

Community Building Wilmington, DE *and* Providence, RI

MARAMA Ports Partnership Webinar
September 15, 2021



Funding

Helping Ports
Capitalize on
Funding for Clean
Technologies



Technical Resources

Providing Tools
to Help Identify
Smart Infrastructure
Investments



Collaboration

Promoting
Port Community
Collaboration
for Effective Planning



Coordination

Increasing
Efficiency in Federal
Government and
Port Operations



Communications

Creating a Knowledge Clearinghouse





Collaboration

Wilmington Near-Port Community Training

Alison Riley, EPA Region 3



Community Concerns

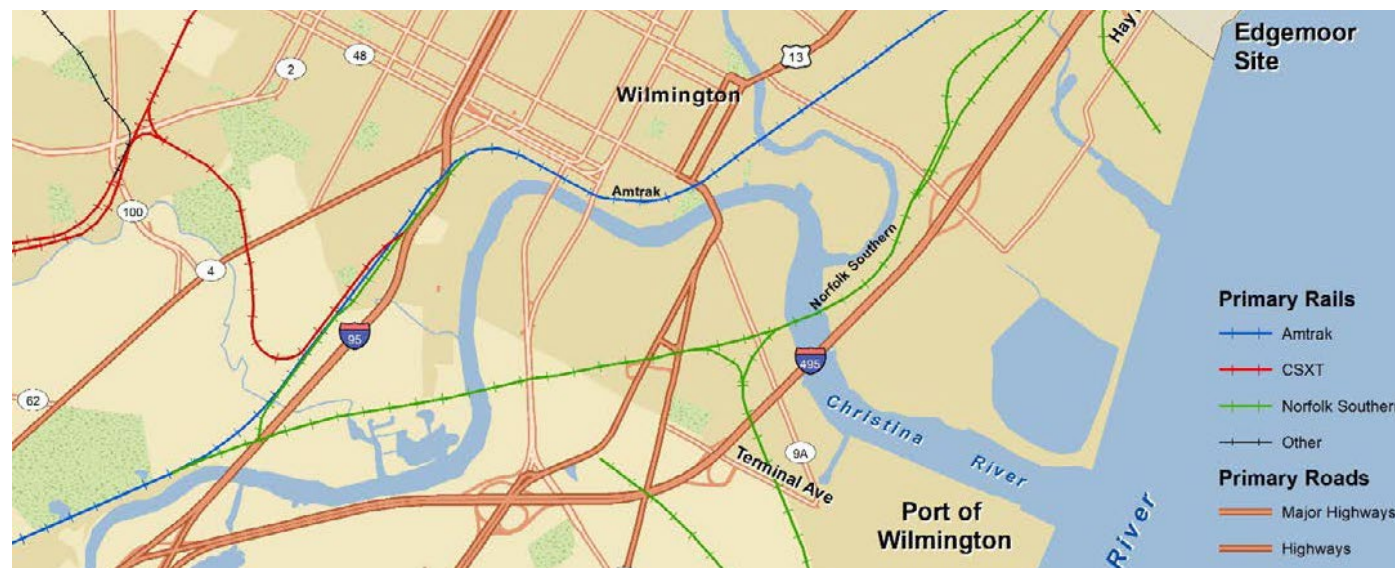
Existing Port Activities

- Air emissions, noise and water pollution nuisance from 400+ vessels and hundreds of heavy-duty diesel trucks each day.
- Potential harm to fisheries.
- Limited recreational use along the shoreline.
- Contributed to noise, air, and water pollution.
- The cumulative effects of these outcomes have had lasting economic and public health impacts on nearby residents.



Port of Wilmington

The property (Tax Parcels: 0615300006 and 0615300003) is the former location of the Chemours titanium dioxide production facility. It lies along the Delaware River between Fox Point State Park, to the north, and industrial facilities to the south. The site operated as a titanium dioxide production facility through 2016. That facility was demolished before the sale of the property to the Diamond State Port Corporation in February of 2017.





New Facility

- The proposed project includes building a pile-supported wharf (about 2,600 feet long), dredging the berth and access channel to a depth of 45 feet below mean lower low water, installing a bulkhead along 3,200 feet of shoreline and occupying approximately 5.5 acres of subaqueous lands.
- Increased truck traffic including possible queuing backups onto I-495.
- More ships and cargo handling equipment.
- Potential water and soil impacts.
- Nuisances (noise, congestion).

