Prioritizing Infrastructure Resilience throughout the Capital Planning Process

FINAL REPORT December 2023

Submitted by:

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In cooperation with

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey And U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

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was to document resilience and	capital planning b	est practices	from leading trai	nsportation
agencies nationwide but with a	focus on Region II	. The researcl	n team developed	d a peer
exchange that gathered regiona	l agencies to share	e current prac	tices and identify	/ best
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DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

More than 50 million tons of freight were moved every day, equivalent to \$18.7 trillion annually, across the United States in 2023 [1]. The U.S. relies on its vast transportation network to make this possible and to transport critical goods, connect people to employment and communities, and support a competitive national economy. Pavements, roads, and bridges make up the National Highway System, and transportation agencies are responsible for maintaining these critical assets. Unfortunately, the transportation system has deteriorated with age and in 2021 more than 40 percent of public roadways were found to be in poor or mediocre condition according to the American Society of Civil Engineers [2]. Similarly, 7.5 percent of all U.S. bridges were found to be structurally deficient in 2021 and 42 percent are more than 50 years old [3]. Ports, rail networks, and other transportation systems face similar challenges as they deal with infrastructure across the United States aging, the cost of deferred maintenance adding up, heavier and more fuel-efficient vehicles being built, construction costs increasing, and a myriad of other factors [4]. These factors have combined to place significant stress on transportation agencies to ensure their assets are resilient to current and future challenges and durable over time.

Recognizing this, many agencies have made notable progress incorporating resilience, durability and asset management into their organizational decision-making and long-term plans. Notably, in 2012 MAP-21 (Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century) legislation required each state develop a risk-based Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP) for the National Highway System to improve or preserve asset condition and system performance [5]. This mandate led to the development of long-term plans from state agencies. Subsequently, FHWA published its "Case Study on Asset Management Practices and Benefits" that reviewed initial TAMPs submitted in 2019 by state DOTs for best practices including linking asset management to capital planning, supporting life-cycle planning, and mitigating risks [6]. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has published and updated its Transportation Asset Management (TAM) Guide to support agencies in learning about and implementing the latest asset management techniques [7]. However, the needs of each agency vary by region, mode, and physical location among other factors. Capital plans need to be specific and tailored to an organization's unique structure and challenges in order to be implementable and support long-term success.

APPROACH

The Rutgers University research team identified a knowledge gap in how regional agencies were conducting their own long-term plans, from Capital Plans to Asset Management, and organized

a peer exchange in order to map and document processes used in the region to make capital planning and project selection/prioritization decisions. The research team designed the peer exchange to include presentations from a range of transportation agencies from across the nation but with a focus on Region II (New Jersey and New York), facilitate group discussions on how agencies are organized to address resilience and durability issues over the long term, and share lessons learned in regard to vulnerability and risk assessment, asset management methodologies, project identification and prioritization, and project design and construction.

The one-day peer exchange was held on August 17, 2020, and engaged speakers from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Port of Long Beach, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, New York City Transit, and the Federal Highway Administration. The format and meeting content is described in the methodology section below.

METHODOLOGY

The peer exchange, titled Transportation Resilience Virtual Peer Exchange, was hosted on August 17, 2020 in a virtual format over one day to ensure many different parties could attend. Introductory remarks were provided by Rutgers and a representative from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ). Panel presentations were given by representatives from the Port of Long Beach, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, PANYNJ, NYC Transit, and FHWA where processes for capital planning and best practices at their respective organizations were shared. A moderated discussion session provided opportunity for questions and feedback.

The subsequent pages in this Methodology section demonstrate the presentations that were shared during the peer exchange. The Rutgers research team took this information, as well as notes from the discussion session, to generate findings and identify best practices for incorporating resilience, durability, asset management, and other considerations into long-term capital planning.



TRANSPORTATION RESILIENCE VIRTUAL PEER EXCHANGE

Prioritizing Infrastructure Resilience throughout the Transportation Capital Planning Process

August 17, 2020

Today's Agenda

Welcome, meeting format, and logistics Introductory

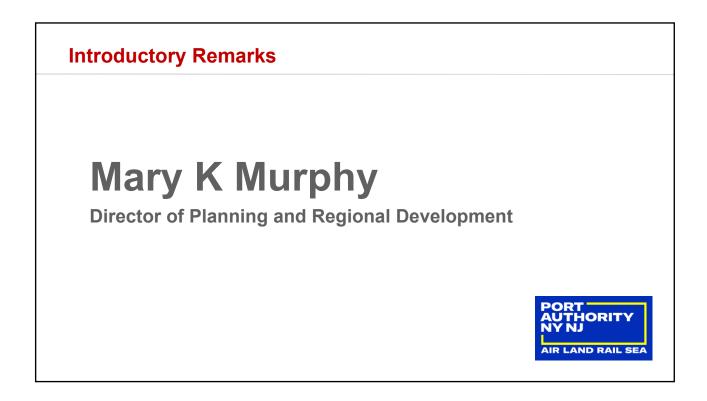
remarks

Background and research overview Panel

presentations

Moderated discussion

Wrap-up







USDOT Region 2 UTC:

Prioritizing Infrastructure Resilience throughout the Transportation Capital Planning Process

Principal Investigator: Jon Carnegie, AICP/PP Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey



Region 2 UTC Project: Overview

Objective: Document methodologies and approaches being used by transportation agencies nationally to incorporate resilience considerations in the capital planning process

Work Products/Outputs:

- Literature review
- Leading practice case studies
- Peer learning workshop
- Agency identified action steps

Expected Outcome:

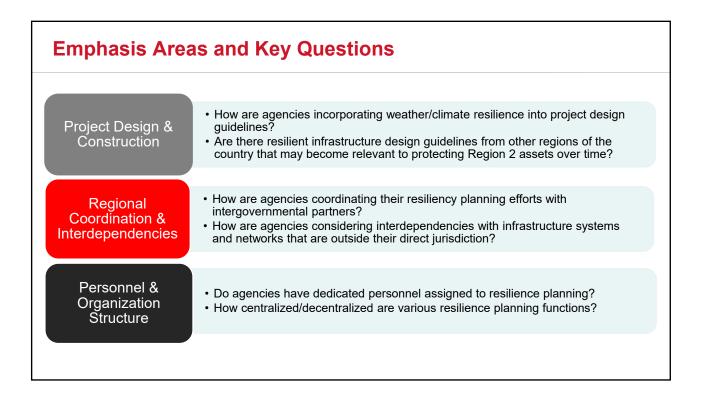
Capital planning decisions that result in transportation infrastructure more resilient to extreme weather events and changing climate conditions

Research Customers:





Emphasis Are	as and Key Questions
Vulnerability Assessment	 At what level are vulnerability assessments most often conducted? What planning horizons are used? What hazards are considered? How often are assessments updated?
Asset Management Methodologies	 How are vulnerability/risk profiles incorporated in asset management systems? Do agencies track extreme weather-related infrastructure costs? Do agencies develop deterioration curves that account for climate change?
B-C and ROI Methodologies	 What B-C/ROI methodologies are agencies using? How do these methodologies incorporate resilience and durability considerations?
Project Identification & Prioritization	 Are there differences in how resilience is considered when selecting state of good repair projects vs. discretionary capital projects? How are resilience considerations incorporated into maintenance schedules and useful life determination?



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Planning Conduct system-wide	Scoping/Conce	ot Development		
vulnerability assessment based on what's most mportant locally	nt Undertake asset-level vulnerability assessments	Design & Engineering		
Use the vulnerability assessment to identify resilience needs and strategies Incorporate resilience needs in asset management processes Develop new decision- support tools Cost-benefit analysis	as needed Conduct field surveys Seek SME input, including O&M personnel	Adopt resilience design and/or performance standards Integrate resilience equipment, materials, and mitigation strategies in project design Cost-benefit analysis	Construction Implement enhanced inspection procedures as needed (e.g., material tolerances, equipment installed properly)	Post-Construction Adopt new operation and maintenance SOPs as needed Implement enhanced inspections Conduct training and drills
Leading pi	ractice sum	mary	_	Develop new decision- support tools Monitor deployments and performance of resilience measures



Resilience Peer Exchange

PANEL PRESENTATIONS

Panel Presentations

- Matthew Arms, Acting Director, Bureau of Environmental Planning and Environmental Affairs, Port of Long Beach
- **Philip Asabere**, PE, Director of Engineering, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA)
- Josh DeFlorio, AICP, LEED AP, Chief, Resilience and Sustainability, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
- Elizabeth Habic, Environmental Specialist, Sustainable Transportation and Resilience Team, Federal Highway Administration, USDOT
- Steven Loehr, Recovery and Resiliency Manager, NYC Transit, Department of Subways

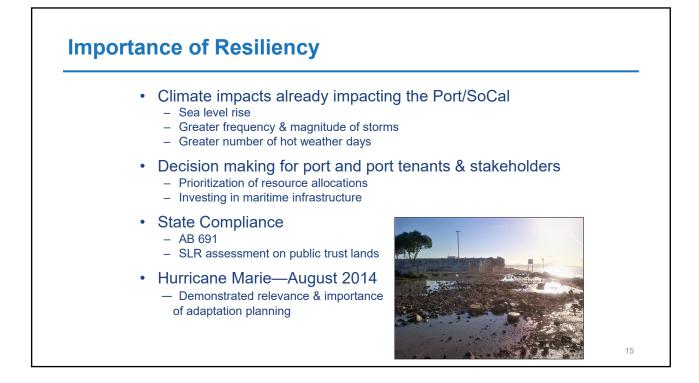


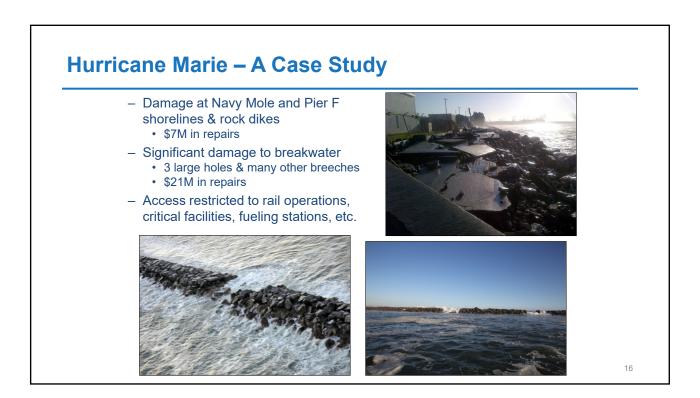
Climate Adaptation and Coastal Resiliency Plan

