

Maryland's Climate Adaptation Framework

**A Briefing & Exchange with Members of the
Maryland Planning Commissioners Association**

**Presented by Members of the
Adaptation and Resilience Working Group of the
Maryland Commission on Climate Change**

November 9, 2020

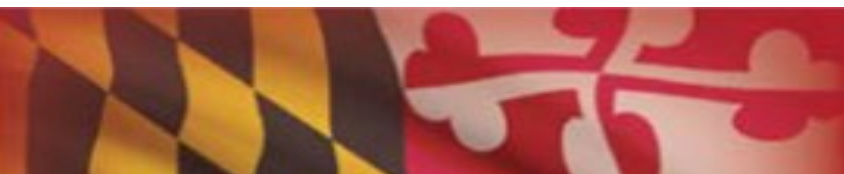
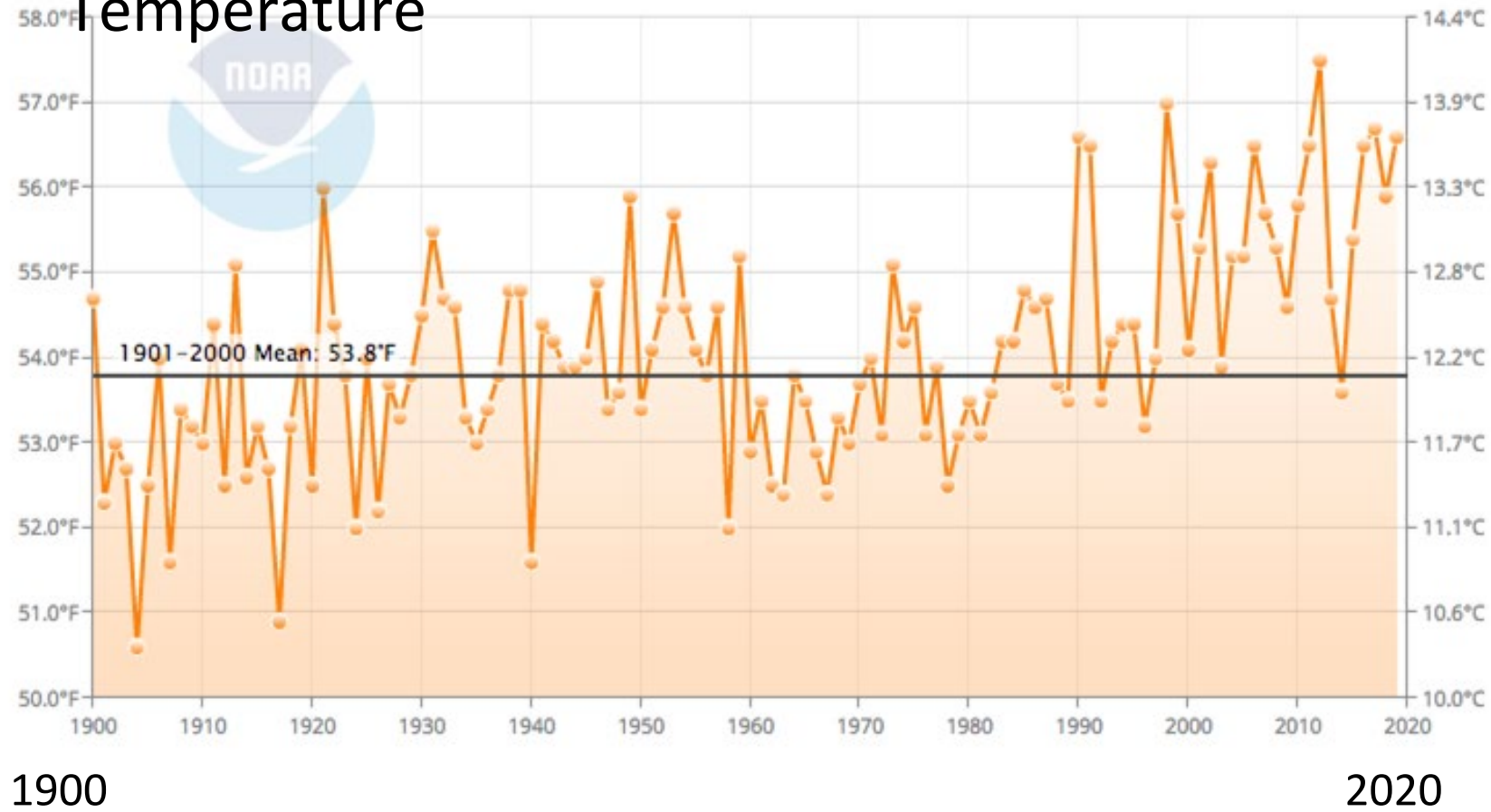
Presentation Overview

