# SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE IN TRANSPORTATION

### *February 25, 2020*



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# Why Sustainability and Resilience?

- » Extreme weather, temperature, sea levels on the rise
- » U.S. Exposure to Climate Change Risk
  - Up to 10% of GDP (National Bureau of Economic Research)
  - \$26 billion in property losses (EPA)
  - 910 million lost labor hours/ year (EPA)



# Why Sustainability and Resilience?

- » Climate Change in Illinois
  - Stagnant air worsens urban air quality
  - Increased urban heat island effect
  - 10x increase in dangerous heat days
  - 40% increase in drought severity index
  - 380,000 people at elevated risk of inland flooding
  - 10% increase in frequency of heavy downpours



## Why Sustainability and Resilience?

- » Sustainability leaders' stocks
   25% higher (Goldman Sachs)
- \$1 spent on Resilience saves
   \$4-\$6 in future costs (National Institute of Building Sciences)
- » Associates prefer **Sustainable/ Resilient** companies, are more productive and deliver higher quality work (University of Chicago)





# What is Sustainability?

- » Common Definitions:
  - Meet the needs of the present w/o compromising ability of future generations (World Commission on Environment and Development)
  - Strike long-term balance between environmental quality, quality of life and economic prosperity
- » What is your definition?



## What is Resilience?

- The ability to absorb and quickly recover from events (NCHRP)
- » The ability to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse events (AASHTO, NAS)
- » Just events? Or should we consider a wider range of time-periods?



# Sustainability & Transportation

- » 3<sup>rd</sup> party standards for sustainability in planning, design, delivery & O&M infrastructure
- » INVEST
  - FHWA
  - Transportation Agencies (DOTs, MPOs, Authorities)
    - Illinois Tollway (\$200M 10-year benefit from sustainable materials)
  - Program-level evaluation
- » ENVISION

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- ACEC, ASCE & APWA
- Public & Private Org's
- Project-level only





LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

IMPROVED: Conventional performance that slightly exceeds regulatory requirements

**ENHANCED:** On the right track with superior performance within reach

SUPERIOR: Remarkable performance that is noteworthy but not yet conserving

**CONSERVING:** Zero negative impacts

**RESTORATIVE:** Restoration of resources, ecological, economic and social systems

# **Resilience & Transportation**

- » FHWA Order 5520 (2014)
  - "integrate...climate change and ...adaptation into planning, operations, policies and programs...."
  - "[Encourage] consideration of...resiliency in...risk-based asset management plans...."
    - Based on EO 13514, rescinded by current administration
- » FAST Act (2015)
  - Requires agencies to take resilience into consideration during the transportation planning process (e.g. LRTP)





## **Transportation Resilience Projects**

- FHWA is piloting resilience solutions in partnership with DOTs and MPOs
  - Vulnerability assessments
  - Adaptation options
  - Nature-based resilience
  - Asset management
  - Durability to extreme weather



## **Resilience & Transportation**

- » AASHTO Resiliency Case Studies (2018)
  - Interviews of 8 DOTs (CA, CO, FL, GA, LA, OK, NC, VT) after extreme weather events (Storms, Flooding, Landslides, etc.)
  - Selected Lessons Learned
    - Understand full range of hazards & ID vulnerable assets
    - Rank the most vulnerable assets to establish priorities
    - When decision making data does not exists, create it
    - Integrate climate change into planning and design guidance
    - Achieve leadership support
    - Establish regional coordination

## **Resilience Assessment Concepts**



## **Resilience Assessment Concepts**



## **Resilience Assessment**

- » Vulnerability Assessment & Adaptation Framework (FHWA, 2017)
  - Systems-level
  - Strategies:
    - Manage & Maintain
    - Increase Redundancy
    - Protect or Harden
    - Accommodate
    - Relocate

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# Resilience in Long Range Transportation Planning



LIKELIHOOD



% probability of occurrence of a Category 3 storm w/in 20 years (5-point scale)

TODAY > 2030 > 2045

Certainty of climate projection (High, Medium, Low)

Total centerline miles affected by storm surge (5-point scale)

