Welcome!

The Architect's Role in Addressing Climate Change: Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Strategies at a Community and District Scale

Wed, October 14, 2015 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EDT Earn 1.0 AIA HSW LUs



Moderator



Daniel Williams, FAIA, APA

Daniel E. Williams, FAIA, APA is a practicing architect and planner in Seattle and Miami and an internationally recognized expert in sustainable design. Mr. Williams is a member of the experts team for the Clinton Climate + Initiative, advising on projects in Toronto and London. He served as 2006 chair of the AIA's Sustainability Task Group and sat on the national advisory council for United States Environmental Protection Agency - NACEPT. His book Sustainable Design: Ecology, Architecture and Planning, published Earthday 2007 by John Wiley & Sons, was called a top 10 book on sustainable design by the Royal Academy of Architects and top 5 in sustainable design and planning by Planetizen. Dan has taught and lectured in architecture and planning for over 30 years and is on the Master of Sustainable Design faculty at the University of Florida's extension in Singapore. He is working on a book that illustrates the designs

connectivity between science and art.



Questions?

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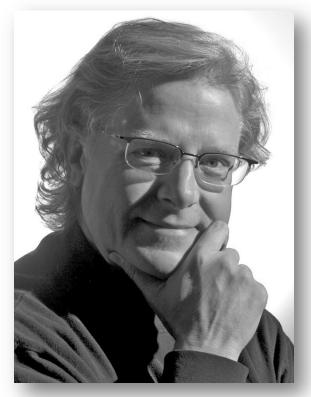
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Speaker



Bruce Race, FAIA, FAICP, PhD

Bruce Race is the principal and founder of RACESTUDIO and is responsible for all aspects of project planning, design and delivery. Since founding RACESTUDIO in Berkeley, CA in 1994, his projects have received 32 design and planning awards including national awards from the American Institute of Architects, American Planning Association, Environmental Protection Agency and Society of College and University Planning. The Long Range Development Plan for UC Merced received a national 2012 AIA COTE Top Ten Green Projects Award, and the Owings Award for Environmental Excellence in 2013. Dr. Race is the Director of University of Houston's Center for Sustainability and Resilience (CeSAR). His design talent, practice experience, and research interests intersect in his classroom studios where he emphasizes design innovation grounded by real world experience.



Course Description

Architects design cities, districts, and buildings and the impact of our present urban design approach is the source of about 70% of GHG emissions. This seminar will review popular mitigation and adaptation strategies discovered in a national survey of 200 U.S. towns and cities. Climate action planning for low carbon cities includes GHG mitigation, climate adaptation, and resilience strategies. The presenter will share emerging urban design outcomes from climate planning and effectiveness of popular strategies of GHG reductions at a block, district, and city scale.



Learning Objectives

- 1. Discuss the scope of GHG emissions that in the architecture professions' portfolio
- 2. Review what cities are doing to mitigate GHG emissions in climate action plans
- 3. Review the effectiveness of mitigation strategies
- 4. Demonstrate effective strategies at city, district, and block scales

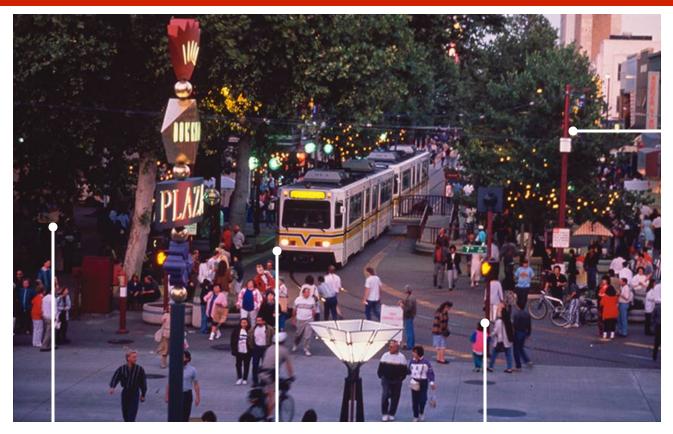


And now for our presentation:

The Architect's Role in Addressing Climate Change: Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Strategies at a Community and District Scale



Building Cities with Aspirations

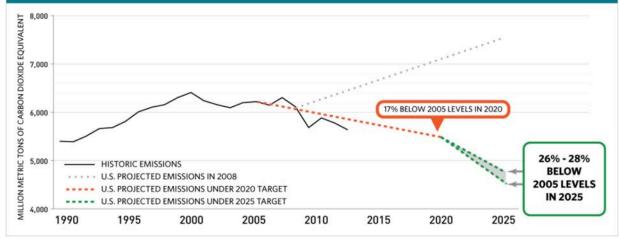


Restoration Tax Credits and Façade Restoration Program

Park Design Competition and Renovation LRT System Regional Plan and \$25M Redevelopment Commitment First PBID in California and Downtown Partnership Management

We all get WAY less carbon ...

U.S. EMISSIONS UNDER 2020 AND 2025 TARGETS



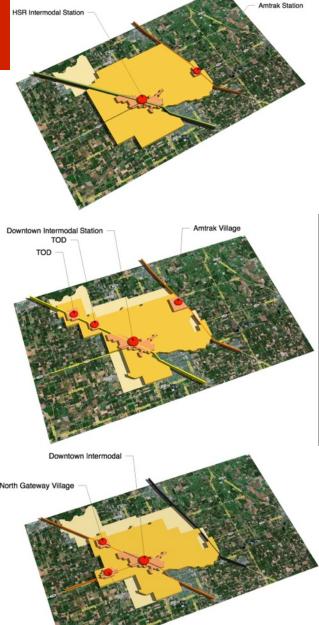
(Source: International Energy Agency, 2015)

2013 U.S. Climate Action Plan:

- Carbon pollution standards for new and existing power plants.
- Post-2018 heavy-duty vehicle fuel efficiency standards.
- Achieve a 40-45% reduction in methane emissions from 2012 levels by 2025 from oil and gas production.

