

# Los Angeles Region Receives Local Coastal Program Sea Level Rise Planning Grant

The Los Angeles region is embarking upon a sea level rise and coastal storms study to examine coastal erosion and shoreline change along the LA region coastline. The results of the modeling will be analyzed with geo-referenced infrastructure data to assess the vulnerability of property and infrastructure across the jurisdiction. The study will include an examination of appropriate adaptation strategies that could be evaluated in a general plan or local coastal land use plan.

The **City of Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability and the Environment**, on behalf of the LA Region, received funds from the California Coastal Commission, the California Ocean Protection Council, and the Coastal Conservancy to perform this work. The **Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability (LARC)**, the **University of Southern California (USC) Sea Grant**, and other support organizations will help coordinate the region's work.

## Partnerships

The Los Angeles region has taken important steps to build the political will and momentum to move forward in regional climate adaptation planning. A comprehensive team of partners has been assembled to develop a sea level rise adaptation planning process for the LA region. This reflects the broad consensus of stakeholders in our region for the work to be done, strong willingness to collaborate, and our collective capacity to carry out the proposed project successfully.



## **Partnerships (continued)**

**Local and regional government partners:** City of Santa Monica, City of El Segundo, City of Hermosa Beach, City of Malibu, City of Redondo Beach, City of Torrance, Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors.

**Support organizations:** The Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability, UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, USC Sea Grant Program, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, Heal the Bay, U.S. Geological Survey, and the UCLA Law School.

**Additional stakeholders:** The South Bay Cities Council of Governments, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Port of Long Beach, and Los Angeles World Airports.

## **Importance of this Effort**

Sea level rise in Southern California is expected to match global projections over the next century, and storms are anticipated to affect the West Coast more powerfully because sea level rise will exacerbate impacts from wave run-up and storm surge, causing more erosion and more extensive and frequent flooding.

Our coastal zone houses critical infrastructure and engines of our local economy, including beaches, harbors, ports, refineries, roadways, and electricity providers. City and county authorities throughout the Los Angeles metropolitan region have recognized the need to plan for the impacts of climate change now so we can avoid disruptions and damage to this infrastructure and our coastal communities due to ad hoc and poorly coordinated response.

A regional response to climate impacts is crucial in coastal Los Angeles County because numerous separate jurisdictions comprise a system of incorporated cities, unincorporated county-managed facilities and resources, and state-managed parks and beaches. Addressing climate change issues in a regional context builds opportunities for mutually beneficial planning while taking advantage of economies of scale in training, information acquisition and scientific guidance.

## **More Information**

For more information on this project and other regional climate action efforts taking place throughout the Los Angeles region, visit [www.LARegionalCollaborative.com](http://www.LARegionalCollaborative.com).