Resilient by Design Receives 76 Site Submissions, Extends Deadline to Accommodate Tremendous Interest

Challenge to build a resilient future, protect shoreline communities receives outpouring of 76 site suggestions from community members

San Francisco, Calif. – Resilient by Design | Bay Area Challenge, an exciting new approach to prepare the Bay Area before disaster strikes, announced today it is extending the deadline to submit sites vulnerable to the impacts of climate change in the Bay Area through July 31, 2017.

Due to tremendous and growing interest from Bay Area communities, Resilient by Design will accept site ideas for an additional two weeks to ensure people throughout the Bay Area can learn about the Challenge. With 76 sites submissions so far, community members are encouraged to continue identifying sites throughout their community in need of investment and innovative ideas to address climate change, rising sea levels, infrastructure and earthquakes.

“When we launched the Bay Area Challenge a few months ago, we could not have anticipated the amount of interest and the sheer number of ideas the open call for site submissions would generate,” said Amanda Brown-Stevens, Managing Director of Resilient by Design. “76 suggestions from communities throughout the Bay Area is a clear sign that our region is ready to take bold, decisive action and willing to tackle the current and future effects of climate change at the local level.”

With the official Challenge Launch this past May, Resilient by Design introduced an online portal for site submission and called on community members to identify and submit local sites vulnerable to climate change. Starting in September 2017, these site ideas will guide ten teams of architects, landscape architects, designers, engineers, and other experts in their work alongside community leaders and residents to develop a deeper understanding of the needs of local Bay Area communities and determine which sites can benefit from the action and expertise of these multi-disciplinary teams.
Resilient by Design is determined to ensure all Bay Area residents have a chance for their voices to be heard throughout the challenge, which led to the decision to extend the site submission deadline an additional two weeks.

“We are extremely excited to announce that we are extending the deadline,” said Brown-Stevens. “The more this Challenge relies on the ideas and inspiration of our local communities, the more likely design solutions will bring about a stronger, safer Bay for everyone to enjoy.”

The online site submission portal is available at http://www.resilientbayarea.org/site-ideas and will be open until July 31, 2017. The deadline to apply as one of ten Design Teams was July 7, 2017, and Resilient by Design is thrilled to have received 51 applications. Selected teams will be announced in September 2017 and the Collaborative Research Phase will begin immediately, followed by the Collaborative Design Phase starting December 2017 through May 2018.

About Resilient by Design

Resilient by Design | Bay Area Challenge is a collaborative research and design initiative that connects design leaders to community members, local leaders and national experts. In a yearlong challenge, ten teams of architects, landscape architects, designers, engineers, and other experts will work alongside community members and local government to identify critical areas along the San Francisco Bayfront and propose exciting new solutions that will strengthen our region’s resilience to sea level rise, severe storms, flooding and earthquakes.

Resilient by Design | Bay Area Challenge will forge close ties with The Rockefeller Foundation’s 100 Resilient Cities network, which seeks to help 100 cities build resilience to thrive in the 21st century. The challenge will leverage the network’s existing resources and institutional knowledge to accomplish shared goals across the Bay Area.

Resilient by Design | Bay Area Challenge is an operating project of the Trust for Conservation Innovation. Generous funders include The Rockefeller Foundation, Bay Area Regional Collaborative, The Seed Fund, Santa Clara Valley Water District, City and County of San Francisco, State Coastal Conservancy and Metropolitan Transportation Commission. The Executive Board is made up of leaders around the region representing: Bay Area Regional Collaborative, San Francisco Estuary Institute, Government Alliance on Race and Equity, Rebuild by Design, SPUR, State Coastal Conservancy, Bay Area Council, The San Francisco Foundation and the cities of Richmond, Oakland, San José and San Francisco.

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