New Project Development FAQ

2023 Coastal Master Plan

December 2018

1. When can new project ideas be submitted?

New project ideas are currently being accepted until March 1, 2019. Proposals should be delivered electronically, in .pdf format, to MasterPlan@la.gov or mailed to the 2023 Coastal Master Plan Project Development Program at P.O. Box 44027, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70804.

2. Who can submit project ideas?

New projects can be proposed by any source, including academia, parishes, elected officials, state agencies, NGOs, landowners, business/industry, and the general public.

3. What should I do if I need help submitting a project?

The purpose of this solicitation is to hear new ideas for protection and restoration projects from anyone, regardless of their expertise. Project descriptions, maps, and other details will help inform our understanding of the project and ensure that it is captured accurately if it is selected for further evaluation. Please email our team at MasterPlan@la.gov with any questions about submitting a project.

4. What types of projects is CPRA seeking?

CPRA is seeking projects that will build and/or maintain land at a sub-basin to regional scale (i.e., Diversions, Hydrologic Restoration, Marsh Creation, and Ridge Restoration) and projects that will reduce storm surge-based flooding to communities (i.e., Structural Risk Reduction and Nonstructural Risk Reduction) into the future.

5. Which project types will CPRA consider programmatically?

Projects that CPRA will consider programmatically for the 2023 Coastal Master Plan include Barrier Island Restoration, Shoreline Protection, Oyster Reef Restoration, and small-scale Hydrologic Restoration. Barrier Island Restoration will be addressed through CPRA’s “Barrier Island Renourishment Program”, which will help inform how barrier islands are modeled for the master plan. Project types expected to have localized rather than sub-basin to regional scale benefits (i.e., Shoreline Protection, Oyster Reef Restoration, and small Hydrologic Restoration) will be included programmatically in the master plan so that individual projects can be evaluated and prioritized through programs that consider their benefits on a case by case basis (e.g., CWPPRA, matching funds, etc.).

6. What is an Integrated Project?

“Integrated Projects” incorporate components corresponding to multiple project types to achieve benefits for coastal restoration. Project components are meant to function synergistically to provide sub-basin to regional scale benefits. Integrated Project components
should be consistent with project types that build and/or maintain land (i.e., Diversions, Hydrologic Restoration, Marsh Creation, and Ridge Restoration).

7. If a project is in the 2017 Coastal Master Plan does it need to be re-submitted?

No. CPRA will consider all 2017 Coastal Master Plan projects in the 2023 Coastal Master Plan process, so these do not need to be re-submitted. This solicitation is for new project ideas.

8. Where can I find a list of projects previously evaluated?

For information on projects previously evaluated through the master plan process, please see the following documents: 2012 Coastal Master Plan (pp 68-69), 2012 Appendix A: Project Definitions, 2012 Appendix A1 – Projects Screened out of Consideration, 2017 Coastal Master Plan (pp 68-69), and 2017 Appendix A: Project Definition.

9. Will CPRA accept proposals for nonstructural projects?

Yes. Proposals will be considered for Nonstructural Risk Reduction projects that have community-level benefits (i.e., not only for single structures). These projects may include elevation or acquisition of residential structures and/or floodproofing of non-residential structures.

10. Will CPRA accept proposals that seek to improve how CPRA manages projects or programs?

Changes in programs or project management by CPRA (e.g., sediment budget, programmatic permitting, and adaptive management) will not be evaluated through this process. However, suggestions are always welcome and can be shared by email or through comments at public meetings - see CPRA’s calendar for upcoming meetings.

11. What is the page limit for project proposals?

Project proposals should be no more than 7 pages (1 for the Cover Sheet and Contact Information, 3 for Project Description, 1 for a Map, and 1-2 for Project Attributes).

12. Will CPRA accept additional resources to support project proposals?

Yes. CPRA will accept additional resources as supplementary information to support proposals submitted following the submission guidelines.

13. What are the cost limits for project proposals?

There is no cost limit specified for individual project proposals, but cost will be considered as a constraint for selection of projects for alternatives (i.e., groups of projects) and the final plan. As in 2012 and 2017, CPRA anticipates developing a $50 billion plan, with $25 billion allocated for risk reduction and $25 billion allocated for restoration.

14. Does CPRA only request proposals for projects that are ready for construction?

No. CPRA will consider projects at various stages of planning and development as long as sufficient information is provided for project ideas to be evaluated.

15. Will projects reviewed through another planning process be given special consideration?
No. CPRA will not give projects that have been reviewed through other planning processes special consideration. However, any details developed for a project through another process can be submitted along with the proposal.

16. Do sediment borrow sources for marsh creation projects need to be identified in proposals?

No. CPRA will identify the appropriate sediment source during project evaluation. However, if a potential borrow source is preferred, that should be indicated in the proposal.

17. How will projects currently moving towards implementation be considered?

Before beginning new model runs in 2020, CPRA will make a decision on which projects are expected to be constructed or funded for construction. These projects will be included on the landscape for all model runs, including the “Future Without Action” simulation.

18. How and when will CPRA determine whether a proposed project will be included in the 2023 Coastal Master Plan?

Similar to the process used for the 2017 plan, proposed projects will first be screened based on criteria to determine their potential for further analysis. Candidate projects and then groups of projects (i.e., alternatives) will be modeled and evaluated to select projects for the draft plan. The draft master plan document will be released in early 2023, followed by a series of public meetings and potential revisions based on that feedback. The final plan will be presented to the State Legislature for approval in May or June of 2023.

For more information, see the New Project Development Program Guidelines and Criteria. For questions, email us at MasterPlan@la.gov.