

Alliance of Coastal Marin Villages

Bolinas, Dillon Beach, Inverness, Inverness Park, Marshall, Muir Beach, Olema, Point Reyes Station, Stinson Beach, Tomales

November 18th, 2025

Derek Johnson

Derek.johnson@marincounty.gov

Office of the County Executive

3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 325

San Rafael CA 94903

Re: Dedicated Resources for Climate and Sea-Level-Rise Adaptation in West Marin

To Derek and the Climate & Sustainability Team:

As you establish your new Climate and Sustainability Team at the Office of the County Executive, we ask that you give your urgent attention to the need for dedicated resources to address climate and sea-level-rise adaptation for the coastal villages of West Marin.

We understand that there is substantial sea-level-rise adaptation progress in the East Marin bayside cities, towns and other jurisdictions of the County under Bay-Wave. That's not happening for the unincorporated area of West Marin.

In West Marin, for several years we had the active engagement of the Community Development Agency in addressing the issue through the award-winning C-SMART program. Unfortunately, that ended in 2023, and there has been no new County activity in West Marin since then other than to complete studies and projects that were then in progress. As far as we know, there is no CDA staff presently engaged in studying or implementing plans for sea-level-rise adaptation for the West Marin coastal communities, including Marshall, Inverness, Bolinas, Stinson Beach, and Muir Beach.

SB-272 requires Marin County and its coastal communities to amend the Local Coastal Program (LCP) to address sea-level-rise adaptation by the end of 2034, less than 10 years from now. The last amendments of the LCP took over 12 years and then came to an impasse over Environmental Hazards (sea-level-rise), so the time to start is now. It should be a high priority for the new Climate and Sustainability Team.

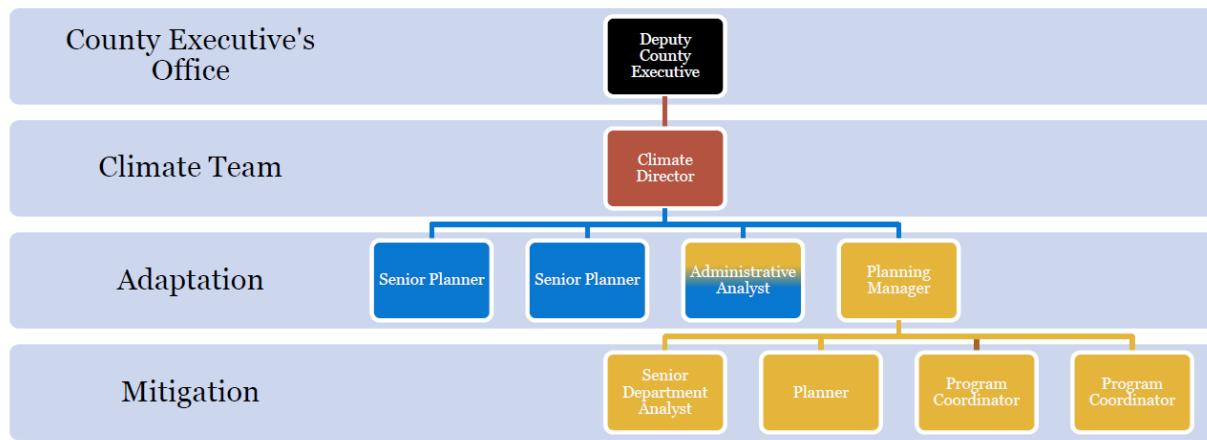
Sea-level-rise adaptation planning in West Marin's unique coastal communities will require significant community engagement and the active work of senior County planners. It requires difficult negotiations with the California Coastal Commission.

In March, the AECOM sea-level-rise governance study released its preliminary findings. These included:

- West Marin is unique in many ways and requires its own distinct planning effort which will require more leadership and resourcing from the County.

This comes at a time that the Office of the County Executive is establishing a Climate & Sustainability Team:

New Climate & Sustainability Team



We respectfully suggest that one of the Senior Planners for Adaptation have a job description and title, **“West Marin Climate and Sea-Level-Rise Adaptation Planning.”**

Thank you for considering our views.

Melinda Bell, Dillon Beach
Donna Clavaud, Tomales
George Clyde, Marshall
Ken Eichstadt, Olema
Peter Gradjansky, Inverness Park
Ann Grymes, Marshall
Mary Halley, Muir Beach
Ken Levin, Point Reyes Station
Jeff Loomans, Stinson Beach
Angela Whitney, Inverness
Georgia Woods, Bolinas

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cc: Chris Choo, Assistant Director CDA, Chris.Choo@marincounty.gov
Dennis Rodoni, Supervisor District 4, Dennis.Rodoni@MarinCounty.gov

