AMERICA'S CENTRAL PORT
Resilient Infrastructure Strategy

As part of its ongoing efforts to enhance its facilities and stimulate private investment and employment in the region, the Port is committed to addressing environmental sustainability and infrastructure resilience against extreme weather events. To achieve these objectives, the Port will develop a Resilient Infrastructure Strategy and its first Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Inventory.

This project, funded by the State Planning and Research Program of the Illinois Department of Transportation, aims to identify cost-effective actions to reduce its emissions and energy consumption, and to inform future capital investment projects that improve readiness against extreme weather events such as flooding. Additionally, this effort will provide the necessary data and enhance the Port's competitiveness for future grant funding of these initiatives.

The Resilient Infrastructure Strategy outlines the Port's dedication to both economic growth and environmental responsibility for the benefit of our tenants and surrounding communities.

How are we asking you to partner with us?

Your input to this Strategy is valuable to us. Over the next 12 months there will be several opportunities for the Port to share status updates of this effort and collect feedback from its tenants and key stakeholders. Please be on the lookout for further details about future stakeholder engagement activities.

Tactics & Objectives

Identify campus vulnerabilities and top infrastructure assets at risk of flooding and other extreme weather events

Improve stakeholder relationships with community and tenants

Understand **the Port's carbon footprint** and key hotspots

Study stormwater management issues to inform adaptation measures

Strategize infrastructure **adaptation projects aligned with the Port Master Plan**

Pinpoint cost-effective **energy and operational efficiency** improvements

Strategic Planning

Understand the baseline conditions to prioritize capital investments

Improved profile for competitive grants

Operational Risk Mitigation

Insulate the Port and local economy from the negative impacts of weather events that could disrupt business operations

Regulatory Readiness

Preparation for evolving market trends and regulatory requirements for GHG and climate risk disclosures, including for tenants and business partners

Business Competitiveness

Several ports have set emission reduction targets and other environmental goals

Attract new customers that prioritize environmental practices or corporate carbon accounting

Financial Responsibility

Invest in projects that provide cost savings, operational and environmental returns

Practical Applications of the Strategy

What is included in the Resilient Infrastructure Strategy?

GOAL	PURPOSE	PRACTICAL OUTCOMES
Baseline Greenhouse Gas Inventory	We will identify and manage the Port's emissions by establishing a comprehensive emissions inventory, gathering relevant operational data, and forecasting future emission trends. Using this information, we will identify cost-effective and feasible emission reduction actions that can be implemented quickly with available or minimal resources.	• Understanding of emissions hot spots and opportunities for emission reductions • **Preparation for any future disclosure requirements** for the Port and its tenants and business partners • Prioritized list of emission reduction actions for Port assets
Energy Efficiency Review	We will identify and prioritize energy efficiency improvements, assess feasibility for renewable energy and electrification opportunities, and explore thermal energy networks for Port buildings. By conducting reviews, surveys, and feasibility screenings, the aim is to provide strategic recommendations and funding opportunities to enhance energy sustainability for the Port and its commercial tenants.	• Historical energy use characterization • Identification of energy efficiency measures that could translate to **operational cost savings** • Viability of onsite renewable electric generation • Understand other **energy resiliency** or **future proofing opportunities**
Infrastructure Risk & Resilience Opportunities Assessment	We will collect data and assess the Port's exposure, sensitivity, and vulnerability to climatic hazards. By using historical weather data, climate projections, stakeholder input, and advanced methodologies, the aim is to evaluate risks, prioritize assets, and develop practical strategies to enhance the Port's resilience against extreme weather impacts, aligned with long-term goals.	• Understanding of the Port's climate-related risk and how they are projected to evolve over time • Identification of **the key risk drivers** for various infrastructure types and gaps in current practices • Identification of potential opportunities to address identified risks and **increase resilience**
Stormwater Runoff & Capture Analysis	We will evaluate the Port's stormwater infrastructure vulnerabilities and opportunities using flood models and hydrologic and hydraulic analyses. In addition to identifying solutions for flood resilience, we intend for this work to support future grant applications for improved stormwater management and flood resilience.	• Understanding of flood risks in the context of downstream river system • Assessment of surface drainage pattern **opportunities for resilience** • Conceptual solutions to address pluvial flood risks

Please contact Christie Voelker, ACP Planner, with any questions or concerns.

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