

# Resilience Research, Policy and Planning in Connecticut

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# Priorities & Initiatives:

## State Resilience Commitments

- State Law: PA 12-101- rise in sea level and living shorelines for erosion
- State Law: PA 13-179 – plans of conservation and development and municipal resilience grants must consider sea level rise
- Long Term Recovery Task Force – co-chaired by DEMHS and CID
- *Shore Up Connecticut* fund for loans for home elevation
- E.O. 46 Governor’s Council on Climate Change – Chaired by DEEP
- E.O. 50 State Agencies Fostering Resilience Council – Chaired by OPM
- E.O. 53 Building code should increase the “resilience of structure to flood and wind hazards”
- Bond funds for Long Island Sound resiliency and green infrastructure
- Microgrids grant and loan program
- Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (UConn CIRCA)
- Eversource Energy Center at UConn

# Living Shorelines in CT: PA 12-101

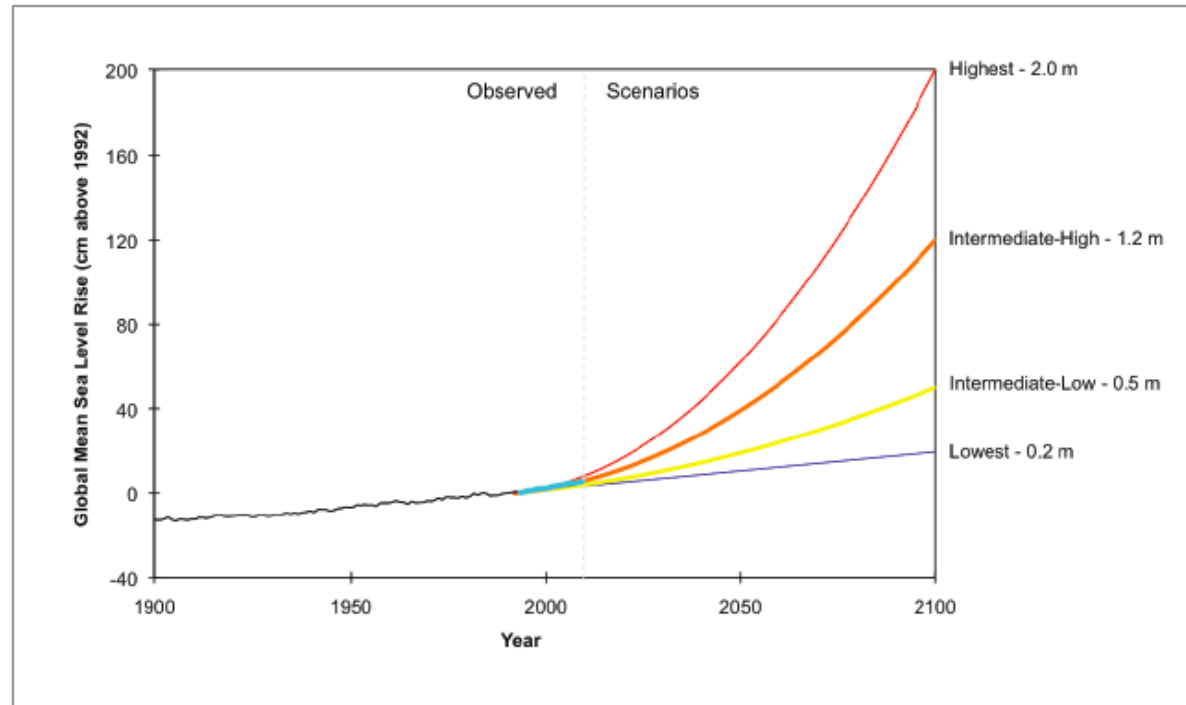
- Coastal development planning consider “potential impact of rise in sea level”
- “feasible, less environmentally damaging alternative” to hard structure for erosion control
  - relocation of an inhabited structure to a landward location
  - elevation of an inhabited structure
  - restoration or creation of a dune or vegetated slope
  - **living shorelines** techniques utilizing a variety of structural and organic materials, such as tidal wetland plants, submerged aquatic vegetation, coir fiber logs, sand fill and stone to provide shoreline protection and maintain or restore coastal resources and habitat

