


# Avoiding Design That Will Fail?

## Climate Action and Resilient Communities

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Los Angeles, with a dense urban landscape in the foreground and a prominent skyline in the distance. The sky is filled with heavy, dark, and dramatic clouds, suggesting an approaching storm or late afternoon light. The city below is a mix of residential and commercial buildings, with some greenery visible in the foreground.

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415-957-9445

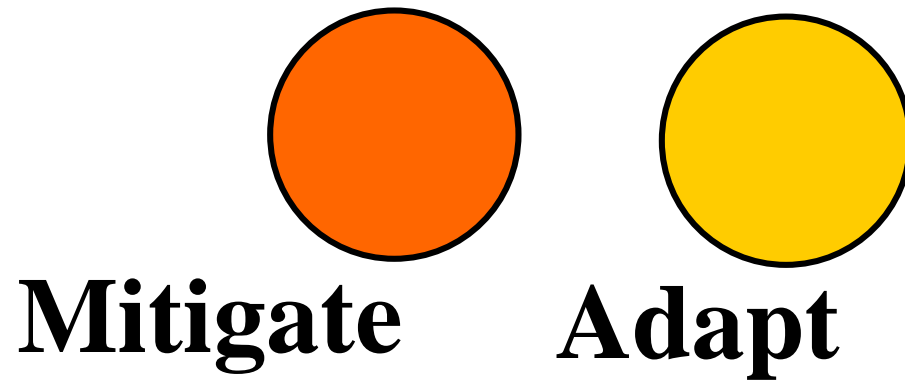
ARUP



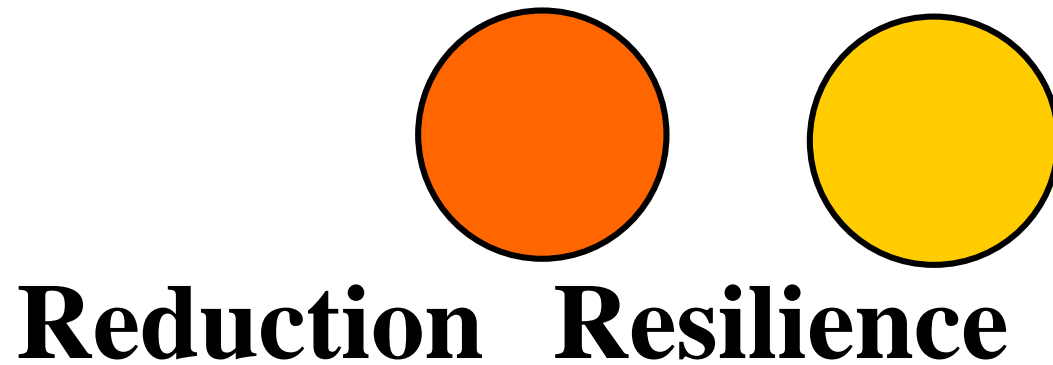




# Conversation Topics

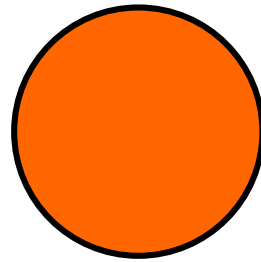


# Conversation Topics

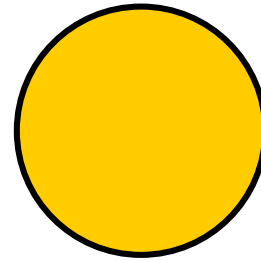




# Conversation Topics



**Regeneration**

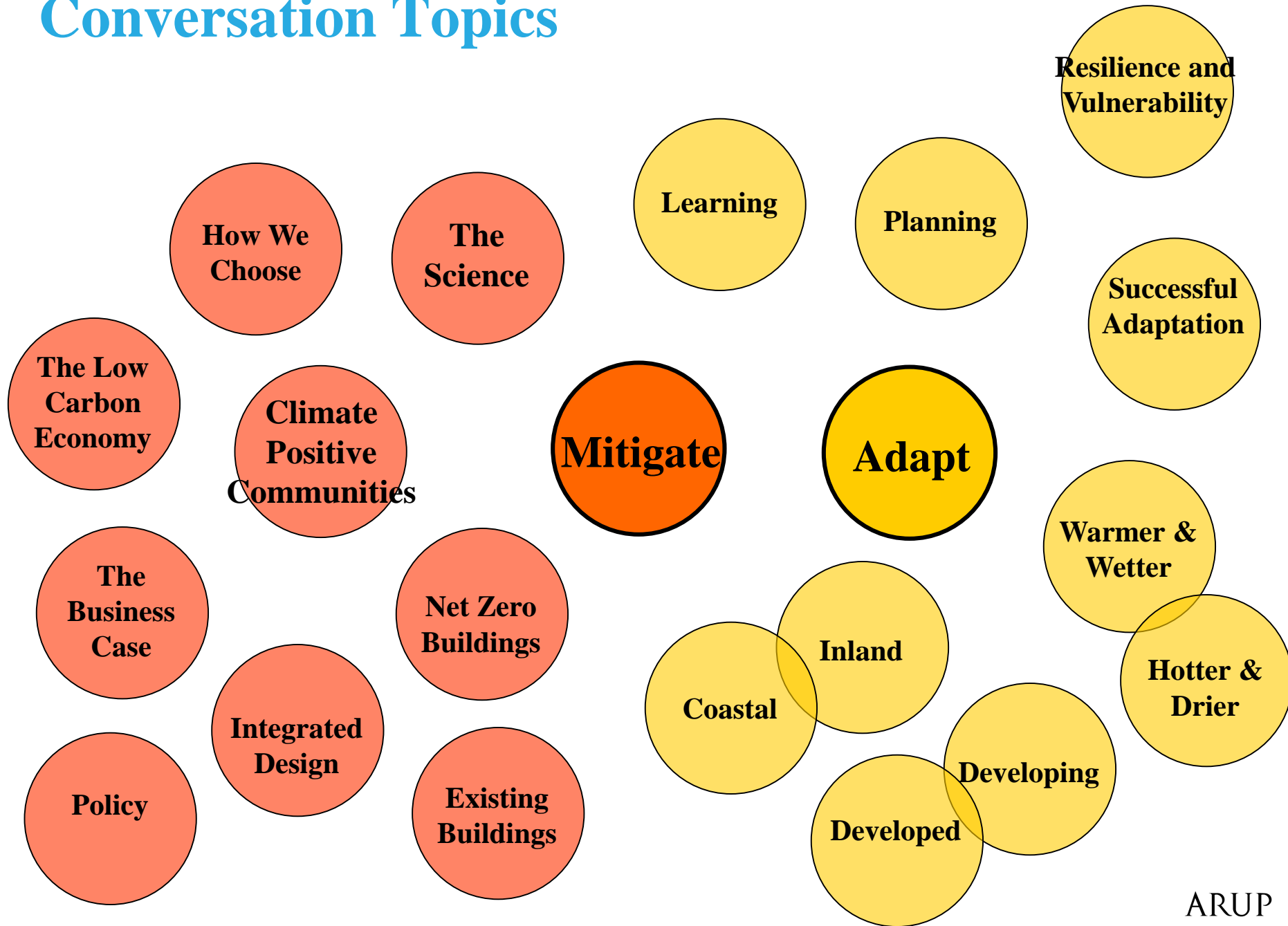


**Readiness**

# Conversation Topics

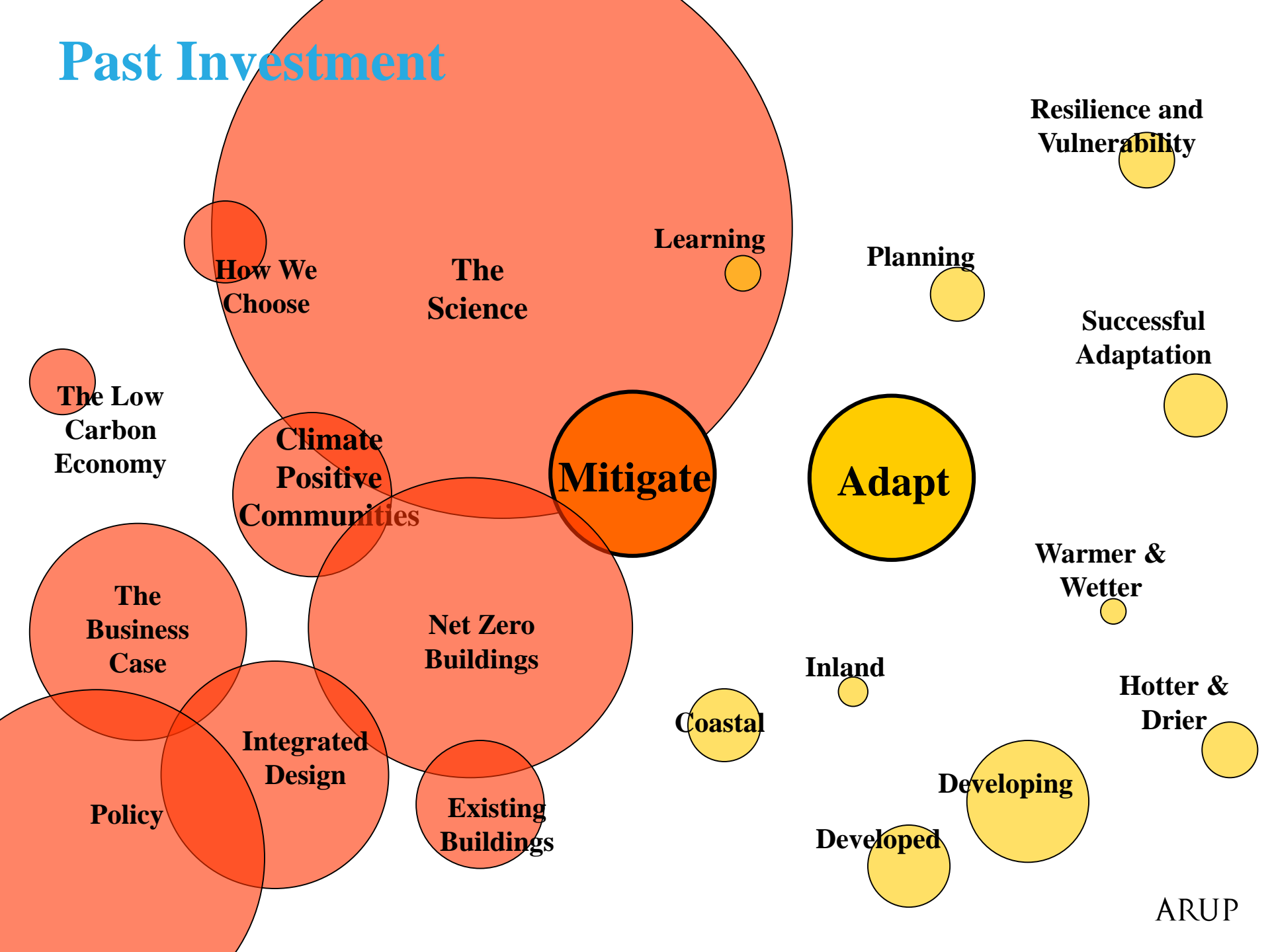


# Conversation Topics

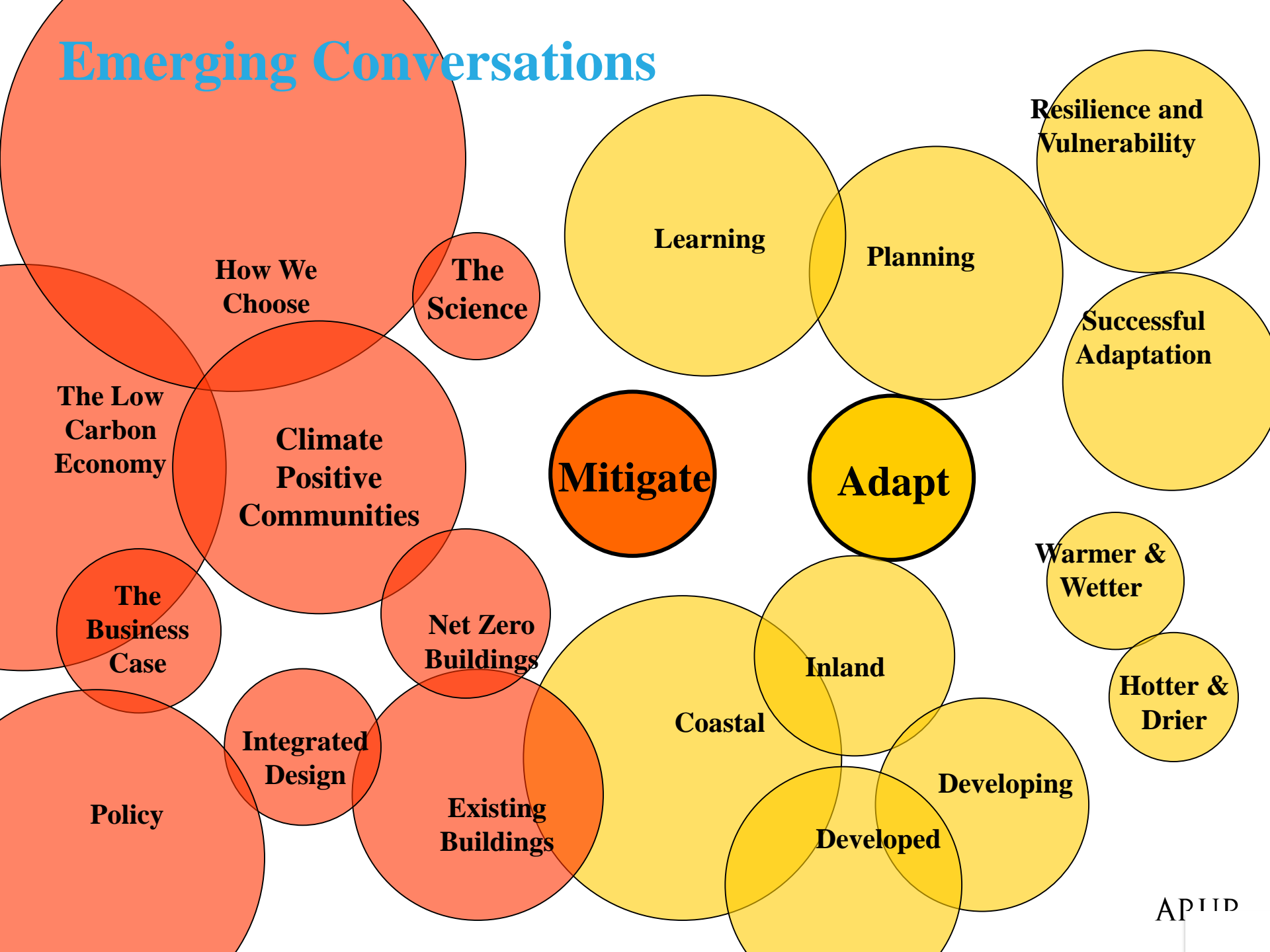




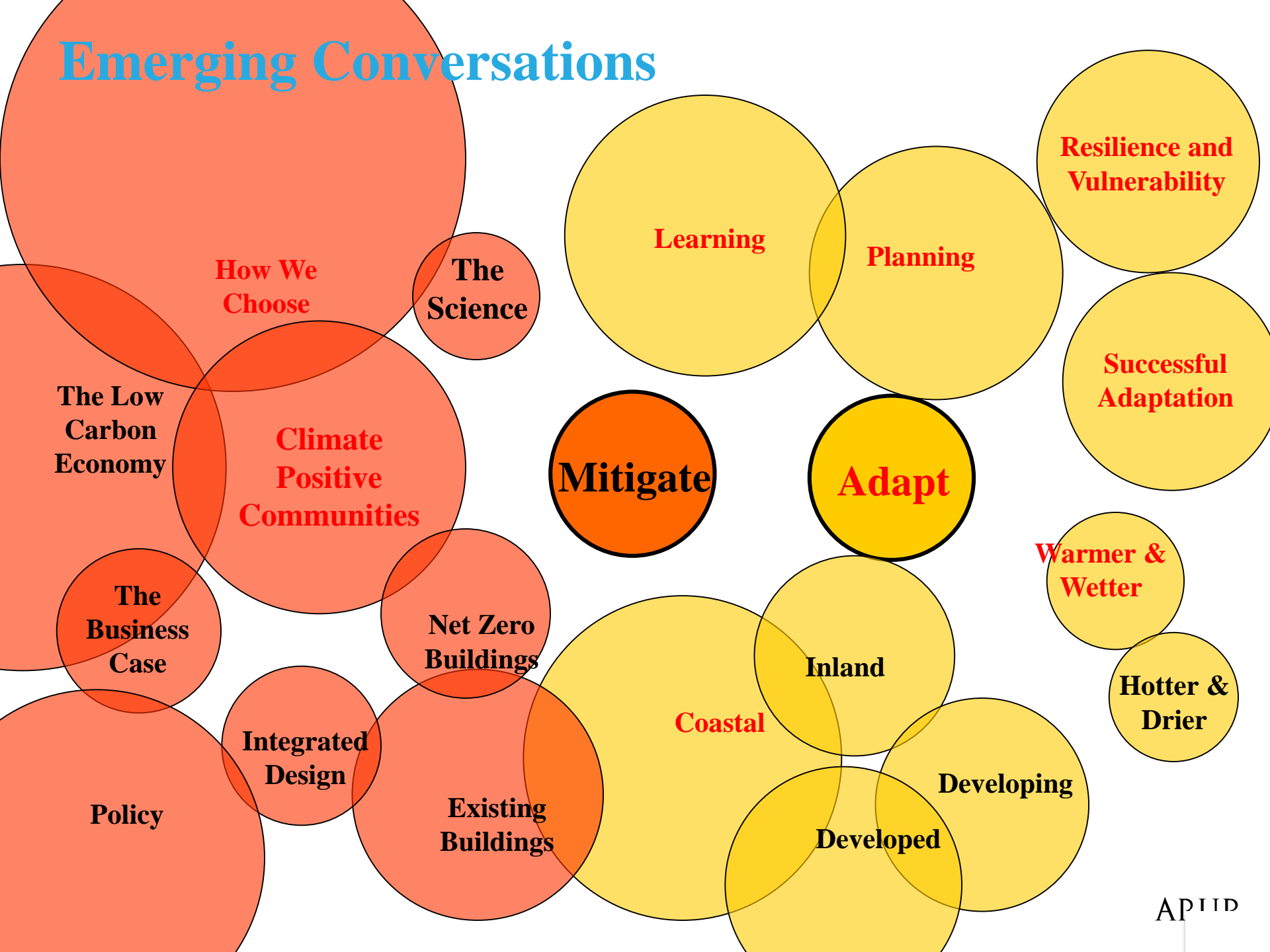
# Past Investment



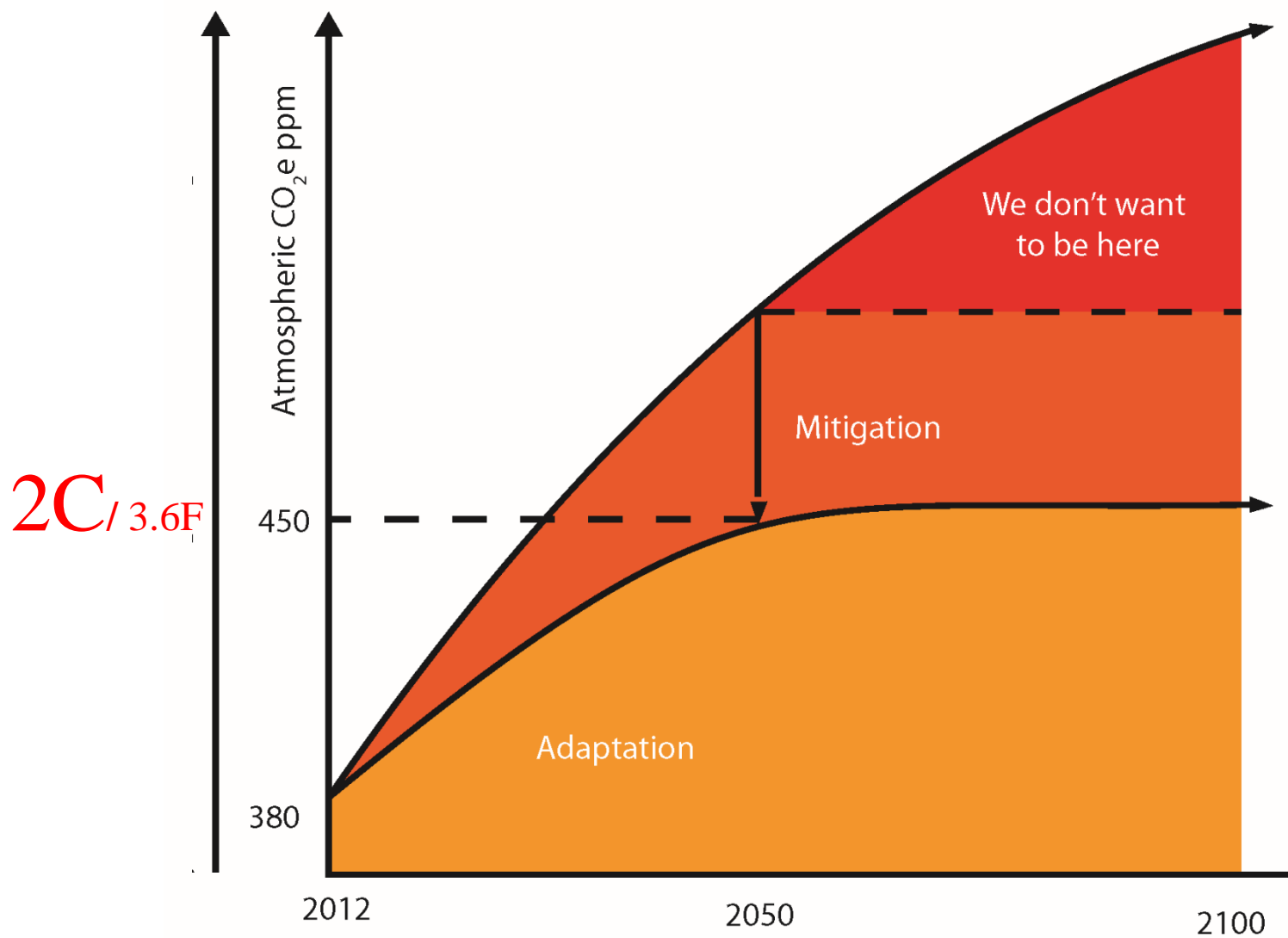
# Emerging Conversations



# Emerging Conversations







# Early & *Right* Action



**Recognize a problem**

**Choose to act to remedy or avoid the problem**

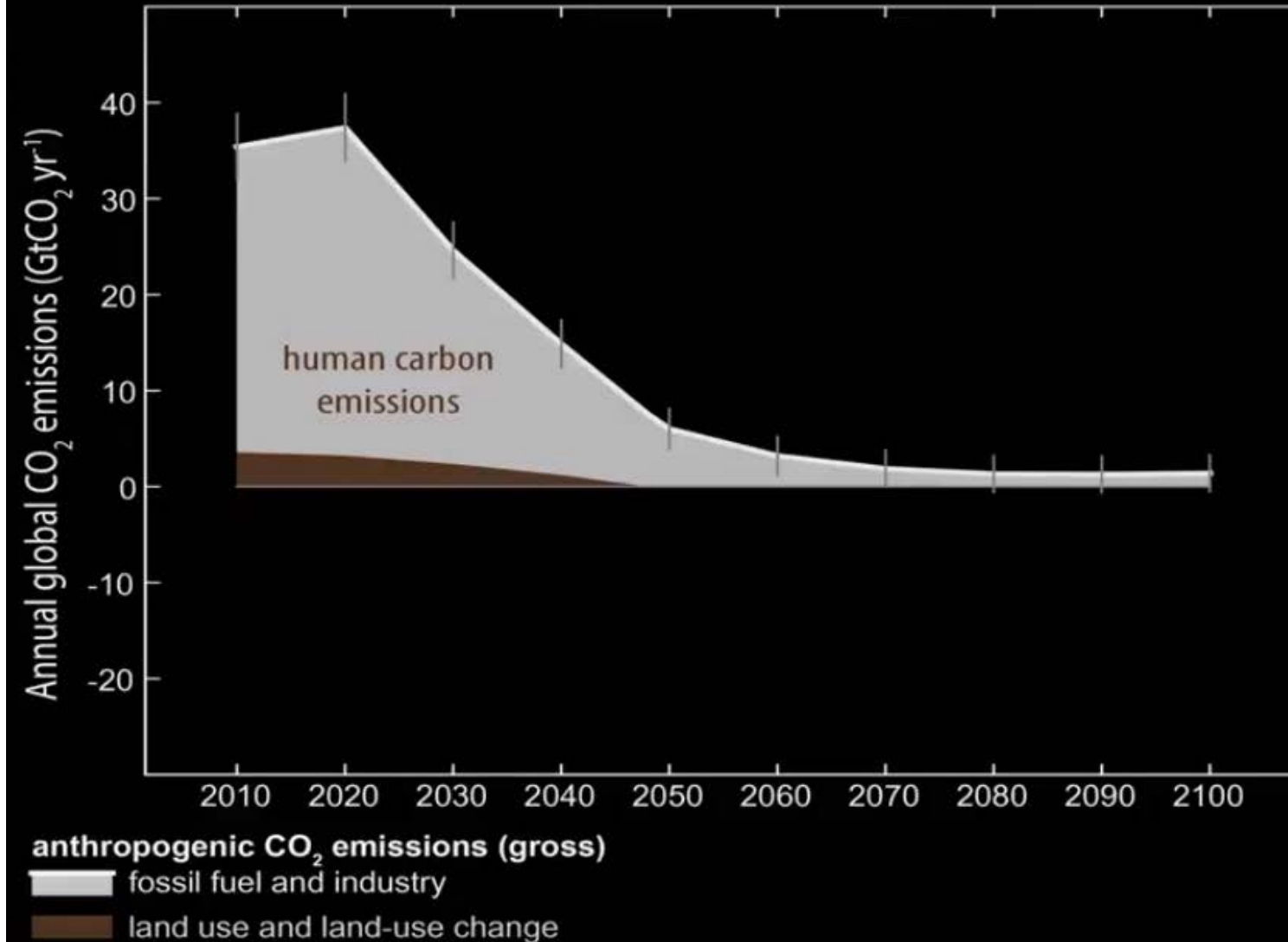
**Act effectively**

*Adapted from **Collapse** – How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed, Jared Diamond*



