



**Ocean Protection Council AB 2516 Implementation Project**  
**Deliverable 2D: Preliminary Analysis of AB 2516 Database Ability to Address Needs**  
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**Introduction**

During the input meetings and interviews conducted in January-February (outlined in Deliverable 2B), coastal planners and other sea level rise stakeholders were asked HOW the proposed AB 2516 database and other online resources would be most helpful to addressing the key barriers they are facing in climate-related planning. This memo summarizes that input and provides the starting point for discussions with OPC, OPR and other state agencies on the design and content of the new on-line resources.

**Key Input from Stakeholders (in the voice of the participants)**

1. Instead of a massive database of reports and plans that we would have to sift through, it would be more helpful to focus resources on a **limited set of challenges** that coastal planners are encountering. When you organize the database resources by problem or challenge, it will help users quickly get to the material they need to read. We don't have a lot of time for research.
2. Help cities and others by **pointing** them towards things that could be useful. Don't just put a big glob of information in a database and expect that many will wade through it.
3. Make the database and resources **flexible, nimble, and based on the true needs of a region**. This can and should change over time. A dynamic and changing resource will attract people to come back regularly. You can then use these repeated visits to help build a network linking people and groups together.
4. A database like the one proposed one should be **very focused** or it will not be heavily used. Huge resources like the national CAKEX database are too daunting to navigate so all that good information just sits.
5. Design the database to **complement** existing similar resources that some of us use—local web sites like South Coast Climate Science Alliance, statewide sites like TNC's Coastal Resilience Network, or national resources like the CAKEX project profiles and the

Georgetown Climate Center. Coordinate this with California Climate Commons—CA LCC is trying to get better use of that resource.

6. A **help desk** would be very helpful by saving us time. We don't have time to read through long reports to find an answer to a specific question we need to answer or the specific barrier we are trying to address. A librarian or resource-guide would be a priceless resource.
7. **Don't just create new stand-alone on-line resources.** Complement these new tools with a statewide conference or regional workshops just for sea level rise planners and/or a statewide network of local staff. This would leverage the money put into the database by helping to get the OPC on-line resources used more widely.
8. We already have a growing array of web resources. Can this project move the state towards a **grand portal** that would link to many/all of them?
9. Give us **one online place** for all state organizations to be together. Create a guide on what different state agencies are doing. Put all the guidance and supporting docs in one place. Show how they are linked and working together (or not).
10. There are pros and cons to making this database **statewide or regional**. We are trying in all our work to focus local planners on experts and support they can get right here. Building these local/regional networks is very important and we are investing substantially in this effort. How can these new OPC products help us?
11. Divide the database by **regions** so it is useful to our collaborative and our climate science alliance. Also, show similarities between regions so we can learn from each other.
12. Please use state resources to provide **visibility** for our database and online resources. Promote locals using their local resources.
13. Support **regional databases** and resources. You can't do this as well from Sacramento with one database. There are too many different environments.
14. Use this resource to **engage scientists** in the planning process throughout all the steps—build relationships based on trust and experience. The alliance runs a form of dial-a-scientist—we are the gatekeeper and we connect cities and others with the right scientists. Keeps everyone from calling the same person and overloading them. How can this new set of OPC resources support this approach?
15. Content suggestions:
  - A. PowerPoint slides that have been developed by our more resource-rich peers or the State that we can adapt for local use.
  - B. Short write-ups (case studies) on strategies that are working or being tried elsewhere in the world. Other countries like the Netherlands are ahead of us—help us learn from them.

- C. A sea level rise funding toolbox.
- D. Good examples of language or templates that have been vetted by legal experts — tried and tested, both for policies and inter-governmental agreements.
- E. Examples of completed projects— things that are working in the real world.
- F. A set of tools that we can directly use to create our plans.
- G. A cost and benefits tool that helps quantify different types of projects and interventions.
- H. A SLR messaging toolkit—how do we best talk about SLR to engage the public, decision-makers, businesses, and other public servants.
- I. Education and outreach collateral templates (e.g. videos, leaflets, brochures, SLR webpages, curriculum for students).
- J. An online video collaboration tool so we can meet face-to-face with our peers without having to travel and emit GHGs.
- K. Look at the toolkit on the housing and community development web page—it is a good example of a valuable on-line resource.

### **Important Note**

Additional suggestions for priority topics and issues to be addressed in the database and other on-line resources will be culled from the input on key barriers in Deliverable 2C. For example, the new on-line resources should provide help with funding, make staff with limited bandwidth more efficient, help to clarify state direction and regulations, assist with understanding the Public Trust Doctrine, etc.