



2023 COASTAL MASTER PLAN

ADVISORY GROUPS

ATTACHMENT A1

REPORT: VERSION 03

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COASTAL PROTECTION AND
RESTORATION AUTHORITY
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COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION AUTHORITY

This document was developed in support of the 2023 Coastal Master Plan being prepared by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA). CPRA was established by the Louisiana Legislature in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita through Act 8 of the First Extraordinary Session of 2005. Act 8 of the First Extraordinary Session of 2005 expanded the membership, duties, and responsibilities of CPRA and charged the new authority to develop and implement a comprehensive coastal protection plan, consisting of a master plan (revised every six years) and annual plans. CPRA's mandate is to develop, implement, and enforce a comprehensive coastal protection and restoration master plan.

CITATION

Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. (2023). 2023 Coastal Master Plan: Attachment A1: Advisory Groups. Version 3. (p. 9). Baton Rouge, Louisiana: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CAT	COASTAL ADVISORY TEAM
CEW	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP
CPRA	COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION AUTHORITY
MPDT	MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT TEAM
PM-TAC.....	PREDICTIVE MODELING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RW	REGIONAL WORKGROUP

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Throughout the 2023 Coastal Master Plan development process, various advisory groups provided valuable feedback and recommendations that reflected broad, cross-interest perspectives. This attachment discusses two of four advisory groups established for the 2023 plan development process, the Coastal Advisory Team (CAT) and the Community Engagement Workgroup (CEW). These advisory groups were convened in 2018 and meetings were held several times a year throughout the plan development process, both in-person and virtually online. In certain instances, supplemental conversations with individual advisory group members or small groups were had to discuss aspects of the master plan development process in greater detail. Two additional advisory groups were established for the 2023 plan development process and are discussed in greater detail in other attachments to appendices. These include five Regional Workgroups (RWs) (details in [Supplemental Material F.1: Regional Workgroup \(RW\) Ground Rules, Meeting Summaries](#)) and the Predictive Modeling Technical Advisory Committee (PM-TAC) (details in [Attachment C1: Predictive Models Technical Advisory Committee \(PM-TAC\) Report](#) and [Supplemental Material C1.1: PM-TAC Meeting Reports](#)). Each of these advisory groups was incredibly valuable in the development of the 2023 Coastal Master Plan.

2.0 COASTAL ADVISORY TEAM (CAT)

For the 2023 plan, we reframed the 2017 advisory groups and created a new Coastal Advisory Team (CAT). In August 2018, we invited stakeholder representatives with a coastwide, big-picture perspective around coastal Louisiana’s challenges to participate. The CAT members are a varied group comprised of representatives from federal, state, and local government; NGO’s; business and industry; and academia. To see a list of the CAT membership, visit the [Partners](https://coastal.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-MP-CAT-list_UPDATED_Jan2023.pdf) page on CPRA’s website (or https://coastal.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-MP-CAT-list_UPDATED_Jan2023.pdf).

The CAT’s purpose is to provide input and feedback on the development process and the plan’s various components (i.e., the decision framework or new restoration and risk reduction project concepts) throughout the 2023 Coastal Master Plan cycle. Our goal in convening the CAT was to discuss options, solicit ideas, and gain input to the planning process as well as to establish ways to engage with a wider range of citizens and organizations through general outreach and coordinated activities. Additional intended outcomes include helping to facilitate better coordination with other ongoing planning efforts and integration of new and evolving policy and statutory requirements.

The CAT kick-off meeting was held via webinar in September 2018 which was followed by regular update meetings. The timing of these touchpoints was dependent on when information became available or key milestones in the plan development process were met. Meeting format alternated between two-three hour long webinars focused on one or two topics, or half- to full-day in-person meetings in Baton Rouge. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we had to hold several meetings previously planned to be in-person via webinar. In total, we engaged with the full CAT membership 16 times.

Due to plan development timelines, we often share information with CAT “hot off the presses” in order to gain CAT input to the planning process and have the CAT share their recommendations. The meeting format typically involves an update presentation by the Master Plan Development Team (MPDT) with questions and discussion throughout the meeting. After each webinar or in-person meeting, we follow up with the CAT with an email containing a copy of the CAT ground rules, the presentation slides, and a key outcomes memo (KOM). CAT members are asked to review the KOM for accuracy and to provide any edits or further feedback within one month. If we receive edits, a revised version is circulated to the CAT or, if there is no additional feedback, the KOM is finalized. To review the CAT ground rules and past meeting KOMs, see [Supplemental Material A1.1: Coastal Advisory Team \(CAT\) Ground Rules, Meeting Summaries](#).

The CAT relationship was beneficial to the 2023 Coastal Master Plan process. The CAT is a highly engaged group that shared valuable input with the MPDT at each step of the plan’s development. In addition, it was through working with CAT members that we were able to reach over 350 people during the series of eight Community Conversations that were held in November-December 2022. These

meetings were a successful collaboration and engaged many individuals new to conversations around the coastal program, allowing for beneficial conversation and discussion. For more information on the Community Conversations, see [Appendix A: Outreach & Engagement](#).

3.0 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP (CEW)

As part of the reframing of advisory groups for the 2023 Coastal Master Plan, we created the CEW to support the development of relevant communication strategies and to provide input on outreach and engagement efforts. The CEW are invited members who represent housing, tribal, public health, and social justice community interests from across coastal Louisiana and serve as partners to broaden the scope of master plan outreach efforts. To see a list of the CEW membership, visit the [Partners](https://coastal.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-MP-CEW-list-UPDATED_Jan2023.pdf) page on CPRA's website (or https://coastal.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-MP-CEW-list-UPDATED_Jan2023.pdf).

The intent of convening the CEW is for us to work in collaboration with members to brainstorm methods of communication that bridge the gap between science and people, discuss options and ideas, and gain input on the planning process and other efforts related to the 2023 plan. This collaboration is to help ensure that the 2023 Coastal Master Plan and the communication of its outputs are relevant and accessible to all communities across Louisiana.

The format of CEW meetings is fairly informal and after a brief update from CPRA, meetings are typically discussion-based or workshops where members are encouraged to be candid. Unfortunately due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were unable to meet in-person as often as intended and had to hold most of our get-togethers via webinar. Similar to CAT meetings, after each CEW gathering we send the workgroup a KOM to recap the conversation. To review the CEW past meeting KOMs, see [Supplemental Material A1.2: Community Engagement Workgroup \(CEW\) Meeting Summaries](#).