- Review of climate trends
- Climate adaptation strategy background and introduction to Adaptation Framework project
- Review of how local government adaptation is being incorporated into the Framework
- Audience recommendations and “discussion” in chat box

Climate Trends are Being Observed

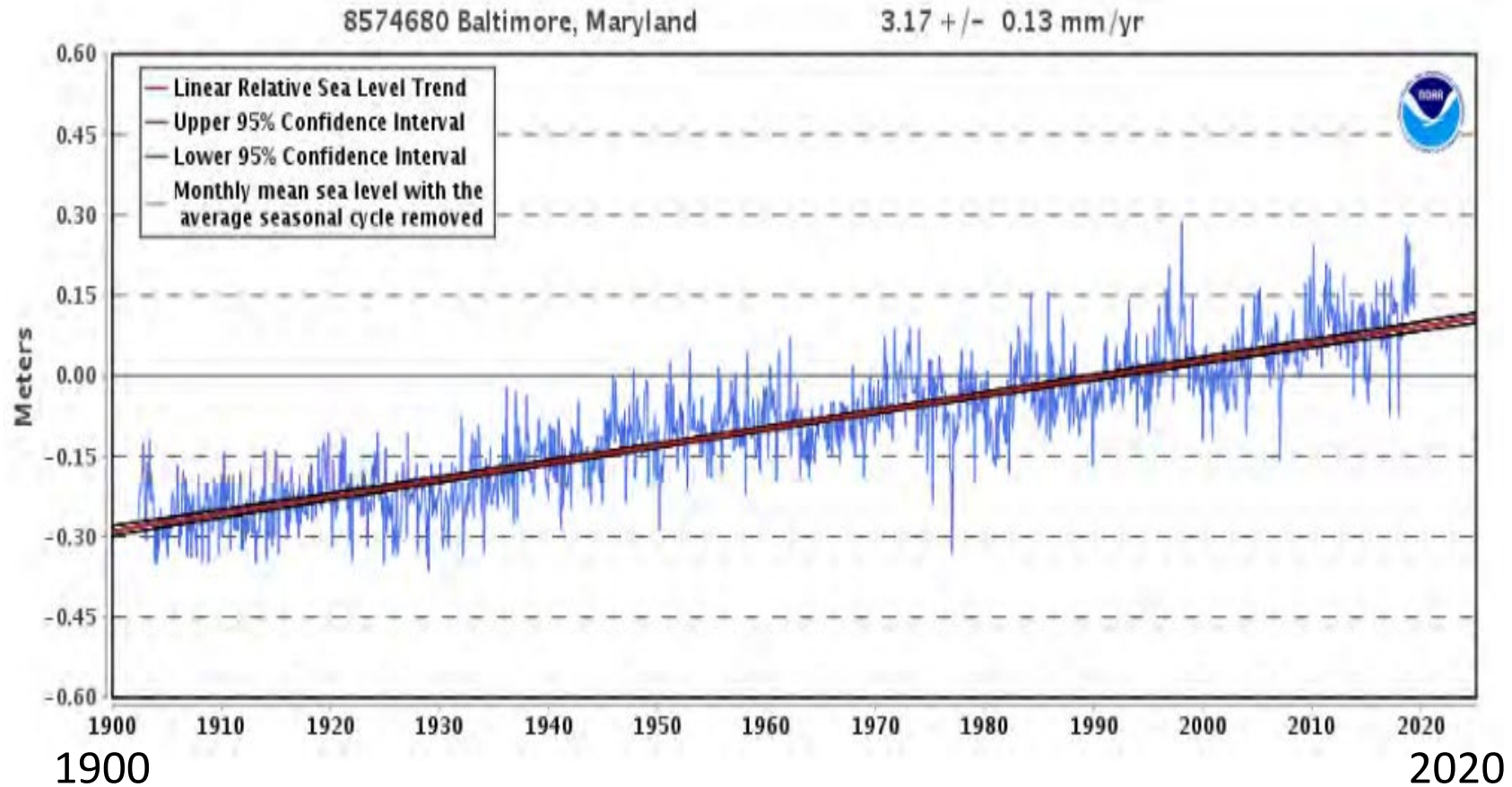
