Capacity-Builders, Conveners, Collaborators, and More: The Regional Development Organization's Role in Disaster Recovery

August 12, 2014 2:00 - 3:15 pm ET





Our Mission

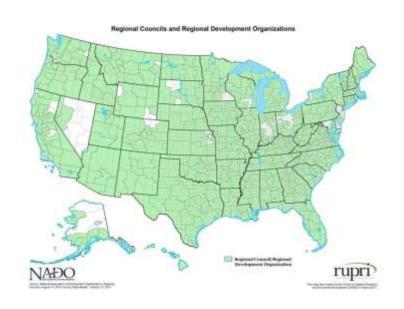
The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)



To strengthen local governments, communities, and economies through the regional strategies, partnerships, and solutions of the nation's regional development organizations.



Our Membership

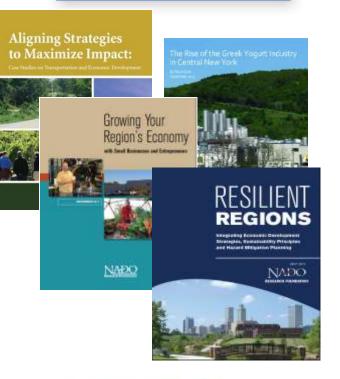


National membership organization for the network of over 520 **regional development organizations** (RDOs) throughout the U.S.

RDOs are also known as Councils of Government, Regional Planning Commissions, Economic Development Districts, and by other names.

They promote efforts that strengthen local governments, communities, and economies through regional strategies focusing on economic development, infrastructure, housing, transportation, and regional planning.

NADO Research Foundation



Founded in 1988, the **NADO Research Foundation** is the non-profit research affiliate of NADO.

Shares best practices from small metropolitan areas and rural America through **training**, **peer exchange**, **research**, **and other capacity-building activities**.

Focus Areas:

- Rural Transportation
- Regional Resilience
- Sustainable Communities
- Economic Development
- Organizational Support





REGIONAL STRATEGIES. PARTNERSHIPS. SOLUTIONS. NADO.ORG

Regional Resilience



With support from EDA, the NADO Research Foundation provides capacity-building services to RDOs and local governments around **regional resilience to natural disasters and other economic shocks**.

These services include training workshops, peer exchanges, technical assistance, webinars, and research on best practices.

We make our resources and lessons learned available to the public—visit www.nado.org or contact mmcconville@nado.org.





REGIONAL STRATEGIES. PARTNERSHIPS. SOLUTIONS. NADO.ORG

Today's Webinar

- **Kevin Geiger**, Senior Planner, Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission, Woodstock, VT
- **Brian Schoon**, Director of Development and Transit, Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments, Waterloo, IA
- Charles Wemple, Chief Operating Officer, Houston-Galveston Area Council, Houston, TX

Webinar Logistics

Please type any questions you have for the speakers in the question box on the side panel throughout the presentation

The webinar is being recorded and will be posted along with the PowerPoint slides on the NADO website at www.nado.org

This webinar has been approved for 1.25 AICP CM credits

Please contact Megan McConville at mmcconville@nado.org if you have any questions after the presentation

Recovery from Tropical Storm Irene

A Regional Planning Commission's Story

Kevin Geiger, AICP CFM kgeiger@trorc.org

Senior Planner, Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission





Sometimes you're the bug



The state had been practicing

Floods are our #1 disaster and had been happening for years

Five Floods in '90s Resulting in Over \$60 Million in Damages Gihon River, Eden, 1997

Some
damage
from Irene
was déjà vu,
and other
times it was
new, but
predictable





VT Regional Planning Commission roles in emergency management

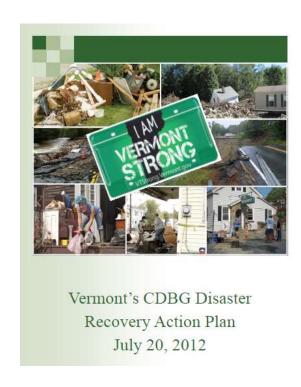
- Local emergency plans (EMPG)
- Local mitigation plans (HMGP, PDM-C, FMA)
- Flood regulations (EMPG, state funds)
- GIS and E911 mapping (state funds)
- Wildfire plans (USDA-CWPP)
- State committees and EOC staffing (EMPG)
- Nuclear drills (REP)
- Grant management (HMGP, CDBG-DR)
- Business continuity plans (EDA)