$(248.7M / 392M) \times 0.20 = 12.7 \%$ per capita C0²e

We are allowed about 1/8th the carbon footprint we had in 1990.



West Gateway Village

Motivation for Climate Action Plans





Chicago Mayor Daley

- Make Chicago the greenest city
- Projects and programs that implement CAP

Mayor Will Wynn of Austin

- Mayor that advocated and lead city to consensus regarding mitigation planning
- Later became CEO of Austin Energy - - greenest municipal energy company

Political leadership provides motivation

- Cities credit local political leadership (63%) and local criticize advocates (45%) as their primary motivation for preparing a CAP.
- Over a third (36%) of CAP cities identify a strong local sustainability tradition.
- Motivations also include conditions from the funder to complete a CAP (10%) and state requirements (9%).

Source: 2012-2013 survey Bruce Race P.I.

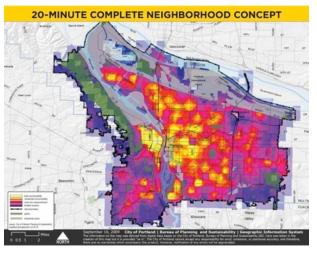
Universal Strategies– Centered, Compact, Connected

CAP cities are employing **similar strategies** for mitigating GHG emissions, regardless of climate region, while responding to different adaptation challenges.

- Cities in states with and without comprehensive planning requirements employed similar supply-side and demand-side strategies.
- **CENTERED:** CAP strategies are reinforcing (64%) and influencing (39%) city commitments to **developing in and adjacent to downtowns**.

COMPACT AND CONNECTED: High eGRID CO²e cities are placing an emphasis **on increasing density and transitoriented development**, low CO²e cities share **reduced parking standards** as a common strategy.

West, Northwest and Upper Midwest climate regions are **employing more form-changing policies** than other regions. Bruce Race, PhD, FAIA, FAICP CeSAR







CAPs are making cities more compact, concentric, and centered with a higher **"passive performance"** - walking and biking.

84% of survey cities reported that their CAP emphasizes walking and biking.

CAP cities are **reducing parking** requirements (49%) and **expanding transit** services (48%),

Larger cities (>250,000) CAPs more often increasing **density around transit**.

Almost half (48%) of survey cities are pursuing higher **energy efficiency standards**.



Boulder



Annapolis

CAP influence over infrastructure policies seems to be supporting popular city form policies.

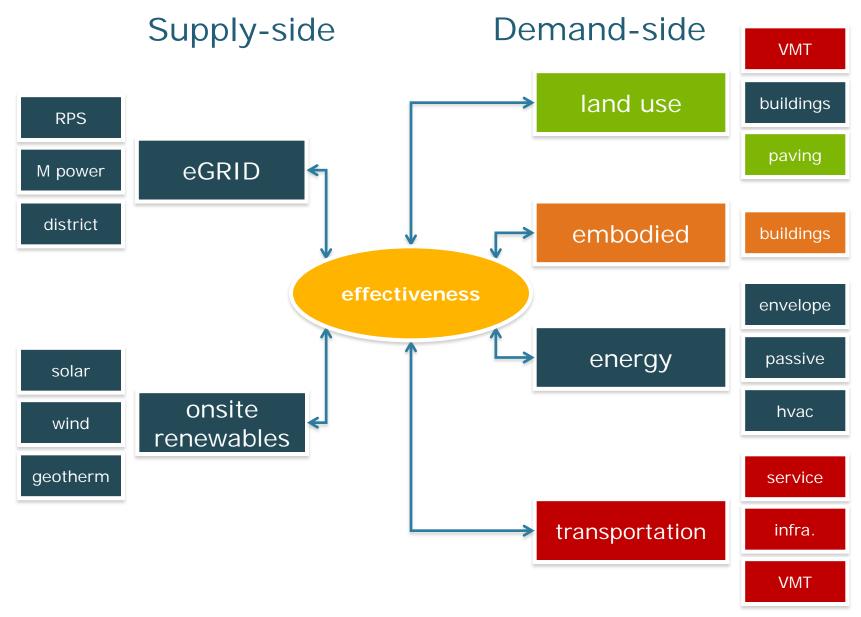
65% cited **walking and biking infrastructure** and 46% identified onsite **stormwater** management as an important action.

Climate **adaptation issues** most often addressed by CAP cities are heat islands, flooding, drought and wildland fires.

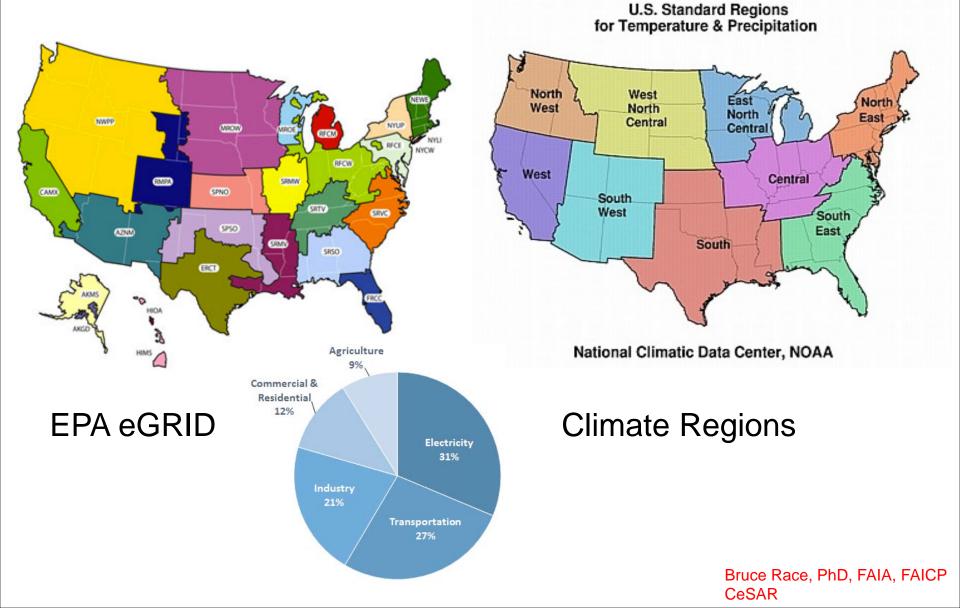
The Architect's Role in Preventing Climate Change



