

Climate Resilient Transit Infrastructure Systems: Metrolinx and Flood Risk

Dr. Quentin Chiotti

Senior Advisor, Transportation Policy

Presentation at the *Resilient Infrastructure Systems in Ontario – A Focus on Climate Change and Water* workshop

SEPTEMBER 2019



Mission

We connect our communities

Vision

Getting you there better, faster and easier

Values

Play as a team

Think forward

Serve with passion

REGIONAL TRANSIT NETWORK



* map includes existing and in delivery rapid transit projects

OUR SERVICES







- Serve a population of more than seven million across more than 11,000 square km stretching from Hamilton and Kitchener-Waterloo in the west to Newcastle and Peterborough in the east, and from Orangeville and Beaverton in the north to Niagara Falls in the south.
- In operation since 1967, GO now accommodates more than 70 million customer journeys a year.



- PRESTO is the smart card fare payment system seamlessly connecting 11 transit agencies across the GTHA and Ottawa.
- PRESTO replaces the need for tickets, tokens, passes or cash and always gets you the lowest fare.
- Later this year we're launching PRESTO Mobile that will allow thousands of customers to load funds and passes onto their cards, often with no wait times.



- UP Express connects the country's two busiest transportation hubs: Toronto Pearson International Airport and Union Station in downtown Toronto, offering a 25-minute journey from end to end, with trains departing every 15 minutes.

BY THE NUMBERS 2018				
	GO RAIL	GO BUS	UP EXPRESS	PRESTO
 RIDERSHIP/ CUSTOMER*	56.5 million/yr 3.2% INCREASE 1968 Weekly Trips 15% INCREASE	16.7 million/yr 0.9% DECREASE** 13,939 Weekly Trips 0.7% DECREASE	3.5 million/yr 26.8% INCREASE 1,120 Weekly Trips 1.3% INCREASE	2.2 million users 1 million Daily Taps 349 million annual taps 36% INCREASE
 PERFORMANCE	94%***	94.5%***	98.3%***	97.6%****
 CUSTOMER SATISFACTION	77%	77%	72%	76%
 LIKELY TO RECOMMEND	78%	78%	80%	83%

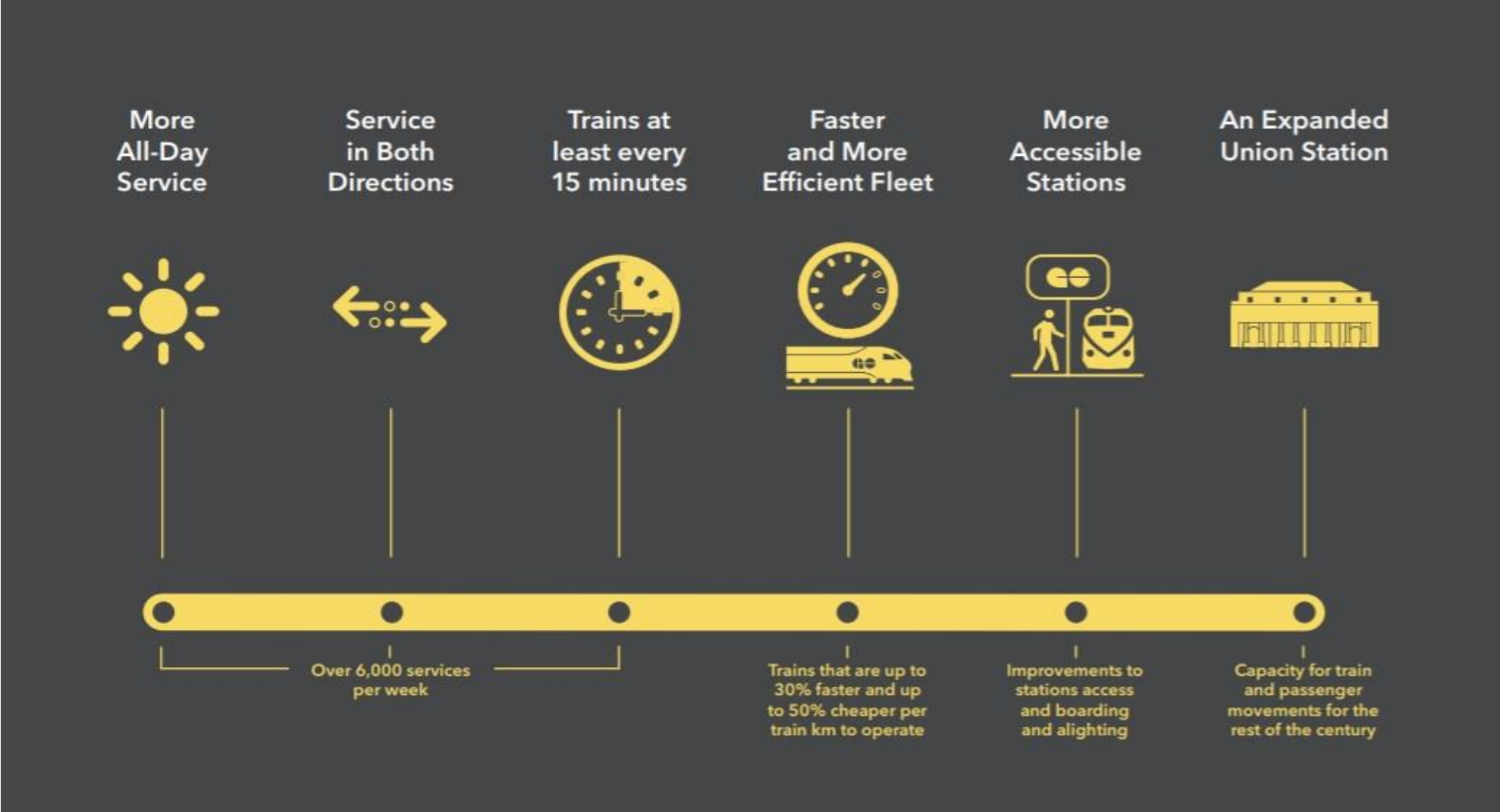
* The percentage difference for ridership/customers are a year-over-year comparison from 2016-17

