Sea Level Rise
Adaptation Initiatives
County of Maui
Regulatory Initiatives

- Proposed amendments to the Shoreline and Special Management Area (SMA) Rules for the Maui Planning Commission would:
  
  Relocate Maui’s current erosion hazard based setbacks to 40 feet mauka of the red erosion hazard line in the PacIOOS SLR Viewer

  Require site plans for all applications for development in the SMA to include the 3.2 feet SLR-XA, as well as the red erosion hazard line from the PacIOOS SLR Viewer

  Add the likelihood of “suffering damage by being located in [the]... sea level rise exposure area” to the current list of factors to be addressed when considering the key HRS 205A criterion of the significance of potential environmental and ecological effects of a proposed development
Proposed amendments to the Shoreline and Special Management Area (SMA) Rules for the Maui Planning Commission would:

Require covenants to not seek protection with shoreline hardening for:

Repairs in the shoreline setback area beyond 50 percent of the structure’s replacement value, and for repairs resulting from damage by coastal hazards

Construction which relies upon a shoreline setback variance, and

Development relying upon a “minimum buildable depth” allowed for all shoreline properties, for which mitigations such as elevating structures may also be required.
Development Review

- Currently, the Maui PC has asked that proposed projects coming to them with any land inside or nearby the SLR-XA include the SLR-XA line(s) on plans, and that the reports to the Commission address SLR-XA impacts and possible mitigation.

- In the Planning staff’s analysis of impacts for administrative actions, staff are currently asked to analyze possible SLR impacts, disclose to them to applicants, and pending the revised Rules, strongly encourage mitigations.
Community Plans - West Maui CP Update

- Will include in its guiding principles sustainability, resilience, and impacts of sea level rise as a key topics. This will be further addressed by policies and action items related to suggestions from the Commission's SLR report.

- Land use and growth scenarios will include the impacts of sea level rise as an indicator (SLR-XA area) to be considered in future growth and development.

- GIS maps will include SLR-XA boundary.

- Technical Resources paper on coastal resilience and sea level rise impacts on West Maui draws heavily from SLR Report. It is posted on www.wearemaui.org website and has been distributed to the public.

- Education and outreach included a public workshop held on Coastal Resilience in Fall 2018. Speakers included Tara Owens and Dr. Brad Romine from UH. Presentations had information on the SLR Report and addressed impacts of sea level rise on West Maui existing and future projected growth areas as well as infill development.
Infrastructure and SLR Vulnerability Analysis

County Departments of Public Works, Water Supply and Parks and Recreation have proposed FY 2019-20 budgets to conduct SLR vulnerability analyses, following up on SLR Report.

County Energy Commissioner will explore means to coordinate Departments’ vulnerability analyses.

Given there are many beach parks in Maui County, Department of Parks and Recreation is including SLR and coastal erosion considerations in master plans for individual parks.

Department of Water Supply has mapped overlay of SLR-XA on water supply infrastructure.

Countywide Capital Improvement Coordinator to include climate change adaptation among considerations when assessing proposed capital improvements.
Challenges

Regulations - Pushback on proposed new regulations from impacted stake holders of substantial means

Designing new regulations to mitigate SLR risks while also addressing impacts upon stake holders, including those of more modest means (equity)

Education and Outreach - More needed constantly, and resources limited

Infrastructure - Immense cost demands versus limited resources. Competing budgetary priorities. Questions around eventual abandonment amidst public expectations for continued service, and possible equity implications of budgetary allocations. Coordination among infrastructure.

Immediate and near term threats to infrastructure, other development, and natural and cultural resources