



Accelerating Climate Resiliency Municipal Grant Program Fiscal Year 2021 Invitation for Proposals

NEW! Fiscal Year 2021 Grant Round

1. One and Two-year grants. Two-year grants for construction and capital improvement projects. One-year grants for programs and capacity building.
2. One-year grants from \$15,000-\$55,000. Two-year grants for \$55,000-\$150,000.
3. Prioritizing climate equity with MAPC's Climate Vulnerability Indicators for Metro Boston.
4. Required Community Outreach and Engagement Plan.
5. Construction/ Capital Improvement project readiness checklist.
6. Attendance to at least two MAPC Resilience Community of Practice workshops.

Overview

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) is seeking to accelerate climate resilience in the Metro Boston region by helping municipalities advance strategies that protect people, places, and communities from the impacts of climate change. The intent is to deploy actionable resilience interventions through local project and policy analyses and strategies that facilitate long-term innovative changes toward greater readiness for climate change. In particular, MAPC seeks to elevate projects that will advance climate equity, regional coordination, and social cohesion. MAPC's Accelerating Climate Resiliency Municipal Grant program is supported by the Barr Foundation.

Eligible Applicants

The 101 cities and towns in the Metropolitan Boston area served by MAPC are eligible to apply. Multi-municipal collaboration and partnerships with non-profits and community-based organizations are strongly encouraged.

Program Priorities

The Accelerating Climate Resiliency Grant Program seeks to fund local and multi-municipal projects that accelerate climate change preparedness and resilience throughout Metro Boston. Projects should address at least one of the following priority areas. Projects that demonstrate other innovative climate resilience strategies that are transferable at the local or regional level may also be considered.

- *Nature-based solutions for climate resilience such as Green Infrastructure (GI), climate-smart parks, urban forestry, floodplain protection, and restoration of natural systems.*
- *Municipal climate resiliency policy, including regulations, zoning, permitting, and inspections.*
- *Innovative financing or infrastructure investment program models.*
- *Climate coalitions or convenings, such as stormwater partnerships, regional climate networks, or watershed-based climate resilience initiatives.*



- *Climate Change capacity building including Improvements to social resiliency or cohesion, such as through dialogues, gatherings, and networks, particularly for at-risk or vulnerable populations/neighborhoods. Building municipal staff capacity to implement climate resilience.*
- *Synergies between climate adaptation and mitigation and other co-benefits.*
- *Local food systems or community agriculture resiliency measures.*
- *District-scale climate resiliency pilots that are scalable and replicable.*
- *Public outreach, marketing, or arts and culture projects that advance climate change knowledge or action.*

Eligible Projects

Grant funds will support on-the-ground projects that accelerate resiliency in addressing climate change impacts from extreme weather events, sea level rise, inland and coastal flooding, extreme heat, and other climate impacts. Eligible projects include: (i) technical assistance or design, such as hiring a consultant for design or researching climate zoning as a basis for recommendations on improvements, (ii) capital projects, such as flood-proofing infrastructure, climate-smart parks, or green infrastructure, and (iii) capacity building initiatives, such as supporting or seeding a climate-resilience network or coalition. For previously funded projects, please see MAPC's [Accelerating Climate Resiliency Grant Program webpage](#). Additional examples of eligible projects are provided in Appendix A. While applicants are not limited to these, all projects should demonstrate clearly how results would increase your community's climate resilience or adaptive capacity.

Funding Availability

MAPC is offering two grant award types: one-year projects ranging from \$15,000-\$55,000 or two-year projects ranging from \$55,000 to \$150,000. Two-year projects are designated for capital improvement and/or construction projects. One-year projects are designated for technical assistance, programs, and capacity building grants. All projects should support highly impactful and visible designs/conceptual plans, policy initiatives, regional collaboration and coordination, and capital improvement projects that accelerate climate resilience in the region. Municipalities can submit multiple proposals for different projects. MAPC expects to provide six to fifteen awards in this round. Grants funds can be used in any manner that supports the overall project or program.