# A 66% chance *if we act effectively*

Science 2017, Stockholm Resilience Center, Johan Rockstrom



# Optimism at the 2018 Global Climate Summit

- The mayors of 19 cities presiding over 130 million city-dwellers including Copenhagen, Johannesburg and Tokyo, made a **net-zero carbon pledge for all new buildings by 2030**.
- 400 investor members, representing **\$32 trillion in assets**, committed "**to accelerate and scale up**" climate action to support the Paris Agreement.
- **\$15 million in pro-bono legal services by 2020** toward climate-related causes, as nine law firms formed the new Lawyers for a Sustainable Economy Initiative.
- The **Under2 Coalition** now represents 1.3 billion souls and **43 percent of the planet's economy**.
- The **We Are Still In** campaign now counts **3,540 corporate signatories** pledging to uphold the Paris Agreement.

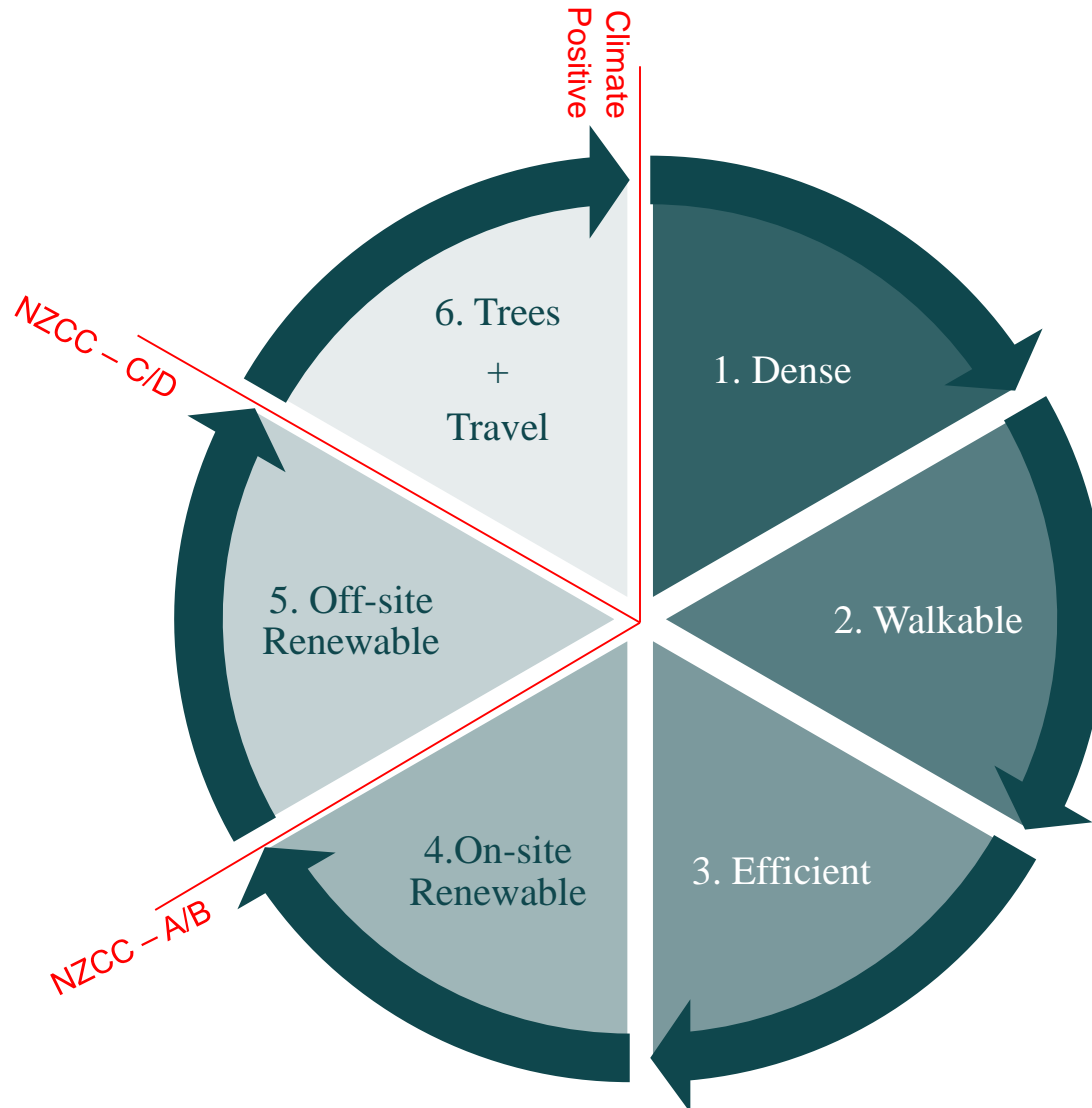


Affordable, Resilient,  
and Healthy

**Climate Positive Communities**

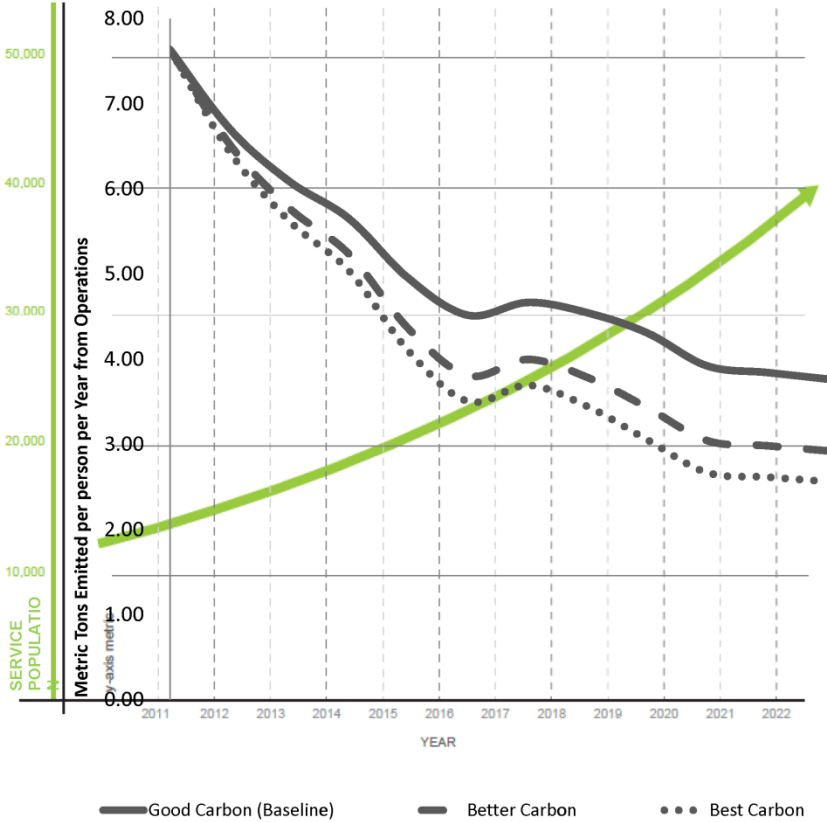


# Effective Action – Climate Positive Community



# Density Enables Deep Improvements

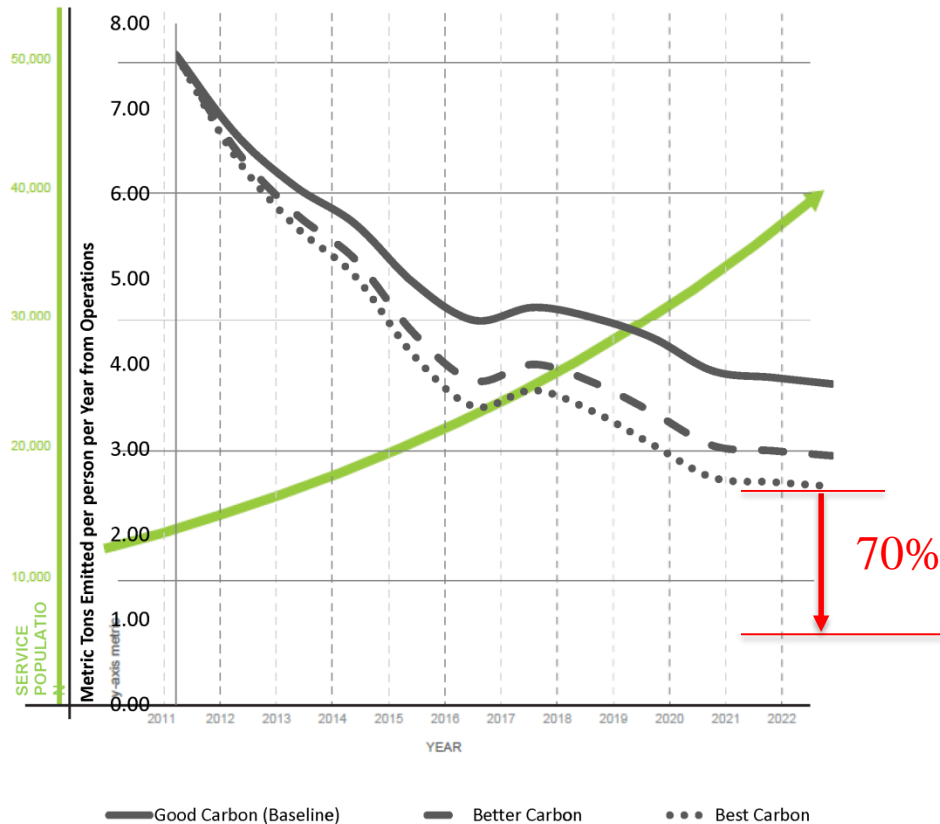
Density Scenario 1 - Carbon Per Person



**Density**  
(FAR of 1x)

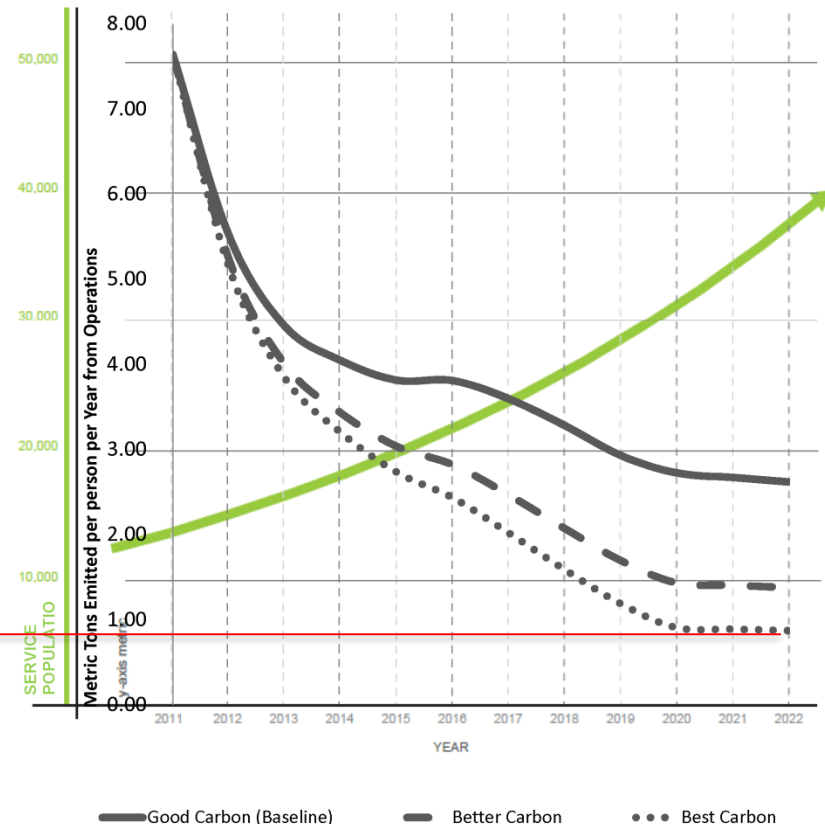
# Density Enables Deep Improvements

## Density Scenario 1 - Carbon Per Person



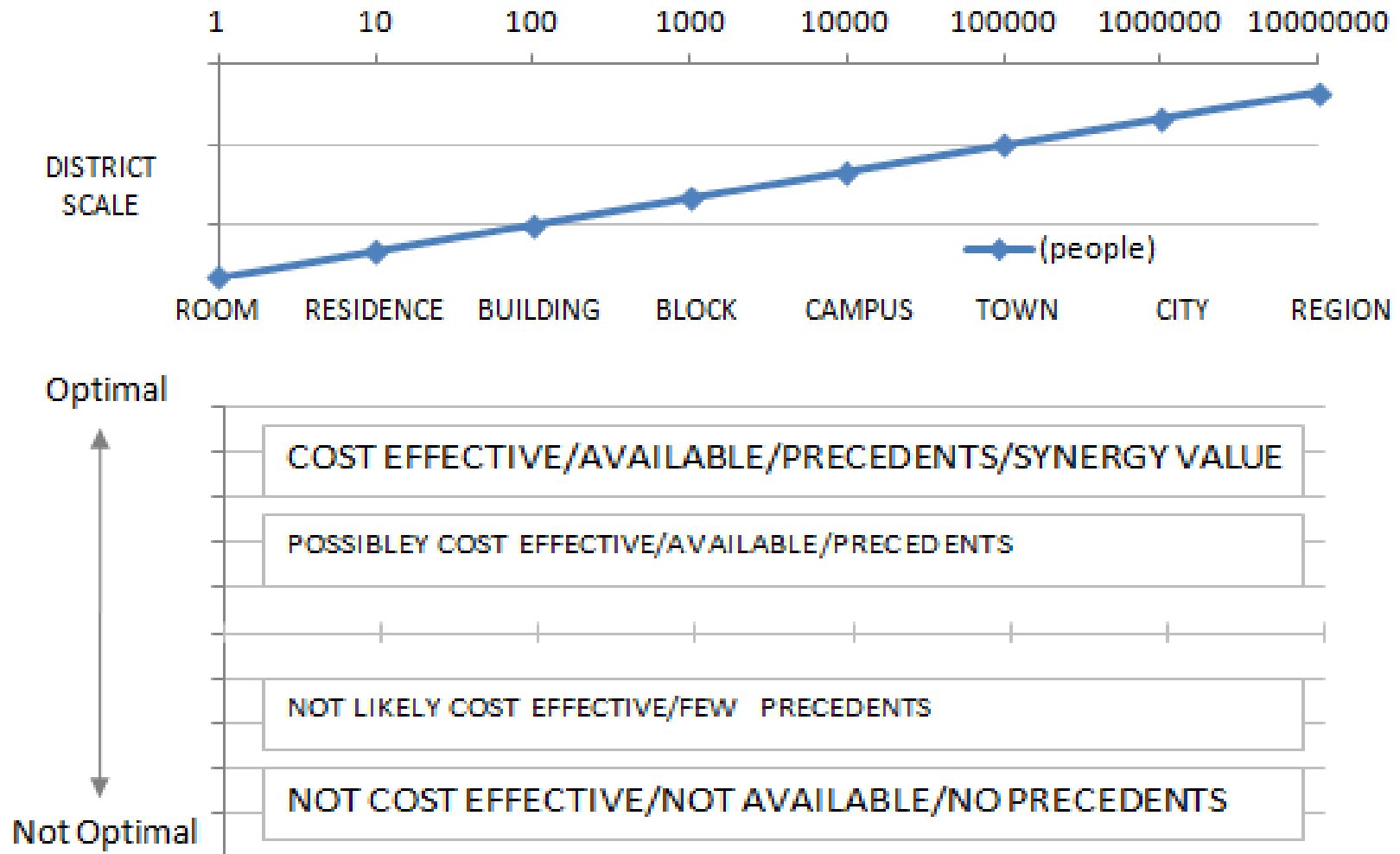
**Density**  
(FAR of 1x)

