

Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS A CLIMATE RESILIENCE PLAN?

A **climate resilience plan** is a guide that helps people and cities respond to the effects of climate change, like hotter summers, more flooding, or stronger storms. It's like a safety plan to protect our homes, health, and neighborhoods now and in the future. A climate resilience plan involves identifying current and future climate change impacts and risks, then planning, developing and implementing measures to build capacity to withstand and recover from climate-related shocks and stresses. In this community-focused plan, community members help decide what should be in the plan and which actions should be taken.

The plan will also include climate projections based on the most recent climate science available for the region. Projections and assessments on the city's vulnerability to heat and flooding will also be included and presented with accessible map-based data and tools to be used by the public as well as regional researchers and planners.

HOW WILL IT BE USED?

The climate resilience plan will be used to inform future policies and programs designed to increase resilience to climate change impacts across Philadelphia. It will also inform other important plans in the City, like the Hazard Mitigation Plan and the City's Comprehensive Plan, which are important for federal funding opportunities and land-use decisions. Takeaways from community-level engagements will help guide recommendations for community-level strategies to build resilience and will influence decisions at the municipal level.

HOW DO I KNOW MY PLANNING DISTRICT?

You can access the planning district map here: <https://tinyurl.com/PhilaPlanningDistricts>. If you select a district and click 'more info' you will be directed to a more detailed map including street names and landmarks.

WHAT ARE THE MEETING DATES FOR AMBASSADORS? ARE THEY VIRTUAL OR IN PERSON?

Meetings will occur evenings, 6:00-8:00 pm, unless otherwise noted

- September 29th, 2025 - in-person
- October 15th, 2025 - virtual
- October 27th, 2025 - virtual
- November 17th, 2025 - in-person
- December 8th, 2025 - in-person
- March 9th, 2026 - virtual
- March 30th, 2026 - virtual
- April 13th, 2026 - virtual
- May 18th, 2026 - in-person

Community workshop dates to be determined. Plan launch party date to be determined.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CLIMATE RESILIENCE PARTNERS AND PARTNER AMBASSADORS?

One community-based organization for each planning district will be selected as a Climate Resilience Partner. The geographical footprint of the CBO should overlap with the district in some way but could be larger or smaller than the planning district boundary. It is expected that the selected organization will engage with the entire planning district's needs and diverse opinions.

Each organization is responsible for selecting one primary Ambassador to ensure consistency throughout the process. We recommend having an alternative or backup Ambassador in case the primary Ambassador is unable to attend. The selected Partner Organization will receive funding, and the Ambassador must either be an employee of the organization or be compensated by the organization for their time on this project.

IS THERE A REQUIREMENT FOR HOW MANY NEED TO BE RECRUITED FOR THE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS?

The Climate Resilience Partner will be responsible for gathering at least twenty community members, who will receive stipends, for the in-person workshop.

ARE THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE PARTNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DIRECT EXPENSES?

No, the planning team will provide printed materials for distribution, stipends for in-person community workshop participants, and cover any expenses for venue location and food. Partners will be expected to adhere to a budget provided by the Office of Sustainability when planning for workshops. No stipends will be provided to virtual participants by the planning team.

WHO WILL BE AT COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS?

The Ambassador facilitating the workshop will be supported by members of the planning team and the Office of Sustainability. Each Ambassador will also attend one other workshop not in their planning district to support their fellow Ambassador.

HOW WILL THE HONORARIUM FUNDS BE AWARDED?

Honorarium funds will be distributed in installments of \$7,500 at the start of the program, followed by a later installment of \$2,500 later in the program duration (exact date to be determined).

ARE THERE RESTRICTIONS ON HOW THE AWARDED MONEY CAN BE SPENT?

This funding cannot be used for lobbying or to influence elections.

CAN MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS COLLABORATE AS THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE PARTNER FOR ONE PLANNING DISTRICT?

Yes, but there must be a designated prime organization to manage the contract. However, this prime organization can collaborate with multiple organizations. In this case, each planning district will still need to nominate only one person as the Ambassador. The funding allocated for each planning district will remain unchanged and will be awarded to the prime organization, which will then distribute the funds according to the agreements made with the collaborating organizations.

HOW CAN APPLICANTS WHO ARE NOT SELECTED PROVIDE FEEDBACK OR BE ENGAGED IN THE PROCESS?

This process aims to engage as many people in Philadelphia as possible through various methods, including public surveys, city-wide engagement, events, youth engagement, social media, and workshops. We encourage organizations to communicate and collaborate with one another. If you or your organization has knowledge, opinions, or ideas that you would like to share, we recommend reaching out to the Climate Resilience Partner for your planning district. We ask that the selected organizations and their Ambassadors attend other community meetings and events within their planning district to gain valuable insights from others.

HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

Email Jordan.Pares.Kane@phila.gov and Shannon@hinge-collective.com with the subject line “Climate Resilience Partner Additional Questions”

Questions due by 5:00 pm EST on August 18, 2025.

Answers will be shared on August 26, 2025.