** The decrease in bus ridership is due to the shift of customers to new all-day train services and the concurrent removal of train-bus services. The core regional GO bus services saw a ridership growth of 4.3% in the past year.

*** On-time performance

**** Reliability of card readers on the TTC in May 2018

MORE GO TRAINS, LRTS AND BUSES ACROSS THE REGION



JULY 8TH 2013: A SEVERE WAKE UP CALL



BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE UNITED STATES



Flooded Bus Barns and Buckled Rails: *Public Transportation and Climate Change Adaptation*

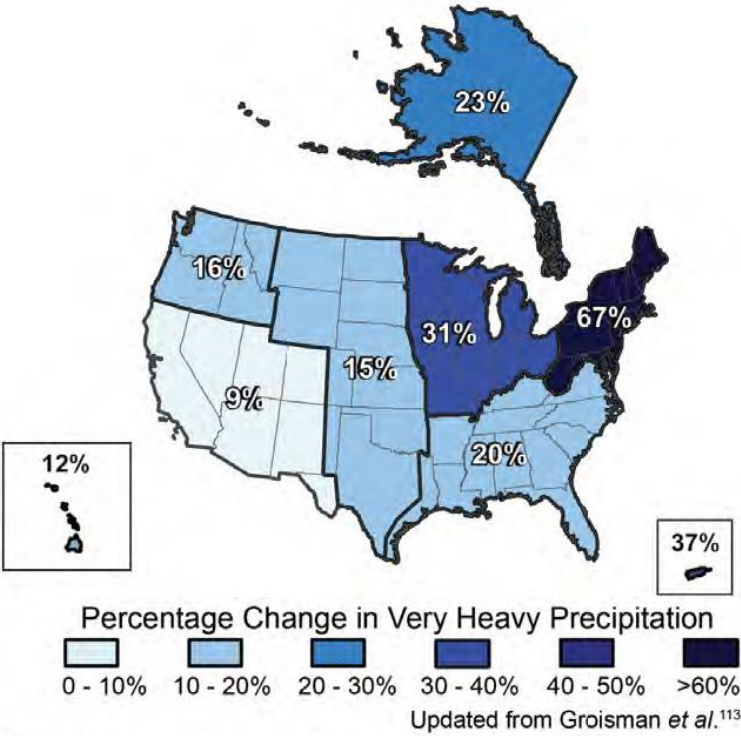
AUGUST 2011

FTA Report No. 0001
Federal Transit Administration

PREPARED BY
FTA Office of Budget and Policy




U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration



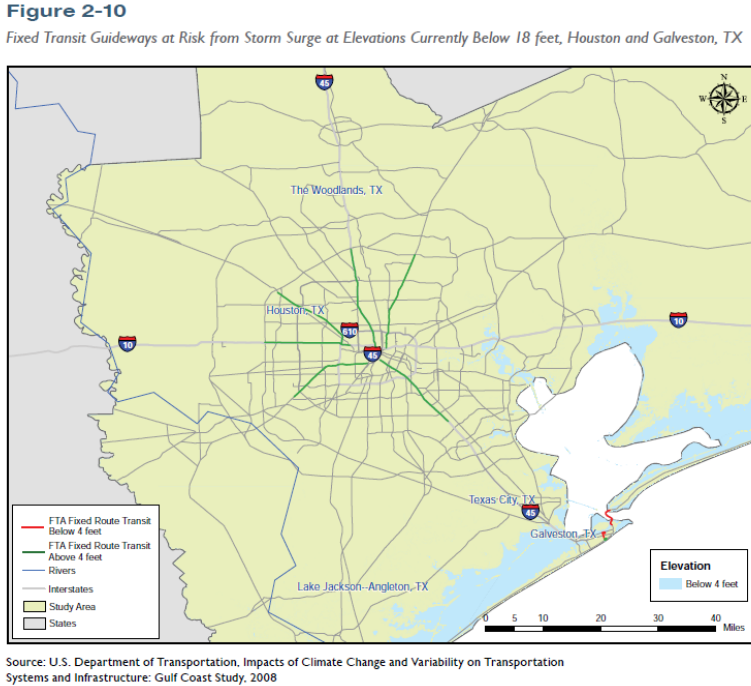
The map shows the percentage increases in very heavy precipitation (defined as the heaviest 1 percent of all events) from 1958 to 2007 for each region. There are clear trends toward more very heavy precipitation for the nation as a whole, and particularly in the Northeast and Midwest.



