



Accelerating Climate Resilience (ACR) Grant Program

Questions & Answers (Q&A) Document April 27, 2026 and April 30, 2026

This document includes questions received during the ACR Grant Program's April 27 informational webinar and April 30 workshop for community partners (non-municipal) who are leading or supporting an ACR application.

PROCESS & LOGISTICS

Question: The grant is a reimbursement; how does that work?

Answer: Grantees that are selected will need to provide invoices and proof of payment, then MAPC will reimburse the costs. Grantees may request reimbursements when submitting their progress and final reports.

Question: Is there a minimum grant amount?

Answer: There is not a minimum grant amount. Partial funding is possible.

Question: How many people from each project get to participate in Resilience Community of Practice (RCOP)?

Answer: The project manager of the project is required to attend, but we welcome any and all project partners as well!

Question: Can you please clarify the 3 month "due diligence" period. If the timeline is 12 months, does this mean 3 months + 9 months, or 3 months + 12 months?

Answer: For the FY27 grant round, it is 3 months + 9 months, so 12 months total from Sept 2026 – Sept 2027. To clarify, grantees can have up to 3 months for the preliminary period, and by 3 months, we want to hear an update from all grantees. Grantees are welcome to pivot project scope during this preliminary period as needed.

Question: Is there a specific format you want us to use for letters of support from municipalities, and is there a maximum number permitted to include/mention in the proposal package?

Answer: We don't require a specific format, typically an official letterhead will suffice. There is no maximum for letters of support - submitting letters of support is strongly encouraged for all applications. To qualify for grant review and selection, non-municipal led applications must include a letter of support from a municipal staff member or official.

Question: What is the total remaining MAPC budget available?

Answer: Approximately \$250,000

Question: What would the application process be for a 501(c)(6)?

Answer: Community-based organizations without 501(c)(3) status are encouraged to partner with their municipality to submit an application.

Question: Are former applicants able to reapply?

Answer: Yes, all are invited to apply if grant eligibility is met. For repeat applicants, please note that we are prioritizing projects with regional applications, collaborations, or knowledge sharing. For current grantees (i.e., lead entities receiving funding from the ACR program at the time of the application submission) they will only be considered if they are part of a regional project proposal with multiple municipal and/or community-based partners.

Question: How many applicants will you be funding?

Answer: We estimate that we will fund approximately 5 projects, though that is dependent on whether some projects are partially funded and/or if proposals come in requesting less than \$50,000.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Question: If I missed the Express of Interest, can I still submit?

Answer: Yes! The EOI period was optional, so everyone is able to submit an application regardless of whether they met with us during the EOI period.

Question: Does the proposal form have a save function?

Answer: No, however, there is the option to download the proposal information to work on it offline. A copy of the application form is also included as Appendix A in the [Invitation for Proposals](#)

Question: Does MAPC want applicants to follow the budget template? What are the expectations for format/presentation?

Answer: The budget template can be used, but everyone is welcome to use their own budget. The example is indicative of the level of detail that will help promote a strong application. Be sure to include any other funding sources if the total project budget is greater than what is specifically requested from the ACR grant program.

Question: If a project has both a town and state involvement — specifically forestry on Housing Authority land — do you need both to send in a letter?

Answer: No, but it would be encouraged!

Question: Can MAPC advise as to what "municipal official" qualifies to write a confirming letter for a non-municipal applicant?

Answer: Municipal letter acknowledging and indicating support for the proposed project should come from Town Manager/Administrator, Department Head/Director, or others who have the authority to make decisions, etc.

Question: Are you limited to only one application?

Answer: No, an organization or municipality can submit more than one application.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Question: What is considered capacity building?

Answer: Projects with educational components, to support community members or neighborhood groups, especially priority populations and environmental justice, to help provide information about climate

impacts and how they can be a part of the solution. Additionally, consider capacity building initiatives such as supporting or seeding a climate-resilience network or coalition to create collaborative efforts.

Question: Are universities eligible to apply in partnership with community-based organizations?

Answer: Non-municipal entities with 501(c)(3) status are eligible to apply. We encourage higher education institutions to connect and partner with local community-based organizations and/or municipal partner(s).

Question: Can design process and planting implementation be considered?

Answer: Yes. Be sure to clarify the requests and deliverables for the ACR grant program, for example, if it is part of a larger-scale project that you are implementing.

Question: For community engagement, can we use the grant to buy gift cards? If so, do you have a recommended rate?

Answer: Yes, you may use the grant to purchase gift cards. We will defer to you and your project partners to determine the appropriate amount! Please also feel free to contact MAPC's Community Engagement team (communityengagement@mapc.org) for recommendations and best practices.

Question: Is this for new projects, existing projects, or both?

Answer: It can be a new project idea and/or continuation of an existing project.

Question: If you receive proposals for projects with smaller budgets, are you likely to make more awards?

Answer: Partially funded projects are possible.

Question: For innovative public engagement, what types of partnerships are you looking to fund?

Answer: Any partnerships between non-municipal entities, municipalities, other community partners, etc. are encouraged. Please also feel free to contact MAPC's Community Engagement team (communityengagement@mapc.org) for recommendations and best practices.

Question: Does "regional collaboration" mean partnering in your region or creating a project that benefits the whole region?

Answer: Yes, and both. Regional collaborations can be neighboring communities coming together, smaller scale regional impact that you are creating. It also means projects involving various communities in different parts of the MAPC region that may identify shared challenges and opportunities and ultimately can lead to insights and/or regional benefits through new standards, best practices, etc.

Question: How do you define "district-scale?"

Answer: We look for district-scale project(s) to provide large-scale, centralized structures or systems that serve multiple buildings in an area, a neighborhood or a campus.

NON-MUNICIPAL LED APPLICATIONS

Question: For non-municipals who need support from a Municipality, can MAPC help align between municipality and CBO in case there is overlap between efforts?

Answer: While the ACR Program Team is no longer able to discuss project ideas now that the Invitation for Proposals is released, we are happy to put you in touch with other MAPC team members to support you with this effort. For the application, this is why it is critical and required that non-municipal applicants obtain a letter of support/acknowledgement from their municipalities. Ideally, this exercise may also

create opportunities for communication and collaboration among municipalities and their community partners if there is overlap between efforts.

Question: Our initiative would align with multiple municipal departments - would we choose just one department to seek a support letter?

Answer: You can provide multiple letters of support, a joint letter of support from various departments, and/or a letter of support/acknowledgement from the lead department (i.e., whichever department is identified as the lead project implementer).

NEXT STEPS & MORE INFORMATION

Question: Where is the sample budget template example?

Answer: Examples of proposed scope of work and budget are included in Appendix D of the Invitation for Proposals document: [FY27-Accelerating-Climate-Resilience-Grant Invitation-for-Proposals FINAL.pdf](#)

Question: Can follow up questions be asked to MAPC?

Answer: Clarifying questions related to the application forms, grant logistics, etc. can be asked up to the deadline, but MAPC is not able to discuss project ideas at this point in the process.

Question: Is there a grants manager at MAPC that we can call with specific questions?

Answer: Yes, please contact Director of Environmental Planning, Van Du, at vdu@mapc.org.

Question: Can I access a fillable PDF of the application?

Answer: Yes, please contact our team and we can share the PDF over email.