

Inconvenient Truths

A Local Perspective

Reality A



Reality A2



Reality B – Kayak and Wind-surfer racks



Reality B2



Reality B Too



Acting Locally

We will feel the impacts of climate change long before our most aggressive prevention and remediation efforts begin to contain and reverse climate change.

How many of your towns are currently:

- identifying exposures?
- planning responsive strategies?

How do we respond to impacts?

- Sustain the status quo in response to forces of change.
- Adapt to new realities when the status quo is no longer sustainable.

Reminder: not all changes will be negative, but adaptation to most will benefit from planning.

Do we sustain, or adapt?



Sustain and Adapt



Sustain



Adapt



Government's Role

- **Catalyst**

**Not the sole actor,
...but a critical facilitator.**

- **Coordinator**

**Organizing public and private sector
entities into a coherent, combined
response.**

First Steps

- Organize at all levels: state, regional, municipal
- Organize Inter-disciplinary cooperation
- Conduct Risk Assessment
- Measure and Communicate
- Plan data driven Contingent Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies based on Risk Assessment.

First Steps

Organize at all levels

- State <>Regional <>Municipal

State

Funding

Regulation

Municipal

Where the rubber meets the road.

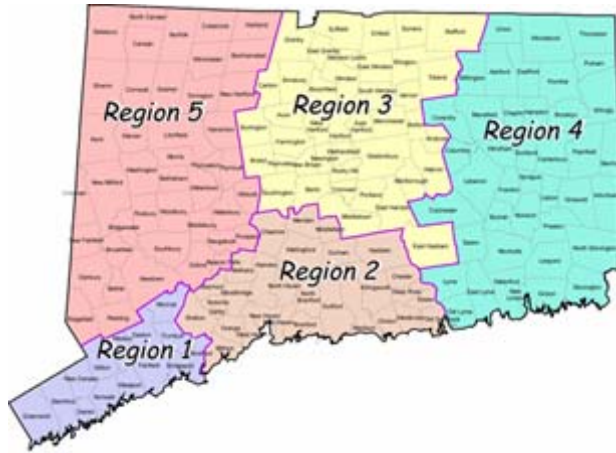
Regional

The 'Missing Link'.

Allocates State resources to the Municipal level.

Leverages local resources through cooperative efforts.

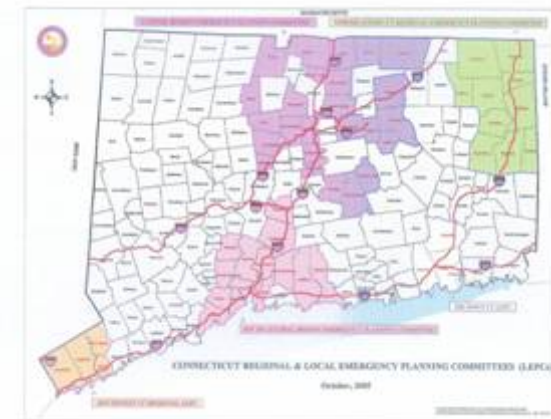
Which Regional Structure?



Planning Regions in Connecticut



5 Transportation Investment Areas



First Steps

Organize inter-disciplinary at each level

- Environmental
- Economic
- Fiscal/Risk Management (Funding, Insurance)
- Land Use (PZC) and Building Code
- Public Health and Safety (Health, Police, Fire)
- Waste management / sewage
- Transportation
- Education

First Steps

- **Conduct Risk Assessment**
 - Define Exposures and Impacts
 - ***Define Interdependencies***
 - Assign Values and Probabilities
 - Establish Priorities

First Steps

Measure and Communicate

- **Define metrics** (How does Climate Change relate to my Community in measurable terms?)
- **Define baselines** (Avg. temps., rainfall, sea level, economic and environmental characteristics)
- **Measure progression over time and compare to expectations of Climate Change.**
- **Communicate regularly to stakeholders.**

All High Tides (Sea Level Rise) are not created equal

High Tide (ft.)

Tidal Difference Factor
(1) Stonington as baseline

1 Stonington

2 Guilford

3 New Haven

4 Milford

5 Norwalk

Guilford

New Haven

Milford

Norwalk

	1 Stonington	2 Guilford	3 New Haven	4 Milford	5 Norwalk	Guilford	New Haven	Milford	Norwalk
Avg>	2.86	5.48	6.28	6.72	7.19	1.94	2.22	2.38	2.55
Max>	4.08	6.76	8.02	8.53	8.88	2.43	2.76	3.01	3.19
Min>	1.82	4.37	4.85	5.24	5.74	1.64	1.89	2.03	2.16

- Note: **Tidal difference factors** are calculated from underlying detail and not from summary data to the left.
- Note: Source of tidal height data: Dean Pentcheff, Biological Sciences, University of South Carolina. Tide Current Predictor, <http://tbone.biol.sc.edu/tide>

First Steps

Plan

Data-Driven

Contingent

Sustainability and Adaptation
Strategies based on

Risk Assessment

Next Steps

- Refine and integrate Climate Change planning into normal management processes.
- Enhance and refocus resources as monitoring systems clarify trends.
- Evolve long term strategies for sustainable community management.

A Climate Change Program for Guilford

1. Policy Statement on Climate Change
2. Clean Energy Initiative – 20% by 2010
3. Specific Planning Initiatives
4. Regional Engagement through South Central Region Council Of Governments
5. Emergency preparedness

With special appreciation to presenters
and conveners of Guilford's 2004/11/19

Climate Change Workshop:

- Tundi Agardy
- Lynne Carter
- John Cusack
- Leslie Kane
- David Knowles
- George Kral
- Michael Ludwig
- Dwight Merriam
- Lynn Stoddard
- Martin Whittaker
- Pat Widlitz
- Gary Yohe

- Comments or questions regarding this presentation may be directed to:

Sidney F. Gale

Integrated Management Controls, LLC

250 Flag Marsh Road

Guilford, CT 06437

203 453 6100

sfgale@imcontrols.com