BEST PRACTICES: MAPPING SEA LEVEL RISE AND STORM SURGES ALONG COASTAL REGIONS

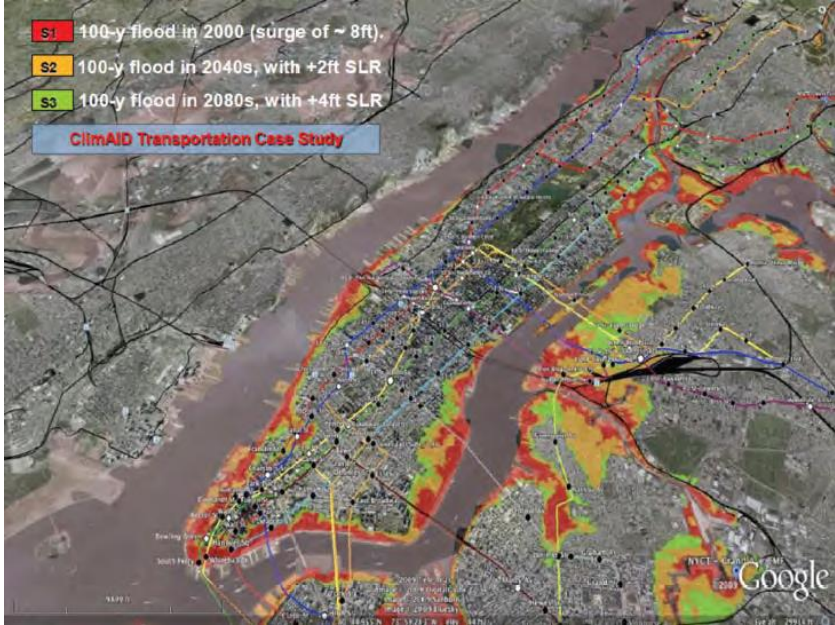


San Francisco



Houston

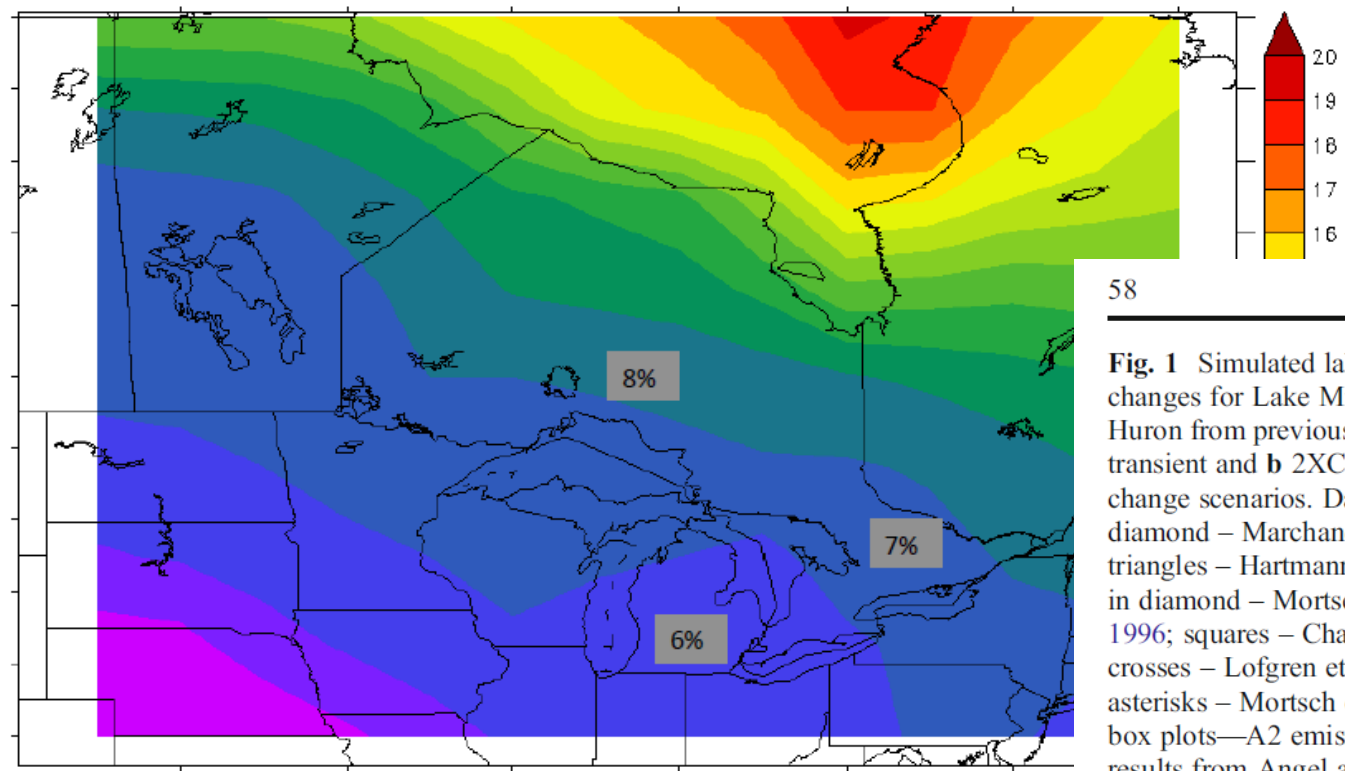
Figure 2-12: New York City Vulnerability to 2 to 4 feet of Sea-Level Rise with 100-year Storm Surge



