
**Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)
State Vulnerability Assessment Framework Working Group
MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: November 23, 2021

Meeting Time: 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Meeting Location: Zoom

RECORDING

https://ctdeep.zoom.us/rec/share/sj7rGlG2YfCG4F5HH5CaY6fcD05ncB2MEYGyvKZF_oost_tS4QwaF2mey2smTVte.FwG55XYWvTzyDFht?startTime=1637697933000

ATTENDANCE

Name	Present
David Barkin (Co-Chair)	√
Brenda Bergeron (Co-Chair)	√
Scott Gaul (Co-Chair)	√
Kimberly Lesay (Co-Chair)	√
Mary-beth Hart	√
Rebecca French	√
John Truscinski	√
Alanis Allen	√
Natasha Dolmon	√
Kevin Grigg	√
David Murphy	√
Emily Pysh	√
Denise Savageau	√
Evan Dantos	√
David Ruiz	√
William Turley	√
Lori Mathieu	√
Christine Hahn	√
Meghan Portfolio	√
Rick Newton	√
Sara Harari	√
Ian Alexander	√
Brian Thompson	√
Wayne Cobleigh	√
John Barnowski	√
Eric Hammerling	√
Sage Hardesty	√
Huân Ngô	√
James Hutton	√
Lisandro Suarez	√
Bruce Fitzback	√
Ralph Jones	√
Christine O'Neill	√
DWAYNE ESCOLA	√
Paul Aresta	√
Amanda Clark	√
Martha Kelly	√
Lynne Bonnett	√
ELIZABETH LANGHORNE	√
Louanne Cooley	√
Paul Hearn	√
James Zimmer	√

David Michel	√
Peter Picone	√
Phone Number 1	√

AGENDA & NOTES

Roll Call (see attendance)

Welcome by the Co-Chairs

Scott Gaul:

- Natasha will present survey
- Comments have been taken into consideration so Natasha will be presenting a revised version

DAS Survey Update

Natasha Dolmon:

- Developing the Adaptation Framework
- State Vulnerability Assessment Survey
 - o Goals: Understand purpose, Identifying missing assets, Rank “level of importance”
 - o Several Sections:
 - General Agency Info
 - Sensitivity to Climate Change
 - Adaptive Capability
- Hope to collect more critiques of survey and discuss process with Massachusetts, develop a pilot survey within a unit

Survey Demonstration (Word version)

- Climate Drivers
 - o Includes Sea level rise, natural hazards
- Adaptive Capacity
- OPM Identification of State Assets

- Hope to overlay OPM properties map on CIRCA Vulnerability Indx Map

Marybeth Hart: Thoughts from working group members?

Sara Harari: Will facility managers be aware of hazards?

Natasha Dolmon: Getting other staff looped in may help with gaps

Scott Gaul: The CCVI data can help show risk factor, so wouldn't need to guess.

Brenda Bergeron: Assessments can be valuable for telling people what they don't know.

Rebecca French: They definitely talked to more than one person in the Massachusetts survey. Sustainability Officers can be a starting point as well.

Rebecca French: It also may further focus additional planning and implementation efforts in those areas.

Marybeth Hart: Can help agencies get out of the reactive, post-storm mentality

Denise Savageau:

- Coastal erosion vs coastal inundation
- Differentiation between chronic vs acute events is something that should be considered

CIRCA Resources and Tools (20 minutes)

John Truscinski, CIRCA

- Data and Tools document for State Vulnerability Assessment
- Breakdown of primary climate drivers
- Explanation of CIRCA sea level rise storm surge viewer
- CCVI working on statewide version

Rebecca French: How much we can automate this process? Is there a way to have the program pop out a list of buildings with high vulnerability?

John Truscinski: Still need an on the ground evaluation to see what is really going on.

David Murphy: See Resilient Connecticut Phase II report CIRCA posted for an example.

Wayne Cobleigh: Connecticut Green Buildings has a similar kind of database.

State Agency Engagement

Rebecca French: What additional agencies should we do a closer discussion with that are not already on GC3?

- Connecticut Airport Authority, Military, Quasi organizations, DDS, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Veterans Administration

Rebecca: If we're managing a building and the occupants of a building is that included in the state's real property

Scott Gaul: The state does own property that has occupants. Can use state list of real property to include buildings with inhabitants.

Rebecca French: We can put that in the preamble of the survey.

Public Comment Period

Martha Kelly:

- Airport in Hartford
- Waste processing facilities are public private partnerships
- (More in chat)

John Barnowski:

- When do you come out of data collecting and start implementation?
- Is there someone coordinating to prevent overlap across states?

