



Ocean Beach Climate Change Adaptation Project

Ocean Beach is influenced by complex coastal processes, including an intense wave climate, strong tidal currents, and irregular offshore underwater features. Chronic erosion of the beach and bluffs by coastal storms occurs at South Ocean Beach, undermining and damaging beach parking lots, stormwater drainage facilities along the Great Highway, underground wastewater system infrastructure, and has constrained public shoreline access and recreational opportunities.

Led by the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR), the city partially funded and participated in the preparation of the 2012 Ocean Beach Master Plan, a process which brought together community members, agency representatives, and other stakeholders to develop a sustainable long-term vision for Ocean Beach, addressing public access, recreational use, environmental protection, and infrastructure needs in the context of erosion and climate-related sea level rise.

Because the Ocean Beach Climate Change Adaptation Project requires approvals from other city and federal agencies, the implementation is a collaborative, multiagency initiative involving the SFPUC, Recreation and Parks, San Francisco Public Works, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, a unit of the National Park Service, and the Federal Highway Administration.

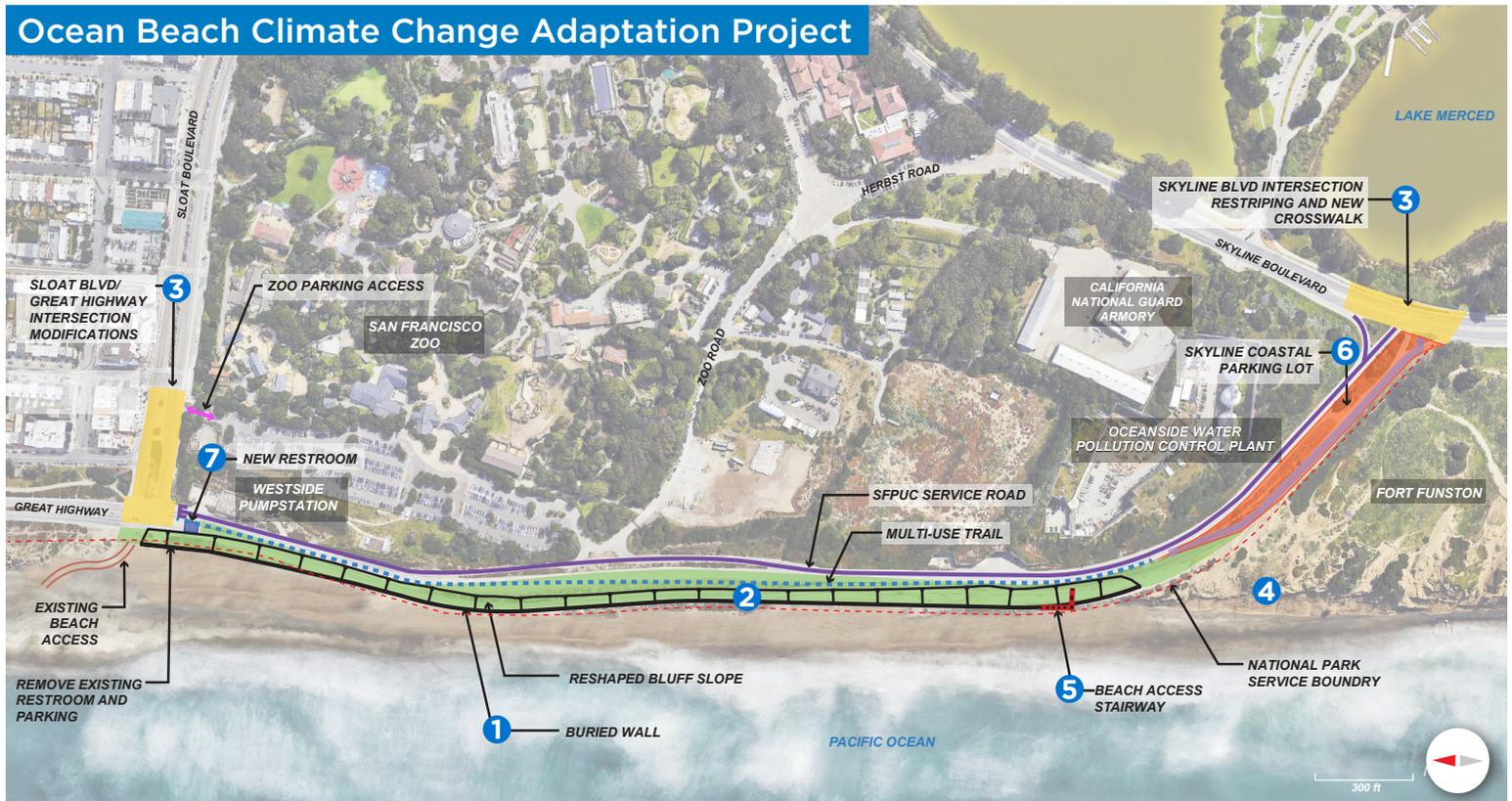
In addition, the long-term operations and management of the project includes beach nourishment via sand placements. One potential sediment source is sand dredged by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from the San Francisco Main Ship Channel. Therefore, the SFPUC is coordinating with the Corps on the potential of beneficially using the dredged sand for the project's long-term nourishment program.