Timeline *(subject to change)*

Task	Deadline
Invitation for Grant Proposals	July 15, 2020
Informational Webinar	July 22, 2020
Proposals Due	August 31, 2020
Award Announcements	October 2020
Mid-Year Reports (one and two-year projects)	April 15, 2021
One-Year Project Completion and Final Report	October 31, 2021
Two-Year Project Mid-Year Report	April 15, 2022
Two-year Project Completion and Final Report	October 31, 2022

The deadline for proposals is 3:00 PM August 31, 2020. Proposals should be sent electronically to Darci Schofield by email at DSchofield@mapc.org or uploaded [MAPC's OneDrive](#) if files are too

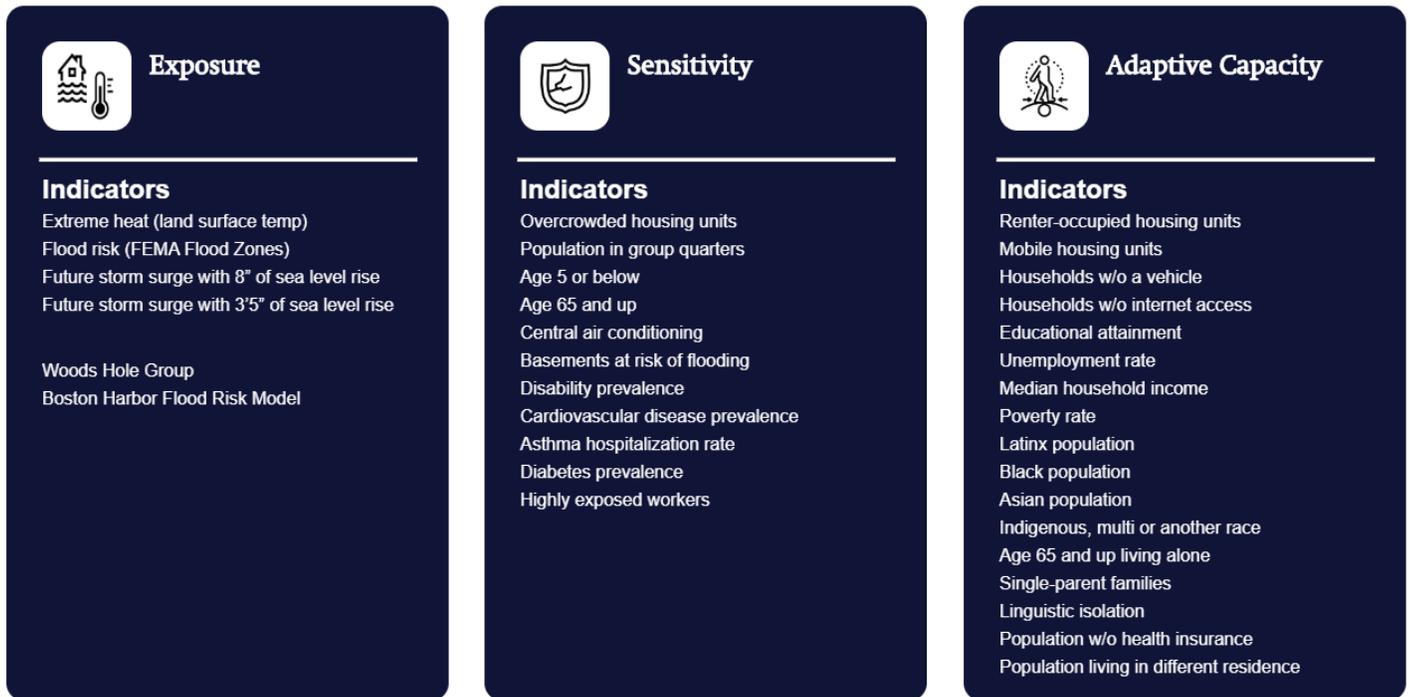


large for email. If uploading to the cloud, please send a confirmation request email to Darci Schofield.

