STATE OF CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT: Lisa Horowitz McCann MEETING DATE: October 12, 2022

ITEM: 8

Shoreline Adaptation Regional Planning - Update on Partnerships and Financing-Bay Adapt Joint Platform and Bay Area Regional Collaborative Work Plan – Information Item

DISCUSSION:

The Water Board has contributed to several long-range planning efforts related to shoreline and Bay-wide climate resilience through several partnerships. The highest priority regional efforts include the Bay Adapt Joint Platform - A Regional Strategy for a Rising Bay, convened by the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), the Shared Workplan to implement the Joint Resolution to Address Climate Change, convened by the Bay Area Regional Collaborative (BARC), and the update to the San Francisco Estuary Project's Estuary Blueprint. These planning efforts establish a foundation to support local communities in the Bay Area to identify and secure funding for projects that will address and protect from sea level rise and other climate impacts.

At this meeting, Jessica Fain, Planning Director of BCDC, and Allison Brooks, Executive Director of BARC, will present the status of implementation of the Bay Adapt Joint Platform actions and the Shared Workplan actions, respectively. They will also share the roles and responsibilities of the Water Board in collaboration with them, and funding potential to support collaborative, inter-agency, and community-based shoreline projects. Caitlin Sweeney, Executive Director of the San Francisco Estuary Project made a similar presentation on the Estuary Blueprint at the September Board Meeting.

The Bay Adapt Platform is a regional strategy for a rising Bay developed by multiple stakeholders. The Bay Adapt Joint Platform is "a roadmap for how the Bay Area will adapt faster, better, and more equitably to a rising Bay. It focuses on the people, information, plans, projects, and progress that will catalyze protection of communities, businesses, infrastructure, and natural habitats throughout the Bay Area." Stakeholders have committed to implement and are already implementing the Platform actions, including actions to address impacts of sea level rise and to secure funding from the federal infrastructure act and the state climate resilience fund.

The BARC Shared Work Plan provides similar and complementary actions to plan, implement, and track climate change impacts and actions in the region. The Shared Work Plan specifically includes coordination with and support to implement the Bay Adapt Joint Platform. The Shared Work Plan outlines several initiatives to better understand and optimize the roles of specific regional agencies — and state agencies with Bay Area districts — in meeting the climate emergency. The Water Board is one of those state agencies. Building off work in which the seven participating agencies already are engaged, the Shared Work Plan aims to foster both greater collaboration and an inclusive environment in which the agencies' work can be continually informed, enriched and improved to address climate impacts.