# Living Shorelines in Practice



# Sea Level for Planning: PA 13-179

- Plans of Conservation and Development
- Evacuation and Hazard Mitigation Plans
- “consider” sea level changes in NOAA CPO-1



# Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)

Governor Malloy issued Executive Order 46 (April 2015) establishing a Council of state commissioners, nonprofits and business representatives

## Objectives

Examine efficacy of existing policies; recommend interim GHG reduction targets; recommend policies & initiatives to meet 2050 target of 80% below 2001 levels

## Progress to date of Working Groups

- Analysis, Data and Metrics:** Developed a reference case to allow for future modeling scenarios that identify combinations of technologies and measures that lead to GHG reductions
- Leadership, Accountability and Engagement:** Exploratory report highlighted leading voluntary initiatives within private, public, & non-profit sectors across the country

[www.ct.gov/deep/GC3](http://www.ct.gov/deep/GC3)



# E.O. 50 State Agencies Fostering Resilience (SAFR) Council



SAFR Council Charge: Statewide Resilience Roadmap based on the best climate impact research and data



UConn



UConn



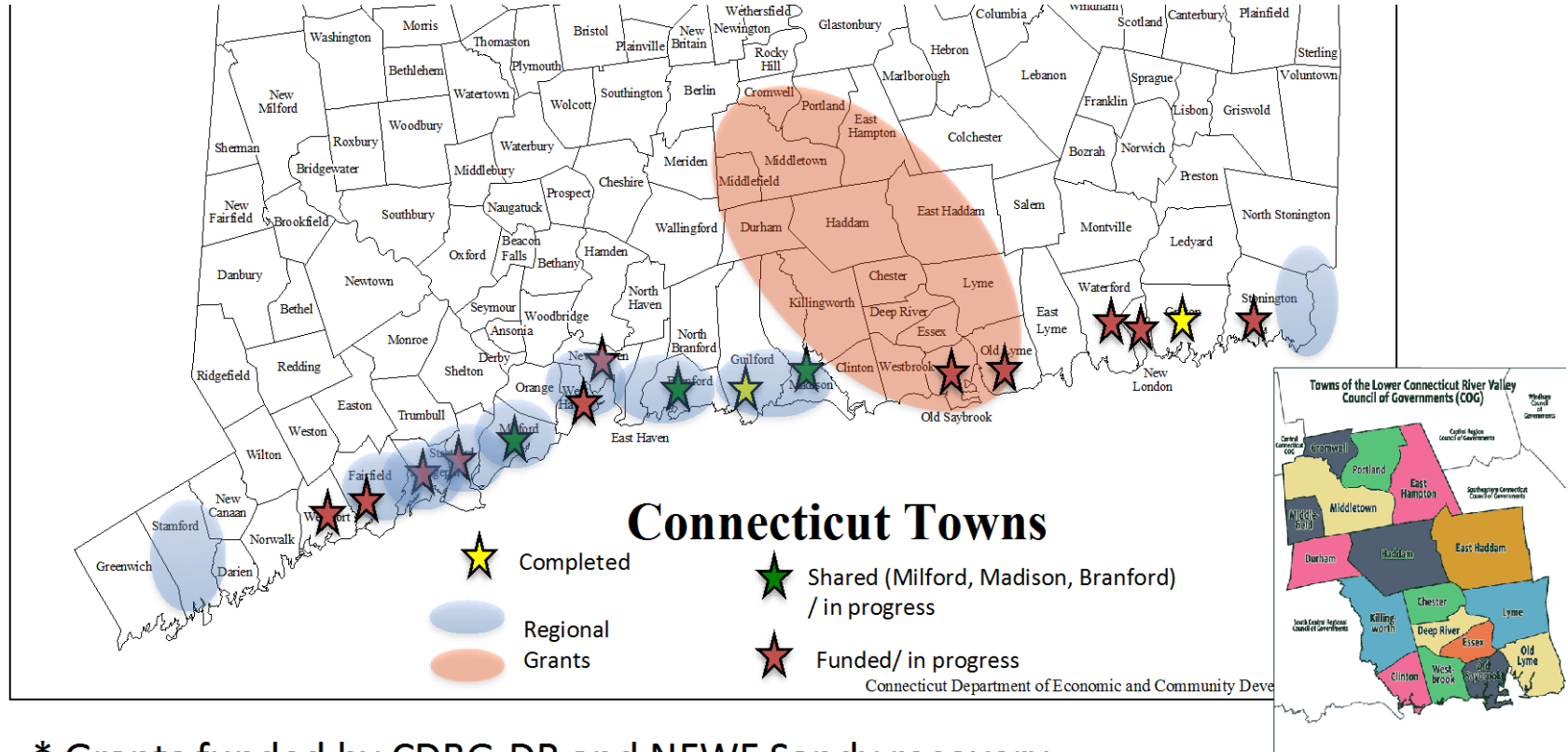
# Priorities & Initiatives and Challenges: CIRCA Research Program

