



For Immediate Release

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Greater San Diego Association of REALTORS® Hosting Virtual Program “Sea Level Rise Policies and the Future of Our Coastal Communities”

San Diego (September 7, 2021) – The Greater San Diego Association of REALTORS® (SDAR) will host a virtual program highlighting the potential impact of sea level rise on San Diego’s coastal communities and the related policies being advanced by the California Coastal Commission (CCC). Details for this free virtual program are as follows:

Sea Level Rise Policies and the Future of Our Coastal Communities

Thursday, September 9, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Zoom Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/SeaLevelRisePolicy>

Attendees of the program will include REALTORS®, property owners, members of the press, policymakers and other community stakeholders interested in learning about coastal management policies under consideration by San Diego County’s coastal cities that could drastically impact homeowners, businesses and the surrounding community. This issue also led to the creation of additional disclosure information provided by the California Association of REALTORS® for coastal real estate transactions. The program will feature leading experts on coastal management policies, including Mayor of Del Mar Terry Gaasterland and former CCC Principal Planner and land use expert Don Schmitz of Schmitz & Associates.

“This is a timely discussion in that the City of Carlsbad will consider updates to their Local Coastal Program on September 14 and our neighboring cities are not far behind,” said SDAR President Carla Farley. “These policies will ultimately determine whether and to what extent homes and businesses will remain in place along our coastline.”

At issue is that the CCC is working with California’s coastal cities and counties to update their Local Coastal Programs (LCPs) to account for sea level rise. Among the more controversial policies the CCC is recommending includes “managed retreat,” a coastal management policy that calls for the removal or relocation of coastal structures, including homes, inland away from rising tides.

“The California Coastal Commission’s recommended policies such as managed retreat may not be viable in certain communities and could put homes and entire neighborhoods at risk,” said Farley. “This is one of the reasons SDAR helped to launch Smart Coast California, a 501(c)(6) organization comprised of local REALTOR® associations throughout California who advocate for balanced coastal management policies.” Farley added, “I am proud to serve as President of Smart Coast California and of our work up and down the coast to protect the unique character of our coastal communities and the property rights of the individuals who call these areas home.”

Locally in San Diego County, the City of Del Mar recently withdrew their proposed update to their local coastal program citing concerns over the recommendations from the CCC. The City Council's announcement of their decisions can be found at: <http://www.delmar.ca.us/civicalerts.aspx?aid=749>. According to Farley, "Several of our other coastal cities, including Carlsbad, San Diego and Coronado are in various stages of updating their local coastal management plans, so we are working to raise awareness not only of the implications of some of the CCC's recommended policies, but also of some viable alternatives."

For more information and media inquiries, call (858) 715-8000 or email editor@sdar.com.

The [Greater San Diego Association of REALTORS®](#) is the largest trade association in San Diego County and one of the largest local REALTOR® associations in California. We help our members, who adhere to a code of ethics and professional standards, sell more homes. We also help people realize the dream of home ownership, and we are dedicated to protecting private property rights. You can follow SDAR on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).