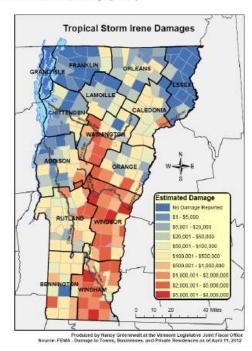




The State got "extra" money through CDBG-DR



FEMA Estimated Total Damage by County

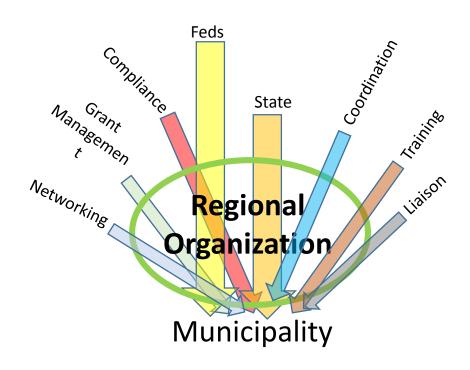


CDBG-DR/HMGP Buyouts in VT

- 136 structures total
- 79 purchased to date
- Most are 75% HMGP and 25% CDBG-DR
- 5 with CDBG-DR funds only at 75%
- 5 have brownfields issues that CDBG-DR is addressing



Regional Organizations are the right place for recovery



Recovery begins before "Recovery" begins

- Take part in training and exercises
- Write plans or participate in planning
- Build relationships and earn trust
- Prepare your office and constituents



When the water recedes, help your communities rebuild <u>better</u>.

- Write and Manage Grants: EDA, HUD-CDBG, EMPG, FMA, USACE, PDM-C, FMA, SRL, EPA, NRCS-EWP
- Provide or take part in training programs
- Participate in Plan revisions
- Do flood regulation updates and administration

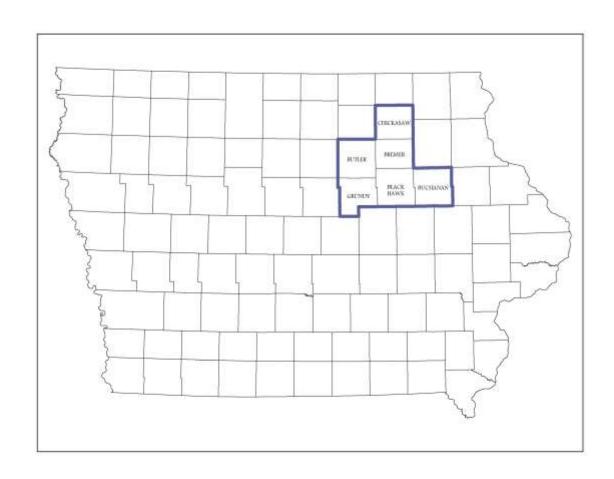
But you must start before the disaster. You can't just show up for the playoffs.

Capacity-Builders, Conveners, Collaborators, and More: The Regional Development Organization's Role in Disaster Recovery

National Association of Development Organizations

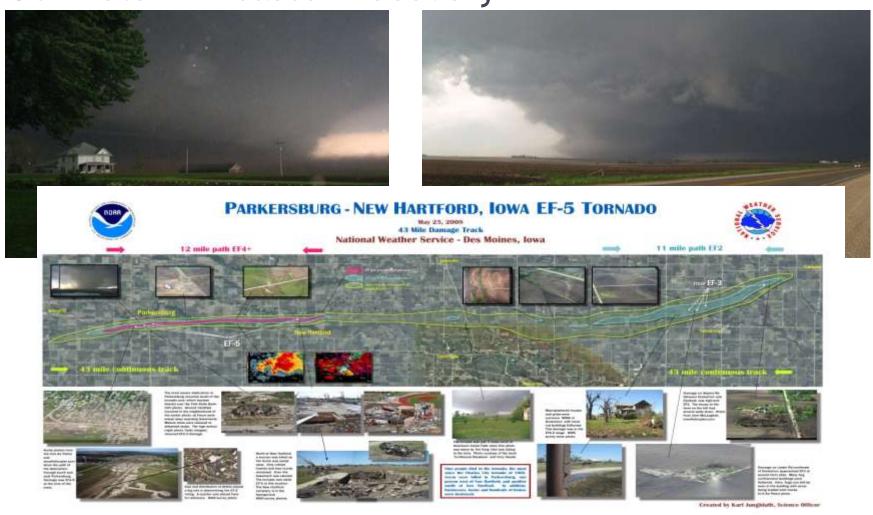
August 12th, 2014

Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments (INRCOG)





