Are Your Building and Land Use Codes Ready for the Changing Climate?

New Partners for Smart Growth

Denver, CO

February 15, 2014

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Earlier snowmelt reducing water supply in summer

Hotter temperatures, more demand for water and energy

Heat waves, coastal flooding, river flooding

Permafrost thawing, increasing impacts on native communities

Extreme events (heat waves, droughts, floods)

Higher temperatures, increasingly constrained fresh water supplies

Infrastructure increasingly vulnerable to SLR

Wildfires, increased competition for water

More competition for water, more extreme events

Alaska

Northwest

Great Plains

Northeast

Midwest

Southwest

Coasts

Southeast

Islands

Map adapted from the 2009 National Climate Assessment

Some Resources on Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Communities

- EPA resources:
  - Using Smart Growth Strategies to Create More Resilient Communities in the Washington, D.C., Region: http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia_communities.htm#dc
  - Web page with resources on smart growth and climate adaptation and mitigation: http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/climatechange.htm
  - EPA's climate change portal: http://www.epa.gov/climatechange

- National Climate Assessment (due to be completed in spring 2014, but drafts are available online now)
  - http://assessment.globalchange.gov
  - Scenarios for Climate Assessment and Adaptation: http://scenarios.globalchange.gov

Schedule

- **Megan Susman (moderator):** Introduction (5 mins.)
- **Doug Farr:** Overview of connections between land use, community design, and climate adaptation (10 mins.)
- **Elizabeth Garvin, AICP:** Zoning codes and land use regulations (10 mins.)
- **David Morley, AICP:** Zoning for solar gardens (10 mins.)
- **Discussion with audience:** How is this conversation taking place in your community? (55 mins.)