

Climate Resilient Austin

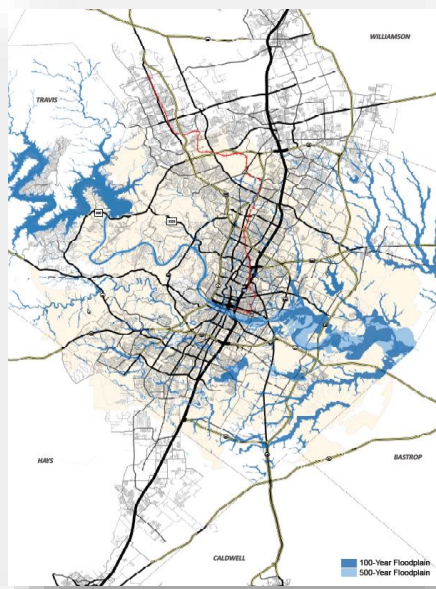
Joint Sustainability Committee update

September 25, 2019

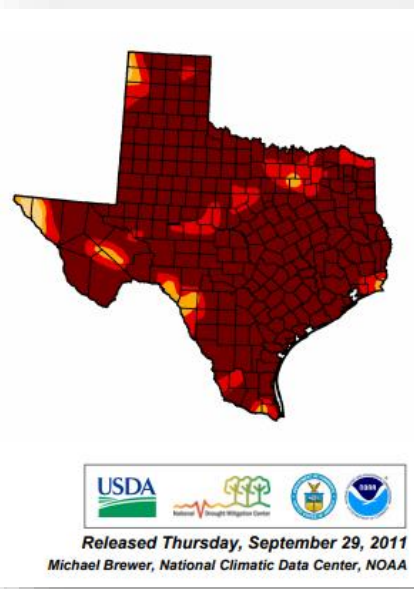
Agenda

- **Climate Resilience Action Plan for City Assets and Operations Update (2018)**
- **Council Resolution Update**