- 1993 Floods: Housing; Minor Infrastructure Role
- 1999 Floods: Housing
- 2008 Disasters (Tornado and Flooding): Housing; Business; and Infrastructure
 - All six of our counties were State and Presidentially declared disasters
 - All but 16 counties in Iowa were as well (83)











General Roles:

- Conveners and Facilitators (meetings, planning)
- Grant Writers and Administrators (Rule Interpreters?)
- Planners (Mitigation and Preparedness)
- Programmers (budgeting, funding)
- Researchers and Investigators
- Information Resource or Repository

- Economic Development Administration (US DoC):
 - Disaster Coordinators (INRCOG staff)
 - Infrastructure Projects (inflatable dam, industrial park relocation, stormwater pumps)
 - Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)
 - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):
 Including a Disaster Strategy
- Iowa Economic Development Authority:
 - Jump Start Funds: State of Iowa funds

- Iowa Economic Development Authority:
 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program
 - US DoHUD (HUD) funds, administered by the state
 - · Housing-acquisitions, repair, reconstruction programs
 - Infrastructure-sanitary and storm sewer, water, pumps
 - Business-rent assistance, insurance reimbursement, revolving loan fund match
 - Comprehensive planning

- Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division
 - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
 - FEMA funds administered by FEMA Region 7 and the state
 - Housing-acquisitions
 - Infrastructure-sanitary sewer, sirens
 - Safe rooms
 - Planning-multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plans

- USDA-Rural Business Enterprise Grant
 - Direct grants to businesses (administered by the local EDC)
 - Redevelopment technical assistance, planning, regulatory, tax increment financing (TIF)
- FEMA/EPA
 - Planning technical assistance
 - Recovery planning-Emergency Support Function 14 (FEMA)
 - Smart growth, planning, and regulation updating (EPA)
 - "Green" concepts, sustainability, and plan integration (EPA)

- Rebuild Iowa Office (RIO)
 - Started in response to flooding
 - Senior state staff reassigned from appropriate state departments
 - Became short term state agency (closed in June 2011)
 - Intended to bridge federal and local governments
 - Information for programs
 - Director of requests to providers
 - Meeting facilitator
 - Planning advocates
 - Iowa Smart Planning Legislation (2010)
 - Smart Planning Principles and Plan Guidelines
 - Task Force Created (dissolved December 31, 2012)

Update on Our Progress

• Since 2008:

- <u>Most</u> programs and projects have been successfully closed or concluded
 - Ongoing infrastructure projects (2)
 - Ongoing housing projects (single and multi-family)
 - Revolving Loan Fund (EDA/IEDA)
 - Planning-Preparedness
 - CEDS: Disaster Strategy and refinement thereof
 - Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plans Updates/Implementation of other plans
 - Implementing Iowa's Smart Planning Legislation
- Presidential Declarations Since 2008 (ROI Measure?)

Lessons Learned

- Remember there is no single funding source for disaster recovery...you will probably have to access several programs, administered by several agencies, etc.
- Agency and funding source rules may be cumbersome, as they are probably not tailored for disaster recovery
- Program requirements may seem to be ever-changing (the checkbook holder makes the rules)
- Planning may become incremental
- It's hard to fight the immediate rush to rebuild
- A new "normal" may develop in the affected community or communities
- Avoiding the entitlement mentality/hangover after a disaster