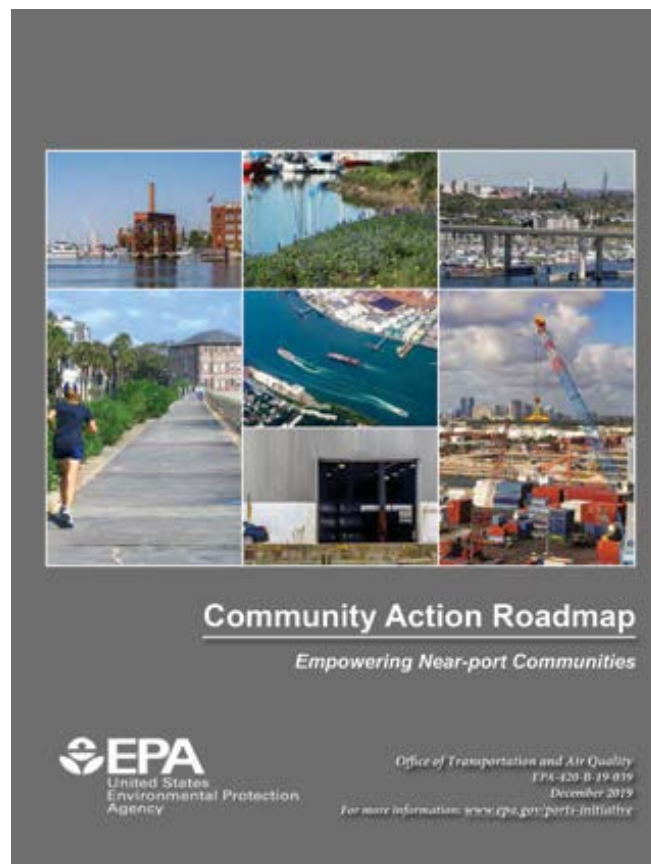


Collaboration

Community Action Roadmap

Developed through the EPA Ports Initiative.

Goal: To give the Delaware Community Benefits Agreement Coalition (DCBAC) the tools and resources they needed to effectively develop their own plan.



The Six Steps of the Community Action Roadmap	
	Step 1. Prioritize goals and concerns
	Step 2. Identify levers for change
	Step 3. Build relationships
	Step 4. Develop an action plan
	Step 5. Make your case
	Step 6. Build momentum



Community Objectives

- **Secure with the Port a binding community benefits agreement (CBA)**, developed with DCBAC and its impacted community residents.
- **Win protections from potential health and environmental dangers**—as well as safeguards against the displacement of residents due to port-related land use issues—before the Port’s expansion permit is approved.
- Establish an **inclusive port development/planning process**.
- Organize **additional public hearings** on the Port’s expansion.
- The group also developed a list of more than 25 specific concerns, including job opportunities, displacement, cumulative health impacts, and truck congestion and pollution.



Lessons Learned

- **Creating actionable roadmaps** is key to keeping groups organized and on track.
- **Information sharing** among community groups in different parts of the country can be very useful.
- **In-person** meetings are preferred.
- **Culturally competent facilitators** help establish trust with environmental justice and historically under-resourced communities.
- **Online resources**, including digital “toolkits” that community organizations can access long after training workshops end, can help maintain momentum and build capacity.



Next steps

- DCBAC will develop their own action plan.
- Improved collaboration with the Port of Wilmington.
- Continue meeting regularly.
- Periodic follow-up with EPA.

