

# Continuing Education Units | CEU's

To verify your attendance at this session **Scan in at the BEGINNING** and **Scan out at the END**

For your **PRINTED CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE**, follow the directions found in the “CEU Procedures” section of the printed Conference Program Book



## Climate Ready Communities

November 17, 2022

New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference



Other questions,  
please consult the  
*League Staff at the  
Information Booth on  
Level 2*



# Climate Ready Communities

November 17, 2022

New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference



# Panel Speakers



**Mayor Jason Cilento**



**Meghan Leavey**



**Tanya Rohrbach**



**Climate Ready Communities**

November 17, 2022  
New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference

IG: Sustainable\_Jersey | Twitter: @SJ\_Program and @SJ\_Schools | FB: @SustainableJersey | LinkedIn: sustainable-jersey

A promotional graphic for the Sustainable Jersey Certified program. It features a green background with a yellow and white striped circular graphic on the right. The text includes the event title, date, and location, along with social media handles.

**Anne Heasley**

# Planning for Climate Change Dunellen Borough

Mayor Jason Cilento







# The Borough of Dunellen and Climate



Footage from Borough of Dunellen courtesy of Rob Rios

Borough of Dunellen, Middlesex County\* Population 7,637

FEMA Recovery Costs

**\$215K**

Debris removal  
and transport

**\$388K**

Culvert  
cleaning

**\$261K**

Railroad Ave /  
Knights of  
Columbus

Resilience Costs

**\$3.9M**

Railroad  
culvert  
replacement



Footage from Borough of Dunellen courtesy of Rob Rios

Slide Courtesy of:



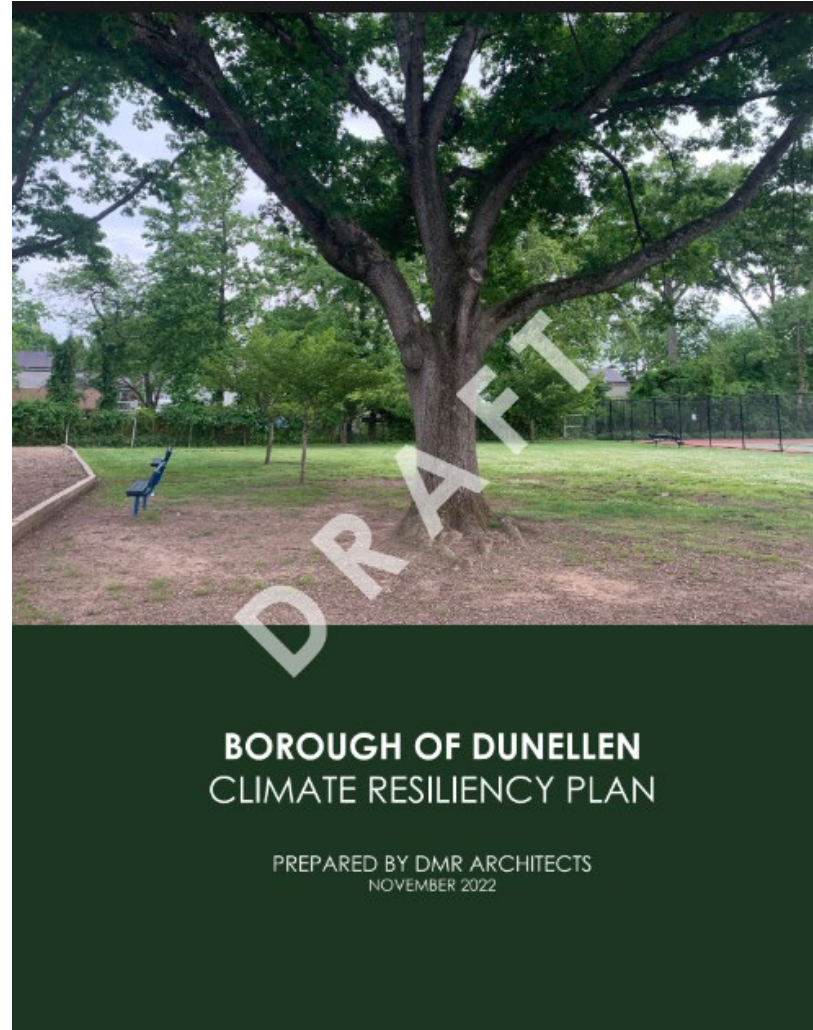
LEADERS FOR CLIMATE  
ACCOUNTABILITY

\* Source: William Robins, Administrator/Borough Clerk



# Dunellen Planning Initiates: Inclusive of Climate Resiliency

- Master Plan Re-Examination
- Climate Vulnerability Assessment/Resiliency Plan
- Active Transportation Planning Study
- Complete & Green Streets for All Policy



## Borough of Dunellen **Planning Initiatives**



Master Plan  
Re-Examination

Climate  
Vulnerability  
Assessment

Active  
Transportation  
Planning Study

Complete & Green  
Streets for All  
Policy

### **Attend the Community Open House!**

**Date:** Wednesday, September 14, 2022

**Time:** 6:30 - 8:30 PM

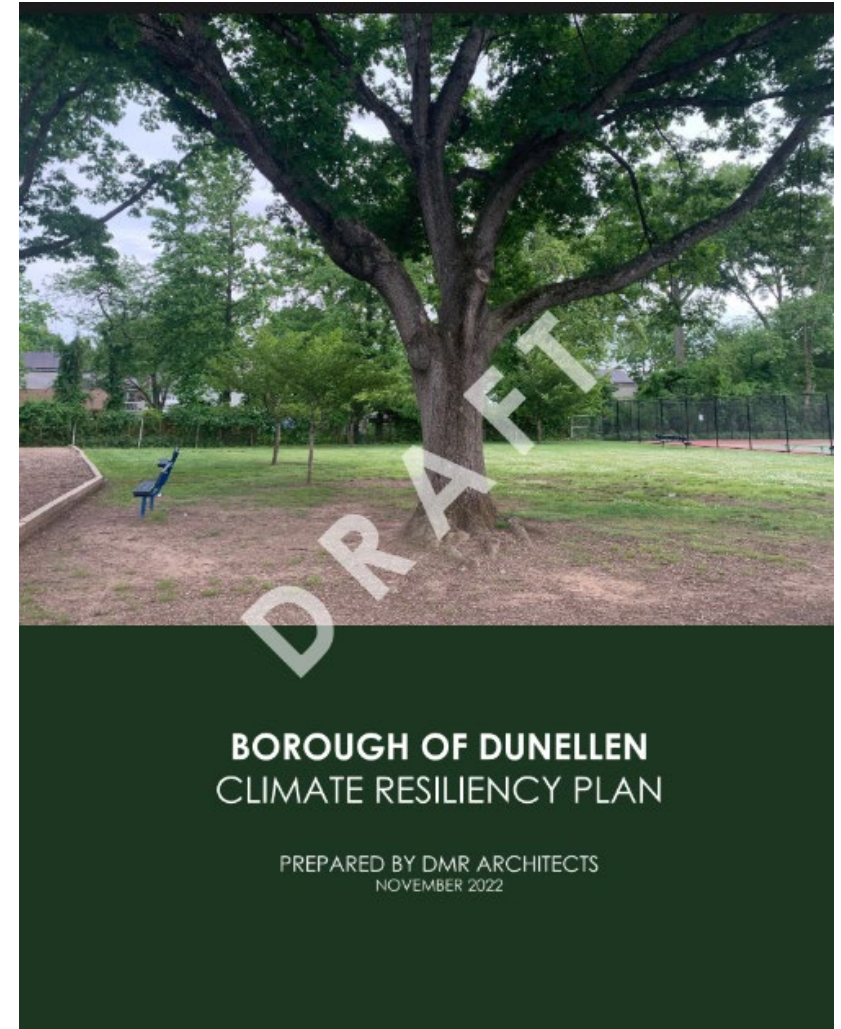
**Location:** Lincoln Middle School Cafeteria  
400 Dunellen Avenue, Dunellen, NJ 08812

**Open house format so you can attend as your schedule permits!**



# Climate Resiliency Requirements

1. Analyzes current and future threats to, and vulnerabilities of, the municipality associated with climate-change related natural hazards.
2. Includes a build-out analysis of future residential, commercial, industrial and other developments in the municipality, and an assessment of the threats and vulnerabilities identified above related to that development;
3. Identifies critical facilities, utilities, roadway, and other infrastructure that is necessary for evacuation purposes and sustaining quality of life during a natural disaster, to be maintained at all time in an operational state;
4. Analyze the potential impact of natural hazards on relevant components and elements of the master plan;
5. Provides strategies and design standards that may be implemented to reduce or avoid risks associated with natural hazards;
6. Includes a specific policy statement on the consistency, coordination, and integration of the climate-change related hazard vulnerability assessment with certain other plans adopted by the municipality; and
7. Relies on the most recent natural hazard projections and best available science provided by the NJ DEP



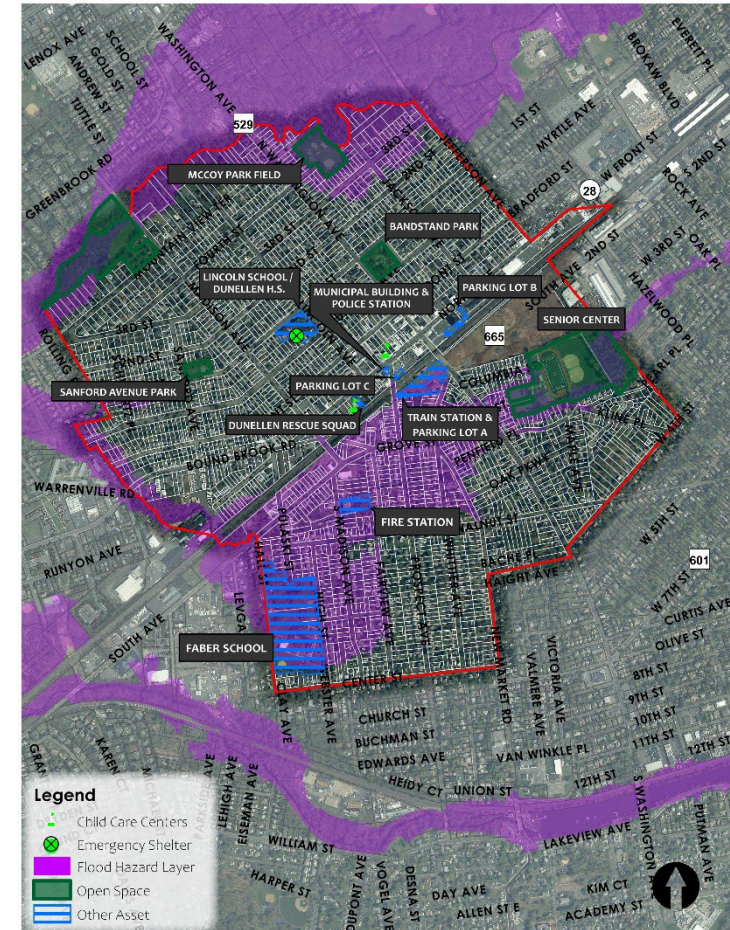




# What to Expect in the Process!

## Vulnerability Assessment

CLIMATE IMPACT							DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS	ADAPTIVE CAPACITY (HIGH, MODERATE, LOW)	VULNERABILITY (HIGH, MODERATE, LOW)
ASSET NAME	ASSET CATEGORY	INCREASED TEMP	SEA LEVEL RISE	PRECIPITATION	OCEAN ACIDIFICATION	DROUGHT/WATER SUPPLY			
Green Brook	Natural Feature	5	0	5	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting natural features	medium	13
Sonygiff Brook	Natural Feature	5	0	5	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting natural features	medium	13
Municipal Hall	Cultural Asset	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting government operations	medium	9
Schools	Cultural Asset	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting education facilities	medium	9
Senior Center	Cultural Asset	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting older population	medium	9
North Avenue	Official Infrastructure	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting transportation network	medium	9
Dunellen Population	Cultural Asset	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting all population	medium	9
Police Station	Cultural Asset	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting safety and response resources	medium	9
Fire Station	Cultural Asset	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting safety and response resources	medium	9
ODM Management Center	Cultural Asset	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting safety and response resources	medium	9
Washington Park	Natural Feature	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting natural features	medium	9
Clavomik Park	Natural Feature	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting natural features	medium	9
Columbia Park	Natural Feature	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting natural features	medium	9
McCoy Park	Natural Feature	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting natural features	medium	9
Marecroft Park	Natural Feature	3	0	3	0	3	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting natural features	medium	9
Raritan Valley Train Line	Official Infrastructure	3	0	3	0	0	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting transportation network	medium	6
NJ Transit Bus Line	Official Infrastructure	3	0	3	0	0	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting transportation network	medium	6
Train Station	Official Infrastructure	3	0	3	0	0	Increased chance of flooding, precipitation, impacting transportation network	medium	6
Leadership of Dunellen	Cultural Asset	0	0	0	0	0	Leadership to provide insight and protective measures to decrease the impact of natural climate change		0

