



DATE: September 21, 2018

TO: BARC Governing Board

FROM: Allison Brooks, BARC Executive Director

RE: ***Report on BARC Activities June to September, 2018***

During a summer characterized by global heat waves and catastrophic fires across California and the Western United States, BARC staff has worked closely with our partners to continue to advance projects related to climate adaptation and resiliency, renewable energy and supporting impacted communities at the frontlines of risk. The close of summer also brings international focus on the Bay Area through the Global Climate Action Summit, highlighting the leadership of the State of California and BARC's member agencies in stepping up and working together at the intersection of land use, transportation, housing, energy, air quality, climate and social equity to address the defining 21st century challenges we have before us.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management's "Diesel Free by 33" event on September 12, an affiliate event of the Global Climate Action Summit, created an exciting platform to highlight innovative work underway across the Bay Area and beyond by local and state leaders from government, business and industry to tackle air quality issues, reduce greenhouse gases and recognize community members most impacted by these issues as essential partners in solving them. We also had the special opportunity to hear from Coach Steve Kerr of the Golden State Warriors who shared his perspective beyond the basketball court about climate change. The "Diesel Free by 33" pledge signed by over 100 elected officials, industry and business leaders is a powerful demonstration of commitment to meeting climate goals.

Additionally, the Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge (RbD) project set up shop at an empty storefront around the corner from the Bay Area Metro Center (302 Folsom Street @Beale) to serve as a hub for affiliate events related to climate adaptation and resiliency. The venue provided an excellent location to feature the nine design concepts that resulted from RbD, explore the games and tools designed by the teams to better educate people about climate risks, and hear from local, state and international leaders in climate adaptation including the Minister of the Environment for the Netherlands.

Taken together, these events brought a further sense of urgency to the BARC member agencies work plan. Below are descriptions of completed BARC projects, active projects underway, and projects transitioning into new areas of focus to help deliver on our desired outcomes.

I. BARC project featured on the BARC Governing Board agenda

At our September 21, 2018 meeting, the BARC Governing Board will hear from staff from MTC/ABAG, BAAQMD and BCDC that are participating in the BARC sponsored **Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE)** program. Supported by executive leadership at BARC and the BARC member agencies, participating staff have formed a cross-agency Steering Committee to work together to identify and help implement best practices to advance racial equity goals in and across the agencies. Preceding the presentation by the BARC GARE Steering Committee, we will hear from **Mr. Dwayne Marsh, the Vice President of Institutional and Sectoral Change at Race Forward**, who is leading the GARE effort locally and nationally. Mr. Marsh will provide background on the GARE program and an overview on the role of government in achieving racial equity and advancing opportunities for all.

II. Projects Completed

New BARC website launched on August 31, 2018! – www.barc.ca.gov

BARC staff contracted with Visual Strategies to create a new website that features improved functionality and a more visually appealing presentation of BARC projects and partnerships. The website is intended to illustrate the collaborative work underway by the BARC member agencies and other partners to advance issues of regional significance and highlight relevant news and events.

III. Projects Underway

ART Bay Area

ART Bay Area is a 3-year project funded by Caltrans with a matching grant from MTC that will produce a regional-scale vulnerability assessment of the transportation system, Priority Development Areas (PDAs), Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) and disadvantaged communities vulnerable to flooding and sea level rise. The assessment will feed into the identification of adaptation strategies most suitable for addressing vulnerabilities along different shoreline conditions. The goal is to establish a framework for a regional adaptation plan at the conclusion of the grant period in June 2019.

The ART Bay Area project team made up of BCDC, MTC/ABAG and BARC staff, and supported by a consultant team led by AECOM, is at a pivotal stage of integrating the completed vulnerability assessment work into a system for evaluating the immediate and cascading impacts of sea level rise and flooding on the regional-scale assets listed above. During this process, the project team is doing the following:

- Employing 'operational landscape units' (OLUs), a system developed by SFEI and SPUR, which helps inform the adaptation strategies feasible along segments of the Bay shoreline based on geophysical characteristics. <https://www.sfei.org/projects/OLUs>
- Developing profile sheets based on the OLU approach, to communicate vulnerabilities and potential flooding consequences to key assets within each OLU, and how these could have sub-regional and regional consequences.

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- Working with the Horizon project team at MTC/ABAG to understand the relationship between locations vulnerable to flooding and sea level rise, current and future growth projections, and the types of strategies needed to make different areas more resilient to changing conditions.

The ART Bay Area project team is also partnering with the Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative (BARHII) to work with local community-based organizations in three locations to develop public engagement plans focused on building local capacity to engage in flooding and sea level rise planning now and into the future, recognizing the need to meet communities where they are and through the issues they care about the most. BARHII is in the process of identifying local partners in three communities and will start local engagement efforts by the end of September.

The ART Bay Area project team will be conducting a webinar for our fifth Regional Working Group in late September. RWG members comprise local government staff from the cities and counties, as well as asset managers, transit operators, and community leaders to share details on the public engagement strategy. The ART project team is working closely with MTC/ABAG's Horizon project team to align and mutually reinforce efforts.

