

Contact: Patty Ducey-Brooks
619-481-9817

Professor Hill to Speak to San Diegans About Sea Level Rising from Her Experience with Hurricane Katrina

A Zoom meeting is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Friday, August 21, 2026, with Professor Kristina Hill, who lectures internationally on urban design and ecology. She became a member of the Dutch American engineering and design team that developed New Orleans water management strategy after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. She continues to collaborate internationally to understand the potential for designs to help protect coastal communities as sea levels rise.

Government officials and members of the media are invited to participate via Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83048845381?pwd=5xAnd4mgdAA4tK41JbFbHrAZjSZhXe.1&jst=2>

Concerned citizens of the City of San Diego, including Ex-Assemblymember Lori Saldaña, are pleased that Professor Hill has agreed to speak for 30 minutes about her knowledge on sea level rising and the impacts to coastal communities. She will take questions from the audience following her presentation.

Kristina Hill is a professor at the University of California, Berkeley. Professor Hill studies urban ecology and hydrology in relationship to physical design and social justice issues. Her primary area of work is adapting urban districts and shore zones to the new challenges associated with climate change.

Professor Hill currently focuses her research on adaptation and coastal design in the San Francisco Bay Area but engages in comparative studies in the US Mid-Atlantic, Europe, and Hawaii.

When state legislators asked her to provide a briefing on sea level rise in early 2020, she took the moment to call out the disparity. Communities like Marin City have been overlooked for so long, she said, that very little data exists to make their case. But just because there isn't data proving something needs fixing doesn't mean that everything is okay.

Her book, "Ecology and Design: Frameworks for Learning," was published by Island Press in 2002, and her current book project proposes adapting urban waterfronts to climate change while incorporating productive ecosystems.

She received her Ph.D. from Harvard University and was a member of the faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Washington in Seattle, and the University of Virginia before coming to California. She was honored as a Fellow of the Urban Design Institute in New York, and has conducted research in Stockholm, Sweden, as a Fulbright Scholar.

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