

June: The **General Assembly passes H7904A and S2952A**, setting greenhouse gas reduction targets for 2020, 2035 and 2050 (10%, 45% and 80% below 1990 levels respectively); establishing Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC⁴), Advisory Board and Science & Technical Advisory Board; requiring state agencies to incorporate climate change resilience into their planning, management and operations, and to work together, and with local and federal governments as well as the private sector to reduce impacts, improve preparedness, develop adaptation solutions and make the State more resilient.

Note: all other legislative priorities listed in the EC³ Report were passed, as well, i.e. the clean, affordable and renewable energy bills and the environmental bond; although certain elements were removed from the bond language, some items were moved into the capital program instead.

July: EMA kicks off process to develop and conduct **vulnerability assessments** with state agencies, consistent with Goal 4 and action item 4.1.1 in the EC³ Report, focusing on infrastructure and using the federal mandate and program structure for an “all hazards assessment” in 16 sectors. Several interagency meetings have been held to date.

July 1: First of several meetings of working group (Resilient RI Partnership, Governor’s office) focusing on developing **communications program** in accordance with Goal 8 in EC³ Report. Initial priorities have been identified, including (based on interviews) better information for and communication among state employees. (For more information, contact Abel Collins or Jan Reitsma.)

July 10: Preliminary discussion with Office of Management and Budget about incorporating climate change into **agency practices and performance management** (Director Coit, Jan Reitsma, Brian Daniels.)

July 16: EC⁴ Meeting. Discussion of implementation priorities (see document posted under Meeting Schedule and Materials), including vulnerability assessments.

July 24: Presentation to DOT senior staff at invitation of Director Lewis by DEM Director Coit and Jan Reitsma on Climate Change, executive order, legislation, the EC³ Report and next steps for the EC⁴ and agencies.

July 24: First meeting of interagency group (CRMC, EMA, Health, Planning, Governor’s Office) focusing on producing **interim guidance** asap, in accordance with action items 1.3.4 and 2.3.1, **to municipal planners regarding data, mapping and planning criteria for Sea Level Rise and storm-related inundation scenarios** in coastal as well as inland areas. Group has since been expanded with state climatologist Lenny Giuliano (DEM) and David Vallee from NOAA/Taunton.

July 25: First meeting of interagency group (heads of DEM, DOT, OER and Planning and lead staff) convened by Director Lewis to focus on best **options to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in transportation sector**. Among other things, group identified need for data to help quantify impact of various strategies; technical group has been created (and met on 8/6) to address that need, with help from consultants available to DOT.

August 1: Signing of Climate Change Legislation by Governor Lincoln Chafee at North Kingstown town beach, with remarks by the Governor, Town Council President Liz Dolan, U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, State Senators Susan Sosnowski and Conley, State Representative Arthur Handy, and URI president James

Dooley; as well as an up-beat crowd of additional elected and appointed officials, environmental, clean energy and community advocates, representatives from the business community, and faculty, staff and students from URI and Brown University.

