

2nd Amendment Cycle  
of  
*Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital:  
District Elements*

**RESILIENCE ADVISORY GROUP WORKSHOP #1**

District of Columbia  
Office of Planning



June 9, 2016

District of Columbia  
Office of Planning



Neighborhood  
Planning

Design Division

Citywide  
Planning

Historic  
Preservation  
Office

Development  
Review

State Data  
Center

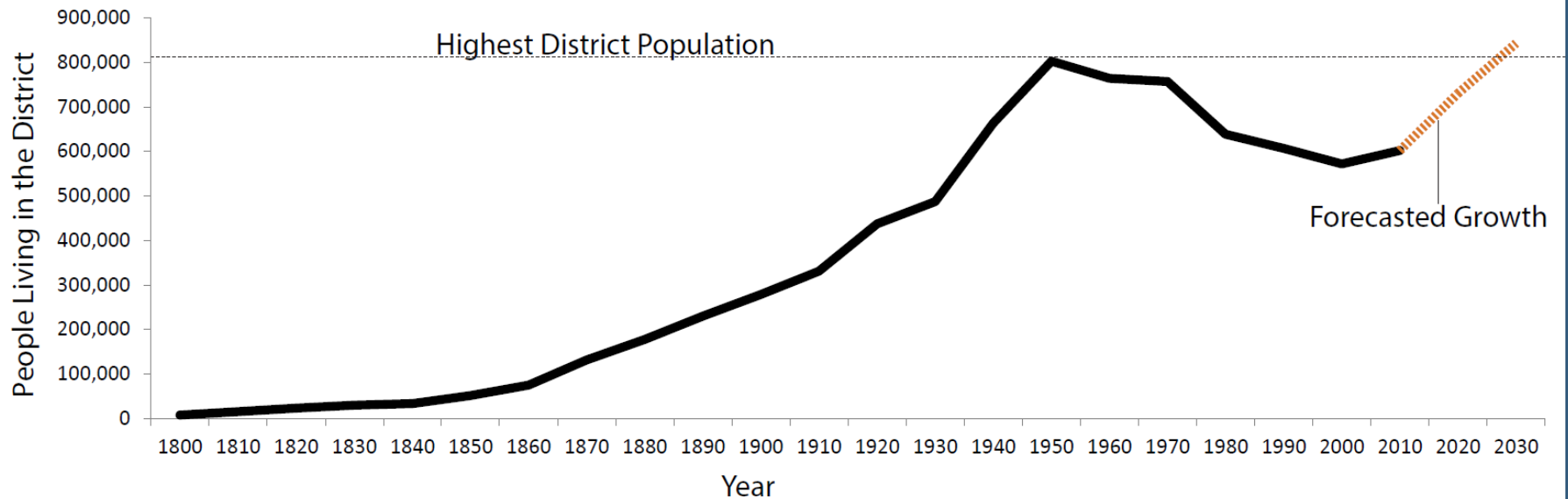
IT/Geographic  
Information  
Systems

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**Mission: OP guides development of the District of Columbia**, including the **preservation & revitalization of our distinctive neighborhoods**, by informing decisions, advancing strategic goals, encouraging the highest quality outcomes, and engaging all communities.

# Why Plan?

Between 2000 and 2015 the District added **100,000** people.





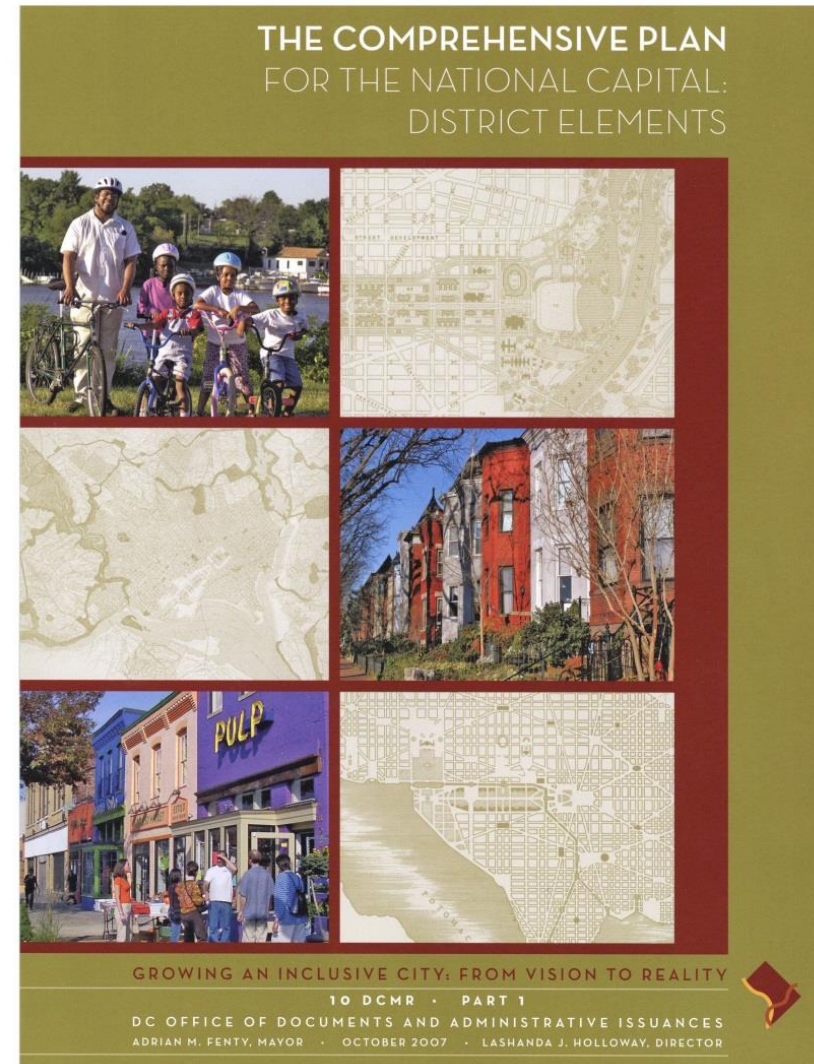
# Comprehensive Plan 101

# What is the Comprehensive Plan?

## 20-year vision for District's future planning & development

- Required by Home Rule Act & **adopted as legislation**
- Contains policies, actions & other guidance
- Determines how areas can be developed (design, density & program)
- Adopted in 2006; last amended in 2011
- ***2nd Amendment cycle launched this spring***

<http://planning.dc.gov/page/comprehensive-plan>



# The Vision: Planning an Inclusive City

“Growing inclusively means that individuals and families are not confined to particular economic and geographic boundaries but are able to make important choices – choices about where they live, how and where they earn a living, how they get around the city, and where their children go to school. Growing inclusively also means that every resident can make these choices – regardless of whether they have lived here for generations or moved here last week, and regardless of their race, income, or age.”

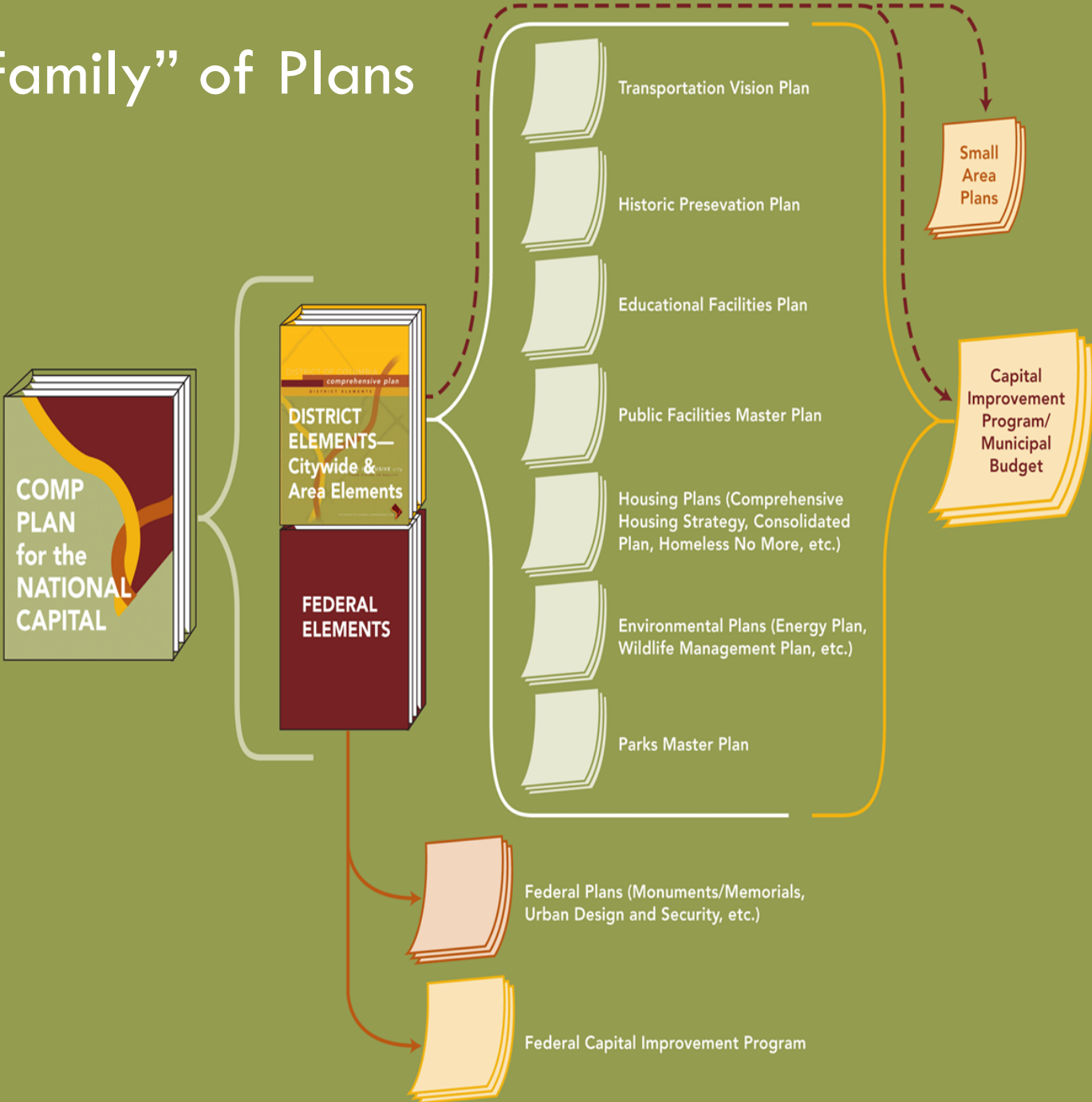
- A VISION FOR GROWING AN INCLUSIVE CITY, 2004