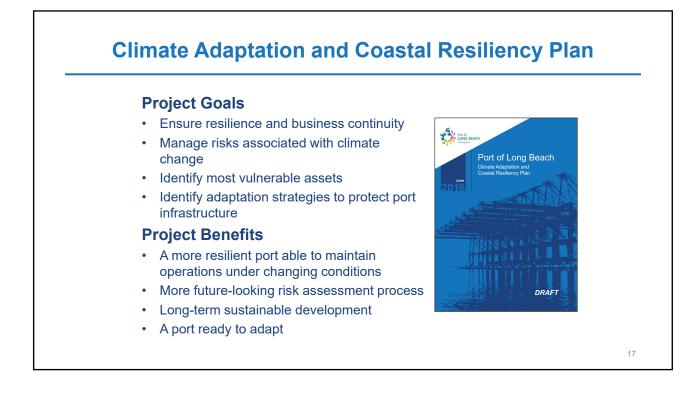
Matt Arms

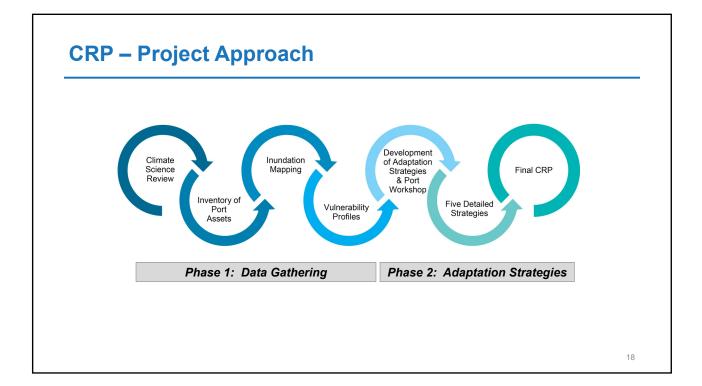
Director of Environmental Planning

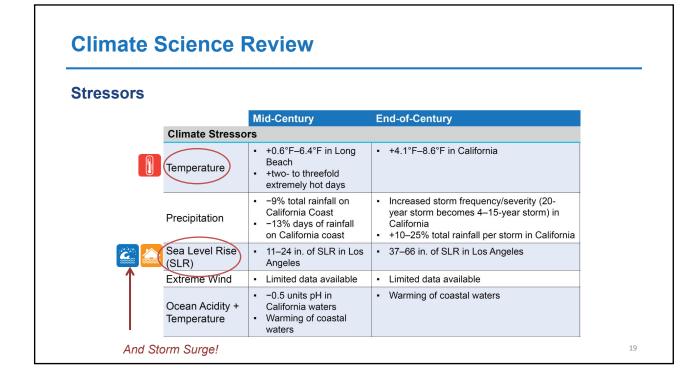


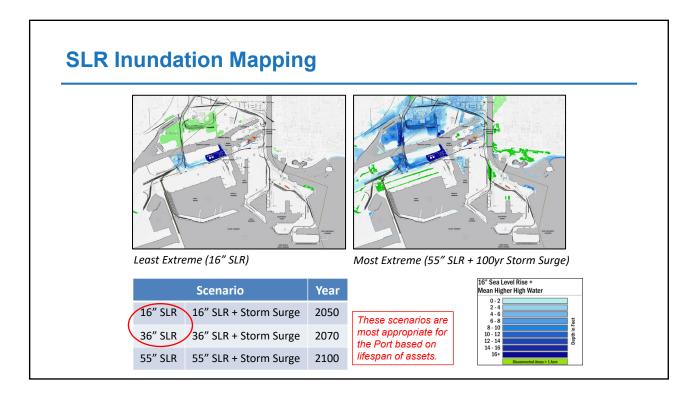


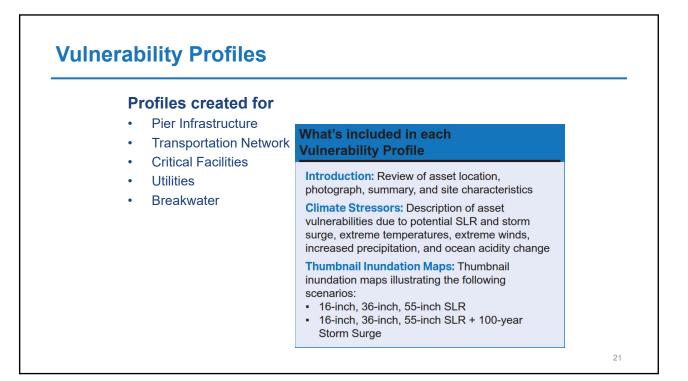


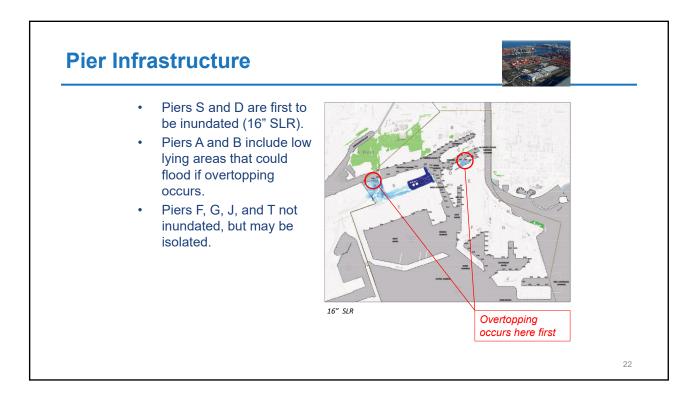








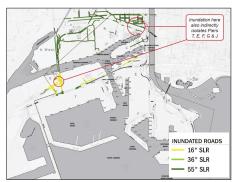




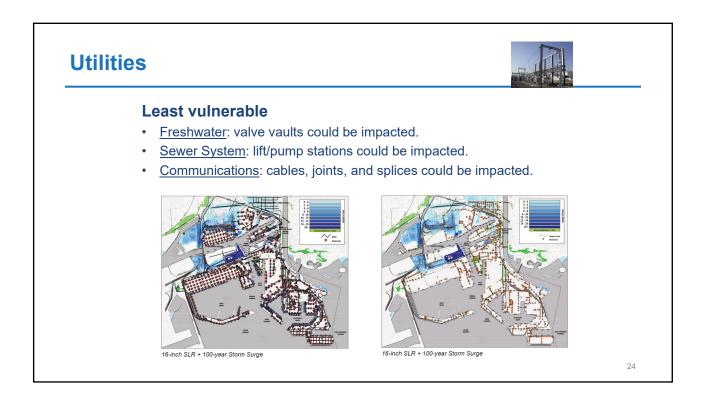
Transportation Network: Road



- Road traffic stops after few inches of inundation (pending vehicle type).
- Piers S and D roadway first impacted (16" SLR) and may prevent movement of cargo and access to facilities.
- Under most extreme conditions, roadways within Piers A, B, C, and tip of E would also be directly inundated as well as the SR-47 that connects to Terminal Island.

