

APA

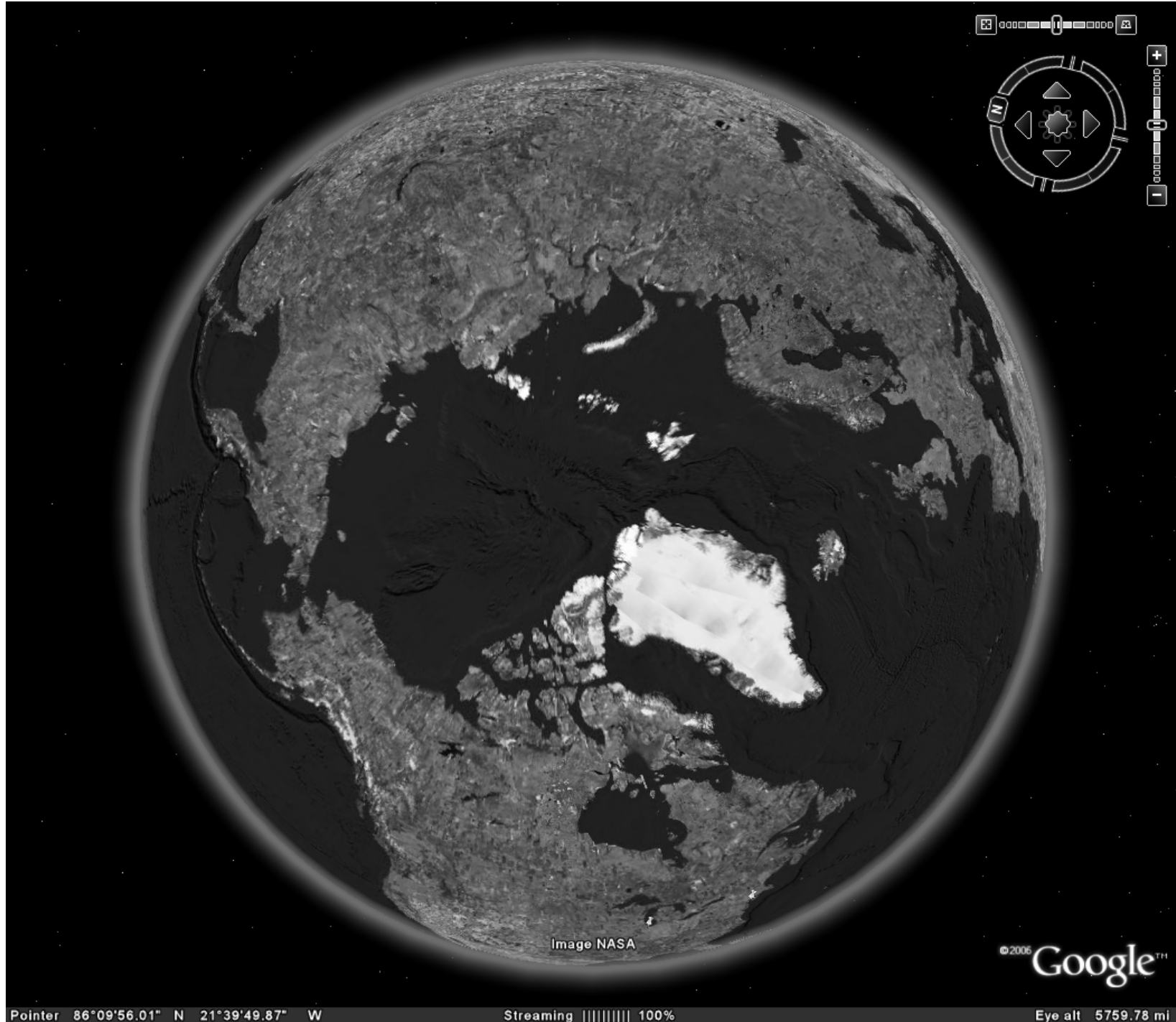


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# **Planning and Climate Change: Mitigation and Clean Energy Strategies**

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Can climate  
change  
mitigation and  
adaptation  
happen without  
planning for it?



# What do we know?

- Carbon dioxide increases are due to human activity
- Increased carbon dioxide emissions expected to significantly impact temperatures, water supply, agriculture, wildlife habitat, and human health and safety
- Climate change impacts need to be considered in planning for development, including adaptation measures in land use planning and infrastructure design
- Urban planning is a key strategy for climate change mitigation across all sectors.

Planners are at the forefront of actions that *must* be taken *now* to reduce and react to the climate change problem.