New York City

GREAT LAKES: LAKE LEVEL RISE AND STORM SURGES NOT AS BIG A CONCERN

Annual Precipitation Change 2041-2070 Compared to Baseline

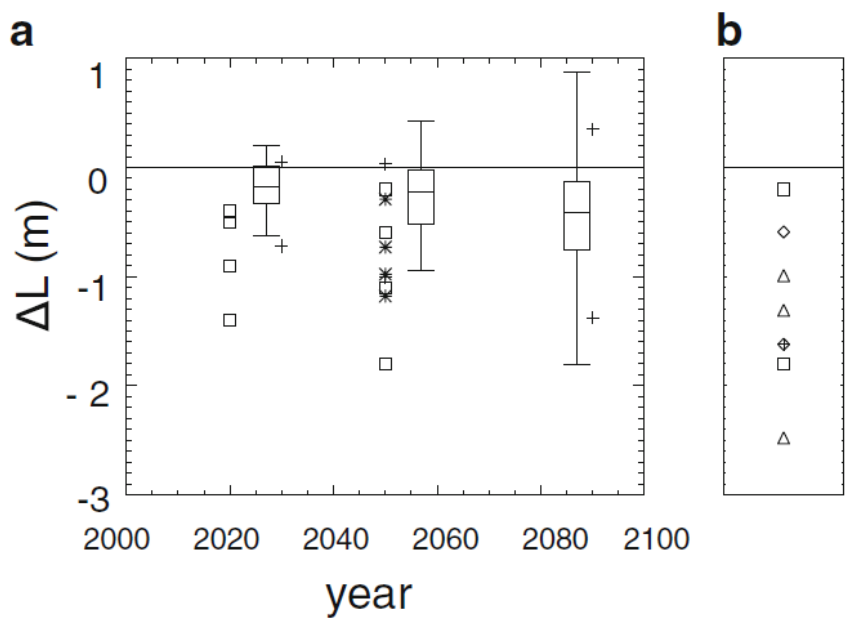


Projected Water Levels for LM-H

58

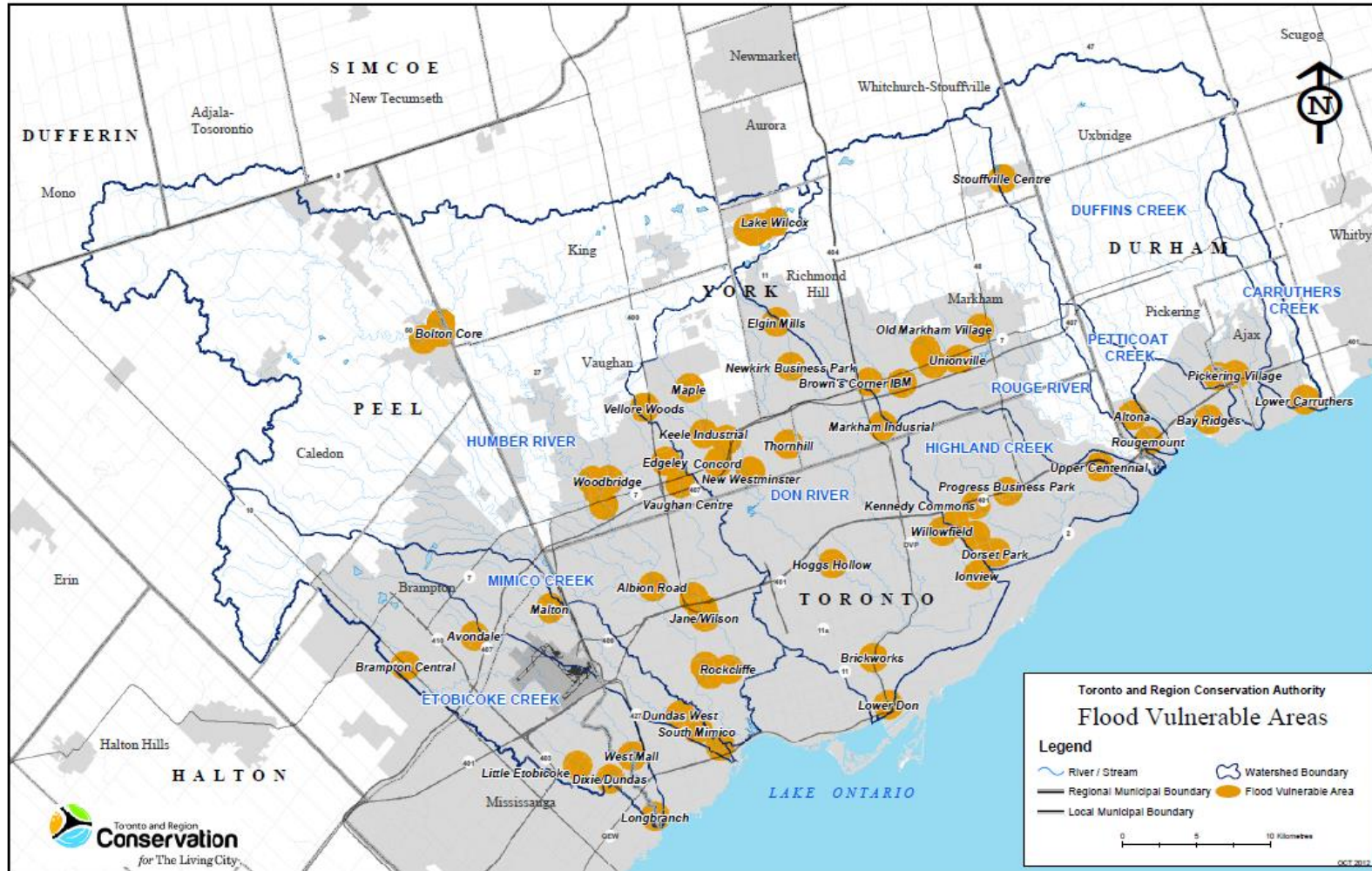
Climatic Change (2013) 117:55–67

Fig. 1 Simulated lake level changes for Lake Michigan – Huron from previous studies for **a** transient and **b** 2XCO2 climate change scenarios. Data are from: diamond – Marchand et al. 1988; triangles – Hartmann 1990; Cross in diamond – Mortsch and Quinn 1996; squares – Chao 1999; crosses – Lofgren et al. 2002; asterisks – Mortsch et al. 2006, box plots—A2 emission scenario results from Angel and Kunkel 2010. Box plots indicate median, Inter-quartile range, and 5th and 95th percentiles