## Density Scenario 2 - Carbon Per Person

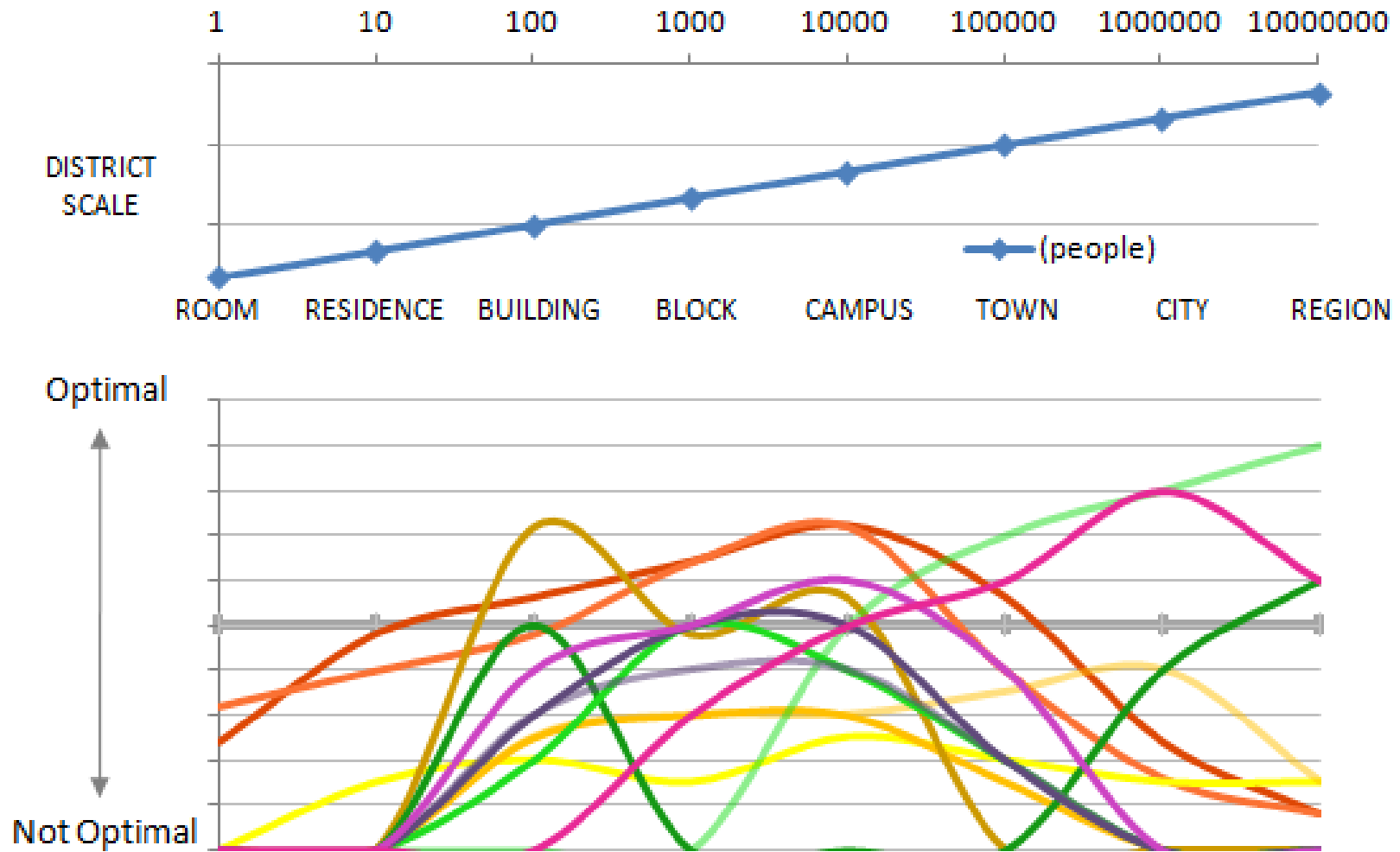


**2x Density**  
(FAR of 2x)

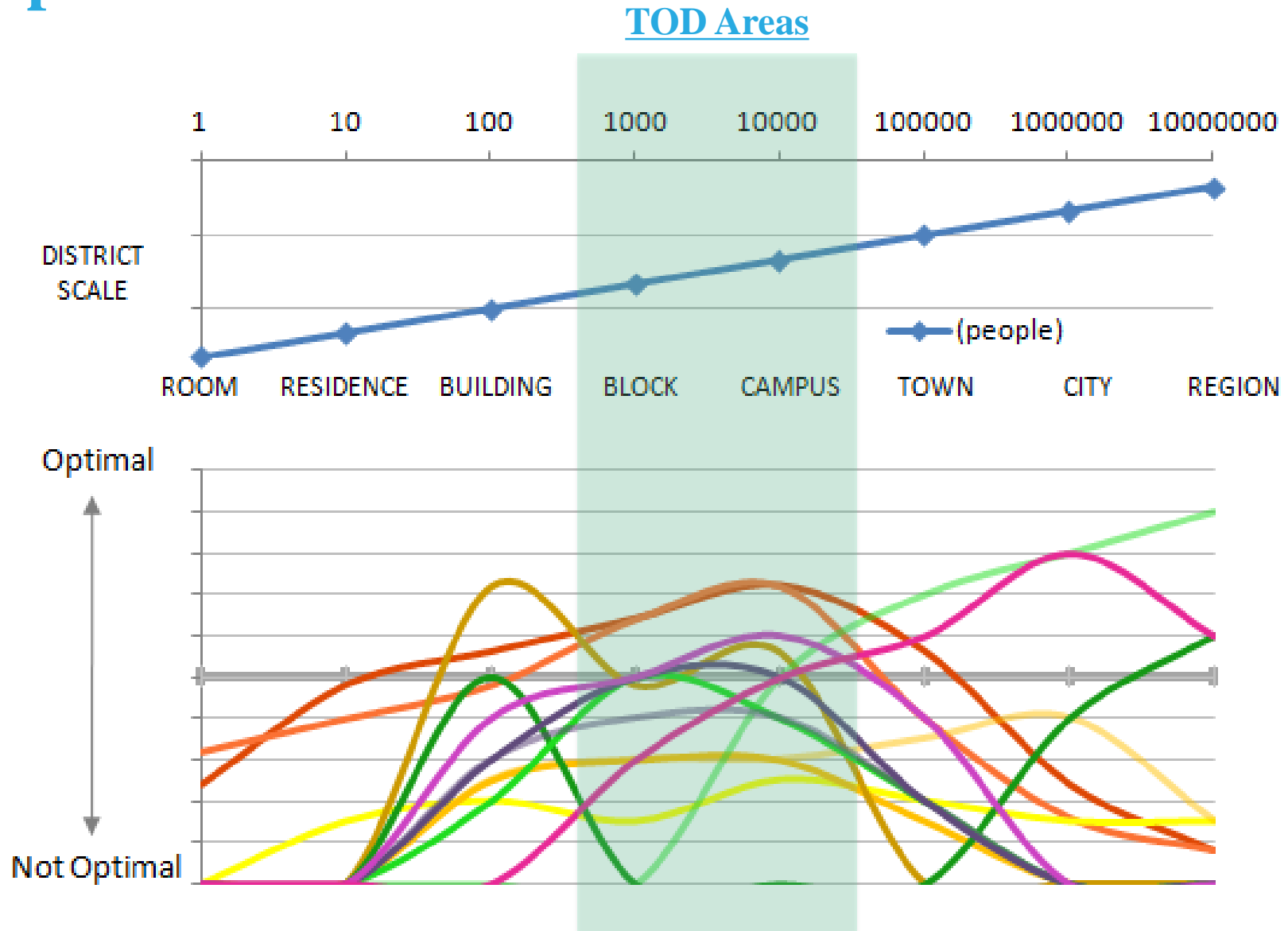
# Optimal Scales

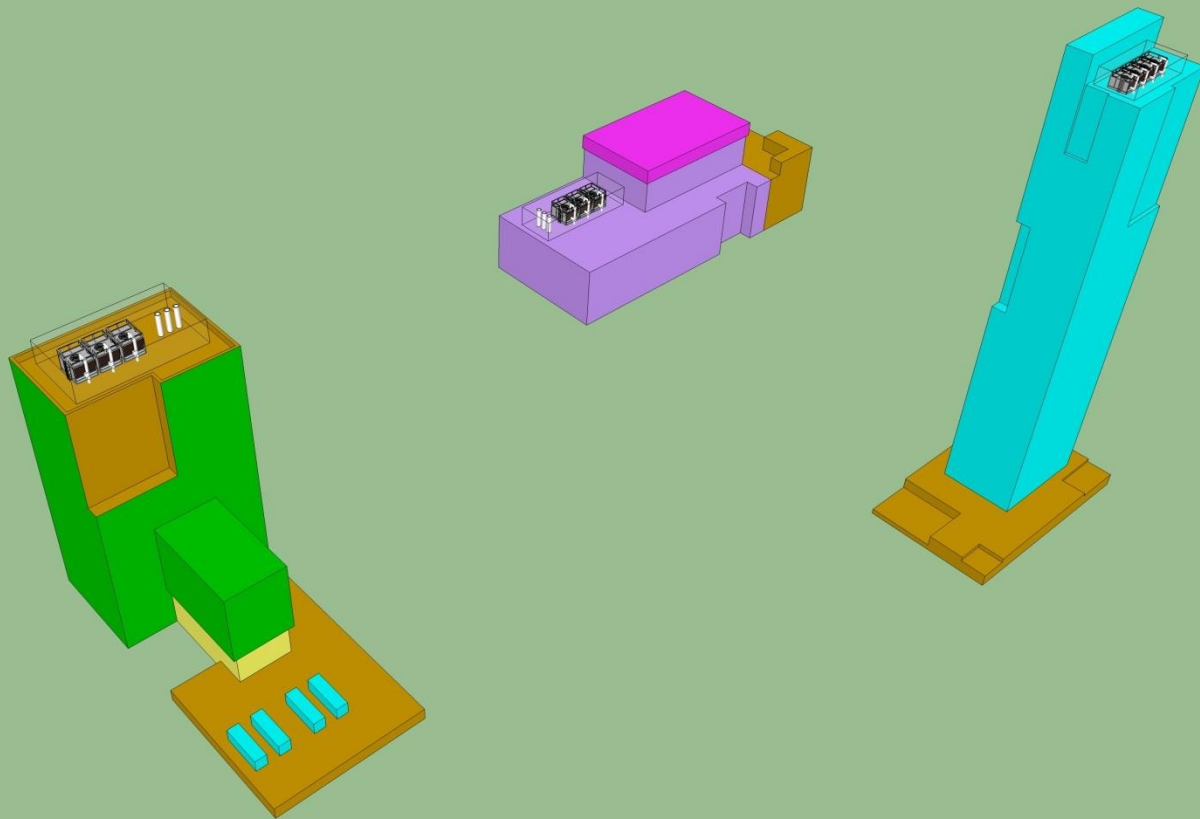


# Optimal Scales

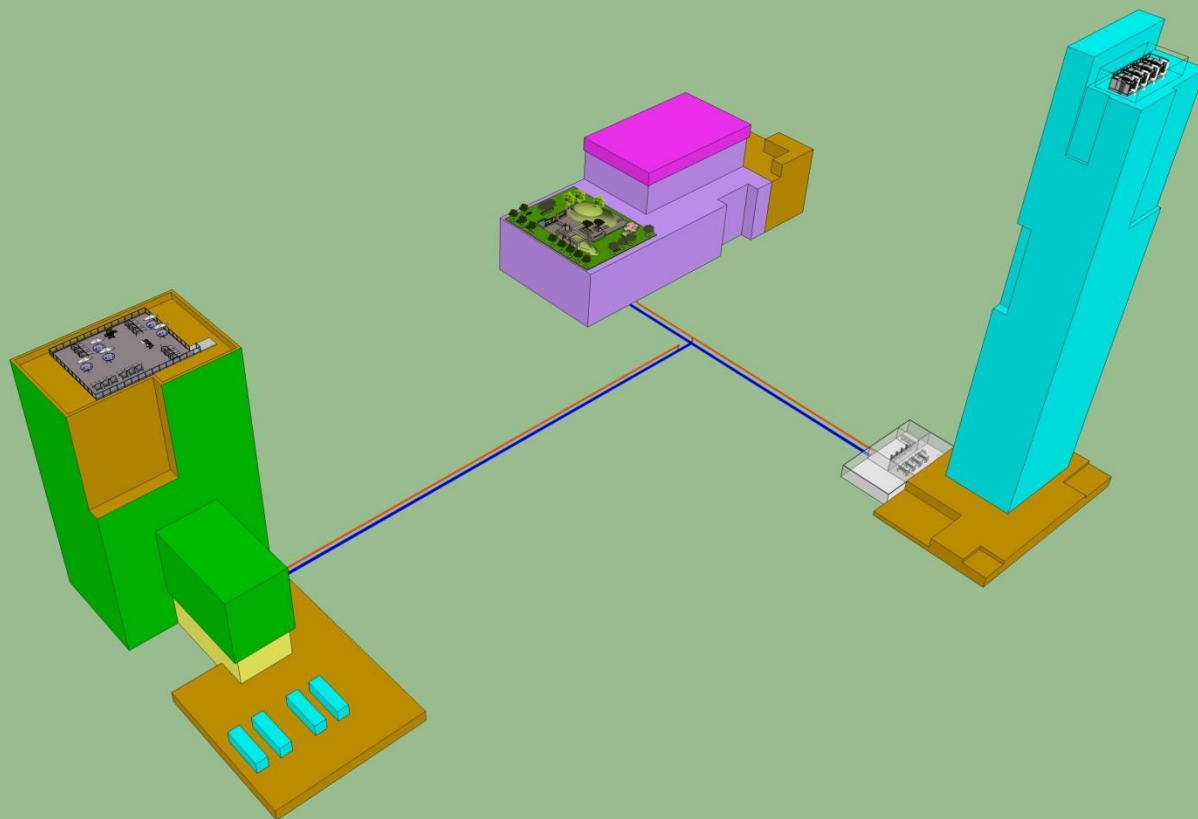


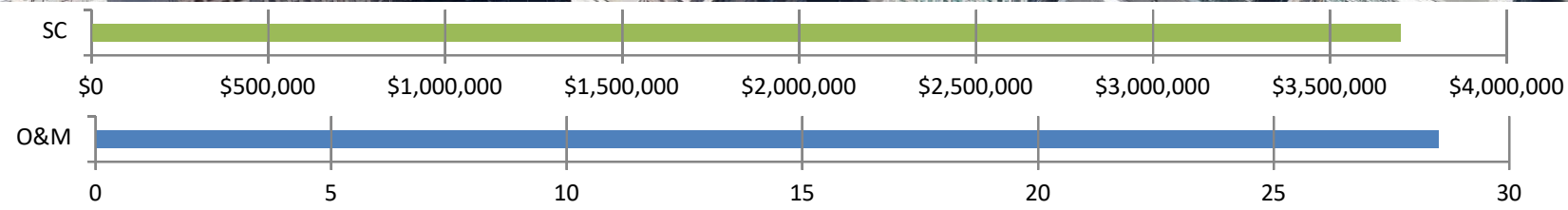
# Optimal Scales















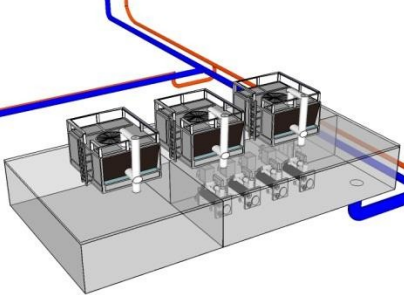
12.0 FTE



16.5 FTE's



M\$ 3.7/yr



- + Consolidated emissions with tighter controls
- + Building insurability benefit
- + Building occupant safety
- + More sophisticated controls



5.0 FTE's

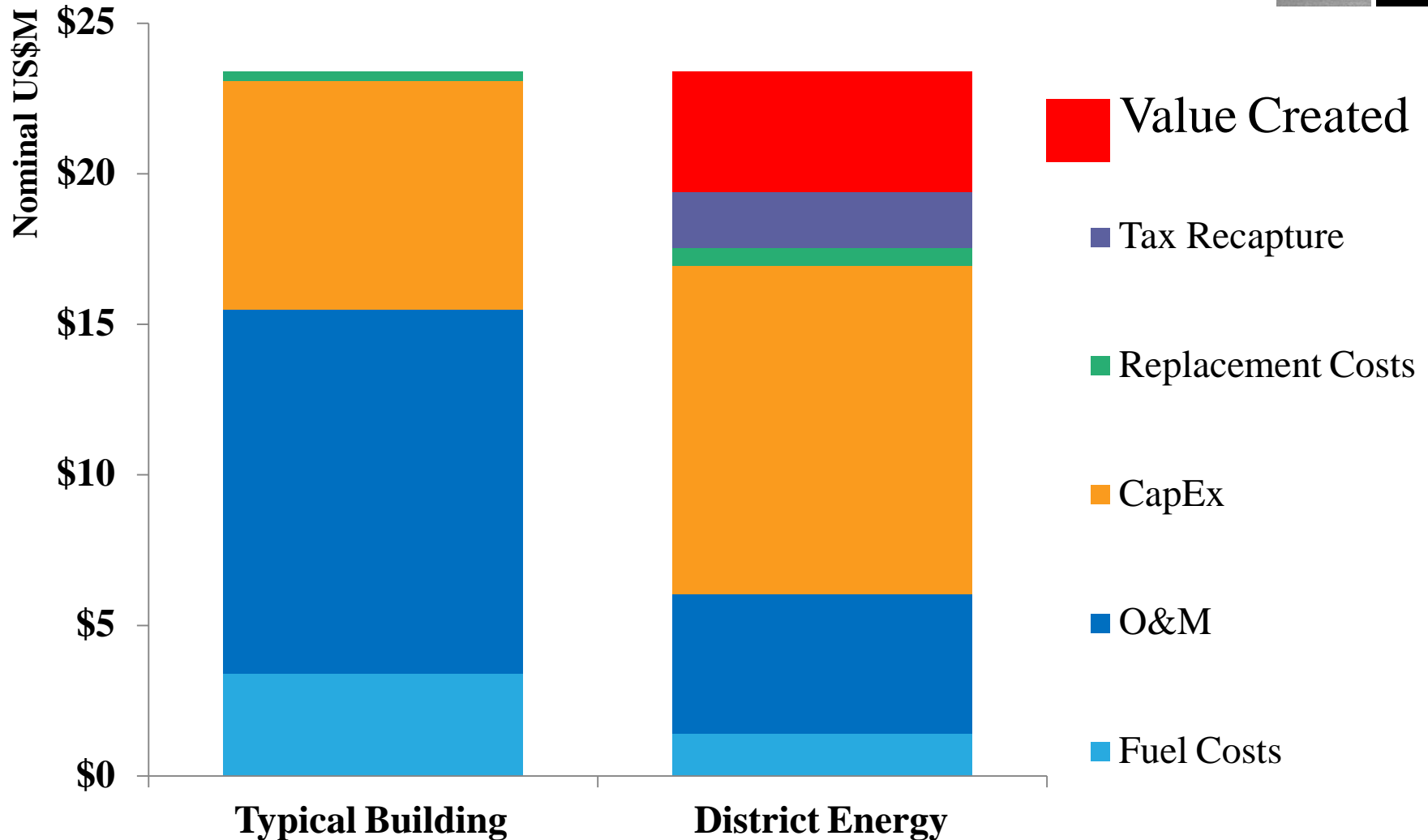


6.0 FTE's



M\$ 1.0/yr

# Saving millions of dollars per year



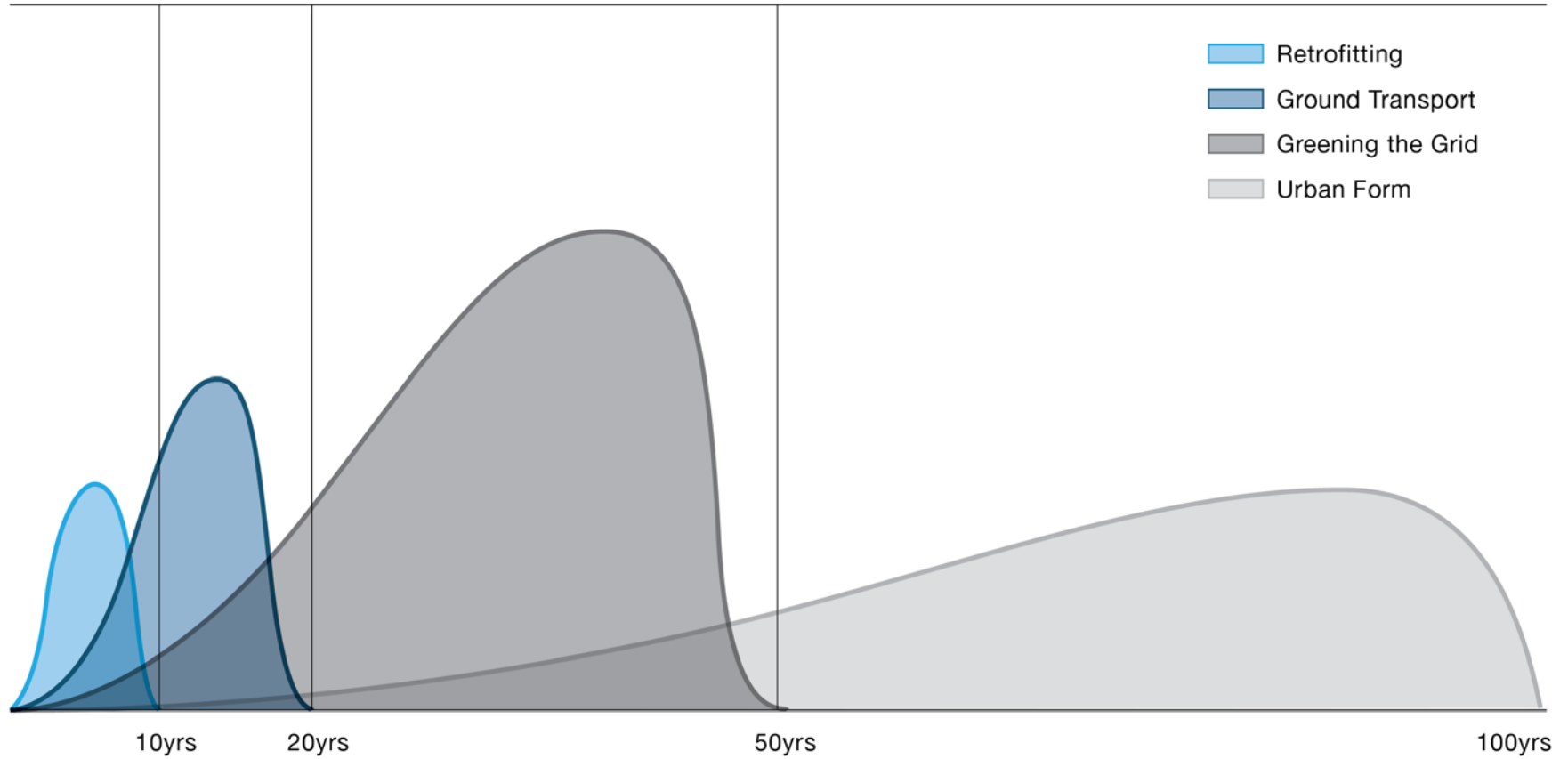


# Establish, Expand, Optimize, Maximize



# The need to plan

Carbon





# Psychology of Decisions

**...and the Default Condition**

**Recognize a problem**

**Choose to act to remedy or avoid the problem**

**Act effectively**

*Adapted from **Collapse** – How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed, Jared Diamond*

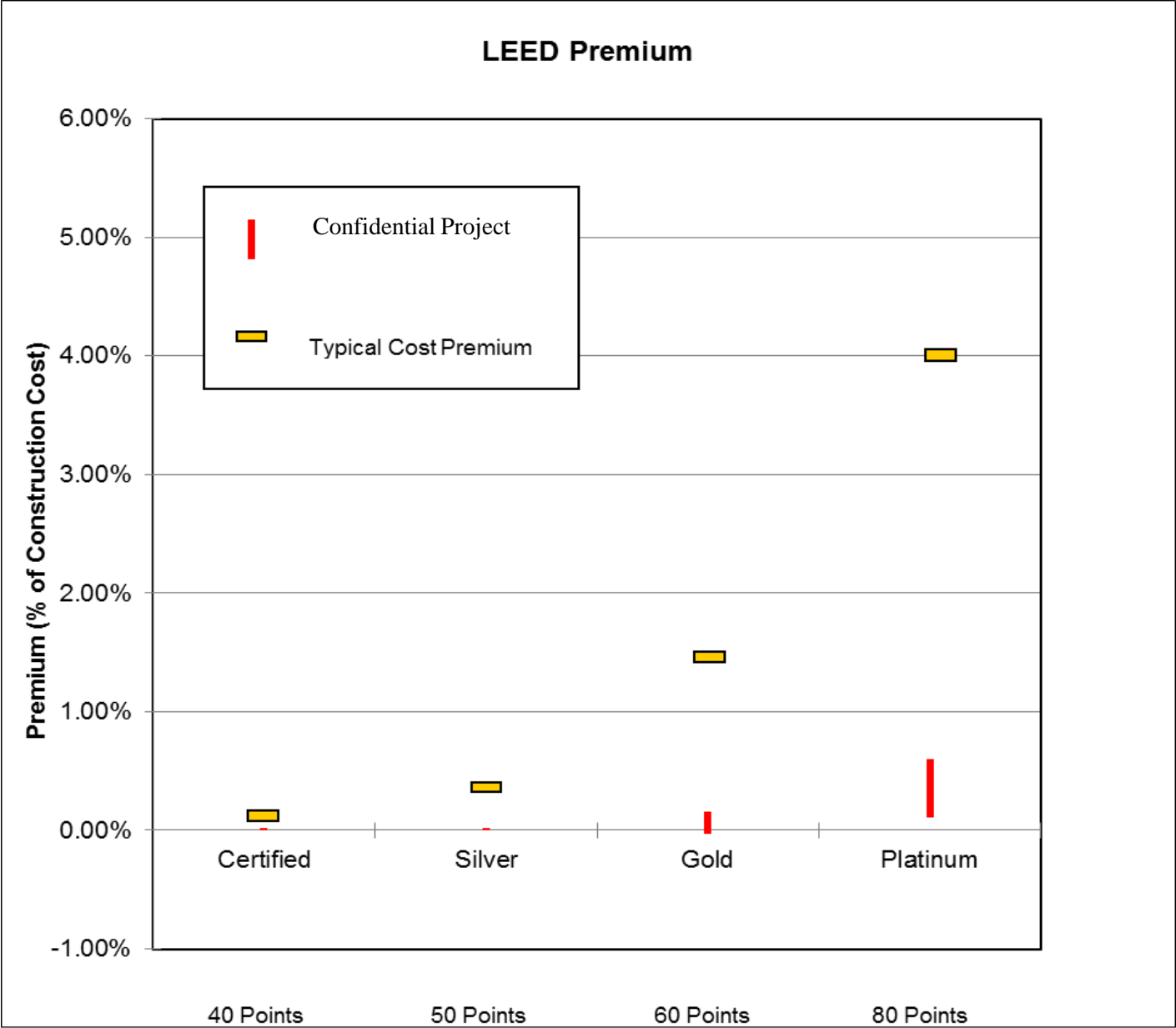


# The Default Condition is...

- **Safe** since others did it (think protection in groups)
- **Easy** since we've done it before (think existing tools)
- **Known** since we can see it (think existing data)
- **Inexpensive** since anything better or new should always cost more (think marketing)
- **Hard to change** (think existing city streets)
- **Politically nonconfrontational** (think NIMBY'ism)
- **Appropriate** since it reflects our culture (think the sexy automobile)
- **Financeable** since the financial system knows how to pay for it (think loan underwriting)



# Building Performance Standards





# Adaptation

**Resistance & Resilience**

# How High Will the Sea Rise?

The marker in front of you shows several scenarios for sea level rise above the current Mean High Water mark.



