



AB 2373 – Coastal Commission: Local Coastal Programs

Summary

AB 2373 would authorize local governments within the coastal zone to utilize the neighborhood-scale adaptation approach when completing their local coastal programs (LCPs).

Existing Law

Under existing law, local governments are required to develop Local Coastal Programs, more commonly known as LCPs. LCPs are critically important plans developed by local governments to balance land uses along the coast.

LCPs are prepared by the local jurisdiction before being submitted to the Coastal Commission for certification. Every LCP includes a Land Use Plan (LUP) and an Implementation Plan (IP), which detail the specific policies, accompanying measures and other information to implement the plans.

Issue

The LCP update process can be unnecessarily time-consuming and challenging for coastal cities and counties to complete. Oftentimes, this process can take multiple years to finish and is cost-intensive for the local government preparing the update. Additionally, there has been a lack of consistency and clarity on exactly how the Coastal Commission would like this process to be completed by localities.

Recently, the City of Pacifica completed an update of its LCP utilizing a pilot of the 'neighborhood approach.' The Coastal Commission subsequently approved this update and was supportive of the approach. The Commission described the City of Pacifica's planning approach as a "Practical

planning approach that fully considers the feasibility of adaptation strategies..." and discussed the benefits it provided to both the locality and commission.

Solution

AB 2373 seeks to allow the local governments to utilize the neighborhood-scale adaptation approach when including land use policies and implementation measures in their local coastal program or sea level rise plan.

By codifying the Coastal Commission's recommendations in statute, this bill will provide cities and counties within the Coastal Zone with clarity and certainty about the best practices for completing their LCPs. In addition, this legislation maintains existing flexibility that the Commission has when considering armoring or nature-based solutions along coastal protected shorelines or community contexts.

AB 2373 is a common sense solution to help our local cities and counties efficiently complete their mandated LCPs.

Support

League of California Cities (Sponsor)

Opposition

None on File

For More Information

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