# Climate Adaptation in Surrey

Tjasa Demsar, MRM, Project Management Assistant City of Surrey, Sustainability Office SCCP Conservation Connections 2019 October 16, 2019

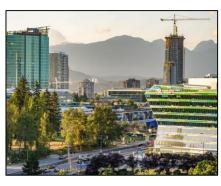


## **Surrey Context**









- 2nd largest city in BC
- Population ~550,000
- Large land area: 316 km<sup>2</sup> (Vancouver: 115km<sup>2</sup>)
- Urban, suburban, rural
- 1/3 agricultural land
- Major rivers and ocean boundary



# **Sustainability Charter 2.0**

- Overarching policy document for the City
- High-level, with a long term vision (still 2058)
- Focused on community outcomes
- Guides more granular City plans and decisionmaking by identifying goals
- Also guides corporate sustainability



## Sustainability Charter — Community Themes



Ecosystems: Healthy, protected and well-maintained ecosystems and biodiversity.



## Mitigation

Mitigating the release of GHG emissions to minimize future climate change



Community Energy & Emissions Plan

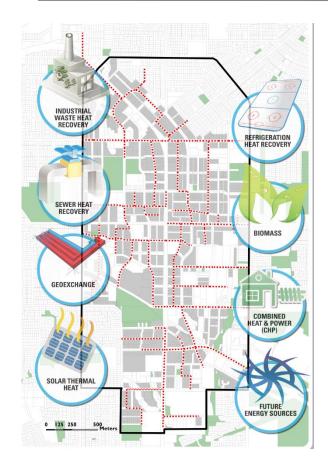
SURREY

### Adaptation

Adapting or preparing for the unavoidable impacts of climate change



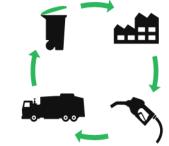
# Climate Change Mitigation















### Mitigation

Mitigating the release of GHG emissions to minimize future climate change



Community Energy & Emissions Plan

SÜRREY



Adapting or preparing for the unavoidable impacts of climate change



# **Climate Change Adaptation Priorities**





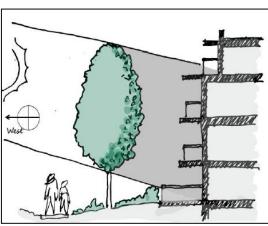


- Evaluate long-term options
- Regional coordination



**Quality and quantity of habitat** 

- Resilient tree species
- Canopy and root space

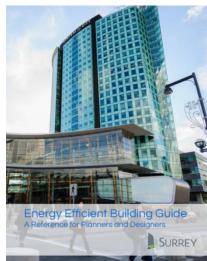


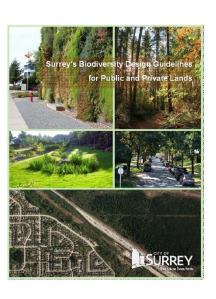
- Passive building design
- Data collection and monitoring
- Education and capacity

# Climate Change Adaptation Actions









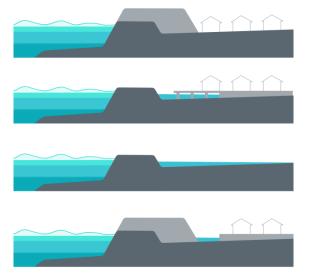
Streamside
Setbacks &
Sensitive
Ecosystems DPA

Enhanced Shade Tree Management Practices

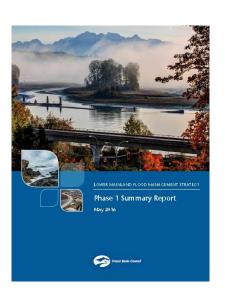
Passive Design & Heat Management

Draft Biodiversity
Design Guidelines

# Climate Change Adaptation Actions







Coastal Flood Adaptation Strategy (CFAS)