**6 m (19 feet, 8 inches):** sea level if Greenland Ice Cap melts (if the ice at both poles melted, the ocean would reach the road deck of the Golden Gate Bridge)



**2.9 m (9 feet, 6 inches):** 100-year flood level with a 1.4 m rise in sea level and a storm surge



**1.4 m (4 feet, 7 inches):** high end of predicted sea level rise by 2100



**1.0 m (3 feet, 3 inches):** moderate estimate of predicted sea level rise by 2100 (approximately today's 100-year flood level)



**0.5 m (1 foot, 8 inches):** low end of predicted sea level rise by 2100



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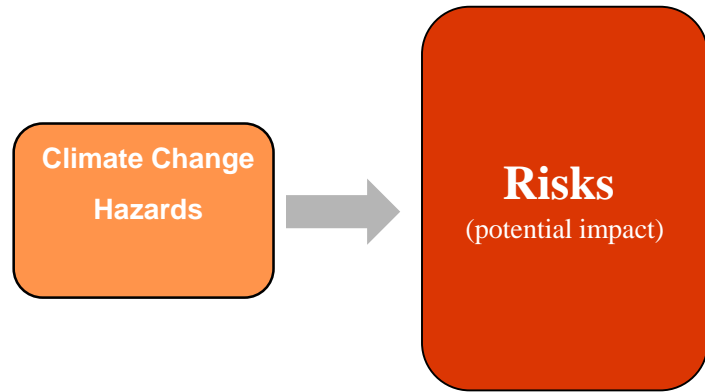
Image: Heidi Nutters



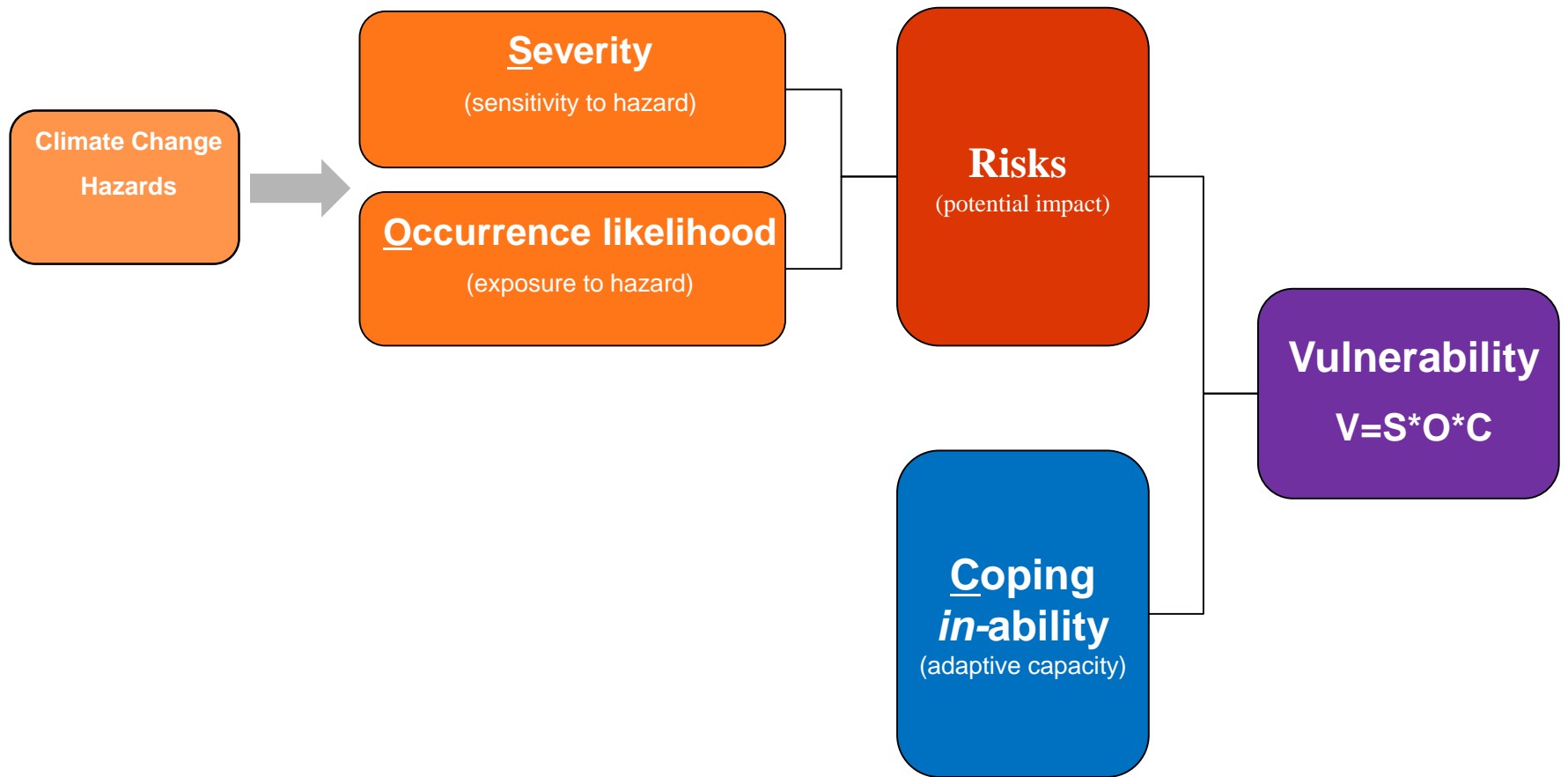


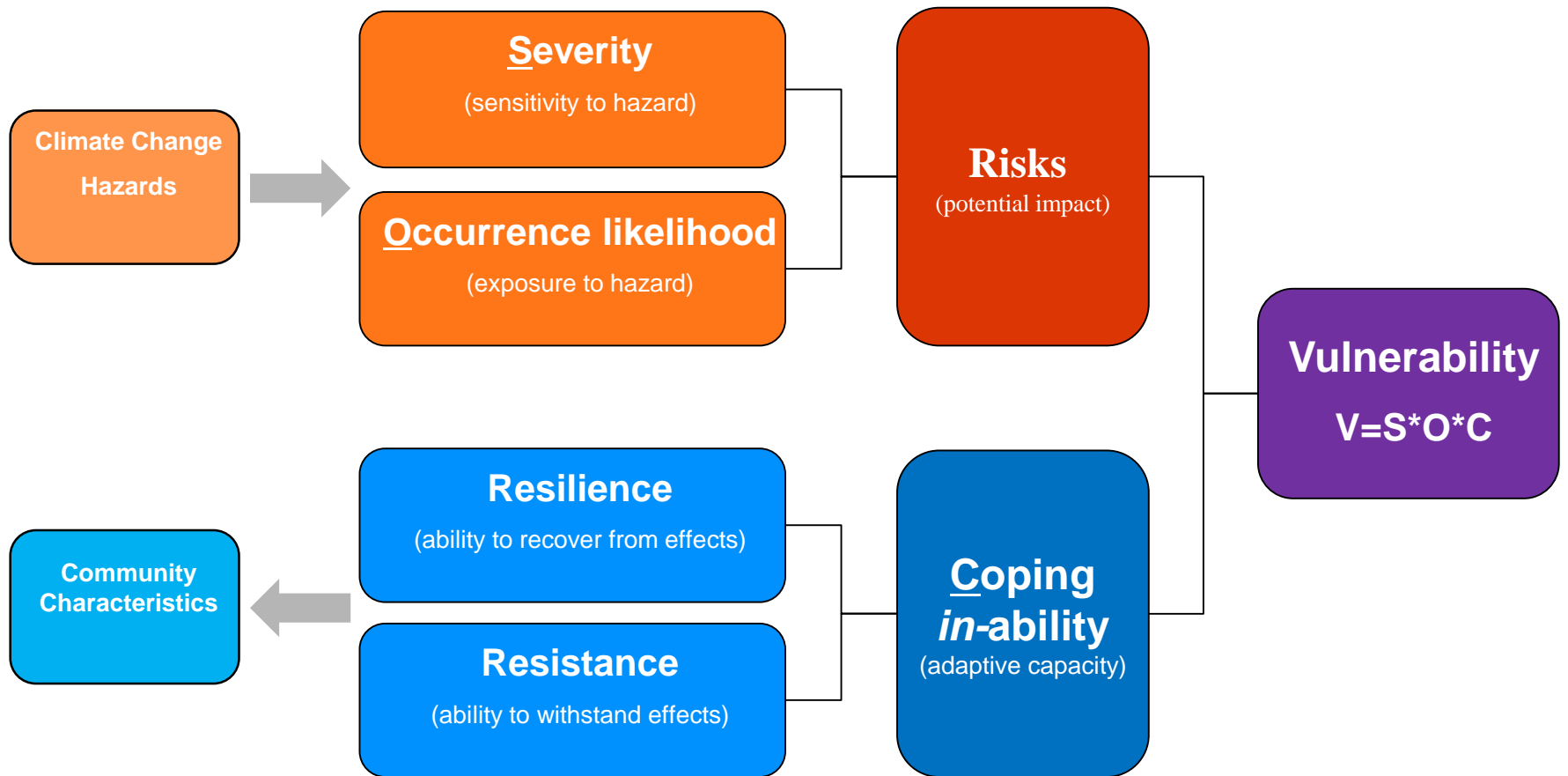
Image: Sergio Ruiz









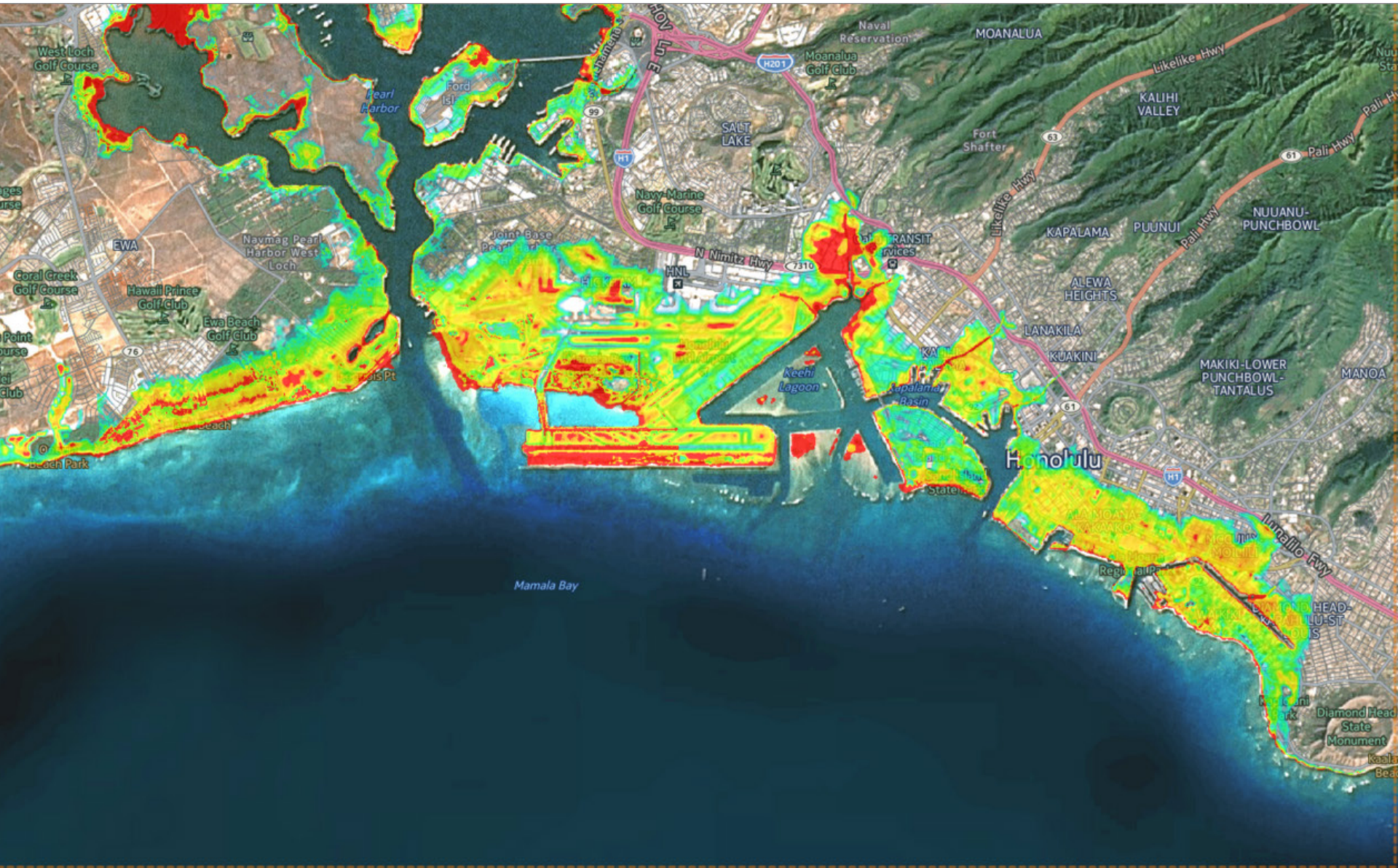


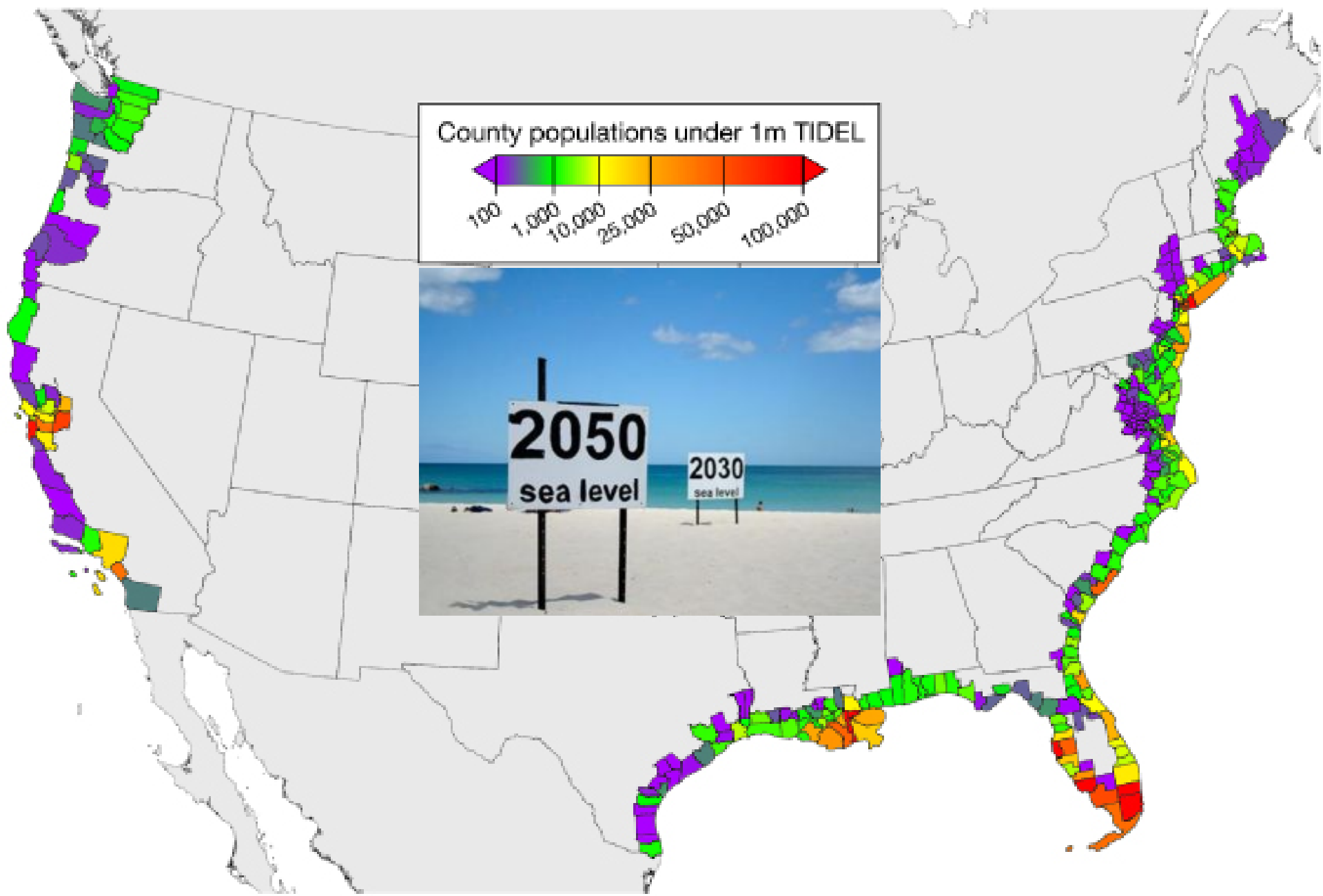
# New Hartford, Iowa



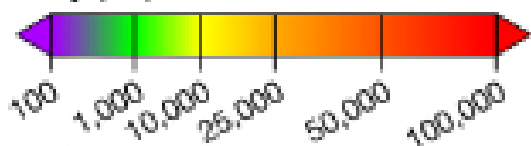


# \$43B at Risk: Inundation zones +1m sea rise





County populations under 1m TIDEL





# San Francisco – Risk Accumulation?





# Risk Accumulation

- **Bay Area: Elevated Seas, Earthquake, Levy Breach, Failed Infrastructure Systems → “*Economic & Health System Failures*”**
- **Honolulu: Energy, Water, and Food Import Dependence, Tourism → “*EHSF*”**
- **St Louis: Changing Patterns of Precipitation, Proximity to Rivers, Sewer Infrastructure, and Shipping → “*EHSF*”**
- **Minneapolis: Retreating Freeze Lines, Monocrops, Wooden Structures, → “*ESF*”**

# Risk Accumulation

- Japan
- Louisiana
- New York City
- Inland Europe: Heat Index+ Non-Resilient Buildings + Cultural Norms

- 

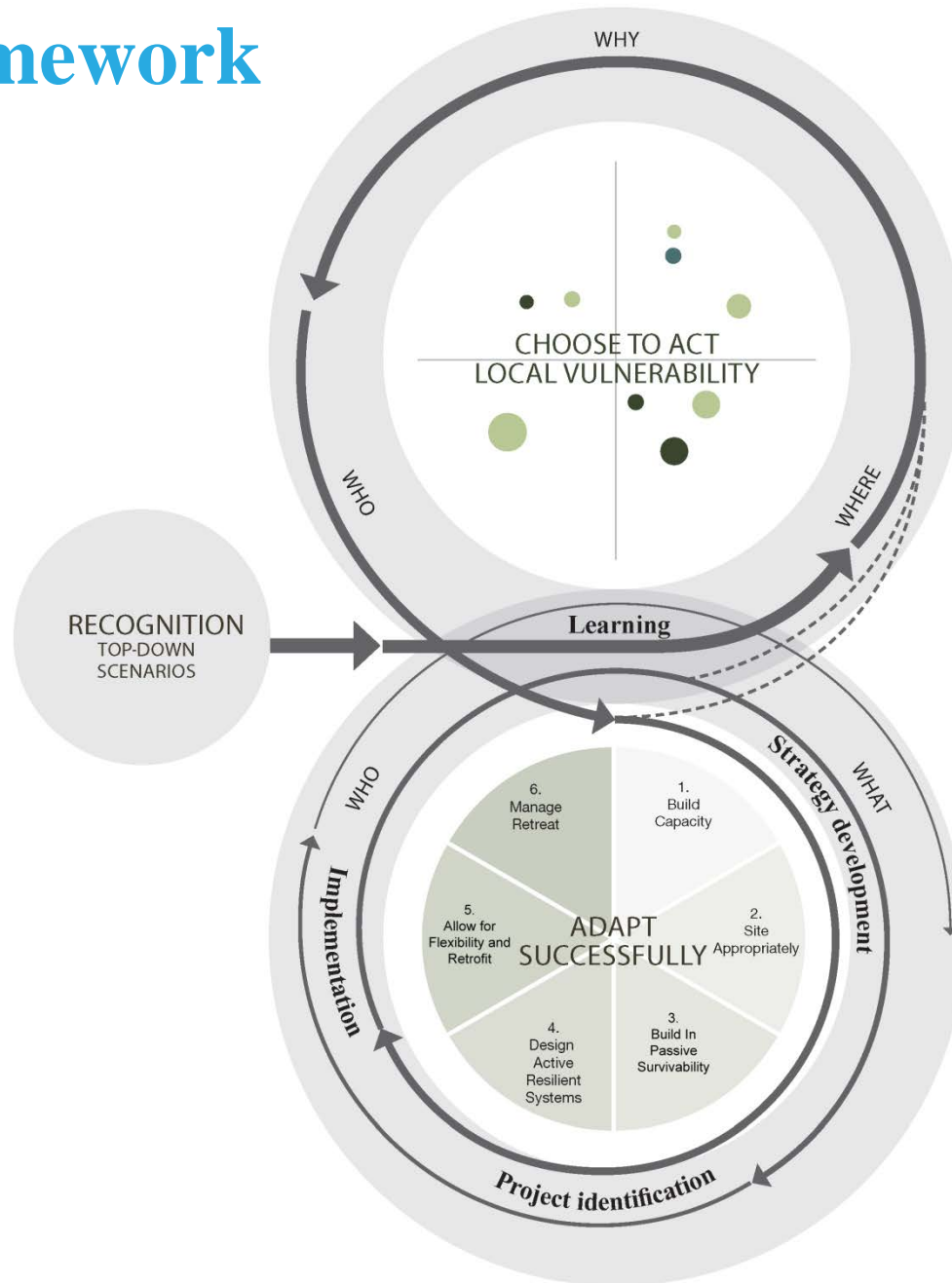


# Risk Accumulation

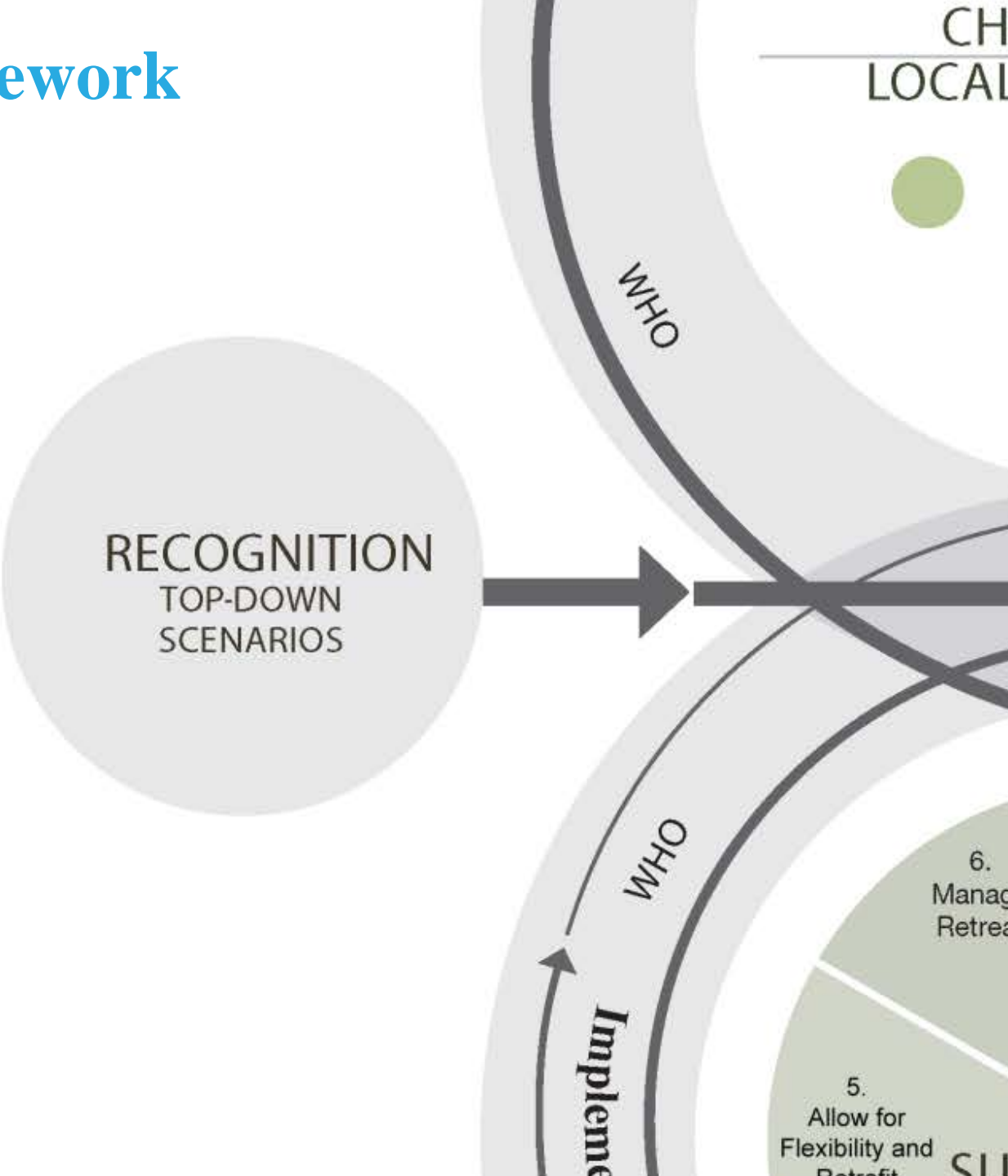
- Japan
- Louisiana
- New York City
- Inland Europe: Heat Index+ Non-Resilient Buildings + Cultural Norms
- ➔ 50k dead in 2003