Maryland Annual Average

Temperature



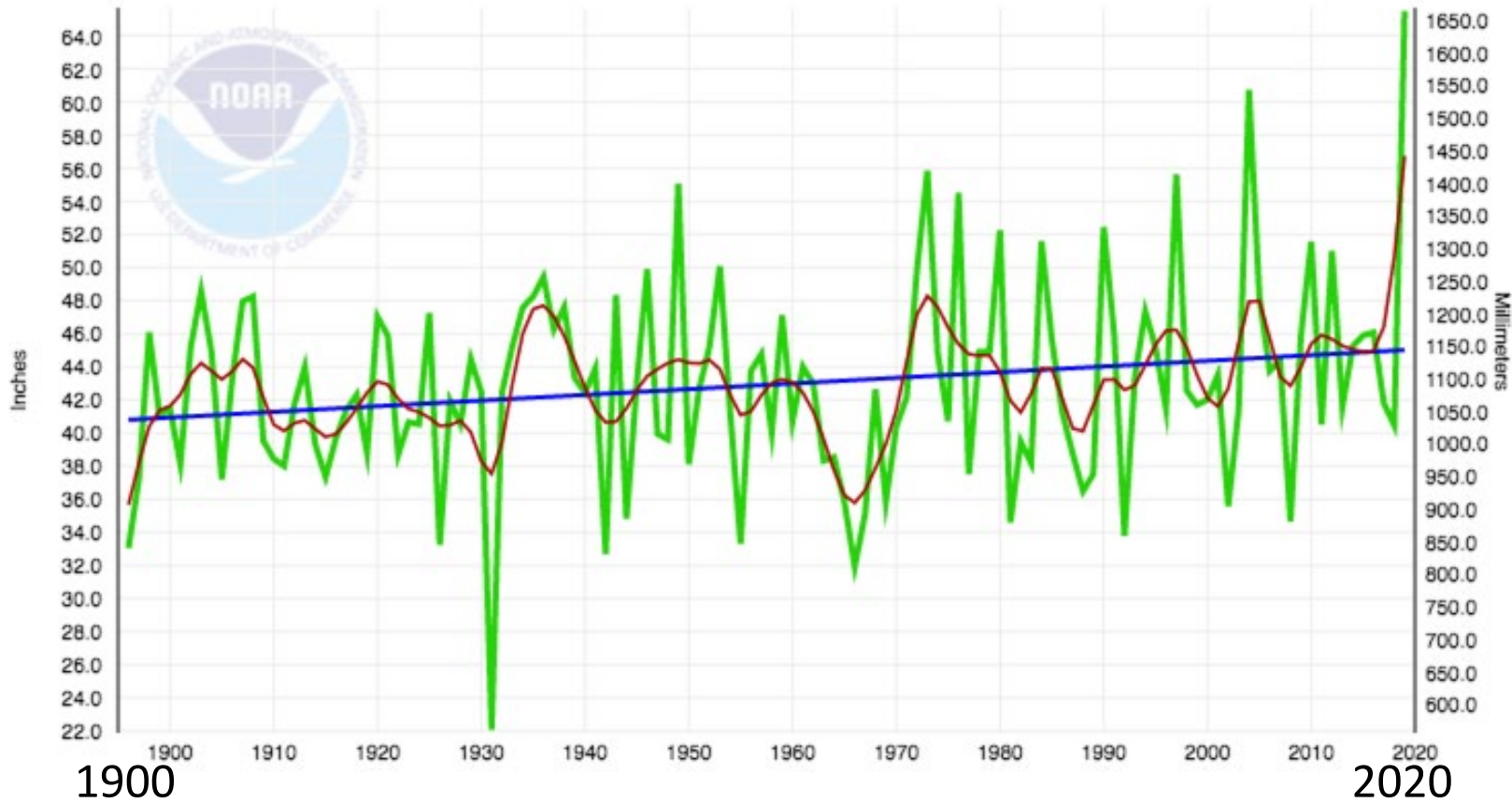
Climate Trends are Being Observed

Baltimore Sea Level Rise



Climate Trends are Being Observed

Maryland Annual Rainfall



Management Responses to Climate Trends

- **Mitigation: (Manage the Causes)**