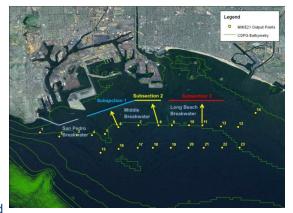


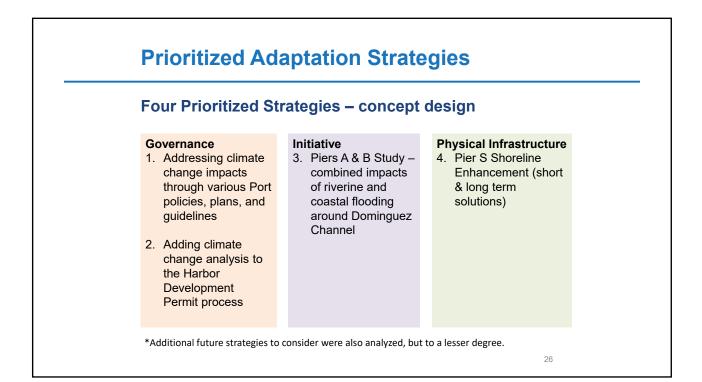
SLR Roads Overview



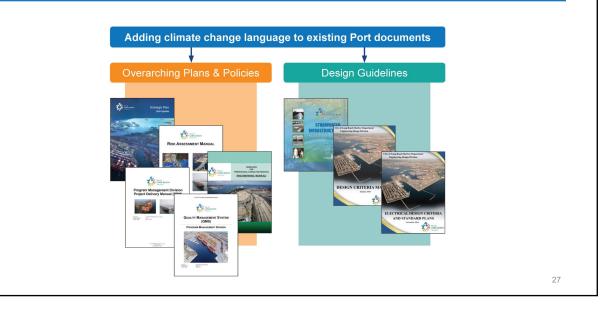
Breakwater

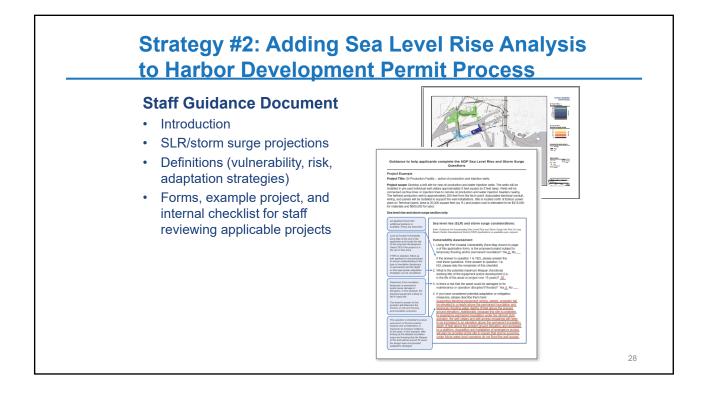
- USACE owned & maintained
- 9 miles long 3 sections
- 200 feet wide at bottom,
 23 feet wide at top
- Long Beach breakwater most vulnerable section
 - lower crest elevationsgreater wave exposure
- Hurricane Marie included unusual wind and wave direction which caused damage to the Middle Breakwater, leading to infrastructure damage and an impact to Port operations.

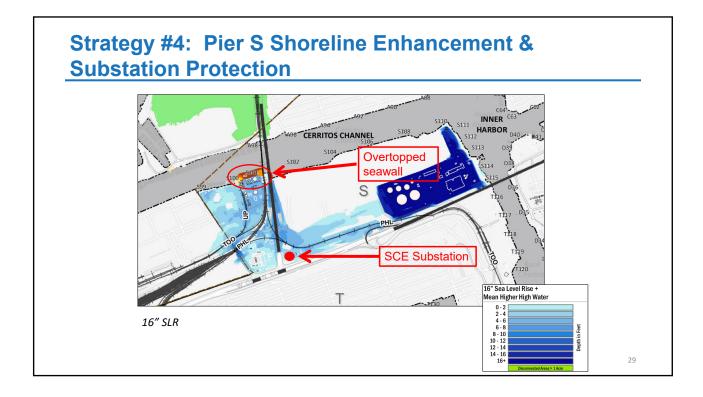


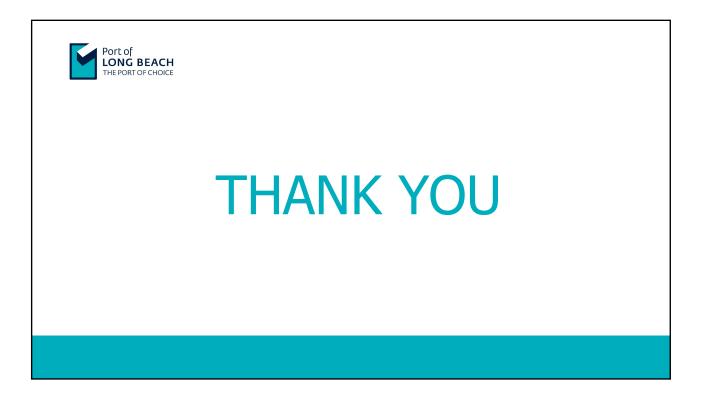


Strategy #1: Addressing Climate Change through Port Policies, Plans, & Guidelines