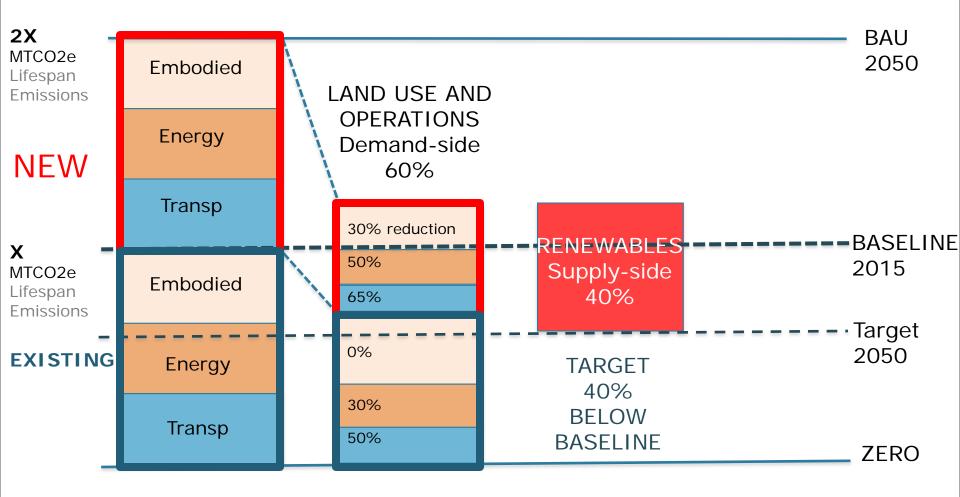
Creating Effective GHG Mitigation Strategies



