



## Project Overview

# **SMART GROWTH AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE WASHINGTON REGION**

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# CLIMATE RISKS

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- ✘ Coastal risks related to sea level rise and storm surge
- ✘ Increased temperature, more frequent heat waves
- ✘ Increased extreme weather events and precipitation



# ADDRESSING CLIMATE RISKS

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- ✘ **Mitigation** = implement cost effective strategies to reduce emissions
  - + Ex. Implementing building efficiency strategies/programs
- ✘ **Adaptation** = prepare for unavoidable impacts of climate change
  - + Ex. Reduce vulnerability to extreme heat events by opening cooling centers during heat waves
- ✘ **“Win-Win” Strategies** = adaptation steps that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy.
  - + Ex. Increasing urban forest canopy can provide shade to decrease the urban heat island effect (adaptation) and reduce energy demand to cool buildings (mitigation).



# SECTOR AND COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

- ✘ *Building sector - Intergovernmental Green Building Group*
- ✘ *Transportation - one of TPB technical committees*
- ✘ *Health - Health Officials Committee*
- ✘ *Emergency management - Emergency Managers Committee*
- ✘ *Water – Water Resources Technical Committee*
- ✘ *Land use – Planning Directors Committee*



# NOAA TRAINING MARCH 3, 2011

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- ✘ Using NOAA tools learn how to assess your community's vulnerability to climate hazards, based on the example of coastal risks
- ✘ Identify key issues and impacts associated with current and future coastal hazard risks
- ✘ Identify strategic "win-win" approaches for reducing risks and vulnerabilities while also addressing other community issues.
- ✘ Presentation of projects underway in the Washington region

# QUESTIONS?

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