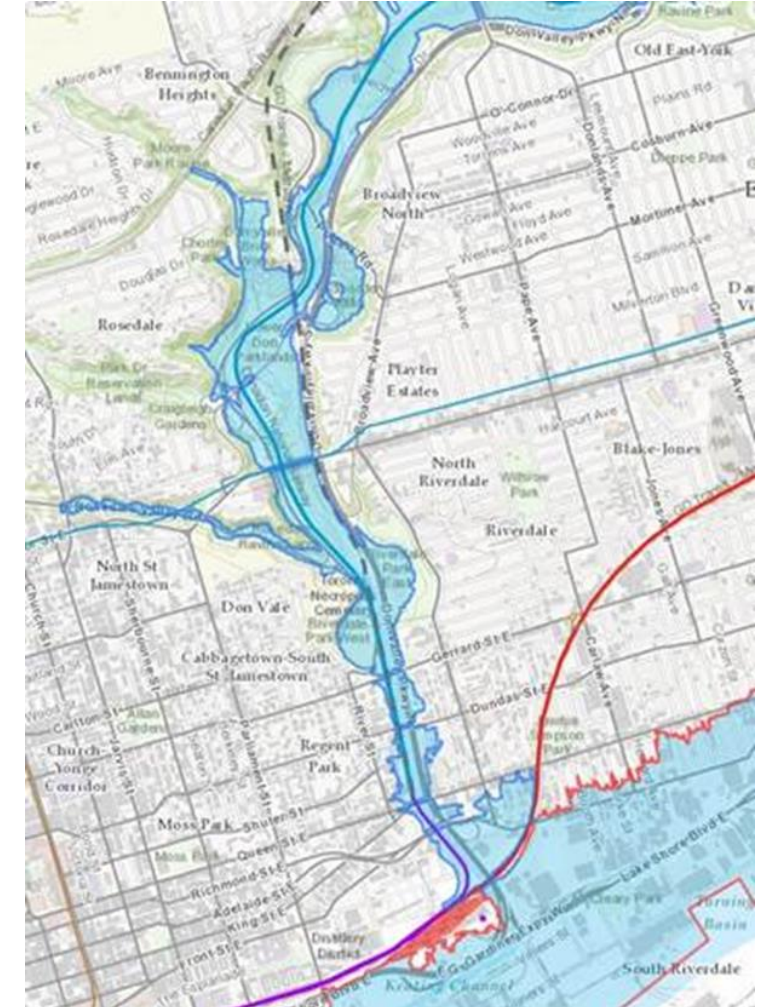


THE RISK TO RIVERINE FLOODING: TRCA EXAMPLE

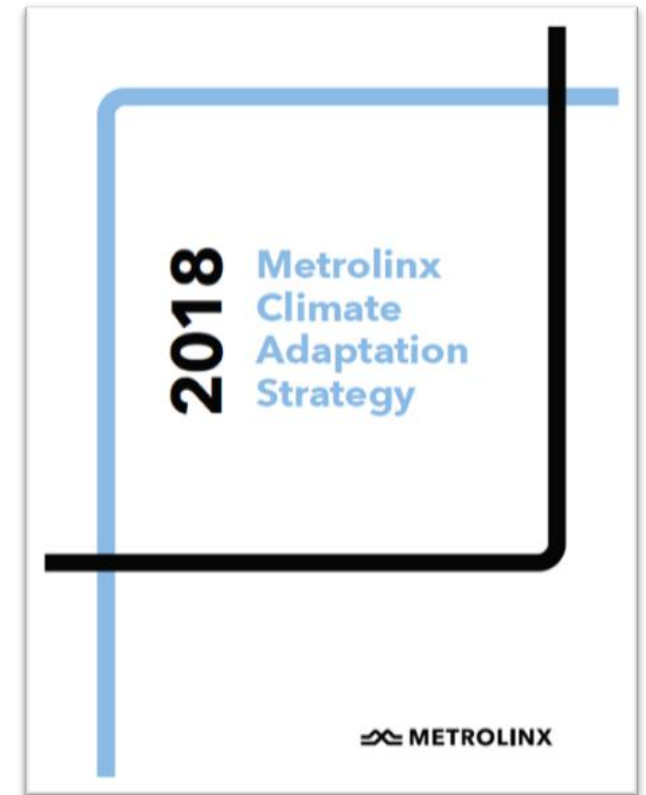
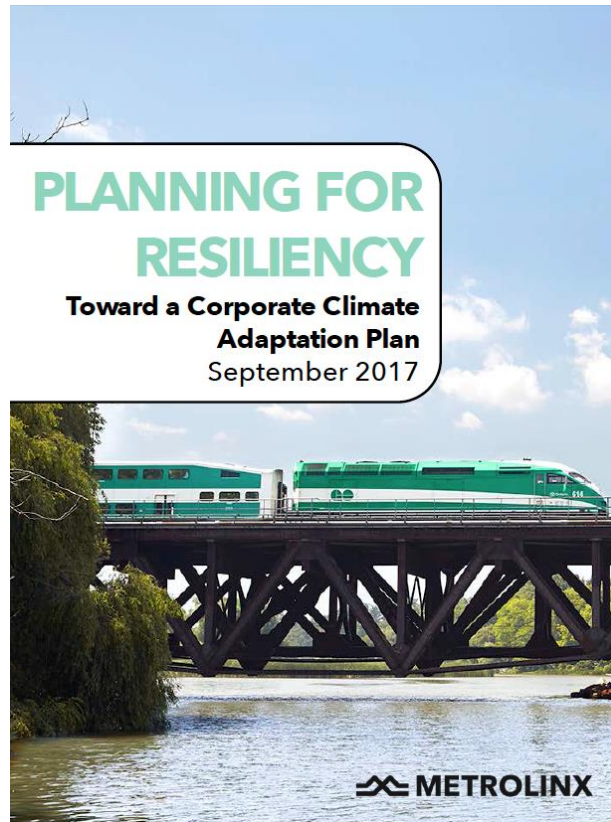
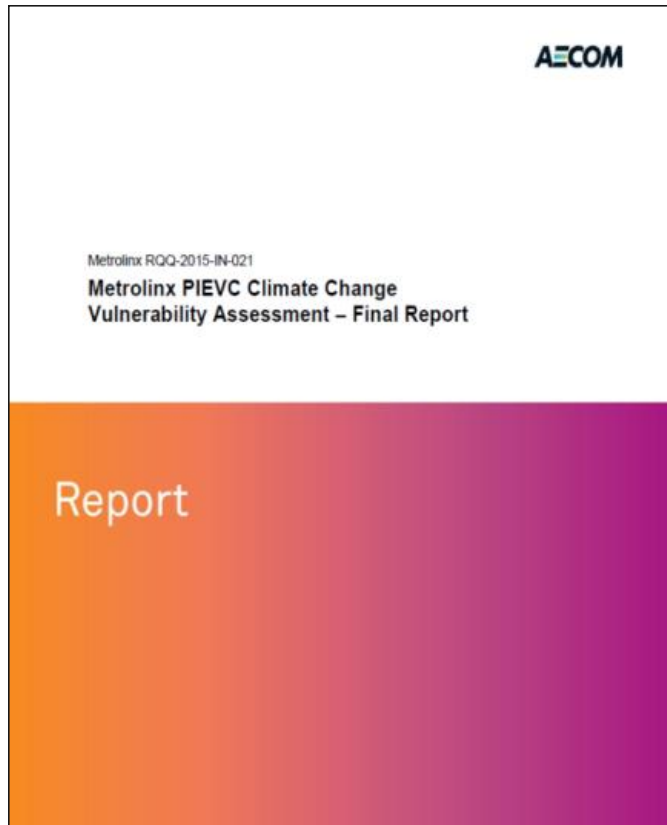
Mapping of Flood Vulnerable Areas ("Hot Spots")



Publically Accessible Flood Maps



METROLINX'S JOURNEY TOWARDS BECOMING CLIMATE RESILIENT



METROLINX CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY: KEY ACTIONS RELATED TO FLOOD RISK - HIGHLIGHTED IN THE CITY OF TORONTO'S FIRST RESILIENCY STRATEGY

Key Action	Activity	Status
1.3.1 Engage Conservation Authorities to Obtain flood mapping data for the GTHA in GIS format and assess flood risk for existing and planned infrastructure assets across the Metrolinx network	Flood Exposure Study	Completed
1.3.2 Engage municipalities to estimate urban flood risk from different storm events and climate change projections, as well as estimates of