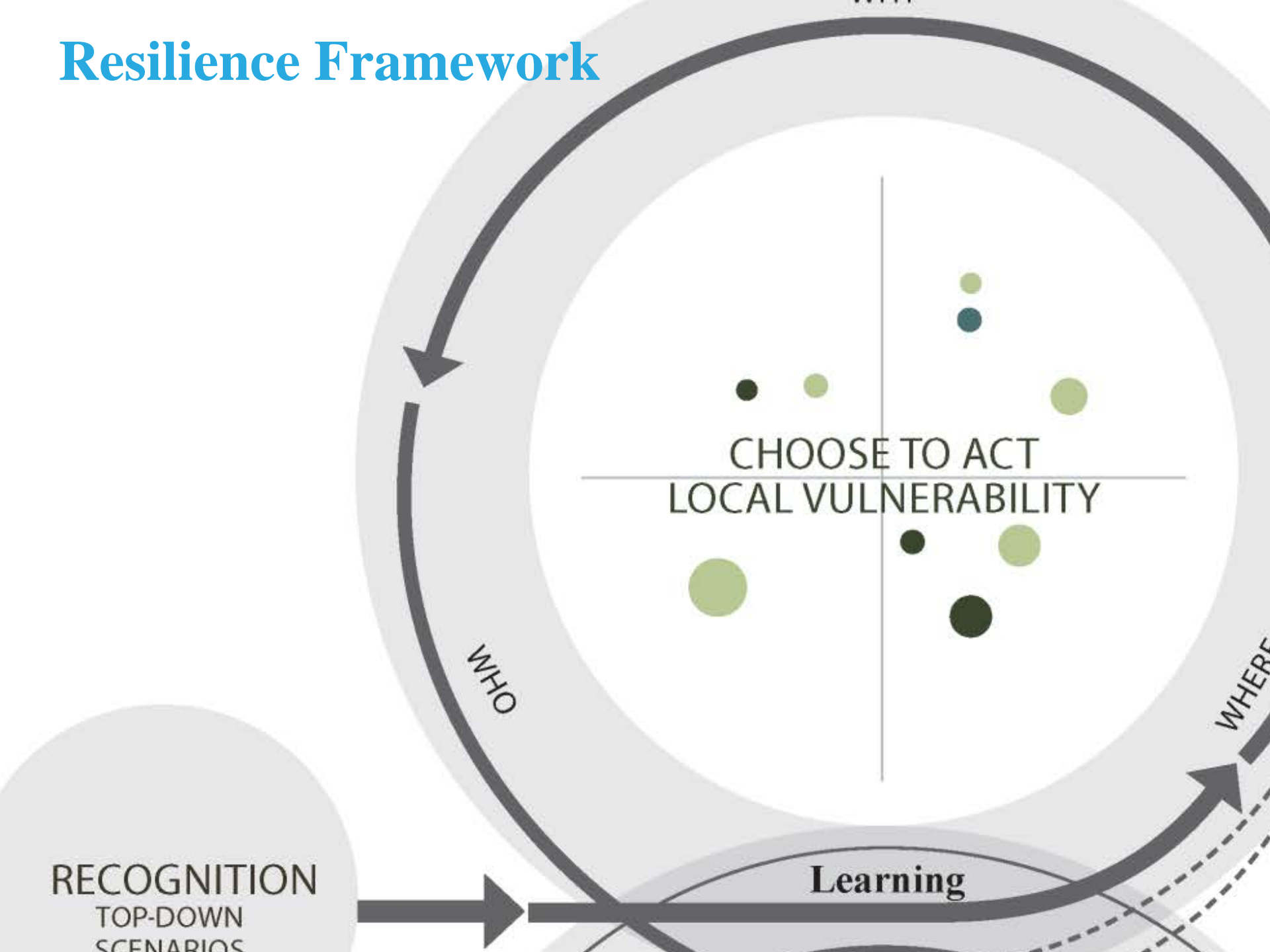
# Resilience Framework



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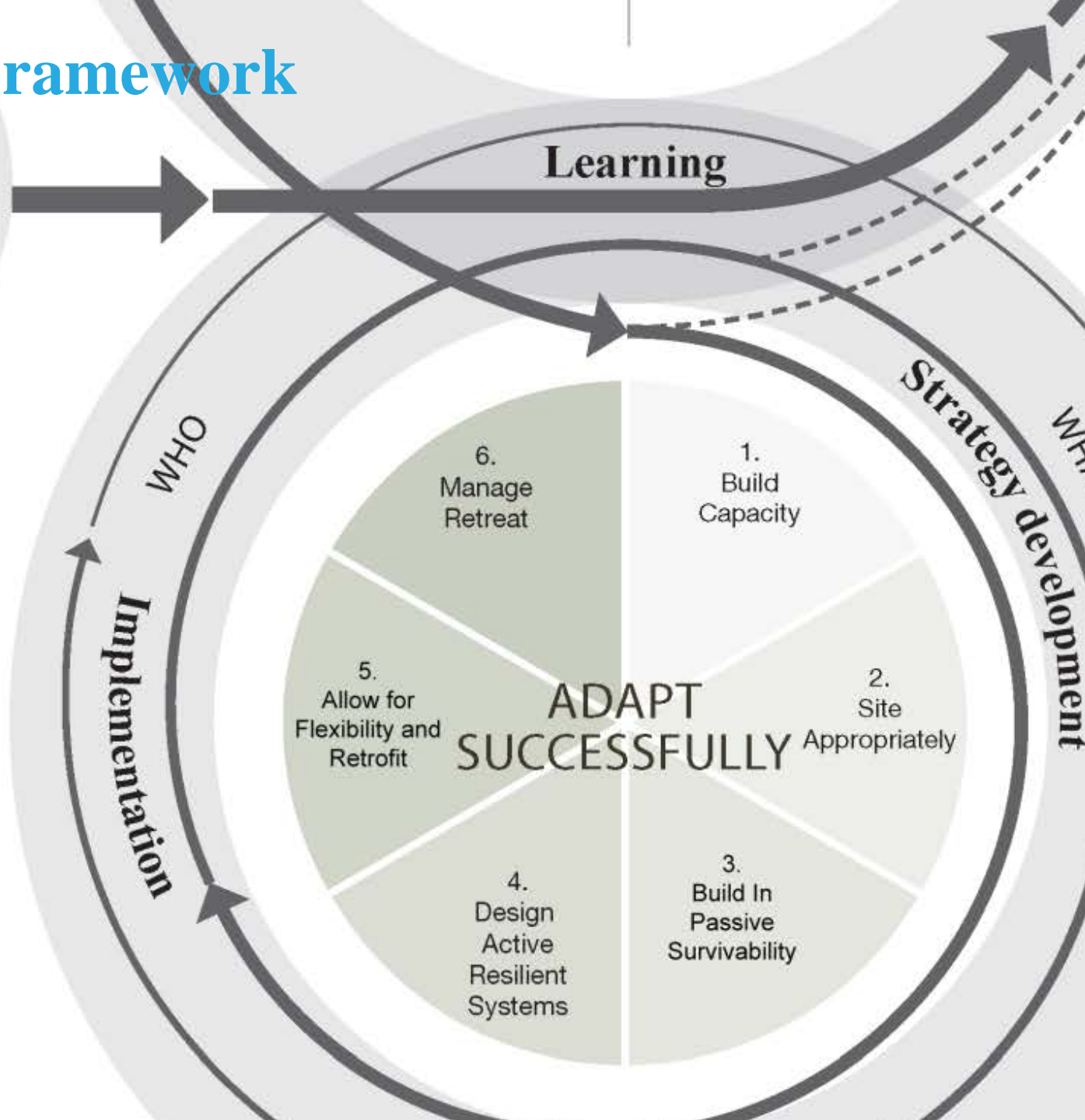


# Resilience Framework



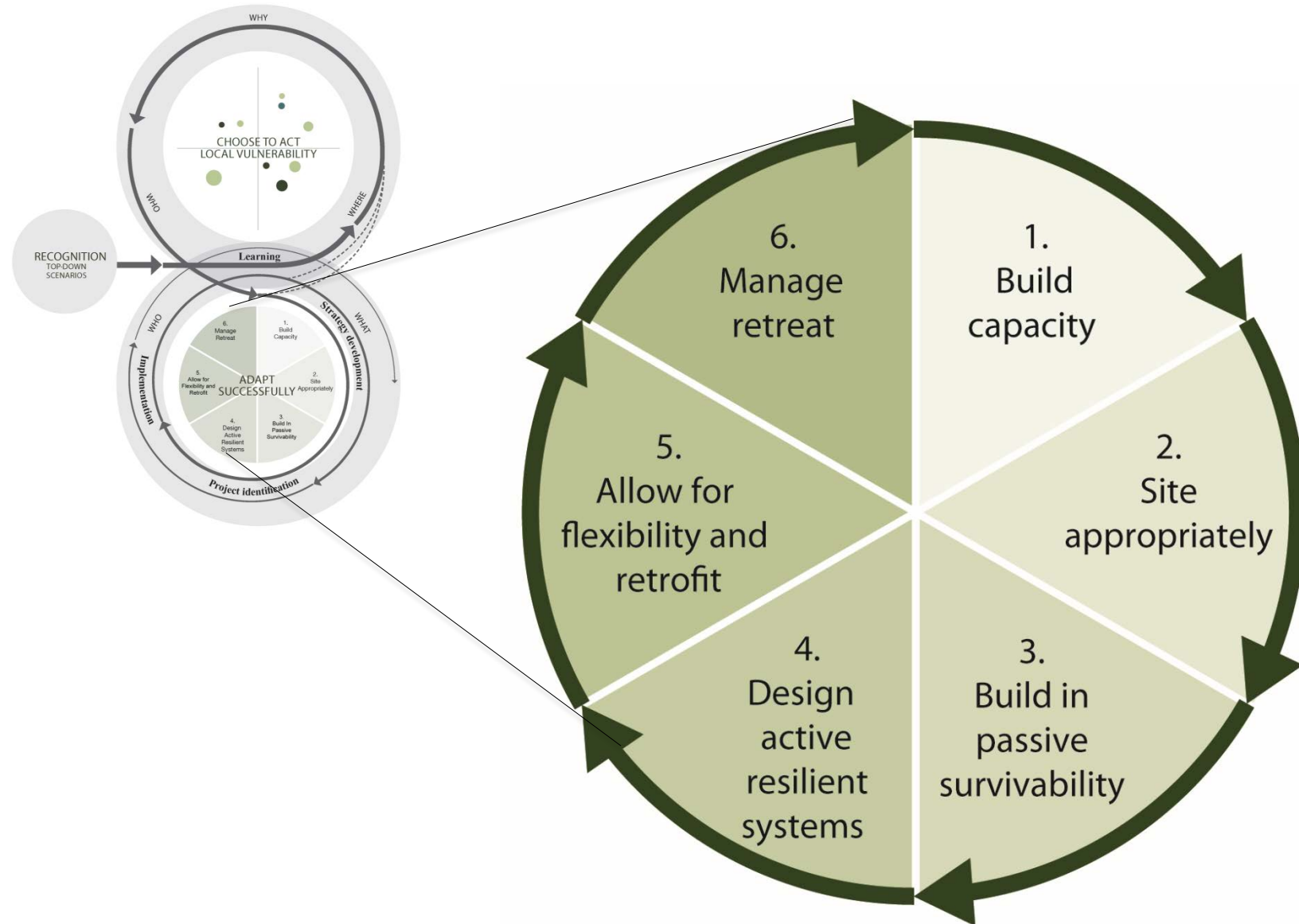
# Resilience Framework

RECOGNITION  
TOP-DOWN  
SCENARIOS

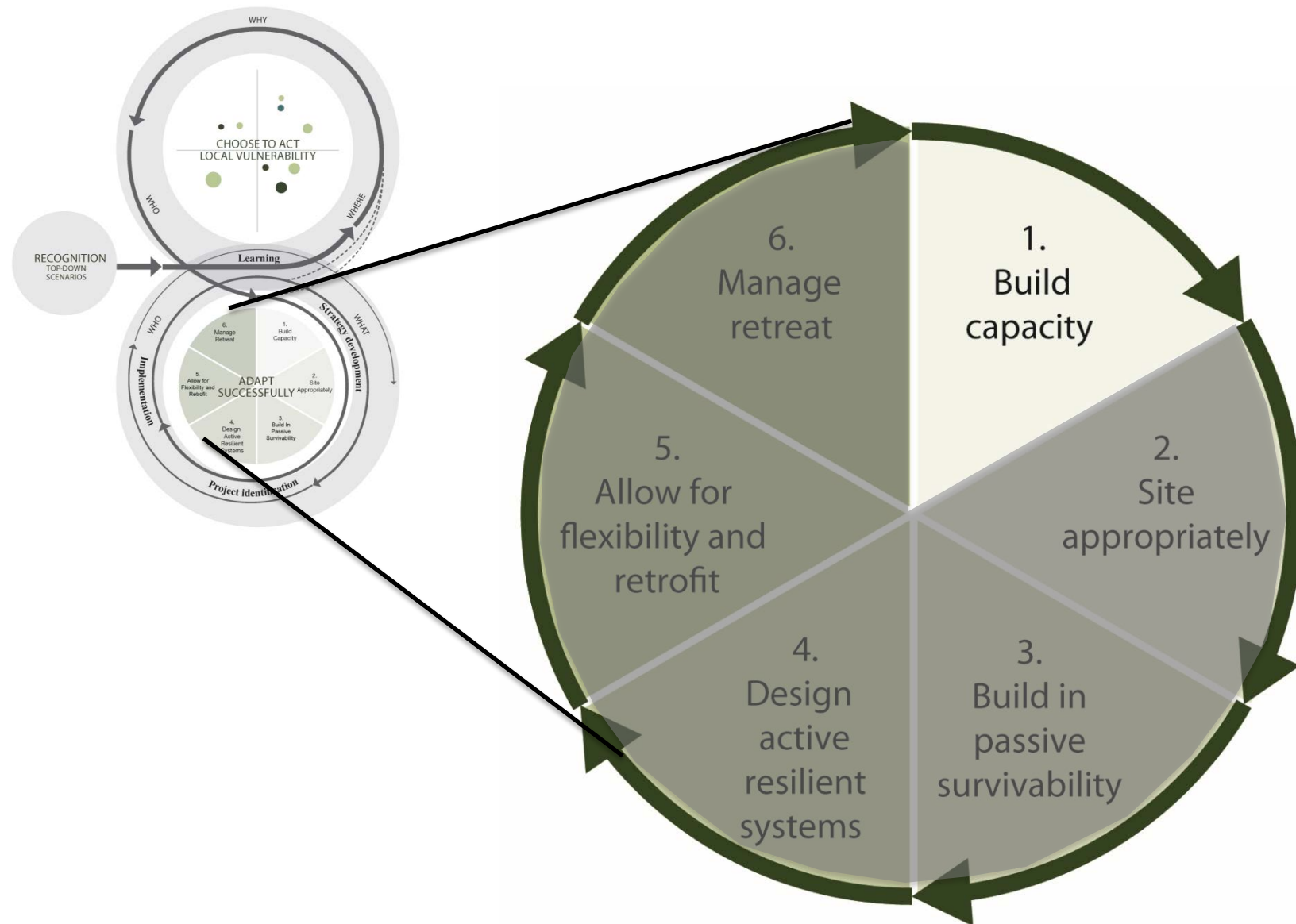




# Act Successfully: Comprehensive + Time Based







# Katrina – Emergency Response





# Climate Resilience Design Guidance

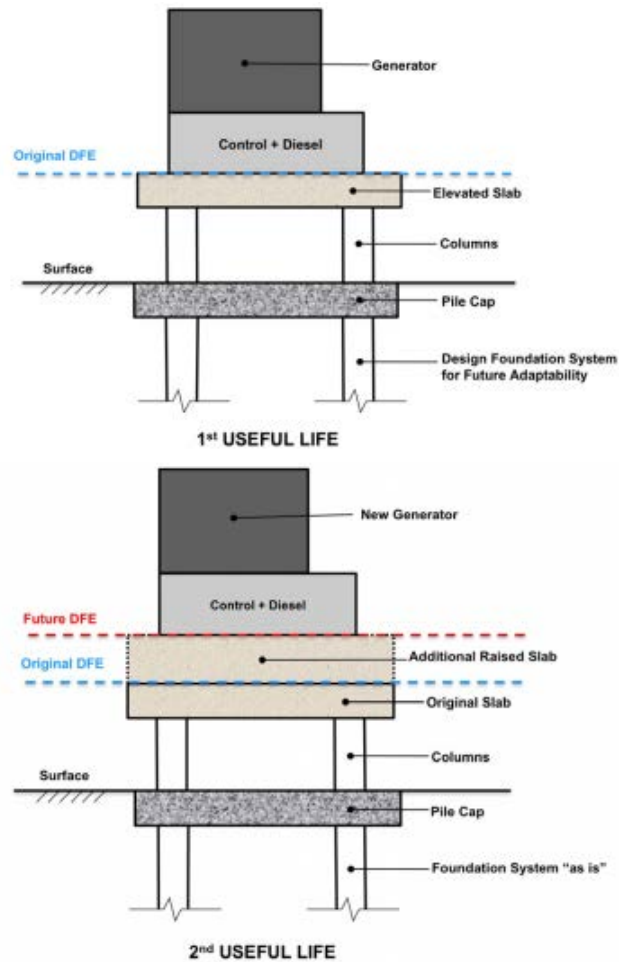
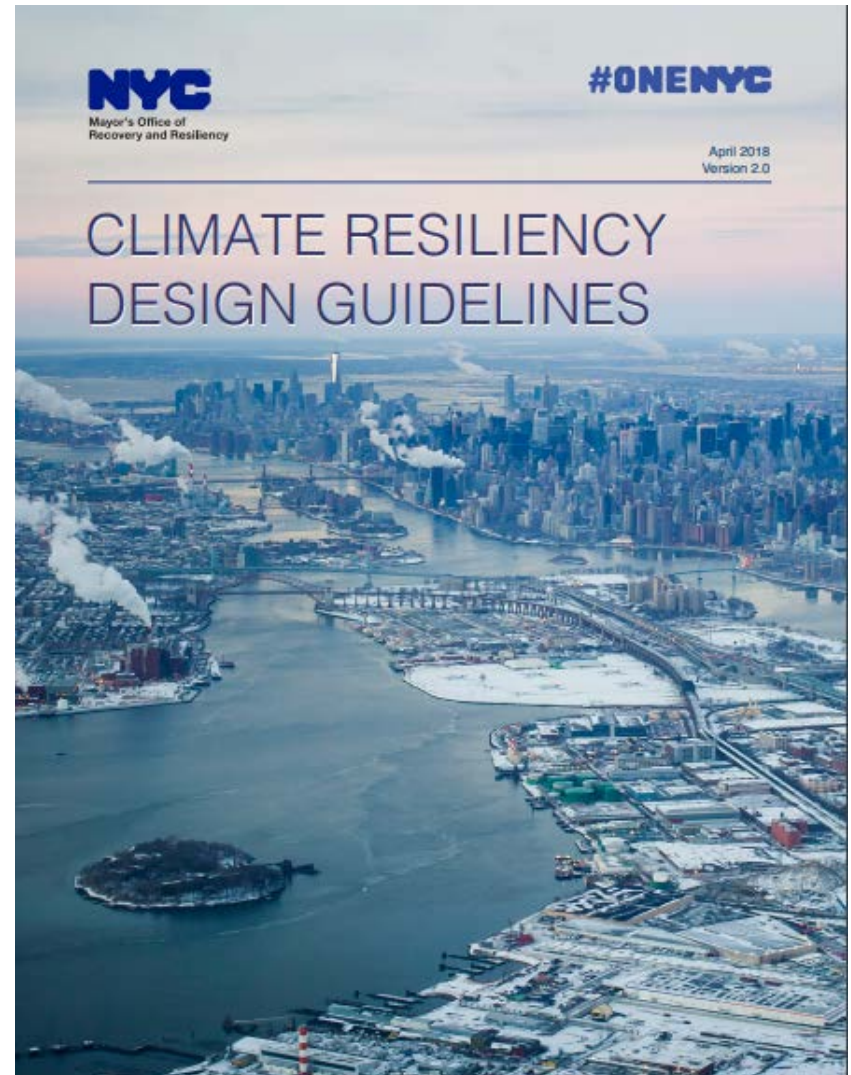
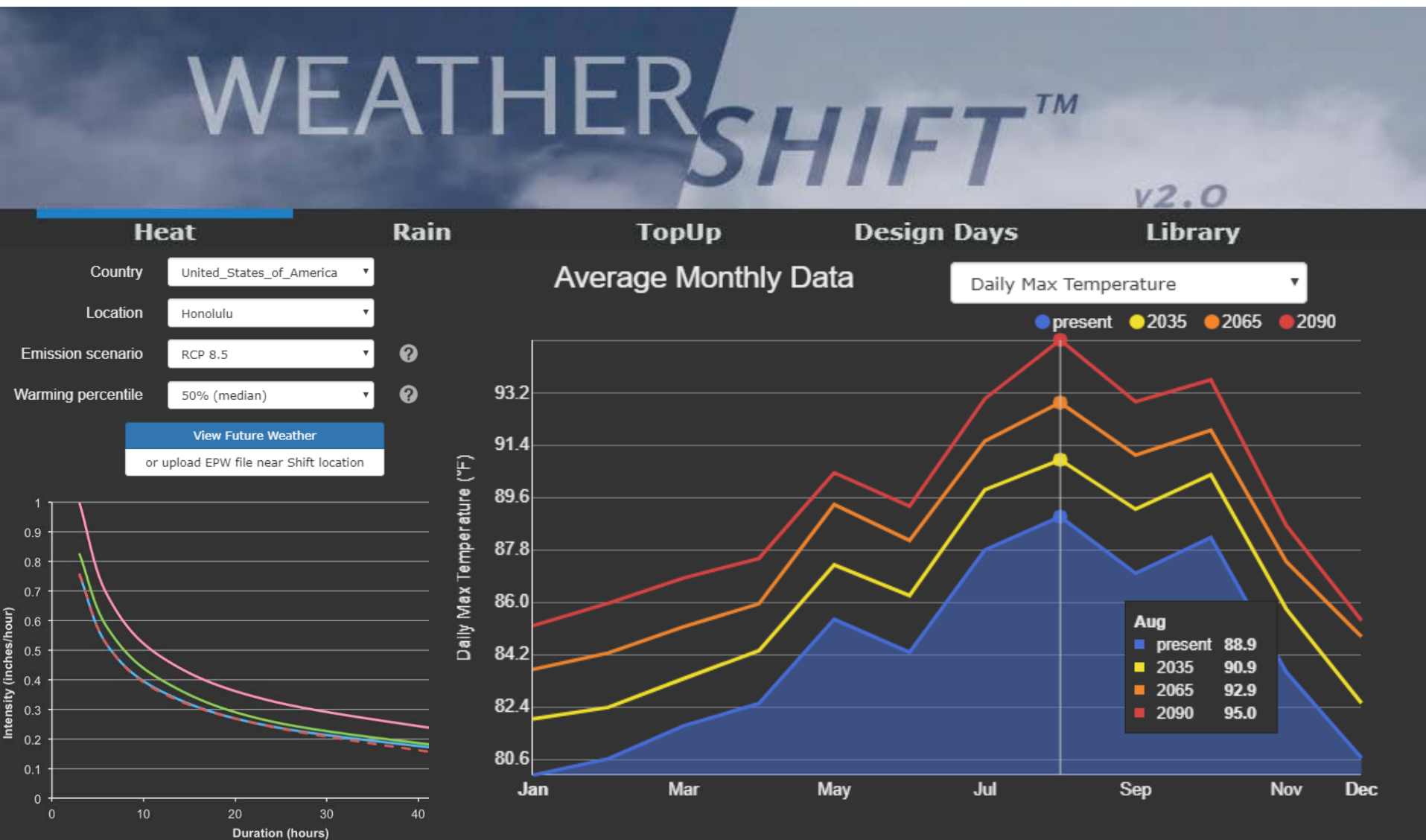