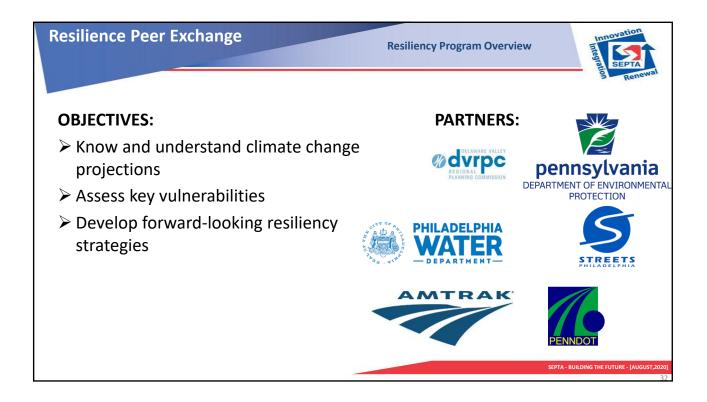












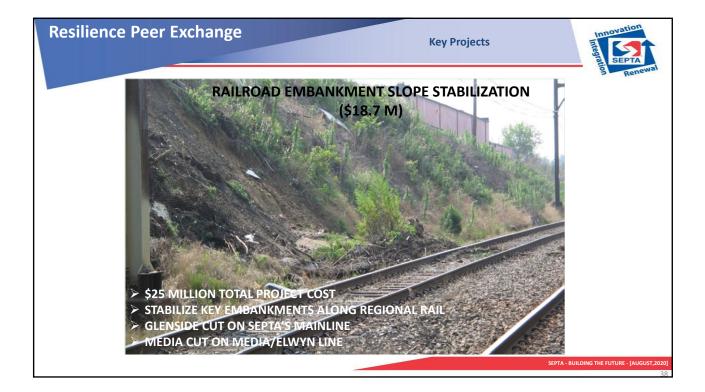




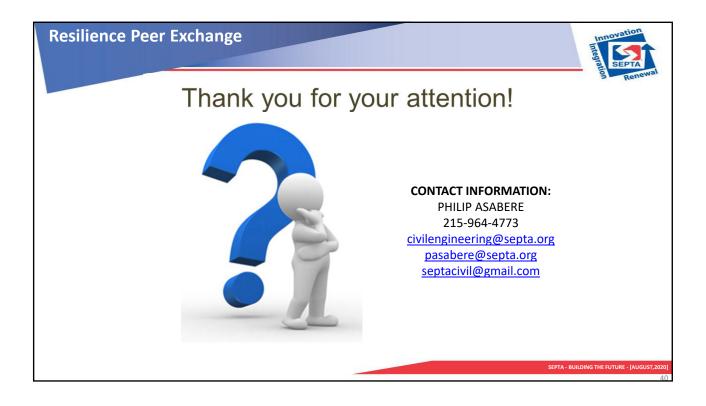












TRANSPORTATION **RESILIENCE PEER EXCHANGE Port Authority of New York & New Jersey**

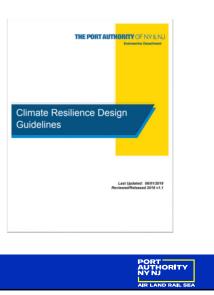
August 2020



PANYNJ **OUR FACILITIES** NEW YORK Airports | JFK, EWR, LGA, TEB, SWF Seaports | Newark, Elizabeth, Jersey, BMT, HH Bridges | GWB, Bayonne, Goethals, OBX NEW JERSEY Tunnels | Lincoln, Holland Terminals | PABT, GWB Bus Station PATH Train | 13 stations World Trade Center | Office buildings, Hub, Campus AŬTHORITY NY NJ

Climate Resilience Guidelines (CRG)

- 1993: PANYNJ adopts Environmental Sustainability policy
- 2008: Amends policy to include climate change, pledging to "develop strategies that reduce the risk posed by climate change to its facilities and operations and, in collaboration with other regional stakeholders, develop strategies that mitigate the risk to the region posed by climate change in a manner that will promote a sustainable environment."
- 2009: Engineering issues Design Memorandum
- 2015: Adopts Climate Resilience Guidelines (CRG)
- 2018: Updates CRG (v1.1) to broaden the application of the guidelines
- 2021: CRG v2 (Planned)

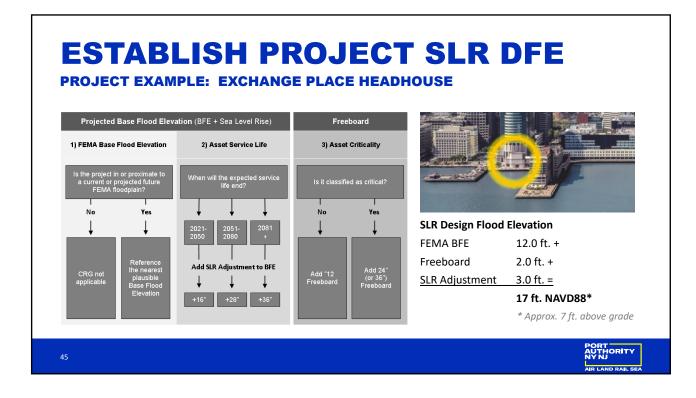


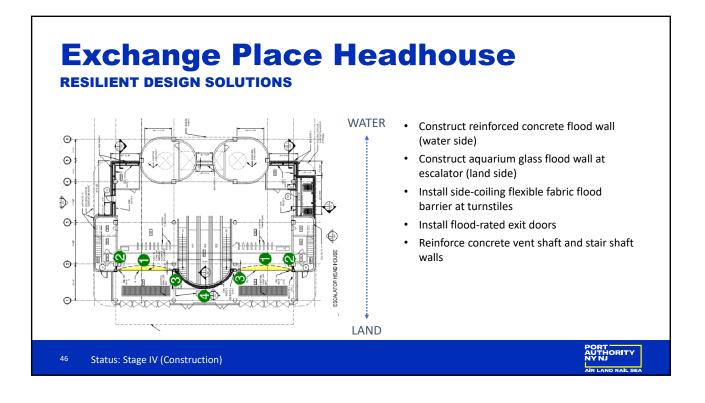
CRG PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

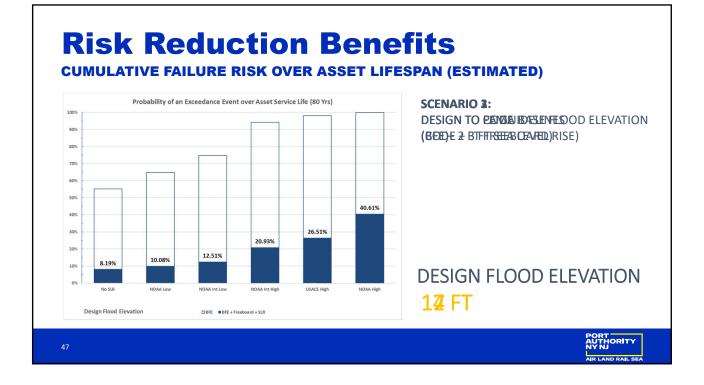
- Maximize the long-term safety, service, and resilience of the Port Authority's assets, now and in the future, as climate conditions change
- Science-based approach to managing climaterelated risks
- Clear methodology for factoring in sea level rise
- Flexibility to develop cost-effective design solutions
- Address the most likely hazards to impact the Port
 District