Segment is an evacuation route, urban street, or rural road (High Medium, Low)

Miles of detour impact (Low, Medium, High)

WEIGHTED CONSEQUENCE						
	WEIGHTED LIKELIHOOD	Negligible (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Catastrophic (5)
	Very Unlikely (1)	LOW (1)	LOW (2)	LOW (3)	LOW (4)	LOW (5)
	Unlikely (2)	LOW (2)	LOW (4)	MODERATE (6)	MODERATE (8)	MODERATE (10)
	As likely as not(3)	LOW (3)	MODERATE (6)	MODERATE (9)	HIGH (12)	HIGH (15)
	Likely (4)	LOW (4)	MODERATE (8)	HIGH (12)	HIGH (16)	EXTREME (20)
	Very Likely (5)	LOW (5)	MODERATE (10)	HIGH (15)	EXTREME (20)	EXTREME (25)

A D	ΑΡΤΙΥΕ	CAPACITY		
R I S K	High (1)	Medium (2)	Low (3)	
Low (5)	LOW (5)	LOW (10)	LOW (15)	
Moderate (10)	LOW (10)	MODERATE (20)	MODERATE (30)	
High (15)	LOW (15)	MODERATE (30)	MODERATE (45)	
Extreme (20)	MODERATE (20)	MODERATE (40)	HIGH (60)	
Extreme (25)	MODERATE (25)	HIGH (50)	HIGH (75)	









### Historic 2013 Colorado Floods - US 34



### Historic 2013 Colorado Floods - US 34

## Colorado Response to 2014 Floods

- » US 34 PEL Resiliency Report
  - Natural and manmade threats
  - Operational Resiliency



## Transportation Sustainability Projects

- » City and County of Denver (CCD)
  - Executive Order on Sustainability (2013)

#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 123**

TO: All Agencies Under the Mayor

FROM: Michael B. Hancock, Mayor

DATE: March 11, 2013

SUBJECT: Office of Sustainability and Citywide Sustainability Policy

**PURPOSE:** This Executive Order creates the Office of Sustainability and establishes it as the successor to the Greenprint Denver Office. This Executive Order also establishes key sustainability policies for the City and County of Denver. Executive Order 123 and Memoranda A through G dated December 17, 2010 are hereby canceled and superseded by this Executive Order 123 and Memoranda A-G dated March 11, 2013.

The applicable authority relevant to the provisions and requirements of this Executive Order 123 is found in Section 2.2.10 of the 2002 Revised Charter.

This Executive Order is divided into the following chapters and subjects:

Chapter 1 – Office of Sustainability Chapter 2 – High Performing Green Buildings Chapter 3 – Green Fleet Program Chapter 4 – Electric Vehicle Readiness Chapter 5– Materials and Waste Management Chapter 6 – Water Conservation Chapter 7 – Water Quality Chapter 8 – City Tree Preservation Chapter 9- Local Food Chapter 10 – Environmental Management System Policy Chapter 11 – City Land Use Policies Chapter 12 - Climate Resilient Denver Chapter 13– Memorandum Attachments

Chapter 1 - Office of Sustainability

The Office of Sustainability is hereby established. The Office of Sustainability is the successor to the Greenprint Denver Office. Sustainability is an end result and a process of planning and operating that provides for the needs of our people and businesses today without impairing our ability to continue providing for their needs in the future. The City's central purpose in pursuing sustainability is to conduct City communications, business transactions and governance in ways that will help to make the City a prosperous, world class community where people and nature thrive by providing for the needs of current residents and businesses while preserving the City's ability to do the same for residents and businesses in the future. The mission of the Office of Sustainability is to provide leadership, guidance, and coordination to city agencies to implement



### CCD – 33<sup>rd</sup> & Festival Project

Design Criteria for Rebuilding after Hurricane Michael 2 meter (6.5 ft) rise in SLR by 2100 Elimination of all standing water within 72 hours 100-year storm event

Tyndall Air Force Base

# Tampa Vulnerability



NEWS

Tampa Bay's heat index hit 101 degrees. It could have been worse. No, really.