Figure 1 - Example of a flexible adaptation pathway for an outdoor emergency generator and platform

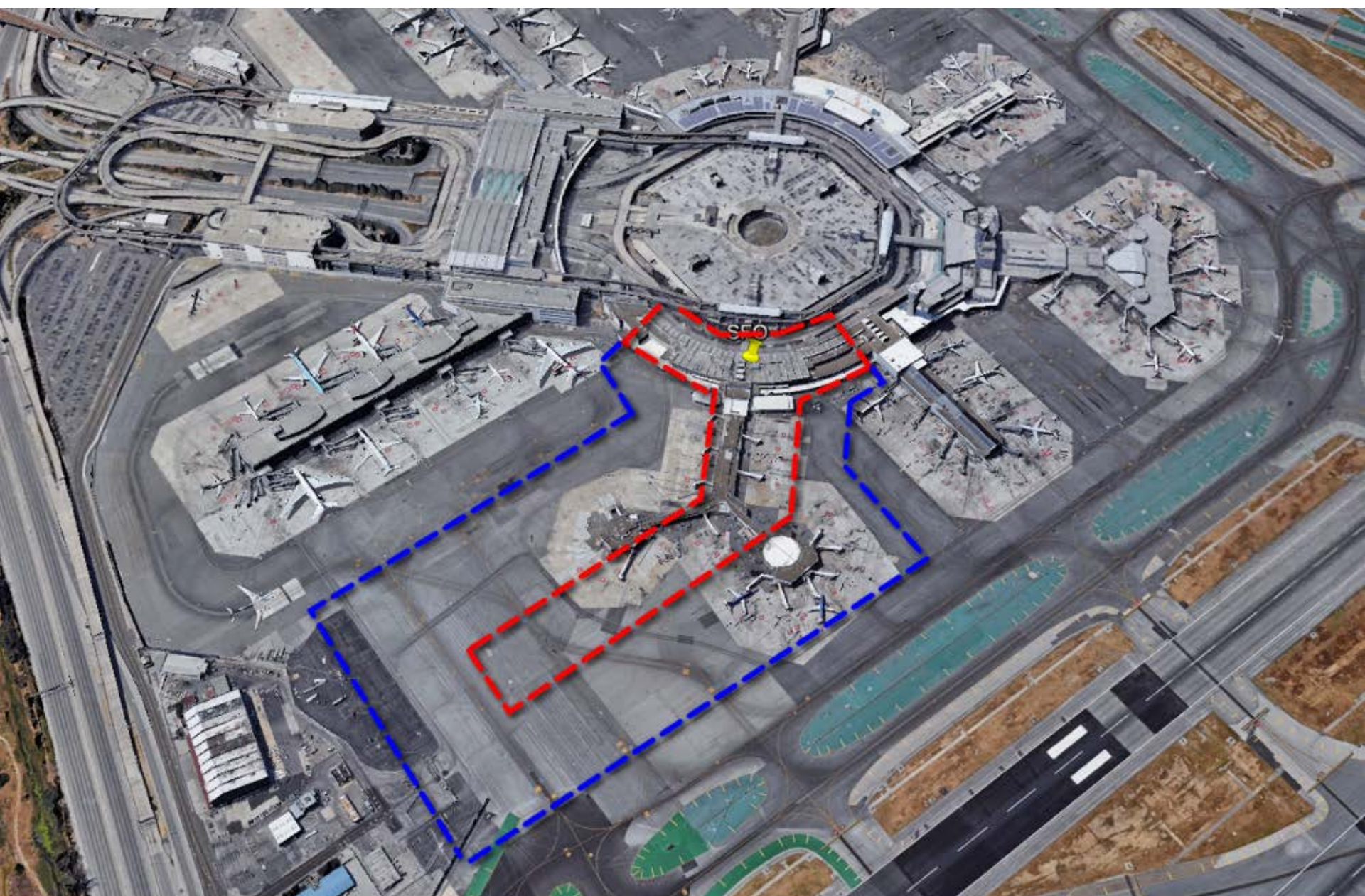


# Climate Resilience Design Data





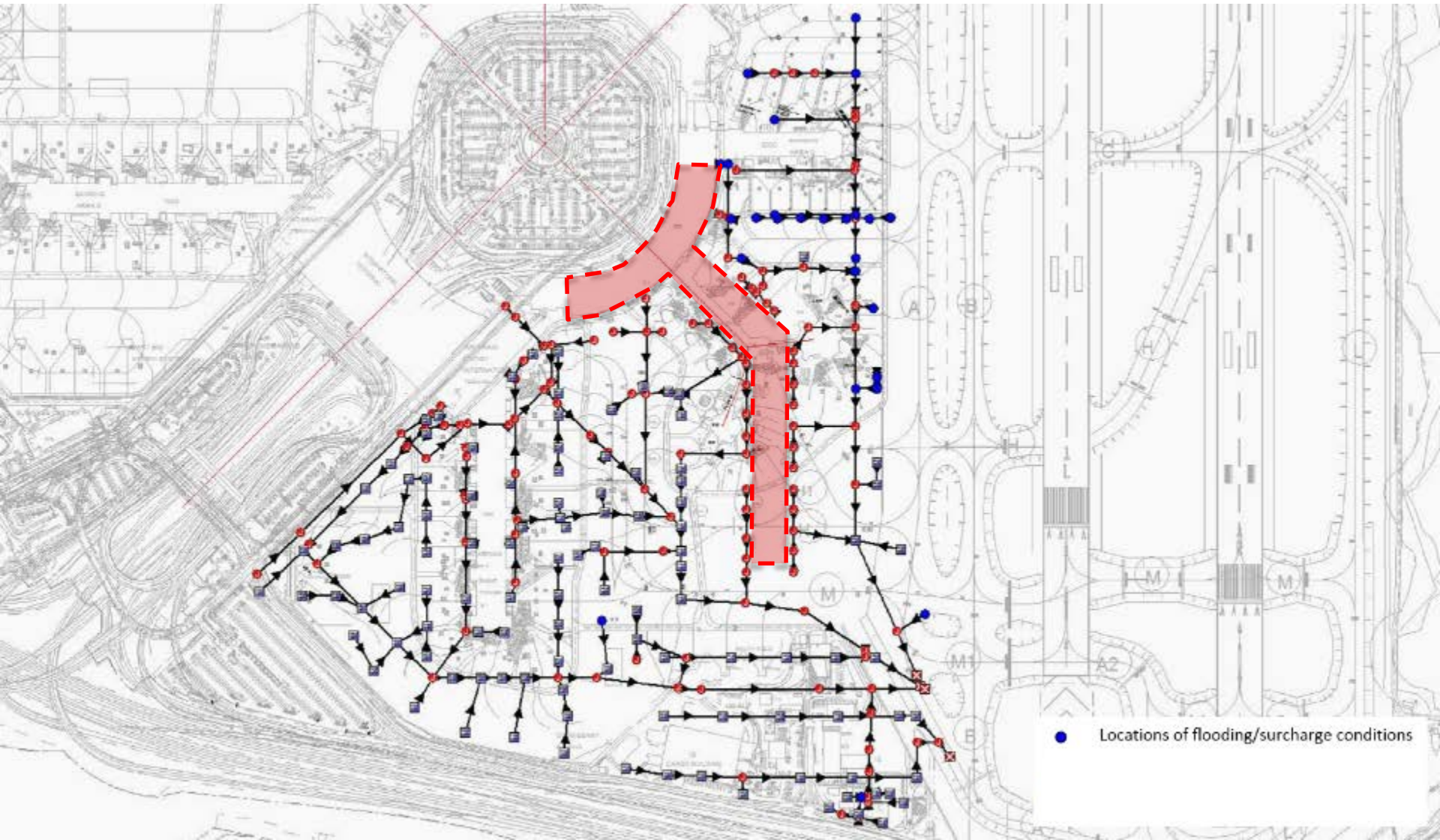
# Use case: SFO Terminal 1 Project





# Civil 3D Storm & Sanitary Hydraulic Model

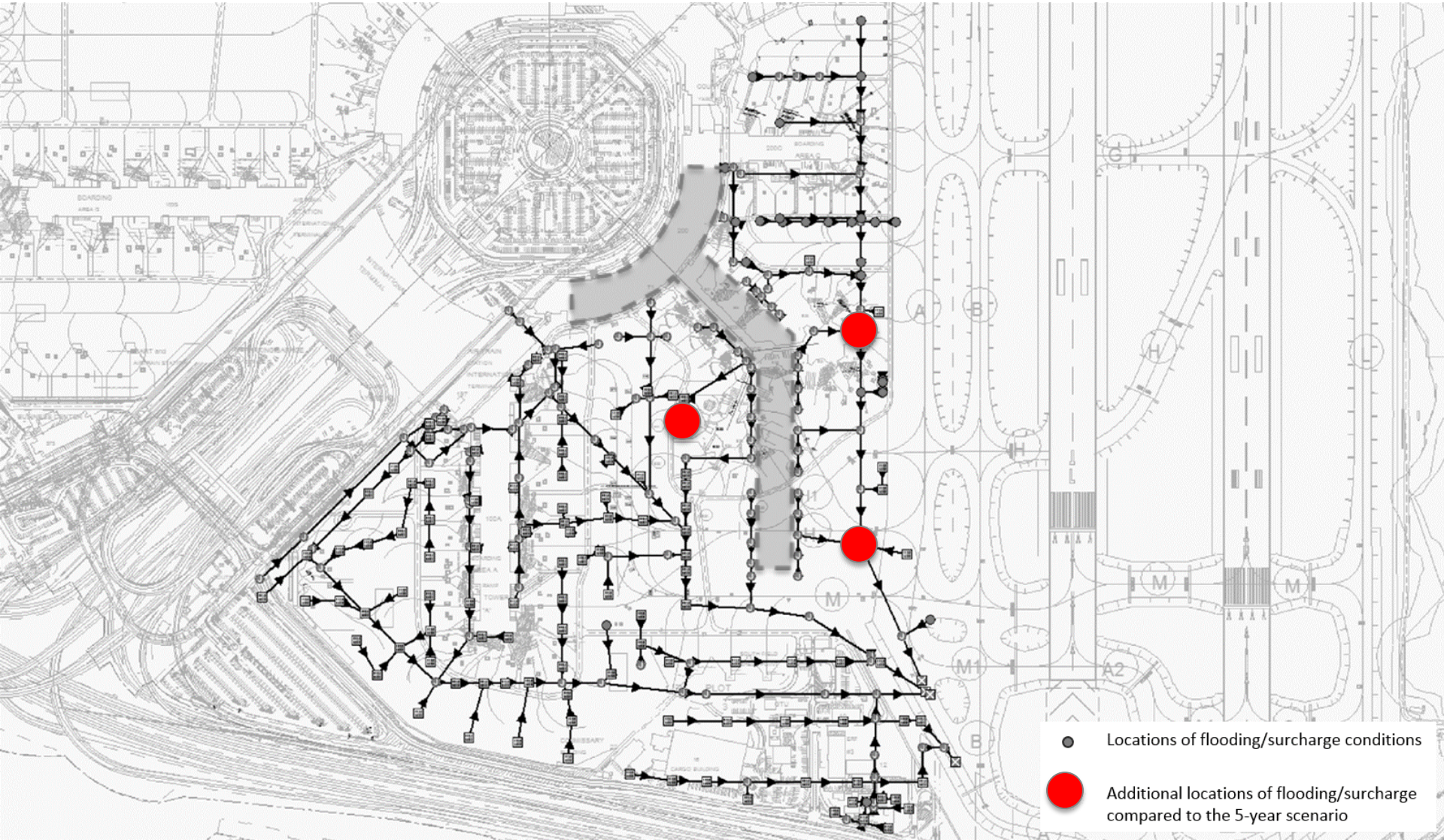
**Baseline: 5-Year Design Storm**





# WeatherShift – 50th Percentile High Climate Change Scenario

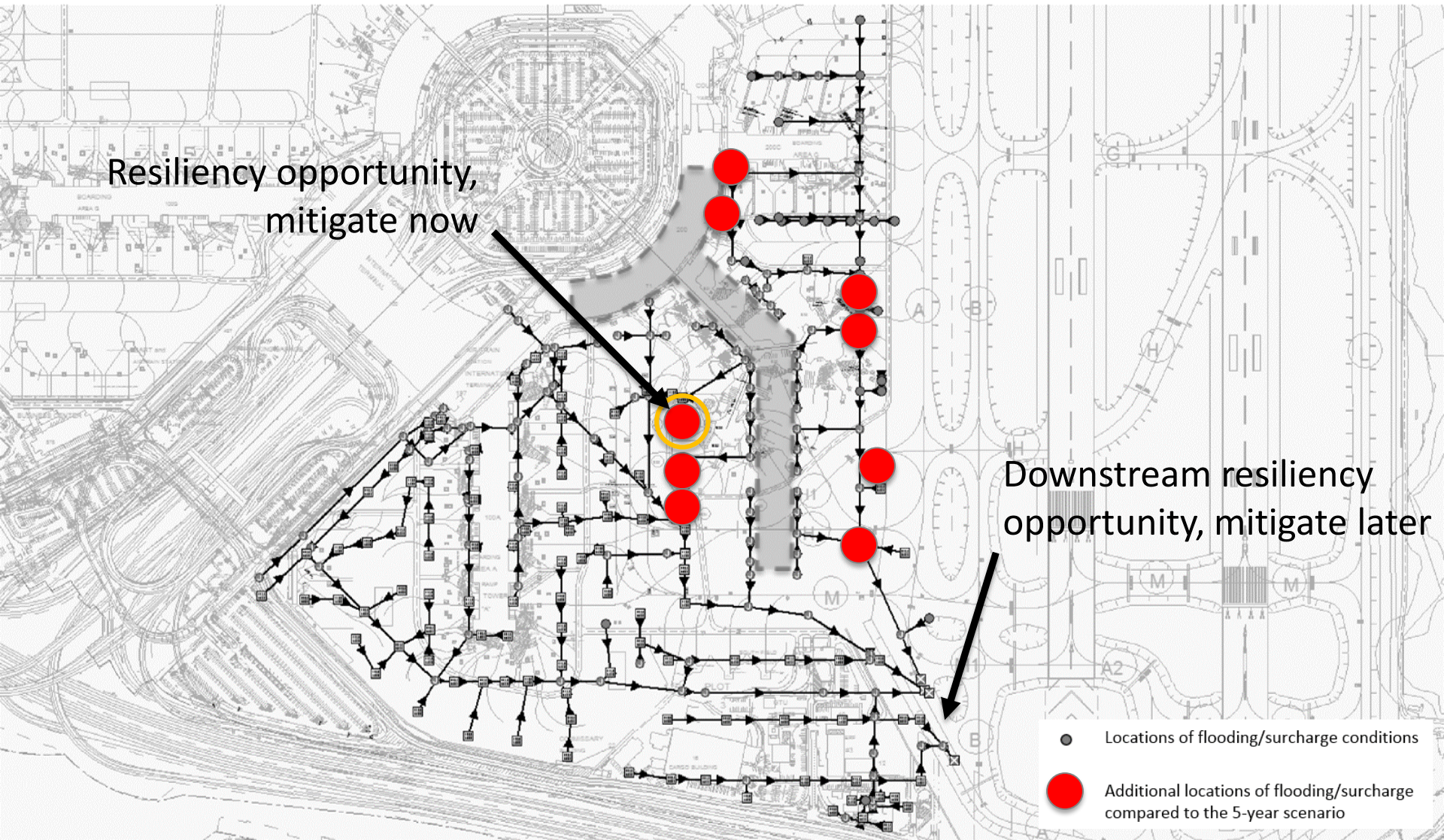
**5-Year Storm at RCP8.5 2090 (~10% more rain)**





# WeatherShift – 95th Percentile High Climate Change Scenario

**5-Year Storm at RCP8.5 2090 (~25% more rain)**

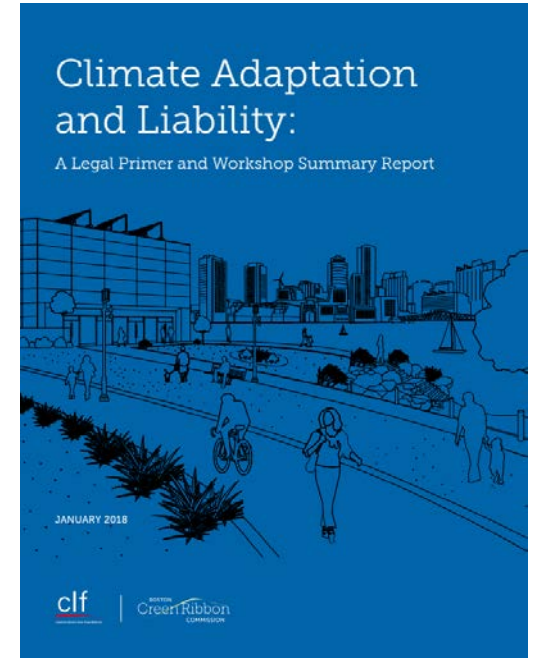


# Action has been voluntary. That is changing.

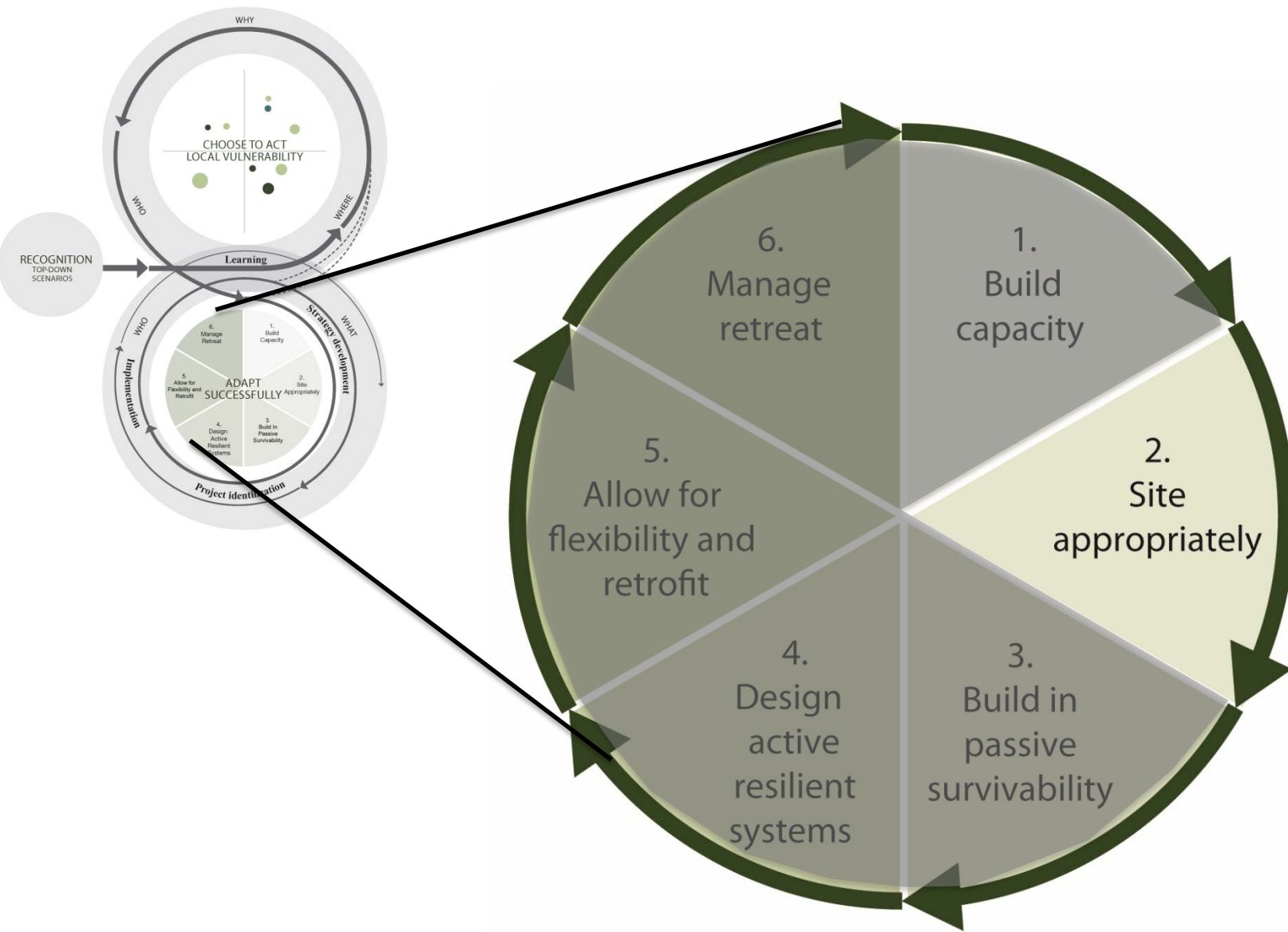
*“Failure to act in the face of climate risk could result in legal liability.*

*...prevailing practices... [and] explicit standards... are not the only factors that determine legal responsibility for... failing to act reasonably in the face of ascertainable climate risk.*

*...obligations can be heightened when considerations of public health or safety are at issue.*









# Site Appropriately – Priority Dev. Areas

- Area potentially exposed to an approximate 16-inch sea level rise
- Area potentially exposed to an approximate 55-inch sea level rise
- No data
- Priority Development Area
- Major Roads and Highways