Energy and Climate Context

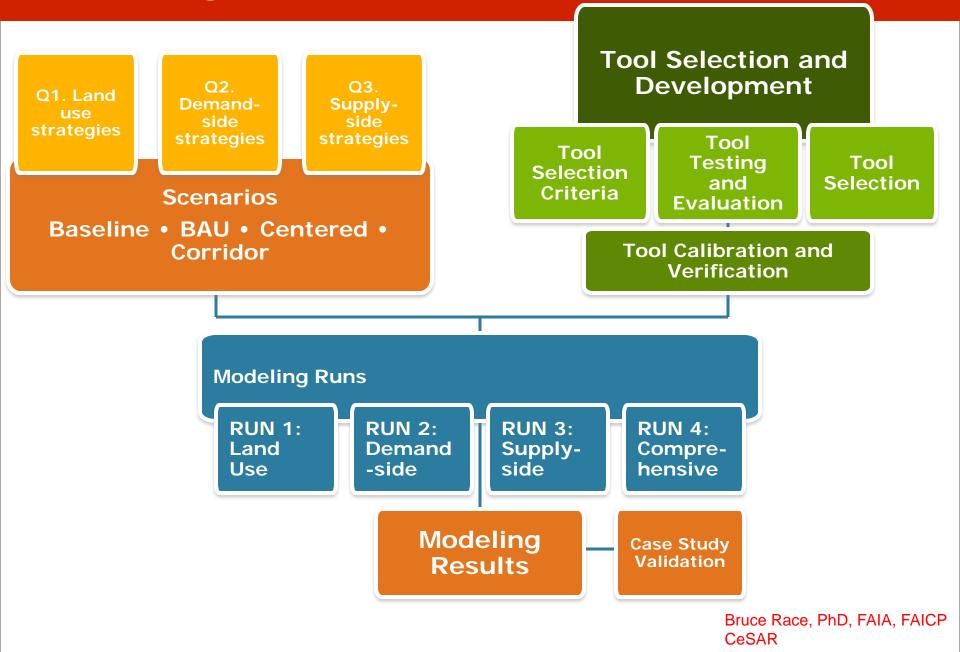


GHG Mitigation Baselines and Targets

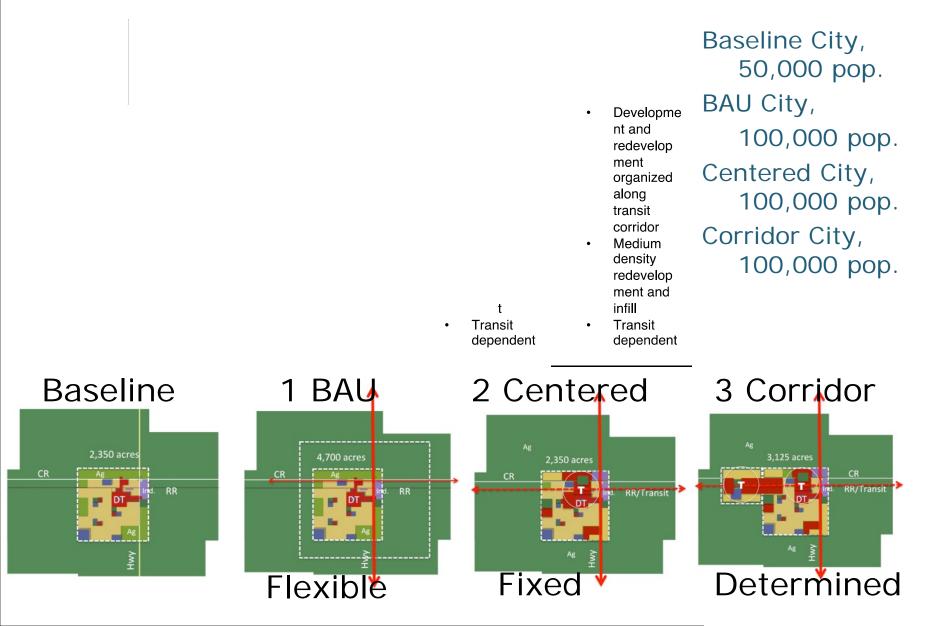


Demand-side and Supply-side Goals

Modeling Scenarios



Smart Growth Scenarios–Average U.S. City



Modeling – Embodied, Energy, Transportation, and Paving Lifespan MTCO2e



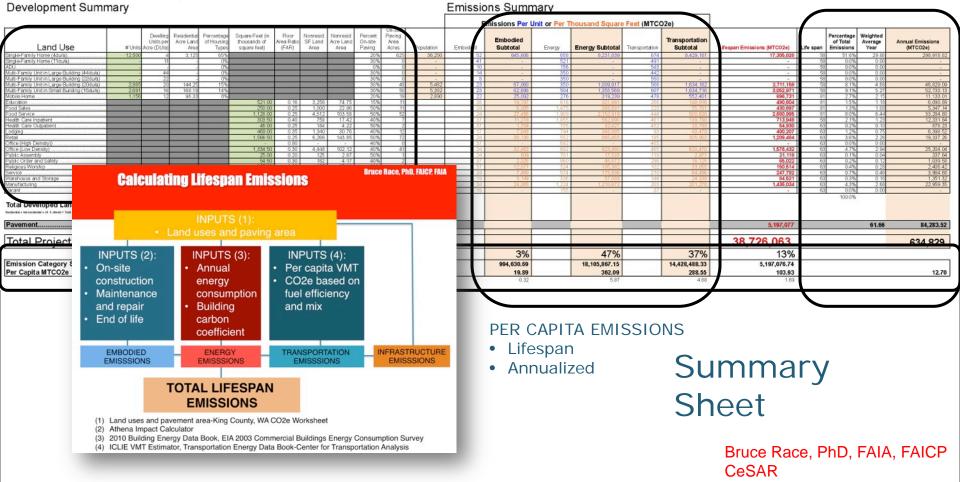
- Added land uses
- Site area
- Paving area
- Densities
- Population

SUBTOTAL/PERCENTAGE

- Embodied
- Energy
- Transportation
- Paving

ANNUALIZED EMISSIONS

- Building type
- Percentage of total



Mitigation Assumptions by 2050

Transportation goals-400% mpg, 30% VMT

- Fuel efficiency (CAFÉ standards takes current 20mpg to 54.5mpg by 2025 - - 80mpg achievable by 2050)
- VMT (30% improvements due to infrastructure and transit services)

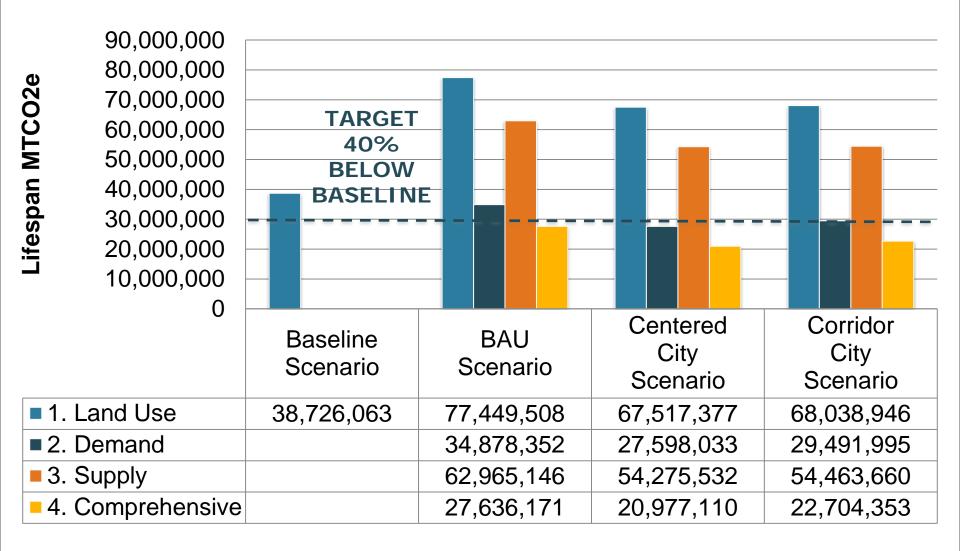
Building efficiency goals-50% energy, 30% embodied

- Energy efficiency (70% for new construction and 30% for existing building stock - - assumes 50% overall)
- Embodied emissions (case studies identify 20-25% reductions possible under current technologies - - 30% assumed by 2050)

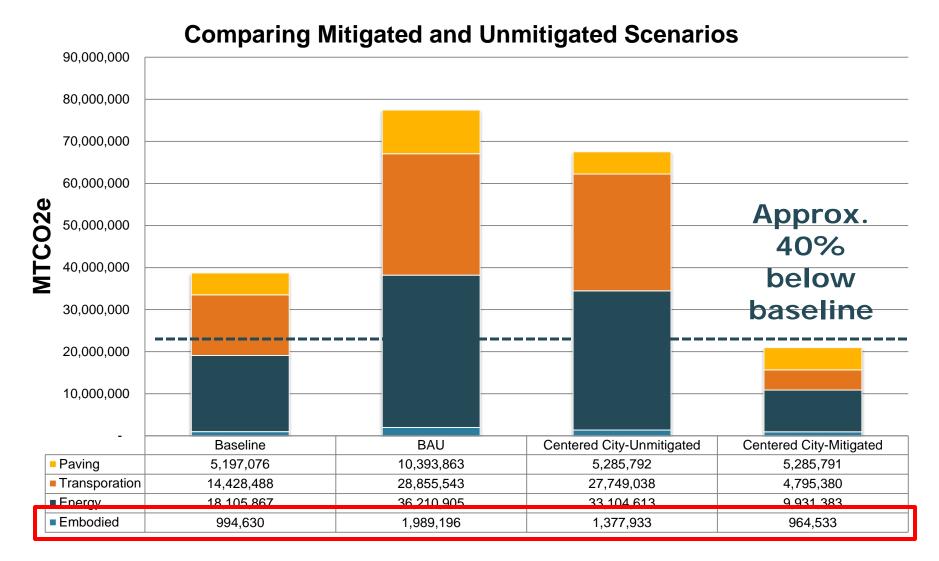
Renewable energy goals-40%

- RPS (all but 13 states have RPS policies - assume 30% by 2050)
- Goal of 10% for all onsite renewable

