. Shoreline Monitoring Program

The LACDBH RCSAP effort includes initial grant funding to establish a one-year regional shoreline monitoring program comparable to those conducted in the San Diego, Orange County and Ventura County. The intent is to create a sustainable program that will continue beyond the grant period if additional funding is procured. An overview of the proposed shoreline monitoring program was presented (led by Greg Hearon, Coastal Frontiers).

The new regional beach profile survey program will fill a historical 20-year data gap and provide current information. The general objective of the program is to build a sustainable database of nearshore beach changes in LA County between Leo Carrillo State Beach and Redondo Beach, thereby providing a basis for evaluating the impacts of natural events (e.g., El Niño conditions or sea level rise) and human intervention (e.g., beach nourishment). The data will inform decision makers on shoreline conditions, support the technical basis of grant applications, and provide the foundation for post-project monitoring.

The monitoring program will build upon comparable beach profile data obtained by multiple agencies dating back to 1935. Historical survey data exist for 1935, 1946, 1953, 1989, 1990, and 2002 through 2006. The program will re-occupy between 80 and 90 historical beach profile transects. Selection of transects will prioritize sites with an extended historical record, provide needed coverage for proposed LACDBH projects, and provide sufficient spatial coverage in each jurisdiction to evaluate shoreline conditions on a sub-reach basis. LACDBH will solicit feedback from the local jurisdictions to understand if the transects selected for the program will meet local needs.

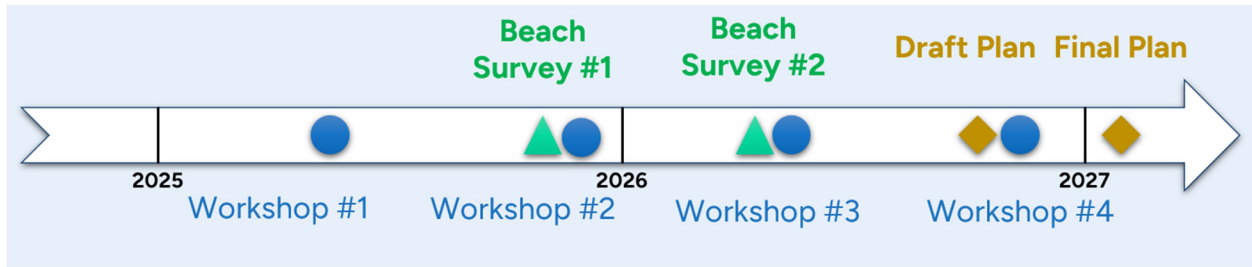
5. Post-Workshop Materials

The following information and documents accompany this memorandum as separate files:

- Workshop #1 Presentation
- Stakeholder Engagement Survey #2 (Post-Workshop #1)
- Memorandum: Overview of Example Coalition Structures
- Shoreline Monitoring Program Feedback Request
 - Memorandum: Shoreline Monitoring Program Overview and Feedback Request
 - Google Earth kmz files showing proposed transect locations

6. Next Steps

The overall RCSAP schedule spans two years and is summarized below:



Workshop #2 is tentatively scheduled for October 20, 2025. Proposed topics will include an overview of coastal processes in the LA region and an overview of beach economic benefits. As indicated previously, the next three workshops will be open to a larger array of stakeholders.

The first beach profile survey is scheduled for Fall 2025, with the second survey scheduled for Spring 2026.

Attachment A
Workshop #1 Attendees

Workshop #1 Invitees / Attendees

Organization	First Name	Last Name	Position	Attended
California State Parks	James	Newland	Strategic Planning & Rec Services Div. Planning Chief	Yes
City of El Segundo	Daniel	Pankau	Environmental Programs Manager	Yes
City of Hermosa Beach	Doug	Krauss	Environmental Programs Manager	Yes
City of Los Angeles Council District 11	Jacob	Burman	Senior Advisor	Yes
City of Los Angeles Mayor's Office	Steve	Baule	Executive Officer	Yes
City of Malibu	Farah	Stack	Environmental Sustainability Analyst	Yes
City of Manhattan Beach	Britney	Coker-Moen	Environmental Programs Administrator	Yes
City of Redondo Beach	Geraldine	Trivedi	Civil Engineer	Yes
City of Santa Monica	Shannon	Parry	Chief Sustainability Officer	Yes
City of Torrance	John	LaRock	Community Services Director	No
City of Torrance	Michelle	Ramirez	Community Development Director	No
LA County Office of Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell	Laura	Muraida	Senior Deputy, Environmental Justice	No
LA County Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn	Jennifer	LaMarque	Field Deputy, Torrance	Yes
LA County Office of Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath	Aaron	Ordower	Environment Deputy	Yes
LA County Department of Beaches and Harbors	Gary	Jones	Director	Yes
LA County Department of Beaches and Harbors	Warren	Ontiveros	Planning Division Chief	Yes
LA County Department of Beaches and Harbors	Bertha	Ruiz-Hoffmann	Coastal Resiliency Section Manager	Yes
LA County Department of Beaches and Harbors	Emiko	Innes	Coastal Resilience Project Manager	Yes
Coastal Frontiers Corp.	Greg	Hearon	Principal Coastal Engineer, Project Manager	Yes
Summit Environmental Group	Leslea	Meyerhoff	Principal Coastal Planner	Yes
Moffatt & Nichol	Chris	Webb	Principal Coastal Scientist	Yes

Attachment B
Stakeholder Engagement Survey #1

LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL COASTAL RESILIENCE STRATEGIC PLAN
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

Name: Organization:

1. Has your organization prepared a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment? Yes No
2. Has your organization prepared a Coastal Resilience or Adaptation Plan? Yes No
3. Does your agency have a Certified Local Coastal Program (LCP)? Yes No
4. What are the most significant concerns affecting your beaches?
 - a. Narrowing beaches and loss of recreational space
 - b. Sand accumulation
 - c. Coastal flooding affecting public access and infrastructure
 - d. Coastal flooding affecting private property
 - e. Increased bluff instability
 - f. Beach erosion
 - g. Sediment supply disruption
 - h. Projected sea level rise
 - e. Other: _____
5. Do you have any coastal resilience construction projects planned? Yes No
If yes, please provide a brief description and when you expect to complete.

6. What measures have you implemented to address the threats to your beaches?
 - a. Placement of riprap on emergency basis
 - b. Engineered rock revetment
 - c. Seawall or other structural solution
 - d. Beach nourishment without sand retention structures
 - e. Beach nourishment with sand retention structures
 - f. Relocation/realignment (i.e., "managed retreat")
 - g. Do nothing (i.e., accept/accommodate threats)
 - h. Other: _____
7. Rank obstacles (with '1' being the highest) to implementing coastal resilience projects:
____ Funding
____ Obtaining permits
____ Lack of leadership/coordination/political will
____ Availability of technical information
____ Lack of understanding of coastal processes
____ Other (please identify & describe): _____
8. Please provide contact information for any staff within your organization involved in day-to-day coastal planning or beach management in your city.
9. What other organizations should be considered for participation in this regional stakeholder group? Please provide contact information if you have it.