Criteria for Evaluation

All proposals for MAPC’s Accelerating Climate Resiliency Municipal Grant Program should target at least one of the nine Program Priorities described above. Because Equity is one of the pillars of MAPC’s mission, projects that advance climate equity where vulnerable populations directly benefit from the project are given higher priority in the project selection process. MAPC’s [Climate Vulnerability for Metro Boston](#) illustrates how some people are disproportionately affected to climate change than others. The site contains a tool to aid in identifying those with greater vulnerability, greater sensitivity, and least adaptive capacity to extreme heat, current flooding, and future flooding with sea level rise. Please refer to this tool and to Figure 1 Vulnerability Checklist below to identify how your project advances climate equity and socially vulnerable populations. For additional resources, please see MAPC’s Municipal Net Zero Playbook [Framework for Equity](#) and [State of Equity for Metro Boston Policy Agenda](#). MAPC further encourages proposals to identify all anticipated measurable improvements or outcomes that enhance community resilience to climate impacts.

Figure 1. Climate Vulnerability Indicators from MAPC’s Climate Vulnerability in Metro Boston analysis. These indicators are a guide toward prioritizing equity in your climate resiliency project. Please see climate-vulnerability.mapc.org for more information.



Proposals should also demonstrate public support for the project or outline a clear path for public outreach and engagement for generating public support. Capital improvement and construction projects should also demonstrate project readiness by completing the Permitting and Regulatory



Review Planning Tool in Appendix C. Finally, proposals must detail how projects would be completed within a 12 or 24-month timeframe.

Receiving Award Funds and Reporting

All recipients will be required to sign a Grant Agreement with MAPC. In addition, recipients are required to complete progress reports every six months. For one-year projects, this includes one six-month progress report and one final report. For two-year projects, this includes three six-month progress reports and one final report. MAPC will reimburse expenses incurred to date after acceptance of each six-month progress report. The remainder of the grant award will be provided to the recipient after MAPC's acceptance of the Final Report.

Resilience Community of Practice

As part of the grant program, MAPC is launching a Resilience Community of Practice (RCOP). Grantees will be required to attend at least two workshops/programs during the grant period. Grantees may include expenses incurred for attending the workshops. Workshops and programs will be virtual during COVID social distancing protocols.

The RCOP is designed to provide the technical, value-based, and instructional guidance to aid municipalities in deploying, scaling, and amplifying their climate resilience practices across all municipal functions. It will provide a forum to discuss sensitive topics, projects, and programs that municipalities might not otherwise pursue in fear of public or political backlash. It will also foster a peer-to-peer knowledge exchange and to aid in breaking down barriers to progress. Workshops and programs will bring experienced practitioners locally and nationally on key climate topics such as climate equity, extreme precipitation, extreme heat, sea level rise, and extreme storms.

Permits

Applicants will be required to provide sufficient documentation that the project can successfully acquire all local, state, and federal permits, as applicable.

Publicity and Acknowledgement of Support

Award recipients will be required to accord MAPC and the Barr Foundation the right and authority to publicize the project and the financial support from the grant in press releases, publications, conferences, and other public communications.

Questions and More Information

MAPC will host an informational session on July 22, 2019 from 10 AM-12:00 PM via Zoom Webinar.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend. Please register at:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMqcOuorjkuGNV7Y9Aw5t4FxD1IO-NC-Xs7>.

All questions and answers related to the grant program will be posted at www.mapc.org/acceleratingresiliency. Please submit questions directly to Darci Schofield at dschofield@mapc.org. Questions will be accepted until Friday, August 24, 2020.



Application Form

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Project name: _____

Lead Municipality: _____

Municipal Staff Project Manager: _____

Project Manager Title: _____

This is the person who will be the day-to-day contact for the project and who will represent the municipality in regular communication with MAPC.

____ Please attach a signed authorization from the Chief Executive Officer identifying the individual named above.

Address:

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Project Partner(s)

Name of Partner Municipalities, Non-Profits, and/or Community-Based Organization:

Point of Contact, Name and Title:

Phone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please list additional partners in Section 3 Project Description.



