

FHWA Update

Sustainable Transportation: Energy, Infrastructure and Climate Solutions (STEICS) steering committee

**2012 AASHTO Annual Meeting
November 17, 2012**



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Climate Change Adaptation at FHWA



- **Goal:** Systematic consideration of climate change vulnerability and risk in transportation decision making, at system and project level
- **Approach:** Develop and share information on tools and methodologies that state DOTs and MPOs can use to assess risk and prioritize actions



Vulnerability Assessment Framework



Define Project Scope

- Objectives
- Relevant Assets
- Climate Variables

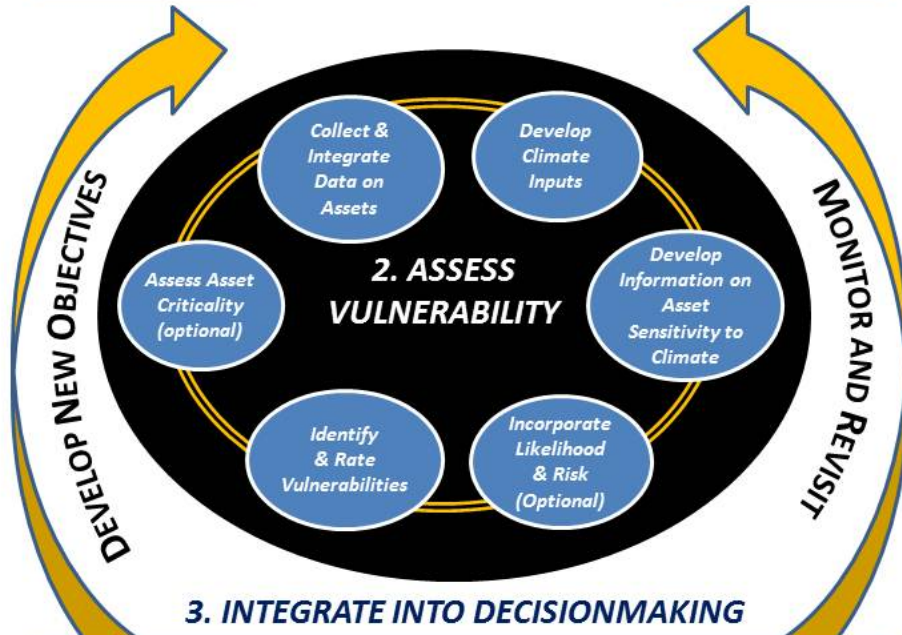
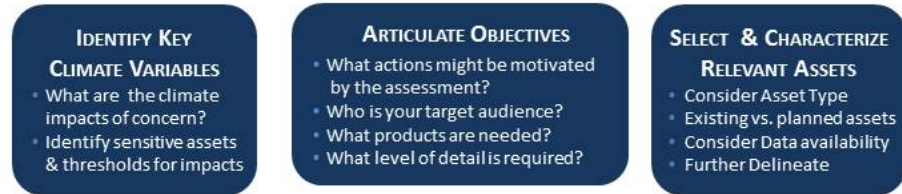
Assess Vulnerability

- Asset data, criticality, sensitivity
- Climate Inputs
- Vulnerabilities, risk

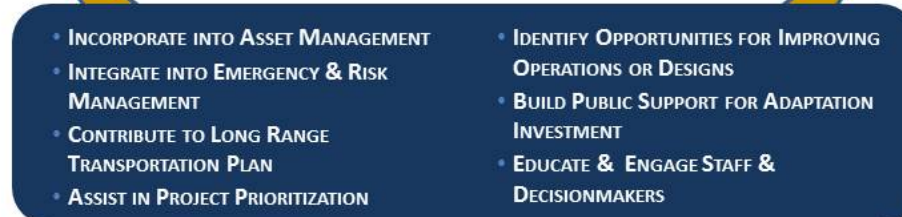
Integrate Vulnerability Into Decision Making

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FRAMEWORK

1. DEFINE THE SCOPE



3. INTEGRATE INTO DECISIONMAKING



Pilot Program

Vulnerability Assessments and Adaptation Options



FHWA is soliciting descriptions of proposed pilot projects from transportation agencies in two areas:

- assessments of transportation vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events
- options for improving resiliency of transportation facilities or systems to climate changes and/or extreme weather events.

