



PLANNING FOR SEA LEVEL RISE

As a result of rising global temperatures, our planet can expect between one and four feet of sea level rise by the year 2100. Sea level rise is of immediate concern to our region's coastal communities, many of which already suffer property losses from flooding during storms and hurricanes.

MAPC is helping municipalities to prepare for increased and more frequent flooding by using state-of-the-art flood projections to identify at-risk infrastructure and populations. These projections incorporate not only the expected rise of the sea level and sinking of the land, but also complex factors such as tides, storm surge, wave action, winds, and river discharge. The maps here show analyses MAPC recently conducted for Quincy, indicating that 2,500 housing units with a current total assessed building value of \$444 million could be inundated by four+ feet of water during storm events 50 years hence.

This data can also be used to shape future growth. For example, redevelopment of the MBTA parking lot in North Quincy may be a great opportunity for transit-oriented development, but it must also be designed to protect future residents and property from sea level rise. MAPC will be working to apply studies like this to other coastal areas in 2016 and beyond.