Four Model Runs



Effectiveness of Mitigation Strategies



Embodied CO2e Emissions

Table 6.5

Building Type Embodied CO2e Sensitivity Analysis

Modeling Assumptions	Athena Impact Calculator (1)	Case Studies	Percentage of Er	nbodied GHG
Single Family (Wood Frame) Assume: .220 MTCO2e/m2	46,900 kgCO2e 280 m2 . 169 MTCO2e/m2	HIGH (2) 51,400 kgCO2e 225 m2 .224 MTCO2e/m2 MID. 49,300 kgCO2e .219 MTCO2e/m2 LOW (no basement) 30,000 kgCO2e .133 MTCO2e/m2	Scenarios	
Single Story Commercial (Metal Stud) Assume: .262 MTCO2e/m2	314,000 kgCO2e 1,200 m2 . 262 MTCO2e/m2	Grocery Store (4) 3,528 MTCO2e 9,393 m2 .376 MTCO2e/m2 Warehouse (4) 8,257 MTCO2e 35,400 m2 .233 MTCO2e/m2	BAU	2.5%
High Density Residential/Mixed-use (Wood Frame) Assume: .180 MTCO2e/m2	1,050,000 kgCO2e 8,000 m2 .131 MTCO2e/m2	HIGH (3) (LESOSAI) 3 kgCO2e/m2 per year 60 yrs x 3 = 180 kgCO2e .180 MTCO2e/m2 LOW (3) (Athena Impact Est.) .138 MTCO2e/m2	City Centered (Unmitigated)	2.0%
Multi-Story Office (Steel Frame) Assume: .400 MTCO2e/m2 Hospital Assume: .400 MTCO2e/m2	3,920,000 kgCO2e 7,200 m2 . 544 MTCO2e/m2 NA	10-L Office (4) 14,937 MTCO2e 33,018 m2 .452 MTCO2e/m2 16,480 m2 (5) .300410 MTCO2e/m2 10,752 m2 (5) .360-490 MTCO2e/m2	City Centered (Mitigated)	4.8%
School/Education Assume: .409 MTCO2e/m2 Notes:	NA	13,500 m2 (5) .380520 MTCO2e/m2	Embodied perce	entage

1. See Table 6.2 for program description for building types

2. Single-family estimates from NAHB (Carnow, 2008, pp. 2-8)

3.6L Wood frame multi-family project in Vancouver, BC modeled (S. Tanner, 2012, pp. 77-80)

4. Non-residential UK case studies (M.Sansom, 2012)

5. Comparative analysis of structural systems for three building types by the Alliance for Sustainable Building Products (Burridge, 2013)

Embodied percentage increases as we approach net zero

Meeting Goals-Centered City vs. BAU

Table 6.15

Comparative Benefits of Strategies for Centered City Scenario

	Goals	Strategies	Worksheet	
		Top strategies from Study 2 CAP City Survey	Reductions in CO2e of BAU	State and Federal Influence
Land Use	15% reduction in VMT CO2e from land use compactness due to transportation (VMT) and building energy reductions	 Make cities more compact, concentric, and centered with a higher "passive performance" walking and biking. Reinforce and influencing city commitments to developing in and adjacent to downtowns. 	18% (10.1 gtCO2e)	Transit funding
	50% reduction in CO2e from paving (uses existing roads)	 Place an emphasis on increasing density and transit- oriented development. 		
Demand- side Mitigation	50% reduction of CO2e from buildings 30% reduction in embodied CO2e	 Pursue higher energy efficiency standards for buildings. 	23% (13.0 gtCO2e) 1% (0.6 gtCO2e)	Building codes Vehicle fuel efficiency
	30% reduction in VMT 800% improvement in vehicle fuel economy and fuel mix	 Reduce parking requirements and expanding transit services. 	11% (6.2 gtCO2e) 29% (16.4 gtCO2e)	standards
Supply-side Mitigation	40% reduction in CO2e from power generation	 Provide incentives for renewable energy. 	18% (10.2 gtCO2e)	State RPS policies
Target Red 40% below 54.3 tgCO2			100% (56.5 gtCO2e lifes emissions, 42% b baseline)	

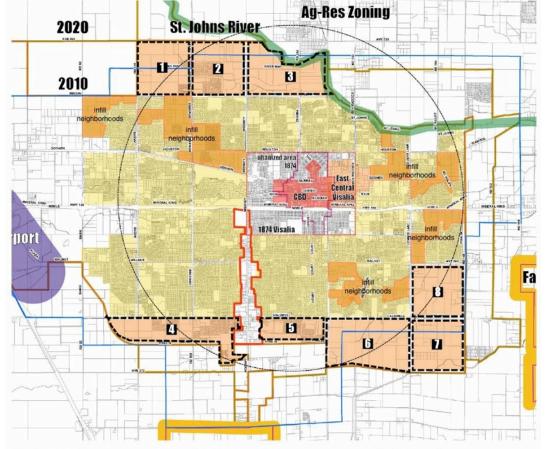
About 18% of reductions come from smart growth land use features

Approximately 64% of the CO2e reductions are from demand-side strategies

- Energy efficient buildings
- Reduced VMT
- Better vehicle fuel efficiency and fuel mix
- Reducing the embodied CO2e in new construction and renovation

About 18% of the overall reduction in CO2e would come from **supply-side strategies**

Strategic Choices–Comprehensive Plan



Neighborhood 1: Riverway 1 Master Plan

Neighborhood 2: Riverway 2 Master Plan

Neighborhood 3: Riverway 3 Master Plan Neighborhood 4: Caldwell West Master Plan

Neighborhood 5: Caldwell East Master Plan Neighborhood 8: Road 148 North Village Master Plan

Road 148 South Village Master Plan

Neighborhood 7:

