



# SB 379: Climate Adaptation in General Plans

Presentation for Meeting of the Gateway Cities Planning Directors

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# What is CivicSpark ?

A Governor's fellowship program dedicated to building capacity for local governments to address climate change in California.



# Fellowship Projects

*City of Long Beach*



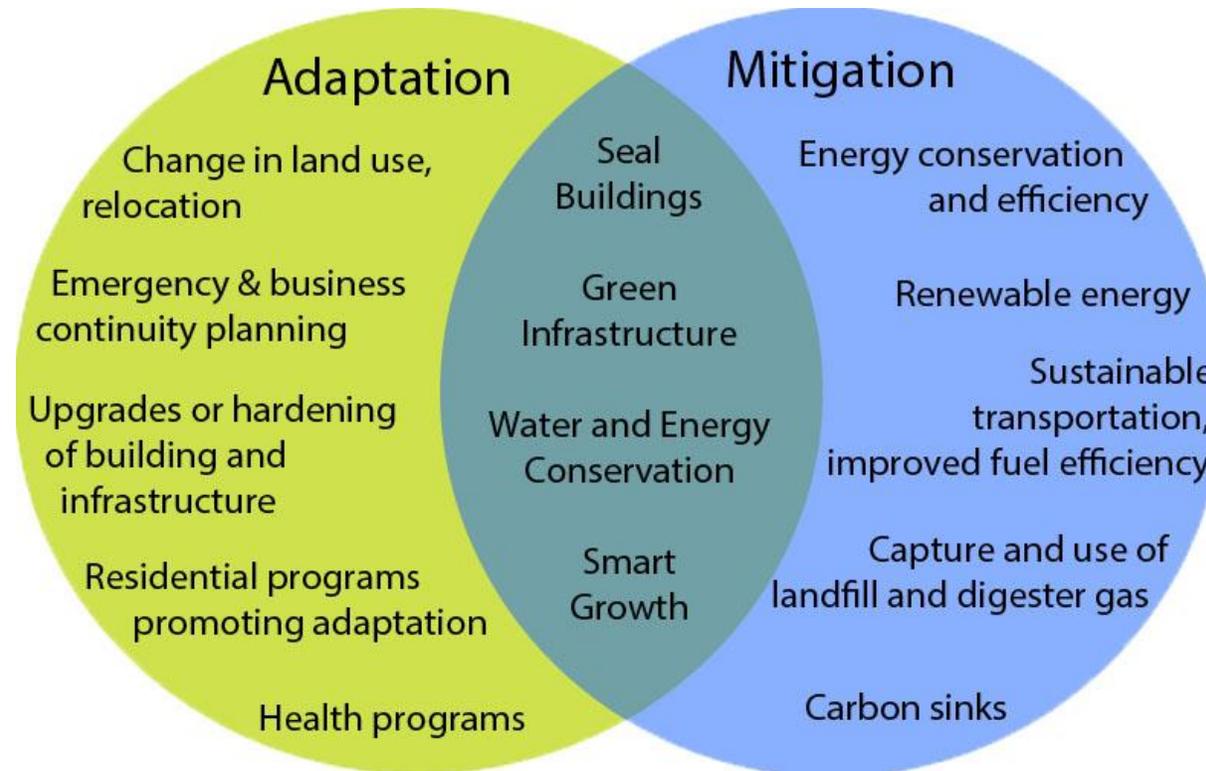
*Alliance of Regional Collaboratives  
for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA)*