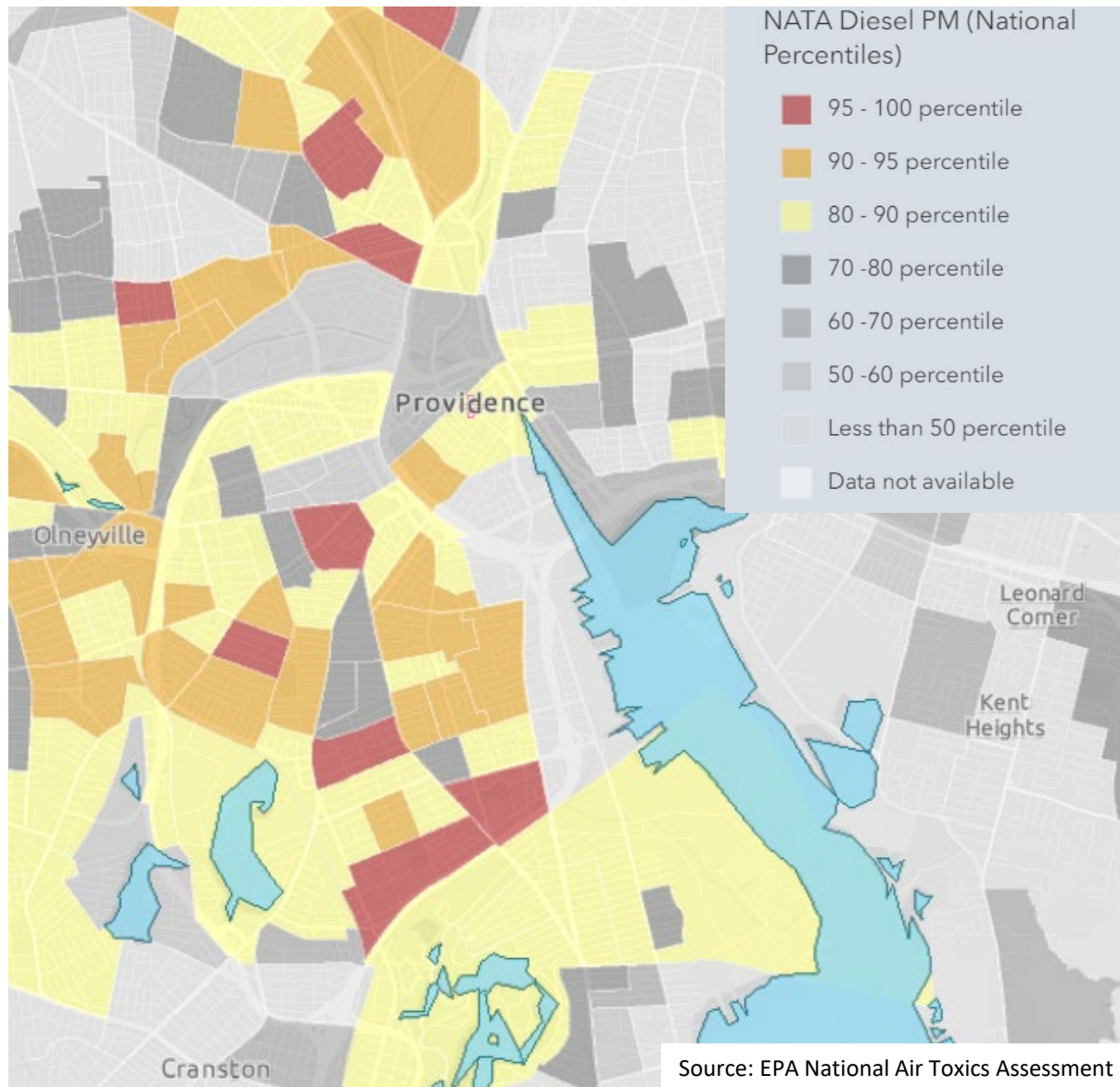


Collaboration

Providence Port-Community Working Group

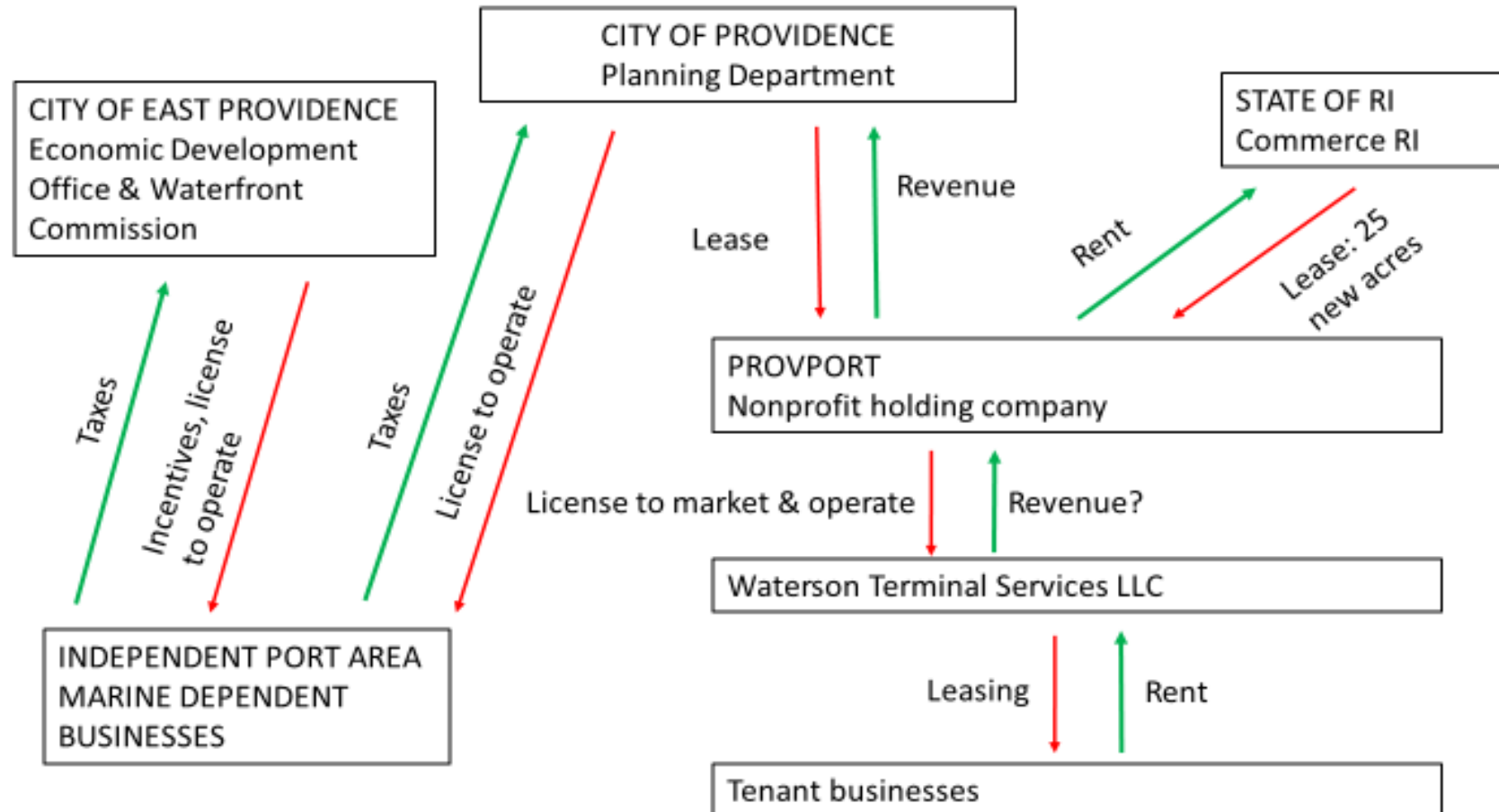
Abby Swaine, EPA Region 1

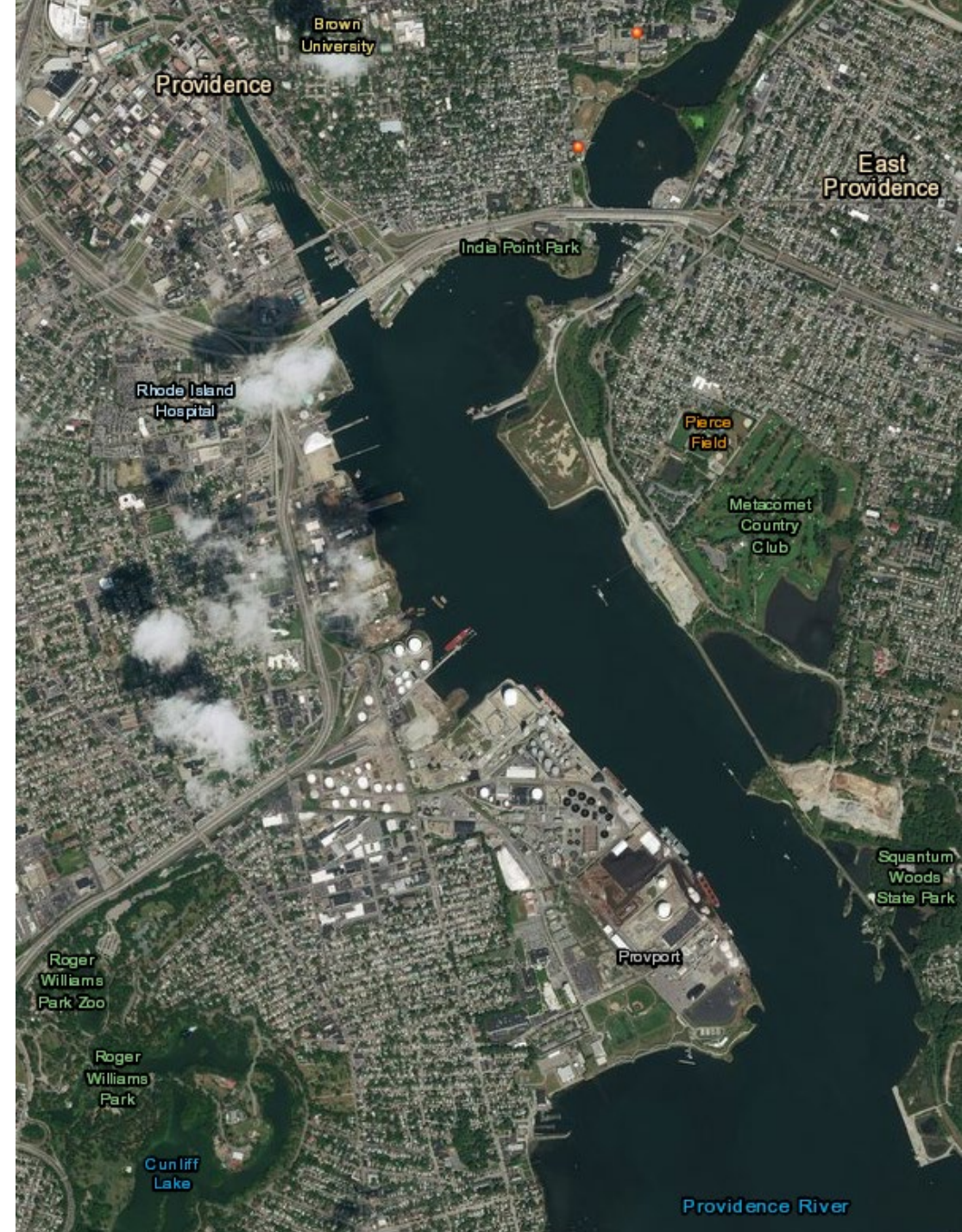




Why Providence?

Providence Port Organization







Port Area Businesses

ProvPort

- New England Petroleum (petroleum)
- Lehigh Cement (cement)
- Sea-3 Providence (propane)
- Schnitzer Steel (scrap metal)
- Univar USA (chemicals)
- Morton Salt (road salt)
- Mid-American Salt (road salt)
- Grimaldi Lines (used autos)
- Washington Mills (minerals)
- McInnis Cement (cement)

Independent Terminals

- Shell (fuels)
- Sprague (fuels, asphalt, salt, NG)
- Holcim (aggregate)
- Hudson (asphalt)
- Sims Metal Mgmt (scrap metal)
- Narragansett Improvement (asphalt)
- Univar (2nd location) (chemicals)
- Morton Salt (2nd location) (road salt)
- Rhode Island Recycled Metals

Other

- Starwood Energy (power plant)
- Stericycle (hazardous waste)
- National Grid (LNG production/storage)
- Narragansett Bay Commission (wastewater treatment)



Stakeholders

- EJ: City Racial and Environmental Justice Committee, Washington Park NA, Environmental Justice League of RI (EJLRI)
- Industry: ProvPort (WTS), Working Waterfront Alliance (Advocacy Solutions)
- City: Sustainability; Economic Development; Planning; Harbor Management Commission
- State: Transportation, Admin & Planning (Freight), Environment, Health, AG
- Fed: EPA ORD Narragansett Bay Program
- Narragansett Bay Commission
- URI / Hurricane Resilience Steering Committee
- Johnson & Wales University
- Save The Bay, CLF
- ETC