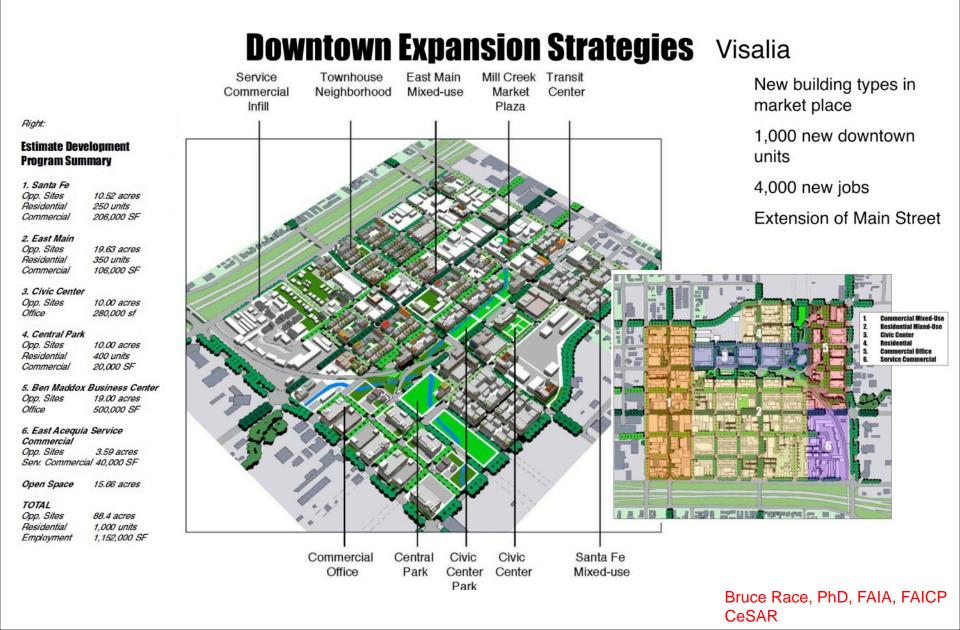
Neighborhood 6: Southeast Area Specific Plan

Visalia, CA Smart Growth Strategies

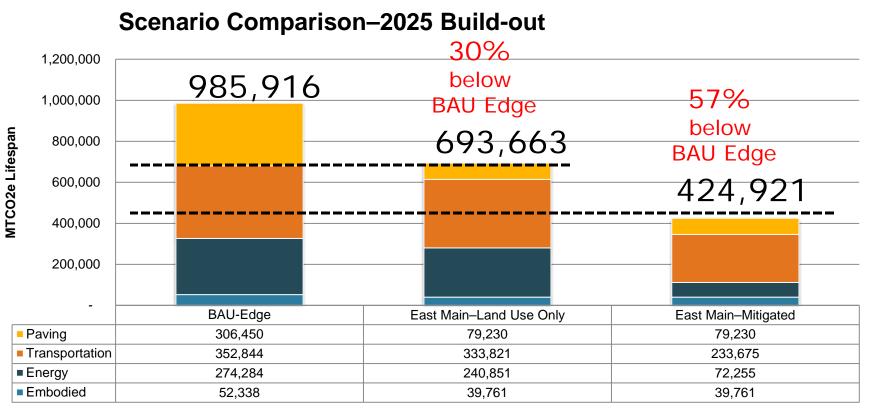
- Edge/expansion sites
- Infill neighborhoods
- Core/downtown districts
- Dispersed infill

ADUs

Case Study–East Downtown Visalia



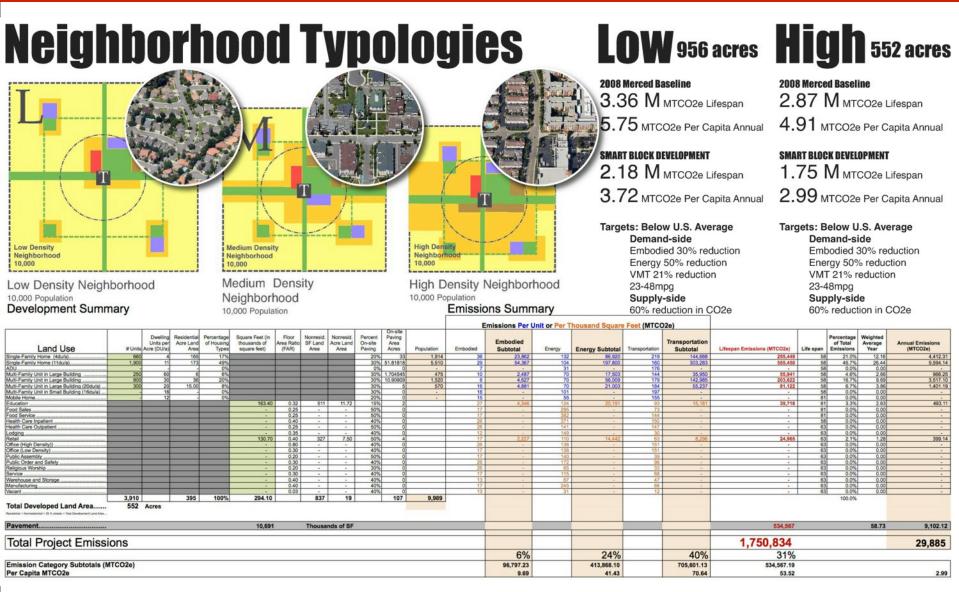
Infill District vs. Edge Development in Visalia



Assumptions

- •Embodied-30% of national ave. BAU, 30% of national ave. Mitigated
- •Demand-side Energy–50% of national ave. for BAU, 70% of national ave. for Mitigated
- •Supply-side Energy–60% of national ave. for BAU, 80% of national ave. for Mitigated
- •Transportation-54.5MPG (CAFÉ standards), 30% VMT reduction for Mitigated

Case Study–Neighborhood



Case Study–Block

rtical Mixed-usev. Teth Stra

rnuunam	
Site Area	53,000 NSF (1.2 acres)
Resid.	1.2a @ 52 DU/a = 60 DU
Commercial	8,000 SF (ground floor)
SMART BLOCK DEVELOPME	NT
18.712 MTCO2	e Lifesnan

2.80 MTCO2e Per Capita Annual

4 % Embodied

28 % Energy 63 % Transportation

52 DU/a = 60 DUs

COMPACT DEVELOPMENT (2008 Merced CAP Baseline)

31,928 MTCO2e Lifespan 4.78 MTCO2e Per Capita Annual

> 3 % Embodied 25 % Energy

2.9 X RMU Smart Block

4% Paving

69 % Transportation 2 % Paving

Targets: Below U.S. Average

30% reduction 50% reduction

21% reduction

60% reduction

K	

Commercial 8,000 SF (pad)

54,215 MTCO2e Lifespan

5.36 MTCO2e Per Capita Annual

(2008 Merced CAP Baseline)

20 Acres

15A @ 4 DU/a=60 DUs

PROGRAM

Site Area:

Resid.