# Climate Adaptation vs. Mitigation

## *Adaptation:*

Actions that minimize or prevent the negative impacts of climate change



## *Mitigation:*

Actions that reduce the emissions that contribute to climate change

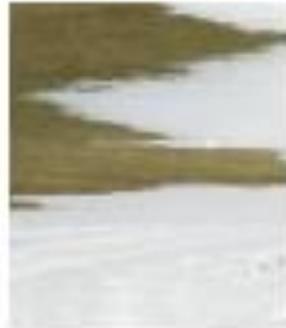
Source: DNV-GL

# Potential Climate Change Impacts

**Temperatures**



**Snow**



**Water resources**



**Ecosystem effects**



**Sea level rise**



**Fire**

# What does this mean for the Gateway Cities?

	Transportation	Air Quality	Housing	Economic Development
<b>Extreme heat</b>	Road surface expansion, pavement buckling, railroad track buckling	Increased allergens, aggravated respiratory and asthma complications	Deterioration of housing, increased temperatures in homes, increased cost in energy bills	Loss of population due to residents moving to more cooler locations, challenges for outdoor work
<b>Drought/ water resources</b>	Fuel supply at threat	Increased smog, dust	Restrictions on water usages in homes	Food services may lose business due to dependency on agriculture
<b>Sea level rise and coastal flooding</b>	Flooding of roadways, disruption of transit services, damage to infrastructure	Toxic runoff	Damages to homes, potential displacement of residents in extreme cases	Can cause strain on students and workers who are unable to get to school or work



# Introducing SB 379: Helping our cities plan to adapt

## ***What is SB 379?***

It is a piece of the State's overall adaptation strategy, putting the focus on local agencies to plan for a resilient future.

## ***What does SB 379 require?***

Requires the *safety elements of general plans* to be reviewed and updated to include *climate adaptation and resiliency strategies*.



# 3 Key Components for Compliance

*In order to comply with SB 379, the safety element must include the following components:*

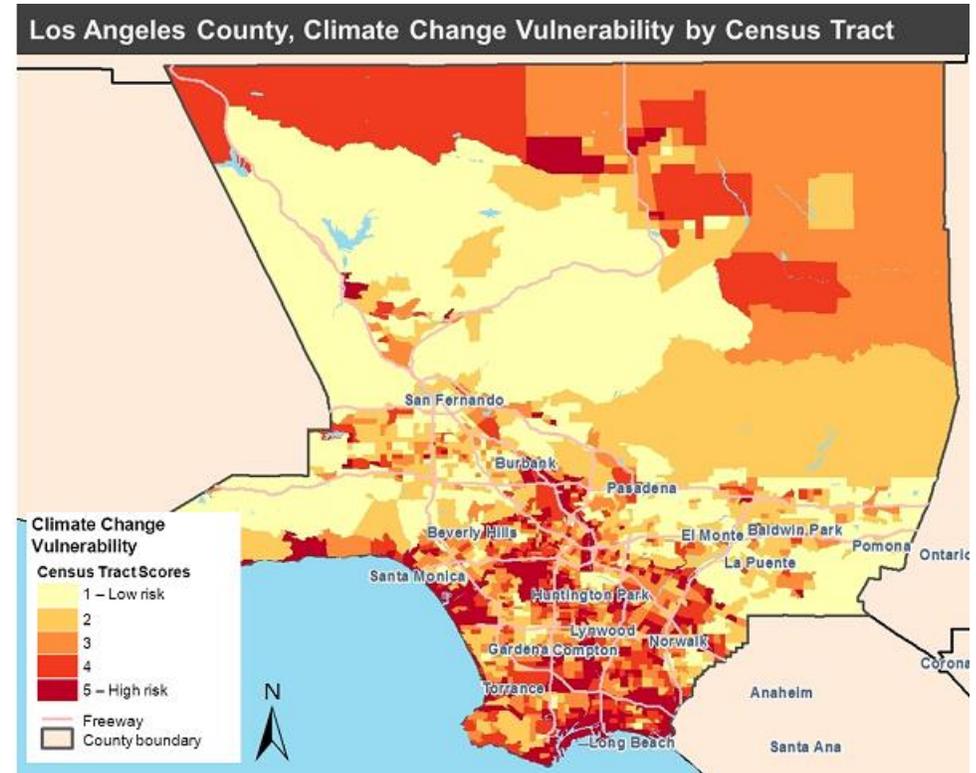
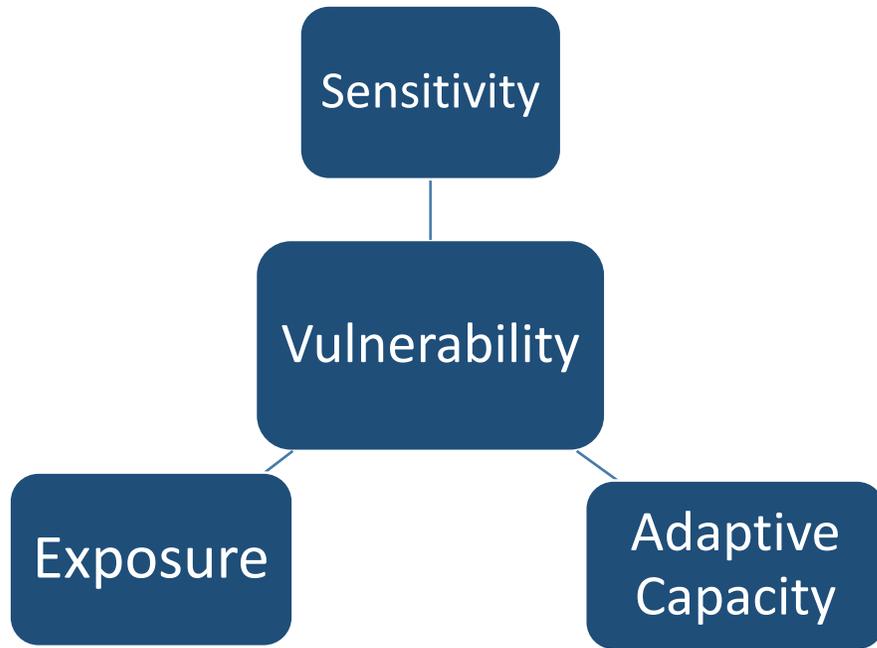
**#1 ASSESS:** Vulnerability Assessment