2. PROJECT DETAILS

Type of Grant

Technical Assistance/Design Grant

Capital Project

Capacity Building

Grant Duration

One-Year Grant

Two-Year Grant

Grant Amount Request (per year, if a two-year request):

Location/Address of the Project (if applicable):

Which climate risk(s) does the proposal address?

Sea Level Rise

Extreme Heat or Urban Heat Island Impacts

Flooding

Extreme Weather Events/ Other Climate Impacts

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In three to five pages, please provide more information on your project by answering the following questions.

1. Do you have a climate vulnerability assessment, coastal vulnerability assessment or a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan? If yes, describe how the project advances implementation of that plan. If no, describe how this project will advance knowledge of your community's vulnerability to climate change.
2. Describe how the project improves community or cross-jurisdictional climate resiliency targeting urban heat island and extreme heat, inland flooding/stormwater management, or sea level rise and coastal flooding?
3. Describe how the proposed project complies with the program priorities and addresses one or more of the criteria for evaluation.



4. Using the Climate Vulnerability Indicators in Figure 1, please describe how the project will directly benefit socially vulnerable population and climate justice.
5. Describe the public support, political will, and staff capacity to implement this project? Describe your public engagement, communications, and outreach plan.
6. Who will comprise the project team? Describe the roles of each member of the team including partners. Will the hiring of consultant or vendors be required, and if so, what type and to perform which tasks? Name the consultant or vendor if known.
7. FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. Please complete Appendix B Permitting and Regulatory Approval for Construction Projects. Please describe contingency plan for permitting and/or construction delays.

4. PROJECT BUDGET AND TIMELINE

In no more than two pages, please provide:

1. A detailed timeline for completing the project, including milestones at six months. Describe the mechanism for completion within a 12-month or 24-month period.
2. A detailed budget for the project. Matching funds are not required for this grant. However, the proposal should describe the staff and other personnel time committed to the project, and how this project could leverage additional local, state, or federal funding sources to support the project throughout the duration of the grant term.



Appendix A Examples of Potential Projects

Priority Areas	Grant Type		
	Technical Assistance/Design	Capital	Capacity Building
Nature-Based Solutions	Design, engineering, and/or feasibility of a climate-smart park or playground.	Green Infrastructure retrofit in park.	Research and convene stakeholder group focused urban forestry with carbon trading program model
	GHG accounting of nature-based resources with carbon sequestration potential (e.g. soils, trees, wetlands)	Green Infrastructure installation in an existing park improvement project.	Equity-driven community engagement process on identifying and addressing greatest need for nature-based solutions in a community or neighborhood.
	Open Space and Recreation Plans that prioritize climate resilience.	Collective purchasing (with multiple municipalities) of street trees.	
	Park Equity Assessment that considers climate and park accessibility.	Increased connectivity of parks, trails, and municipal assets for walking and biking.	
	Hydrologic analysis for stormwater interventions in vulnerable neighborhoods.	Salt Marsh Restoration project	



Priority Areas	Grant Type		
	Technical Assistance/Design	Capital	Capacity Building
Municipal Climate Resiliency Policy Infrastructure, Finance	Evaluation of existing zoning, bylaws, and codes to accelerate resilience measures (such as inclusion of pervious surfaces, reduced parking requirements, setback exemptions for passive house construction).	Implementation of new climate resilience regulations in new and redevelopment, streetscapes, municipal infrastructure, shared driveways, etc.	Initiate equity-driven neighborhood-level community-based resilience visioning.
	Stormwater Utility feasibility and implementation.	Raised infrastructure and/or flood proofing - roads, buildings, etc.	
	Energy resiliency feasibility study for microgrid, solar+storage, thermal storage, or district energy system.	Implementing green complete streets that manage stormwater and urban heat.	
Support Climate Coalitions and Convening	Regional and/or watershed level climate change emergency preparedness and shared resources planning.		Support and/or build capacity of existing coalitions such as municipal stormwater partnerships or collaborative approaches to watersheds.
			Fund convening, symposiums, or events that advance regional climate collectives.
			Support start-up or build capacity of newly-formed regional climate coalition.