the urban heat island effect	City of Toronto Flood Mitigation Working Group Lower Don Flood Mitigation Study	In Progress Kick-Off January 21 st , 2019
3.1.2 Prioritize culverts, bridges and embankments most vulnerable to climate extremes for increased monitoring and maintenance	CPG engagement of AECOM, taking projected climate changes in IDF statistics (25% increase)	Completed

ADDRESSING FLOOD RISK IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

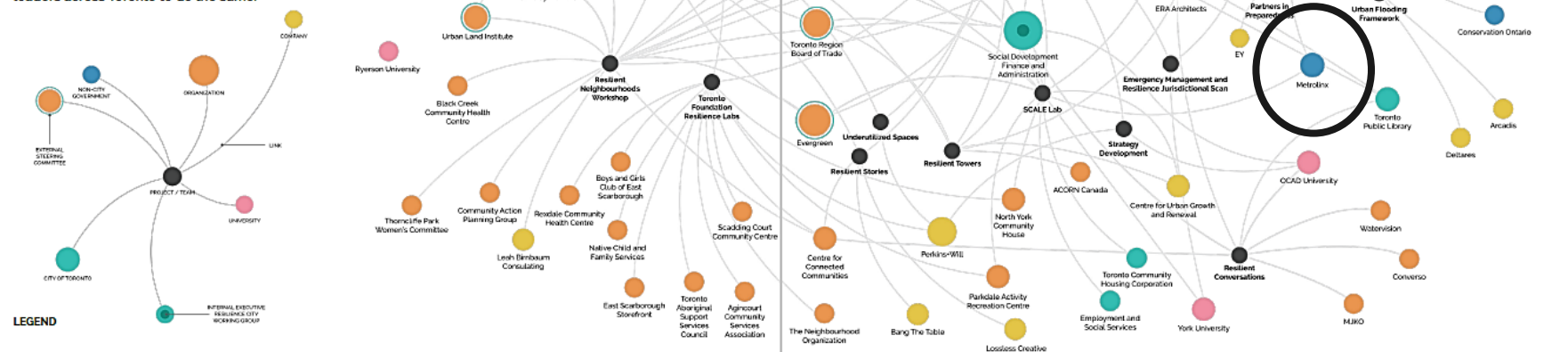
Breaking Down Silos through Partnership

Building resilience is fundamentally about creating and expanding partnerships. To find and implement solutions to Toronto's biggest challenges, we must partner across City divisions, silos, disciplines, and sectors. This image maps out the partnerships the Resilience Office made with 82 organizations to deliver 19 projects as part of creating the Resilience Strategy.

