NYS ADAPTATION PRACTITIONERS NETWORK

PRINCIPLES OF RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

The NYS Adaptation Practitioners Network envisions investing in Resilient Infrastructure that: *Is made up of natural and built systems that allow our communities and ecosystems to function in the face of future conditions while protecting and prioritizing the needs of vulnerable people and places.*

The **NYS Adaptation Practitioners Network** shares the following principles for promoting and supporting infrastructure that can equitably adapt to a changing climate.

When planning for Resilient Infrastructure:

- **Engage meaningfully and equitably:** Foster meaningful, inclusive, sustained community engagement baseD on full transparency in all stages of planning and decision-making.
- **Plan forward:** Ensure that long-term climate projections are incorporated during planning.
- **Assess true costs and benefits:** Ensure cost benefit analyses take into consideration long term, social, ecological, and health benefits.
- **Equitably distribute benefits:** Invest across the state in a diversity of settings—urban, suburban, and rural; coastal and inland.
- **Connect with regional planning:** Align with existing and future planning and policy actions to achieve benefits at broad scales.

Resilient Infrastructure Projects:

- **Maintain and restore natural infrastructure:** Conserve or restore self-sustaining natural systems and keep built infrastructure out of risky places to reduce exposure to hazards and bring the greatest benefits in the long term.
- **Maximize co-benefits:** Incorporate natural elements, where feasible, in new and existing infrastructure to provide multiple, sustainable social and ecological co-benefits and to ensure that every dollar we spend is maximized.
- **Steward for the long-term:** Commit to long-term monitoring, assessment, and adaptive management.
- **Design forward:** Ensure that long-term climate projections are incorporated in design to reflect the lifespan and utility of the project.
- **Re-design forward:** Remove at-risk, critical built infrastructure and retrofit or protect existing infrastructure that can't be moved while maximizing the benefits for social and natural systems.
- **Increase socio-economic benefits:** Reduce impacts to the most physically and socially vulnerable and provides economic opportunities for a diverse workforce inclusive of low income