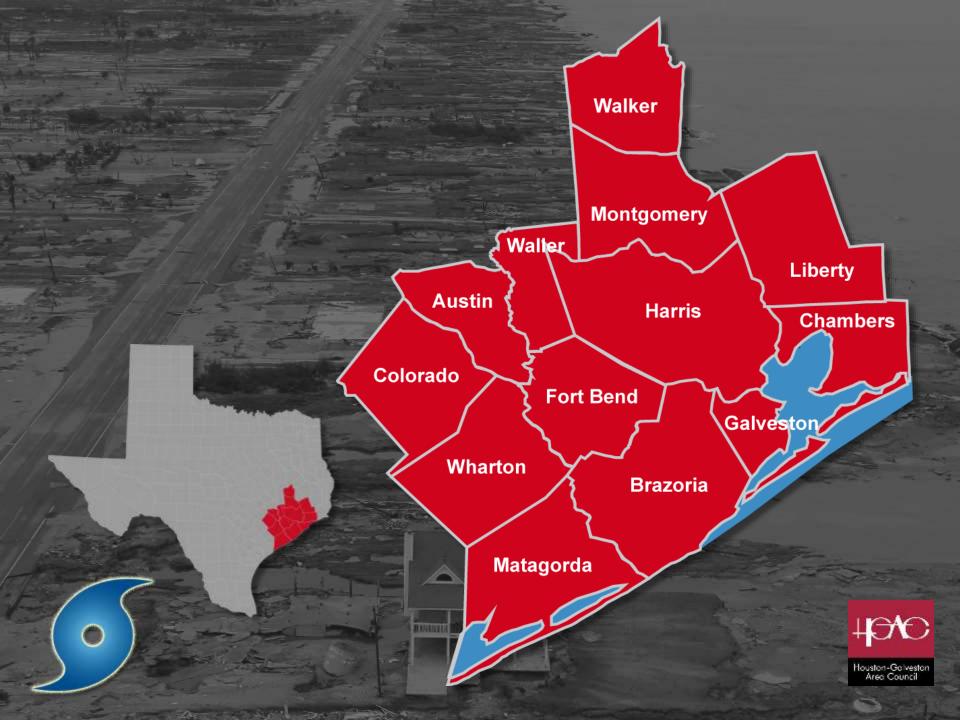
Lessons Learned

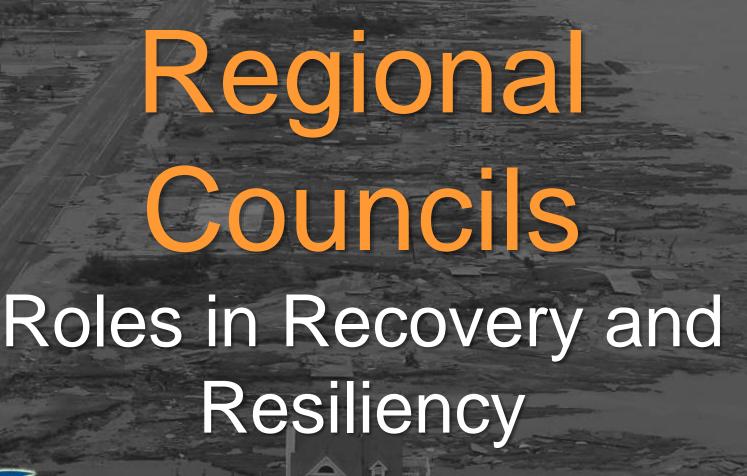
- You may have to learn to manage volunteers
- Build/Participate in your coalitions, committees, boards, councils, task forces, etc.
- Inform or update your elected officials at all levels of government regularly;
- Communicate with your members
- Think and plan regionally/Implement incrementally
 - Disasters do not follow political boundaries or jurisdictions
- Remember every community is unique in their recovery
- Don't be afraid to ask for help (you can't do it all by yourself)
- Be patient; Be mindful of the impact on your staff
- If you do not help your communities, who will?

Contact Information:

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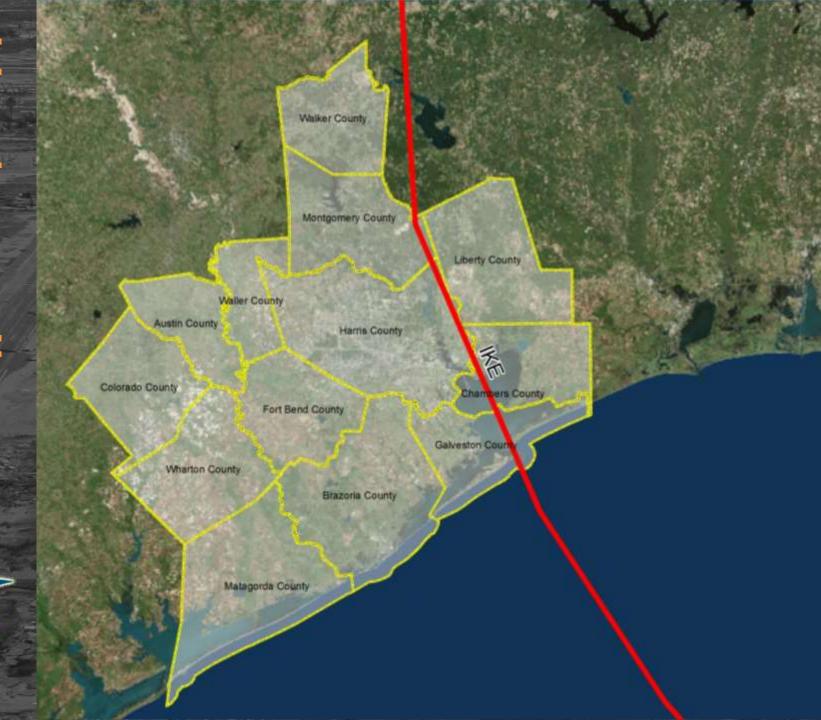