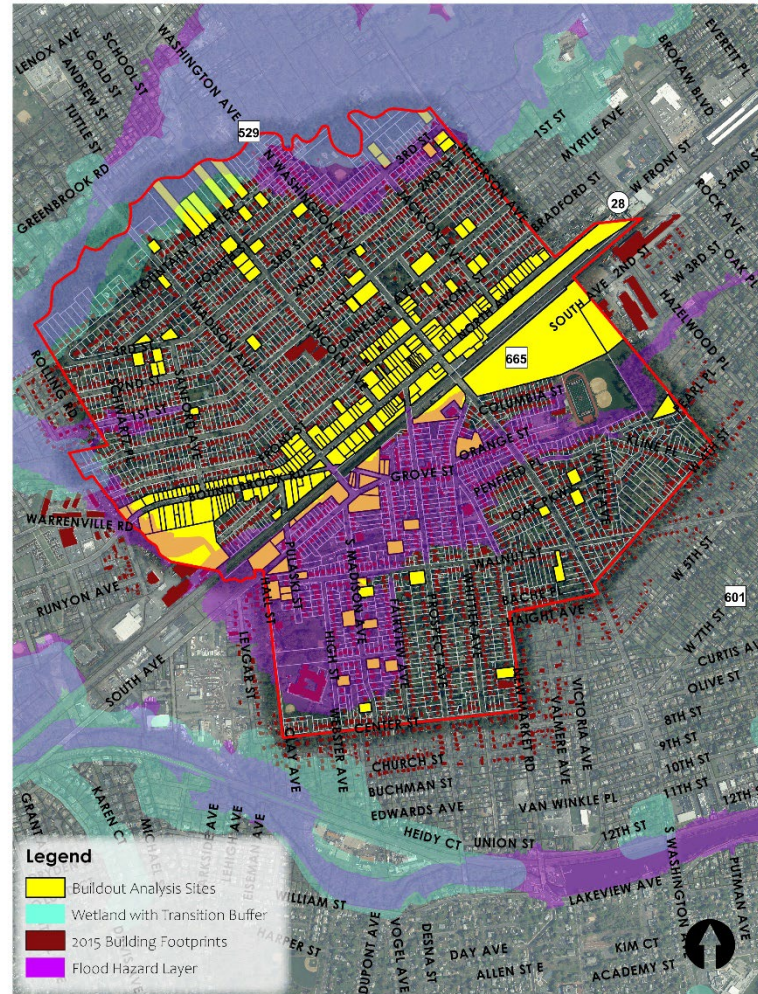






# What to Expect in the Process!

## Build-Out Analysis





# What to Expect in the Process!

## Additional Key Components

- Analysis to Borough's Master Plan
- Utilities and Infrastructure
- Identify Realistic Projects, Goals and Policies to implement
- Public Presentation and Input





# Municipal Climate Resilience Planning

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**Meghan Leavey, PP, AICP, GISP**

Lead Planner, Bureau of Climate Resilience Planning

Resilient NJ Program Coordinator





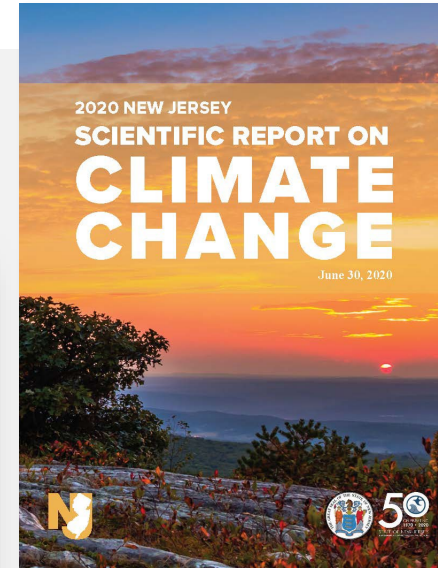
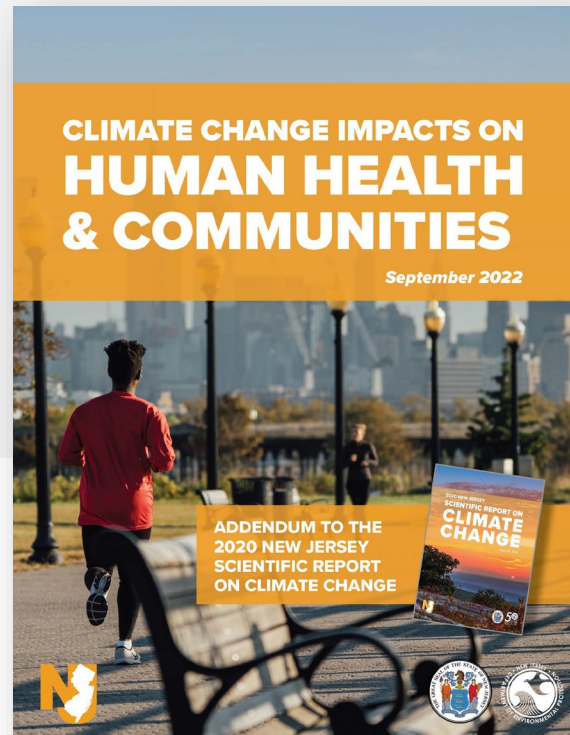
# SCIENTIFIC REPORT

on Climate Change

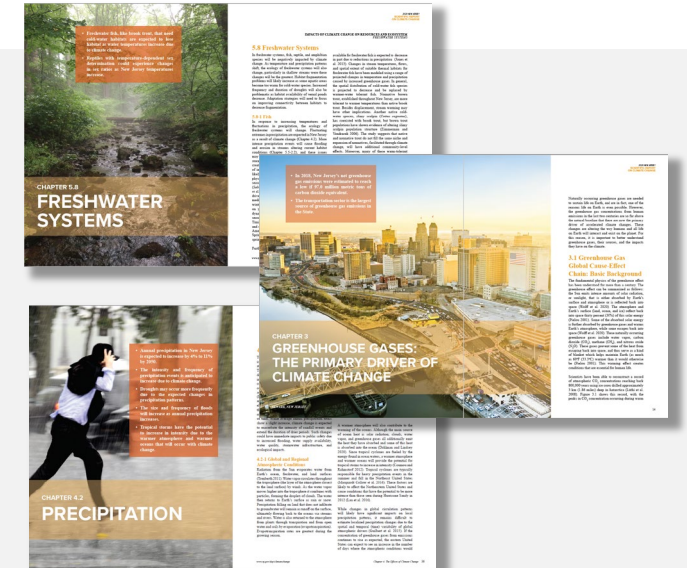
[nj.gov/dep/climatechange/data.html](http://nj.gov/dep/climatechange/data.html)

## Overview

- Comprehensive effort to synthesize the latest and most reliable scientific information on the current and predicted future impacts of climate change.



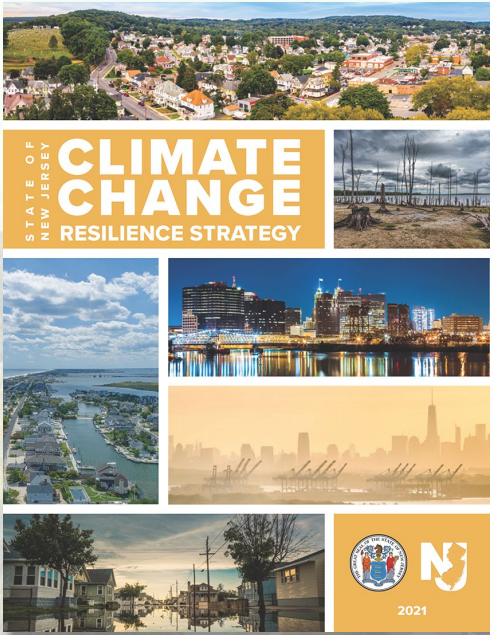
Released June 30, 2020



**Climate Change Impacts on Human Health & Communities Addendum released in September 2022.**







**PRIORITY 1.  
BUILD RESILIENT  
AND HEALTHY  
COMMUNITIES**

1

**PRIORITY 2.  
STRENGTHEN THE  
RESILIENCE OF  
NEW JERSEY'S  
ECOSYSTEMS**

2

**PRIORITY 3.  
PROMOTE  
COORDINATED  
GOVERNANCE**

3

**PRIORITY 4.  
INVEST IN  
INFORMATION &  
INCREASE PUBLIC  
UNDERSTANDING**

4

**PRIORITY 5.  
PROMOTE CLIMATE-  
INFORMED  
INVESTMENTS &  
INNOVATIVE  
FINANCING**

5

**PRIORITY 6.  
COASTAL  
RESILIENCE  
PLAN**

6

- Integrate resilience into local and regional planning
- Increase technical assistance programs to address community resilience

- Protect valued natural lands and resources
- Incorporate natural and nature-based solutions for resilience

- Engage local governments and other partners to develop resilience solutions
- Incorporate equity and inclusion in resilience decision-making

- Incentivize and support community resilience planning
- Support movement to safer areas

**RESILIENT NJ**





# MUNICIPAL LAND USE LAW

CCRHVA Amendments

## Public Law 2021, Chapter 6 Signed in February 2021

Requires incorporation of a climate change-related hazard vulnerability assessment (CCRHVA) into any Master Plan Land Use Element adopted after the signing.

- CCRHVAs must rely on most recent projections and best available science.
- CCRHVAs must consider environmental effects associated with climate change and contain measures to mitigate reasonably anticipated natural hazards.
- DEP must provide technical assistance as practicable



## RESILIENT NJ: LOCAL PLANNING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE TOOLKIT



*Hightstown, NJ*



# OVERVIEW



## Using This Guide

- Introduction
- How to Use this Guide

## Climate Change in NJ

- Overviews of Climate Threats in NJ

## NJ Planning Requirements

- Municipal Land Use Planning
- Plan Endorsement
- Hazard Mitigation Planning

## Equitable Community Resilience Adaptation Toolkit

### Resilience Library

- Links to every resource found throughout the Toolkit pages

### Site Map

- Overviews of Climate Threats in NJ

## Acknowledgments

# I. INITIATE & ENGAGE



## **Building a Team**

- Planning team, advisory committees, stakeholders, and the public
- Identifying stakeholders
- Representation and inclusion

## **Building An Engagement Strategy**

- Focus on equity and inclusion
- Templates and examples



# II. UNDERSTAND YOUR VULNERABILITY



## Asset Identification

## Meeting MLUL Requirements

## Self-Assessment

- Matrix-styled assessment

## Advanced Assessments

- Flood
- Health
- Temperature



# CLIMATE CHANGE RELATED HAZARD VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

## *Required Elements*

- ❑ Analysis of current and future threats to, and vulnerabilities of, the municipality associated with climate change-related natural hazards
- ❑ Build-out analysis of future residential, commercial, industrial, and other development in the municipality, and an assessment of the threats and vulnerabilities identified above related to that development
- ❑ Identification of critical facilities, utilities, roadways, and other infrastructure that is necessary for evacuation purposes and sustaining quality of life during a natural disaster, to be maintained, at all times, in an operational state
- ❑ Analysis of the potential impact of natural hazards on relevant components and elements of the master plan
- ❑ Identification of strategies and design standards that may be implemented to reduce or avoid risks associated with natural hazards
- ❑ A specific policy statement on the consistency, coordination, and integration of the climate-change related hazard vulnerability assessment with certain other plans adopted by the municipality
- ❑ Reliance on the most recent natural hazard projections and best available science provided by the New Jersey DEP





