

June, 18th 2026

Jenn Eckerle
Executive Director
California Ocean Protection Council
715 P Street, 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of San Diego's Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan

Dear Ms. Eckerle,

Our six organizations are writing to strongly support for the City of San Diego's application to the Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning Grant Program for the project, "Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan for Resilient Coastlines." The City of San Diego's proposed project represents a critical investment in long-term coastal resilience and climate preparedness for the region, and reaches out to communities that have been disengaged for too long. We encourage the OPC to support it.

This project will support the development of a comprehensive, science-based approach to preparing San Diego's coastline, communities, habitats, and infrastructure for the impacts of sea level rise, coastal flooding, erosion, and related climate hazards. The proposed effort will update the City's previous vulnerability assessments using the latest State of California Sea Level Rise Guidance and develop a comprehensive coastal adaptation plan for the City with phased adaptation pathways extending through 2100. The project also identifies Indigenous partners and nations, and disadvantaged communities as key audiences and leaders, a direction we need the city to move towards.

We support this project because it advances proactive coastal resilience planning while prioritizing community engagement, environmental stewardship, and equitable climate adaptation. The project will evaluate vulnerabilities to coastal hazards across critical sectors, including public infrastructure, coastal habitats and wetlands, tribal cultural resources, public access, and disadvantaged communities. The project's emphasis on nature-based solutions, adaptive management, and long-term resilience planning reflects a thoughtful and forward-looking approach to coastal adaptation. We appreciate that the city will partner with regional experts to understand and plan for these resources with a regional perspective. We support that the city is committing to focusing on critical tidal marsh habitats and their connectedness to the upland/transitional and subtidal habitat matrix surrounding them.

Importantly, the project builds upon strong climate resilience planning, including Climate Resilient SD, the Coastal Resilience Master Plan, and the Mission Bay Implementation Framework. The proposed effort will help translate these previous initiatives into actionable adaptation pathways, implementation priorities, and future policy updates needed to support compliance with Senate Bill 272 and strengthen long-term coastal resilience planning.

Our organizations have a demonstrated interest and expertise in coastal resilience, habitat protection, public access, community engagement, Native American partnerships and scientific research, and we recognize the importance of coordinated planning efforts to prepare San Diego's coastline for future climate conditions. We look forward to continued collaboration and partnership opportunities as this work advances.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued leadership in advancing climate resilience throughout California's coastal communities.

Sincerely,

Environmental Center of San Diego

Friends of Rose Canyon

San Diego Bird Alliance

San Diego Coastkeeper

Sierra Club San Diego

WILDCOAST



SAN DIEGO
COASTKEEPER



SIERRA
CLUB

