

CLIMATE ADAPTATION

FORUM

*Environmental Business Council of New England, Inc.
Sustainable Solutions Lab at the University of Massachusetts Boston*

Making Cents of it All Financing for Climate Adaptation and Resilience

Friday, December 6, 2024

Hosted by:

Foley Hoag LLP

155 Seaport Boulevard
Boston MA 02210

and

Streaming virtually on Zoom



EBC & Sustainable Solutions Lab at UMass Boston – Quarterly Climate Adaptation Forum

EBC Contact: Ann Gisinger, agisinger@ebcne.org

SSL Contact: Gabriela Boscio Santos, Gabriela.Boscio@umb.edu

www.climateadaptationforum.org

AGENDA

9:00 a.m. Registration & Networking

9:30 a.m. Welcome

- Gabriela Boscio Santos, Forum Organizer
Associate Director, Sustainable Solutions Lab, UMass Boston

Welcome from Host

- Jeffrey B. Mullan, Partner, Foley Hoag LLP

Sponsor Welcome

- Indrani Ghosh, PhD, Forum Co-Chair, Practice Leader, Weston & Sampson

Program Introduction:

- Kari Hewitt, Forum Co-Chair
Chief Regeneration Officer and Partner, Planning Communities, LLC

9:50 a.m. The Dollars and "Sense" of Resilience: The Economic Case for Adaptation Investments

- Rachel Bouvier, PhD, Associate Professor of Economics
University of Southern Maine

10:15 a.m. MBTA Rethinking TOD

- Scott Bosworth, Chief of Transit Oriented Development and Innovative Delivery
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA)
- Iram Farooq, Assistant City Manager for Community Development
City of Cambridge

10:40 a.m. Boston Green Ribbon Commission

- Rebecca Herst, Associate Director for Resilience, Boston Green Ribbon Commission

10:45 a.m. Break

11:05 a.m. Accelerating Climate Investment: A Capital Stack Approach

- Shaun O'Rourke, Managing Director, Climate Finance, Quantified Ventures

11:30 a.m. Characteristics of Ready to Fund Resilience Projects

- Joyce Coffee, LEED AP, President, Climate Resilience Consulting

11:55 a.m. Moderated Panel Discussion

Moderator: Indrani Ghosh, PhD, Resiliency Practice Leader, Weston & Sampson

Panelists:

- Scott Bosworth, MBTA
- Rachel Bouvier, University of Southern Maine
- Joyce Coffee, Climate Resilience Consulting
- Shaun O'Rourke, Quantified Ventures

12:30 p.m. Adjourn

FORUM CO-CHAIRS

Indrani Ghosh, PhD, Practice Leader
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Indrani has nearly 20 years of experience as a water resources engineer and as technical lead in climate change resiliency projects, specializing in leading interdisciplinary teams and stakeholders through risk based prioritization of adaptation solutions. She has industry-leading experience in translating climate change projections to engineering design criteria for new and existing infrastructure and modeling climate impacts for the purposes of vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning for many projects in the Northeast. She has worked with numerous municipalities and public agencies to model their exposure to coastal and stormwater flooding, including stormwater flood modeling in complex urban environments, using the best available and most appropriate sea level rise, storm surge, and rainfall projections. She has extensive experience integrating climate projections in hydrologic/hydraulic models of urban storm and sanitary sewer systems. Indrani is frequently invited to be part of panel discussions on climate risk and resiliency at New England universities, and has won national awards for her contributions to the engineering profession.

Kari Hewitt, Chief Regeneration Officer and Partner
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Kari is Chief Regeneration Officer and Partner at Planning Communities, LLC, and an adjunct Lecturer at Tufts University Department of Urban & Environmental Policy & Planning (UEP). She has 16 years of experience working in the sustainability field across public, private, institutional, and non-profit sectors. For more than a decade, she has worked as a consultant leading climate action, sustainability, and resiliency plans for municipalities and other public entities. She has facilitated public and stakeholder engagement workshops and technical meetings throughout the country and has experience integrating sustainability and resiliency into building and infrastructure design. Since 2020, she has also been an instructor at Tufts UEP, teaching courses related to sustainability and resiliency as well as leading a Field Projects course connecting student researchers with community partners. She believes in centering equity and social justice into all aspects of her work and views her own and others' journeys in understanding systems of privilege and oppression as critical to our collective action on climate change. Kari is currently a member of the Board of Directors for New Ecology, Inc, a national non-profit delivering sustainability solutions at the community level. She holds an M.A. in Urban & Environmental Policy & Planning from Tufts University and a B.A. in Sociology from Smith College.

SPEAKERS

Scott Bosworth, Chief of Transit Oriented Development and Innovative Delivery
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA)
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Scott's career spans over three decades in the transportation, infrastructure, and development fields, primarily here in Massachusetts.

Most recently, Scott was asked to join the Healey/Driscoll administration to help the transition with a particular focus on helping turn around the MBTA. After working to reorganize the MBTA's Capital Programs function he took on the role of the Chief of Transit Oriented Development and Innovative Delivery at the MassDOT/MBTA. Prior to his current stint at the MBTA, Scott served for eight years as Governor Charlie Baker's Undersecretary and Chief Strategy Officer of MassDOT/MBTA. His focus areas included oversight of MassDOT/MBTA real estate functions, large project management, creative finance, funding and delivery and intergovernmental affairs.