# II. UNDERSTAND YOUR VULNERABILITY



OVERVIEW ▾

1. INITIATE & ENGAGE ▾

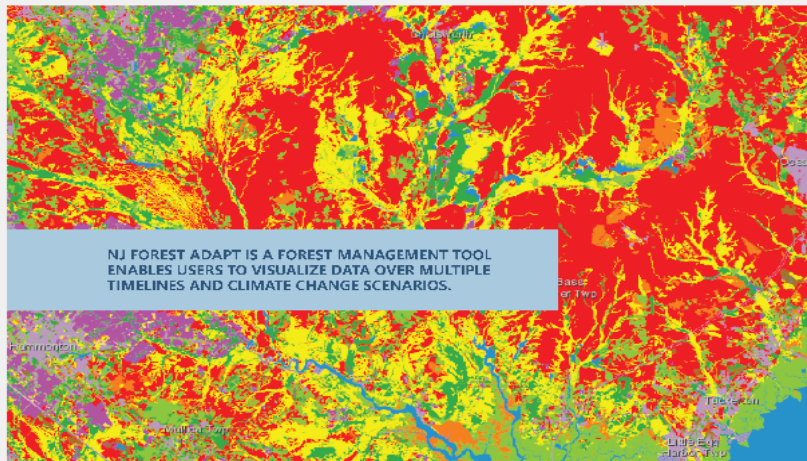
2. UNDERSTAND YOUR VULNERABILITY ▾

3. DEVELOP A STRATEGY ▾

4. TRACK YOUR PROGRESS ▾

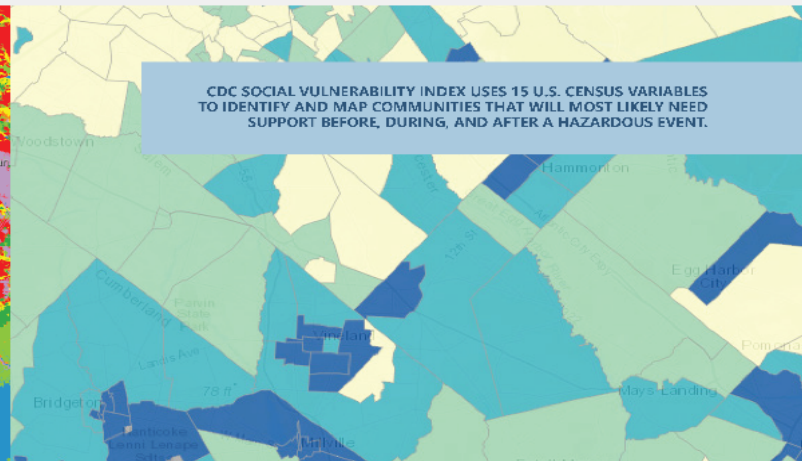
## HELPFUL TOOLS & DATA

Depending on the time and resources, a Planning Team may have to rely on tools and data gathered from other sources. There are existing maps, data, and tools available to assist communities with understanding their current capabilities and exposure to climate risks.



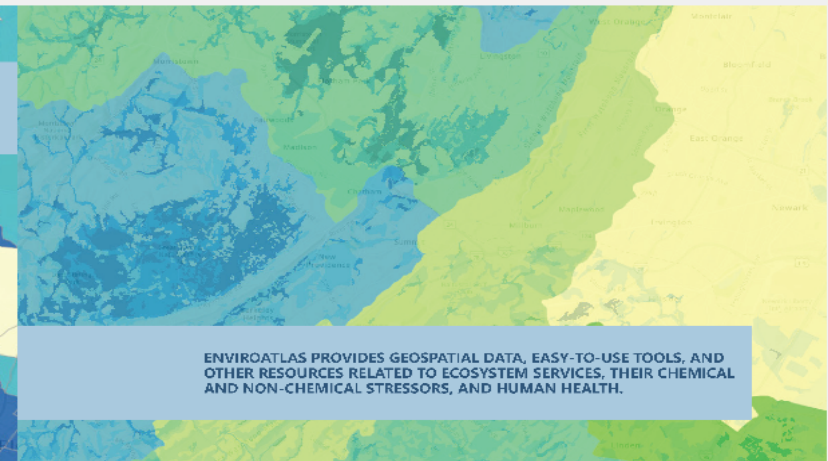
### IDENTIFYING CLIMATE RELATED HAZARDS

- [NJ Adapt](#): a suite of online tools designed to provide data to planners and others addressing climate change in New Jersey.
- [Stockton University New Jersey Beach Profile Network Profile Viewer](#): shoreline change mapping tool (shorter, more recent timescale)
- [NOAA Digital Coast](#): Federal climate data mapping clearinghouse



### ASSESSING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY

- [CDC Social Vulnerability Index](#)
- [NJ Adapt Municipal Snapshots](#): These snapshots provide access to information about people, places, and assets that are at risk from climate impacts in each of New Jersey's municipalities.
- [U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit – People & Communities](#)
- [New Jersey Environmental Justice Mapping Tool](#)



### ASSESSING ECOSYSTEM VULNERABILITY

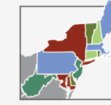
- [EPA EnviroAtlas](#): Data on ecosystem services including Climate Stabilization and Natural Hazard Mitigation
- [Climate Ready Estuaries](#): The Climate Ready Estuaries program works with the National Estuary Programs and the coastal management community to assess climate change vulnerabilities, develop and implement adaptation strategies, and engage and educate stakeholders. CRE shares NEP examples to help other coastal managers and provides technical guidance and assistance about climate change adaptation.

# EXTREME PRECIPITATION PROJECTION TOOL

njprojectedprecipitationchanges.com



Cornell University



Northeast Regional Climate Center



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Select by

County
Municipal
Grid
Custom area

Click on a county on the map or select one from the dropdown list to view the precipitation data.

ATLANTIC

Projected Percent Increase (Upper Likelihood)

< 25
25 - 30
30 - 35
35 - 40
> 40

Upper likelihood represents a 17% likelihood that precipitation depth will increase more than the value shown relative to the NOAA Atlas 14 published mean values.

Return Period

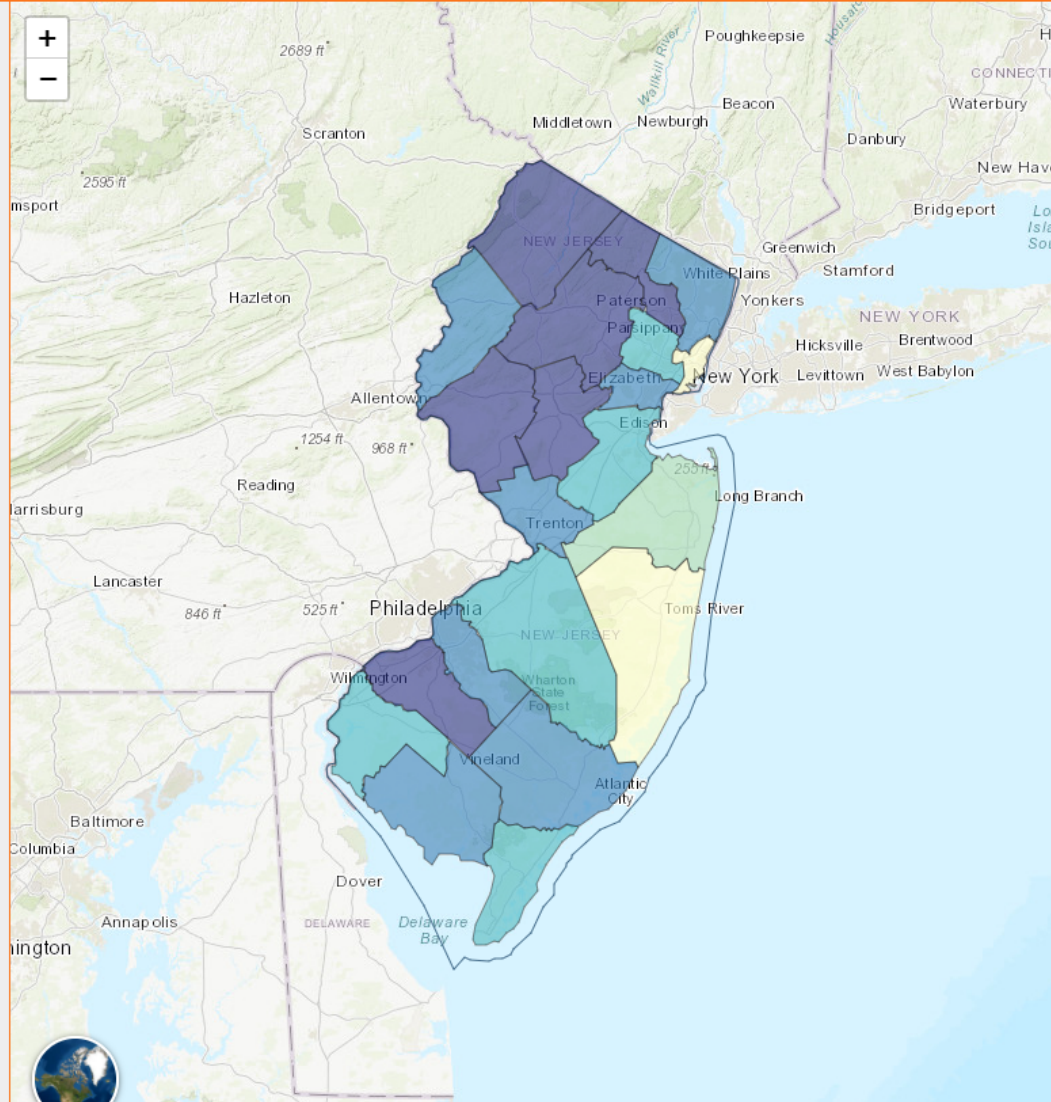
2-year
5-year
10-year
25-year
50-year
100-year

Emission Scenario

Moderate RCP 4.5
High RCP 8.5

Time Period

2020 - 2069
2050 - 2099



Leaflet | Tiles © Esri — Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, iPC, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), and the GIS User Community

User Guide | Precipitation Projection | About the Data

### Background:

This site provides an interactive tool for users to identify regional and local estimates of projected changes in extreme rainfall amounts (measured in inches) within a 24-hour duration for various return periods between current estimates\* and a future time period under either of two future emission scenarios.

Users can select their choice of rainfall return period, i.e., the 2-year, 10-year, 100-year storm, etc., the future greenhouse gas emission scenario determined by Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 4.5 or RCP 8.5, and future time period. Projections can be summarized by county, municipality, 0.1 degree grid cell, or for a custom area by drawing a polygon on the map area or uploading a GIS shapefile saved as a zip file. Projections for municipalities and custom areas are calculated based on the weighted average of projected change factors within the area that intersect 0.1 degree grid cells applied to the rainfall data from the current NOAA Atlas 14\* dataset.

### Return Period Options:

A storm return period is determined statistically, through a process called frequency analysis, and is used to estimate the probability that a given amount of rainfall from a precipitation event will occur. The return period is based on the probability that the given amount of rainfall will be equaled or exceeded in any given year. For example, based on historical data, it could be determined that there is a 1 in 100 (1%) chance that 8.5 inches of rain will fall in a certain area in a 24-hour period in any given year. Thus, a rainfall total of 8.5 inches in any 24-hour period is said to have a 100-year return period and may also be referred to as the 1% storm.

- 2-year Storm -- Precipitation depth (inches) associated with a 24-hour storm that has a 50% chance of occurring in any given year.
- 5-year Storm -- Precipitation depth (inches) associated with a 24-hour storm with a 20% chance of occurring in any given year.
- 10-year Storm -- Precipitation depth (inches) associated with a 24-hour storm with a 10% chance of occurring in any given year.
- 25-year Storm -- Precipitation depth (inches) associated with a 24-hour storm with a 4% chance of occurring in any given year.
- 50-year Storm -- Precipitation depth (inches) associated with a 24-hour storm with a 2% chance of occurring in any given year.
- 100-year Storm -- Precipitation depth (inches) associated with a 24-hour storm with a 1% chance of occurring in any given year.