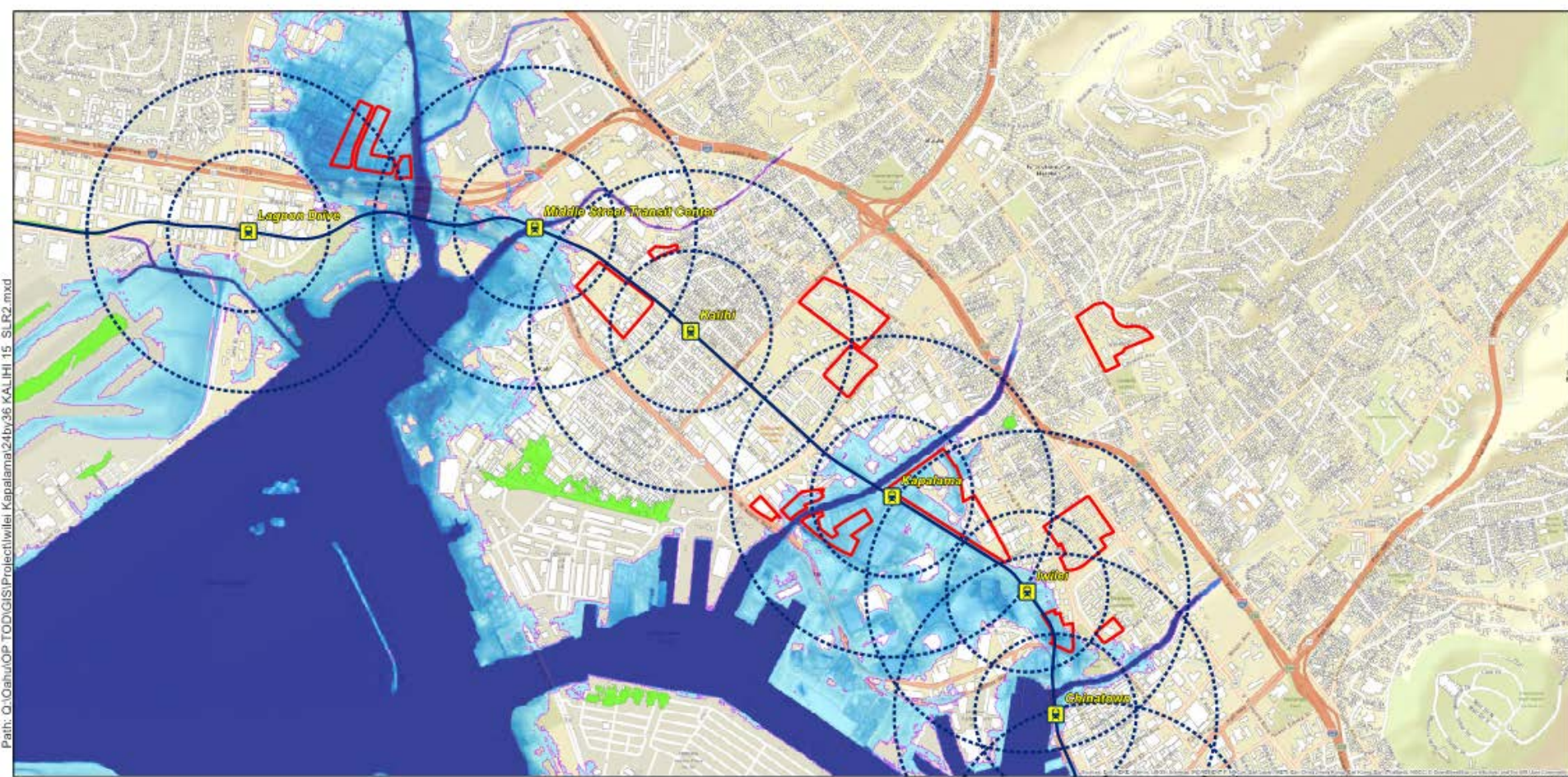
South Bay  
Priority Development Areas  
Potentially Exposed to Sea Level Rise



Sea level rise data provided by



# Site Appropriately – Priority Dev. Areas

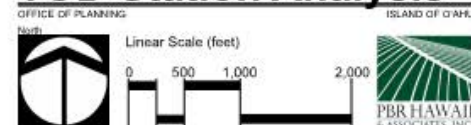


## LEGEND

- Future Rail Station
- Future Rail Line
- Low-Lying Areas
- Sea Level (~6 ft.)

**FIGURE 15 :**  
**Kalihi - Sea Level Rise (~6 ft.)**

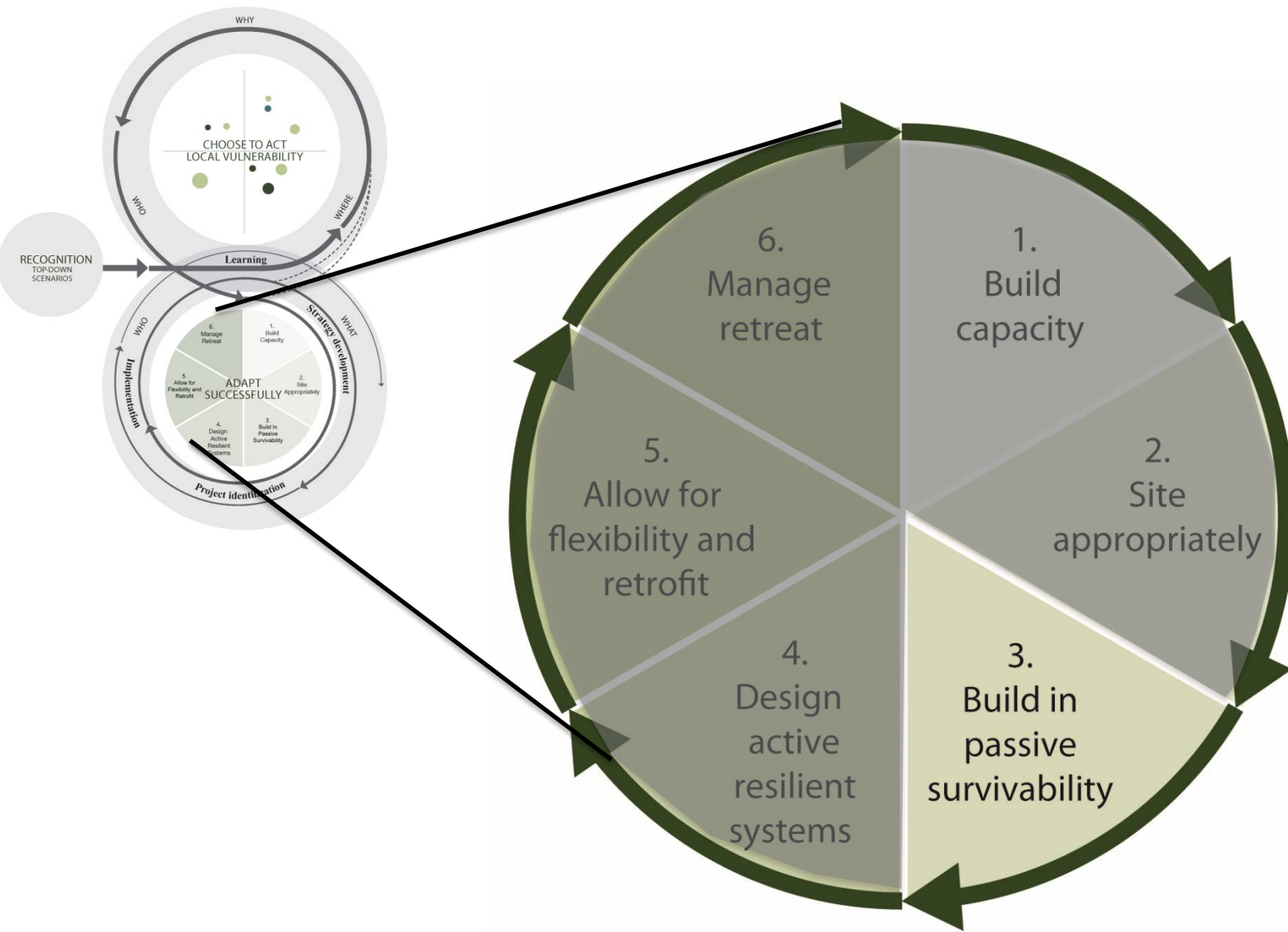
## TOD Station Analysis





# De-site – Cheonggyecheon Stream





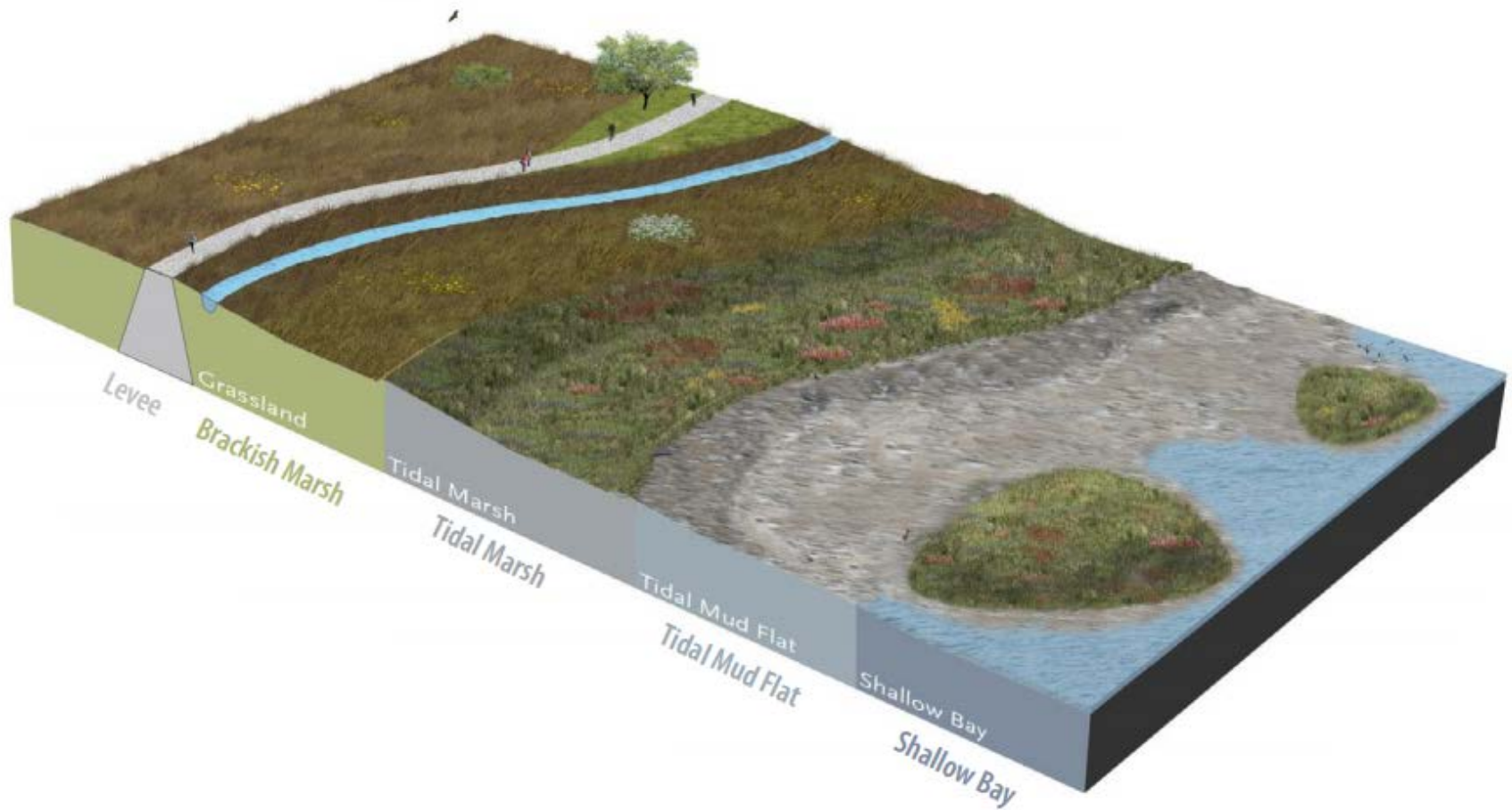


# Water Squares





# Horizontal Levee



# Shoreline Protection

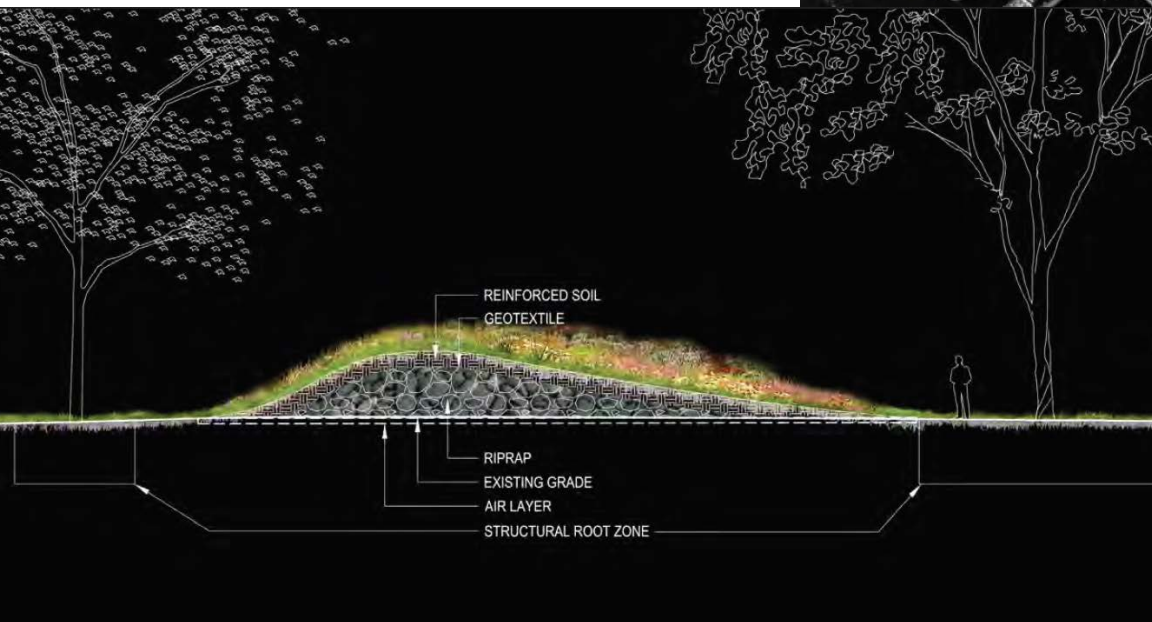


# Closing off the Creek





# Green Infrastructure - Berms



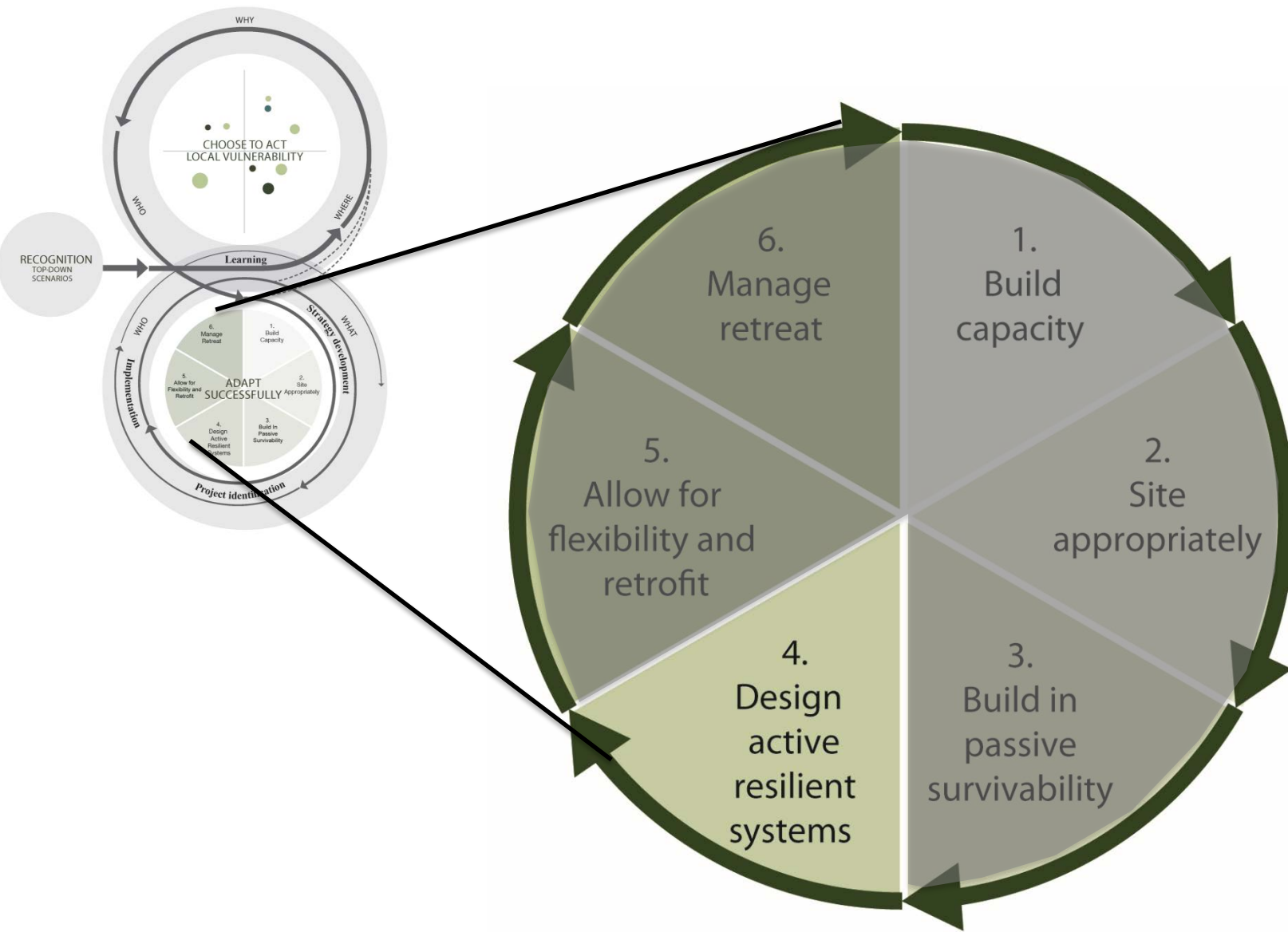
# Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital





# Elevating Structures





# Step 4 - Active Resiliency?

**Before**



**After**





# Deployable Flood Curtains

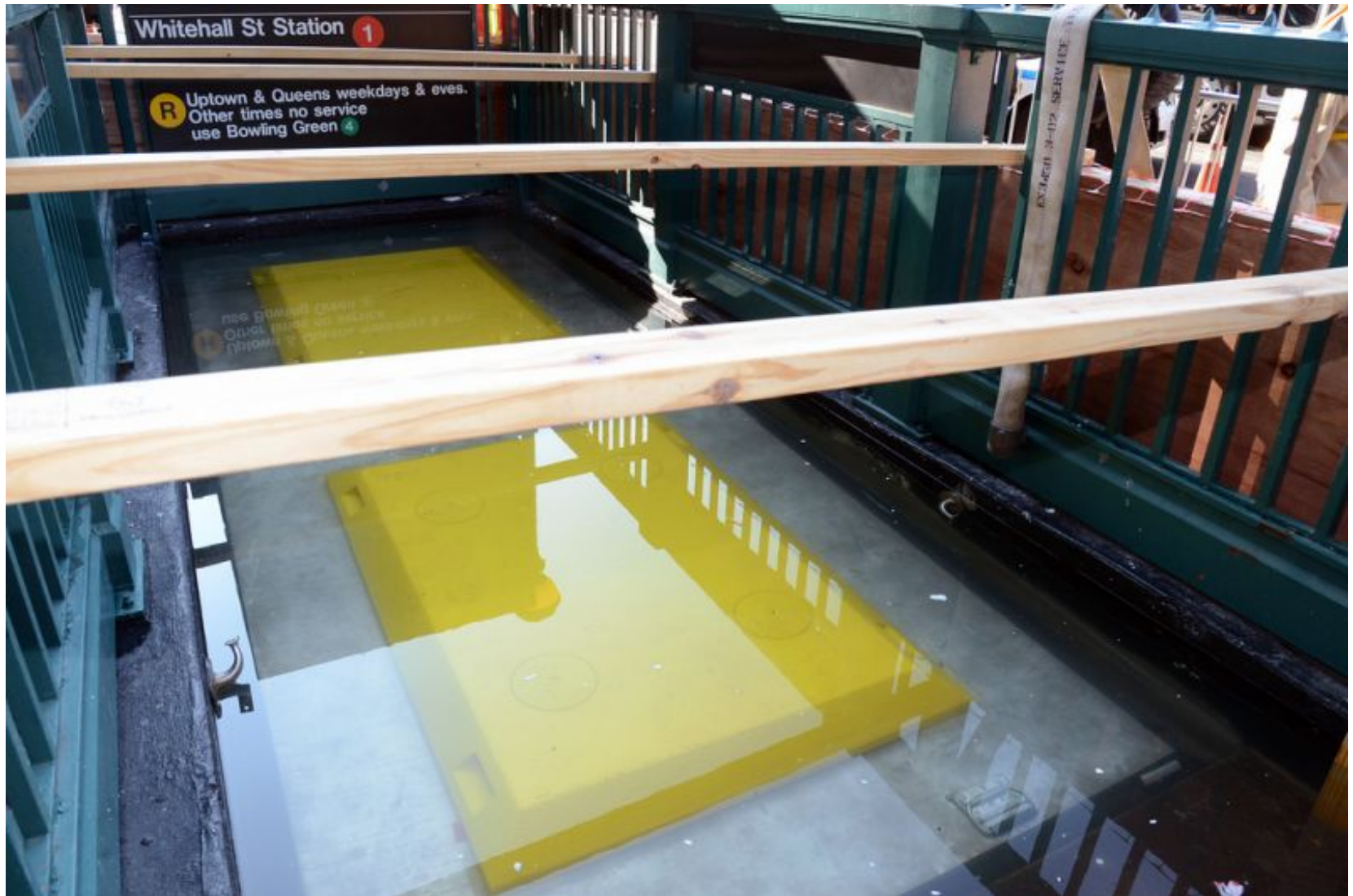




# Temporary Flood Barriers for Tunnels

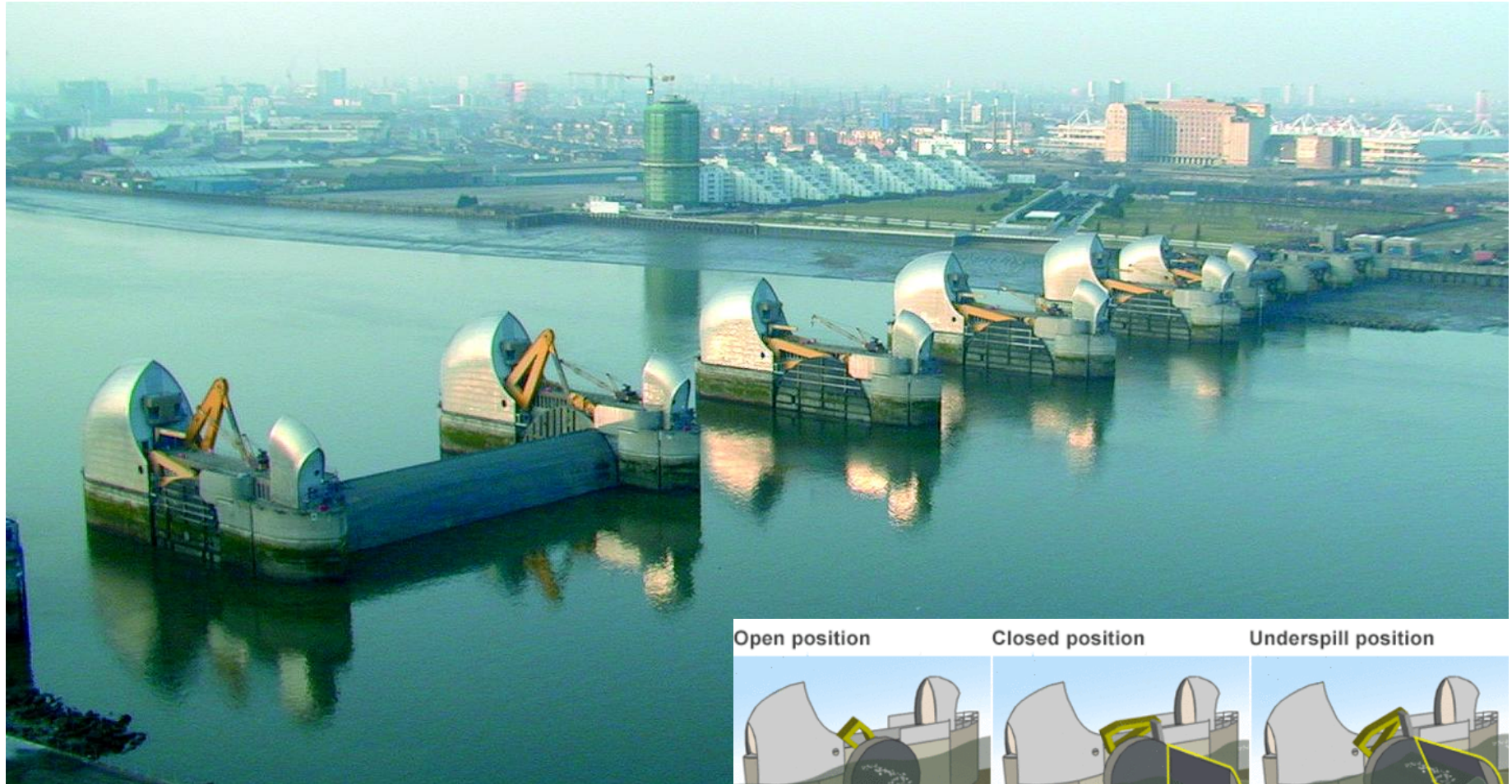


# Temporary Flood Barriers

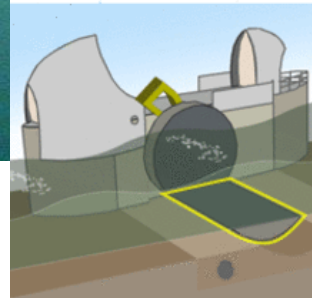




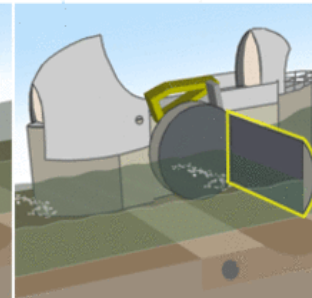
# Tidal Barriers



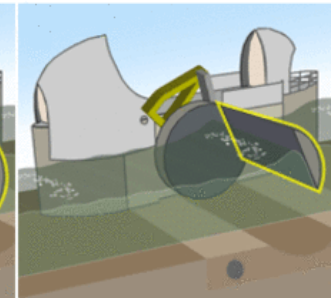
Open position



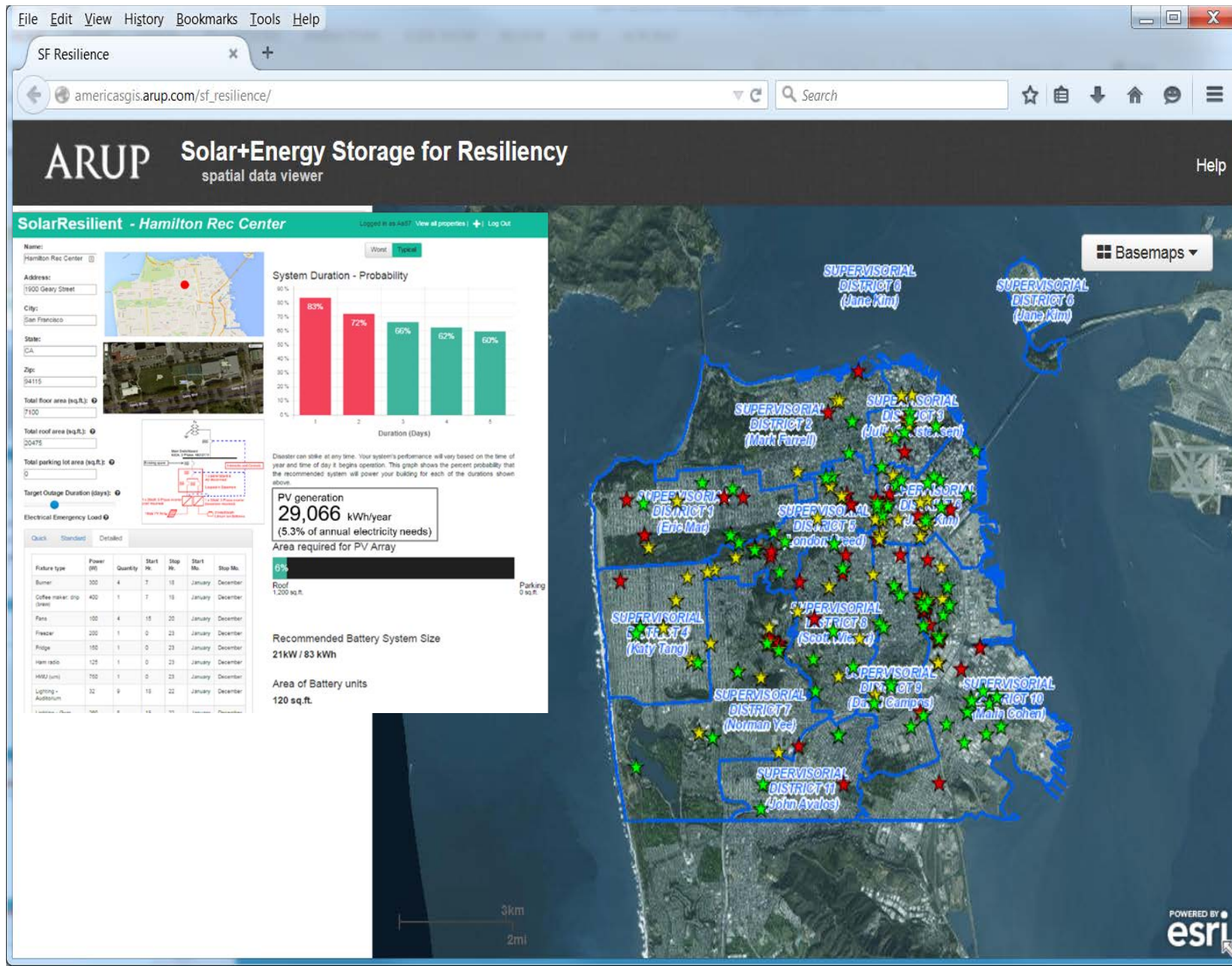
Closed position



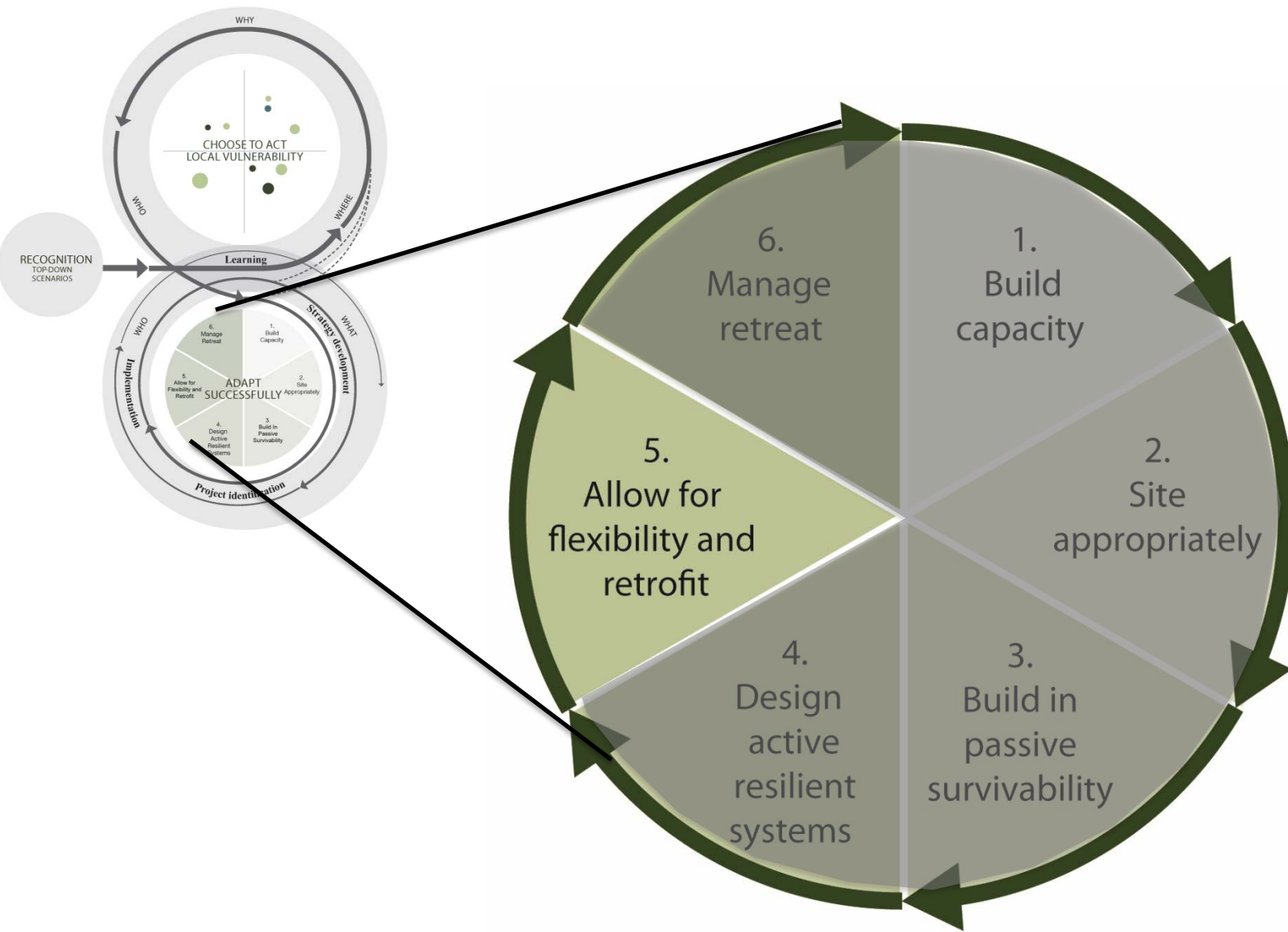
Underspill position

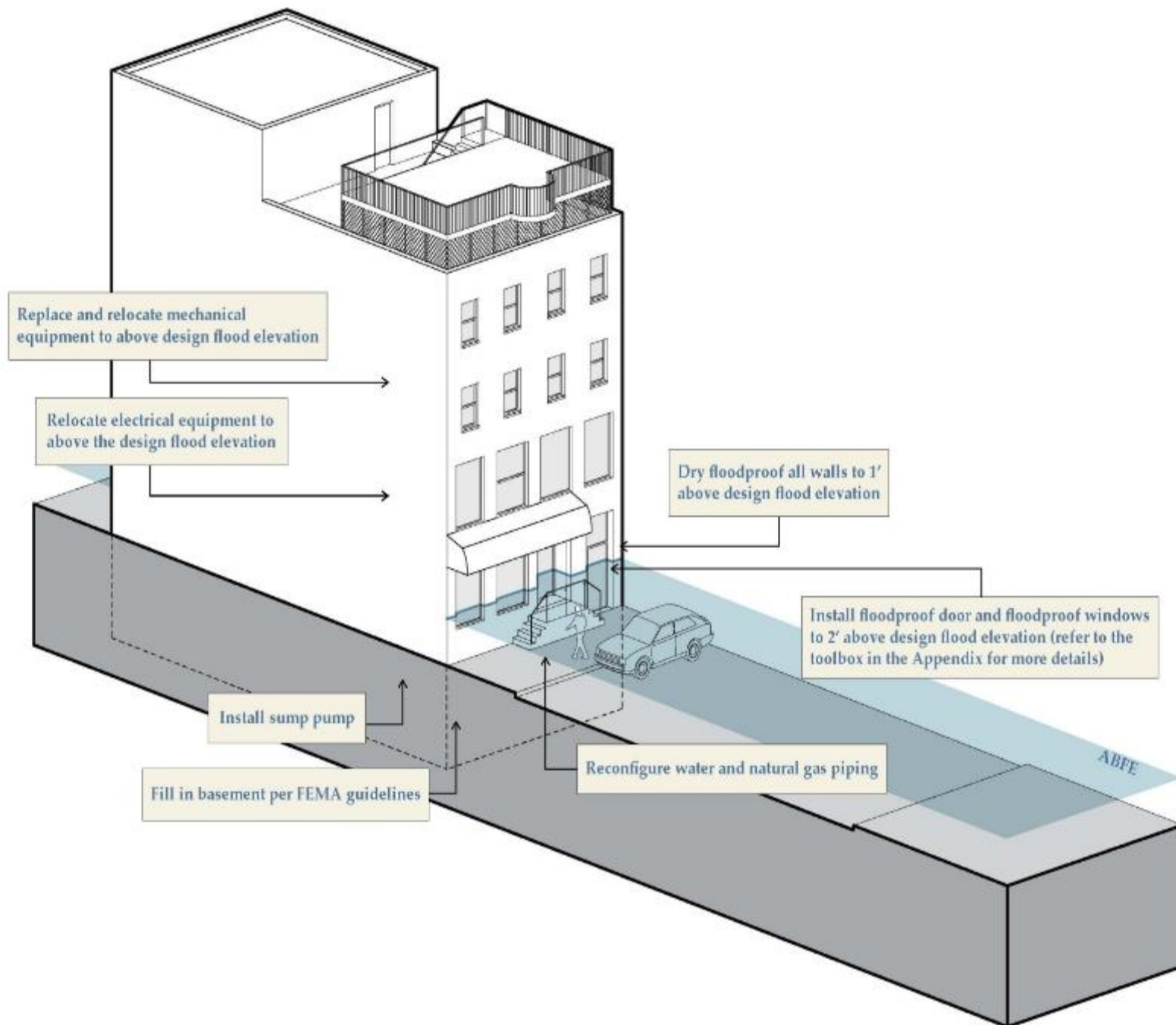


# SolarResilient™





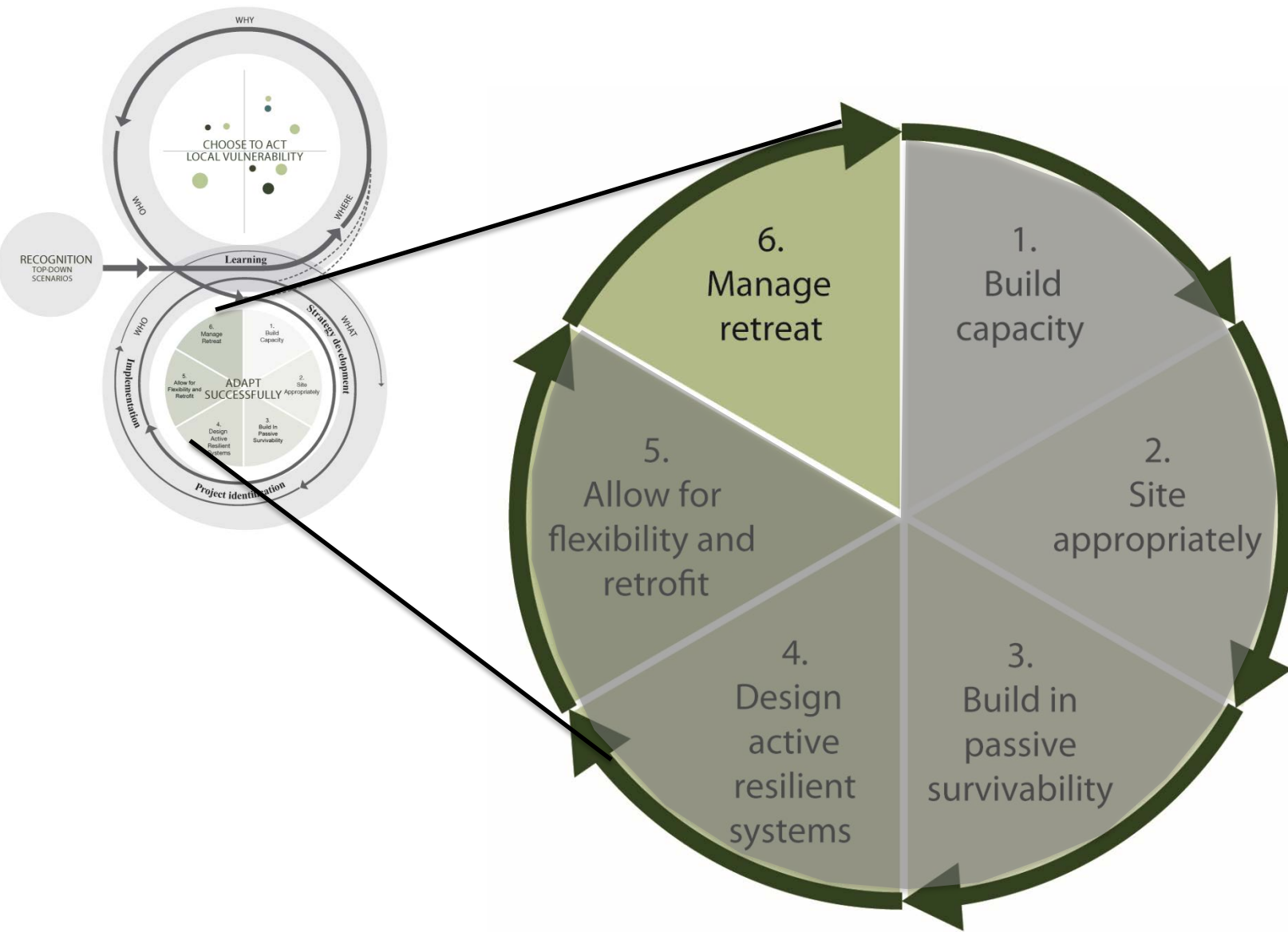




# Tsunami House







# Room for the River

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**





# Sandy – Active (& Passive) Resettlement

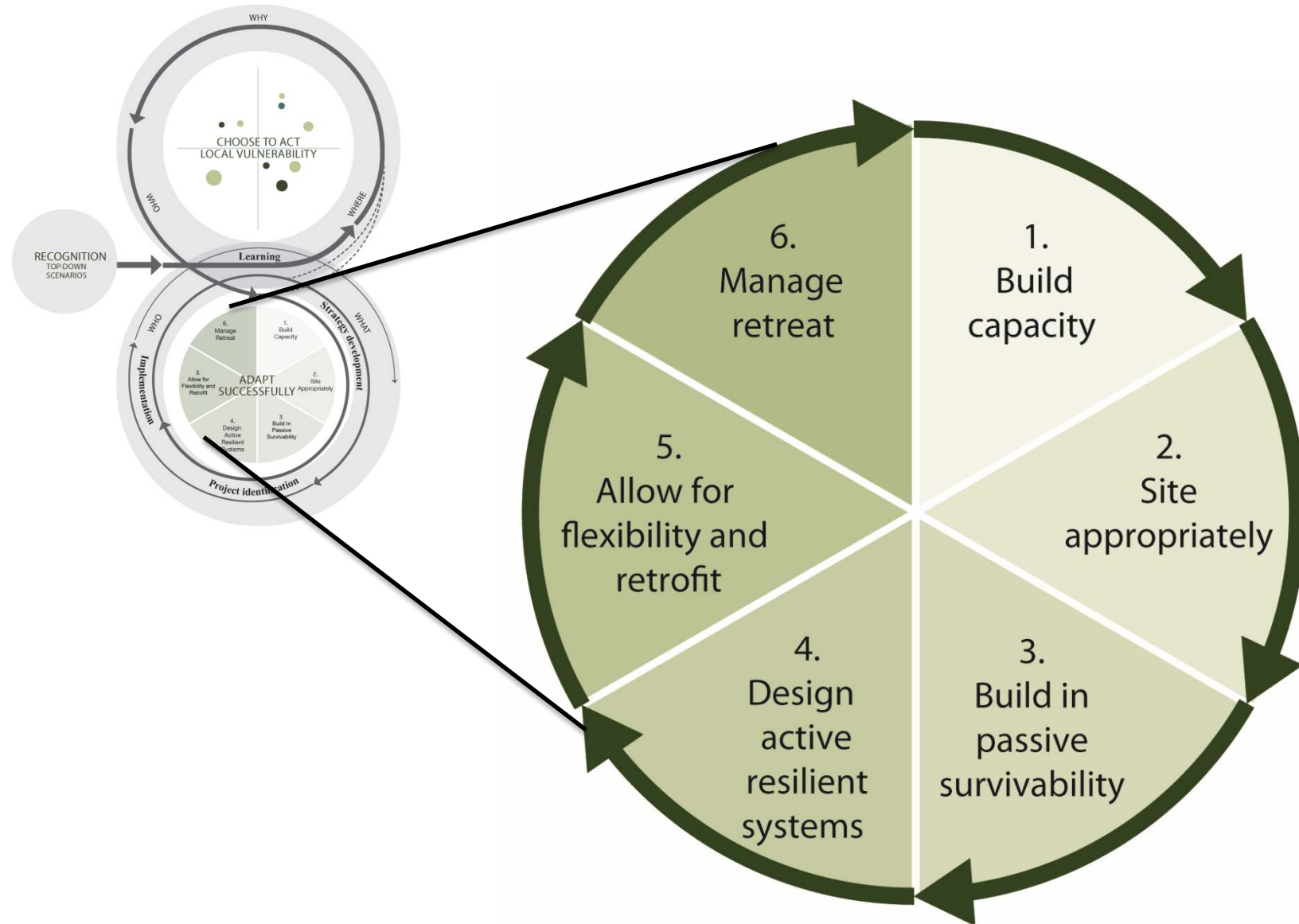
The saddest story of the hurricane occurred on Father Capodanno Boulevard, when a mother got out of her stalled S.U.V. and took her two young sons from their car seats and tried to reach high ground and the waves swept the children away. They were Brendan Moore, two, and Connor Moore, four. If there were a typographic equivalent of a moment of silence, I would put it here.


IAN FRAZIER





# Act Successfully: Comprehensive + Time Based



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Los Angeles, viewed from a high vantage point. The foreground shows residential neighborhoods with green trees and houses. In the middle ground, a dense urban area with various buildings is visible. In the far distance, a prominent skyline of tall skyscrapers (the Los Angeles skyline) is visible against the horizon. The sky is filled with large, dark, dramatic clouds, with some light breaking through near the horizon.

“If we don’t plant the trees of the future, we have no right to stand  
in the shade of the trees borne of the past.”

Argentine Baptist Minister, GCAS Quote 2018

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ARUP

