



FOSTERING DIALOGUE TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Resilience Road Marker (#1):
Ideas for Implementation from
Research and Practice

WHAT IS RESILIENCE?

Resilience captures that **positive sense of persisting and thriving in the face of adversity and unknowns.**

Resilience offers the potential of **a unified approach to addressing environmental and social vulnerabilities** as communities prepare for the impacts of climate change.

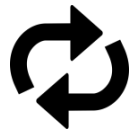
NAVIGATING THE DISCOURSE



OUTCOME:

*“We need a strategy that coordinates every department’s actions to make the city more **resilient** to a storm.”*

Anticipating and responding to shocks and longer-term stresses and changes.



PROCESS:

*“We need **resilient** buildings and infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather conditions and flooding, or can easily be repaired if they get damaged.”*

Maintaining a key system function.



SYSTEM PROPERTY:

*“We need to have all the voices of our community at the table to address a diversity of threats facing local environments, housing and equity to create a **resilient** future for us all.”*

Maintaining or improving a situation.

IMPROVING THE RESILIENCE DIALOGUE

- **Explore Your Own Thinking**
- **Acknowledge Differences & Complementarities**
- **Find Shared Values & Goals**
- **Build Partnerships & Continue the Dialogue**

EXPLORE YOUR OWN THINKING ABOUT RESILIENCE

“Resilience is defined in many different ways. To us here in Baltimore City, **resilience is the ability of the community to anticipate, accommodate and positively adapt to or thrive amid changing climate conditions or hazard events and enhance quality of life, reliable systems, economic vitality and conservation of resources for present and future generations.** In defining it this way, the city is committed to improving essential infrastructure and buildings, addressing histories of injustice, giving people more of a voice, protecting people and property, and preserving and restoring natural systems.

- Kristin Baja, City of Baltimore



EXPLORE YOUR OWN THINKING ABOUT RESILIENCE

The 5W's of resilience:

For **Whom, What, Where, When & Why** are you building greater resilience?

Are you thinking about resilience as a **system property**, a **process**, or an **outcome**?

ACKNOWLEDGE DIFFERENCES & COMPLEMENTARITIES

What are the subtle and not so subtle **differences in your and your partners' vision** of a resilient future?

Work to **foster conversation** that brings to the surface legitimate differences in perspective.

FIND SHARED VALUES AND GOALS

“The State of Colorado is committed to building resilience, and it takes everyone—government, non-profits, the private sector, individuals—to get there. Building a culture of resilience requires a lot of conversation, coordination and trust. **To get there we can unite around what matters to us—safe and thriving communities, our high quality of life, water, our natural environment, and the endless recreational opportunities that we enjoy.** From these shared values, we can see how each of us has a crucial contribution to make.”

- Ian Hyde, State of Colorado



FIND SHARED VALUES AND GOALS

Move towards a consensus on **core principles** and **common goals**.

This could result in diverse foci for action, e.g.:

- improving adaptability to a changing economy and environment
- improving social justice, or
- collective learning and action.

BUILD LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIPS & CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE



“Helping low-income communities become more resilient is one of our most fundamental imperatives as a society that is beginning to confront the realities of a changing climate. What we do to help those most vulnerable reflects who we are. We provide practical support, like basic capacity, training, tools and resources, while also helping to develop healthy and sustainable housing that is affordable. Based on that foundation, **we can further help communities to thrive by ensuring access to quality food, transportation for employment and recreation, and investing in quality community assets like schools and health care facilities.**”

-Tom Osdoba, Enterprise Community Partners

BUILD LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIPS & CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE

Dealing effectively with climate change and related disruptions is not conducive to easy one-off solutions.

Seek **diverse partnerships** and create opportunities for meaningful engagement.

Long-term ongoing learning processes ~~can help~~ is essential to remain alert to constantly changing conditions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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