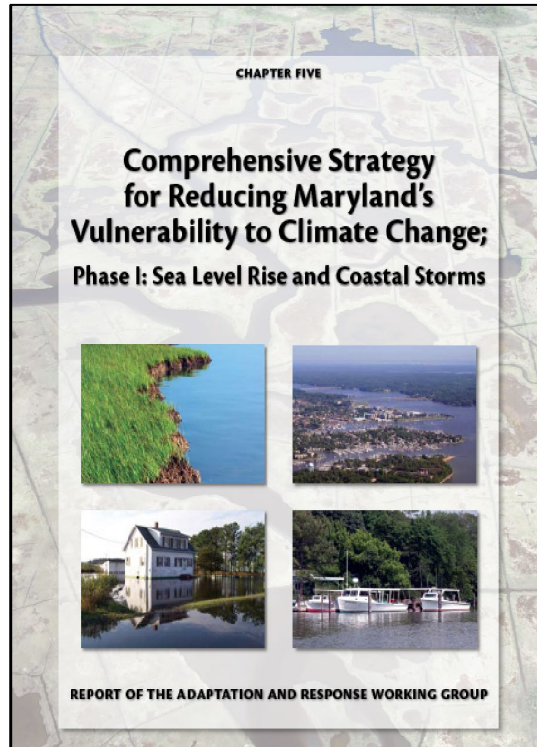
Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions & Sequester GHG

- **Adaptation: (Manage the Effects)**

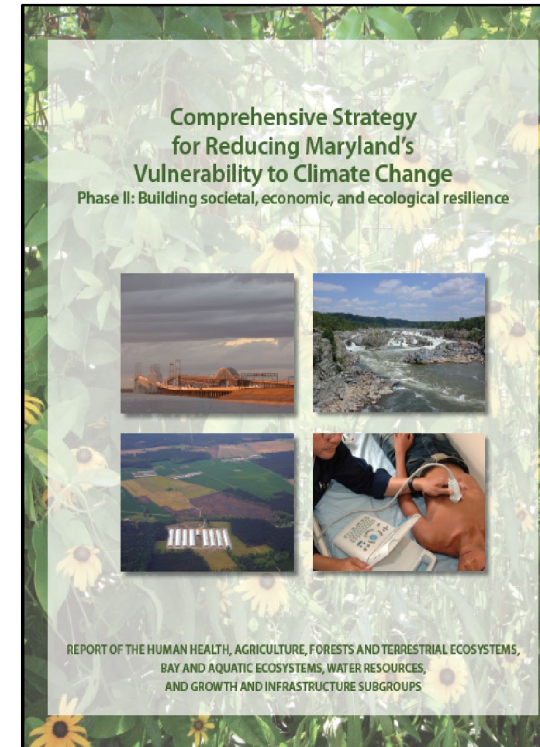
Anticipate the adverse effects of climate trends and take appropriate action to prevent or minimize the damage they can cause