Hazard Mapping

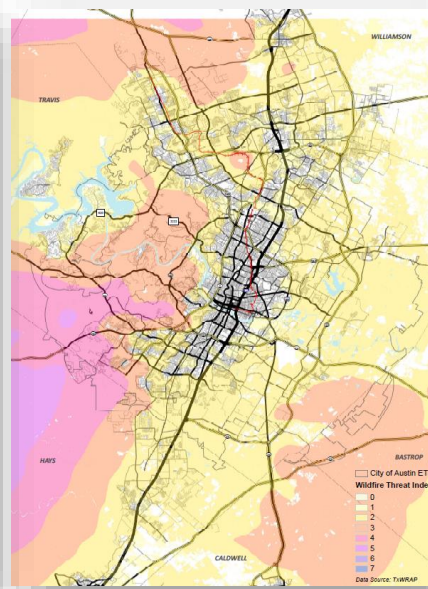


FEMA Floodplains

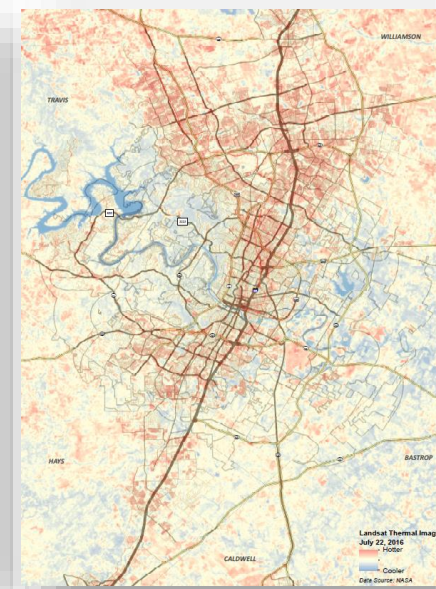


Texas Drought Monitor

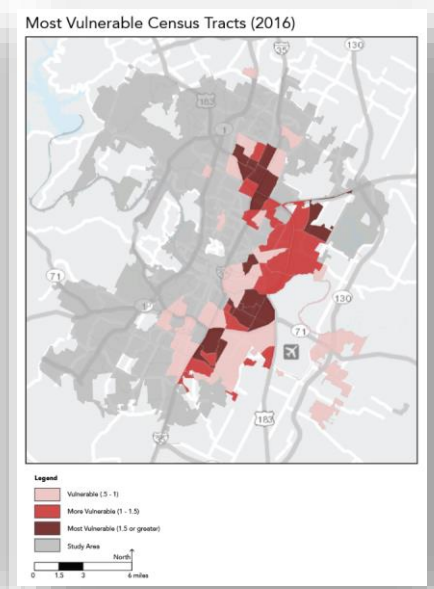
September 27, 2011



Wildfire Hazard Zones



Urban Heat Island



Vulnerability Map

From UT Austin Center for Sustainable Development

Data based on:

- People of color
- Lack of higher education
- Low income
- Renters
- Children in poverty

Climate Resilience Action Plan for City Assets and Operations Update

Emergency Response

- Emergency Procedures
- Safe Emergency & Evacuation Routes
- Disaster Response Resources

