

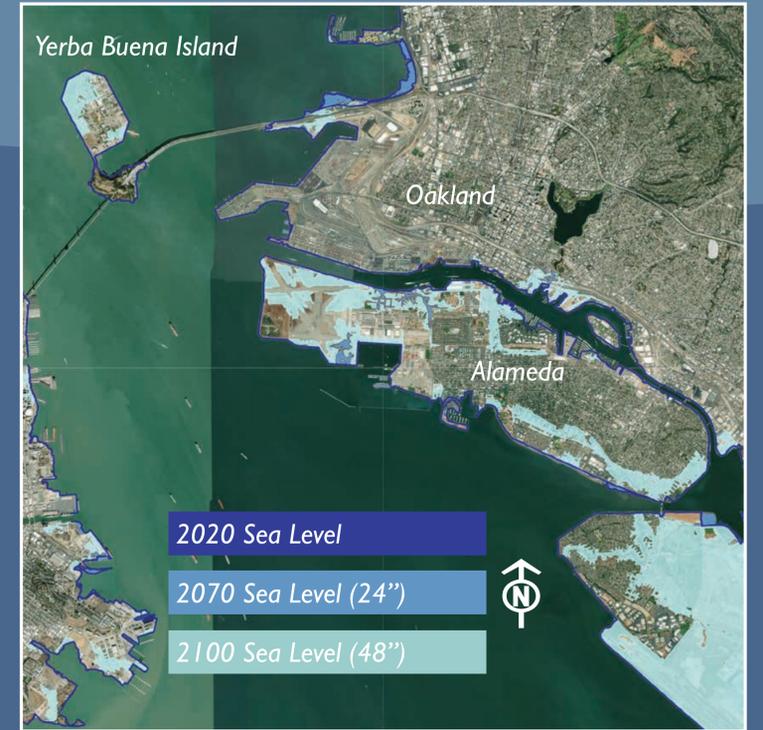
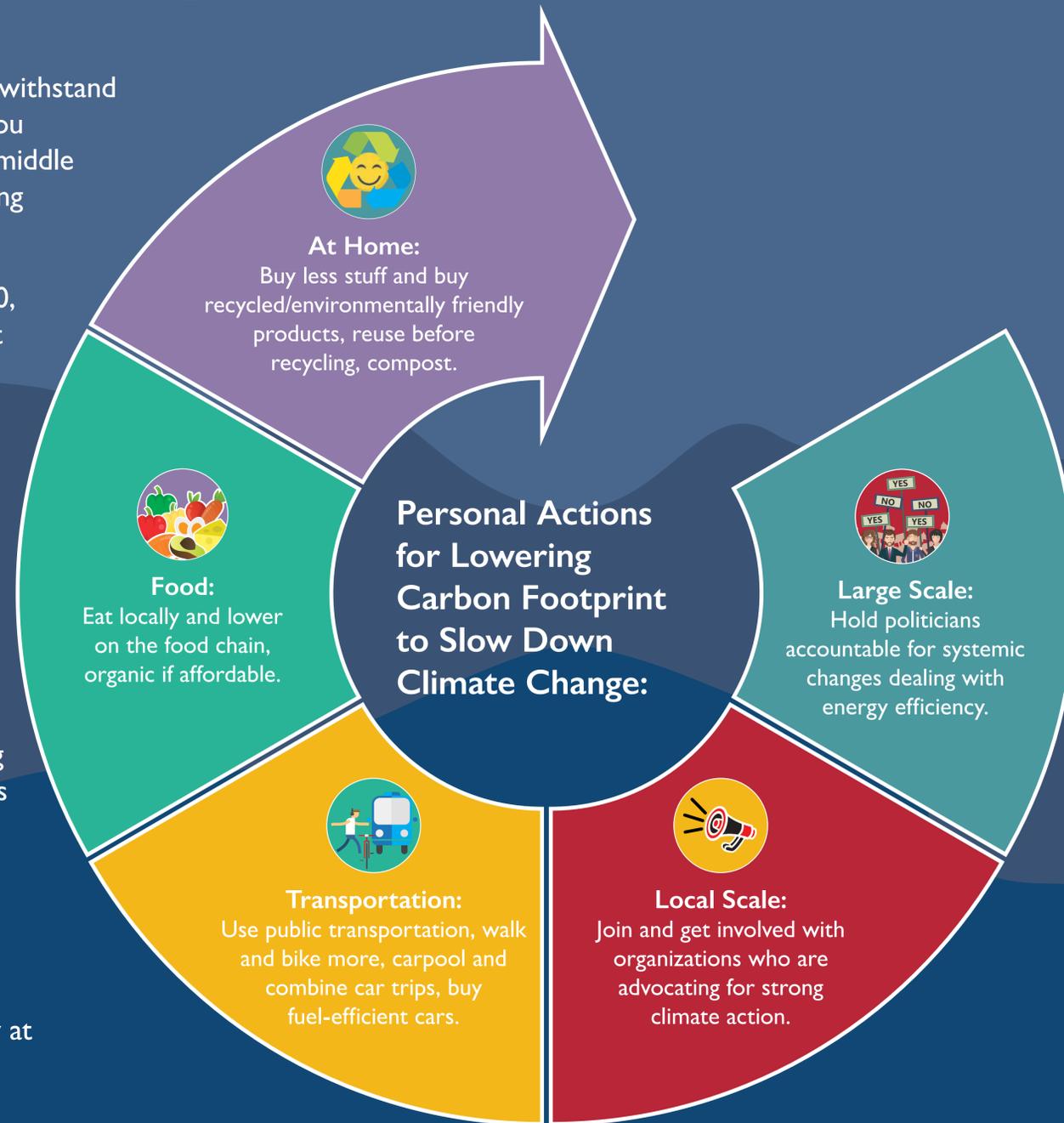
Rising Oceans

The pier you are standing on was built in 2019 to withstand a bay that will rise many feet, however, the land you traveled on to get here could be unusable by the middle of this century without improvements, due to rising ocean water levels.

What will the San Francisco Bay look like in 25, 50, 100, or 1,000 years? Nobody knows for sure, but climate scientists expect the oceans to rise significantly in the average person's lifetime. A modest estimate is about three feet by 2100.

The vehicles you hear and see driving on the Bay Bridge offer a good example of how we use more fossil fuels in the U.S. per person than in any other country in the world. When fuel is burned, carbon dioxide and other gasses are released into the atmosphere, trapping the sun's heat and causing the oceans to warm. Glaciers and polar icecaps melt, causing water levels to rise. The salty water invades areas that we depend on for homes, transportation, drinking water, and farmland.

What can we do to prepare for rising oceans? There are no easy answers. Learn from one of the many organizations and agencies planning for a changing shoreline, including in Alameda County at adaptingtorisingtides.org.



Central San Francisco Bay Shoreline today compared with 2070 and 2100, based on predictions of ocean rise by climate scientists under high emission scenarios. Similar temporary flooding could occur much sooner during large storm events.

Graphic produced by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission's Adapting to Rising Tides Program.

Image: Esri Digital Globe GeoEye Earthstar Graphics CNES/Airbus DS USD AeroGRID IGN and the GIS User Community
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