What are Boston’s policies in regards to rising sea levels, and to what extent are they the result of a coordinated effort with stakeholders across the city?

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Abstract

The city of Boston is doing a great job in action planning. Their 2030 plans and Resilience Boston demonstrate that Boston has an average voter turnout. The city needs to begin to see the community as partners and people they cater to. The results indicate that there exists a disconnect between city leaders and their constituents. Neighborhoods with a greater density of community organizations and higher levels of trust experience lower crime, better educational outcomes, and more resilience in the face of economic and environmental shocks than similar neighborhoods with less social cohesion, and majority-minority areas of the city are uniquely underserved in this regard.

OPPORTUNITY

Background

The industrial revolution encouraged Boston to grow by making harbor improvements, burning pollution from wastewater, safeguarding public health, building public parks, adding railroad tracks and depots, adding more shipping facilities to compete with other ports city, embarking appealing neighborhood to entice settlers to stay, and creating climate for the city's future. The rapid changes in Boston's development were hampered by the decisions made centuries ago by developers. The impacts of sea-level rise are catastrophic and include recreation, waste solution migration, physical erosion, and saltwater intrusion. Inundation of landfills can result if floodwaters are high enough.

Approach

Method

With the use of mixed research methods, I was able to begin to unveil the efforts the City of Boston is actually making to save itself from the inevitable sea-level rise. Mixed method research can be conducted with structured interviews with different individuals who believe a major change in the city towards environmental sustainability and climate change is necessary. This study examined how the city of Boston is impacted by the rising sea levels.

Impact

My goal is to understand the future plans of the City of Boston, and how Boston compares to other cities in the world. I can advocate for policy change and help others who are looking for models to better regulations, all in the ultimate aim of increasing stakeholder (whether they be civic society or business) participation in the elaboration of these programs.

DATA/RESULTS

I was able to evaluate how the city was doing based on four frameworks:

1. City Planning
   City Planning which includes the risks of disasters with the prevention, preparedness, mitigation, and early warning systems for the spots in sea levels helps to protect both human and economic assets.

2. Social Capital
   Social Capital the network, patterns, social trust, and reciprocity that assist and coordinate cooperation for mutual benefit. Social capital allows for people to be engaged in different perspectives and beliefs, expanding their social networks and ties and allowing for more wide-ranging and diverse bonds of solidarity, especially in times of disasters. Weak social ties can cultivate society from not only responding to rising sea levels but can hinder their growth as a society in their future plans.

3. Community-Based Adoption
   Community-Based Adoption which is different from other forms of adaptation to climate change because it seeks to engage with poorer and more vulnerable people to allow them to identify and shape responses to the risks posed by climate change.

4. Structural Development
   Structural Development for urban areas, floodplain development must be designed carefully to protect people and community health. Resilient design approaches require emergency evacuation. The city of Boston has in place environmental regulations that developers and investors must follow. The city of Boston has in place environmental regulations that developers and investors must follow. The city of Boston has in place environmental regulations that developers and investors must follow.

The highest voter turnout was in 2016 with 66.5% of eligible voters showing up to the polls. The number is significantly higher than the national average of 59%.

Social Capital:

Voter Turnout: I measured Social Capital by taking the city of Boston’s voter turnout for the last 6 State Elections. Voter turnout is a statistic that can help us determine how much people participate in their government and determine the social ties between governments and their populations. Measuring voter turnout directly captures civil participation and forms of community life.

Community-Based Adoption

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