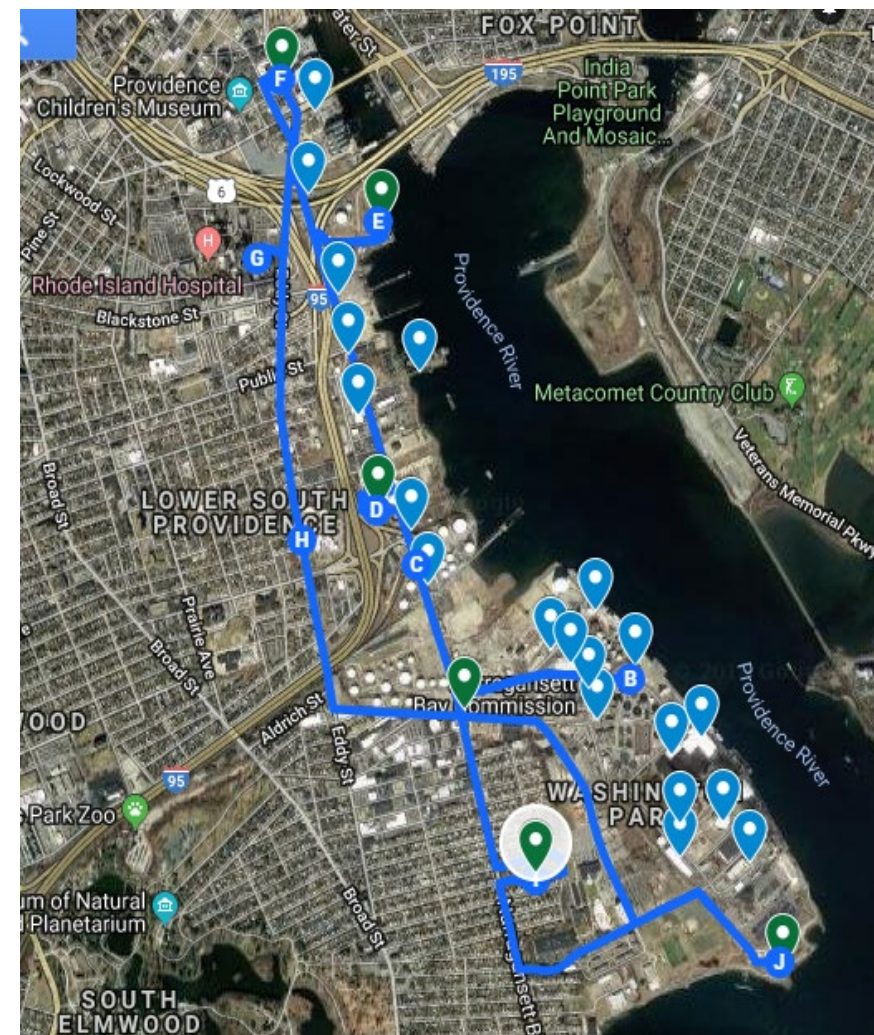




Meetings and Tours



Collaboration





Read All About It

www.epa.gov/community-port-collaboration/community-port-collaboration-pilot-projects



Case Study: Providence Pilot



Photo by Ayla Fox for the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program

Background

This case study provides an overview of a community-port collaboration pilot project conducted in Providence, Rhode Island over roughly a one-year period starting in 2017. In addition to Providence, pilot projects were conducted in Savannah, New Orleans, and Seattle and were collectively known as the Near-Port Community Capacity Building Project. Pilot communities received technical assistance and utilized the draft Community-Port Collaboration Toolkit developed as part of the EPA Ports Initiative.

three meetings over two days: (1) a conversation with near-port residents and tribal representatives, hosted by EJLRI and held at a local public school; (2) a meeting with ProvPort and other business stakeholders, held at ProvPort offices; and (3) an all-stakeholder meeting held at the Narragansett Bay Commission.

The first meeting, hosted by EJLRI, surfaced a wide range of community priorities for improving health and quality-of-life in near-port neighborhoods and for building a sustainable economy that works in harmony with community residents and the environment.