Staff Safety

- Field Staff & Workplace Safety
- Hazard Training

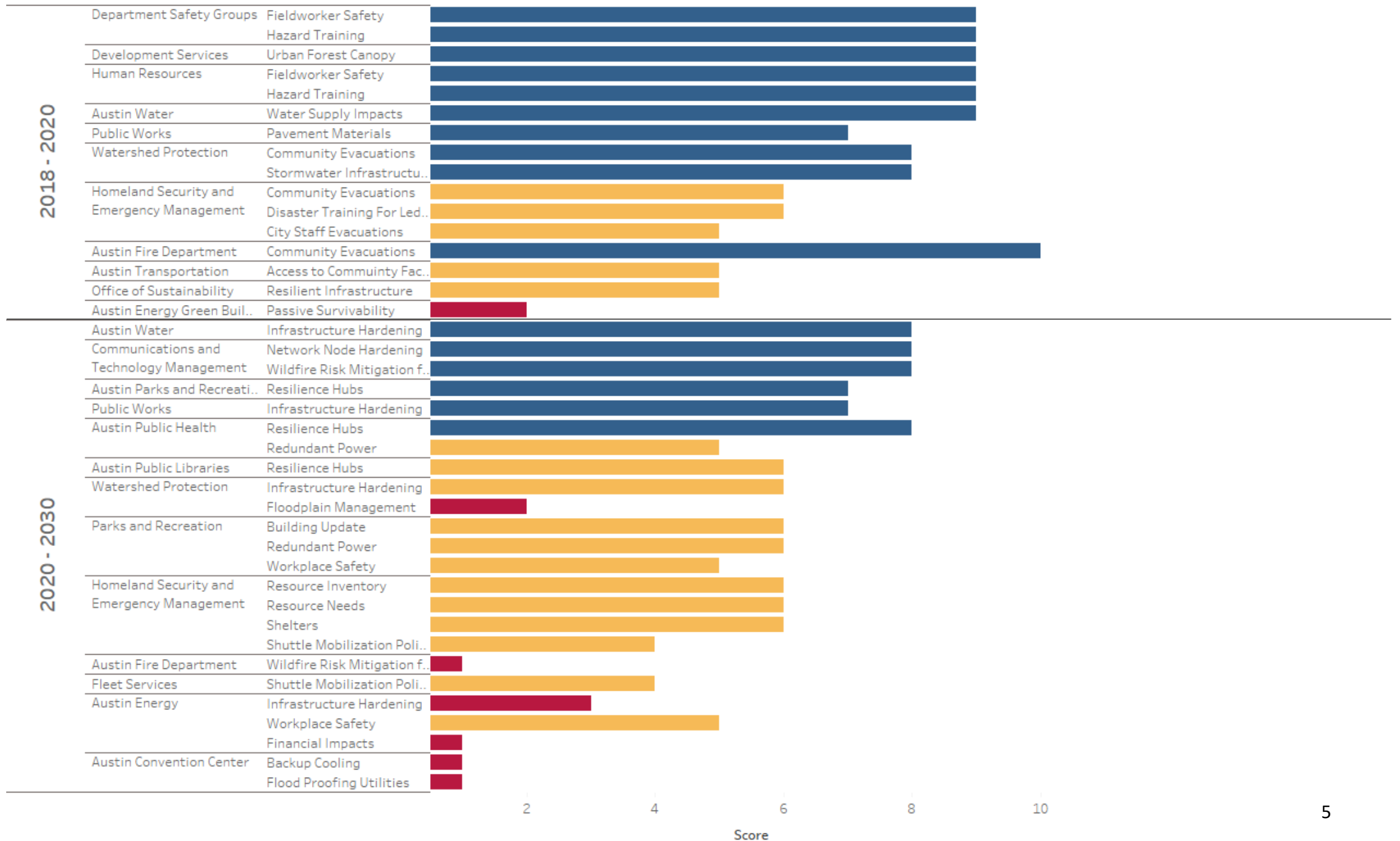
Existing Facilities & Infrastructure

- Critical Infrastructure
- Building Efficiency & Redundancy
- Telecommunications