Climate Adaptation Strategy Background

- 2008 & 2011: Maryland Climate Commission adopted a “Comprehensive Strategy to Reduce Maryland’s Vulnerability to Climate Change”



2008 Phase I: Sea Level Rise and Coastal Storms

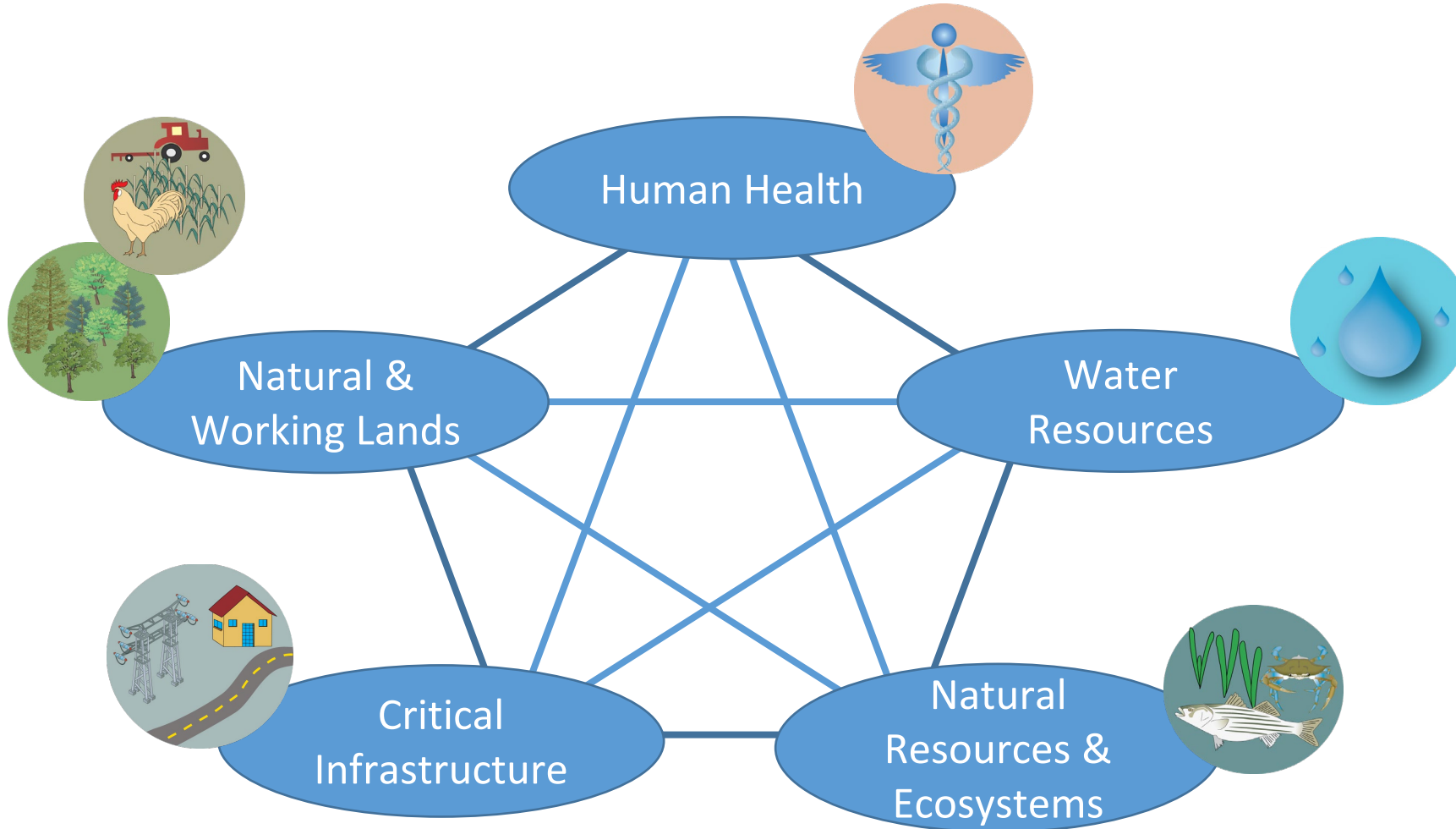


2011 Phase II: Building Societal, Economic and Ecological Resilience

Climate Adaptation Strategy Background

- 2018 Progress Evaluation
 - Outcome: Progress was mixed and many key players were no longer aware of the Climate Adaptation Strategies
- 2019 Options for Re-Invigorating the Strategy are Assessed
 - Outcome: Climate Commission directed the Adaptation Workgroup to “develop a framework for guiding and prioritizing action over the next 10 years, specifically in vulnerable and under-served communities.” – *2019 MCCC Annual Report*
- 2020 Climate Adaptation Framework is Taking Shape

