

June 7, 2023

Senator John Laird
1021 O Street, Suite 8720
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Laird:

Thank you for your leadership in authoring Senate Bill 272. The City of South San Francisco is a mid-sized city with a population of approximately 67,000 residents. Located along the Bay, the city is highly susceptible to sea level rise and flooding. The City appreciates your leadership in providing a pathway for funding for local governments that have received approval for sea level rise planning and adaptation.

The City of South San Francisco is proudly diverse with over 80% of our households identifying as households of color and approximately 60% speaking a language other than English at home. South San Francisco is known as the "Industrial City", with historical roots in steel plants and ship building. While the City maintains some light manufacturing and warehouse industries, the City also has a large Life Science cluster of over 200 biotechnology firms located east of Highway 101 along our shoreline.

Sea Level Rise continues to threaten the economic vitality of our region, with billions of dollars' worth of economic assets at risk. Additionally, critical infrastructure, such as the city's wastewater control plant is in a low-lying area susceptible to sea level rise. It also threatens our city's lowest income census tracts, which includes our most vulnerable neighborhoods consisting of primarily Latinx households.

The City of South San Francisco continues to study Sea Level Rise and a feasibility study is underway, however, mitigation measures are costly. Many local governments do not have the resources or the funding to implement recommended measures to protect our communities against Sea Level Rise. We believe Senate Bill 272 provides a pathway for potential implementation and funding and support your efforts.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Mayor Buenaflor Nicolas
City of South San Francisco

Cc: South San Francisco City Council
Sharon Ranals, South San Francisco City Manager