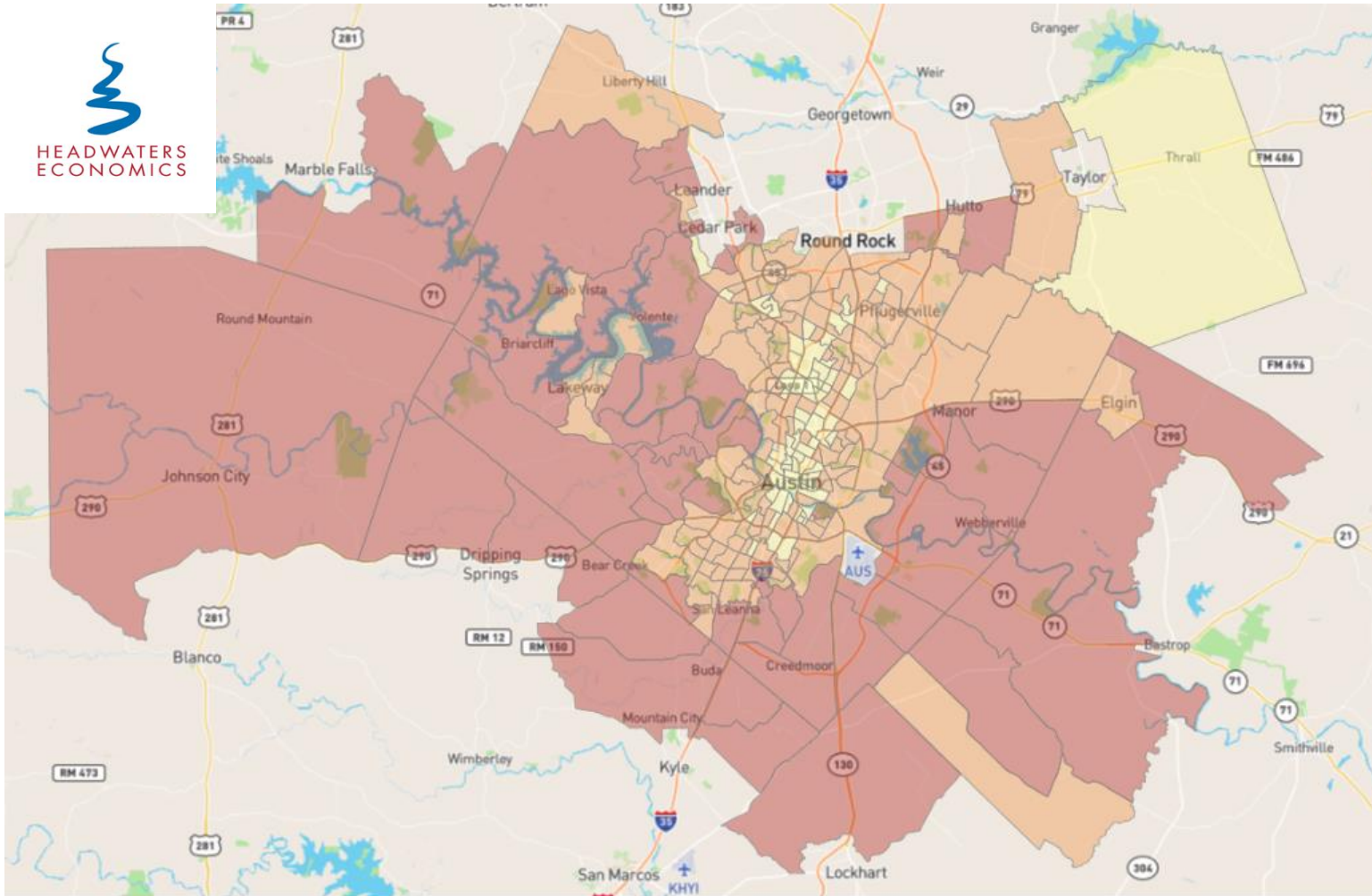
New Facilities & Infrastructure

- Design for Resilience
- Plan for Resilient Infrastructure

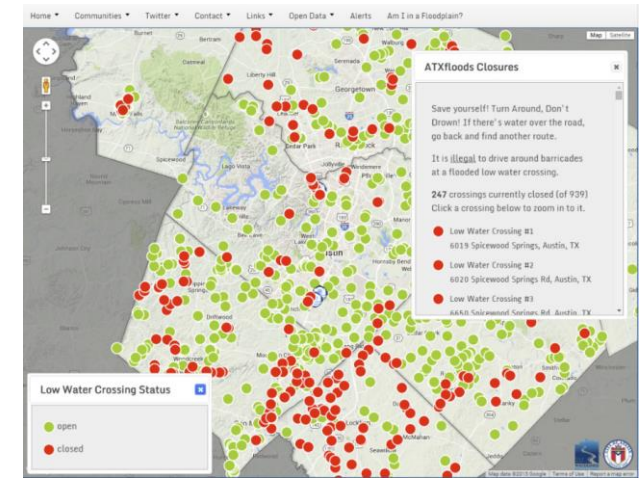
Asset and Operations Update



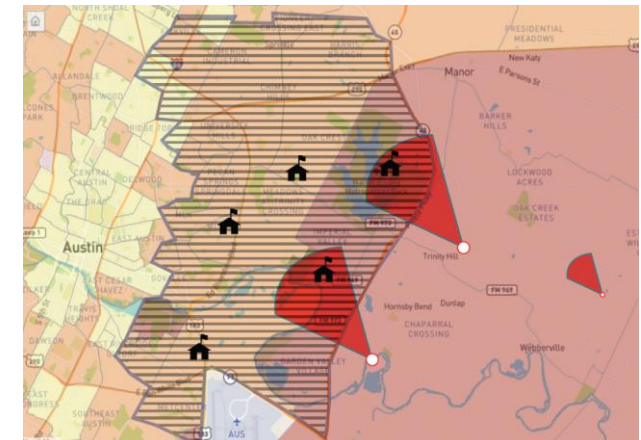
Example: Fire Potential & Health Impacts



Austin Wildfire & Health Tool



ATXFlood (existing)



ATXFire (prototype part of Innovation Fund)

Resolution No. 20190509-019

Resilience Planning

- *“perform a literature review of climate resilience plans of peer cities...”*
- *“explore available, potential partnerships (such as the 100 Resilient Cities model)...”*
- *“recommendations for creating a comprehensive, community-wide climate resilience plan that is fair, just, and equitable...”*

Chief Resilience Officer

- *Recommendations should include funding options, such as grants or other revenue sources, to ...*
 - 1) *fund a position for a Chief Resilience Officer and staff necessary to produce a resilience plan; or*
 - 2) *hire a consultant to draft or assist city staff with drafting a comprehensive resilience plan; or*
 - 3) *other recommendations for achieving this objective.*