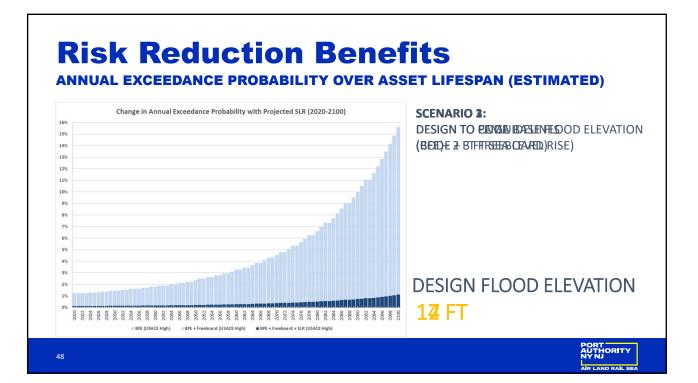


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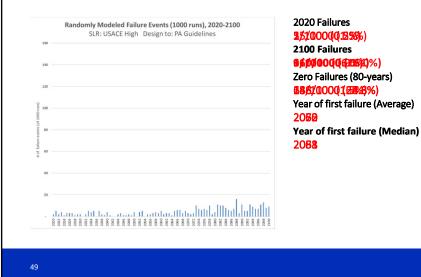






Risk Reduction Benefits

Randomly Modeled Failure Events (1000 runs)

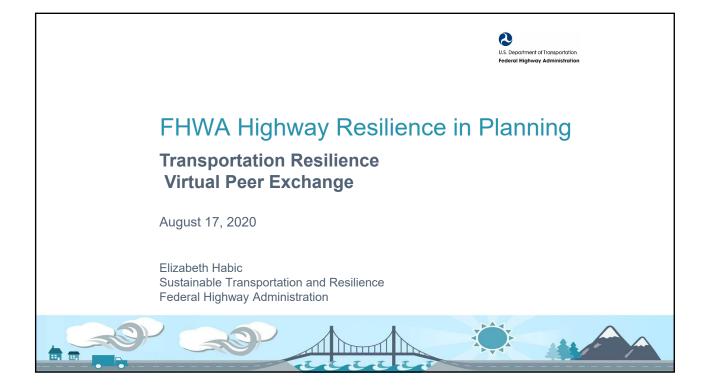


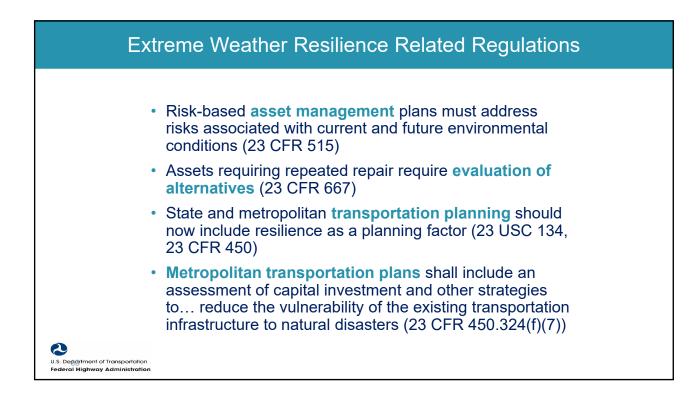
What's Next?

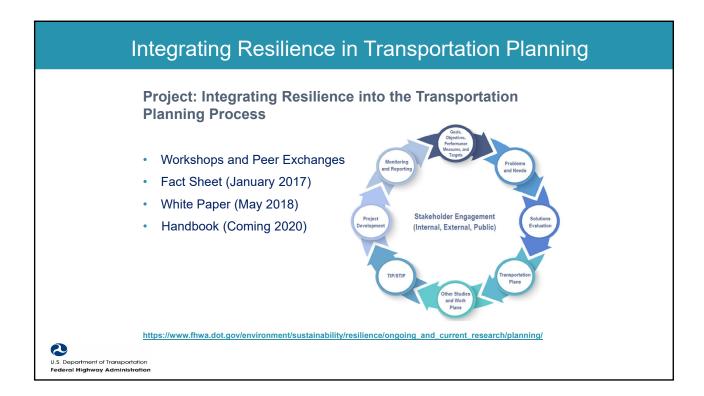
- Fall 2020: Minor CRG update to align with Envision (part of Sustainable Infrastructure Guidelines update)
- **2021:** Begin CRG update to introduce additional stressor types (e.g., extreme heat)
- **Ongoing:** Agency-wide Climate Risk Assessment to identify, characterize, and mitigate previously "undiscovered" climate risks
- **Ongoing:** Advance cross-departmental and interagency collaboration on climate-risk issues











What is the Handbook?



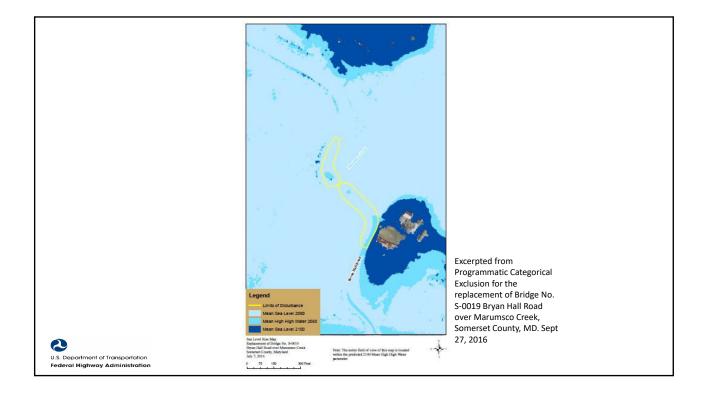
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U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