Climate Adaptation Framework Taking Shape



5 Key Sectors

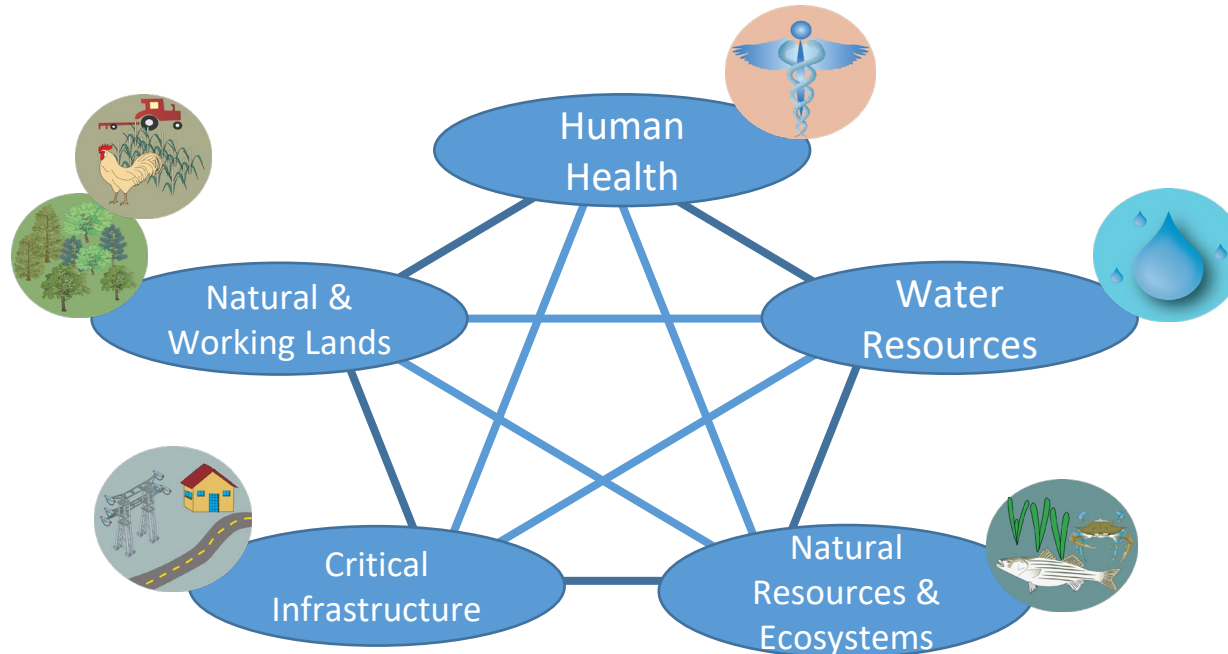


Environmental Justice & Equity

Resilience-Building-Jobs & Funding

Local Government & State Service Delivery

3 Overlapping
Focus Areas



Adaptation Framework Development Timeline & Outcomes

- Spring 2020 - Spring 2021
 - Framework development process
- Framework Project Outcomes
 - Product: Documentation of *Maryland's Climate Adaptation and Resilience Framework 2020-2030: A Roadmap for Action*
 - Review and direction on future steps from Climate Commission leadership.

What will the Framework Include?

- An Inventory of Critical Issues that Need Action
 - Driven by Climate Trend Vulnerabilities and Opportunities
 - Identifying Players, Current Status and Future Directions
- Relationship Coordination Among Sectors
 - Clarity of Roles and Leadership on Critical Issues
 - Coordination and Operations Systems
- Goals & High-Level Strategies for 3 Main Audiences:
 - State Governments
 - Local Governments
 - Individual stakeholders

Framework Assurances for Action

- Identifying Key Actions & Strategic Relationships
 - Actions for 5 Sectors
 - Accounting for all 3 Focus Areas
 - Attentive to all 3 Audiences
 - Making Connections between existing processes and plans
- Governance Systems for Sustaining Action
 - Accountability oversight by MCCC and other Convening Bodies
 - Key Progress Indicator Tracking System

“Local Government & State Service Delivery” Focus Area

- Workgroup review of existing state plans
 - Goals, strategies, key milestones
- Targeted outreach to local government
- Tell us about obstacles, gaps
- Existing tools
- Integrate adaptation into local operation practices

Build on Existing Planning & Management Systems/Processes

- Examples of Valuable Existing Systems
 - Comprehensive Land Use planning
 - Water & Sewer Planning
 - Zoning planning & decision processes
 - State & Local Hazard Mitigation Planning
 - Local Floodplain Management Programs
 - Local Plumbing and Building Code Programs
 - Local Cooperative Extension Service
