

Climate Adaptation in the South Bay



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Introduction



URBAN ADAPTATION ASSESSMENT



- University of Notre Dame
 - Research thesis on community resilience to climate change
- City of South Bend
 - GIS Intern
- ND-GAIN, Urban Adaptation Assessment
 - Project Associate
 - Project Manager
- CivicSpark
 - Climate Adaptation Fellow



Carolyn Yvellez



Project Overview

The SBCCOG will develop a robust climate vulnerability assessment (South Bay sub-region and city-specific) *and* a sub-regional climate adaptation plan to provide a strong framework for adaptation planning throughout the region.



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Climate Action

Climate Action is...



Reducing the impact we have on the climate system by reducing future carbon emissions



Climate Adaptation

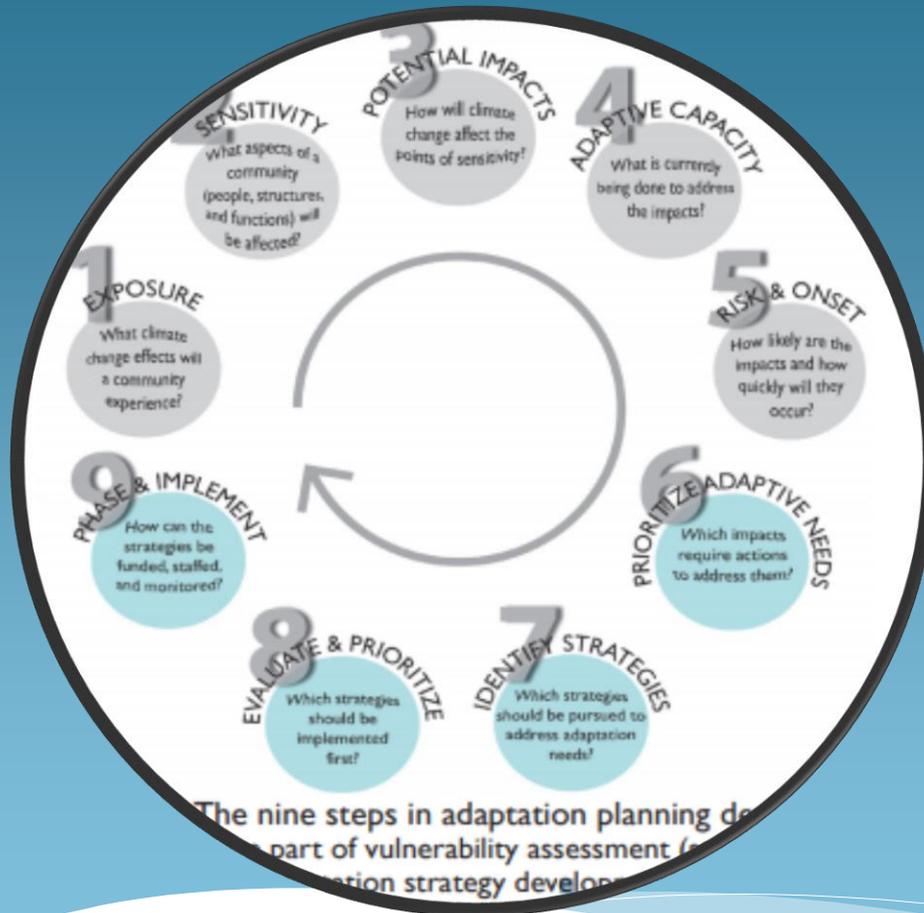
Climate Adaptation is...



...adjusting our behaviors, systems, infrastructure, to reduce the impact climate change has on us.



Vulnerability Assessment



1. *Exposure*: Identify the climate projections for the South Bay region – climate stressors

2. *Sensitivity*: Identify the key community structures, functions, and populations that are potentially susceptible to each climate stressor

3. *Potential Impacts*: Analyze how the climate stressors (exposure) will affect the community, structures, functions, and populations

4. *Adaptive Capacity*: Evaluate the community's current ability to address the projected impacts (social, economic, governmental readiness)

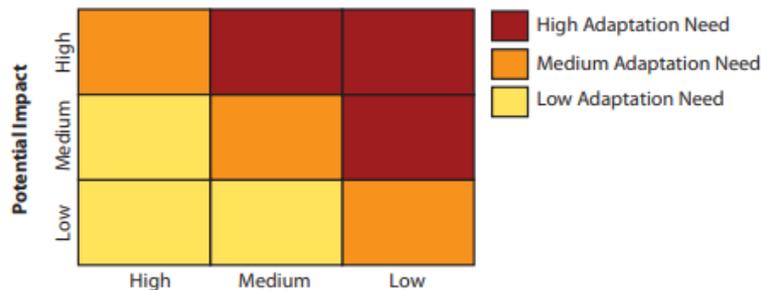
5. *Risk and Onset*: Adjust the impact assessment to account for uncertainty, timing, and adaptive capacity

