

January Newsletter



Events & Meetings

2024 Committee Engagements

Our 2024 programming is underway, and we are looking forward to a productive year reaching policy objectives and setting new goals to support the region and our members.

To kick off the year, BPC has scheduled in-person committee meetings for February and March, pending space availability. These first committee meetings aim to identify focus areas for the upcoming year. Please see below for upcoming scheduled committee meetings:

Dredging & Beneficial Reuse Committee

Thurs., February 8th | Virtual

[Register Here](#)

Government Affairs Committee

*Thurs., February 22nd | Hybrid**

[Register Here](#)

Sustainable Waterfronts Committee

*Weds., March 6th | Hybrid**

[Register Here](#)

Resilient Transportation Committee

*Weds., March 13th | Hybrid**

[Register Here](#)

**Tentative format - BPC is arranging in-person meeting logistics and will confirm the intended meeting format shortly.*

BPC Management Update

CEO John Coleman's Departure

It is with mixed emotions that we announce that the Bay Planning Coalition's CEO, John Coleman, has notified BPC's Board of Directors of his resignation after thirteen accomplished years with our organization. John recently announced he has accepted another position and will resign not only from his role at BPC, but also from the East Bay Municipal Water District Board. As we embark on our leadership change process, we recognize the



value in reflecting on John's impressive accomplishments and the opportunity to assess ways to enhance BPC's organizational effectiveness and value going forward.

We have begun by looking back on John's tenure to recall how he has helped shape and grown BPC over the past 13 years. We immediately recognized that BPC's influence, relationships, and programming have expanded significantly throughout John's leadership of the organization, and the strong support from members and staff. The successful advocacy of local, state, and federal policies that reflect BPC's mission to ensure the sustainability of our region's economy and environment have been realized through our achievements and continued policy, legislative and regulatory engagements on all levels.

At the federal level, BPC has consistently promoted members and the region's interests through policy requests, with notable successes realized in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). In 2016, BPC played a critical role in developing language related to the beneficial use of dredged material through the development of Section 1122. This collaborative effort with BCDC, California State Coastal Conservancy, The Bay Institute, and Save the Bay led to its inclusion in the final Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. Subsequently, funding for the Army Corps SF District's Shallow Water Strategic Placement Pilot Project was selected as one of ten projects in the nation, securing the funds necessary to further study the use of dredged material for resilience efforts in the San Francisco Bay.

Building on this momentum, BPC continued to advocate for the beneficial use of dredged material. Following the inclusion of language in WRDA 2020, the recent WRDA 2022 incorporated BPC policy requests prioritizing the beneficial use of dredged material for the region's adaptation efforts to encourage the enactment of existing provisions. As drafting of the 2024 Water Resources Development Act is currently underway, BPC remains actively engaged in advocacy efforts to secure additional beneficial use provisions to bolster the region's resilience while maintaining the commercial channels connecting our region to the global economy.

At the state level, BPC's advocacy for legislation has consistently reflected the environmental and industrial needs of the San Francisco Bay region. As the organization retains representation in agency appointments, legislation, and regulatory policies through effective relationships and a strong institutional knowledge of state politics, advocacy efforts to secure regional funding for infrastructure and adaptation efforts are among BPC's top priorities.

At the local level, the organization's collaborative approach to regional policies exhibits the ability of BPC to effectively represent our members when engaging with regulatory agencies. Bolstered by strong relationships with BCDC, SFRWQCB, BAAQMD, DMMO, and other regulatory bodies in the region, our organization continues to prioritize sound policies that foster a positive environment for industry success in the San Francisco Bay Region. Although we did not always agree with some agency actions, we always strived to seek compromises and solutions for a positive result. Advocacy engagements at a local level include: the development of BCDC's *BayAdapt* regional plan; the Regional Water Board's Basin Plan; AB 617 Community Action Plans; and multiple funding initiatives such as Measure AA. Underscoring our position on regional policies are BPC's long-term interests in streamlining the permitting processes, clarifying jurisdictional overlaps, and supporting a healthy environment in the region for generations to come.

BPC has and will continue to work with all our members to seek resolutions for numerous issues we face daily. The membership of BPC is the historical backbone of why we were created 40 years ago. Some issues change over time due to numerous factors, but our membership is critical to who and what we do, and that will remain the same.

To support the various levels of engagement, BPC's programming has systematically developed to expand the organization's education of members, stakeholders, and agencies through insightful dialogue and active collaboration. As BPC has grown, we have advanced our strategic goals through the work of six committees: Air Quality, Dredging & Beneficial Reuse, Energy & Water, Government Affairs, Sustainable Waterfronts, and Resilient Transportation. To complement the Committees' advocacy efforts and further the organization's mission, BPC events such as the annual Spring Summit and topical executive briefings serve as a valuable forum for thought exchange between the diverse industries that together form the Bay Planning Coalition.

We are actively engaged in planning for the Interim, the next six months, as well as the longer term. We recognize it would be difficult to hire another 'John Coleman'. At the same time, we value the opportunity to assess our current

organizational design and purposefully consider new ways to achieve our goals, continue to represent our region and take positive steps to enhance the relationships and successes of the past 13 years. We all wish John continued success as he begins his new assignment to manage the natural resources of Calaveras County Water District in March.