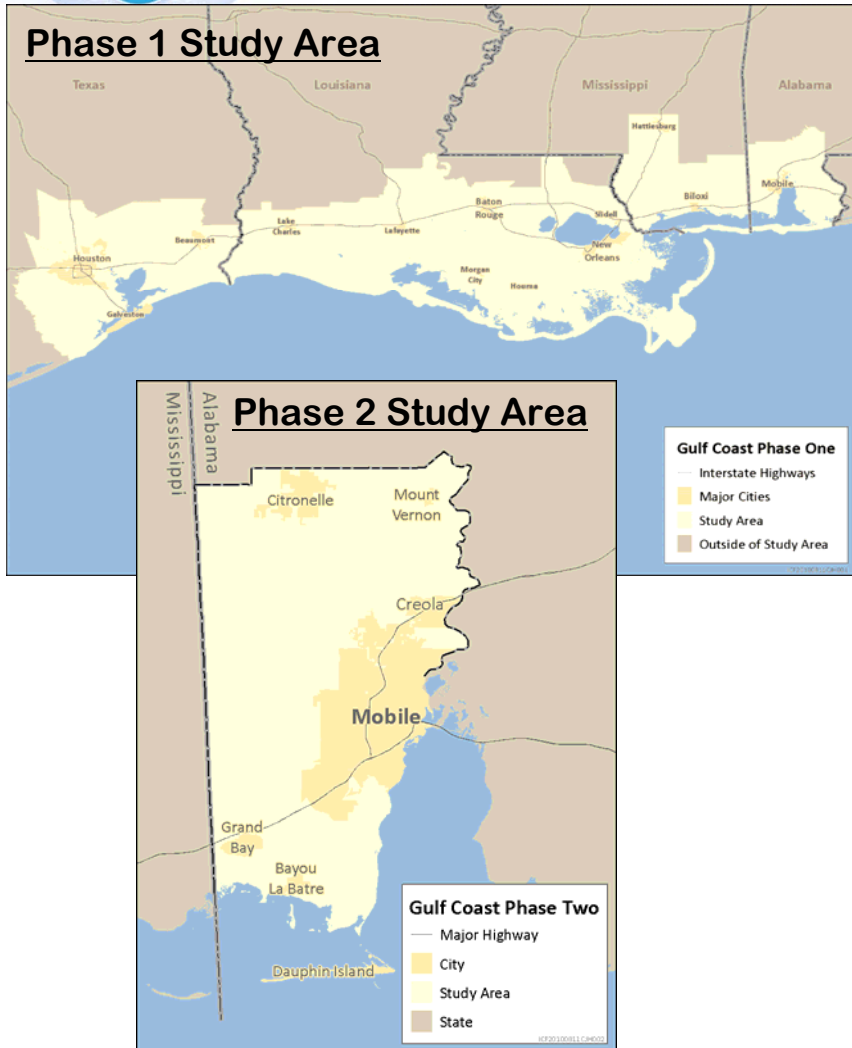
Pilot Program, cont.



Timeline

- November 2012: Call for Pilots Released
- January 22, 2013: Proposed project descriptions due to FHWA Division Offices
- February 19, 2012: FHWA HQ announces selected pilot projects

Gulf Coast 2 Project – Detailed Study at Metropolitan Scale



- **Primary Phase 2 Tasks**
 - Task 1: Identify critical transportation assets in Mobile (complete)
 - Task 2: Identify climate impacts, assess infrastructure sensitivity (complete)
 - Task 3: Assess vulnerability of critical assets (2012-2013)
 - Task 4: Develop risk management tools for transportation agencies to conduct similar analyses (2012-2013)
- Available from the FHWA website

FHWA Funding for Adaptation Work



- **FHWA released a memo on using Federal-aid and Federal Lands funding for adaptation activities to address**
 - Extreme weather events, climate change impacts
- **Three sections: Memo, Qs & As, Funding category-specific information**
- **Clarifies eligibility for various activities**
 - Planning (e.g., vulnerability assessments)
 - Design (e.g., designing to handle potential impacts)
 - Construction, etc.
- **Memo available at: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federalaid/120924.cfm>**

INVEST Version 1.0 Launched



- **Version 1.0 launched October 10, 2012**
Link to the recorded event @ www.sustainablehighways.org
- **Version 1.0 includes many improvements made as result of feedback and pilots**
- **Project is now entering deployment phase**
- **Request for deployment sites released soon**



INVEST
ECONOMIC • SOCIAL • ENVIRONMENTAL

Thank you

www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/climate_change