Ocean Beach Master Plan:

The Ocean Beach Master Plan, a vision for San Francisco's western coast, recommends ways to improve coastal access and connectivity to open space, restore ecological function and protect critical infrastructure in the face of chronic erosion and sea level rise. Multiple projects addressing coastal management, transportation, and open space are currently in planning, design, and construction to carry those recommendations forward.

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Below are proposed changes as part of this project that will alter public use and accessibility along the Great Highway south of Sloat Boulevard.

Improvements Along Ocean Beach

- 1. Buried Wall:** Constructing a buried wall to protect existing wastewater infrastructure, the Lake Merced Tunnel, from shoreline erosion.
- 2. Closure of Great Highway South of Sloat Boulevard:** Replace vehicular access of the Great Highway with recreational open space, multi-use trails, and managed retreat between Sloat and Skyline boulevards. A portion of the Great Highway's northbound travel lanes would be retained as a service road to SFPUC wastewater facilities. Pedestrian and cyclist access to and along South Ocean Beach would be provided via a new approximately 0.8-mile multi-use trail.
- 3. Intersection Improvements:** Intersection improvements at Skyline and the Great Highway, and Sloat Boulevard and the Great Highway to facilitate the changes in travel patterns resulting from the Great Highway closure, improving connections, accessibility, and safety.
- 4. Removing Revetments and Reshaping the Bluff:** Following buried wall construction, remove the existing shoreline protection structures and debris, followed by reshaping the bluff with a less steep slope, providing a broad, publicly accessible open space area.
- 5. Multi-use Trail, Beach Access Stairway:** Trail would vary from 15 feet wide up to 20 feet wide and include several turnouts, closing the gap in the California Coastal Trail, providing connections to existing paths. The stairway would be located towards south end of the project area, near the proposed Skyline coastal parking lot.
- 6. Parking Changes:** Removing 35-space parking lot near the Sloat Boulevard/Great Highway intersection, and replace with a new surface parking lot near the Skyline Boulevard/Great Highway intersection. The new parking lot would have approximately 60 vehicle parking stalls and be located within the former Great Highway southbound lanes adjacent to the southern end of the project's multi-use trail.
- 7. Restrooms Facilities:** Existing public restroom at Sloat Boulevard would be removed and a new restroom would be constructed approximately 30 feet south of the reconfigured Sloat Boulevard/Great Highway intersection.

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Learn more at sfpuc.org/oceanbeach.
Contact us at info@sfgwater.org, or (415) 554-3233.