April 9, 2019

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Update on the Marin Bay Waterfront Adaptation and Vulnerability Evaluation (BayWAVE) Shoreline Sea Level Rise Program

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATIONS: Receive update

SUMMARY: Sea level rise in Marin County requires planning for our current flood future with the uncertainty of climate change. BayWAVE is Marin County’s sea level rise planning for the bay shoreline and is staffed jointly by the Community Development Agency and Department of Public Works. After completion of the Vulnerability Assessment in June 2017, staff developed tools and strengthened partnerships to identify projects that are responsive to the challenges that cannot be addressed at the jurisdictional scale.

BayWAVE addresses several Board priorities including: addressing climate change and improving disaster preparedness. Data-driven evaluation of the risks and benefits of adaptation determines the necessary partners to plan for solutions that address multiple benefits like habitat restoration, infrastructure improvements, and risk reduction while maximizing grants to fund the work. Planning for sea level rise countywide allows us to plan for long-term impacts to our communities. Successes of planning include improved communications across multiple County Departments: Public Works, Community Development Agency, Parks, and Health and Human Services, plus with the cities, towns, local agencies across multiple levels, elected officials, managers, staff, and departments. BayWAVE has partnered with community and environmental groups, and with Bay Area entities including the State Coastal Conservancy, Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties. Staff would like to present an update of the work and need for continued collaboration towards adaptation efforts.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no impact to the general fund as a result of this update.
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REVIEWED BY: 

[X] County Administrator        [ ] N/A

[ ] Department of Finance        [X] N/A

[ ] County Counsel               [X] N/A

[ ] Human Resources              [X] N/A

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Choo
Principal Planner

Cc: Tom Lai, Assistant Director, Marin County Community Development Agency
Max Korten, Director, Marin County Parks
Matt Willis, Public Health Officer, Marin Health and Human Services