# **STORMWATER RESILIENCY** IN THE BUILT COMMUNITY

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### WHAT IS RESILIENCY?

#### Webster's Dictionary:

- An ability to recover from or adjust easily to adversity or change



Image Source: https://www.ready.gov/floods



#### RESILIENCE

A long-term **process** that is a balancing act between risk and resources, that results in the means to be flexibly innovative in **preparing** for, **coping** with, **responding** to, **recovering** from, and **transforming** in anticipation of or in response to events.

- (Comfort et al. 2010)

## WHY?

- Stormwater is a leading and growing cause of water pollution
  - Urban stormwater is a leading source of impairment
    - 22,559 miles of impaired rivers and streams
    - 701,024 acres of impaired lakes
  - #1 cause of beach closures and advisory days in 2012



#### SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF UNKNOWNS



Future change in extreme precipitation by late 21<sup>st</sup> century (higher emissions)















Image Source: https://www.ready.gov/floods



# STEPS TO RESILIENCE



https://toolkit.climate.gov/steps-to-resilience/steps-resilience-overview



Designing and implementing transportation infrastructure that can withstand and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Incorporating climate projections into design, using adaptive design, enhancing resilience through maintenance and operations and applying nature-based solutions.

The process of identifying and analyzing the potential risks and impacts of climate change on transportation infrastructure and services. Identifying vulnerabilities, collecting climate data and projections, assessing risk and consequences, developing adaptation strategies and prioritizing actions.

> The process following extreme weather events and climate-related disaters to restore communities and transportation infrastructure.

Damage assessments, emergency repairs, recovery planning, temporary transportation solutions, long-term recovery, and risk reduction measures.





CLIMATE IMPACTS ON WATER RESOURCES



#### GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE BUILDS RESILIENCY



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# WE WANT TO PRACTICE CLIMATE RESILIENCE BUT DON'T KNOW HOW.....

- Limited regulation
- Limited funding
- Added cost to implement resilience
- Uncertainty
- Data Availability/Source Reliability/Conflict
- Carrot & Stick issue
- Limited standardization, performance metrics
- Governance/Organizational structure
- Transformation
- Scale
- Agency Silos
- Transition from planning to implementation

#### HOW TO ESTIMATE?

- Options
  - Historic Events
  - Theoretical Events





# MODELING

- Historic Events
- Theoretical Events



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# MODELING

- Can be easy to modify
- Use to predict impacts







# MODELING

- Not only for existing infrastructure
- Various scenarios







# Verify Planning Scenarios

- Models developed years ago
- Verification of plans

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#### PLAN FOR FUTURE

Extreme event protection









#### WHAT TO DO?

- Define boundaries
- Assess and reduce risk
- Plan for and practice responding to emergencies
- Monitor systems











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