



BUSINESS AREA: STRATEGIC CONSULTING

Case Study

Asset Vulnerability Assessment & Mentoring

The South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) requested the support of Spatial Vision to help better understand how their member council assets will be impacted by climate change and associated extreme weather events, and how related council's income and expenditure would be impacted.

The findings of this study were required by SECCCA member councils to assist decision making and prioritise and cost work plans, to make assets at risk more resilient to climate change. Councils were supported with mentoring and guidance to assist in planning appropriately for the anticipated changes.

Spatial Vision and Marsden Jacobs Associates addressed this requirement by taking a two-staged approach, by firstly using the latest downscaled CSIRO and DELWP climate data projections to conduct a first pass asset vulnerability assessment on council assets, and then conducting finer-detailed financial assessment case studies on specific agreed-upon extreme weather event scenarios.

By having a greater understanding of asset vulnerability and potential financial impacts of climate change, councils improved their understanding of how climate change is likely to impact the delivery of community services.

"The team at Spatial Vision were extremely flexible and responsive in navigating complex and changing stakeholder requirements. The path forward was made clear with their strong methodology and direct collaboration with Councils to deliver on their needs."

Dominique La Fontaine
Chief Executive Officer, SECCCA

Customer Profile

www.seccca.org.au

Company

South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA)

Location

VIC

Industry

Local Government

Products

Asset Vulnerability Assessment; Scenario Case Studies; Financial Evaluation; Mentoring & Support

Solution

The South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) engaged Spatial Vision with the support of Marsden Jacob Associates (MJA) to undertake an asset vulnerability assessment on selected assets and a financial review to assist member councils in better understanding and planning for the likely impacts of anticipated climate change.

Benefits

- Provides councils with an understanding of how climate change and extreme weather events may impact their assets and community.
- Builds internal council capacity through mentoring member councils in the application and use of provided tools and data to assist more effective and informed planning and decision making.

The Issue

With the frequency and severity of extreme weather events predicted to increase into the near future, local councils are recognising the necessity for planning for and mitigating the effects of climate change on their assets and communities. To better plan for likely climate change related impacts, council staff needed to better understand the anticipated changes in the climate, and the associated flow on effects. Spatial views of where change is likely to occur, such as which areas are more likely to be flooded, or be subjected to a greater number of heatwaves, were required to identify the likely impact of the anticipated changes. By utilising the most recent climate projections from CSIRO and DELWP, as well as region wide inundation and in-house flood modelling, Spatial Vision needed to identify and communicate the level of change across the SECCCA region.



The Solution

SECCCA engaged Spatial Vision with the support of Marsden Jacob Associates (MJA) to undertake an asset vulnerability assessment on selected assets and a financial review to assist member councils better understand and plan for the likely impacts of anticipated climate change.

The two-part project included a high-level vulnerability assessment on council assets, along with more detailed case studies of climate change and extreme weather scenarios.

- Part 1 involved applying a higher-level vulnerability assessment on agreed assets (buildings, roads, drainage pits and pipes) for each member council in terms of the anticipated level of impact based on exposure, and sensitivity of the asset to this exposure where attributes supported this.
- Part 2 involved undertaking four representative case studies on an agreed set of climate change or extreme weather scenarios, and included a more detailed financial evaluation and considered possible adaptation options.

“[Spatial Vision] have been able to develop a methodology that achieves the desired end state from a blank canvas, whilst still being able to adapt to stakeholder needs throughout. It is [this] methodology and approach that will be applied as the standard going forward”, says Daniel Pleiter, Projects Coodi-nator at SECCCA.

As part of this project, Spatial Vision identified the opportunity to further build skills and capacity within member councils. The team engaged in mentorship with

Councils, running workshops to aid knowledge transfer. These sessions also involved repackaging Part 1 spatial data to help councils embed the approaches and learnings into their decision and financial planning processes.

The Benefits

The project helped councils better understand:

- ✓ How climate change will impact their building, road and drainage assets
- ✓ How vulnerable priority assets are to different climate impacts
- ✓ The financial implication of climate change and extreme weather events
- ✓ How service delivery to the community could be impacted

UN Sustainable Development Goals in Focus



This project contributes to Goal 13 (Target 13.1) and Goal 11 (Target 11.b).

For more information on the Sustainable Development Goal Targets and Indicators, visit: sustainabledevelopment.un.org

Our first-pass asset vulnerability assessment enables local councils to better prepare and plan for the impacts of climate change on their assets and community. If you'd like to know more, [please get in touch.](#)

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**Spatial
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