His deep roots in federal, state and local transportation policy span three decades, including influential assignments as Assistant Secretary of Transportation under Governors Weld and Cellucci as well as with the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and its Chairman, Congressman Bud Shuster.

After leaving state government in 1998, Scott started a group of companies that delivered architectural, engineering, public engagement and strategic planning services to public and private real estate, transportation, and infrastructure entities.

Rachel Bouvier, PhD, Associate Professor of Economics
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Dr. Bouvier earned her PhD in Economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where she focused on the relationship between economic development and environmental quality. She also holds a Master's degree in Resource Economics and Community Development from the University of New Hampshire. In addition, Dr. Bouvier is founder and principal consultant at [rbouvier consulting](#), an economic and sustainability consulting firm, and is Treasurer of the Board of Directors at [GrowSmart Maine](#). Her research interests include economic resilience, sustainability, and community economic development. Dr. Bouvier was Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Southern Maine from 2005-2014 and has returned after a brief hiatus. She lives in Portland with her husband (Joel), daughter (Sylvia), and dog (Willie).

Joyce Coffee, LEED AP, President
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Joyce Coffee, LEED AP, is founder and President of Climate Resilience Consulting, a certified WBE that works with clients to create practical strategies that enhance markets and communities through adaptation to climate change. Ms. Coffee is a resilience pioneer, having worked for over 200 clients to create and implement climate-related strategies, build partnerships and direct collaborative implementation of complex initiatives. She is an appointed director or chair of over 20 international or national nonprofit boards and initiatives related to resilience and social equity including the Anthropocene Alliance. She is the primary author of over two dozen resilience-related reports. She has a masters from MIT and is an appointee to their Visiting Committee, advising the Board of Trustees. She has 25 years of experience in every major sector including leadership roles in city government, and the private, nonprofit, philanthropic and academic sectors.

As president, Ms. Coffee has created resilience strategies for multiple cities and companies. She led the development of the world's first set of climate resilience principles for the financial services industry, directed the National Equitable Climate Resilience project and co-authored the national report on the state of the climate adaptation field as well as a national toolkit to increase the resilience project pipeline. She has trained hundreds of local officials and other practitioners in resilience finance.

Joyce's career started working on private sector projects in Southeast Asia for USAID's US-Asia Environmental Partnership and the World Bank and proceeded with implementing water security projects for MWH, a global engineering company; creating community sustainability projects for a niche architecture and urban design firm, Farr Associates; and pioneering public private partnerships, adaptation planning, interdepartmental coordination and climate performance measurement as lead of Chicago's Climate Action Plan. She created corporate social responsibility plans and reports for Fortune 500 companies as Vice President at Edelman and ran a preeminent global adaptation nonprofit the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative, ND-GAIN, establishing the fundamentals of climate resilience measurement.

Joyce is an Affiliate Global Futures Scholar at the Global Futures Laboratory and advises various high level resilience groups, including the Fifth National Climate Assessment, The Climate Bond Initiative's Adaptation and Resilience Expert Group, Global Adaptation and Resilience Investment work group, Anthropocene Alliance, The Climate Service, US Green Building Council's Illinois chapter and UNDRR ARISE.

She received a B.S. in biology, environmental studies and Asian studies from Tufts University and a Masters in city planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is a resilience field [thought leader](#).

Iram Farooq, Assistant City Manager for Community Development
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Iram Farooq is an urban optimist focused on creating integrated solutions for livable, sustainable, just, and resilient communities. She specializes in sustainable urbanism and has over two decades of experience working in various levels of public sector, as well as experience in the private and non-profit sectors in the US and India. In all her roles, Iram is a community-focused, collaborative consensus-builder, facilitating complex negotiations, and bringing marginalized voices to the table.

She holds degrees in architecture and landscape architecture and was an Aga Khan Scholar at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Iram currently serves as Assistant City Manager for Community Development for the City of Cambridge, MA, where she oversees land use planning, urban design, zoning and development review, parks and open space planning, arts and culture planning, mobility planning, housing, economic development, and climate and energy.

Shaun O'Rourke, Managing Director, Climate Finance
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Shaun O'Rourke joins Quantified Ventures with more than 15 years of climate leadership in the public, private, non-profit, and academic sectors. Most recently, he was the Managing Director at Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank, where he led all program and business development, and was responsible for closing over \$100 million in loans and grants annually.

Shaun was appointed by former Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo as the state's first Chief Resilience Officer and led the development and implementation of the climate resilience action strategy, Resilient Rhody. The strategy resulted in over \$45 million in new, dedicated funding for climate resilience projects during the first four years. Additionally, Shaun worked closely with Rhode Island's congressional delegation and state legislature to advocate for priority projects and direct federal funds for clean energy and climate resilience projects.

Prior to joining Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank, Shaun served as the National Green Infrastructure Director at The Trust for Public Land and was Director of Sustainable Design and faculty member at the Boston Architectural College. He has also worked at AECOM in New York City as an Ecological Designer focusing on public sector infrastructure projects and firm-wide promotion of nature-based solutions.

Shaun is passionate about working with municipalities, counties, and states to accelerate implementation of nature-based solutions to solve multiple problems at once. He and his family live at 2100 feet in Northern Vermont and in his free time, Shaun can be found playing in the mountains.