*From 2006 Comprehensive Plan—District Elements,  
Introduction, p.1-1*

# Themes of 2006 Comprehensive Plan

1. Managing Growth & Change
2. Creating Successful Neighborhoods
3. Increasing Access to Jobs & Education
4. Connecting the City
5. Building Green & Healthy Communities

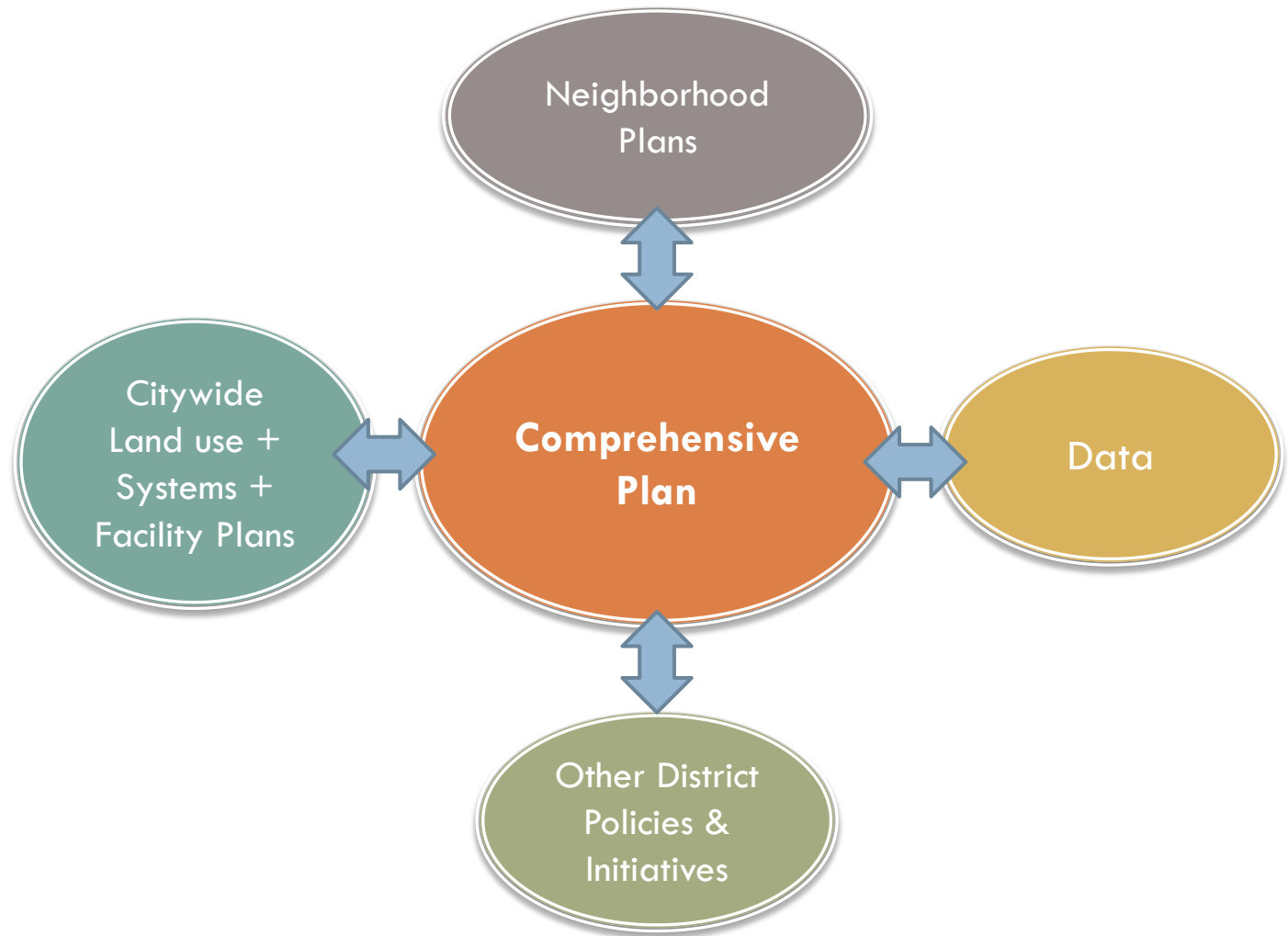
# The "Family" of Plans





# What the Comprehensive Plan Does

**Integrates & influences**  
**planning & policies across**  
**sectors & neighborhoods**



**Informs**  
**zoning**

# Framework Element

2

## Creates overarching narrative for the District

- Describes trends & forces driving change in the District
- Provides District population, demographic and other common baseline data

Greater Washington is the fastest growing large metropolitan area in the country outside of the South and West. This growth has been accompanied by unprecedented urban sprawl—the region has actually become less dense as it has added people and jobs.

### The Forces Driving Change <sup>201</sup>

The sections below describe the forces driving change in the District of Columbia and outline the implications of these forces for the District's future. <sup>201.1</sup>

### The District and the Region <sup>202</sup>

Between 1980 and 2005, the Washington metropolitan area grew by almost 50 percent, increasing from 3.4 million to 5.0 million residents. More than 1.2 million jobs were added during this period, an increase of almost 70 percent. This type of growth might not be surprising in a sunbelt city like Houston or Los Angeles, but in the urban northeast, the statistics are truly impressive. Greater Washington is the fastest growing large metropolitan area in the country outside of the South and West. This growth has been accompanied by unprecedented urban sprawl—the region has actually become less dense as it has added people and jobs. Metropolitan Washington now sprawls across 4,000 square miles of the Middle Atlantic States. <sup>202.1</sup>

Growth has changed the District's role within the region. In 1950, the District had 46 percent of the region's population and 83 percent of its jobs. By 2000, it had just 12 percent of the region's population and 25 percent of its jobs. Given the city's finite land area, this trend is expected to continue. Even the most ambitious projections show the District with a diminishing share of the region's population and jobs in the future. <sup>202.2</sup>

A declining share of population and jobs does not necessarily suggest a less important role, however. Our position as the nation's capital, our historic and unique neighborhoods, and our cultural and urban amenities will keep the city vital. In fact, these attributes have already placed a premium on Washington as it has become more distinct from the vast and relatively new suburbs growing up around it. <sup>202.3</sup>

