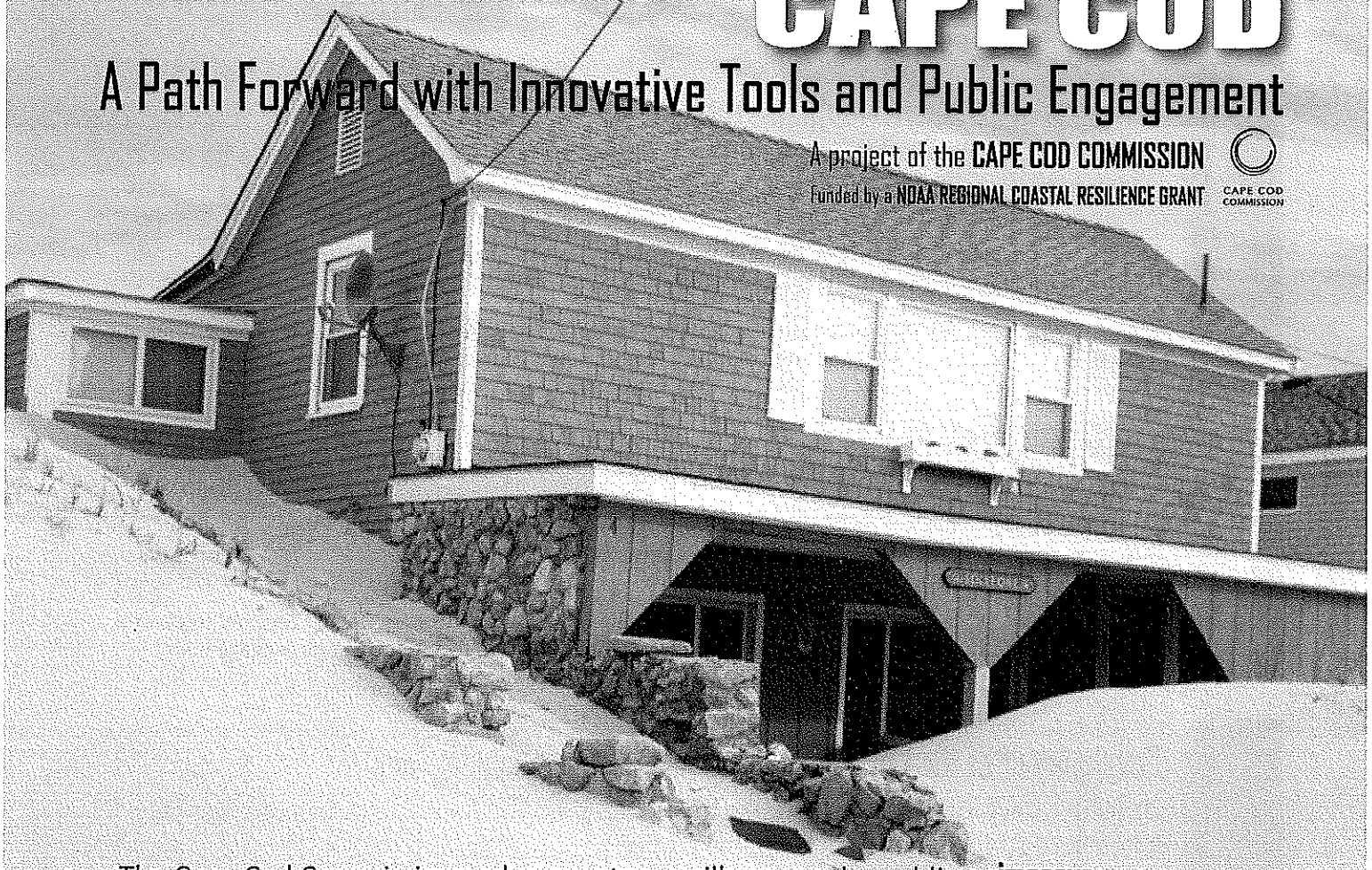
RESILIENT CAPE COD

A Path Forward with Innovative Tools and Public Engagement

A project of the **CAPE COD COMMISSION**

Funded by a **NOAA REGIONAL COASTAL RESILIENCE GRANT**



The Cape Cod Commission and our partners will engage the public to **improve understanding** of the threats under projected **climate and sea level rise scenarios**, communicate the **costs of doing nothing**, explore the options for **improving resiliency** to coastal threats, and compare the **costs and benefits** of resiliency adaptation strategies at the local and regional scale.

Over the next three years, the Commission will conduct a Capewide public engagement process, economic research to determine economic values and associated tradeoffs for different strategies, compile a database of strategies and build a GIS-based communications tool to help residents and decision makers understand the relative environmental and socio-economic effects of implementing different adaptation strategies.

NOAA

WAQUOIT BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE

APCC Association to Preserve Cape Cod

BARNSTABLE MASS. 1639

CAPE COD COMMISSION

FACT SHEET: CAPE COD COMMISSION COASTAL RESILIENCY PROJECT

CAPE COD COMMISSION

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Association to Preserve Cape Cod
- Waquoit Bay Nat'l Estuarine Research Reserve
- Town of Barnstable

SUPPORTING AGENCIES

- Center for Coastal Studies
- Massachusetts SeaGrant
- Massachusetts CZM

PROJECT COSTS

- 2016: $225,213
- 2017: $305,850
- 2018: $250,212

PHASE 1

Data Collection and Adaptation Strategies Database

Collect sufficient data on the impacts of changing climate, sea level rise (SLR), and adaptation strategies to generate a region-wide database of resiliency strategies.

Year 1: Develop data sets from existing and new sources to support the understanding and illustrate impacts of climate change and SLR on Cape Cod. Robust public outreach to assure data quality.

Years 1 - 2: Compile database of adaptation strategies to improve resiliency, including policies and both hard and soft solutions. Robust public outreach to assure data quality.

PHASE 2

Public Engagement and Socio-Economic Analysis

Engage in a region-wide public process to improve understanding of coastal vulnerability and gauge the region's willingness to take action to improve resiliency to coastal threats.

Years 1 - 3: Experiments to determine economic values different strategies and consider trade-offs. Information to be developed and refined through region-wide public engagement.

PHASE 3

Development of the Communication and Decision-Support Tool:

Develop a decision-support tool to aid discussions around implementation of potential adaptation strategies.

Years 2 - 3: Develop a GIS-based tool to translate technical data to everyday language, estimate loss of private and public assets, communicate adaptation strategies and their costs/benefits, communicate the need for action and engage the public to select and implement site-specific strategies.

Year 3: Use prototype to illustrate the threats of changing climate and SLR, options for adaptation, and compare costs and benefits at local and regional scales. Focus groups of local resource managers, policy makers, and other stakeholders will refine the tool's content and presentation.

PHASE 4

Town of Barnstable Pilot Project

Pilot the planning approach and use of the Decision-Support Tool in the Town of Barnstable.

Year 3: Use of tool to advance Barnstable's resiliency planning, improve property owner understanding of climate change and Sea level rise threats, identify and highlight the cost of doing nothing, and determine the costs and benefits of different adaptation strategies.