

Resilience Hubs Site Assessment

Use this list to assess your site as a resilience hub. Please note that this is a recommended list. No site will have all of these features! Features will often be different for spaces (sites without buildings) and for neighborhoods.

BUILDINGS & LANDSCAPE

Strengthening the resilience of the facility to ensure that it meets operational goals in all conditions.

Community Features

- Indoor and/or shaded outdoor space for the community to gather
- Extra bicycles
- Space for pets
- ADA accessible and fragrance free

Green Building & Landscaping

- Building is LEED-certified, including construction from low-toxic materials and low/no VOC paints
- Low-waste structures and practices: composting & recycling systems and signage
- Energy efficiency features, including:
 - Light fixtures, adjustable & programmable thermostat, double-pane windows, Energy Star equipment, insulation, air sealing
 - No on-site gas use (i.e. all-electric building)
 - At least one electric vehicle charging station for the community to use
 - Water-efficient appliances (clothes washer)

Infrastructure

- Air Conditioning and heating; able to serve as a cooling center for the immediate community during extreme heat days
- Adequate ventilation and air filtration systems for refuge during smoke days
- Limited shelter capacity
- Refrigeration for food and medicines during disasters
- Showers
- Community bathrooms
- Zero waste system, including composting and recycling
- Secure bike parking
- Outdoor lighting

- Retrofit for earthquake safety
- Appropriate security
- Water
- Drought tolerant landscaping
- Rainwater catchment or other water storage system
- Water conservation systems: greywater, drip irrigation, faucet aerators or other water conservation infrastructure
- Low-flow toilets
- Composting toilets

Food

- Community garden with produce that can be shared with immediate community members, or partnership with a nearby community garden
 - greenhouse
 - garden tools
 - community composting
- Fruit trees: orchard or food forest
- Herb/medicinal garden
- Community kitchen
- Chicken coop

RESILIENT POWER

Ensuring reliable backup power to the facility during a hazard while also improving the cost-effectiveness and sustainability of operations in all three operating modes.

- Solar or other onsite/community-owned renewable energy
- Backup power through a generator or battery
- Low-tech resilient power: solar lanterns, bicycle-powered power, rocket stoves & flashlightsCommunity visioning meetings

COMMUNITY OPERATIONS & PLANNING

Ensuring personnel, supplies and processes are in place to operate the facility in all three modes

Emergency Preparedness

- Site/community members trained in CERT and/or First Aid
- Regular meetings to discuss disaster preparedness
- Evacuation Plan

- Emergency supplies and resources for 72 hours after a disaster:
 - Sufficient food and water
 - Extra emergency supplies for community members or neighbors: N95 masks, air filters, fans, air purifiers, tents, emergency go-bags
- Map of vulnerable neighbors, who will need help during sudden disasters

Community Engagement & Site Assessments

- Site assessment to determine both long-term goals and short-term needs
- Neighborhood asset mapping for assets and vulnerabilities
 - Printed map at the site that describes the resilience-based neighborhood assets
- Community asset mapping & surveys, to assess the skills and needs of the immediate community members
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Site Team

- Site Team with at least 4-5 members who meet on a regular basis
- Clear roles and responsibilities
- System to manage projects and communicate with each other
- Translation and/or interpretation services when needed for community members
- Shared agreements about decision-making
- Fundraising team and plan
- Conflict resolution protocols and practices, including nonviolent communication practices
- Restorative justice programs and/or protocols detailing alternatives to calling the police
- Staff on site: Resiliency Coordinator who organizes regular events.

PROGRAMMING AND SERVICES:

Offering additional services and programs that build relationships, promote community preparedness, and improve residents' health and well-being

Resilience-based education programming, could include:

- Job training/job seeking resources
- Child care
- After school programming
- Fix-it clinics
- Immigrant & refugee services (including legal aid)
- Reentry support services
- Food growing/preserving

- Native edible and medicinal plants of the region
- Energy & water conservation
- Racial, social & disability justice workshops
- Anti-displacement and affordable housing advocacy and education
- Food
- Systems for donating and sharing excess garden produce with food banks, gleaners or other community members
- Food distribution program for neighbors and community members
- Regular community events and skill shares about resilience-based organizing, including food growing and disaster preparedness
- Understanding the potential climate impacts and hazards of your bioregion, with an equity lens to disproportionately impacted communities

Relationships and Social Cohesion

- Relationships with local Indigenous tribes; understanding the history and current struggles of the local Indigenous tribes
 - Programs or support to give land back to local Indigenous tribes
- Support for Black, Indigenous and People of Color leadership
- Support for youth voices and leadership
- Providing labor, time, money to support any current demands for reparations, repatriation and self-determination for folks most impacted by the climate crisis
- Regular relationship-building with local community organizations, to collaborate on a regular basis
- Regular community events to build trust and community
 - Block parties, potlucks or other social gatherings
 - Garden work days or crops swaps
 - Skill shares
 - Tours of your site
- Language interpretation
- Local hiring practices
- MOU's for engagement with community and government partners
- Relationships with nearby hubs, spaces and blocks:
 - If your site is abundant with resilience, support a nearby resilience hub or space with volunteers and financial resources
- Trauma and Mental Health
- Support acupuncture, massage and meditation classes both in non-emergency times and during disasters
- Understand the sources and impacts of trauma responses in the body

- Host regular climate grief workshops
- Deepen our capacity for presence, connection and action under pressure
- Learn, share and strengthen individual and collective somatic resilience practices
- Provide mental health & trauma resources for community members
- For neighborhoods:
 - Affordable housing for lower-income residents
 - Reduced rent for activists & organizers

COMMUNICATIONS

Ensuring the ability to communicate within and outside the service area year-around, especially during disruptions and throughout recovery

- Ham radios on site, with site team trained on usage
- Disaster evacuation plan, including a community meeting place and plan for quickly leaving the community
- Community members signed up for emergency alerts and other disaster communications systems (such as Nixle and Zone Haven)
- Community bulletin board
- Mutual Aid systems set up, to provide support, safety and care to immediate community members
- Registered with recovers.org to set up city-wide mutual aid system
- Analog communication systems:
 - Neighborhood bulletin board
 - Phone tree, printed out

Digital Communications

- System for communicating with community members about resilience hubs activities, such as a listserv or newsletter

Communications with Local Governmental Agencies

- Set up meetings with government staff to introduce your site and resilience plan, and needed support.
- Set up communications plans and an agreement with city or county governments to disseminate information about disasters and climate change during disasters and on a regular basis.