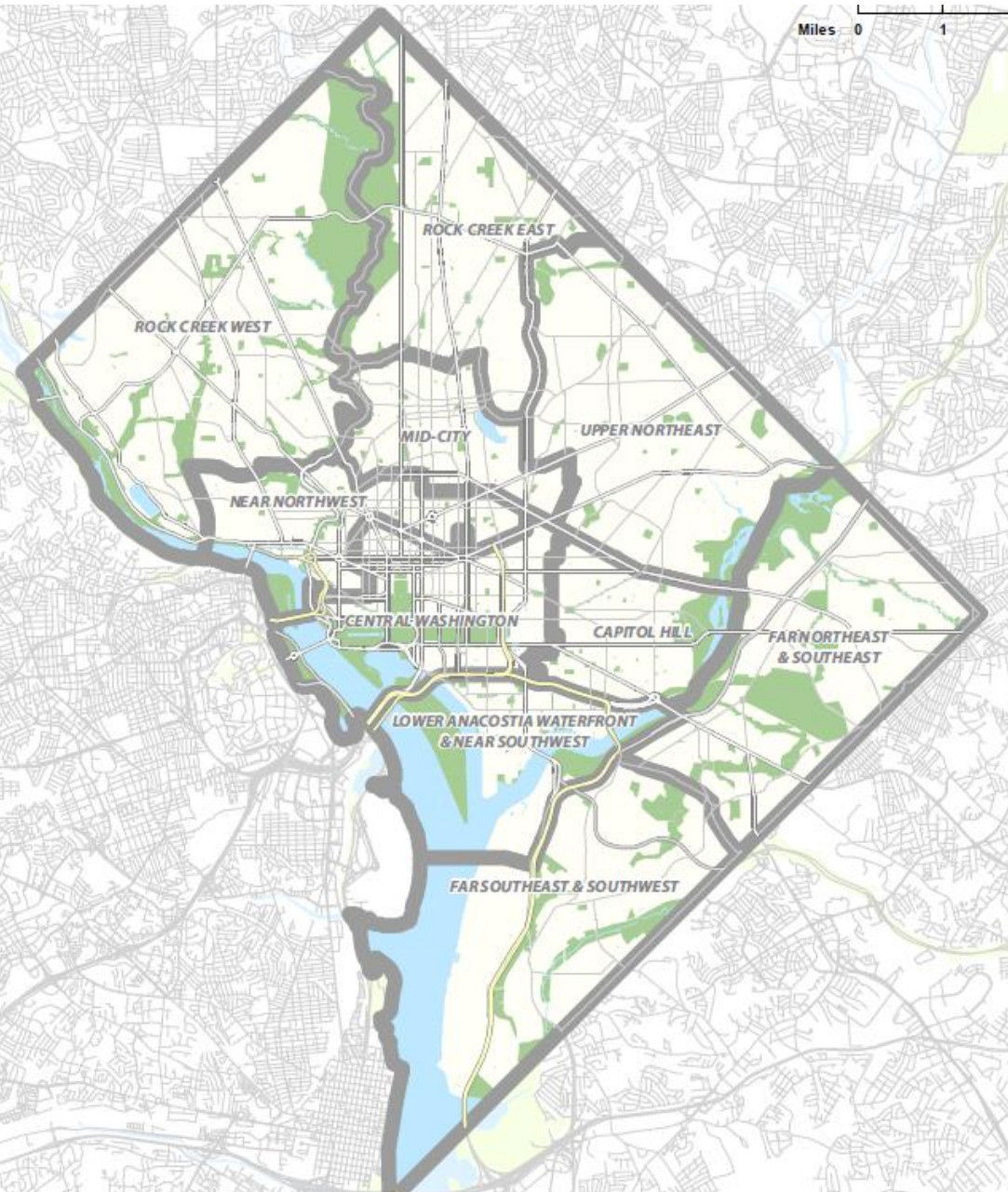
There are warning signs that regional growth may be out of balance, however. The "inner ring" suburbs of Montgomery, Prince George's, and Fairfax Counties are planning to add 620,000 jobs during the next 25 years but only 273,000 households. Similar imbalances appear in Arlington, Alexandria, and even in counties on the suburban fringe. If the region continues to grow this way, more workers will seek housing outside the region, creating more congestion, more sprawl, and more expensive housing in the region's core. The jobs-housing imbalance may fuel demand for housing in the District as suburban residents seek to reduce their commuting times by moving closer to their jobs. However, the opposite may occur if jobs move further away and the workforce follows. <sup>202.4</sup>

# Citywide Elements

- Land Use
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Environmental Protection
- Transportation
- Community Services & Facilities
- Urban Design
- Historic Preservation
- Infrastructure
- Parks, Recreation & Open Space
- Educational Facilities
- Arts and Culture

*Citywide Element  
policies & actions  
fall under the  
purview of **multiple**  
**agencies***

# Area Elements



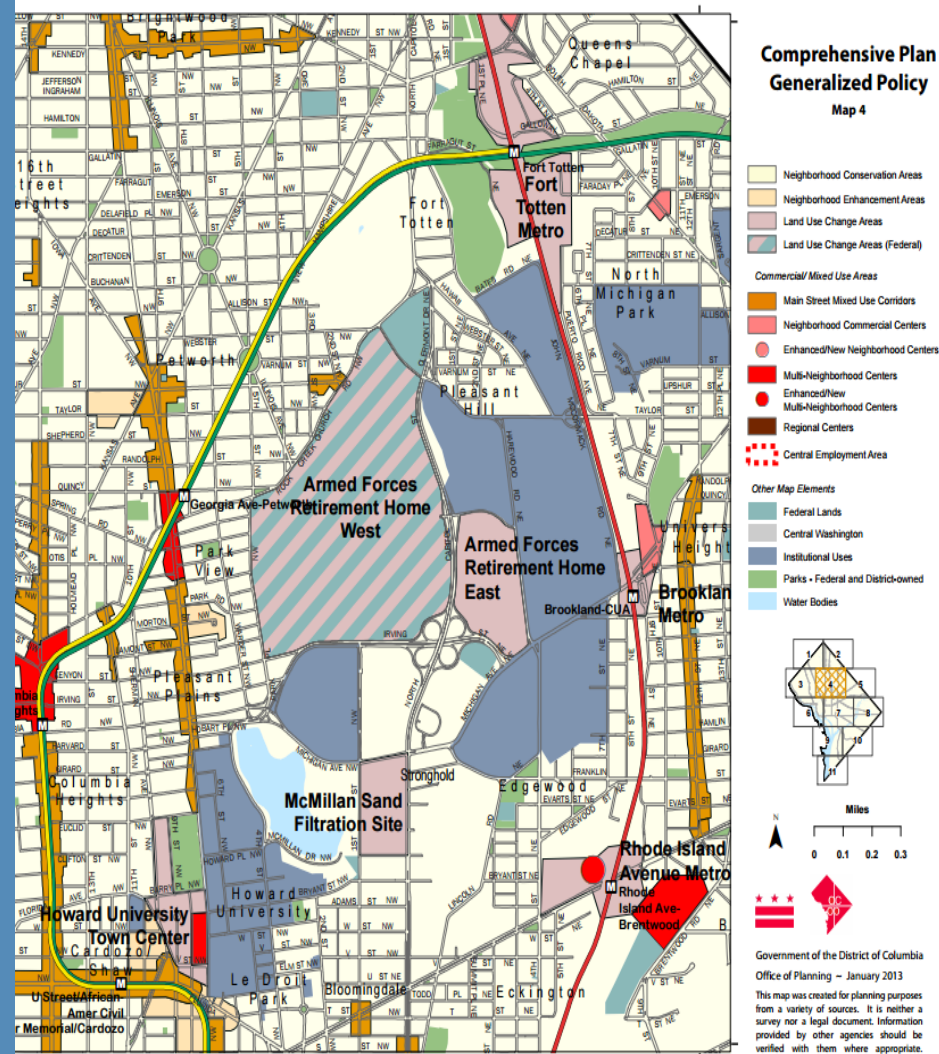
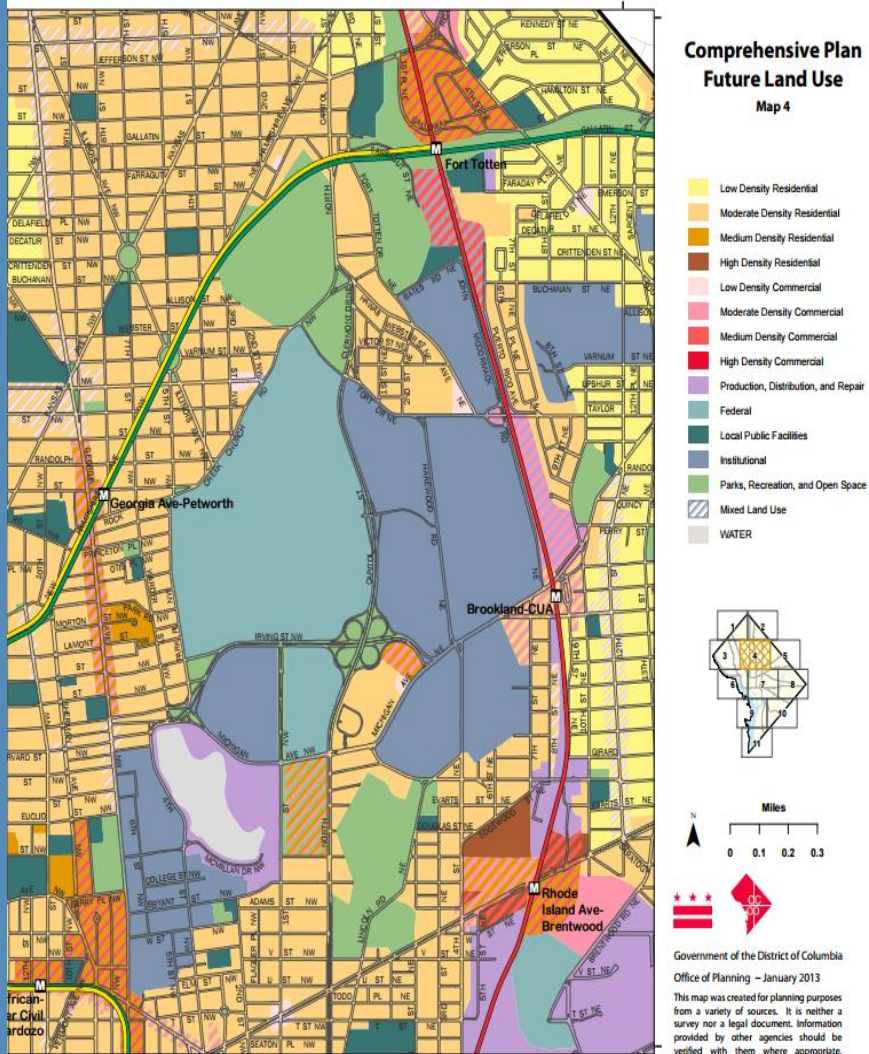
- Capitol Hill
- Central Washington
- Far Northeast and Southeast
- Far Southeast/Southwest
- Lower Anacostia Waterfront/Near Southwest
- Mid-City
- Near Northwest
- Rock Creek East
- Rock Creek West
- Upper Northeast