To our members and colleagues, the Board of Directors and staff appreciate your steadfast commitment to our shared mission. The Bay Planning Coalition looks forward to continuing our collaborative efforts.

Sincerely,



Ane Deister
President, BPC Board of Directors

BPC Engagements

January Events



Bay Planning Coalition
Briefing Series

CEQA & Environmental Regulations Update
MCLE Credit Available Pending Approval

Tuesday, January 30 | 8:30 am - 12:10 pm
In Person: Cal State East Bay Oakland Conference Center

Yesterday, BPC held its first event of the year in downtown Oakland. This event featured a review of CEQA cases, signed legislation, and climate policies related to environmental protections and emissions.

BPC would like to thank our event sponsors and annual sponsors for their continued support of our organization and event's like this briefing. We would also like to thank the event speakers for their contributions which made for an informative and engaging event.

See below for an agenda of yesterday's program.



Event Overview:

Review of CEQA Developments:

Provided insights into the changes and implications of recent California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) cases.

State Legislative Updates:

Presented a summary of recent legislation pertaining to CEQA and environmental policies.

Panel on Climate, Energy & Air Policies:

Engaged in a timely discussion of climate policies, with a specific focus on GHG

threshold policies and their associated development impacts.

Ex Parte Communications:

Provided a detailed review on the rules for ex parte communications when engaging regulatory agencies.

View the event agenda and speaker biographies by clicking the button below.

Speaker presentation decks and written materials will be available on our website on Friday, February 2nd. If you did not attend the briefing in person but would like receive MCLE Credit (pending approval), BPC will be offering a recording of the event for purchase following approval from the State Bar. Contact [Cameron](#) for additional information.

[Event Agenda & Speaker Biographies](#)

2024 CEQA Update Briefing Sponsors



Coalition Activities

BPC's Legislative Outlook Distribution Begins

The 2024 legislative outlook summarizes the bills of interest identified by BPC staff and its members. Staff will track when the bills will be heard in policy committees, and provide commentary on the outcomes of the hearings. If there is legislation your organization is interested in, please let us know and we would be happy to add to our matrix. As a reminder, the last day that policy can be introduced is *February 16th*, meaning, our list of bills will continue to grow until then.

If you would like to start receiving these emails, please sign up below.

[Register for the Legislative Outlook Emails Here](#)

Advocacy Efforts

BPC signed a Letter of support for the port of Oakland's grant application, in partnership with the city of Oakland, for climate adaptation Planning under the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program.



Other Coalition Updates

Member Updates

New BPC Member

CS Marine

Founded over 40 years ago by Chuck Stockon, CS Marine Constructors, Inc. continues to grow under the leadership and guidance of the current CEO Boris Carovargas. Boris has an international background in both private and public construction projects and is well suited to lead CS Marine into new sectors including offshore wind and port development.



The company constructs and repairs piers, wharfs, docks, dolphins, walkways, gangways, intakes, and outfalls for various clients including refineries, terminal operators, state and local agencies, and the US Coast Guard. Close coordination with operations personnel, knowledgeable supervisors and engineers, and timely reporting make CS Marine Constructors, Inc. the preferred first-choice contractor for many clients.

Click the logo at right to learn more!

All Meetings & Events

February

Dredging & Beneficial Reuse Meeting

Thursday, February 8th, 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Virtual

[Register Here](#)

Government Affairs Committee

Thursday, February 22nd, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
*Hybrid**

[Register Here](#)

March

Sustainable Waterfronts Committee

Wednesday, March 6th, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
*Hybrid**

[Register Here](#)

Resilient Transportation Committee

Wednesday, March 13th, 12 p.m.-1 p.m.
*Hybrid**

[Register Here](#)

**Tentative format - BPC is arranging in-person meeting logistics and will confirm the intended meeting format shortly.*

General Information

New Mailing Address

As BPC continues to operate remotely, we have closed our office space in Downtown Oakland. To ensure your mailings are received, please take note of our new mailing address: **3527 MT. DIABLO BLVD., BOX #273, LAFAYETTE, CA 94549-3815.**

Our Committees

If your organization is a member, we welcome you to participate in our committees, which offer valuable information and networking potential. Click the

button below to sign up for email notifications for committees based on your interests. **If you are not a paid member and are interested in joining a committee, please fill out the New Member Interest Form below.**

[Committee Sign-Up](#)

Membership

If your organization is not a Coalition member, we encourage you to connect with BPC staff to learn more about our work and benefits of membership. With a driven team and commitment to the economic viability and sustainability of the region, Bay Planning Coalition's advocacy efforts, committees, and events are developed to promote regional industries.

[New Member Interest](#)

If you are already a member and would like to meet with BPC Staff, please fill out the form below.

[Meeting Request](#)

Our Sponsors

Gold Tier Annual Sponsors



Presidents Club Annual Sponsors



Sonoma Water

FENNEMORE.
WENDEL

Bay Planning Coalition
bpcstaff@bayplanningcoalition.org
bayplanningcoalition.org

Share This Email

Share This Email

Share This Email