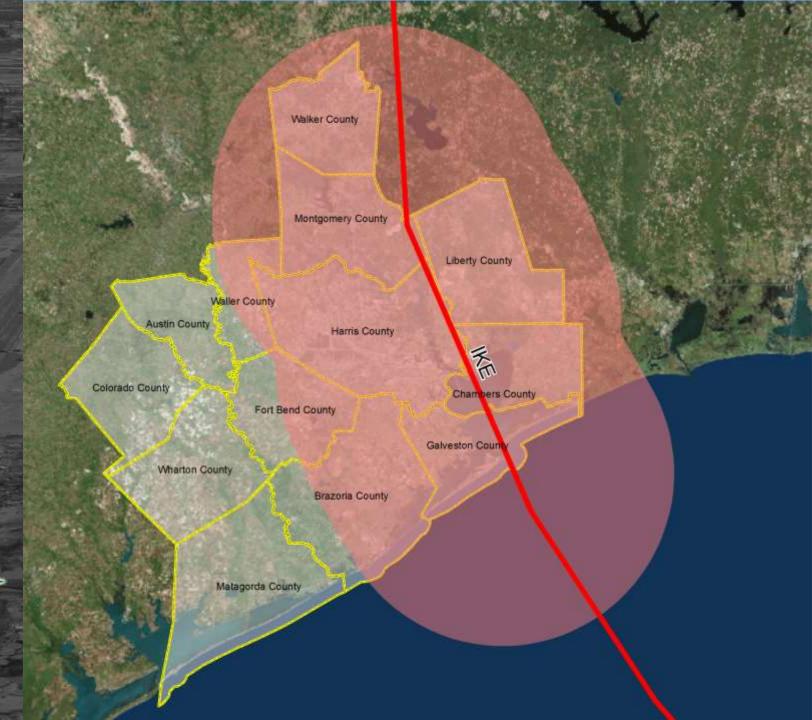












Population in Impact Area

- Pre-lke
 - 2008 5.63 million
- Current
 - 2013 6.23 million







Storm Damage

- Over \$7 billion in damage to region
- Over 200,000 homes damaged or destroyed – \$2.7 billion
- \$2.5 billion in critical infrastructure





Recovery Efforts

- FEMA \$1.5 billion
- HUD CDBG \$2 billion
- HUD SSBG \$90 million
- SBA \$500 million
- EDA \$40 million







H-GAC Role

- Designated by State
- Funding Priorities
- Evacuation Routes
- Regional View







H-GAC Assistance

- Debris removal contracts
- Workforce & Housing services
- Economic development & HMGP grants
- Cooperative Purchasing
- Administration of loan programs
- Social Services Block Grants
- Allocation of \$2 billion CDBG DR



Data









HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

JANUARY 17, 2006

PRIBARIO BY

Volume I

Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

2009-2011 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Gulf Coast Economic Development District