### Emission Scenario Options:

Representative Concentration Pathways (RCP) project changes to the atmospheric energy (heat) balance associated with direct changes. Each pathway is measured against a baseline of future atmospheric stability. The RCPs range from slow





# SEA-LEVEL RISE GUIDANCE FOR NEW JERSEY



<https://www.nj.gov/dep/slr/>

**JUNE 2021**



# NJFLOODMAPPER

njfloormapper.org

Total Water Level: 1 Ft. [+ Add](#)

## Summary Panel

Tide Gauge: Atlantic City, NJ

Emission Scenario: Moderate emissions

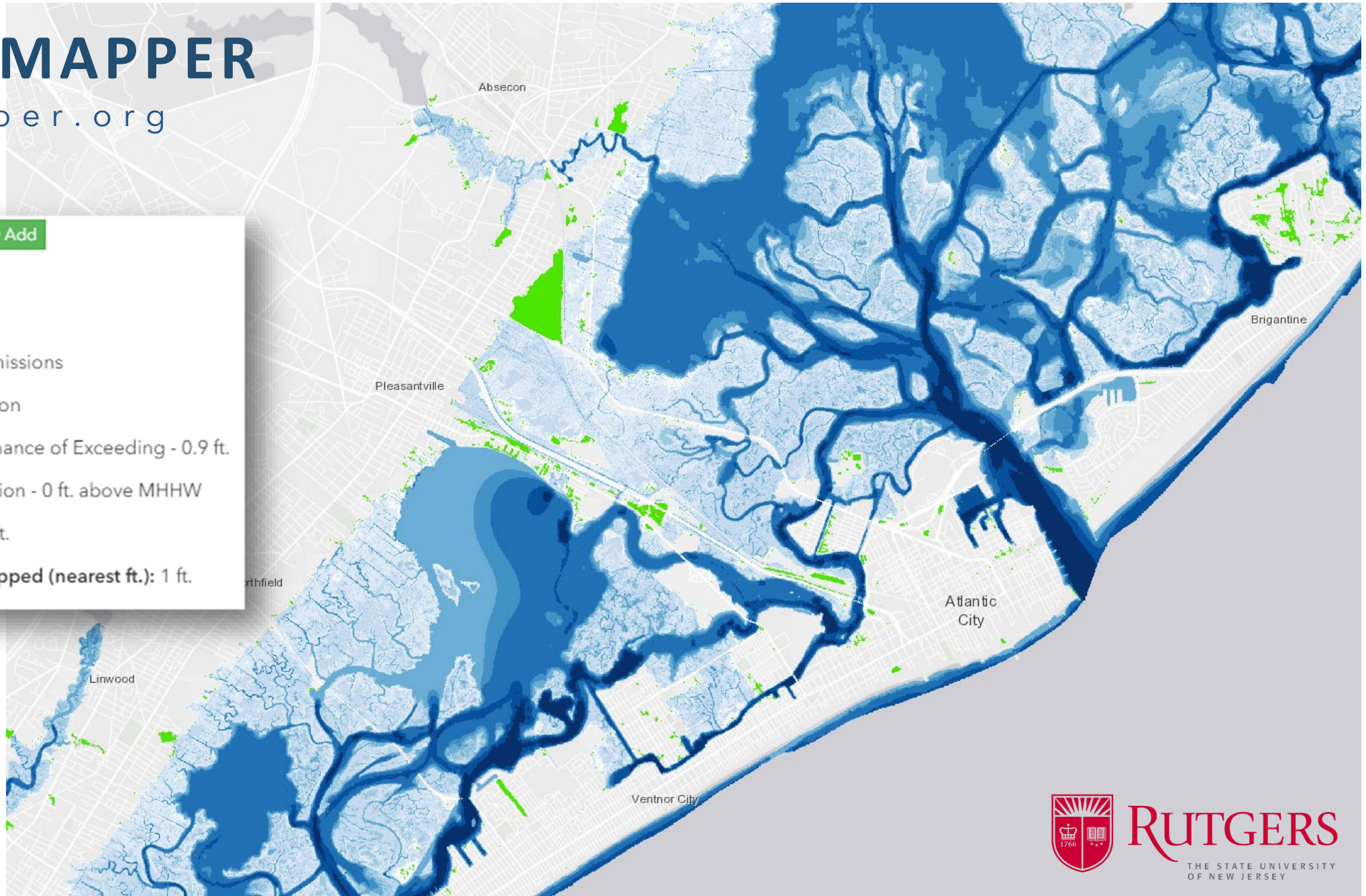
Timeframe: 2050 Planning Horizon

SLR Estimate: At least an 83% Chance of Exceeding - 0.9 ft.

Flood Event: Permanent Inundation - 0 ft. above MHHW

**Total Water Level Estimate: 0.9 ft.**

**Total Water Level Estimated Mapped (nearest ft.): 1 ft.**





# III. DEVELOP A STRATEGY



## Local Resilience Actions

- Tying back to the vulnerability assessment(s)
- Strengthening your team and community, collecting data, and addressing hazards
- Ecosystem adaptation, risk reduction, data/information, awareness/education, planning, policy, and capacity building

## Creating the Strategy

- Templates and tools
- Evaluation of options



# IV. TRACK YOUR PROGRESS



## Funding & Finance Programs

- Federal, state, and non-government sources
- Inclusion of guidance on local financing (ex. Bonds, stormwater fees)

## Monitoring and Track Progress

- Tying progress back to the vulnerability assessment
- Tracking equity in implementation
- Incorporate transparency and communicate progress







# Resilient NJ:

## Resilience Guidance & Assistance Program

### Resilience GAP – “Fill the Resilience GAP”

- Facilitated by NJDEP and FEMA
- Design, develop, and deliver a comprehensive package of guidance, tools, and trainings for municipal governments to incorporate climate resilience into their regulatory program
- Technical assistance program for support
- Coordinate, organize, and direct NGOs

Develop uniform guidance and criteria for municipal resilience planning

#### Guidance should be:

- Consistent with the most accurate, up-to-date climate science
- Consistent with NJ rules and regulations
- Easily accessible and developed with the intention of building capacity



# RESILIENT NJ

## REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM

Launched in 2020 by DEP

Four regional planning projects

**Goal: Produce community-led climate resilience & adaptation action plans**

Since expanded to include:

- 3 NGO grants
- 5 municipal planning projects
- \$6M to be awarded to additional regions/communities
- Online toolkit for municipalities



*Providing Science  
and Data*



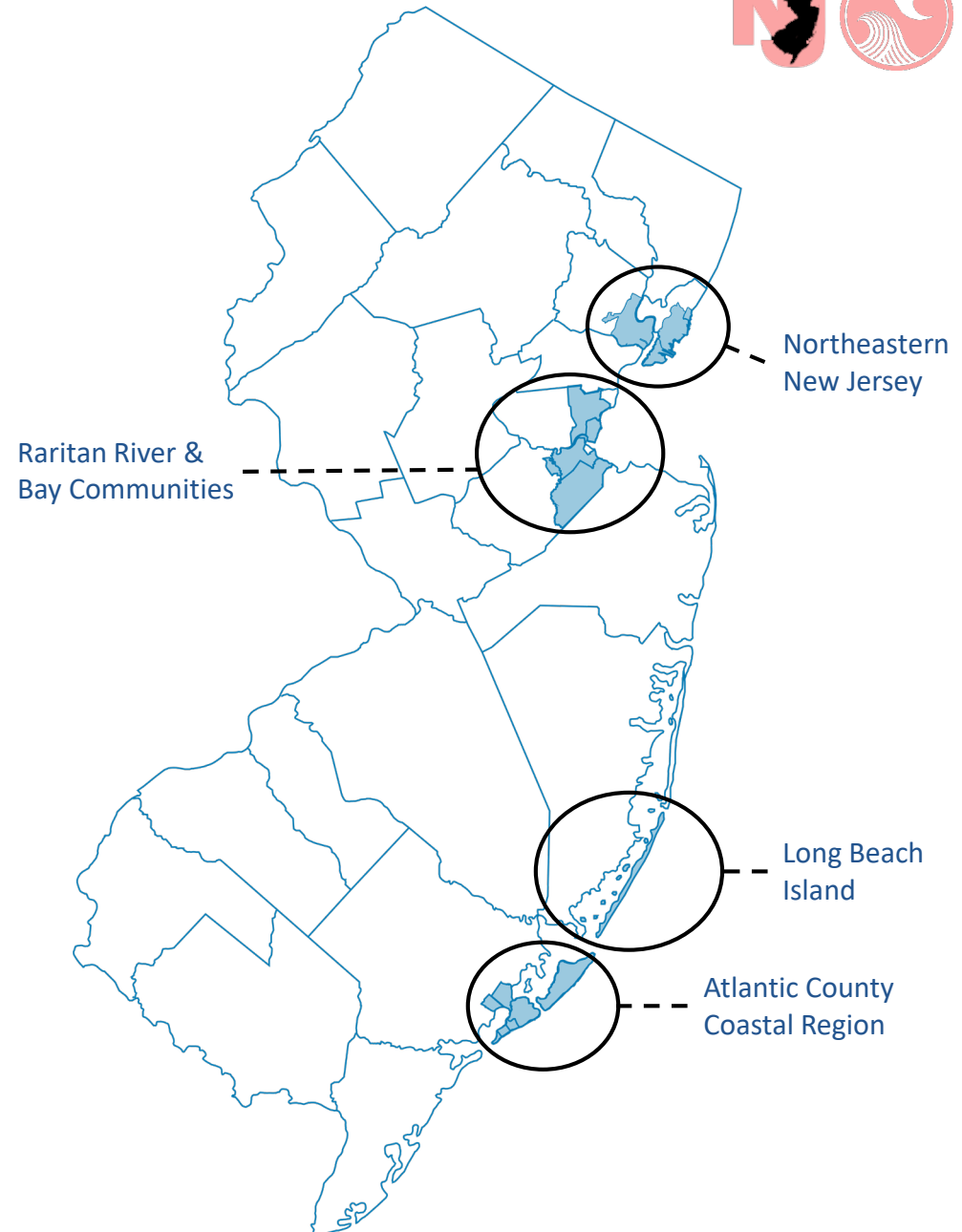
*Supporting  
Engagement*



*Assessing  
Vulnerability*



*Identifying  
Solutions*



# RESILIENT NJ



## MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- Direct resilience planning assistance to individual municipalities in the coastal zone for development of a local climate resilience strategy and/or climate change-related hazard vulnerability assessment
- Inaugural funding award: \$400,000 across five municipalities:
  - Ocean Township (Ocean County)
  - Salem
  - Stafford Township
  - Trenton
  - Upper Township





New Jersey

# RESILIENCE ACCELERATOR

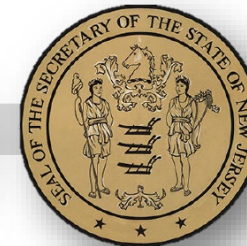
- Direct technical assistance and expertise to local communities on specific resilience goals and projects
- Workshops and partnering sessions create space for high-level education *and* tailored, one-on-one assistance
- Seven riverine communities in first cohort
  - Next cohort to focus on residential coastal communities








*Partnership of  
federal & state  
agencies*



**FEMA**



    @newjerseydep  @nj.dep

# Contact

**Meghan Leavey, PP, AICP, GISP**

Lead Planner, Bureau of Climate Resilience Planning

[meghan.leavey@dep.nj.gov](mailto:meghan.leavey@dep.nj.gov)







# Climate Ready Communities

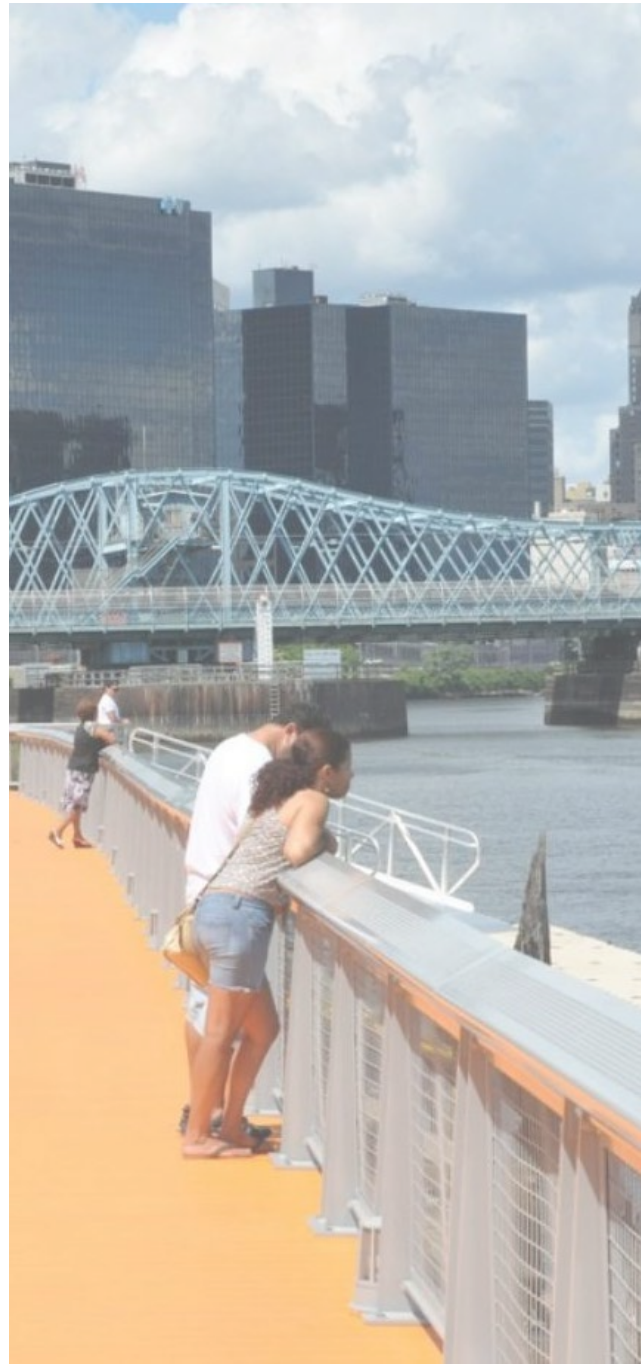
Tanya Rohrbach, Community Planning Manager  
New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference

November 17, 2022





**NEW JERSEY**  
**FUTURE**





# Agenda

- ▶ Regulatory Requirement
- ▶ Climate Hazards and Vulnerabilities
- ▶ Sustainability and Equity in Climate Planning
- ▶ Climate Planning Process to Conduct a CCRHVA and Be Climate Ready

# Regulatory Requirement

Law P.L. 2021, c6 specifically requires municipalities to:


1. **Analyze current and future threats to, and vulnerabilities of, the municipality** associated with climate change-related natural hazards;
2. Include a **build-out analysis** of future residential, commercial, industrial, and other development in the municipality, and an assessment of the threats and vulnerabilities identified above related to that development;
3. **Identify critical facilities, utilities, roadways, and other infrastructure** that is necessary for evacuation purposes and sustaining quality of life during a natural disaster, to be maintained at all times in an operational state;
4. Analyze the potential **impact of natural hazards on relevant components and elements of the master plan**;
5. Provide **strategies and design standards** that may be implemented to reduce or avoid risks associated with natural hazards;
6. Include a specific **policy statement on the consistency, coordination, and integration of the climate-change related hazard vulnerability assessment with certain other plans adopted by the municipality**; and
7. Rely on the most recent **natural hazard projections and best available science** provided by the New Jersey DEP.



# Climate Change-Related Hazards and Impacts

### CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS - WHAT WILL HAPPEN?


**Rising Temperatures**



New Jersey is warming faster than the rest of the Northeast region and the world.

Heatwaves are expected to impact larger areas, with more frequency and longer duration by 2050.


**Increasing Precipitation**



Annual precipitation in New Jersey is expected to increase by 4% to 11% by 2050.

The intensity and frequency of precipitation events is anticipated to increase due to climate change.


**Sea-Level Rise**



Sea-levels are increasing at a greater rate in New Jersey than other parts of the world.

By 2050, there is a 50% chance that sea-level rise will meet or exceed 1.4 feet and a 17% chance it will exceed 2.1 feet. Those levels increase to 3.3 and 5.1 feet by the end of the century (under a moderate emission scenario).

**Ocean Acidification**




Since the industrial age, ocean pH levels have declined and the ocean is now 30% more acidic.

If carbon dioxide emissions continue at current rates, ocean pH levels are expected to fall, creating an ocean that is more acidic than has been seen for the past 20 million years.

### CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS - WHAT WILL HAPPEN?


**Decreased Water Quality**



Surface and groundwater quality will be impaired as increased nutrients and contaminants enter waters due to runoff from more intense rain events.

Freshwater intakes and aquifer recharge areas may be threatened if sea-level rise pushes the salt front further upriver.


**Extreme Weather**



Tropical storms have the potential to increase in intensity due to the warmer atmosphere and warmer oceans that will occur with climate change.

Over the last 50 years, in New Jersey, storms that resulted in extreme rain increased by 71% which is a faster rate than anywhere else in the United States.


**Drought**



Droughts may occur more frequently due to the expected changes in precipitation patterns.


It is anticipated that droughts lasting three to six months and longer may slightly increase in frequency in the Northeastern United States under a low emissions scenario and will significantly increase under a high emissions scenario.

**Decreased Air Quality**



Despite on-going efforts to reduce ground-level ozone precursor emissions, New Jersey's air quality will be impacted due to changes in meteorological conditions, often referred to as the ozone-climate penalty which is "the deterioration of air quality due to a warming climate."

*The Resilience Strategy intentionally follows the release of the New Jersey's first Scientific Report on Climate Change. The report, released in June 2020, summarizes 480 scientific research papers and studies to detail how climate change is and will continue to affect New Jersey.*




Source: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. 2020. New Jersey Scientific Report on Climate Change, Version 1.0 (Eds. R. Hill, M.M. Rutkowski, L.A. Lester, H. Genusvich, N.A. Procopio). Trenton, NJ. 194 pp.



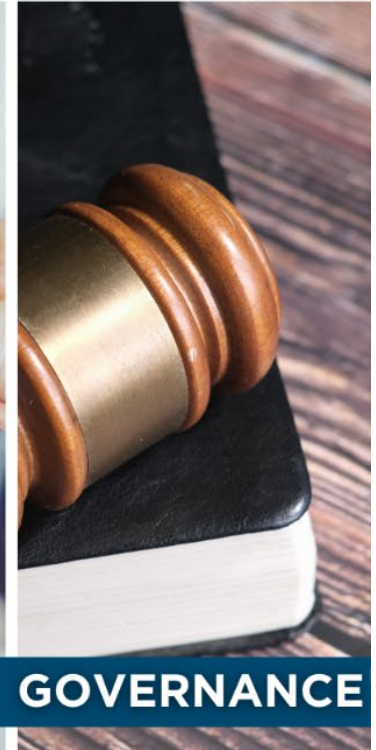
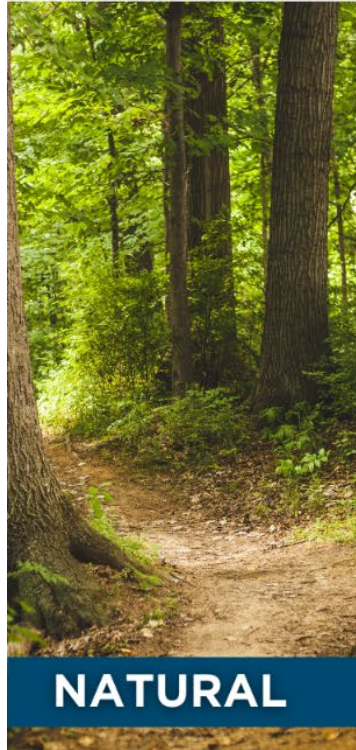
# Climate Change-Related Hazards and Impacts

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- Flooding**
  - Harms people
  - Damages homes, infrastructure, and businesses
  - Interferes with movement of people and goods
- Extreme Weather**
  - Damages property
  - Disrupts traffic and business
- Drought**
  - Damages crops and ecosystems
- High Temperatures**
  - Worsens air quality to increase asthma and other health conditions
  - Increases pests that can damage crops
  - Increases disease outbreak to people and natural ecosystems
  - Hotter, drier conditions increase wildfires



Impacts have effects across all systems:





# Climate Change-Related Hazard Vulnerability

**Exposure** - The extent people, places, or systems are touched by or in contact with or disturbed by a hazard.


**Sensitivity** - The extent that they can experience harm from that exposure

**Adaptive Capacity** - The extent people or systems can respond to and learn from disturbances to mitigate the causes and the impacts of climate-related hazards



# Climate Change-Related Vulnerability - Socially Vulnerable Populations

- ▶ Underserved communities with a low socioeconomic status
- ▶ Populations of color
- ▶ Tribal and First Nation communities
- ▶ Gender and gender identity
- ▶ Individuals experiencing homelessness or displacement
- ▶ Rural communities
- ▶ Older and younger populations
- ▶ Limited English proficiency
- ▶ Service workers and migrant laborers
- ▶ Limited cognitive or physical abilities
- ▶ Institutionalized populations, such as those in prisons and nursing homes
- ▶ Renters
- ▶ Transportation dependent or car-less populations

**CDC Social Vulnerability Index (CDC SVI)**  
A tool to identify socially vulnerable communities 

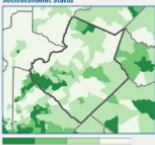
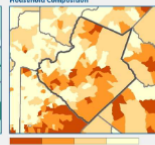
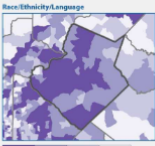
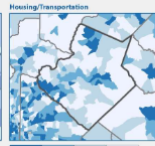
**CDC Social Vulnerability Index**

**What is social vulnerability?**  
Every community must prepare for and respond to hazardous events, whether a natural disaster like a tornado or disease outbreak, or a human-made event such as a harmful chemical spill. A number of factors, including poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing may weaken a community's ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in a disaster. These factors are known as **social vulnerability**.

**What is CDC Social Vulnerability Index?**  
ATSDR's Geospatial Research, Analysis & Services Program (GRASP) created databases to help emergency response planners and public health officials identify and map communities that will most likely need support before, during, and after a hazardous event.

CDC SVI uses U.S. Census data to determine the social vulnerability of every census tract. Census tracts are subdivisions of counties for which the Census collects statistical data. CDC SVI ranks each tract on 15 social factors, including poverty, lack of vehicle access, and crowded housing, and groups them into four related themes. Maps of the four themes are shown in the figure below. Each tract receives a separate ranking for each of the four themes as well as an overall ranking.

**SVI Themes**

 Socioeconomic Status	 Household Composition
 Race/Ethnicity/Language	 Housing/Transportation


**How can CDC SVI help communities be better prepared?**  
CDC SVI can help public health officials and local planners better prepare for and respond to emergency events like hurricanes, disease outbreaks, or exposure to dangerous chemicals.



CDC SVI databases and maps can be used to:


- Estimate the amount of needed supplies like food, water, medicine, and bedding.
- Help decide how many emergency personnel are required to assist people.
- Identify areas in need of emergency shelters.
- Plan the best way to evacuate people, accounting for those who have special needs, such as people without vehicles, the elderly, or people who do not understand English well.
- Identify communities that will need continued support to recover following an emergency or natural disaster.

Maps show the range of vulnerability in Gwinnett County, Georgia for the four themes.



For more information, please contact the CDC SVI Coordinator ([svi\\_coordinator@cdc.gov](mailto:svi_coordinator@cdc.gov)).

Geospatial Research Analysis, and Services Program (GRASP)  
Division of Toxicology and Human Health Sciences, ATSDR 

  Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry



**Guide to Expanding Mitigation**  
MAKING THE CONNECTION TO EQUITY

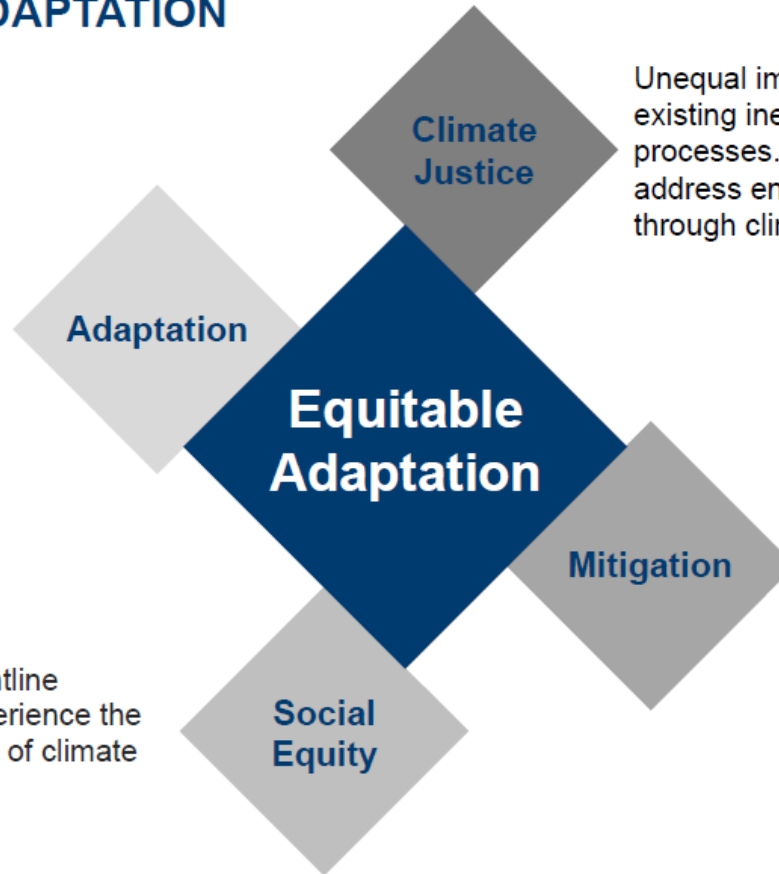


# Sustainability = Equitable And Just Solutions

## EQUITABLE ADAPTATION

The organized effort to reduce harm from climate change across human and natural systems.