# The Maps are Important Too

Land use designations—how land is intended to be used; not a zoning map

Areas expected to change & grow in the future





# Comprehensive Plan Amendment Process

# Why amend the Comp Plan (2<sup>nd</sup> time)?

- Comp Plan says: **Amend the Plan every 4 years**
- **Accelerated & dynamic changes in DC** since 2009-2010 amendment cycle
  - ▣ Continued rapid population growth; baby boom; demographic & economic changes
  - ▣ Large-scale redevelopment (e.g., *The Wharf*; *CityCenterDC*; *Capitol Crossing*; *St Elizabeths*; *Walter Reed*; *Buzzard Point*, *McMillan*)
- **Major planning work completed** since 2010:
  - ▣ OP completed 6 Small Area Plans & other plans/initiatives
  - ▣ Several major District policy initiatives & systems/facilities plans completed (e.g., *Sustainable DC*; *moveDC*; *Age-Friendly DC*, etc.)

# How We Will Amend the Comprehensive Plan

- 1) **Data analysis & some additional land use analysis**
- 2) **Synthesis of key policies & recommendations** from completed & current District plans/initiatives since 2010
- 3) Robust citywide **public engagement & outreach**
- 4) **Open & transparent** process
  - Anyone can submit proposed amendments
  - Public ***Evaluation Framework*** to ensure that key issues from the public & District priorities inform selection of amendments
- 5) **Evaluation** of proposed amendments by Interagency Team
- 6) Release of **Draft Amendment Report** for public feedback
- 7) Preparation & submission of **Final Amendment Package** for DC Council & federal approval



# Target Engagement Audiences

Residents	Businesses	Institutions	Commuters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All 8 wards</li><li>• Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners</li><li>• <i>Targeted strategies for:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low-income</li><li>• Youth</li><li>• Limited English speakers</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Small &amp; other businesses</li><li>• BIDs</li><li>• Associations</li><li>• Chambers of Commerce</li><li>• Private property owners</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Higher Education</li><li>• Medical</li><li>• Houses of Worship</li><li>• Etc.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public sector</li><li>• Private sector</li><li>• Non-profit</li></ul>
			Visitors/Tourists

## ***Planned Engagement Activities***

- ❖ Citywide & neighborhood-level public meetings, workshops & special events; focus groups; pop-up/roving activities; community “office hours”; online forums
- ❖ *Outreach & Marketing:* Project website; social media; citywide & targeted print & other media; community listservs; compliance with Language Access Act

# Project Timeline

Spring  
2016 to  
Late 2016

## Phase 1

- Project kickoff
- Public launch—Phase 1 public engagement activities
- **Develop resilience content**
- Develop public **Evaluation Framework**

Early 2017  
to Summer  
2017

## Phase 2

- Release public **Evaluation Framework**
- Launch Open Call for proposed amendments
- OP-led Inter-agency Evaluation team screen proposed amendments
- Release **Draft Amendment Report** for public comment; public meetings

Mid 2017  
to Late  
2017

## Phase 3

- OP reviews Draft Amendment Report public feedback
- OP prepares & submits **Final Amendment Report** as legislative package to the Mayor for transmittal to DC Council

Early to  
Mid  
2018

## Approvals

- DC Council public hearing & approval
- National Capital Planning Commission & Congressional review & approval



# Resilience & the Comprehensive Plan

# DC Context & Resilience

- Nation's Capital
- A Growing City—population & development
- An Historic City—historic neighborhoods & assets
- Confluence of two rivers
- Regional Economic Center—jobs base & diversifying economy
- Regionally-Serving Infrastructure
  - ▣ Transportation system
  - ▣ Transit
  - ▣ Utilities

# Resilience Challenges for DC

- **Physical**
  - Multiple hazards:
    - Climate change; sea level rise; flooding, extreme weather, extreme heat; earthquakes
    - Terrorism
  - Rapid development; large sites becoming new neighborhoods
  
- **Social**
  - Diverse, young & aging population; vulnerable populations
  - Affordable housing
  - Income & other disparities
  - Access to quality education & jobs
  - Access to healthy foods
  - Access to healthcare
  - Access to parks & open space
  
- **Systemic**
  - Infrastructure disruptions & failure
  - Telecommunications, Water, Electrical disruptions
  - Economic Disinvestment/Downturns

# Why is OP adding resilience to Comp Plan?

- ❖ **The District is vulnerable** to natural/man-made hazards & chronic stressors
  - Pose threats to:
    - Residents' safety/health/quality of life
    - District's region-serving economy & infrastructure
- ❖ **Washington, DC:** one of Rockefeller Foundation's **100 Resilient Cities**

# What will the Amendment Cycle do?

- **Leverage** ongoing District/federal government & other local resilience efforts
- **Educate & engage** with the public on the concept of resilience
- **Draft** Comp Plan **policies & actions on resilience** as it impacts DC's land use & community quality of life
- **GOAL**: Adopt Comp Plan guidance that will **provide support for implementation** of your agency's/organization's resilience initiatives
  - *District agencies: Comp Plan informs capital budgeting process*

