

# RESILIENT SMALL CITIES

## CITY OF BENICIA, CA

### WHAT ARE WE DOING?

- Developing practical resilience strategies to prepare the community for sea level rise, flooding, and higher temperatures

### PROJECT GOALS

- Conduct a climate change vulnerability assessment using publicly available tools
- Identify and protect community assets and support residents and businesses
- Incorporate planning for climate change in all City functions
- Revise local land use plans and development regulations to aid and protect all buildings
- Create a model for other small cities
- Educate and engage the public

### BIG IDEAS

- Partner with a regional agency and use a proven planning framework: Adapting to Rising Tides (ART) was used successfully in Hayward and Oakland, CA
- Actively engage industry and business stakeholders:
  - Invite businesses from the city's Industrial Park to participate
  - Engage with Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Board, and AMPORTS (Port Owner)
- Engage City staff in development, selection, and prioritization of resilience strategies

### WHO HELPED?

- California Coastal Conservancy
  - Climate Ready Grant (\$150,000) supported staff time and consultant team (ICF International)
- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)
  - engaged stakeholders and provided technical assistance and key documents



### ENGAGE YOUTH

- California King Tides Project: students snapped photos of king tide in Benicia and reflected on high water levels

<http://california.kingtides.net/>

- 25 students attended public workshop and provided feedback on project goals and resilience strategies



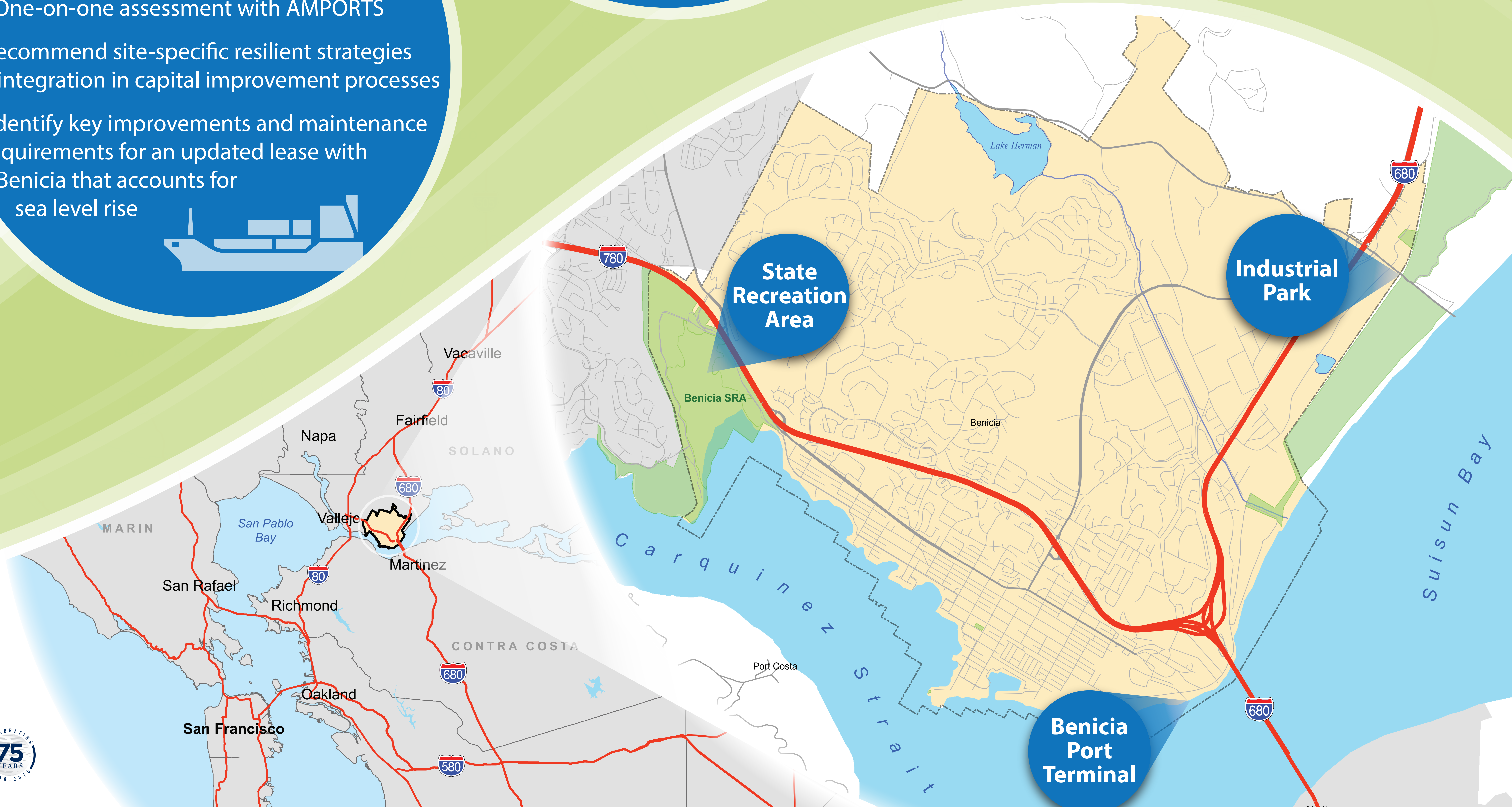
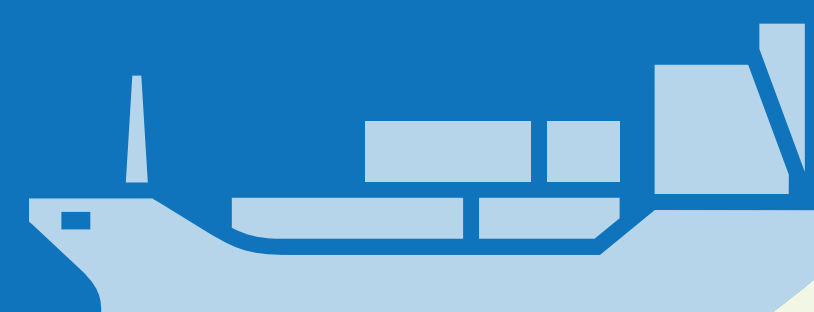
### MANAGING LEGAL RISK

- Berkeley Law School assessed key legal issues with implementing strategies in Benicia:
  - physical and regulatory takings
  - public trust doctrine
- Law students made recommendations on how to draft and implement strategies to avoid legal risk



### CREATING A RESILIENT BENICIA PORT

- One-on-one assessment with AMPORTS
- Recommend site-specific resilient strategies for integration in capital improvement processes
- Identify key improvements and maintenance requirements for an updated lease with Benicia that accounts for sea level rise



Adapting to Rising Tides

