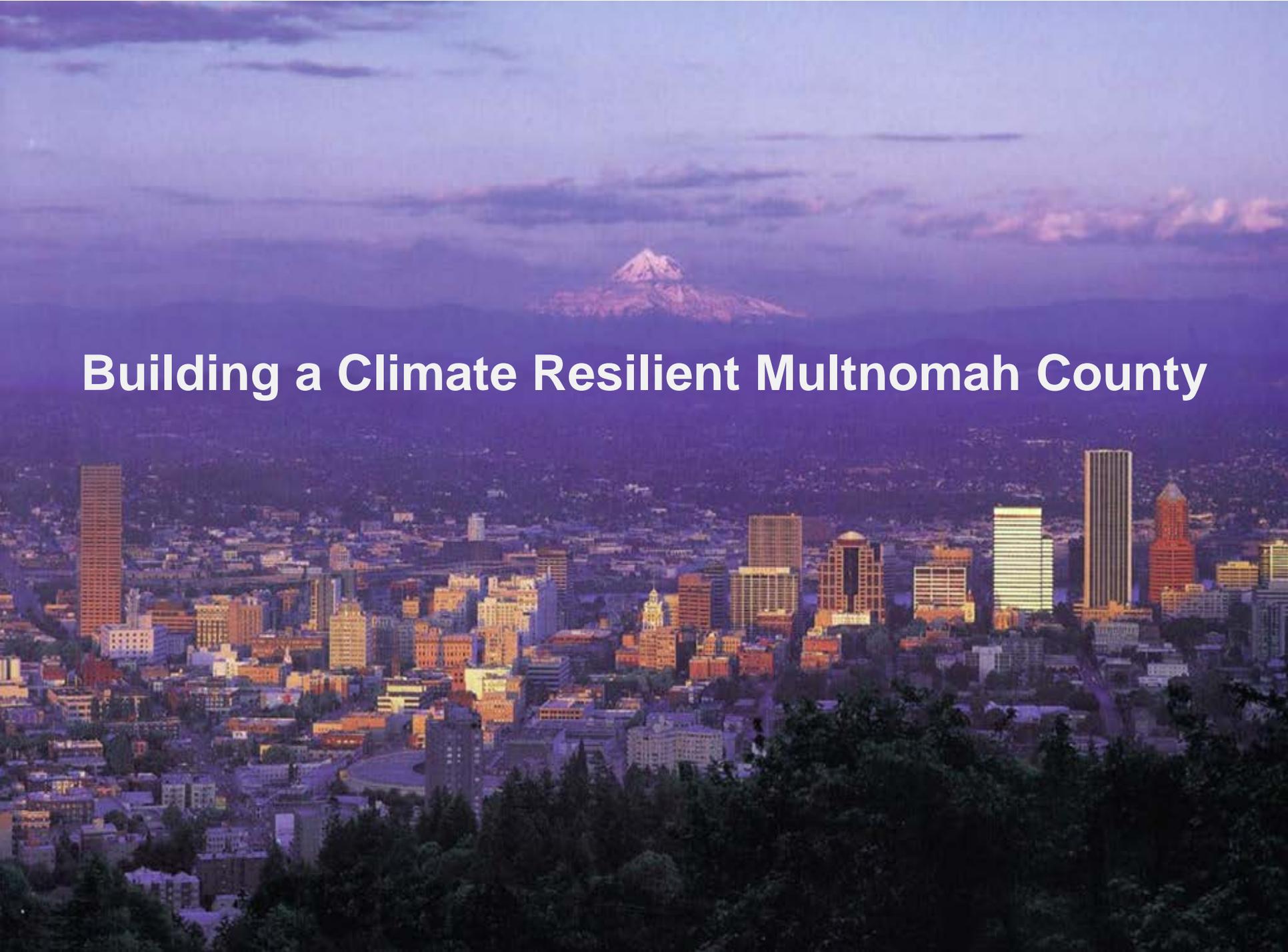




Preparing for Climate Change

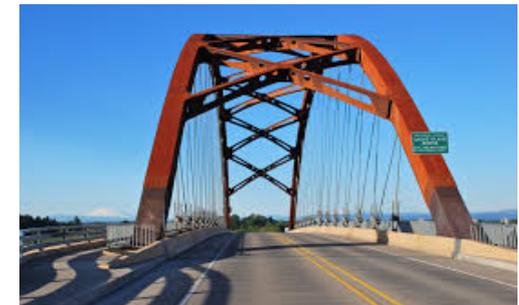
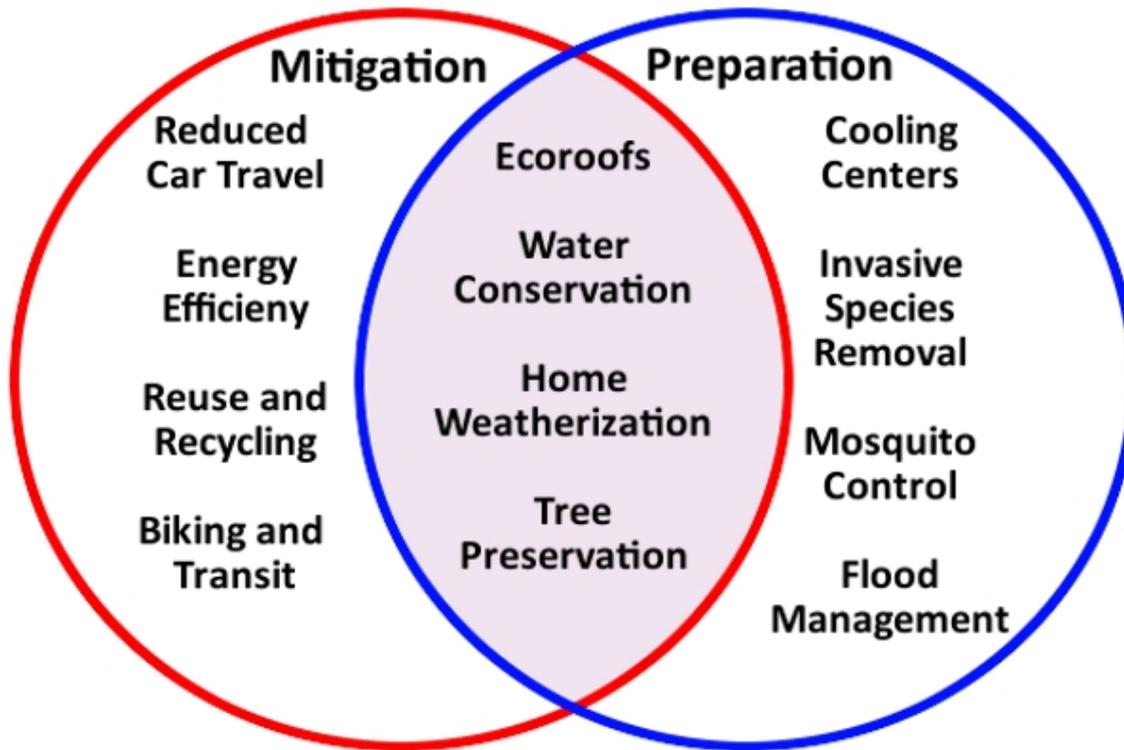
Local Impacts and Strategies

October 9th, 2014

An aerial photograph of a city at dusk. The sky is a deep purple and blue, with some light clouds. In the background, a large, snow-capped mountain peak is visible. The city below is illuminated by the setting sun, with many buildings glowing with warm light. The foreground shows dark green trees and foliage.