We worked with:

- 27 City divisions, agencies, boards, and corporations
- 33 non-profit organizations
- 13 companies
- 5 universities
- 4 non-City of Toronto government bodies

We used this map to look around the room, ask "who is not here", and invite them to be a part of discussions, plans, and projects on resilience. We challenge resilience leaders across Toronto to do the same.



MEMBER OF THE CITY OF TORONTO'S FLOOD RESILIENCE WORKING GROUP

FLOOD RESILIENCE WORKING GROUP

CITY DIVISIONS

- Toronto Water
- Environment and Energy
- City Planning
- Transportation Services
- Engineering and Construction Services
- Toronto Building
- Resilience Office
- Facilities

AGENCIES

- Toronto Transit Commission
- Toronto Hydro

- Metrolinx
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

PROVINCIAL MINISTRY/ASSOCIATION

- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Conservation Ontario

PRIVATE SECTOR/ACADEMIA

- Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction
- Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation
- University of Toronto

METROLINX IS A SIGNATORY OF THE FLOOD RESILIENT TORONTO CHARTER

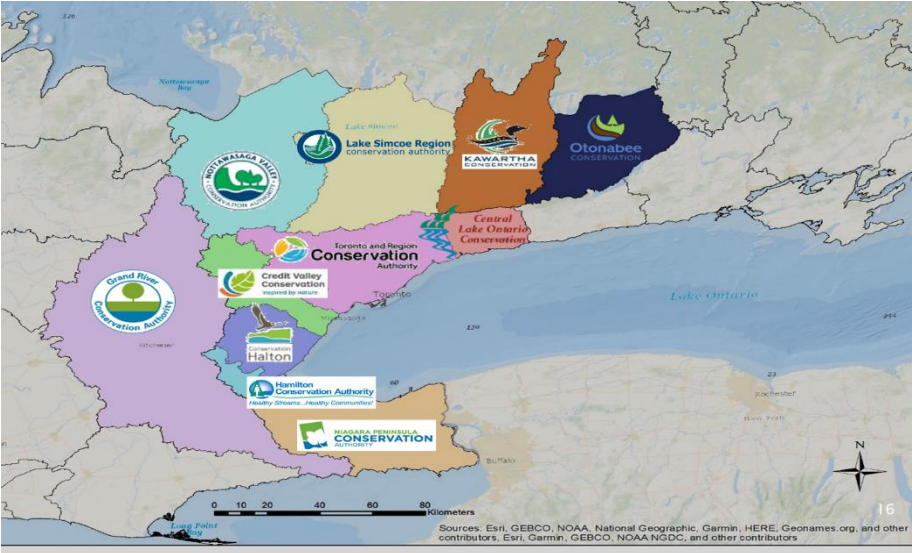
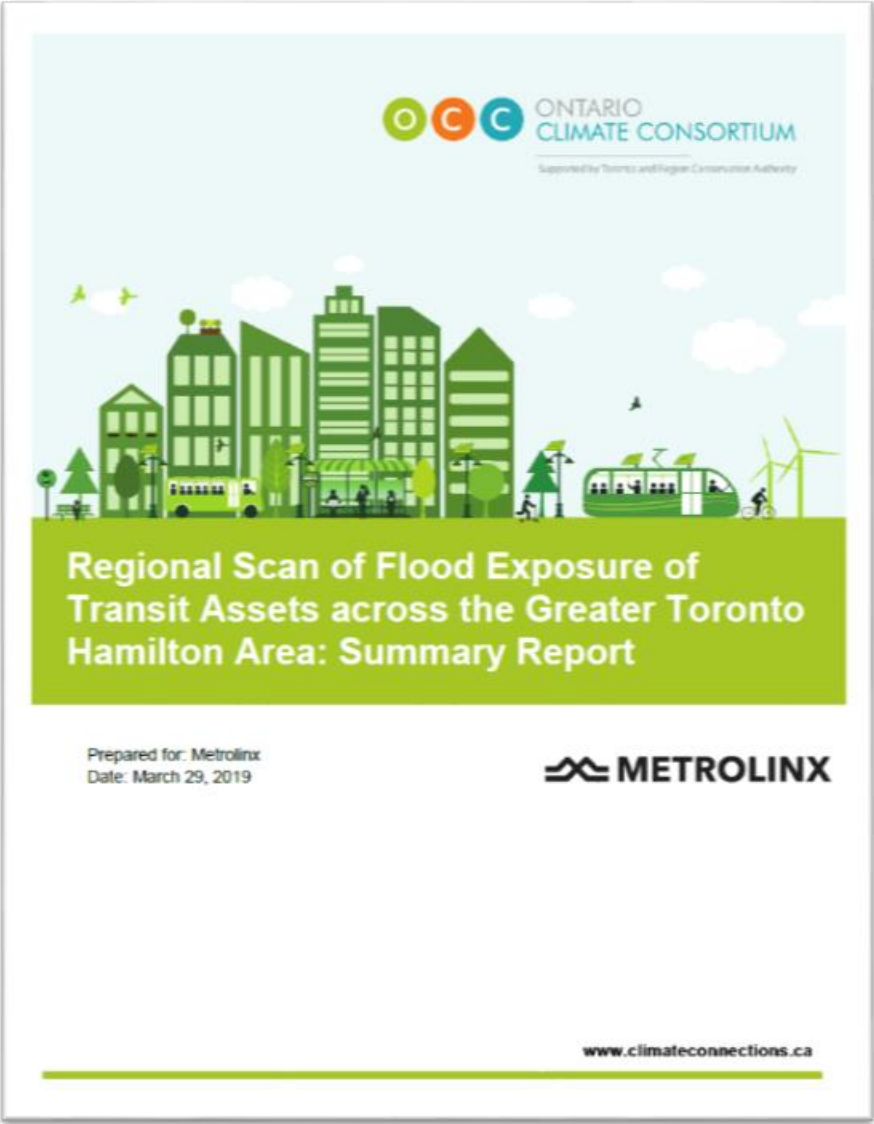
FLOOD RESILIENT TORONTO CHARTER

