



**Public Infrastructure (PI)
Technical Working Group (TWG)**

Presentation for the Adaptation Advisory Group
November 7, 2008

- PI TWG has met 4 times
 - July 16, October 10, October 27, and October 31.
- Now 8-20 regular participants. Several AAG members have been active.
- July 2008 initial catalog
 - Based on work of other states
 - No Alaskan “filters” applied
 - Had 12 categories of infrastructure with 136 policy options

Progress to Date

- Strong objection to format and nature of July catalog.
- Direction to reorganize catalog to focus hierarchically on policy-programs-projects.
 - First, identify the key policy issues and decisions that are and will be needed with regard to climate change and the effect on Alaska’s public infrastructure and spending.
 - Then, translate policies to program areas for which direction is needed.
 - Finally, identify priority projects and actions in each program area.

Overview of Catalog Status

- Direction is to clearly identify issues for which high-level policy direction is needed to guide public infrastructure decision-making and investments.
- There are not that many policy issues, other decisions and programs fall-out once policy direction is established.
- We will likely use the same 6 criteria most TWG are using (significance, benefits/effectiveness, costs, feasibility, timing of impact, adaptive capacity), **but rather than use them for balloting they will help more fully develop the rationale for the policy options.**

NOW....

- Next meeting November 19
- Goals for that meeting are to:
 - ✓ final the catalog,
 - ✓ determine if balloting is needed, and if not
 - ✓ discuss process of more fully developing options to forward to AAG and subcabinet.

Examples of DRAFT policy options...

1. It is the policy of the State of Alaska to follow consistent guidelines for documenting changes occurring and likely to occur due to climate change. Set a consistent context for adaptation policy setting and analysis by documenting and describing the changes occurring and likely to occur due to climate change in Alaska. *(Relevant to Research Needs Advisory Group also.)*
 - 1A Create clear narrative and visuals that describe and depict the range of impacts that Alaskan regions are currently, and will increasingly experience over time due to climate change.
 - 1B. Monitor, map and disseminate climate change data. Develop and maintain a system for comprehensive surveillance, monitoring, documentation, and dissemination of rates and locations of climate change indicators. Data is desired in real time, though quality control needs are recognized.

Examples (continued)

2. It is the policy of the State of Alaska to document the condition of existing public infrastructure and to document its vulnerability to climate change.
 - A. Develop an observation network to document the current condition of public infrastructure in Alaska.
 - B. Establish an inventory of potentially impacted infrastructure and maintain this database relative to emerging data on climate change hazards.
 - C. Catalog natural resource hazards, including primary and derivative (secondary) hazards that will be created or amplified by climate change.
 - D. Conduct a systematic vulnerability analysis of the risks to public infrastructure from the hazards occurring and expected from climate change. Identify facilities at high, medium and low risk.

Examples (continued)

3. Coordinate community, transportation and emergency planning to address climate change hazards and vulnerabilities.
 - 3A. Help ensure local government decisions, investments and planning incorporates climate change considerations by sharing hazard and vulnerability data in a timely manner with local governments and leaders in an actionable format.
 - Set up a process and platform to regularly provide the narrative and visuals on climate change and related natural resource hazards to local leaders and decision-makers in a format that can be used and is actionable. This is needed for everything from informing and guiding local public works and enterprise-funded projects to locating emergency evacuation routes to local community and facility planning and more.
 - 3B. Efficient and effective community planning will integrate emergency and disaster, land use, transportation and facility planning. Comprehensive community and adaptation planning such as this is needed to ensure infrastructure investment and siting efforts do not occur in isolation or without the benefit of updated hazard mapping and vulnerability analysis.