Building a Climate Resilient Multnomah County

Approach // Systems Planning & Focus on Co-benefits



Hotter, drier summers with more high-heat days



Risk 1: Increased temperatures (both day and night) and frequency of high-heat days



Risk 2: Increased incidence of drought



Risk 3: Increased wildfire frequency and intensity

Warmer winters with the potential for more intense rain events



Risk 4: Increased incidence and magnitude of damaging floods



Risk 5: Increased incidence of landslides

Natural Systems // Impacts & Strategies

Impacts

- Drought stress on wildlife and habitat, increased invasive species, fire risk, loss of wetland habitat
- Flooding, increased erosion, landslides



Public Infrastructure // Impacts & Strategies

Impacts

- Increased wastewater temperatures, pavement buckling, rail warping, increased demand for outdoor water use and park facilities
- Landslides, overwhelming of stormwater facilities, flooding of roadways and bike paths



Public Health // Impacts

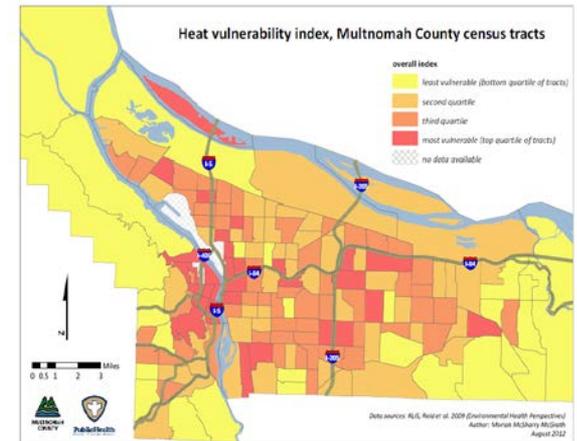
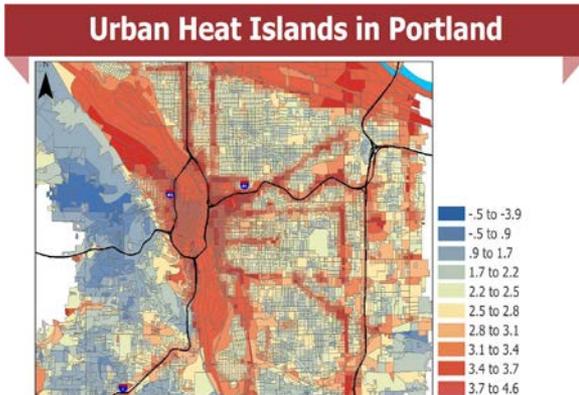


- Increase in heat-related illness, especially for vulnerable populations
- Increase in respiratory diseases such as asthma
- Changes in vector-borne diseases like West Nile virus



Public Health // Impacts – Health Equity

- Populations without the physical or economic ability to adapt will face greater health risks
- These communities are already hard hit
- Minimizing impacts on existing health disparities is vital



Public Health // Strategies

- Educate vulnerable populations about heat-related illness
- Track the impact of high-ozone days on health
- Develop a Clean Air toolkit
- Support air quality improvements through research and technical assistance
- Manage vector borne diseases
- Track emerging issues, such as mental health and climate refugees



Warning Signs:

<i>Heat Exhaustion</i>	HEAT STROKE
<i>Heat-related illness is Preventable!</i> Stay somewhat cool Drink plenty of water Avoid sugar, alcohol & caffeine Wear light clothing	Extremely high body temperature (103°F+) Red, hot, dry skin (with no sweating) Rapid, strong pulse Throbbing headache Dizziness Nausea Confusion Unconsciousness
<i>Watch out!</i> If left untreated, heat exhaustion can progress to	STOP If you recognize symptoms of heat stroke, it is LIFE THREATENING. Get the person somewhere cool and seek medical attention IMMEDIATELY.

Michalla L. Holzhua, 2012
Data on heat-related illness via CDC
<http://emergency.cdc.gov/diseases/prevention/>

Multnomah County Health Department
For more information visit: www.cdc.gov/extremeheat
Public Health



Putting Strategy Into Practice // Dept. of Comm. Services

- Infrastructure planning and maintenance
- Habitat restoration projects
- Comprehensive Plan update
- Coordination with regional governments



Putting Strategy Into Practice // Institutionalizing the Work.

- Keep doing what we are doing
- Get ahead of coming impacts
- Monitor and research key unknowns
- Collaborate across sectors and with the community
- Monitor progress, report, and revise