- Coastal Flooding and Inundation
  - Sea Level Rise Projections, Storm Surge and Waves, and Riverine
- Inland Riverine Flow and Flooding
  - Past and future peak flows and flood maps
- Wastewater Infrastructure
  - Vulnerability Assessments
- Living Shorelines
  - Nature-based infrastructure to mitigate shoreline erosion
- Zoning policy & planning for towns



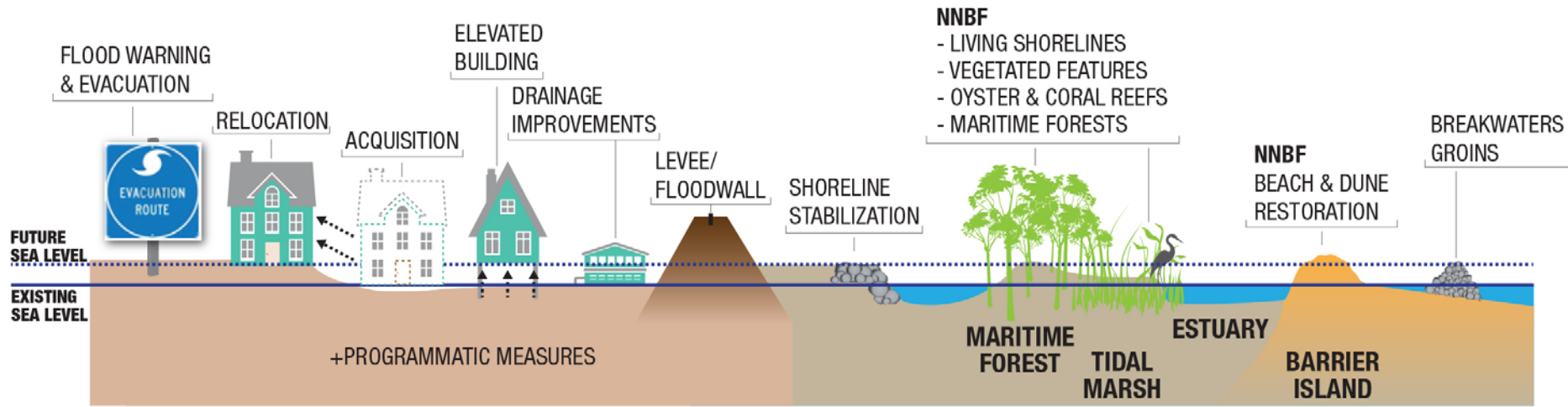


# “State of the World” of Resiliency Planning in Connecticut...



\* Grants funded by CDBG-DR and NFWF Sandy recovery