# Why planners?

- Strategically well placed: often the go to person
- Trained to have a unique perspective and skill set
  - Comprehensive skills and knowledge
  - Long range outlook
  - Unintended consequences
  - Cumulative effects over time
- Good conveners; know how to engage stakeholders

# **The Planner's Mantra:**

**Everything is related to everything else.**

- **Environment**
- **Land Use/Siting**
- **Urban Design**
- **Transport**
- **Housing Choice**
- **Jobs and Prosperity**
- **Urban Design**
- **Agriculture and Food**
- **Physical Activity/Health**
- **Human Services**
- **Hazard Mitigation**





# Today's Talk

- National Coalitions
- Connection of Issue to Planning Goals
- APA/EESI Project
- What You Can Do

# National Coalitions

- Cities for Climate Protection
  - ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability
- U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement
  - U.S. Conference of Mayors
  - Energy Efficient Block Grants
- Clinton Climate Initiative
  - Clinton Foundation

# Targets

- U.S. Mayors: 7% reduction below 1990 levels by 2012.
- Long-term target: 50 to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.
  - King County, Washington
  - Berkeley, California

# How are we getting there?

## U.S. Conference of Mayors 2007 Survey

- 72%: Alternative fuels for city fleets
- 63%: Renewable energy use for city
- 89%: High efficiency lighting technology
- 60%: Policy for green municipal buildings
- Where is planning?

Source:

<http://www.usmayors.org/climateprotection/climatesurvey07.pdf>

## Key Survey Result

- Only 28% of responding cities have assessed greenhouse gas emissions
- Remaining 72% either plan to (37%) or have not yet (35%)
- Real opportunity for planners to be in on the ground floor.

# Process Steps

- Inventory carbon emission baselines
- Make emission forecasts
- Select targets for emission reductions
- Develop a strategy to meet targets
- Create a plan and implementing it
- Measure and monitor results

# Numerous Examples...

- Chicago
- New York City
- Salt Lake City
- Ann Arbor
- Albuquerque
- Trenton
- Boulder
- Keene, NH
- King County,  
Washington

## Not There Yet...

- Climate plans and guidebooks don't fully include role of planning
- Comprehensive plans not yet including energy and climate change
- “Blankest page in the playbook”

# *Planning and Climate Change: Mitigation and Clean Energy Strategies*

- The APA/EESI partnership
- Three-year initiative: 2006 to 2009
- Needs assessment, partner dialogue, best practices research
- Deliverables: Best practices database and manual, state and federal policy, training and technical assistance



# Integrate Climate Change and Energy into the Planning Process

~ The five strategic points of intervention ~

- **Visioning and long-range goal setting**
- **Plan making**
- **Regulations and incentives**
- **Development project review**
- **Public investment**

# Change Practice as Usual

- **Remove obstacles** to implementing your goals
- **Create incentives** for developers and citizens to adopt practices
- **Regulate impacts** to ensure that areas are protected and resources are conserved.

# Get Up to Speed

- Check out APA Policy Guides
- Dig up and read the August issue of *Planning*
- Keep abreast of state climate/energy legislation
- Tune into your state energy office
- Follow regional and national coalitions
- Follow what leading communities are doing
- Subscribe to the Planning Advisory Service



APA Website  
[www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org)

[/energy](#)

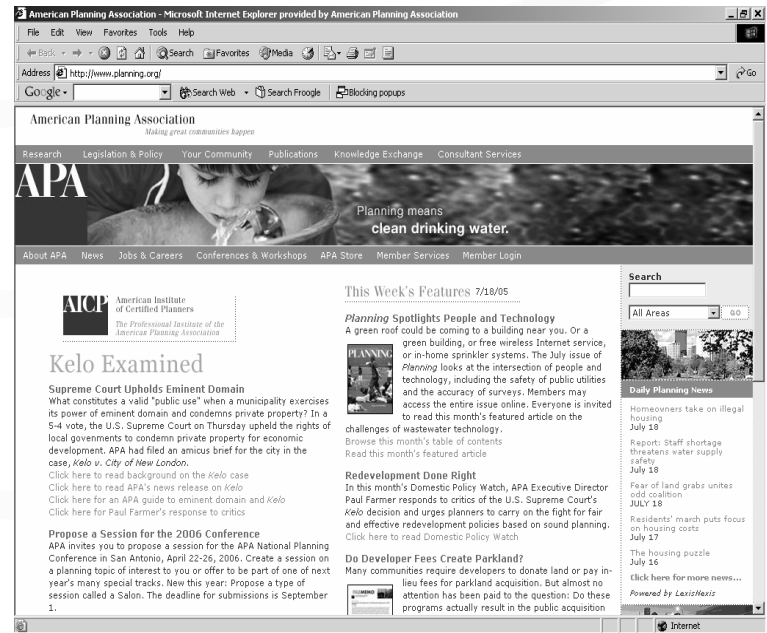
Planning and Climate Change research project

[/policyguide/energy.htm](#)

Energy policy guide

[/greencommunities](#)

APA Green Communities Research Center





Send us what you are proud of . . .

Contribute best practice ideas on climate change and energy to:

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**Project Manager, APA's Climate/Energy Project**

# Some Useful Links . . .

- Environment and Energy Study Institute (EESI)  
<http://www.eesi.org>
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)  
<http://www.ipcc.ch/>
- U.S. Conference of Mayors  
<http://www.usmayors.org/climateprotection/>
- ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability  
<http://www.iclei.org/index.php?id=1118>
- Clinton Climate Initiative:  
<http://www.clintonfoundation.org/cf-pgm-cci-home.htm>
- Database of State Incentives for Renewables  
and Efficiency Database (DSIRE):  
<http://www.dsireusa.org>



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