Adopted by the GCEDD Board of Directors - July 17, 2009

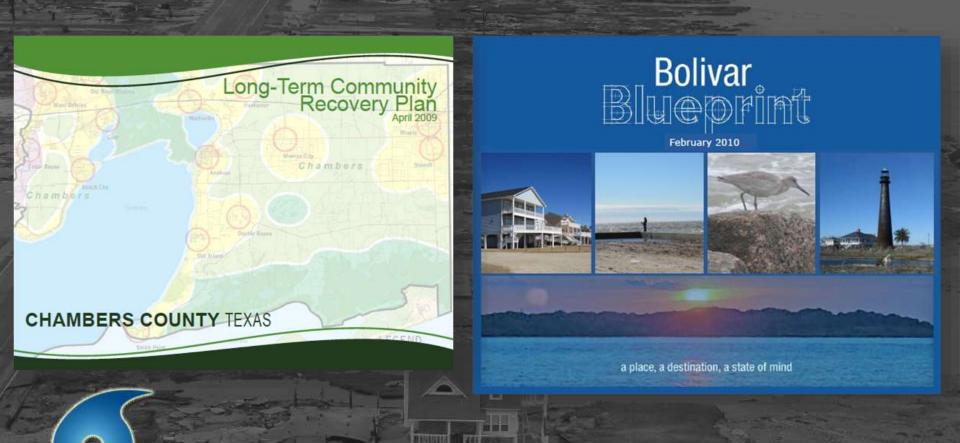
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3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120, Heusten, TX 77027
www.gcodd.org

Made possible in part by a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Community Recovery



Lessons & New Ideas



Flood Management Handbook

REGIONAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

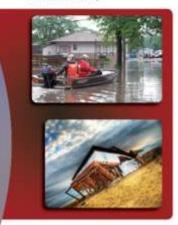
Houston-Galveston Area Council | July 2009



December 2010

Restoring Regional Economies in the Wake of Disaster

A Special Report from the NADO Research Foundation on the Role of Regional Development Organizations in Post-Disaster Economic Recovery



Developing Coastal Tourism as an Economic Driver:

Strategies & Recommendations for Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston and Matagorda Counties, Texas















October 2011



Houston-Galveston Area Council

BACK HOME

Rapid Housing Recovery Pilot Program

Natural Disaster Housing Reconstruction Plan



As required by HB2450, 81" Legislative Session Submitted by the Natural Disaster Housing Reconstruction Advisory Committee November 30th, 2010





Future Challenges

- Complacency
- Growth
- Resources

Population Forecast

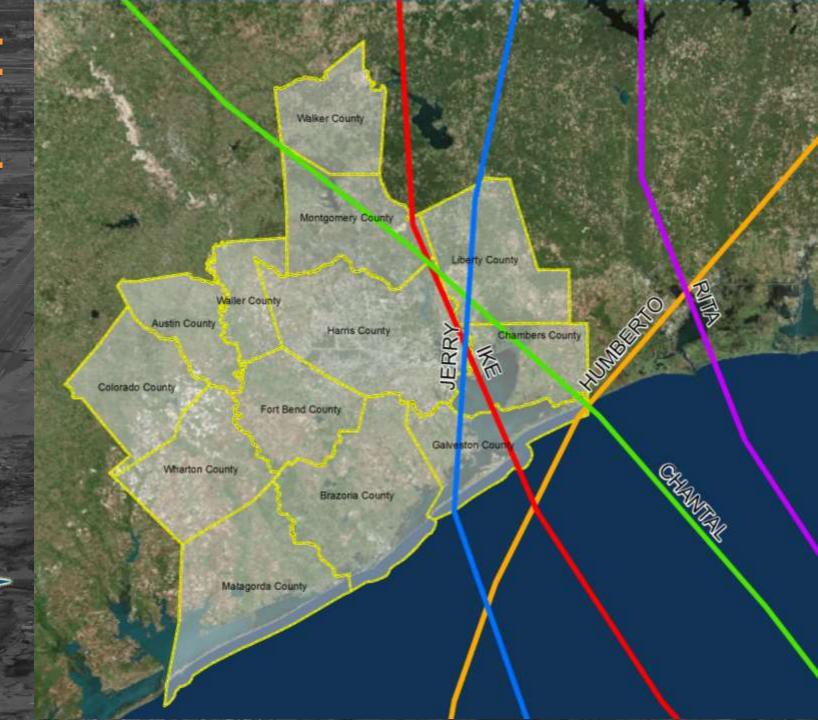
- Region
 - 2040 9.96 million
- Ike Track
 - 2040 9.62 million







Tracks Tracks





Questions?

Please type your questions in the question box on the side panel of your screen.

Speakers:

- Kevin Geiger, Senior Planner, Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission
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- Charles Wemple, Chief Operating Officer, Houston-Galveston Area Council

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With questions or comments, please contact:

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