1. Guide city planning, projects and programs based on greatest risk. Risk, taking vulnerability and impact into account, is to be assessed based on a social cost-benefit analysis considering physical flood hazards, social vulnerabilities and critical infrastructure.
2. Use city-wide modelling to identify probability and impact of flooding, and map critical infrastructure, physical and social vulnerabilities. Produce an intuitive map that can be applied by multiple stakeholders.
3. Use risk mapping and forecasting to guide funding and deployment of operational resources. Operations staff and technology should be assigned geographically and funded based on return on investment versus flood risk and achievable level of service.
4. Plan and fund capital projects based on the outputs of flood risk modelling, aligning investment with a social cost-benefit analysis accounting for return on investment and achievable level of service.
5. Encourage new partnerships and innovative technical approaches; shift thinking towards flood resilience.
6. Collaborate locally, nationally and internationally, and demonstrate leadership in flood resilience.
7. Communicate flood risk to the public and stakeholders, and encourage residents and businesses to take action.

INFORMATION TO IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING AND INFORM DECISION MAKING

Type of Flood Risk	Geographical Scope	Assets
Flood Exposure: Riverine Flooding/Regulatory Storm Event	Network Wide	Existing and Future
Flood Risk: Changing Climate	Network Wide	Rail Corridors: culverts, bridges and embankments
Risk from Riverine and Urban/Stormwater Flooding: Changing Climate	Lower Don River	Bala Subdivision/Richmond Hill Rail Corridor
Risk from Urban/Stormwater Flooding: Changing Climate	Downtown Toronto	Union Station
Risk from Urban/Stormwater Flooding and Riverine Spills: Changing Climate	Network Wide	35 Asset Groups Existing and Future

FLOOD EXPOSURE: EXISTING AND FUTURE ASSETS



Asset Groups and Classes

1. General <ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintenance & Layover FacilitiesGO Train StationsParking Lot	4. Structures <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pedestrian TunnelSignal BridgeRetaining WallRail BridgePedestrian BridgeCulvert	6. Right of Way <ul style="list-style-type: none">At Grade CrossingCatch BasinDitchFenceInletOperation Sign	8. Signals <ul style="list-style-type: none">Wayside Inspection UnitWarning DeviceHazard DetectorSwitch MachineSnow Clearing DeviceSignal MastSignalJU2 (Underground Cable Junction Case)Electric LockDuctsBungalow
2. Power and Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none">Traction Power Facility ParcelsCommunications Tower	5. Other <ul style="list-style-type: none">GO RouteGO Service Stop	7. Mapped but not Tabled <ul style="list-style-type: none">MX Office LocationsGeneratorTransformerWheel Impact Load Detector/MonitorSCADA SensorPumping StationAutomatic Equipment Reader	
3. Track <ul style="list-style-type: none">Track Segmentation (0.1 Mile)Turnout			

00

WHAT DOES FLOOD EXPOSURE MAPPING PROVIDE METROLINX?

For historical development



Identify where historical development is exposed to riverine flooding, where enhanced O & M, asset management, and monitoring may be

For future development



Guide future development away from areas where assets will be exposed to riverine flooding

For design standards



Identify where increased design standards are required for new infrastructure assets that need to be constructed within the

POTENTIAL USES FOR FLOOD EXPOSURE INFORMATION

- Can quickly inform (triage) what assets may require additional assessment or review based on flooding
- Can guide review of design, O & M plans, and Asset Management Plans to ensure that flood mitigation requirements and measures are being applied to assets located within the flood plain
- Flood exposure metrics could be used to support the business case for reducing flood risk in future work



LESSONS LEARNED SO FAR

- Bringing information together in a GIS platform enables useful spatial analysis now and in the future
- Riverine flooding is a starting point for more comprehensive flood risk/vulnerability assessments
- Disseminate flood exposure information among Metrolinx staff as they use, require and interpret information from CAs (e.g. flood plain data)
- Building relationships now will make engagement easier in the future

NEXT STEPS

- Engage GGH Municipalities to assess overland/urban/stormwater flood risk
- Take into account interdependencies
- Address implications for Safety, Infrastructure Investment, Service Delivery
- Consider increased flood risk from a changing climate