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# **TPA Resilience**

- » Identify TPA assets and operations that are susceptible to climate stressors
- » Raise awareness of staff and engage them in identifying and evaluating vulnerabilities
- Provide a roadmap for adaptative management of highly vulnerable assets and operations







Denver International Airport (DEN) Pena Boulevard Design-Build Denver, Colorado

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### 5.6 SUSTAINABILITY

DEN emphasizes a sustainable community and has adopted CCD *Executive Order 123* (provided in the Reference Documents), which includes sustainable practices. The Contractor shall comply with CCD *Executive Order 123* and incorporate sustainable principles and BMPs in the Design and Construction of the Project.

The Contractor shall implement the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure Envision selfassessment and third-party Project verification to achieve the highest award level practicable. At a minimum, the Project shall achieve an Envision Silver Sustainability Award. The Contractor shall designate an Envision-certified sustainability lead with previous experience completing at least one Envision or similar sustainability rating on a similar transportation Project. The Contractor's sustainability lead shall coordinate throughout the Design and Construction, the Project's sustainability self-assessment documentation with DEN. Submit a draft self-assessment to DEN for Acceptance with the Final Design Documents.

GT Holding Lot facilities shall be Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) certified, as required in Section 16, GT Holding Lot.

### Denver International Airport (DEN) Pena Boulevard Design-Build

## **ENVISION Credits**

- » Silver 30% of applicable points
- » Quality of Life
  - Improve Construction Safety
  - Minimize Construction Impacts
- » Leadership

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- Provide Effective Leadership
- Foster Collaboration and Teamwork
- » Resource Allocation
  - Use Recycled Materials
  - Use Renewable Energy

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Envision Organization and Scoring
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#### GLOSSARY

 RESOURCE ALLOCATION

 RA1.1
 Support Sustainable Procurement Practices

 RA1.2
 Use Recycled Materials

LD1.2 Foster Collaboration & Teamwork

LD2.2 Plan for Sustainable Communities LD2.3 Plan for Long-Term Monitoring & Maintenance

LD3.2 Develop Local Skills & Capabilities

LD1.4 Pursue Byproduct Synergies

LD2.4 Plan for End of Life

LD1.3 Provide for Stakeholder Involvement

LD2.1 Establish a Sustainability Management Plan

LD3.1 Stimulate Economic Prosperity & Development

LD3.3 Conduct a Life-Cycle Economic Evaluation

LD0.0 Innovate or Exceed Credit Requirements

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## **ENVISION Credits**

- » Natural World
  - Maintain Floodplain Function
  - Reduce Pesticide & Fertilizer Impacts
- » Climate and Resilience
  - Evaluate Risk & Resilience
  - Assess Climate Change Vulnerability

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GLOSSARY

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**Pearl Multi-Way Boulevard** Boulder, Colorado

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Pearl Multi-Way Boulevard: *Recycling of Removed Materials* 



Pearl Multi-Way Boulevard: Permeable Brick Paver System



Pearl Multi-Way Boulevard: *Silva Cells under Tree Strip* 

# **Funding Sources**

» FHWA

 New legislation will make Resilience eligible for traditional funds

» FEMA

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- Building Resilience into our Cities (BRIC) funds pre-disaster projects
- » Community Development Block Grants (CDBGs)
- » Americas Transportation Infrastructure Act (ATIA) (Senate and House versions) \$9.7B in resilience related Programs



# Funding

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### A Cultural Shift is Occurring

- » FEMA is incurring costs of \$11B per year for storm recovery
- » FHWA is spending an additional \$1B per year in Emergency Relief Funding
- » FEMA/US HUD announced a separate grant program where \$8B was awarded for Storm Mitigation – Resiliency (Florida will be awarded \$635M of this amount)
- » Efficient use of these funds is imperative
- » Education and resources are lacking



# Summary

### » Trends

- FHWA likely to will require consideration of sustainability and resilience in all projects (Directive 5520)
- Empowers each state to figure out how to implement
- FHWA endorses a collaboration approach and peer to peer outreach

### » Outlook

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 Sustainability and Resilience will change the way we work on infrastructure for the rest of our careers





# THANK YOU!