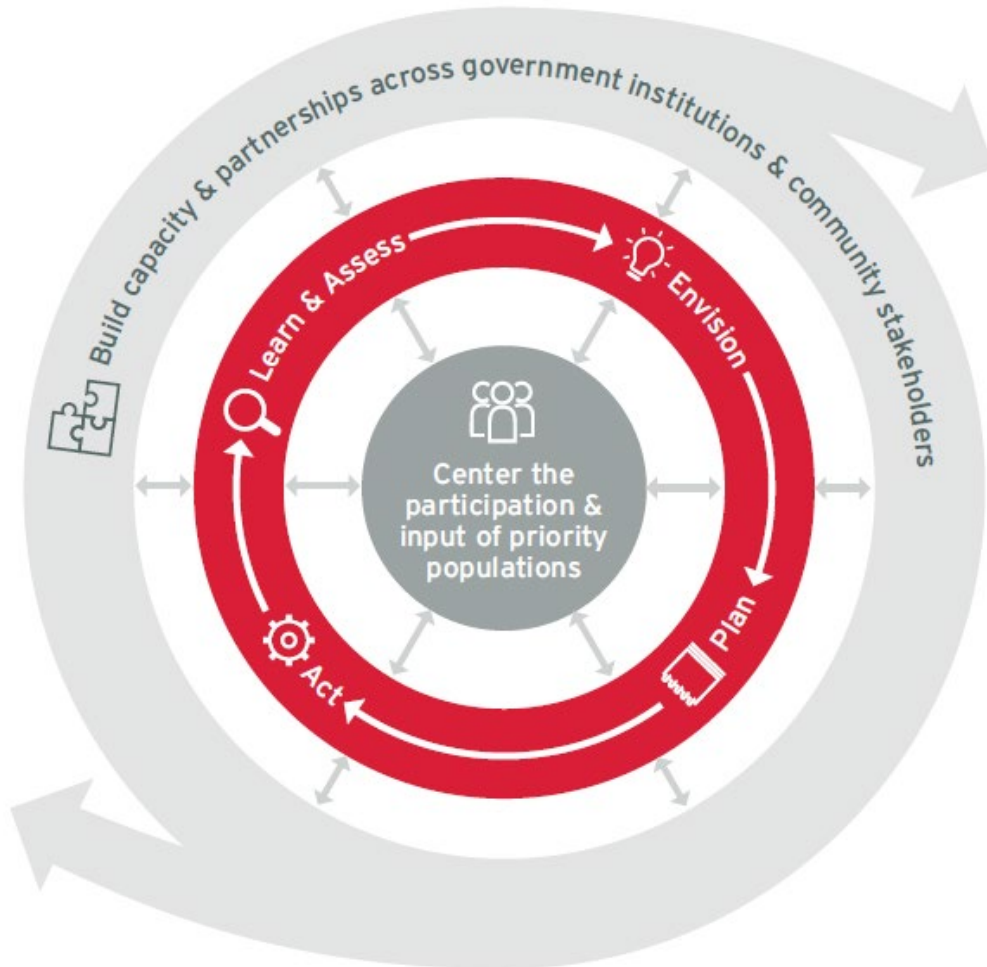
Recognition that Frontline communities will experience the first and worst effects of climate change.



Unequal impacts are tied to existing inequities from systemic processes. Adaptation can address entrenched inequities through climate justice.

Reduce greenhouse gases to reduce the harmful effects of climate change.

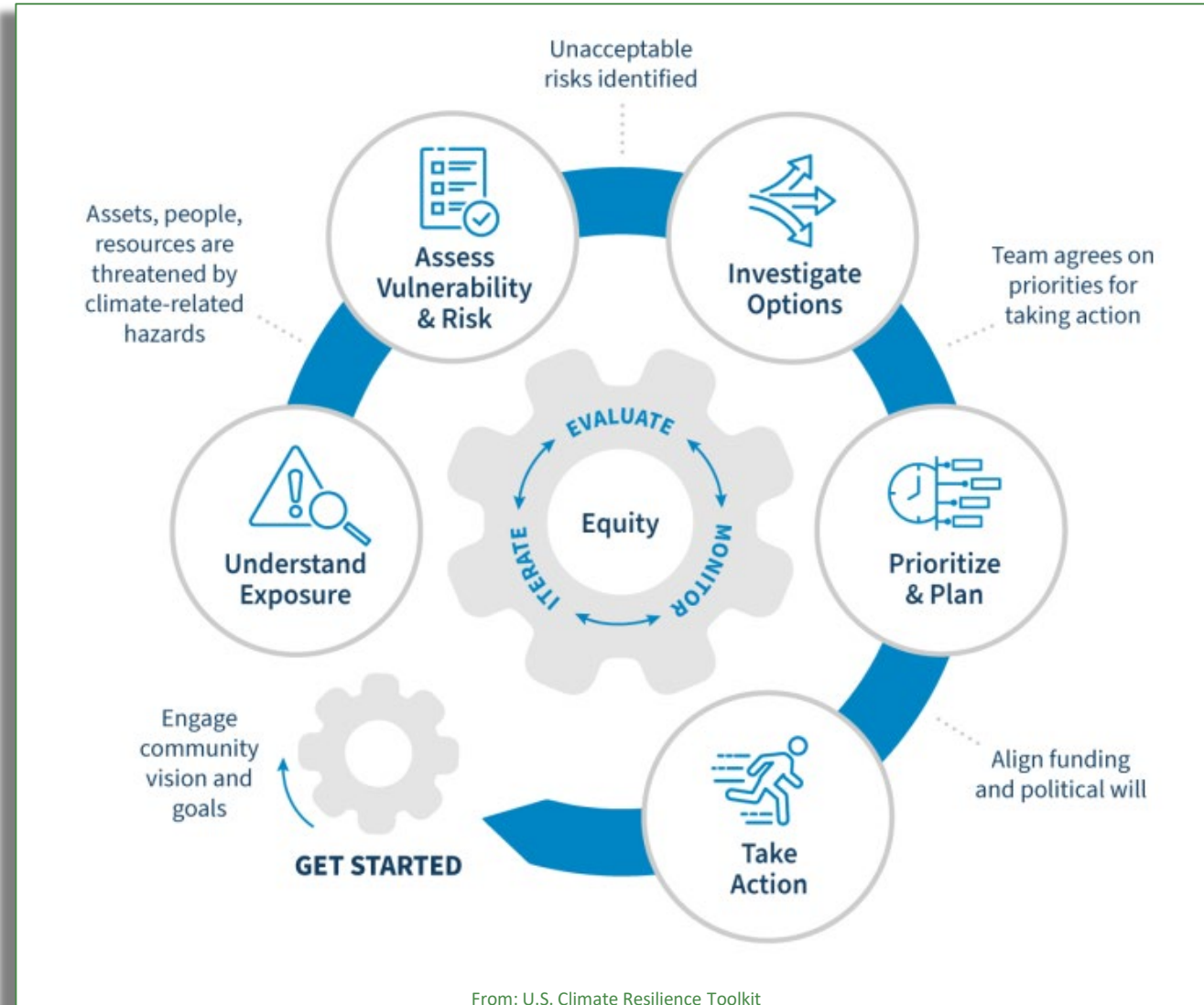
# Equity Throughout and Community-Driven



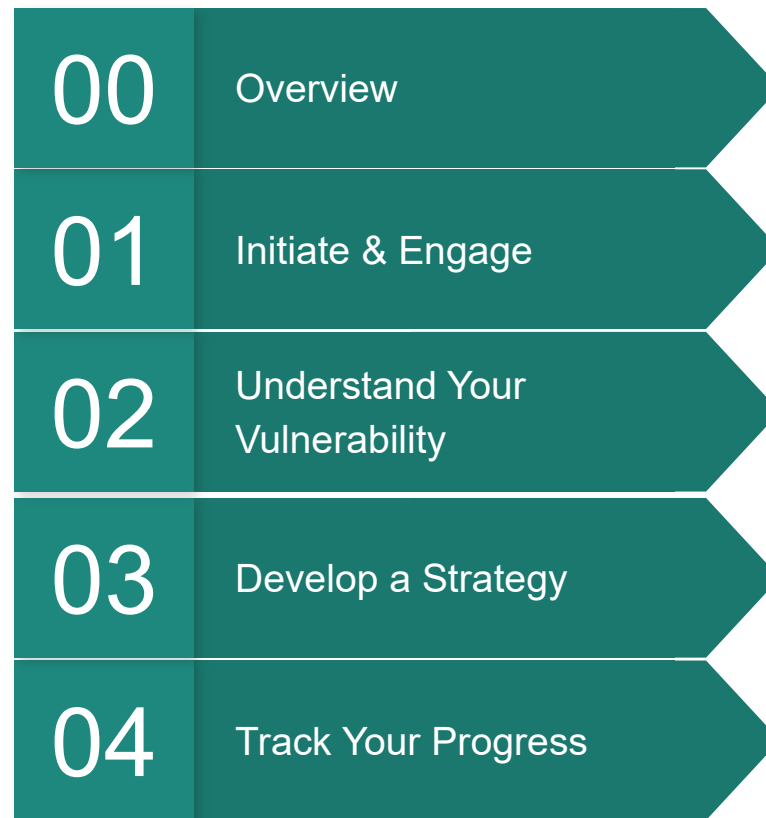
- From the very beginning, and through all phases of the planning process, center participation of community members.
- Individuals and populations are already implementing strategies that we can learn from.
- Opportunity to address existing disparities.



# Climate Change-Related Planning Process



# NJ DEP Local Planning for Climate Change Toolkit





# Phases of a Climate Change Planning Process

01	Initiate and Contextualize	Steps to designate a lead and initiate the process
02	Explore Data and Resources	Steps to gather data about the community, climate hazards, stakeholders, and partners
03	Activate Community Engagement	Steps to set up a team and a community engagement plan
04	Assess Vulnerability	Steps to characterize existing and potential community features and evaluate the vulnerability of systems supporting the community
05	Develop a Strategy	Steps to prioritize strategies and create a plan
06	Maintain Climate Readiness	Steps for implementing, evaluating, and updating the plan and other local plans, through ongoing practices and policies