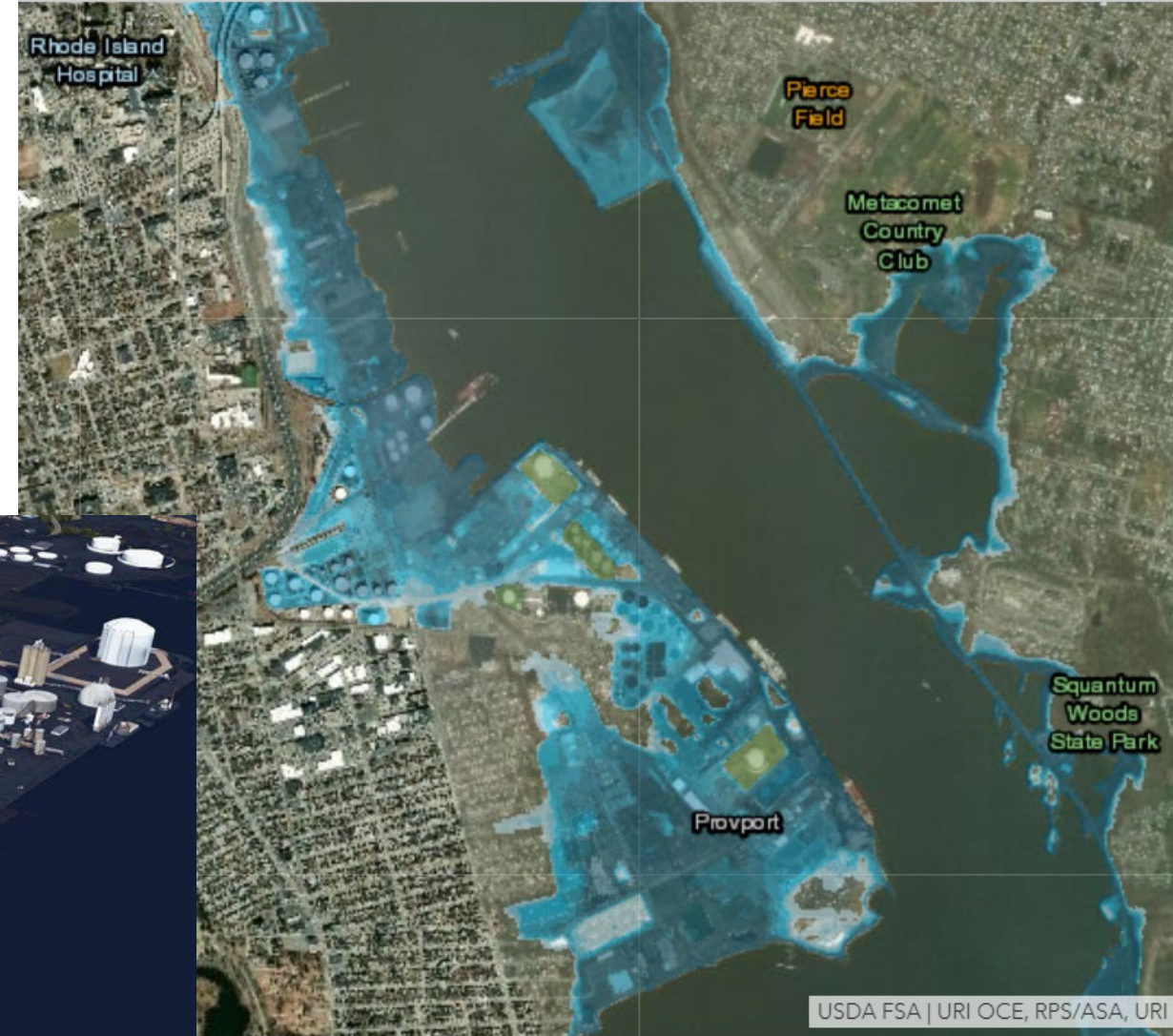
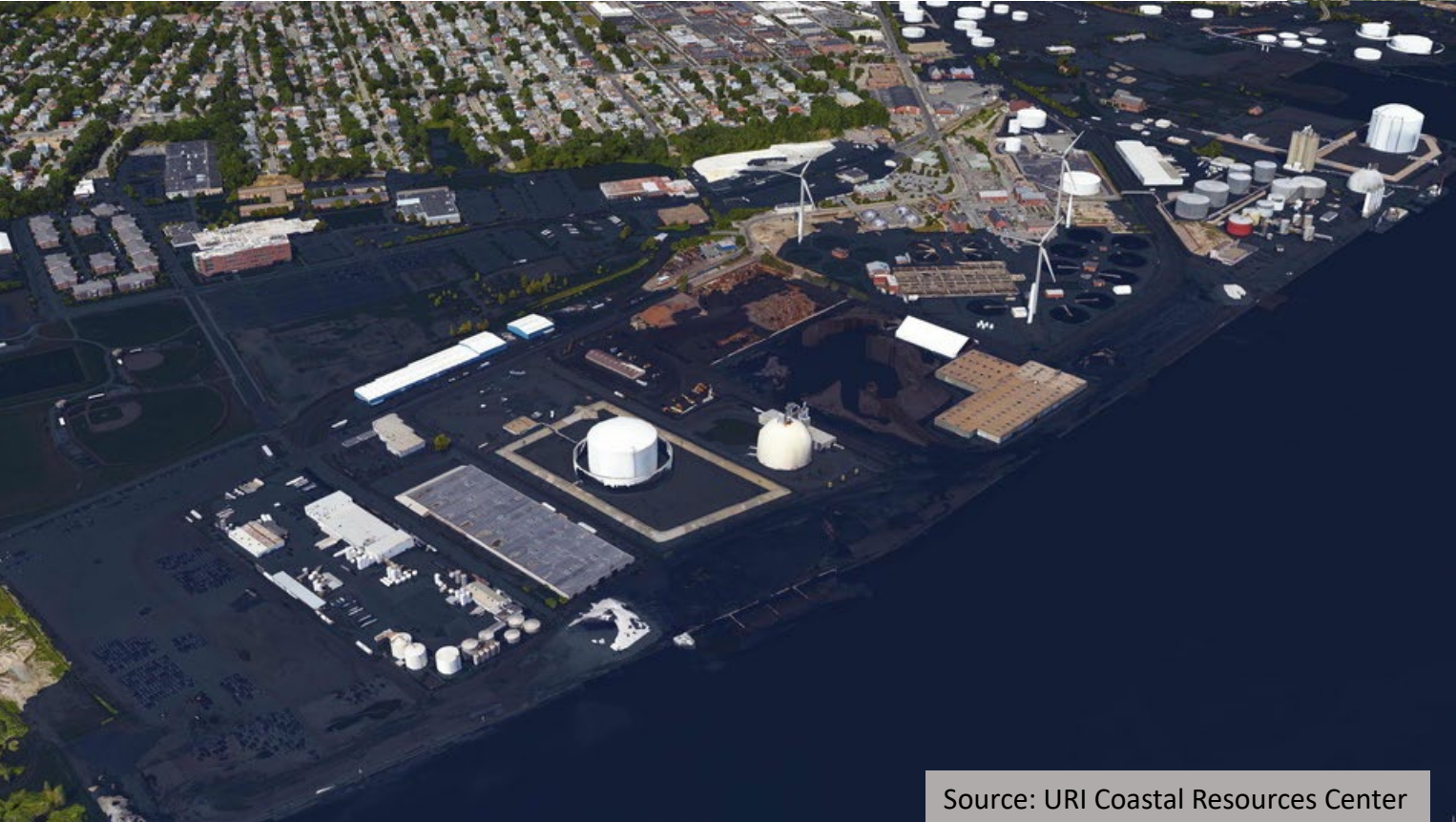


Successes

- Formation of the “Port-Community Working Group”
 - Led by City Planning; EPA now in supporting role
 - Growing participation
 - Meet quarterly
- Waterson Terminal Services joined Green Marine
- EPA Truck Study complete
- DERA award for truck & CHE replacement
- RI DEM: Air monitoring and EJ engagement w. EPA funding underway
- RI AG: new public access to waterfront; scrap facility enforcement



Climate Change: The Elephant in the Room



Source: URI Coastal Resources Center



Moving Forward

- Material handling/storage BMPs
- Improved storm water management
- Truck routing and parking
- Increased public water access
- More clean/green business
- Emergency preparedness
- Resilience planning
- Community co-determination
- Establish port authority?





Thank You!