**#2 DEVELOP:** Set of Adaptation and Resilience Goals and Policies

**#3 IMPLEMENT:** Set of Feasible Implementation Measures

# #1 ASSESS: Vulnerability Assessment

- *Conduct a vulnerability assessment to identify risks to climate change in local jurisdictions.*



*Source: California Environmental Health Tracking Program*

# #2 DEVELOP: Set of Adaptation and Resilience Goals and Policies

- *Create a set of adaptation and resilience goals, policies, and objectives based on information identified in the vulnerability assessment.*

## ***Example Adaptation Goals and Objectives:***

- Increase the city's urban tree canopy to reduce air pollution and impacts of extreme heat.
- Enhance emergency preparedness for residents in vulnerable neighborhoods during extreme climate events.
- Collaborate with nearby jurisdictions to raise awareness about climate change impacts.



# #3 IMPLEMENT: Set of Feasible Implementation Measures

- *Create a set of feasible implementation measures designed to carry out the adaptation goals.*

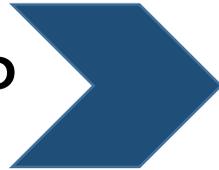
## ***Example Implementation Measures:***

- Develop a city tree planting program with a target number of trees to plant.
- Designate specific public facilities as ‘safe zones’ for residents to go to during extreme events.
- Join a regional climate change working group in which the city can engage in ongoing dialogue about climate change.



# Important Dates!

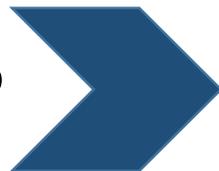
Yes, LHMP



## JANUARY 1, 2017

- If a city currently has an adopted Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP), then upon the next revision of the LHMP, cities must also include climate adaptation into the safety element of the general plan.

No, LHMP



## JANUARY 1, 2022

- If a city currently has not yet adopted a LHMP, then the safety element of the general plan must be updated to address climate adaptation by January 1, 2022.

# “All of this information is great, but what do I do next?”

## Adaptation in Action Roadmap / SB 379 Implementation

California Senate Bill 379, which requires cities and counties to include climate adaptation and resiliency strategies in their general plans to ensure safety and protection of their communities in the future, passed the legislature and was signed into law by Governor Brown on October 8, 2015. LGC and ARCCA are currently working with another CivicSpark AmeriCorps fellow to develop an adaptation roadmap and compile resources to help local governments comply with this new law. The fellow will also be working directly with municipalities to provide technical support.

Will have  
checklist for SB  
379 compliance!

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# Thank you! Questions?

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**ARCCA** Alliance of Regional Collaboratives  
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