PROGRAM

Site Area Resid. Commercial

Iorizontal Mixed-use

87,120 NSF 2a @ 30 DU/a = 60 DUs 8,000 SF (single story storefront)

SMART BLOCK DEVELOPMENT

21,028 мтсозе 3.17 мтсозе Рег С		
2 % Embodied	24 % Energy	64 % Transportation
COMPACT DEVELOPMENT (2)	008 Merced CAP Base	ine)
35 506		

35,506 MTCO2e Lifespan 5.35 MTCO2e Per Capita Annual

2 % Embodied 21 % Energy 71 % Transportation 6 % Paving

Targets: Below U.S. Average

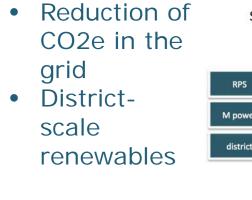
30% reduction 50% reduction 60% reduction

21% reduction

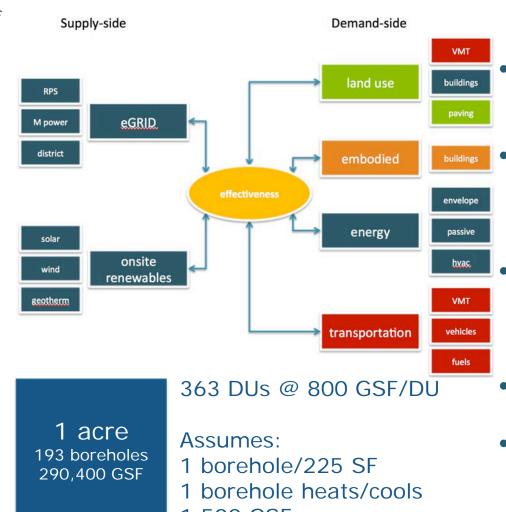
Bruce Race, PhD, FAIA, FAICP **CeSAR**

9% Paving

Effectiveness of Strategies



- Roof-top distributed solar
- Small scale wind
- Site or district geothermal



1,500 GSF

connected development Low-impact, green infrastructure Locally and sustainably harvested timber

Compact and

- Efficient building envelopeinsulation and ventilation
- Create a walking city
- Add new transit technologies– fuel efficiency

Demand-side Strategies: How effective are demand-side strategies, such as increasing energy efficiency of buildings and improving mobility services, in reducing GHG emissions?

The bulk of reductions in CO2e come from increasing energy efficiency of **buildings**, and most importantly, **implementing CAFÉ standards** for cars and trucks.

Modeled **demand-side strategies** suggest they can reduce lifespan CO2e by up to **64% below the BAU scenario**.

These strategies are **dependent on state and federal actions** and regulations.

Supply-side Strategies: How effective are common demand-side strategies in combination with supply-side strategies?

Reduction in the amount of CO2e in the grid and use of renewable onsite sources are assumed to provide up to a 30% reduction in emissions below the BAU scenario. In reality, this varies from state to state depending on the CO2e content in the eGRID region.

The Merced validation case study demonstrates **supply-side reductions compared to the national average can be quite steep**.

Cities with **low CO2e in the grid** and located in a climate with fewer heating degree-days, have a **distinct advantage**.

Summary and Conclusions

Conclusion

Many CAP city long-term targets are to be 80% below 1990 GHG emissions levels by 2050. The mitigated scenarios included informed assumptions about how much demand-side and supplyside reductions could be expected by mid century. It will require innovation and intergovernmental cooperation.

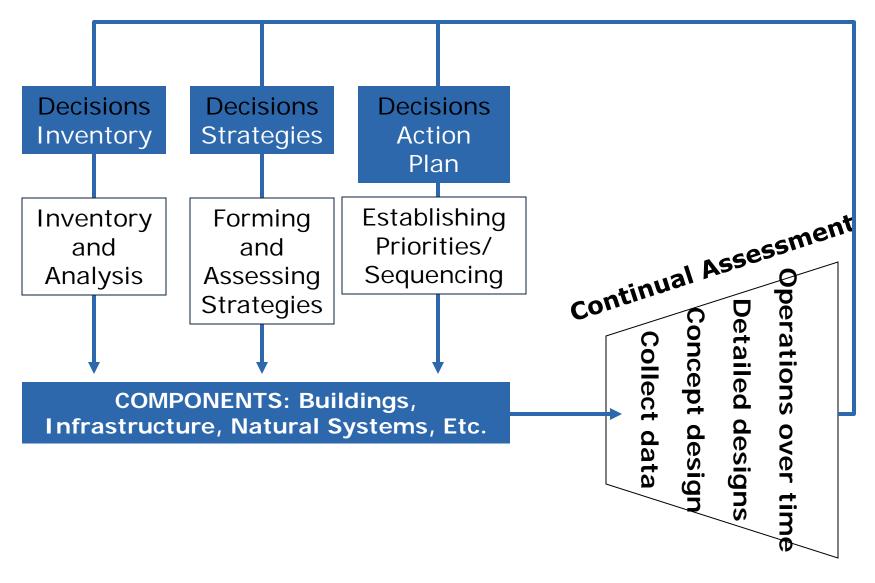
The **enhanced passive-performance of cities** with walk-first neighborhoods that reduce VMT, energy use, water, and waste by design is an **important down payment for a low carbon future.**

The cities with **growth polices** focused on compact, centered and connected development patterns, **energy efficient construction** and retrofit of existing buildings, seem to be on the **right track**.