Source: OPR's
Adaptation Planning
Guide



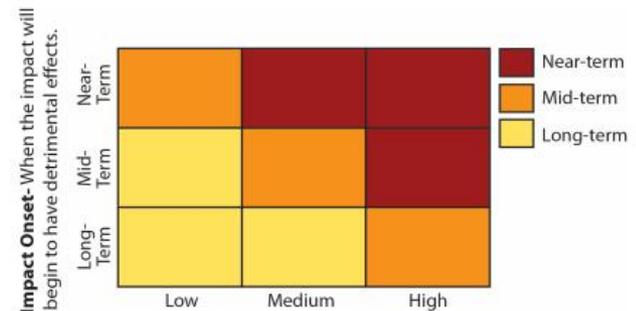
Adaptation Strategy Development

Those impacts with the most severe consequences and lowest local capacity to address them are rated the highest adaptation need



Adaptive Capacity - The current community capacity to address a potential impact.
 [High = community is well prepared for an impact;
 Low = community is unprepared for an impact]

Combines adaptation need with scientific certainty and community sensitivity to a given impact



Cost - Ease of obtaining funding
Co-benefits - Benefit to the community beyond adaptation
Duration - Ease of implementation (from the perspective of time)
Social - Level of community &/or political support

Source: Adaptation Planning Guide, Defining Local and Regional impacts, 2012



Goals of Climate Adaptation Planning

A climate adaptation plan proposes a framework for creating or updating policies, programs, practices and incentives to ensure the community and physical assets are better protected from the impacts of climate change

Climate Adaptation Plans aim to:

- Prepare the community for the impacts of climate change
- Make our communities safer and healthier
- Meet applicable local and state requirements
- Consider economic, social and environmental co-benefits
- Build off existing initiatives



California Adaptation Legislation

SB 379-Safety Element (2015)

- Requires a city or county to **review and update the safety element** as necessary to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to that city or county, either upon the next revision of a local hazard mitigation plan, on or after January 1, 2017, adopted in accordance with the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, or if a local jurisdiction has not adopted a local hazard mitigation plan, beginning on or before January 1, 2022.
- Consider advice provided in the Office of Planning and Research's (OPR) General Plan Guidelines, and to include all the following:
 - Vulnerability Assessment
 - Adaptation and resilience goals, policies, and objectives
 - Implementation measures



Source: OPR General Plan Guidelines
http://opr.ca.gov/docs/OPR_C4_final.pdf



California Adaptation Legislation

SB 1035-General Plans (2018)

- Requires the safety element of a city or county general plan to be reviewed and revised as necessary to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies
- Requires the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan, not less than every 8 years, to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards and adaptation and resiliency strategies.



Source: OPR General Plan Guidelines
http://opr.ca.gov/docs/OPR_C4_final.pdf



California Adaptation Legislation

AB 398-California Cap and Trade Extensions (2017)

- Establishes "climate adaptation and resiliency" as funding priorities for revenues from California's cap and trade system



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SBCCOG Project Outcomes

1. Help cities comply with SB 379 by providing city-specific vulnerability assessments for future adoption into existing plans such as CAP, LHMP and/or other relevant planning documents
2. Support cities and lay the foundation for city-specific adaptation strategy development and adoption
3. Provide cities with an array of adaptation strategies to select from (similar to CAP process)
4. Solicit city feedback on sub-regional adaptation strategies
5. Pre-position South Bay Cities for future grant opportunities



What about CEQA?

- Adaptation strategies related to transportation and land use projects may trigger CEQA
 - Ex: Rezoning high risk flood zone, construction of sea wall
- SBCCOG's sub-regional plan will not be pursuing adaptation strategies that trigger CEQA
- If cities would like to pursue adaptation strategies that involve transportation or land use projects, SBCCOG will support (but not fund) cities in navigating CEQA legislation and processes



Resources & Stakeholders

➤ Resources

- Office of Planning and Research
- Los Angeles Regional Climate Collaborative
- UCLA IoES
- Southern California Association of Governments
- USGS
- FEMA

➤ Stakeholders

- SBCCOG Partners
- County of LA
 - Office of Emergency Management
 - Public Health
- Cities
 - Emergency Services
 - Planning
 - Sustainability
 - Public Works
 - Engineering



Adaptation Planning Timeline 2018-2019

December

- Adaptation Kick-off Meeting

Jan-March

- Data Collection
- Vulnerability Assessment

*Draft sub-regional vulnerability assessment by March 2019

City and Stakeholder Engagement

April-May

- Adaptation Strategy Selection

May-June

- Write sub-regional Adaptation Plan

June-August

- Board Adoption



Questions

- Carolyn@southbaycities.org
- p: 424-271-4692