**THANK YOU!**

**Tanya Rohrbach**

**Community Planning Manager**

**New Jersey Future**

**[trohrbach@njfuture.org](mailto:trohrbach@njfuture.org)**





# Climate Ready Communities

Anne Heasley | Sustainable Jersey

# Statistics

2009  
Program  
Started

82%  
Participating

91%  
Population



151  
Certified



69  
Certified



5 Stars

15,606  
Actions  
Implemented

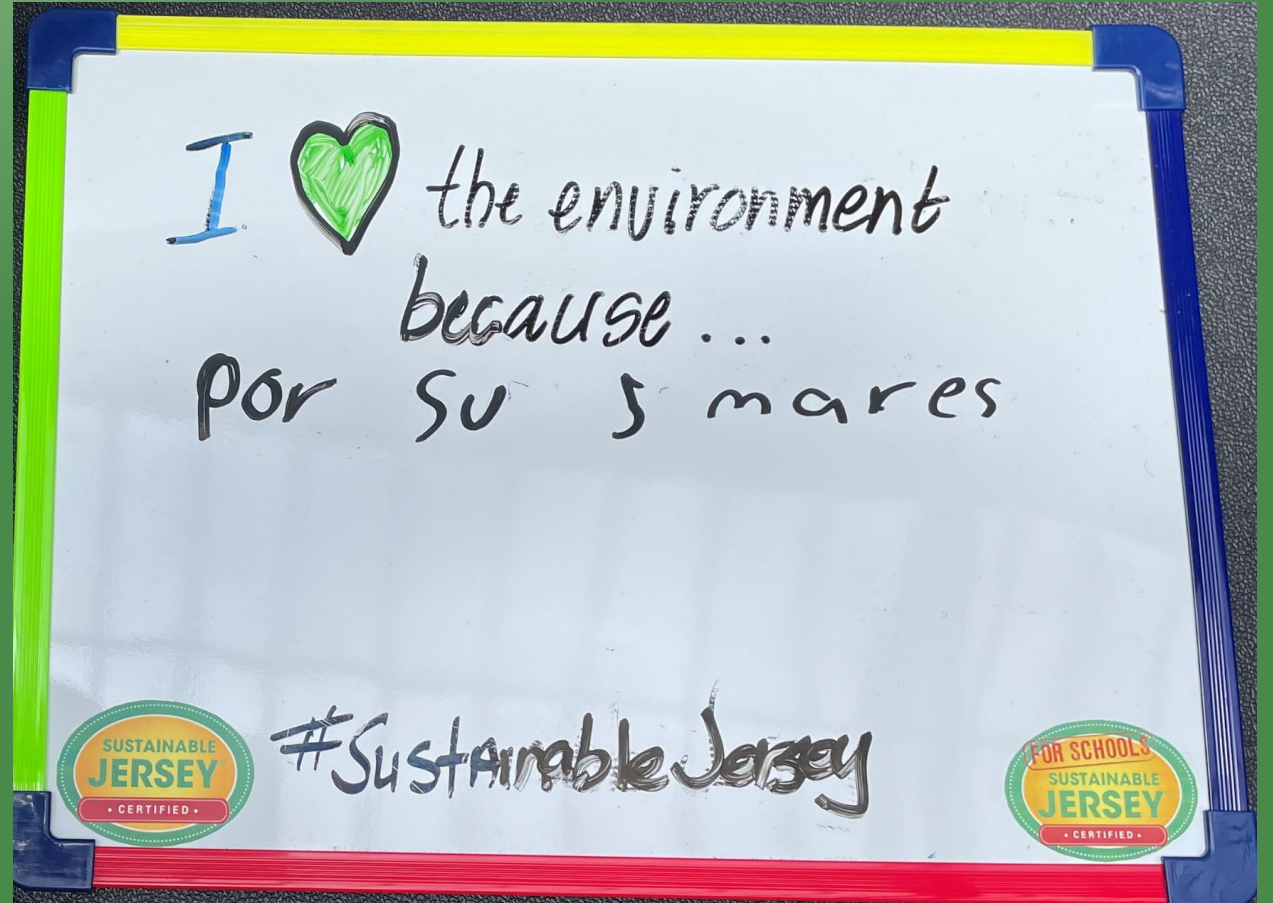


Statistics current as of 10/27/22





# How can municipalities be climate ready?



7 year-old respondent  
NJDEP Earth Day 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration – April 2022

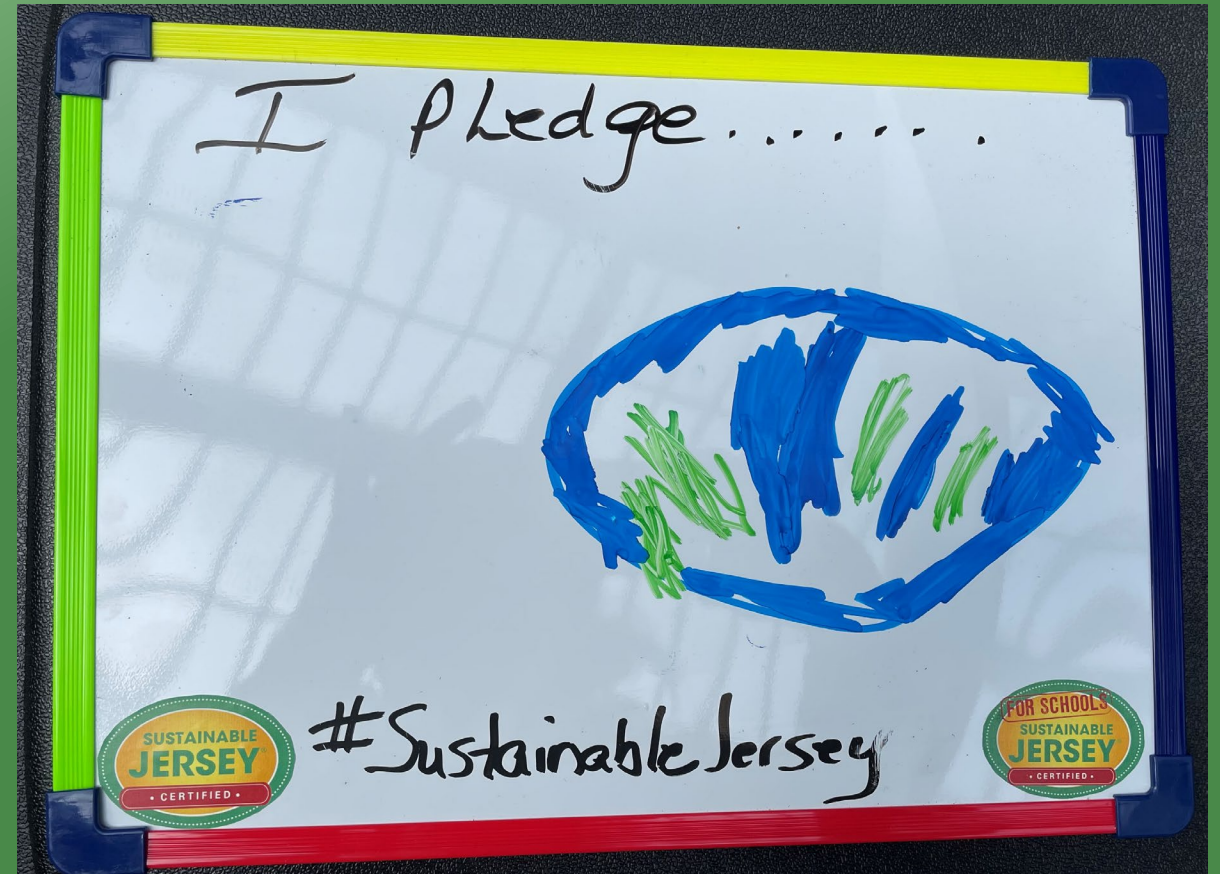


## Master Plan

- Official Map
- Land Use Regulations
- Development Policies – e.g. Open Space Plan
- Capital Improvement Plan

## Other Plans

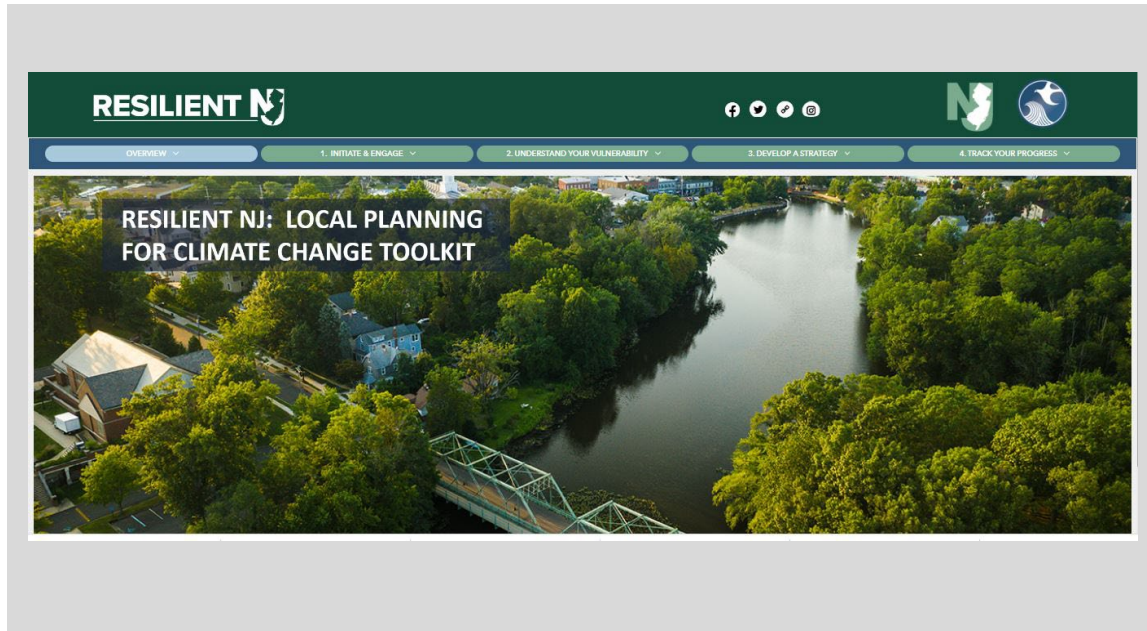
- Floodplain Management Plans
- Redevelopment Plans
- GHG Reduction – Community Energy Plans



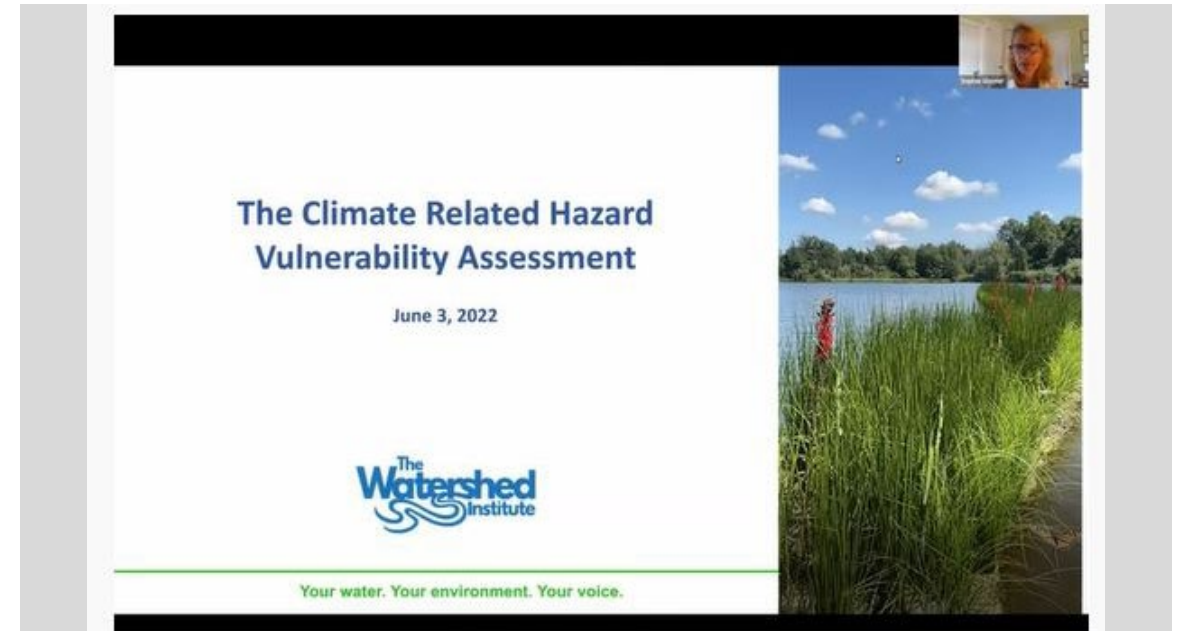
3 year-old respondent  
*NJDEP Earth Day 50th Celebration* – April 2022



# Tools and Strategies



- [Resilient NJ: Local Planning for Climate Change Toolkit](#) (NJDEP)



- [Technical Friday June 3, 2022 webinar – YouTube](#) (Watershed Institute)

# Tools and Strategies

Office of Planning Advocacy  
Department of State, Business Action Center

May 2022

## Municipal Climate Resilience Planning Guide

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

1. Introduction
2. Complying with the MLUL
  - a. What the law requires
  - b. Local Planning for Climate Change Toolkit
3. Conducting a Vulnerability Assessment
  - a. Steps to determine vulnerability
4. Develop a Resiliency Strategy

### Intro

This planning guide was developed to assist New Jersey municipalities in complying with recent amendments to the Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL) for creating a climate change hazard vulnerability assessment, policy statement and resilience strategies to manage climate-related risks. Where indicated, the guide expands upon the MLUL requirements outlined herein, by providing best practices towards the development of a robust climate resiliency strategy. It includes both information and links to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Local Planning for Climate



