



Beach Boulevard INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCY PROJECT

Overview of Beach Boulevard Infrastructure Resiliency Project

Ryan Marquez, City of Pacifica Public Works Department, provided an overview of the project by introducing the project area and reviewing ongoing City efforts in the Sharp Park neighborhood. The BBIRP is located in northern Pacifica, on the western edge of the historic West Sharp Park neighborhood. The project area is comprised of four different reaches with unique characteristics; the Pier Wall System built in 1973, the North Wall built in 1984, the South Wall built in 1987, and the South Gap. Due to multiple major failures to the North wall between 1984 and 2020 (including foundational and full wall failures), localized flooding and property damage from wave overtopping, and sea level rise projections, Marquez emphasized the need to update these structures in order to protect public infrastructure along and adjacent to Beach Boulevard.

Marquez continued by explaining the intended outcomes of the BBIRP, which include:

- Replacing the current seawall and outdated infrastructure
- Building climate resilience into one of the most vulnerable segments of the City's shoreline.
- Improving public access and use of the Beach Boulevard Promenade.
- Creating a multi-benefit solution to protect public infrastructure, recreational activities, homes, businesses, and the community at large, from further coastal erosion impacts.

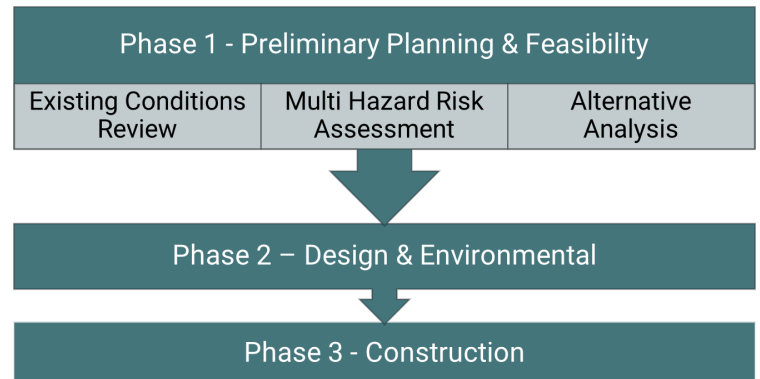


Figure 2 BBIRP project phases

The project is currently in the first of three phases (Figure 2) which focuses on preliminary planning and feasibility and includes reviewing existing conditions, conducting a Multi Hazard Risk Assessment (MHRA), and developing and analyzing project alternatives. Phase 1 is expected to end in Spring 2021.

Marquez indicated that there will be ongoing engagement throughout all phases of the project and that community members will have multiple opportunities to participate in the process, including a total of four community workshops during Phase 1 designed to provide project updates and solicit input. This first workshop focused on sharing information on the existing conditions review. The next workshop, tentatively scheduled for November 2020, will share the approach for studying hazards and how the MHRA will inform alternatives development. The third will provide an overview of each alternative under consideration and the criteria used to identify a preferred alternative, and the fourth will focus on the selected project alternative.

Rugani introduced the second word cloud polling exercise to capture participants' interest in Pacifica's adaptation to sea level rise and the Beach Boulevard Seawall replacements. Results are shown in Figure 3.



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some locations may have a remaining life of as little of 5 years if major preventative maintenance is not completed, or the wall is not replaced.

Brian Leslie, GHD, explained that the MHRA began in August and is intended to identify risks to the seawall and associated infrastructure. This will include assessing risks associated with flooding, earthquakes, utilities, environmental conditions, and potential economic impacts. Leslie indicated that the environmental conditions analysis for the MHRA will include terrestrial biological assessments, marine biological assessments, recreation and visual assessments, and further environmental work to be completed in Phase 2.

Leslie introduced the approach to developing the project alternatives, noting that they will be consistent with Local Coastal Plan's (LCP) Coastal Resiliency (CR) implementation policies. This includes structure elevation (CR-25), beach nourishment (CR-26), and flood protection (CR-27). The alternatives currently being considered include beach nourishment, sand retention structures, seawall replacement, and rock seawall replacement (Figure 4). Leslie also noted that the 'no project' alternative will also be considered and analyzed. Leslie noted that these options are not necessarily stand-alone options and could be combined. For example, sand retention structures would like include beach nourishment, but a seawall replacement could also include beach nourishment.