Priority Areas	Grant Type		
	Technical Assistance/Design	Capital	Capacity Building
Social Resiliency/Climate Justice	Climate equity/social vulnerability geospatial and demographic vulnerability assessment.	Resilience measures in low-income housing.	Specialized outreach and engagement projects/programs to at-risk groups such as older adults, linguistically isolated, people with disabilities, etc.
		Heat-risk toolkits/equipment for people at risk to extreme heat.	Exploration of partnership with car sharing companies to expand use of car sharing among low-income households.
			Partnership with community-based initiatives, especially from low-income areas and communities of color, that align with climate change preparation priorities, carbon emission reduction efforts and low-carbon behavior to expand these efforts.
Climate adaptation and mitigation and other co-benefits	Net Zero strategy development focused on resilience actions that also achieve strong mitigation, public health, equity, economic development outcomes and/or other benefits.	EV charging station deployment that utilizes vehicle-to-grid (V2G) technology.	Heat preparedness outreach and engagement strategies
		Expansion or deployment of shared micro-mobility (e.g. bikes, electric scooters) infrastructure, particularly to improve community resilience	



Agriculture Resiliency	Geospatial analysis to identify potential urban agriculture parcels that consider sun, soil, and other natural, political, and physical barriers or opportunities.	Create new urban farms.	Plans to increase access to grocers and healthy food during extreme weather emergencies.
	Research on long-term agricultural practices for adaptation to climate change.	Create new mobile food markets.	
Climate Resilience district-scale pilot design	Coastal Business Improvement District as a mechanism for funding coastal resilience and public programming.	Extreme Heat Mitigation Public Space Activation project	Heat-preparedness task force
	Feasibility assessment of EcoRoof regulations (gardens, solar, etc.) on new construction (i.e., San Francisco), roof replacements, etc.		
Capacity Building, Public Outreach, Marketing, and Arts and Culture	Plan for geographically distributed socially-engaged art in the public realm that addresses climate change, public awareness, and education of climate change, or resilience.	Artist hired for installations that advance climate change awareness or enhance climate resilience.	Marketing campaigns targeted to specific and pressing climate issue.
		Community organizing to galvanize support for equitable climate change regulations, policy, and program development.	Community-wide outreach and education campaigns on intersection of climate with hazard mitigation, cohesion, anti-racism, and/or public health.



Appendix B Permitting and Regulatory Approval for Construction Projects

Adapted from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs MVP Action Grant RFR.

1. Project Site Ownership: If the project is not municipally owned, please demonstrate readiness of transfer of ownership or landowner approval of use for the construction site.
2. Please indicate the level of planning readiness for the construction project:

Conceptual Design

50%-75% Design

Construction Documents

3. Please complete the following table to indicate the permitting and regulatory review of the construction project as well as your planned dates for securing authority.

Environmental Permits / Licenses / Approvals	Required (Y/N)	Filing Date	Issue/Decision Date
MEPA Review (ENF or EIR)			
Waterways (Chapter 91)			
Wetlands Protection Act (Order of Conditions, Request for Determination of Applicability, etc.)			
Army Corps (USACE) Permit (Section 10 or 404)			
FEMA Conditional Letter of Mapping Revision (CLOMR)			
CZM Federal Consistency Review			
Chapter 91 Waterways Permit or License			
Water Quality Certification			
Endangered Species Consultation (State or Federal)			
Water Management Act Permit			
Dam Safety Chapter 253 Permit			
MHC Historic Review (including Underwater Historical Resources)			
Other:			



Municipal or Special District Coordination Considerations			
Construction Permits and Approvals	Required (Y/N)	Filing Date	Issue/Anticipated Issue Date
Planning Board			
Conservation Commission			
Zoning Board			
Sewer Extension Permit			
Utility Relocation			
Local Historical Commission			
Public Water Supply Tie-in			
Public Wastewater Tie-in			
Other:			