Future-proofing infrastructure

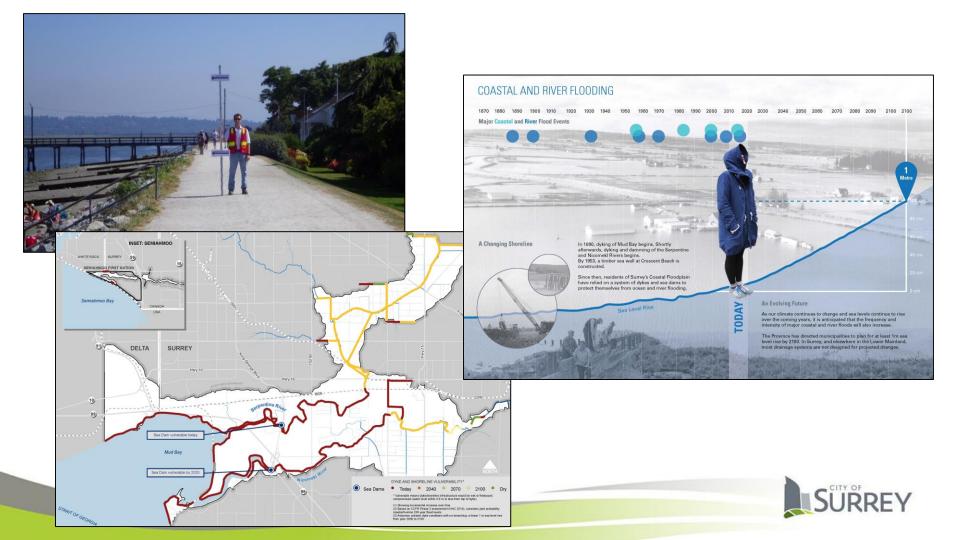
Regional Coordination

## **Coastal Flood Adaptation Strategy (CFAS)**

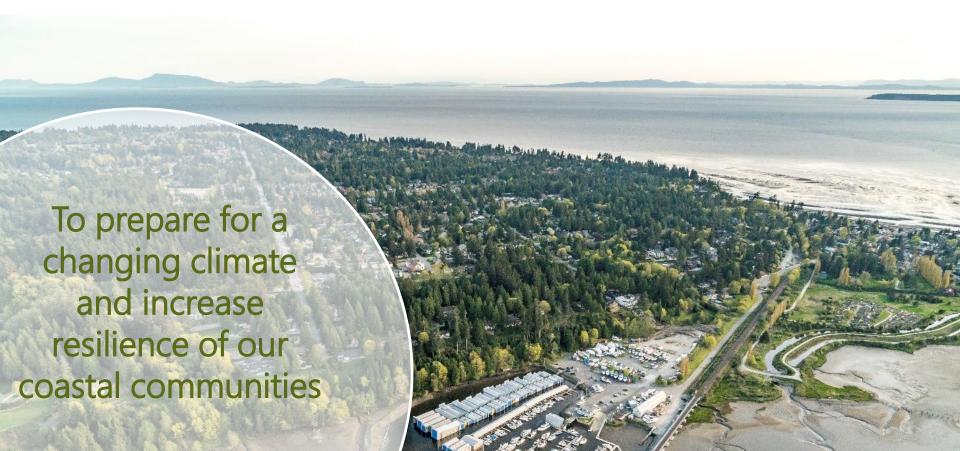


- A natural floodplain (20% of Surrey)
- Regularly experiences coastal flooding
- Mostly agricultural lands (ALR)
- Ocean-driven flooding (storm surges, king tides)
- River-driven flooding (rain storms, rapid snow melt)





# The Purpose of CFAS





#### **COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLE**

Many residential areas and neighbourhoods
Semiahmoo First Nation
1,500+ residents
Approximately 20% of Surrey's land area

#### PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT

Destination regional and City parks
Beaches and recreation areas
Critical foreshore, coastal, and riparian areas

#### LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMY

700+ jobs
Over \$100M in annual farm gate revenue
Over \$1B in assessed property value
Almost \$25B annual truck and rail freight traffic

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Over 10km of Provincial Highways Over 200,000 vehicle trips a day Over 30km of railway (freight, passenger)

## Values Criteria



#### **RESIDENTS:**

Are people permanently displaced?



#### **AGRICULTURE:**

Is there permanent loss of agriculture land?



#### **ECONOMY:**

Is there a permanent loss of business?



#### **RECREATION:**

Is there a diversity of recreational activities (positive & negative)?



#### **ENVIRONMENT:**

Are there impacts (positive & negative) to wetland habitats, freshwater fish habitat & riparian areas?