Figure 4 project alternatives being considered.

Rugani stated that the project team released a public survey focusing on existing conditions. The survey is intended to collect input from community members on their interests, priorities, and concerns related to the project area. The survey was open from September 10th to October 1st and results, which will be compiled and presented at the next workshop, will help inform next steps for the project team in their analyses.

Rugani introduced the last poll of the evening which collected attendees' requests for future workshop discussion topics. Key themes from the survey responses are listed below:



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- Project funding and cost to Pacificans
- Workshop attendance
- Moving the sewer lines
- Implementation priority stages
- Moving infrastructure under the street
- Relationship between CCC's approval of the LCP and the likelihood of a new seawall being implemented.
- Impact on infrastructure if nothing is done
- State and local legislative support

Question and Answer

Following the presentation, participants were given the opportunity to ask questions to the Project Team. A summary of the questions is included below.

- Q: The third alternative presented is a seawall – are those supplements to the new seawall or an alternative of having the seawall constructed?
 - R: Alternatives should not be seen as standalone options; the preferred alternatives may be a hybrid of the alternatives we analyze.

Public Comment

Kelsey Rugani invited members of the public to provide public comments. A summary the comments made is included below.

- Comment (C): I really appreciate the meeting; it is great that the City is involving residents early in the process. It is also encouraging to see the City is looking at replacing the seawall because it needs to be upgraded. The gap at Clarendon needs to be closed as it will protect homeowners. This is a fantastic way of looking out for Pacifica residents.
- C: The vision presented by the SPSP will only be accomplished if the seawall is improved and can protect homes and businesses. We must ensure investors are confident and willing to invest in this area.
- C: Fixing the seawall will help bring investment to the area. It is important for the project team to work with the Development Committee to see how the seawall would benefit existing or planned developments.
- C: Improving the seawall is crucial to helping the City build a vibrant Sharp Park neighborhood.
- C: I support the repair of the seawall as it will protect homes near the coastline.
- C: I would also suggest turning converting portions of Beach Boulevard into pedestrian-only areas.
- C: The cost-benefit analysis performed for the LCP was under funded and was therefore not as detailed as it should have been. I would like assurances that the BBIRP's cost-benefit analysis will be more detailed.
 - R: Unlike the LCP update, which had to look at the entire coastline, the BBIRP will be looking at a specific site and will therefore be able to provide a more detailed



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assessment. The project team will provide further information on this during the next workshop.

- C: How can community members get involved to help ensure this project moves forward?
 - R: The project will eventually be submitted to the CCC and they will solicit public comments. Community members are encouraged to follow the BBIRP's development throughout the entire process and provide input when appropriate.
- C: I am concerned about the environmental impacts of some of the alternatives that seem to be very disruptive to the beach, which is the biggest draw to the area.
 - R: One of the alternatives we will consider includes beach nourishment which allows for the possibility of extending the sandy area on the beach.
- Q: Will project construction and implementation be phased?
 - R: There is a possibility that project construction will be phased as a means to identify priority infrastructure improvements.
- Q: I would like to understand how public funding can be utilized to protect private property. Is this project government funded?
 - R: The project will protect public safety infrastructure such as streets and sidewalks that were built in the 1950s, although there will be benefits to some of the homes in the area.
 - R: The City Council has been directing work and seeking potential funding for this project for many years. We were able to get state funding for this phase but recognize that completing the project will require a patchwork of funding sources. By providing more detail on the project specifics we hope to garner more leverage to raise funds from the local, state, and federal levels.

Next Steps

After public comment, Kelsey Rugani recapped action items and presented project next steps.

- Participants were encouraged to visit the project website (https://www.cityofpacifica.org/depts/pw/engr/current_projects/beach_boulevard_infrastructure_resiliency_project/default.asp) to:
 - Fill out a comment form.
 - Find the workshop summary and recording
 - Sign-up for the project email list
- The next Community Workshop will take place in November and focus on the Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment and other project updates.