# What will be the result?

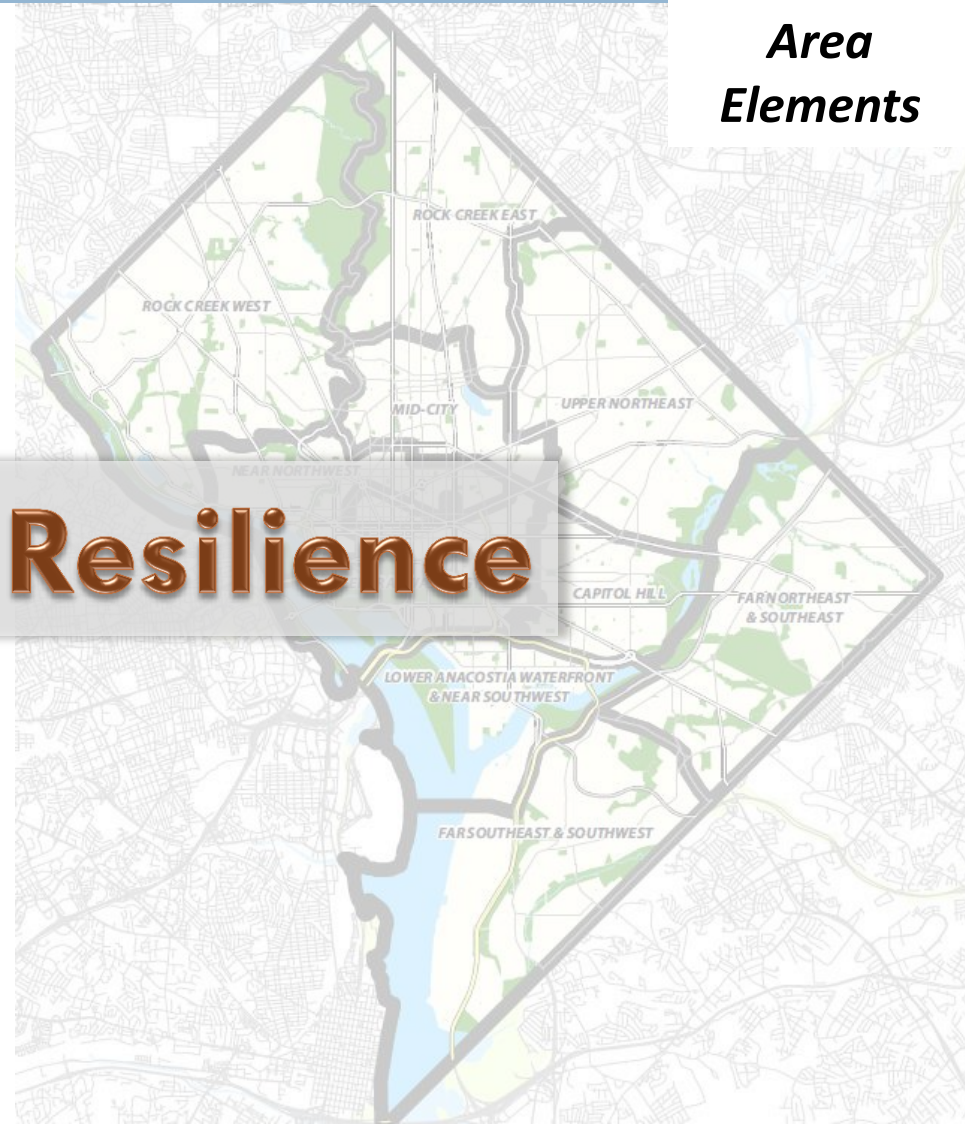
## Citywide Elements

### + New Resilience Element

- Land Use
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Environmental Protection
- Transportation
- Community Services & Facilities
- Urban Design
- Historic Preservation
- Infrastructure
- Parks, Recreation & Open Space
- Educational Facilities
- Arts and Culture

**Integrate Resilience**

## Area Elements





# Comp Plan Framework for Resilience

- **All-hazards** approach; natural & man-made
- Not just about climate adaptation & flooding
- Includes the **physical environment & community**
- **Implementation** focus
- Who is affected & plays a role?
  - DC **residents**
  - Multiple **agencies** (District/federal)
  - Multiple **entities/stakeholders** (regional, non-profit, private, etc.)

# How will we do this work?

- Literature Review & Data: DC resources & best practices
- Resilience Advisory Group meetings & Survey
- One-on-one interviews with Advisory Group agencies & other stakeholders/SMEs
- Public engagement
- Draft resilience content in partnership with Advisory Group members
- Vet draft content with affected agencies/entities
- Release with Draft Amendment Report for public comment

# Role of Resilience Advisory Group

- Attend meetings & work with us collaboratively
- Work with us in between meetings (separate one-on-one interviews to be scheduled)
- Provide early insight & input to the team
- Share your agency/organization's expertise, information & concerns
- Ensure our work plan for creating Resilience content identifies & considers all relevant data/information
- Help define Resilience for the District
- Serve as a POC during drafting & final review stages for Resilience content

# Timeline: Comp Plan Resilience Content

<b>Spring/Summer 2016</b>	Literature review Data collection Stakeholder interviews <b>1<sup>st</sup> Resilience Advisory Group Meeting</b>
<b>Fall/Winter 2016</b>	Draft resilience content Public engagement Working meetings with agencies 2 <sup>nd</sup> Resilience Advisory Group Meeting
<b>Spring 2017</b>	Review & finalize draft resilience content
<b>Summer 2017</b>	Release resilience content with Draft Amendment Report for public comment
<b>Fall 2017</b>	Prepare final amendments & legislative package
<b>Early 2018</b>	Submit for Council & federal approval

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Q&A



# District Resilience Studies & Initiatives

# Highlights from Literature Review

See *handout*

	DOCUMENT TITLE	SOURCE - DISTRICT AGENCY/AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION	DATE OF PUBLICATION
1	The Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: District Elements	OP	General policy document that provides overall guidance for future planning and development of the city. The District Elements contain 13 Citywide Elements that provide goals, objectives and policies for land use issues that impact the whole city.	2006 (amended in 2011)
2	Moving Forward: Building an Inclusive Future - Comprehensive Plan Progress Report	OP	This is the second progress report on the comprehensive plan, focusing on achievements between 2010 and 2012.	2013
3	Climate Projections & Scenario Development	DOEE	This report is the first step of a multi-phase project led by DOEE to develop a citywide climate adaptation and preparedness plan for DC.	2015
4	Climate Vulnerability & Risk Assessment	DOEE	The vulnerability and risk assessment summarized here is based on climate change projections and scenarios established in the first phase of the project and are summarized in the previously released Climate Projections and Scenario Development Report.	2016
5	Climate Ready DC (Draft)	DOEE	Climate Adaptation Plan for the District. Climate Ready DC is the District's strategy for achieving this goal while helping to ensure that the District continues to grow greener, healthier and more livable.	2016
6	District Hazard Mitigation Plan (DRAFT)	HSEMA	Establishes the approach for execution of hazard identification and risk analyses, systematic hazard management, and implementation of risk reduction and avoidance measures. Also provides the basis for integrating mitigation ideologies throughout the government and the community.	2015
7	District Recovery Plan	HSEMA	Provides a collaborative and systematic approach for the Whole Community of the District to improve capabilities in order to recover from all hazards.	2014
8	District Recovery Operations Guide (DRAFT)	HSEMA	Defines the specific processes, operations, and procedures to activate the District Recovery Steering Committee; appoint the District Disaster Recovery Coordinator (DDRC) ; activate Recovery Support Functions (RSFs); set recovery targets; and begin the strategic recovery planning process.	2016
9	FEMA Region III Recovery All-Hazards Plan	FEMA Region 3	Scalable coordination plan for federal agencies to use when they support state-led recovery from all hazards. Annexes provide specific data about each Region III state (including DC) and how federal agencies will support each of the core capability-based plan objectives.	2015
10	Application to 100 Resilient Cities	Executive Office of the Mayor	Final draft application to join 100RC program - excellent summary of key resilience challenges, threats (shock and stresses) and opportunities, including how 100RC would integrate into city planning and the development of a resilience plan/strategy for the District.	2015

# Survey Feedback: **Resilience Topics**

- Air quality
- Climate change impact on natural areas
- Climate risks
- **Critical infrastructure (6)**
- Community development
- Cultural icons
- Demographic change
- Deteriorating infrastructure
- Distribution of resources
- Emergency response
- Extreme heat (3)
- Extreme weather
- Finite resources
- **Flooding (6)**
- Metro disruptions
- Neighborhood services
- Planning and land use
- Psychological trauma following disasters
- Sea level rise (3)
- Stormwater management
- Strong social networks
- Terrorism (2)
- Trees
- Urbanization of natural areas
- Vulnerable populations
- Water quality



# Survey Feedback: **Resilience Topics**

- **Key themes:**
  - Population growth, social equity, development pressure in natural areas, impacts to air and water quality
  - Extreme weather events (e.g., heat, heavy snow, precipitation), nuisance flooding, sea level rise
  - Aging/deteriorating infrastructure, service disruptions (utilities, transportation, social services, etc.), emergency response/recovery, protection of historic/cultural assets
  - Behavioral concerns – psychological trauma following disaster event; neighbor to neighbor connections & strong social networks

# Survey Feedback: **Topics Addressed** (*what you've told us*)

Agency	Study or Initiative
<b>GSA</b>	Assessing flood risks for facilities and testing technologies, evaluating investments to reduce flood risks
<b>DBH</b>	Provides training on psychological first aid as well as some mental health first aid
<b>DDOT</b>	Promotes environmentally sustainability and resiliency in its daily operations and has completed many key climate change initiatives [e.g., <i>Climate Adaptation Plan</i> ]
<b>DOEE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Climate Adaptation Plan and Vulnerability Assessments</li><li>• Implements the floodplain management program/NFIP and enhanced flood risk management through coordination and collaboration with other regional, federal, and District agencies, as well as other stakeholders.</li></ul>
<b>HSEMA</b>	Maintains the District Hazard Mitigation Plan which presents a comprehensive approach to reducing risk. Also administers HMA grants which may be used to execute generator and minor localized flood mitigation projects.

# Survey Feedback: **Topics Addressed** (*what you've told us*)

Agency	Study or Initiative
<b>MWCOG</b>	Many of our activities are on our website. COG also coordinates the Regional Incident Communication and Coordination calls, conducts transportation incident management and planning functions, and coordinates Homeland Security programs, and conducts a climate, energy, air and water quality program.
<b>NCPC</b>	Initiatives related to reducing flood risk in federal agencies and cultural icons, and advocates further studying critical infrastructure interdependence and resilience
<b>NPS</b>	Expertise embedded in several programs, including Climate Change response, required inventory and monitoring of physical resources, and extensive compliance review prior to initiating any new construction by the agency, its partners, or by others on its land.
<b>Not Provided</b>	We utilize long term monitoring to assess trends in the status of natural resources. We use this information to make informed decisions regarding management to preserve these resources.