#### **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

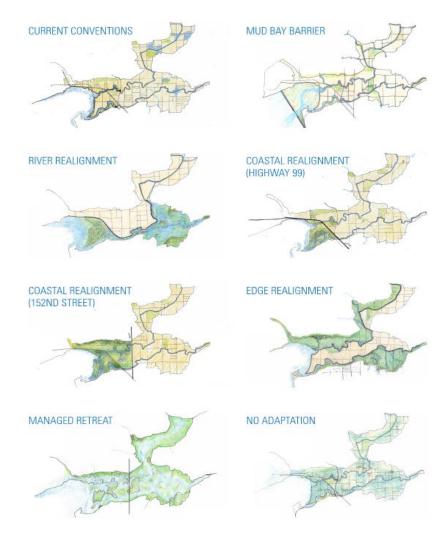
Is service/transportation infrastructure made vulnerable?

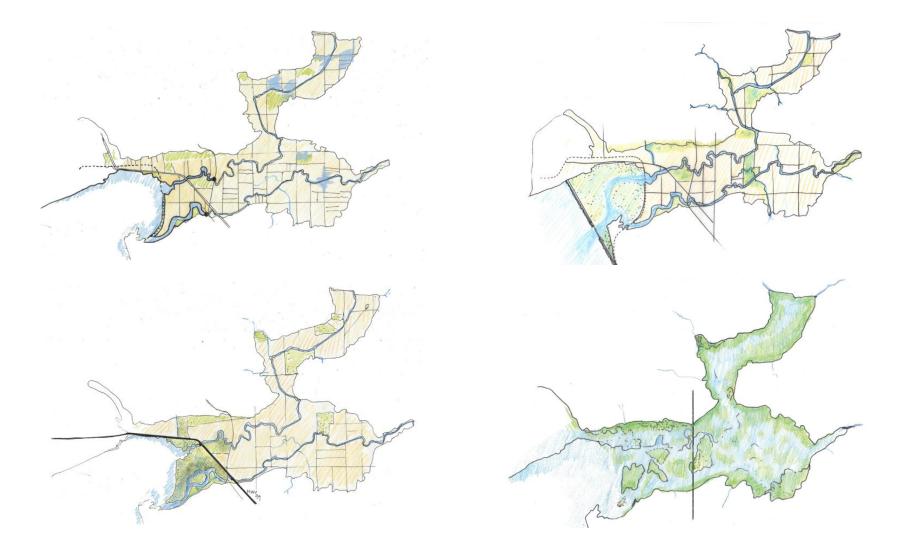


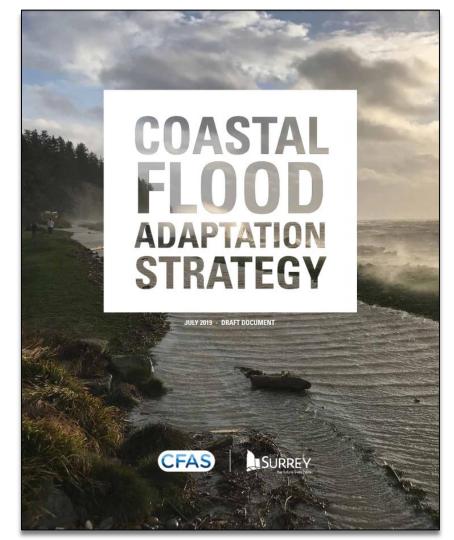
#### **CULTURE:**

Are there Semiahmoo
First Nation cultural
impacts that could be
expected?

# Adaptation Options









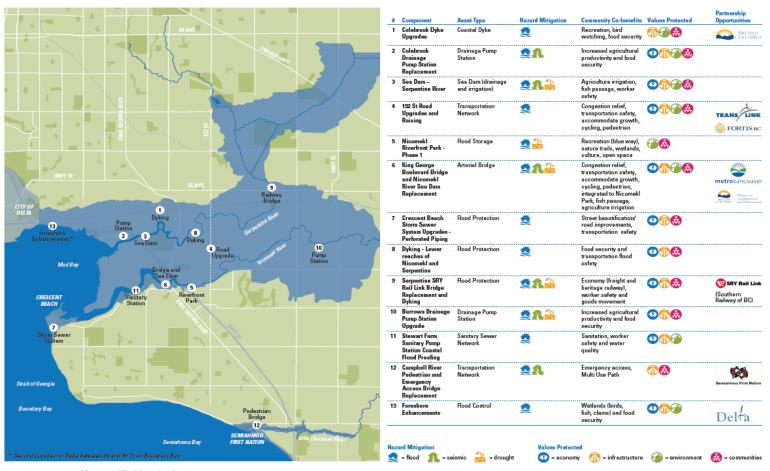
## **CFAS and Infrastructure Canada Funding**