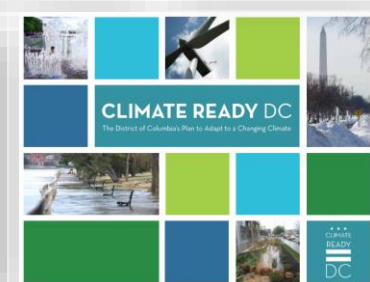
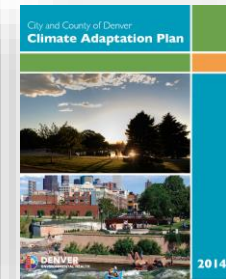
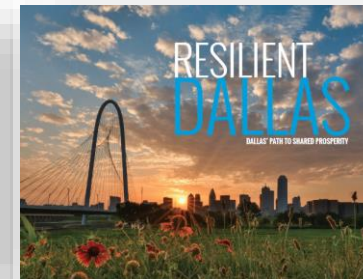
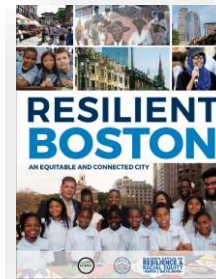
Case Studies

Criteria for selecting cities:

1. Population between **600,000 and 1.5 million**
2. At least **one 100RC** city (Boston, Dallas, DC) and **one non-100RC** city (San Antonio and Indianapolis)
3. At least one city that has attempted a **combo mitigation/adaptation** plan (Indianapolis)
4. At least **two exemplary** plans (Boston, Washington DC. According to USDN CRO)
5. At least **two from Texas** (Dallas and San Antonio)
6. At least **three not directly impacted by sea-level rise** (Dallas, Indianapolis and San Antonio)

Selected Cities:

1. Boston
2. Dallas
3. Denver
4. Indianapolis
5. San Antonio
6. Washington D.C.



Lessons Learned

Process

- Incorporate **equity** in all strategies
- Don't diminish **stressors**
- Include hazard **mapping**
- Get community **input**
- Define who is **responsible** for what actions

Resource needs

- More **resources** = **more** engagement
- Consider **consultant**: technical expertise, community engagement & reporting
- Identify **resources** prior to implementation

Implementation

- Define **metrics** for success
- Focus on **actionable** strategies
- Consider **equitable** distribution of resources/projects



Phase 1: Submitted August 2019

**Staff is asking for an extension to October 31, 2019 to provide additional recommendations for creating a comprehensive, community-wide climate resilience plan that is fair, just, and equitable.*

Summary of Phase One				
Recommended Community-Wide Climate Resilience Actions				
Recommendation	Lead Department	Staffing / Budget Impact	Timeframe	Potential Funding Partners / Collaborators
1) Hire a Chief Climate Resilience Officer	Human Resources with Office of Sustainability and/or Homeland Security Emergency Management	<p>New Executive-level position \$100-\$150K base salary (\$140-\$203K with benefits)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Reclassify existing vacant position for mid-management level Climate Resiliency Manager Cost impact TBD</p>	<p>Once budget identified, 6 months for recruitment and hiring</p> <p>OR</p> <p>3 months for Reclass and hiring process</p>	The Rockefeller Foundation funded Chief Resilience Officers during a three year grant period, but that funding is no longer available. Staff is continuing to search for other potential external funding partners.
2) Gap analysis of existing plans, programs and policies	Office of Sustainability with multiple departments	None (to be completed with existing staff / budget resources)	6-8 months	
3) GIS mapping to identify most vulnerable locations and populations	Office of Sustainability, CTM, Homeland Security, and Public Health	None (to be completed with existing staff / budget resources)	6-8 months	

Phase 2: Equity

- Low-income first hit, worst hit
- Additional climate shocks/stressors on top of existing economic stressors
- Less resources to bounce back from event
- Long term impacts to mental and physical health



Questions?