



Executive Order 569: Establishing an Integrated Climate Change Strategy for the Commonwealth

Katie Theoharides, Energy and
Environmental Affairs

December 1, 2016

**INTEGRATED ACTION TO PREVENT
FURTHER CLIMATE CHANGE AND TO WORK
ACROSS GOVERNMENT TO SAFEGUARD
THE PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES,
INFRASTRUCTURE, AND NATURAL
RESOURCES OF OUR COMMONWEALTH
FROM CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS.**

The Order recognizes the threat from climate change

- Climate change is a threat to Commonwealth's residents, communities and economy.
- Authority under the GWSA and efforts to lead by example
- Transportation and energy sectors
- SJC decision and Section 3(d)
- Strong and prompt action beyond emissions reductions is required to meet the serious threat from climate change
- State agencies and cities and towns must prepare
- Only through an integrated strategy bringing together all parts of state and local government will we be able to address these threats effectively

Section 1: Mitigation and Energy Policy

Directed to the Secretary of EEA

- Continue to utilize the IAC for advice and setting limits for 2030 and 2040
- Continue to lead by example
- Transportation sector
- Reform of regional wholesale electric energy and capacity markets to ensure state mandates for clean energy are achieved
- Comprehensive energy plan
- Ensure that efforts to meet greenhouse gas emissions limits are consistent with adaptation

Section 2: GWSA Section 3(d)

Directed to Department of Environmental Protection

- DEP shall promulgate final regulations by August 11, 2017
- Establish an internet portal
- Revise 310 C.M.R. 60.05 to establish declining annual aggregate emissions limits;
- Consider limits from a variety of sectors including leaks from the natural gas distribution system; new, expanded, or renewed emissions permits or approvals; the transportation sector or subsets; and gas insulated switch gear
- Publish draft regs. by December 16
- Hold public hearings by February

Section 3: Adaptation and Resiliency

Directed to the Secretary of EEA and Secretary of EOPSS

- Within 2 years publish a statewide climate adaptation plan
- Establish vulnerability assessment frameworks for state agencies and municipalities
- Provide technical assistance to cities and towns to complete assessments and identify adaptation strategies
- Implement the plan
- Update at least every 5 years

Section 4: Coordination

All Cabinet Secretaries will designate a climate coordinator in each executive office

- Serve as point person
- Meet under the leadership of personnel from EEA and EOPSS to assist in the development and implementation of the Climate Adaptation Plan
- Within two years of this Order assess the vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events for the Coordinator's Executive Office
- Incorporate results into existing policies and plans for that office

Section 5: Timeline

This Executive Order shall be reviewed no later than December 31, 2019, and every five years thereafter.

Progress

- Climate coordinators have been designated for each secretariat and met in October
- EOPSS and EEA have met to discuss structure for moving forward, development of statewide plan, municipal technical assistance program, and coordination
- Integration of State Hazard Mitigation Plan and State Climate Adaptation Plan
- Commissioning statewide climate projections for plan
- Working to develop scopes of work for statewide plan, municipal technical assistance grant program, and statewide website

Progress

- UMass coordination
- DEP regs. in development, website live, and stakeholder meetings were held in Worcester and Boston the first week of November
- Regs in development
 - Reducing emissions from natural gas distribution network
 - SF6 from gas insulated switch gear
 - GreenDOT
 - Lead by Example: State vehicle fleet
 - Cap emissions from GHG reporters
 - Clean energy standard

LOCAL-STATE PARTNERSHIPS

TOWNS & CITIES

COASTAL RESILIENCY GRANTS

Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) administers the Coastal Resilience Grant Program to provide financial and technical support for local efforts to:

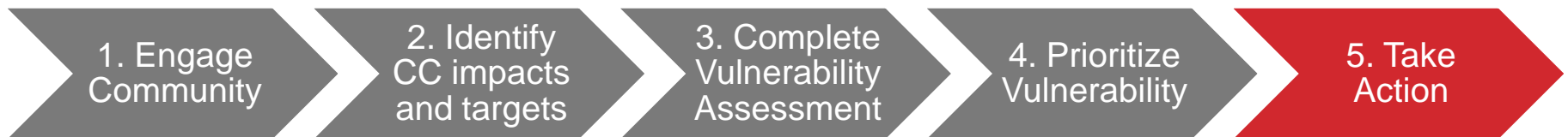
- increase awareness and understanding of climate impacts,
- identify and map vulnerabilities,
- conduct adaptation planning,
- redesign vulnerable public facilities and infrastructure, and
- implement non-structural (or green infrastructure) approaches that enhance natural resources and provide storm damage protection.



MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS



Climate MVP Communities: local impacts, local action



EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES & INFORMING STATEWIDE ACTION

- **Strategic investments:** Understanding community vulnerability to climate impacts.
- **Accessibility:** Easily accessible template
- **Partnerships:** Bring together state agencies, NGO and business partners, universities, regional groups, and municipalities
- **Frame** coordinated statewide efforts.
 - Structure and revise grant opportunities
 - Inform budgets to direct \$ towards highest priorities
 - Identify opportunities and barriers in policy and regulations
 - Identify opportunities to increase technical capacity
 - Direct investment in critical natural infrastructure



Thank you

Kathleen.Theoharides@state.ma.us