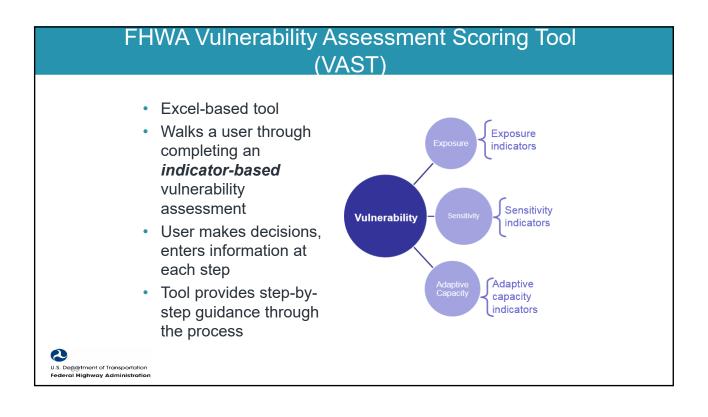
Resources include:

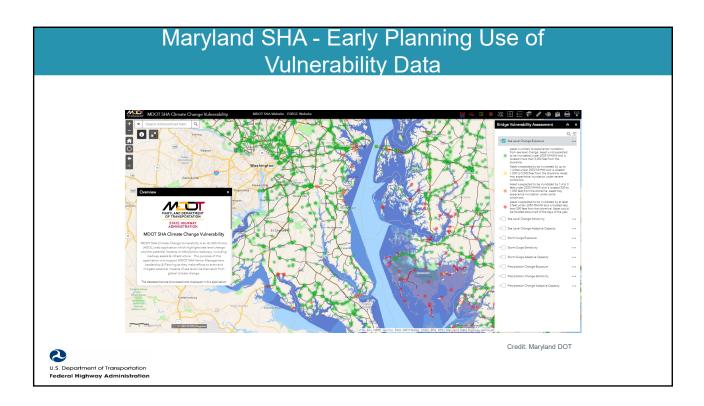
- A range of options for considering resilience throughout the transportation planning process.
- Information for every step in the planning process, including key resources.
- Real-world examples of how agencies are integrating resilience into transportation planning.



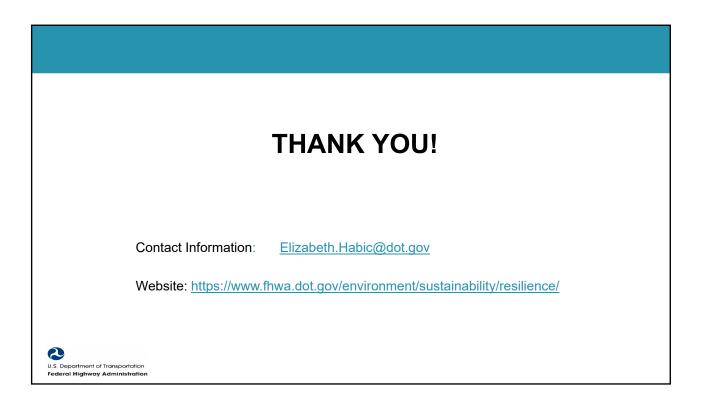


Climate Change Impact Areas
Is this Project within an area potentially affected by Sea Level Change? Yes Project must consider sea level change. ☑ Mean Sea Level 2050 ☑ Mean Sea Level 2100 See attached Sea Level Change Map, if applicable ☑ Mean High High Water 2050 ☑ Mean High High Water 2100 Is this a non-state Project located on State lands?
Is this project involving construction of a new road or bridge, or reconstructing an existing road or bridge due to a storm event? No
Is this project involving construction of a new building/facility or reconstructing an existing building/facility due to a storm event?
Notes: The hydraulics analysis determined that up to 100-year storm flooding events would not overtop the bridge. The roadway approaches to the bridge are being raised between 1 to 2.5 feet. Additional roadway improvements may be needed to address future flooding.











Assessing Vulnerability

- Criteria: SLOSH Category 2 + 3' (for sea level rise, wave action, freeboard)
- Approximately 3,500 floodvulnerable water ingress points to underground subway
- Also 10 subway yards, 34 power substations, 32 ventilation plants potentially vulnerable in Cat 2 storm



Underground

- 1. Keep water out!
- 2. Enhance pumping system
- Secondary protection for critical systems and facilities



FlexGate



Marine Door



Flood Logs



Underground

- 1. Keep water out!
- 2. Enhance pumping system
- Secondary protection for critical systems and facilities



Pump rooms in Montague and Clark St Tubes

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Above-Ground

1. Keep water out!

2. Where not feasible, preserve right-of-way and prioritize asset protection by criticality



Perimeter Flood Wall at 207 St Yard



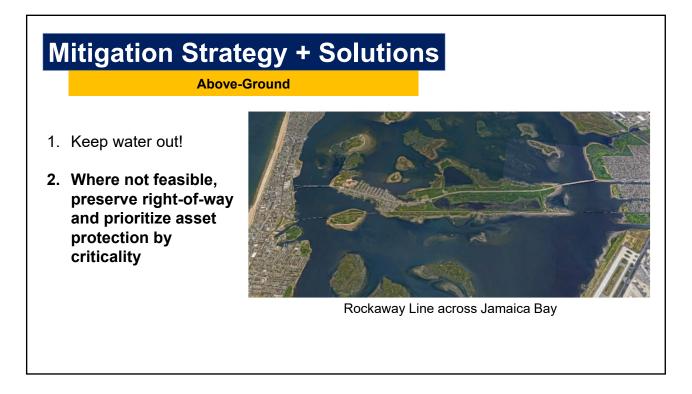
Above-Ground

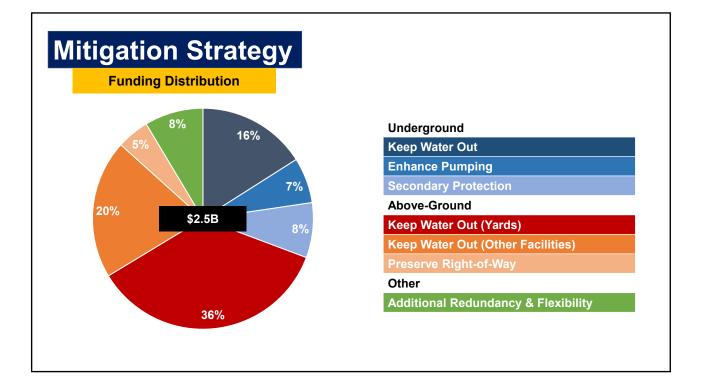
1. Keep water out!