# Adaptation Options

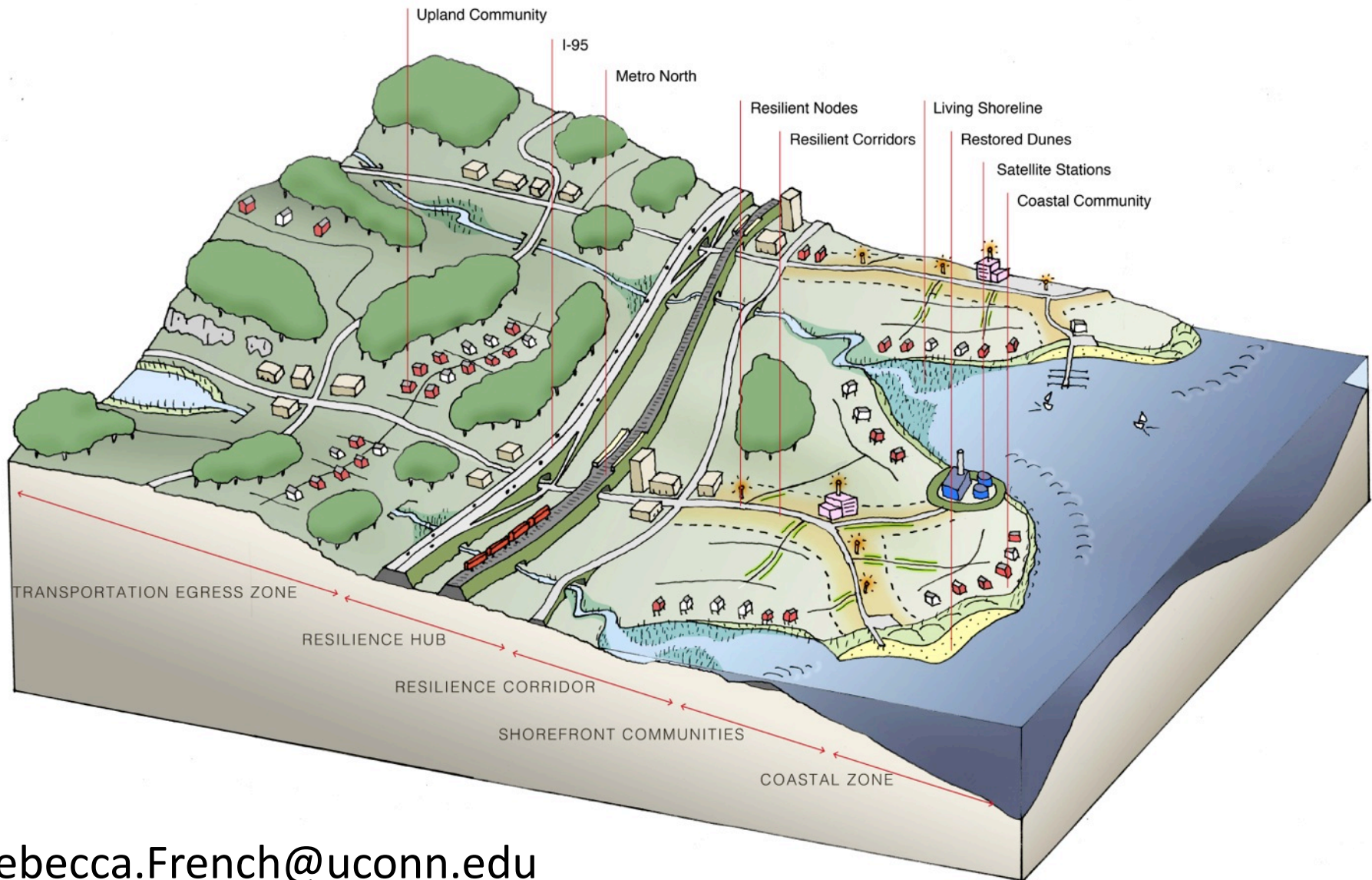


Credit: USACE North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study



A shoreline neighborhood in Old Saybrook Connecticut. The Old Saybrook Sea Level Rise and Climate Adaptation Committee released a *Report of Findings* in January 2016 recommending adaptation, mitigation, and retreat.





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