# Survey Feedback: **Who else should we be talking to?**

- Advisory Neighborhood Commissions
- Business Improvement Districts
- Hospitals & community-based behavioral health agencies
- C40 Network
- D.C. Silver Jackets
- Federal agencies
- Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services
- NGOs
- Citizen groups
- Other 100RC Member Cities
- Private businesses and developers
- Universities (e.g., George Washington University – Resilience Hubs, etc.)
- Utilities (e.g., Potomac Electric Power Company)
- Virginia and Maryland state and local representatives

# Survey Feedback: **Other Working Groups?**

- D.C. Silver Jackets
- District Climate Adaptation Plan
- Mission-driven educational entity
- Conference on Climate and Economic Resilience
- Other resilience planning efforts in the District
- RAND community resilience working group
- Chesapeake Bay Program's Resilience Working Group
  - *NASA Building a Climate Resilient National Capital Region initiative*
- Sustainable Congress Heights Eco District Initiative
  - *Energy Efficiency & Modernization and Housing Affordability & Stability Working Groups*

# Discussion

## **Key Resilience Topics Identified in Survey**

- *Why did you choose these topics?*
- *Are there common themes among the group?*
- *Are any topics missing?*

## **Studies and Initiatives**

- *Are there studies that address the physical/systemic context & resilience context?*
- *Are there studies that when viewed together give an integrated/holistic perspective on resilience within the District?*
- *Are there other studies or relevant initiatives?*



# Models for Urban Resilience

# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## 100 Resilient Cities (100RC)

- Pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation, 100RC is dedicated to helping cities around the world become more resilient to the physical, social and economic challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century.
- 100RC supports the adoption and incorporation of a view of resilience that includes not just the **shocks**—earthquakes, fires, floods, etc.—but also the **stresses** that weaken the fabric of a city on a day to day or cyclical basis.
- **Congratulations to Washington, DC!!**  
(*New 100RC Member City*)

PIONEERED BY THE  
ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION



### Member Cities are provided:

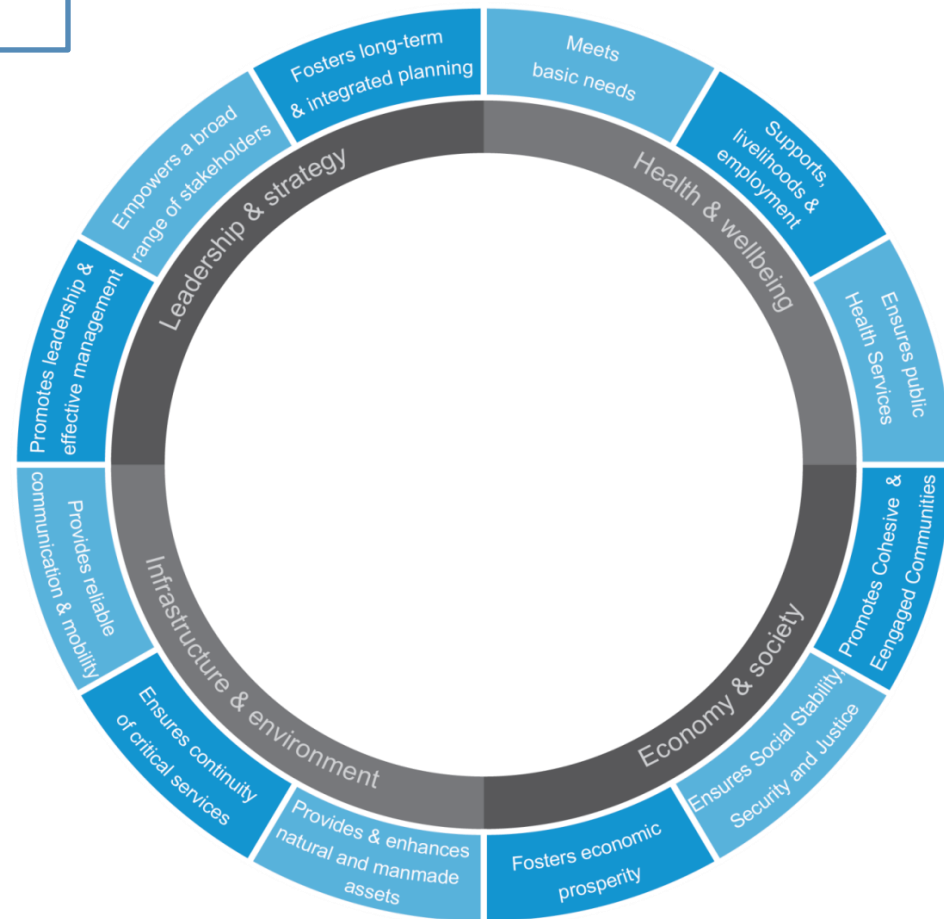
1. Financial and logistical guidance to hire a **Chief Resilience Officer** who will lead the city's resilience efforts;
2. Expert support for the development of a robust **resilience strategy**;
3. Access to **service providers and partners** to help them develop and implement their resilience strategies; and
4. Membership in a **global network** of 100RC member cities who can learn from and help each other.



# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## 100 Resilient Cities (100RC)

- The **City Resilience Framework (CRF)** provides a lens to understand the complexity of cities and the drivers that contribute to their resilience, and a common language that enables cities to share knowledge and experiences.
- The CRF is built on four essential dimensions of urban resilience:
  - **Health & Wellbeing**
  - **Economy & Society**
  - **Infrastructure & Environment**
  - **Leadership & Strategy**



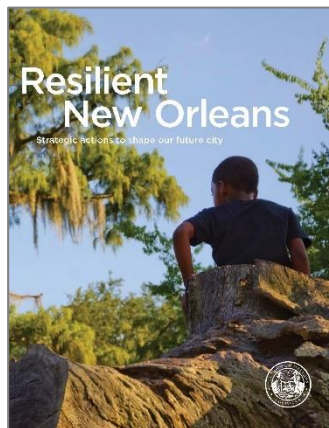
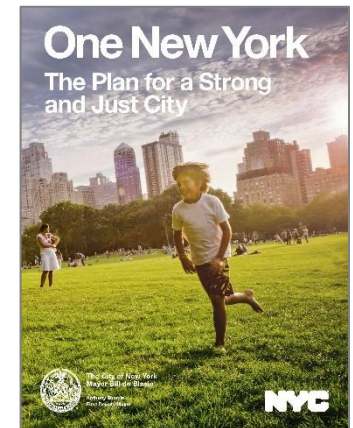
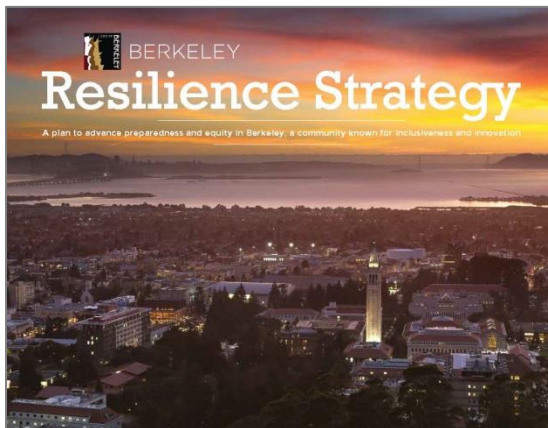
# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## 100 Resilient Cities (100RC)

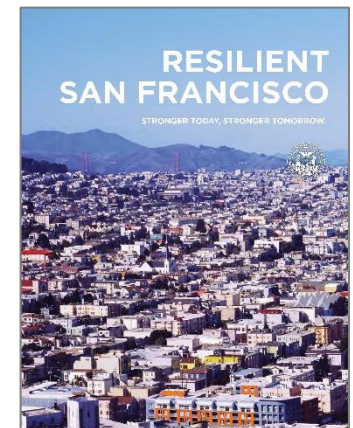
- Atlanta
- Berkeley
- Boston
- Boulder
- Chicago
- Dallas
- El Paso
- Greater Miami
- Honolulu
- Los Angeles
- Louisville
- Minneapolis
- Nashville
- New Orleans
- New York City
- Norfolk
- Oakland
- Pittsburgh
- San Francisco
- Seattle
- St. Louis
- Tulsa
- Washington, DC

# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## 100 Resilient Cities (100RC)



Milan \* New York City \* Quito  
Melbourne \* Rome \* Thessaloniki  
Rotterdam \* Athens \* Paris  
Dakar \* Juarez \* Boston  
Dallas \* Vejle \* Norfolk, Virginia  
Medellin \* Bangkok \* Rio de Janeiro  
Barcelona \* Los Angeles  
Rome \* Chicago \* Da Nang  
New Orleans \* Kigali \* Huangshi  
Singapore \* Lisbon \* Mexico City  
Cali \* Santiago de los Caballeros  
Belgrade \* Ramallah \* Glasgow  
Montreal \* Mandalay \* Accra  
London \* El Paso \* Bangalore  
Surat \* Jacksonville \* San Juan  
Durban \* Sydney \* Pittsburgh  
Amman \* Semarang \* Enugu  
Porto Alegre \* San Francisco  
Deyang \* Santiago, Metropolitan Region  
Ashkelon \* Wellington  
City \* St. Louis \* Toyama \* Byblos  
Arusha \* Christchurch \* Tulsa  
Chennai \* Oakland \* Bristol  
Santa Fe \* Berkeley \* Boulder



# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## Berkeley, CA

- **Resilience Strategy** released on April 1, 2016



Goal 1: Build a Connected and Prepared Community



Goal 2: Accelerate Access to Reliable and Clean Energy



Goal 3: Adapt to the Changing Climate



Goal 4: Advance Racial Equity

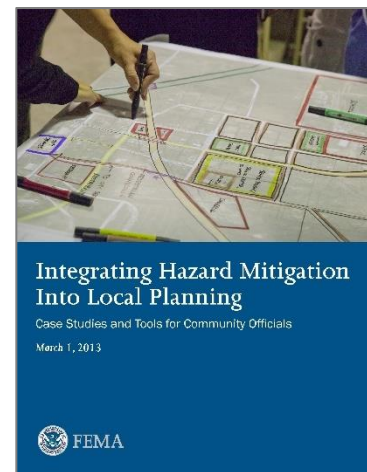
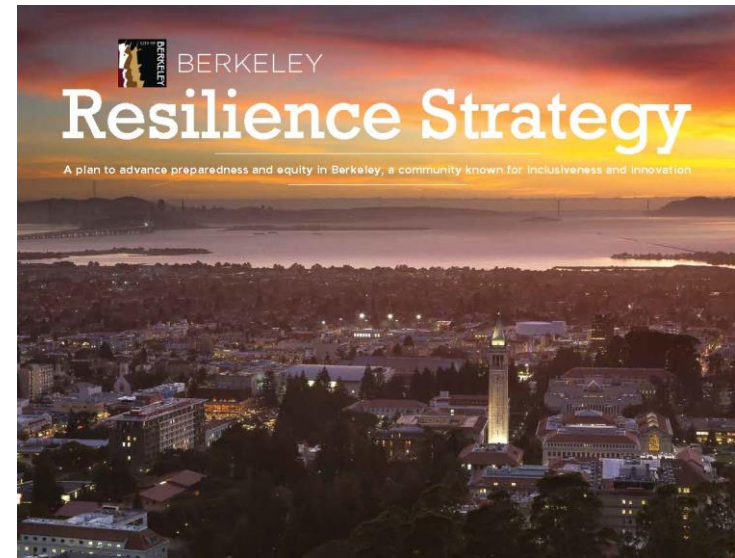


Goal 5: Excel at Working Together within City Government to Better Serve the Community



Goal 6: Build Regional Resilience

- **General Plan** cited as best practice for integrating hazard mitigation into a local comprehensive plan

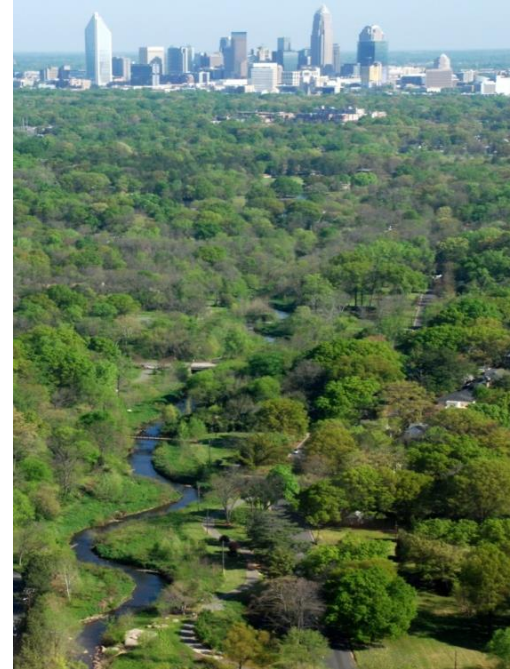
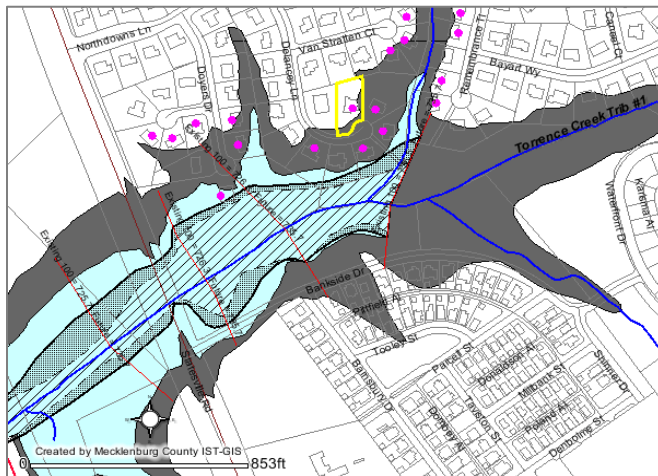




# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

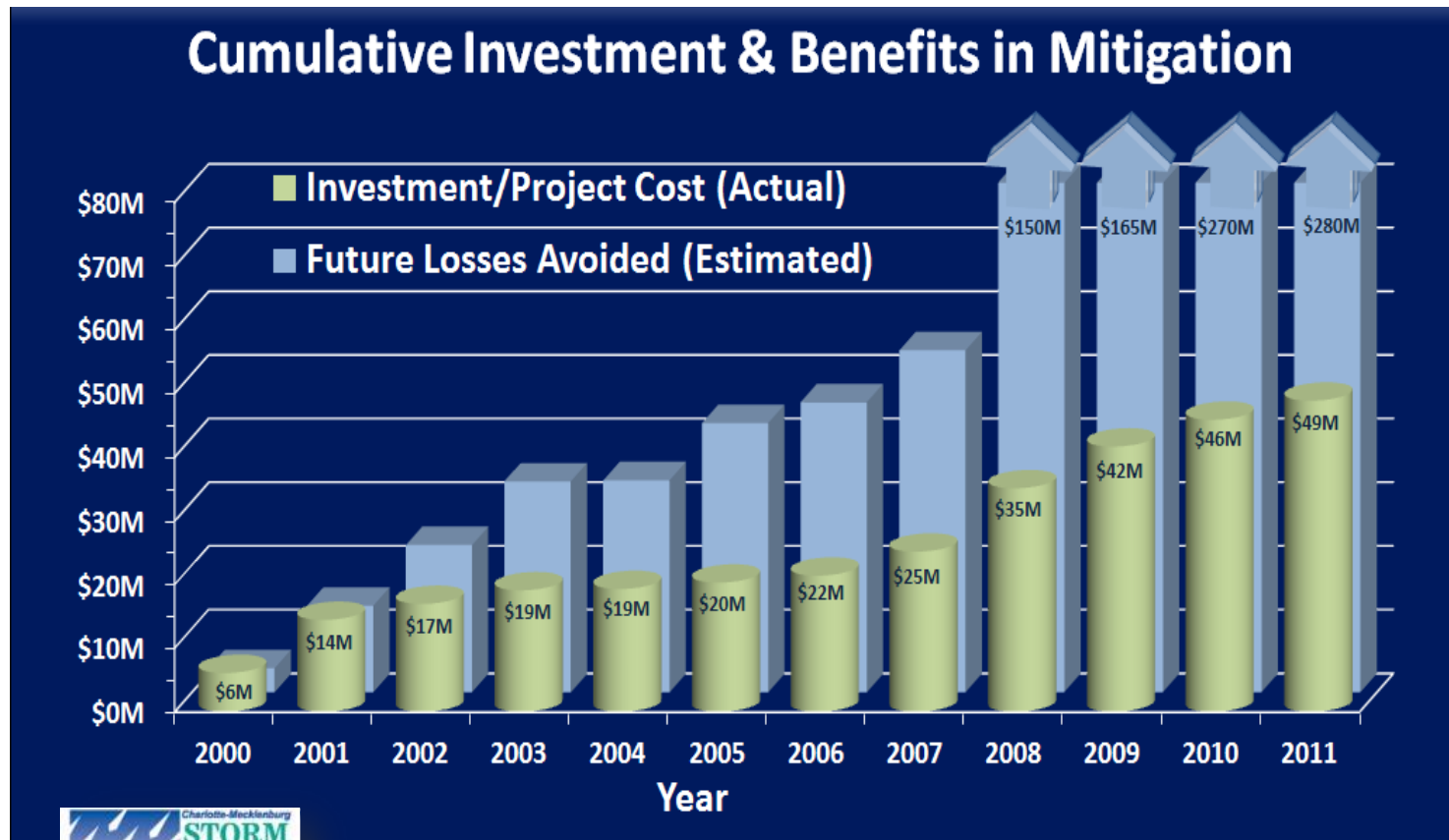
## Charlotte, NC

- Planning for Flood Resilience
  1. Develop and implement a plan for the future
  2. Correct problems of the past
  3. Monitor, measure, report, repeat
- First community to show future + existing conditions on FEMA flood maps



# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## Charlotte, NC



# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## Baltimore, MD

- City with comparable resilience and adaptation issues
- City at the cutting edge of climate adaptation
- ***Baltimore Disaster Preparedness and Planning Project*** – Augments Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Excellent resource – provides many practical strategies and actions for Infrastructure, Buildings, Natural Systems, and Public Services
- Addresses building resilient communication systems
- Addresses issues relative to the functional areas of health and food security



# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## Seattle, WA

- **Seattle 2035 – Comprehensive Plan, “Managing Growth to Become an Equitable City”**
- A national leader in the area of race and social equity
- The City has committed to make Seattle carbon neutral by the year 2050 in order to reduce the threat of climate change.
- Plan has citywide and neighborhood components
- Encourages residential growth and business locate in urban and neighborhood centers increasing





# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## Charleston, SC

- Sea Level Rise Strategy Plan, 2015
- City has a history of major flood events resulting from tidal events and inadequate drainage.
- City leaders also recognize it is susceptible to sea level rise. Actively addressing.
- City has developed a unique resilience typology. It incorporates three essential aspects: **Reinvest, Respond, Ready.**



### Impacts from Storms past 50 years:

- Long-term job creation
- Restricted access to commercial properties and medical centers
- Impacted tourism and business activity, lost productivity spent navigating the flooded areas; and
- Extensive police resources focused on damaged and “rescued” vehicles

# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## San Francisco, CA

- ***On Solid Ground: How Good Land Use Planning Can Prepare the Bay Area for a Strong Disaster Recovery*** – San Francisco Bay Area Planning & Urban Research Association
- Report deals with long-term disaster recovery activities: those that focus on land use planning and rebuilding.
- Three key approaches to reducing potential damage, while focused on earthquakes has relevance to other hazards, 1) Make improvements or changes to the land to reduce the hazards; 2) Build in special ways in hazard zones to reduce damage; and 3) Develop land use plans that avoid concentrating dense uses in hazard areas.
- Implementation approach - Before the Disaster and After the Disaster strategies and actions.
- ***Extreme Heat Response Plan*** - Increasing extreme heat emergencies concern regarding impact to vulnerable populations (e.g., homeless, elderly)

# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## New York State

- ***Recommendations to Improve the Strength and Resilience of the Empire State's Infrastructure*** – NYS 2100 Commission – Judith Rodin, Chair
- Scope is statewide; however, many valuable relevant recommendations from the impacts of Hurricane Sandy
- Sectors Addressed: Transportation, Land Use, Energy, Insurance, Infrastructure Finance
- Contains cross-cutting sector recommendations (integration)



# Examples and Models for Urban Resilience

## Key themes/takeaways

City	Relevance to Washington, DC
<b>Baltimore</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DC neighbor city</li><li>• Has issues similar to DC – sea level rise, flooding, social equity, etc.</li><li>• Excellent resource, very comprehensive – replicable strategies</li></ul>
<b>Seattle</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Seattle 2035</i> – plan with comprehensive view</li><li>• Facing rapid growth while committed to achieving racial and social equity</li></ul>
<b>Charleston</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sea level rise &amp; flooding – exacerbated by a sinking coastline</li><li>• Simple typology approach: <b><i>Reinvest, Respond, Ready</i></b></li></ul>
<b>San Francisco</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Land use and implementation focused</li><li>• Has addressed social equity/vulnerability in planning for extreme heat</li></ul>
<b>New York</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good resource for ideas/policies on adaptation</li><li>• Cross-cutting recommendations that address multiple issues/concerns</li></ul>

# Discussion

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## **Issue & Strategy Identification**

- *What are the most pressing issues for the District regarding resilience?*
- *What strategies have you seen elsewhere that could work here?*



# Defining Resilience for the District

# Defining **Resilience** for the District

## Existing Definitions

- “the ability to become strong, healthy, or successful again after something bad happens”
- “the capacity of a community, business, or natural environment to prevent, withstand, respond to, and recover from a disruption”
- “the ability to adapt to changing conditions and withstand and rapidly recover from disruption due to emergencies”
- “the ability to resist, absorb, recover from or successfully adapt to adversity or a change in conditions”



# Defining **Resilience** for the District

## Existing Definitions

- “the ability to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse events”

*\* Adopted in 2014 by numerous organizations representing the design and construction industry:*





# Defining **Resilience** for the District

## Existing Definitions

- “the ability of a system to withstand shocks and stresses while still maintaining its essential functions”
- “the capacity to adapt to changing conditions and to maintain or regain functionality and vitality in the face of stress or disturbance. The ability of individuals, households, communities, and regions to maintain livable conditions in the event of natural disasters, loss of power, or other interruptions in normally available services.”



# Defining **Resilience** for the District

## Existing Definitions

- **“Resilience is the ability to withstand and bounce back.** Following an emergency it’s the ability of communities to withstand and bounce back from disasters by building relationships and connecting to resources at every level; neighbor-to-neighbor, neighbor-to-organization and organization-to-organization. Community resilience is a way to bridge activities and skills used on a daily basis to activities and skills that can be used to save lives in emergency situations. We learn from past disasters to strengthen future response and recovery efforts.”



# Defining **Resilience** for the District

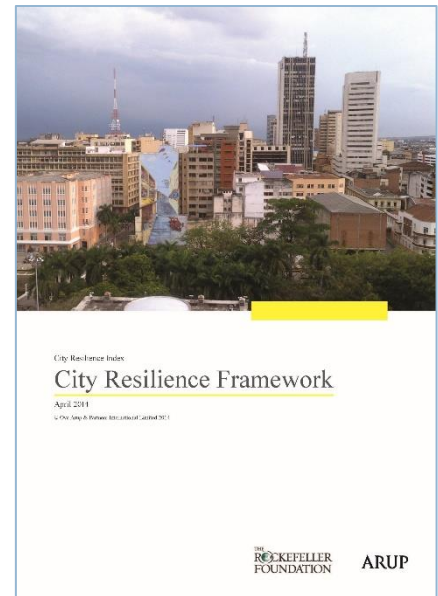
## Existing Definitions

- “**City resilience** describes the capacity of cities to function, so that the people living and working in cities – particularly the poor and vulnerable – survive and thrive no matter what stresses or shocks they encounter”
- “**Urban resilience** is the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience”

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RESILIENT CITIES



# Defining **Resilience** for the District

## **Key words in existing definitions**

- Ability or Capacity
- Prepare, plan, prevent, respond and recover
- Withstand, absorb, bounce back, transform, adapt, improve, thrive
- Shocks, adverse events, stresses, disruption, disturbance, interruptions, adversity and change
- Timely, rapidly, efficiently
- Strong, healthy, successful, vitality, functionality and identity
- Relationships and connectivity

# Defining **Resilience** for the District

## Key components (from resilience definitions)

- Resilience maintains a pre-event and post-event focus
- Resilience goes beyond addressing episodic events, but also the issues that threaten or weaken the fabric of a city on a daily or cyclical basis
- Resilience is about change
- Resilience is about people
- Resilience is a concept that can be applied to nearly everything you do

# Discussion



## Defining Resilience for the District

- *Which definition(s) works for you?*
- *What components or themes are important to include in a definition of resilience for the District?*



# Engagement



# Other Stakeholders (on our list)

Architect of the Capitol (AOC)

DC Housing Authority (DCHA)

DPR

OCTO

DCOA

DSLBD

DCPS

DCBIA

DC Silver Jackets

DC Preservation League

Georgetown Climate Center

DMPED

Utilities & Public Service Commission

Rockefeller Foundation

C40 Cities Network

Smithsonian

ANCs & Community Organizations

MOCRs

U. MD Center for Disaster Resilience

DC BID Council

Federal City Council

DC Public Library



# Public Engagement

- Comp Plan engagement strategy includes education & engagement on resilience
- Want to leverage Advisory Group member organizations' activities

## **Examples:**

- Climate Ready DC (DOEE)
- Community-Driven Climate Preparedness Planning Pilot (DOEE & OP)
- 2016 DC Flood Awareness Campaign (DC Silver Jackets)
- DC Flood Summit on September 8, 2016 (DC Silver Jackets)



# Summary & Next Steps

# THANK YOU!

District of Columbia  
Office of Planning



## DC Office of Planning

- **Eric D. Shaw**, Director
  - Eric.Shaw@dc.gov
  - **202-442-7636**
- **Tanya Stern**, Deputy Director, Planning, Engagement & Design (Project Director)
  - Tanya.Stern@dc.gov
  - **202-442-7635**
- **Josh Ghaffari**, Comprehensive Plan Program Manager (Lead Project Manager)
  - Joshua.Ghaffari@dc.gov
  - **202-442-7705**

## Comp Plan Resilience Consultant Team

- **Matt Raimi**, Principal (Project Lead)
  - Matt@raimiassociates.com
  - **510-200-0520**
- **Darrin Punchard**, Principal (Resilience Lead)
  - Darrin@punchardconsulting.com
  - **617-777-2001**
- **Lincoln Walther**, Principal (Resilience Co-Lead)
  - lwalther@lincolnwalther.com
  - **772-219-3066**