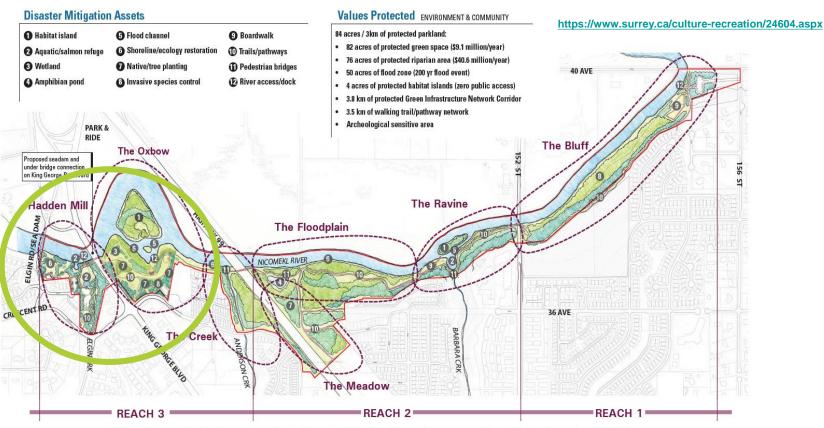


#### SURREY DISASTER MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION FUND PROJECT OVERVIEW





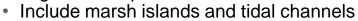
#### Nicomekl Riverfront Park DMAF DISASTER MITIGATION ASSETS & VALUES PROTECTED



The 3km linear riverfront park spans several character zones defined by unique ecologies, topgraphic conditions, adjacencies and histories.

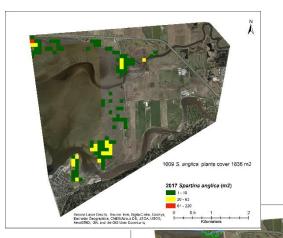
## Project #13. Foreshore Enhancements

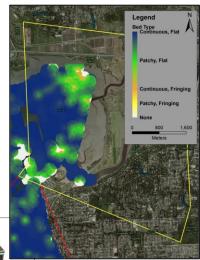
- Nature-based solution for coastal squeeze and coastal flooding
- "Living Dyke" concept is the recruitment of vegetation to encourage natural process to occur in front of legislated dykes:
  - Adding sediment to mimic natural marsh formation, resulting in a gentle vegetated slope, increased elevation





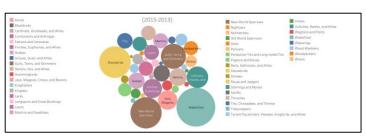
# Prioritizing Infrastructure and Ecosystem Risks in Mud Bay (PIER)





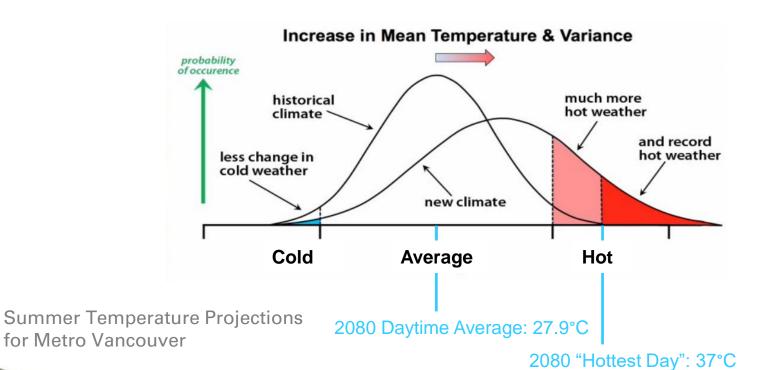






https://www.surrey.ca/files/CFASPIERPhase1Report31Mar2018.pdf https://www.surrey.ca/files/CFASPIERPhase2Report%2031Mar2019.pdf

## Local Risks - Rising Temperatures





## Mapping Urban Heat