 - Public and Private social service organizations
 - Emergency Operations Plans and First Responders
 - Local Health Departments, Surveillance and Coordination Systems

Please
Offer your
Suggestions in the
Chat Box

Example: The Local Government & State Service Delivery Focus Area

- Local Governments are uniquely positioned to:
 - Plan and implement ways to avoid or mitigate impacts
 - Respond to and recover from climate trend impacts
 - Utilize State services/resources



Example (Con't): Consider Water Supply & Local Government

- Planning - Plan to Avoid & Minimize Impacts
 - Water Supply - Availability
 - Water Supply - Source Protection
- Response & Recovery
 - Droughts and Floods
- State Services & Resources

Sample Key Local Government Issues by Sector

- Human Health
 - Heat Stress
 - Water-borne disease
 - Extreme Events & Aftermath
 - Mental Health and Well-being
- Water: Supply, Quality and Hazards
 - Sustainable water availability
 - Source water protection
 - Flooding of various types

Please
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Suggestions in the
Q&A Box

Sample Key Local Government Issues by Sector (Con't)

- Critical Infrastructure
 - Transportation
 - Emergency Services Facilities
 - Continuity of Communications
 - Water Supply and Sewage Treatment
- Natural and Working Lands
 - Anticipate and Manage Water Supply Competition
 - Protect Natural & Working Lands that provide water supply & flood management benefits
 - Foster Resilient Rural Economies

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Sample Key Local Government Issues by Sector (Con't)

- Natural Resources and Ecosystems
 - Protect aquatic resources that support local community heritage and economies
 - Identify way for local resilience-building projects to also benefit natural ecosystems
 - Identify and protect your local community “canary in the coal mine”

Please
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Suggestions in the
Q&A Box

Thank You!

Questions? Suggestions?

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