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## Local Climate Action Planning

Show of hands, how many of you have a coworker who is working on climate action planning?

### Limitations, challenges

- Continually changing information

- GHG sources

- Impacts of climate change

### Opportunities

- Many fronts that need change

  - Buildings, energy production, food production, consumption, and transportation

  - As planners, you have the tools to make a significant impact on the future wellness of our communities

  - (you know this, this is why you chose this profession)

- Big Decisions being made now that will have long term impacts

- Need to be comfortable with imperfect information

  - We can't afford to wait

- Need to confidently step in the right direction and monitor

### Assumptions

Two very important factors – there are certainly others but I will focus on two

- Population

## Climate Refugees

Can I safely say that our Population projections don't take into account the future trends in real estate preferences of Americans?

I am not suggesting they should

Can I suggest that preferences may change with new information?

Perhaps within the timeline of your next transportation plan??

Not "Phoenix is on fire", it's "I'm uncomfortable here, honey, given all of the issues, where should we move to?"

## Fuel Prices

They occur throughout our models. Wherever they exist, we need to play with them a bit.

We also need to consider the less direct impacts

Prices of asphalt, steel, and concrete – ability to maintain infrastructure

Prices of food, automobiles themselves, overall wealth and disposable income and what this means for transportation

## Past is no longer a predictor of the future

Data guy: Take past, extrapolate into the next 20 years.

There is no forecasting service: (climate planners??)

incumbent on all of us to substantially dive into the research

## Planning Timelines

Given the unknowns, are our current planning timelines reasonable and sufficiently flexible?

### Length

Need to take strong action now

Vision for 30 or 50 but plan for 10

### Flexibility

Build in flexibility

Build in careful monitoring (and hold to it!!)

Given the rate of new information, we can't afford different

## Summary

We all need to understand the future to the best of our ability

We need to question assumptions

We need to build flexibility into our planning

There is no one "climate action planner". We are all planning for climate change.