John Truscinki: Using Connecticut specific data is best.

Lynne Bonnett: Tweed Airport expansion issues

Denise Savageau: Getting a baseline from the tools John presented and the need to look at infrastructure surrounding the facility.

Next Steps and Adjourn

Posting the draft survey on the website soon for public comment

Chat Record

00:26:40 lisandro suarez: Hi Natasha. We have some landfills that the State (DEEP) does not own but manage. Are these sites also included on the list of properties assessed?

00:28:55 lisandro suarez: Thank you

00:32:49 lynne bonnett: is there a list in existence already?

00:33:36 Natasha Dolmon: On request - I'm going to screen share the survey again

00:35:26 Sara Harari: Could one potential output of the survey be a comprehensive list of state assets sorted by how essential the asset is cross-listed by how vulnerable it is (and maybe how expensive it would be to mitigate the vulnerability)? Think this might create a priority list

00:37:33 Natasha Dolmon: That's the hope! It might be that agencies might underrate an asset's vulnerability to climate change, and the asset map/CCVI display might show some locations are actually more vulnerable, and some actions might need to be addressed

00:38:35 Natasha Dolmon: Even if an asset is accurately rated for a particular hazard as low, we might want to divert resources to that asset because it's critical to a larger operation

00:41:34 Kimberly Lesay: Good point Denise. It's a challenge in some communities already just with higher tides.

00:46:58 Rebecca French: Thank you for the rich discussion.

00:47:43 Natasha Dolmon: I'll continue to take questions in the comments! Direct messages as well. Otherwise, you'll have a copy of the survey, and you're welcome to message at opmdapa.intern5@ct.gov

00:50:35 Natasha Dolmon: @John - This is really helpful. Would you mind sharing a copy with me afterwards?

00:59:30 John Barnowski: I'm only tangentially involved with all this stuff, but it seems that there are many groups and agencies developing similar mapping tools. How much coordination across the climate/environment/conservation is there? Is there too much redundancy?

01:03:20 Denise Savageau: One thing to include is access routes and also infrastructure challenges. May not be directly on site but may be a real challenge. Example: During Sandy one of the schools planned for evacuation ended up be unaccessible because problems moving east/west in town. Schools was fine but access routes to school was not.

01:06:41 Natasha Dolmon: <https://portal.ct.gov/Government/Departments-and-Agencies>

01:06:46 Natasha Dolmon: Should cross reference

01:06:57 Kimberly Lesay: Rebecca to your point, i think we discussed CAA - and they are an important piece and don't think have made any of our meetings?

01:09:00 Scott Gaul: CAA and CPA are quasi publics

01:10:21 lynne bonnett: FAA? Tweed is saying that the FAA doesn't have any guides for addressing cimate change although the Biden administration wants them to address climate change issues.

01:10:32 Kimberly Lesay: CAA is quasi however their functionality is important

01:11:00 Martha Kelly: Brainard Airport.

01:11:18 Kimberly Lesay: CAA would represent FAA on the State level and would cover all the airports we are listing here.

01:11:39 Denise Savageau: DVM

01:11:56 Denise Savageau: Oops DMV

01:12:46 Martha Kelly: Quasi + public/private Partnerships? i.e. MIRA in Hartford. ???
Near CT rIVER

01:14:04 lynne bonnett: also GNHWPCA, quasi governmental waste water treatment, needs to be included. Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority

01:14:33 Martha Kelly: MDC Water Quality Processing? I Hartford also adjacent to CT River.

01:16:16 John Barnowski: Regarding my earlier question about coordination and redundancy, Harvard has a tool with many natural resource layers and hurricane impacts, etc. (harvard-cga.maps.arcgis). I'm sure there are many others.

01:16:22 lynne bonnett: So if we wanted to address FAA saying there aren't any guidelines for addressing cimate change should we contact the CT Airport Authority? Is this the group that Tweed Enevironmental Assessment evalutators are working with?

01:17:58 lisandro suarez: DEEP Landfill Stewardship Operations

01:33:21 brenda bergeron: I have to jump off, Happy Thanksgiving!

01:33:24 Rebecca French: email address with public comments on this meeting or general questions on climate issues in Connecticut can always be sent to deep.climatechange@ct.gov

01:33:54 lynne bonnett: thanks Rebecca and all.

01:36:09 John Barnowski: Thanks to everyone!

01:36:52 John Truscinski: Thanks!