## Local Options/Local Actions

### Resilience Strategies Case Studies

PREPARED FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

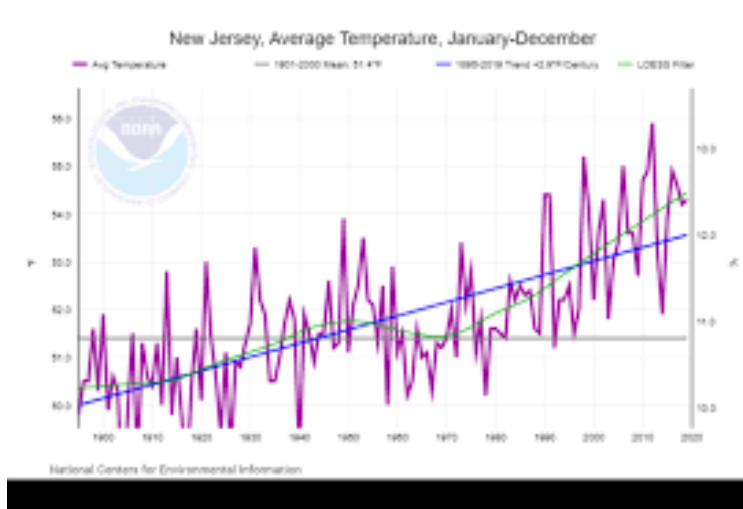


- [Municipal Climate Resilience Planning Guide](#) (Office of Planning Advocacy)

- [Local Options/Local Actions](#) (New Jersey Future)



# Understanding Vulnerability



- [Heat Island Assessment Action](#) (Sustainable Jersey)
- [Build Out Analysis Action](#) (Sustainable Jersey)
- [Community Equity and Diversity Profile Action](#) (Sustainable Jersey)

# Adaptation: Reduce Impervious Cover



- [Green Infrastructure Planning Action](#)  
(Sustainable Jersey)



- [Green Infrastructure Implementation Action](#)  
(Sustainable Jersey)



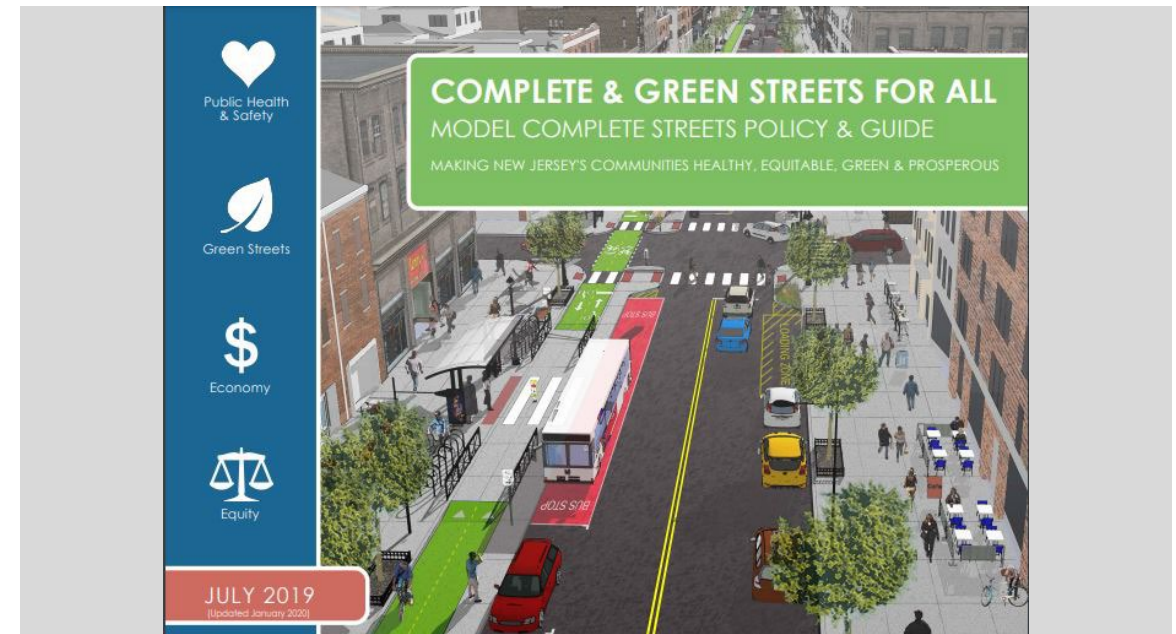
# Adaptation: Reduce Impervious Cover

## Want to Get Ahead of Flooding? Use NJF's New Tool, the Enhanced Model Stormwater Ordinance

February 9th, 2021 by Andrew Tabas

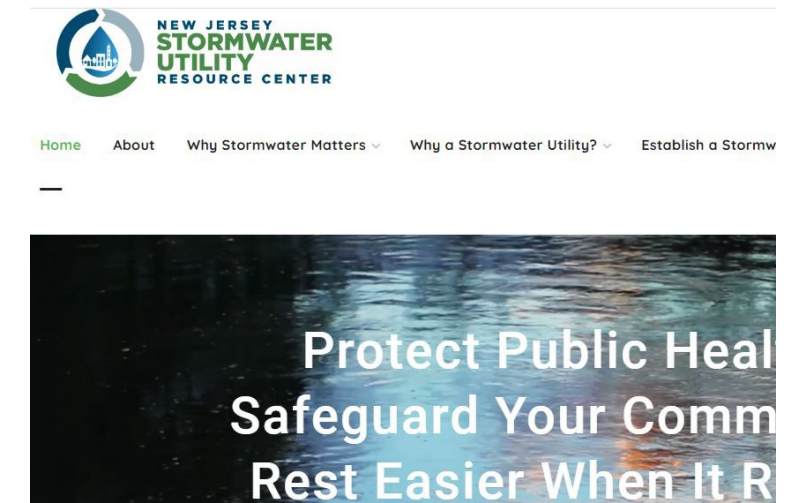
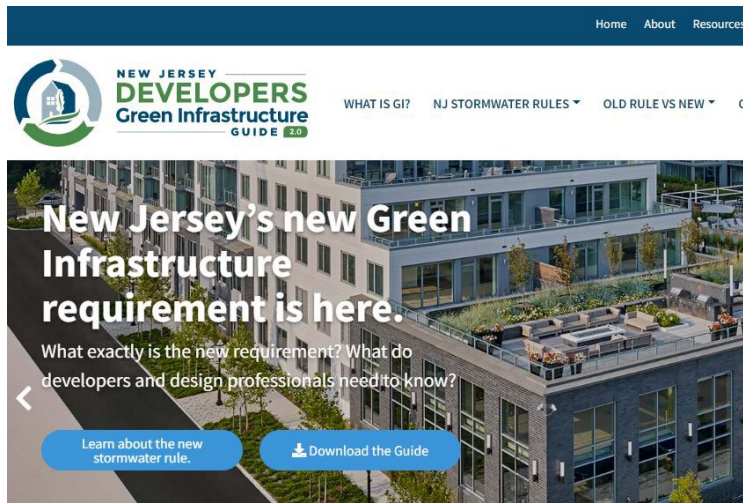
Recommend 10 Tweet Share

Stormy days ahead call for strong municipal stormwater ordinances. Climate change is bringing increased rainfall and flooding to New Jersey which, if ignored, will damage property, threaten public health, and pollute waterways. Municipal governments' responses to this challenge will define the quality of life in their towns for generations. Fortunately, municipalities have a strong device to promote responsible and resilient development: stormwater ordinances. The stormwater ordinance is key to implementing public and private green infrastructure, a group of practices that mimic the natural water cycle to capture rainwater where it falls. Municipal leaders should use New Jersey Future's new tool to update their town's stormwater ordinance as soon as possible to increase green infrastructure and reduce flood risk.



- [Enhanced Stormwater Management Control Ordinance Action](#) (Sustainable Jersey)
- [Complete and Green Streets for All Policy Action](#) (Sustainable Jersey)

# Additional Stormwater Resources



- [New Jersey Developers Green Infrastructure Guide](#) (New Jersey Future)

- [New Jersey Green Infrastructure Municipal Toolkit](#) (New Jersey Future)

- [New Jersey Stormwater Utility Resource Center](#) (New Jersey Future)



# Preparedness



- [Extreme Temperature Event Plan Action](#) (Sustainable Jersey)

The image is a screenshot of the State of New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (OEM) website. The header includes the OEM logo, the text "State of New Jersey Office of Emergency Management", and the address "NJ State Police Division Headquarters | P.O. Box 7068, West Trenton, NJ 08628". There are also links for "NJ Home", "Services A to Z", "Departments/Agencies", and "FAQs". A navigation bar contains "Home", "About Us", "Plan & Prepare", "How to Help", "OEM Coordinators", and "Programs". The main content area is titled "Access & Functional Needs" and features a sub-header "Emergency Management Resources For Individuals with Access/Functional Needs and the Organizations Which Serve Them". Below this, there is a list of resources, including "Register Ready - New Jersey's Special Needs Registry for Disasters" and a "Register Ready brochure" available in English, Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese.

State of New Jersey  
Office of Emergency Management  
NJ State Police Division Headquarters | P.O. Box 7068, West Trenton, NJ 08628

Government Emergency | Government Office | NJ Home | Services A to Z | Departments/Agencies | FAQs  
Department of Law & Public Safety  
Office of the Attorney General

Home About Us - Plan & Prepare - How to Help - OEM Coordinators - Programs -

Home / Plan & Prepare / NJ Residents / Access & Functional Needs

Plan & Prepare

NJ Residents

Access & Functional Needs

Business & Industry

Current Weather & Traffic

Local Government Officials

Pets & Animals

Public Utilities Information

Schools & Daycare

Staying Informed

## Access & Functional Needs

### Emergency Management Resources For Individuals with Access/Functional Needs and the Organizations Which Serve Them

- "Register Ready - New Jersey's Special Needs Registry for Disasters" allows NJ residents with disabilities or access and functional needs and their families, friends and associates an opportunity to provide information to emergency response agencies, so emergency responders can better plan to serve them in a disaster or other emergency.
- Register Ready brochure
  - English [pdf - 978kb]
  - Spanish [pdf - 825kb]
  - Arabic [pdf - 1.02mb]
  - Chinese [pdf - 856kb]

- [Vulnerable Population Identification for Emergencies Action](#) (Sustainable Jersey)

# Updated Guidance

## Sustainable Jersey Actions

- Actions updated:
  - Resource sections have new information
  - New Brief Guidance Document
- Gold Star

## Sustainability and Resiliency: Guidance on Creating Climate-Ready Communities



### PREFACE

This guide presents 10 strategies that municipalities can implement to foster climate-resilient communities. These strategies are Sustainable Jersey "actions" that score points in the [municipal certification program](#). These actions make sense to implement now - and will still be relevant in the future as a new, more comprehensive climate resilience framework is being developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. This guide goes beyond the traditional reactive mindset in emergency management and encourages municipalities to prepare for the worst of climate change impacts and adapt as seen necessary by the community as a whole.

Sustainable Jersey has numerous Emergency Management & Resiliency actions to help municipalities prepare for and respond to climate change. They address a variety of climate hazards, including sea level rise, increased precipitation, and extreme heat. These impacts damage infrastructure, overwhelm utility systems, and disrupt vital ecological and agricultural processes, which, as they progress in severity, will only increasingly impact New Jerseyans' everyday lives. Thus, communities are turning to these actions - now more than ever - as climate change progresses in the Garden State and around the world.

Municipalities stand at the forefront of climate change adaptation. New Jersey's Home Rule Act (1917) grants municipal governments authority to enact ordinances and regulations to promote and improve environmental public health. Municipalities are in charge of land use practices, stormwater management, and energy. They also possess the ability to address social inequality and create mechanisms that foster equitable and resilient communities.

### CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY ENVIRONMENT IN NEW JERSEY

In 2020, Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order No. 100 asking the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to begin a regulatory reform effort to help reduce greenhouse gas and other climate pollutant emissions while making the natural and built environments more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

On February 4, 2021, Governor Murphy signed into law P.L. 2021, c6, amending the [Municipal Land Use Law](#), to require municipalities to incorporate a climate change-related hazard vulnerability assessment into any Master Plan Land Use Element. These assessments will need to analyze current and future threats associated with climate change-related natural hazards, including increased temperatures, drought, flooding, hurricanes and sea-level rise.



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## Grant Program Underwriters



## Corporate Sponsors



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# Thank You

<https://www.sustainablejersey.com/resources/presentations/njlm-conference/>



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JERSEY<sup>®</sup>**

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