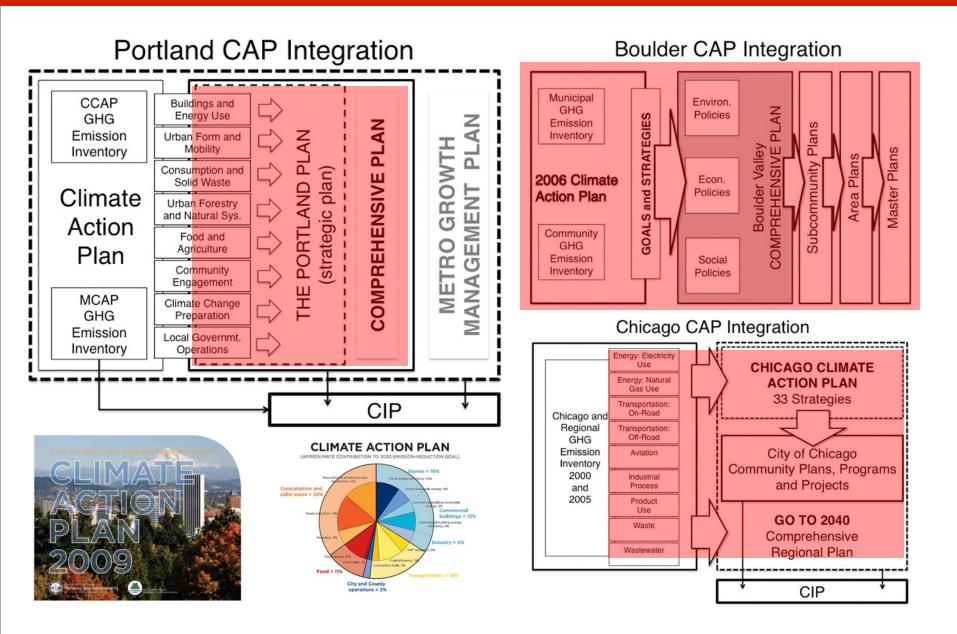
Implementation

- Continuous assessment
- Policy-level Commitment
- Strategic Investments
- Rewarding good behavior

Implementation of GHG Strategies



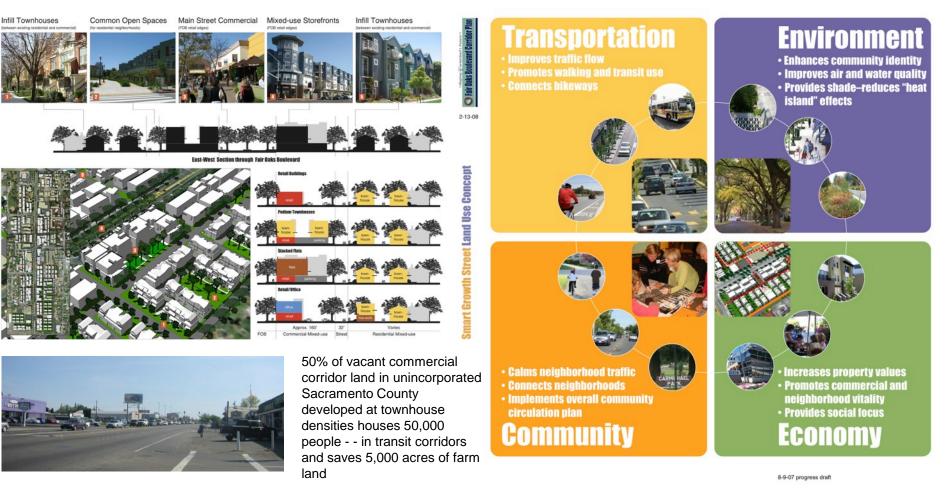
Integration of GHG Reduction Strategies



Policy Level Commitment

Smart Growth Street

reinvesting in Fair Oaks Boulevard as a centerpiece Smart Street for Carmichael



Visible Evidence of a Low Carbon City

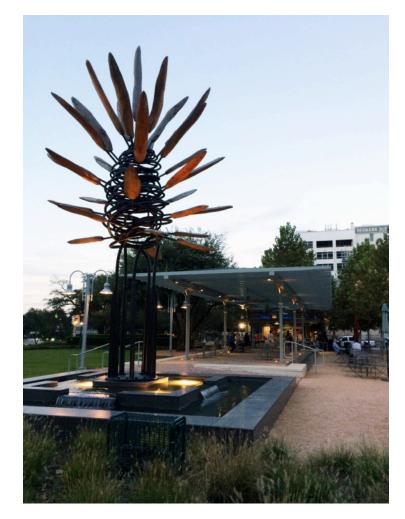
Imagining Sustainability: What does a sustainable community look like? What are its visible features?

Defining Good Behavior:

How do we measure success at a community and regional scale? Who defines the metrics and monitors our success?

Rewarding Good Behavior:

How do we reward good behavior? What are the incentives for sustainable investment and who allocates them?

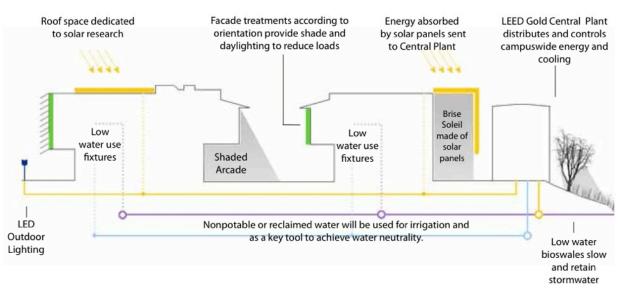


Market Square, Houston

Lauren Griffith Associates

Q + A





he Natural Edge



University of California, Merced and University Community • RACESTUDIO 2012 AIA COTE Top Green **Project Award**





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