SB1 Adaptation Planning Grants

BARC is serving as project manager for a competitive SB1 Adaptation Planning grant received by MTC through Caltrans. The Project Management (PMT) team is comprised of BARC, MTC/ABAG, BCDC, and the State Coastal Conservancy. In a unique approach, BARC and the PMT are deploying the grant resources to conduct further analysis and planning to advance design concepts put forward during the Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge project in South San Francisco, San Leandro Bay and along the North Bay State Route 37 Corridor to address vulnerabilities to flooding, sea level rise and earthquakes. In an effort at coordination and shared learning, the PMT has incorporated the MTC SB1 planning grant focused on sea level rise and flooding vulnerabilities at the Dumbarton Bridge approach and East Palo Alto into the overall project structure (see Table 1 below). As outlined in the grant requirements, the projects will focus on addressing vulnerabilities faced by underserved, low-income residents and multi-modal transportation infrastructure.

The PMT will be working closely with Local Working Groups, made up of lead staff from the cities, counties, agencies, and other core stakeholder organizations in each of the project areas, to finalize the Scope of Work, select consultant team (where applicable), and develop public engagement plan for each of the projects. The planning efforts are expected to kick off in January 2019. The SB1 planning grant funds are to be expended by May 2020.

Table 1: SB1 Planning Grant Structure



IV. Projects Transitioning

Model Solar Ordinance Toolkit

Given the groundbreaking, unanimous vote of the California Energy Committee (CEC) in May 2018 to require solar on all new homes starting January 1, 2020, the BARC cross-agency team that developed the Model Solar Ordinance Toolkit were able to celebrate our contribution to this effort and at the same time begin expanding the scope of our program to take on a new set of activities to further support a carbon free future in the Bay Area. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), BARC and the Bay Area Regional Energy Network are working with a consultant explore three potential new areas of focus, which we will report out more fully to the BARC Governing Board at our November 2018 meeting. These are:

- Support full and consistent implementation of existing policies – collect data, track how jurisdictions are doing, develop comprehensive understanding of the state of practice
- Help remove barriers for jurisdictions to voluntarily go beyond status quo, particularly in the Bay Area's most impacted communities
- Support jurisdictions in approving new reach codes to accelerate progress

Working together through this program focused on a Carbon Free Bay Area, the BARC member agencies can help meet the goals of Senate Bill 100 just signed into law by Governor Brown on September 10, 2018 setting a 100 percent clean electricity goal for the State of California by 2045. Additionally, the Governor signed an executive order establishing a new target to achieve carbon neutrality also by 2045 – “the most ambitious carbon neutrality commitment of any major economic jurisdiction in the world” (gov.ca.gov). The State of California depends on local and regional government to meet these ambitious goals, thereby bringing a sense of urgency to this expanded work program.

Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge Strategic Assessment

As highlighted through the SB1 Adaptation Planning Grant section above, and described in **ATTACHMENT A**, the Resilient by Design (RbD) projects are currently being advanced in different ways and by different partners and champions (see *Image 1: RbD Project Locations* on page 5). In an effort to more formally advance the best features of the Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge, the Resilient by Design Executive Committee has contracted with the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) to conduct a strategic assessment of the yearlong effort to inform how best to move forward. The assessment involves interviews with active participants in the effort from community-based organizations, cities and counties, regional agencies, special districts, businesses, design firms, non-profit organizations and philanthropy to determine what worked and what didn't and identify the core unique elements of the project that are important to advance further to keep momentum going in order to meet Bay Area resiliency goals. Also included is a focused session with Executive Leaders from key public agencies and organizations integral to advancing recommendations resulting from the assessment.

Emerging from this process will be recommendations and actions for how to:

- Continue to catalyze and accelerate Bay Area progress towards greater resilience
- Secure funding to advance multi-benefit projects across multiple jurisdictions
- Continue to foster inclusive models of community-driven planning and action for resilience

The BARC Governing Board will receive a report on the findings and recommendations that emerge from this assessment at your November 2018 meeting.

V. BARC Executive Director Publications & Speaking Engagements

The BARC Executive Director was active over the summer months sharing the collaborative work underway by BARC and its member agencies.

June 7	Opinion, by Allison Brooks, San Francisco Chronicle, <i>A Regional Challenge – designing to live with rising seas</i> , https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/article/A-regional-challenge-designing-to-live-with-12977229.php
June 25	Speaker, <i>United Nations Association Bay Area Climate Action Forum</i> , Oakland
June 29	Speaker, <i>Report to Governor's Office of Planning and Research Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resilience Program (ICARP) Technical Advisory Committee</i> , Sacramento
August 23	Speaker, <i>SPUR Lunchtime Presentation, State of Regionalism: Sustainability</i> , San Francisco
August 27	Contributor, <i>San Francisco Bay Region Report, California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment</i> , www.ClimateAssessment.ca.gov
August 28	Speaker, <i>Transportation and Climate Adaptation, California Adaptation Forum</i> , Sacramento
Sept 12	Speaker, <i>Accelerating Local Climate Adaptation Worldwide, Water Pavilion – California Case Study, Global Climate Summit</i> , San Francisco

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Sept 14 Speaker, *California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference (CMANC)*,
Oakland

Image 1: Resilient by Design Project Locations