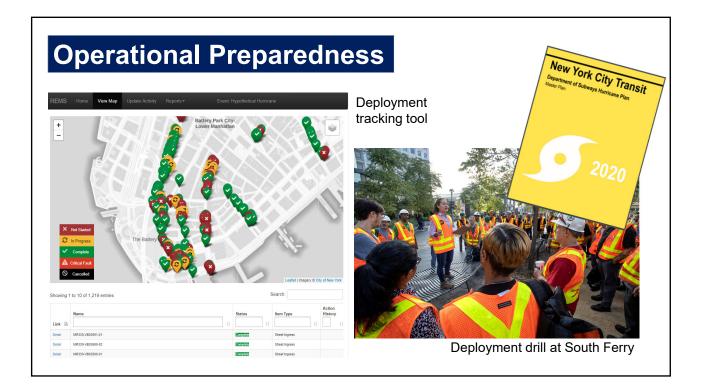
2. Where not feasible, preserve right-of-way and prioritize asset protection by criticality

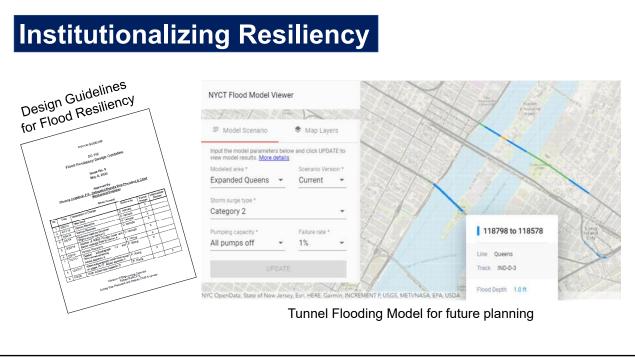


Elevated cable bridge at Coney Island Yard











Massport

Vulnerability Assessment

- Mod. THIRA framework to assess coastal flooding risk, across all business line assets
- Worst case approach Cat 2-3 storm at high tide with SLR + 3' of freeboard
- Scenarios for 2030 and 2070
- Expanding assessments for heat, wind and heavy precipitation events

B-C / ROI Methodologies

• No formal B-C/ROI calculation process

Project Design and Construction

- Adopted Flood-proofing Design Guide,
- Two DFEs (existing & new structures), strategies and performance standards

Asset Management

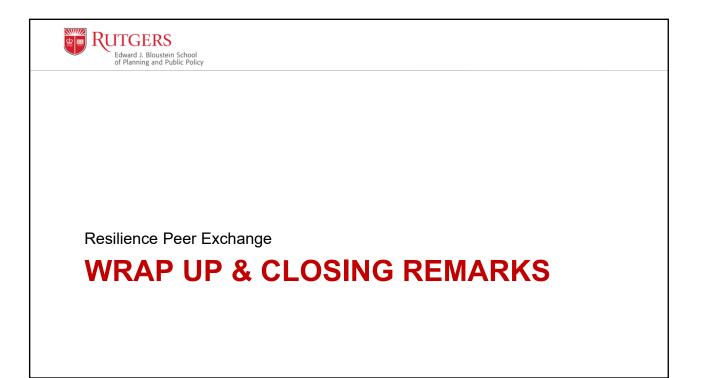
- Use ArcGIS mapping tool to "flag" vulnerable assets
- More comprehensive treatment in emerging enterprise-wide TAM system

Project Identification/Prioritization

- Developed 5-yr capital plan to address 2030 vulnerabilities
- Prioritized based on probability, consequence and depth of flooding
- Primarily hardening with temporary and permanent flood proofing

Other

- Developed flood operations plans
- Annual inspection program



FINDINGS

Each agency presentation provided insights into their approaches and methodologies for incorporating transportation resilience into capital planning. The Rutgers team reviewed the presentations and peer exchange notes and identified the following common trends and emerging best practices.

- Vulnerability Assessments: Multiple representatives emphasized the importance of conducting thorough vulnerability assessments to identify resilience needs and strategies. These assessments are often conducted at both system-wide and asset levels, considering various hazards and planning horizons.
- **Cost-Benefit Analysis:** Utilizing cost-benefit analysis to evaluate resilience strategies and prioritize projects can help agencies quantify and rank decisions. This helps organizations make informed decisions about resource allocations and project prioritization.
- Enhanced Asset Management and Inspection Procedures: Integrating resilience considerations into asset management processes is a common practice. This includes developing decision-support tools and incorporating resilience needs into maintenance schedules and useful life determinations. Implementing enhanced inspection procedures during construction and post-construction phases as part of an asset management program can ensure that resilience measures are properly deployed and maintained.
- **Resilience Design Standards:** Adopting resilience design and performance standards in project design is crucial for ensuring infrastructure can withstand extreme weather events particular to your location, such as flooding in coastal areas of New Jersey.
- Interagency Cooperation: Multiple representatives identified the value of coordinating resilience planning efforts with intergovernmental partners and considering interdependencies with other systems to ensure comprehensive resilience planning.
- **Training:** The need for training and workforce education to ensure preparedness and effective deployment of resilience measures was emphasized across organizations.
- Monitoring and Evaluation: Monitoring the performance of resilience measures and updating strategies based on observed outcomes was highlighted. This can allow agencies to enhance and update their plans based on real performance data over time.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion, the findings described above demonstrate some emerging common needs and best practices for transportation agencies in the Northeast region developing long-term capital plans that consider resilience and durability. This information can be used by regional transportation agencies to gauge their current planning programs. Additional stakeholder meetings and more feedback are necessary to generate an authoritative set of best practices, which is recommended for future research along this line of work.

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