

December Newsletter



Wishing Everyone a Happy New Year!

A Year in Review: 2024 Coalition Activities

2024 Events

BPC had an outstanding year thanks to the active participation of our members and key stakeholders. Our coalition convened 12 committee meetings, tackling critical topics such as dredging and beneficial reuse, government affairs, energy and water, sustainable waterfronts, and resilient transportation. Beyond these meetings, BPC further strengthened its role in the region by hosting four educational events.

These gatherings brought together industry leaders and agency executives from state and federal agencies, helping to solidify existing partnerships and build new connections in alignment with our policy priorities. Below is a summary of this year's engagements.

2023-24 CEQA Update Briefing

January 30th, 2024

BPC began the year with its first event in downtown Oakland, featuring a review of key CEQA cases, newly signed legislation, and climate policies focused on environmental protections and emissions reduction. The event provided valuable insights into evolving regulations.



[View event materials here](#)

Spring Summit May 14th, 2024

In May, BPC welcomed industry experts, regional leaders, and key stakeholders at our annual Spring Summit to discuss pivotal developments in the San Francisco Bay Area. This year's theme, "*Building Resilience: Financial Strategies for a Changing Bay Area*," set the stage for a day of insightful discussions on regional collaboration to advance adaptation efforts. This year's event kicked off with a compelling keynote address from Libby Schaaf, California State Treasurer candidate and former Mayor of Oakland. Schaaf emphasized the need to continue advocating for climate resilience and supporting Bay Area leaders who act regionally.



[View event materials here](#)

Energy & Water Nexus Event September 13th, 2024

BPC hosted its annual Energy and Water Nexus Event to discuss key developments and challenges in the energy and water sectors. This year, Nancy Vogel, Deputy Secretary for Water at the California Natural Resources Agency, delivered the keynote address, highlighting California's resilience goals, recent achievements, and priorities for resource reliability.



[View event materials here](#)

Dredging & Beneficial Reuse Workshop October 10th, 2024

Serving as an annual touchpoint for the dredging and restoration practitioners, BPC's Dredging & Beneficial Reuse Workshop featured sessions on regulatory updates, beneficial reuse sites, and an industry perspective dredging operations. Tommy Williams from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers closed the workshop with insights on the Corps' beneficial use goals and the District's priorities and initiatives.



[View event materials here](#)

2024 CEQA and Regulatory Update Briefing

November 19th, 2024

To close out the year, BPC's CEQA Update briefing explored CEQA reform, recent case developments, and tools for streamlining processes.

Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, Chair of the Select Committee on Permitting Reform, delivered the keynote address, sharing insights on permitting impacts related to housing, climate resilience, and clean energy in California.



[View event materials here](#)

2024 Legislative Update

Federal Policy



The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) is a biennial bill passed by Congress that authorizes and directs the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct projects for flood control, navigation, and ecosystem restoration.

For the 2024 WRDA legislation, the Bay Planning Coalition has been actively engaged in advancing key benefits for our region, including to secure annual dredging of commercial channels and codifying the beneficial use of dredged materials when feasible. BPC saw our language requests reflected in the 2024 WRDA bill which was passed by Congress and sent to President Biden in late December.

State Policy



This year, BPC actively engaged at the state level by submitting letters of support for our members, furthering our mission to promote a sustainable environment and economy. A few examples of the bills we provided letters on were:

- **AB 2061** - Sales and Use Tax: exemptions: zero-emission public transportation ferries.
- **AB 2916** - Environmental health: floating devices: expanded polystyrene
- **SB 983** - Energy: gasoline stations and alternative fuel infrastructure.

Additionally, we kept our members informed throughout the legislative session with bi-weekly updates on Capitol activities, including bill tracking, committee outcomes, and staying on top of key legislative deadlines.

BPC Policy Engagements

This year BPC had major policy wins that reflect our mission statement of building a thriving economy and sustainable environment, these include:

- Collaborating with Sediment for Wetlands Adaptation Project (SWAP), lead by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), and the Core Team of partner agencies. As the stakeholder engagement process informed the development of the draft San Francisco Bay Sediment and Soil Beneficial Reuse Action Plan, BPC provided comments on the draft to ensure the Plan's outlined actions are implementable and reasonable.
- Supporting the San Francisco Bay Ferry in securing over \$65 million in federal grants, including \$11 million from the Federal Transit Administration for the Rapid Electric Emission-Free Ferry Program (REEF) and \$55 million from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for ferry terminal electrification, advancing the nation's first high-speed battery-electric ferry and expanding the zero-emission network.

- Joining an Amicus Brief in support of the Casa Mira homeowners in the Casa Mira Homeowners' Association v. California Coastal Commission case before the California 1st District Court of Appeals. The case centered around the interpretation of shoreline protective structures and the Coastal Act, with implications for future coastal zone policies.

BPC's efforts delivered tangible results, strengthened collaboration, advanced our mission, and deepened connections within our community.

Other Coalition Updates

2024 New Members

We're excited to welcome three new members to our organization this year! With every new addition, we grow stronger and more dynamic.

Click the images to learn more about our new members.

Frost Brown Todd is a full-service law firm with more than 600 lawyers operating in 17 offices across nine states and Washington, D.C. Dedicated to refining the art of client service, they leverage technical, industry, and legal knowledge and hands-on experience to serve a diverse client base, from leading multinationals to small, entrepreneurial companies.



LANDIFY is your partner for soil disposal and sustainable land development. They are the U.S. subsidiary of Groupe-ECT, the largest manager of excavated soil in Europe and part of a dynamic circular economy for the recovery and reuse of excavated soil from construction sites.



CS Marine is a company that 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.



General Information

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

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