



# Resilient Cities & Communities

Visionary People. Vibrant Places. Regenerative Futures.



## Purpose

Resilient Cities & Communities (RCC) connects citizens, cities, and governmental authorities to promote equitable environmental, economic, climate and community resilience. We work with visionary leaders to build vibrant places, and create regenerative futures.

## Mission

We are engaging powerful peer-learning networks who are implementing equitable strategies for BIPOC communities and youth to secure high impact actions to eliminate disparities and build climate and community resilience.

## Vision

We envision a world where everyone has access to healthy air, water and soil, affordable clean energy, and thriving families and communities with everyone's fundamental needs being met.

## Goals



### Acting to Achieve These Goals Together



**Goal 1: Innovating Solutions**  
Supporting cities and communities in addressing their self-identified needs, challenges and opportunities for resilience leading to innovations that other cities can adopt.



**Goal 2 : Collaborating for Impact**  
Convening peer learning teams who are co-creating best practices, leveraging resources, expanding capacities, and implementing solutions to scale our collective impact.



**Goal 3: Engaging Community Stakeholders**  
Supporting sustainability champions and establishing commissions that effectively partner with city staff, elected leaders, residents, businesses, schools, and institutions to take action for community-wide resilience.



**Goal 4: Shaping Public Policy**  
Advocating with cities and communities for public policies needed to accelerate equitable practices and investments to achieve local, regional, and state climate goals.



**Goal 5: Modeling Resilience**  
Modeling resilience to catalyze change regionally, nationally, and globally.



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## Our Approach to Stakeholder Engagement

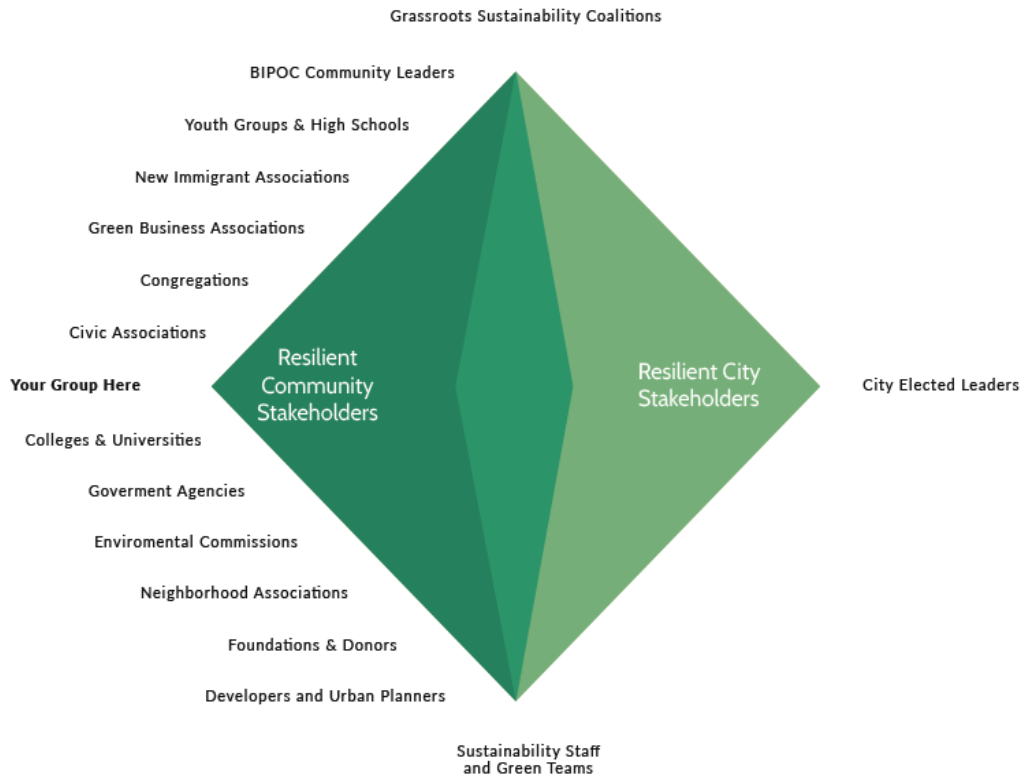
### Bridging Relationships. Building Capacity. Acting Together.

The suburban cities where active RCC citizen leaders live in range from being very early adopters to being slow adopters. Over several years RCC staff and peer mentors work with a core group of local leaders in a new RCC city to complete five key steps.

- **Bridging Relationships.** (Step 1) Organizing a citizen sustainability coalition (2) Building a broader base of support within their community among students, faith communities, BIPOC communities, League of Women Voters, businesses, environmentalists.
- **Building Capacity.** (3) Finding a City Council Member and city staff who are open to working on sustainability (4) Passing a City Council Resolution to form a City Sustainability commission to guide your city's cities resilience work. Supporting your team to foster diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- **Acting Together.** (5) Recruiting diverse, motivated volunteers to serve on their Sustainability Commission. Creating and implementing an annual sustainability/resilience work plan in partnership with their City Council and their City Staff Green Team.

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Bridging Relationships. Building Capacity. Acting Together.



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## The Network

The Resilient Cities & Communities network is expanding to support leaders from more than 50 Minnesota cities in achieving their 2030 equity, energy, and resilience goals. The following cities participated in one or more of our Resilient Cities workshops over the past three years.

<b>Twin Cities Metro Area</b>	<b>Anoka County</b> – Anoka, Blaine, Coon Rapids, Columbia Heights, Fridley <b>Carver County</b> – Chanhassen, Chaska, Victoria <b>Dakota County</b> – Apple Valley, Burnsville, Eagan, Hastings, Inver Grove Heights, Lakeville, Mendota Heights, Rosemount, West St. Paul <b>Hennepin County</b> – Minneapolis, Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center, Bloomington, Champlin, Edina, Eden Prairie, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Richfield, Shorewood, St. Louis Park, Wayzata	<b>Ramsey County</b> – St. Paul, Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Roseville, Maplewood, North Oaks, Shoreview, St. Anthony Village, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake <b>Scott County</b> – Jordan, Belle Plain, Shakopee <b>Washington County</b> – Oakdale, Lake Elmo, Mahtomedi, Marine on the St. Croix, Scandia, Stillwater, Woodbury
<b>Greater Minnesota</b>	<b>Clay County</b> – Moorhead <b>Cook County</b> – Grand Marais <b>Freeborn County</b> – Albert Lea <b>Goodhue County</b> – Redwing <b>Olmsted County</b> – Rochester	<b>Rice County</b> – Faribault, Northfield <b>Stearns County</b> – St. Cloud <b>St. Louis County</b> – Duluth <b>Winona County</b> – Winona

## High Impact Actions for Low Carbon Cities

In early 2020, Resilient Cities & Communities [convened leaders from twenty nine metro cities](#) to identify, prioritize, and plan high impact actions to achieve their 2040 Comprehensive Plan climate goals. A summary of these goals follows.

### Energy Efficiency / High Performance Buildings

New building construction and existing building retrofits

Action 1. **Adopt an Energy Benchmarking Ordinance**

Action 2. **Commercial & Multifamily Engagement** Partners in Energy, PACE, Cost Share Grants

Action 3. **Adopt a Sustainable Building Policy** Performance construction with city investments

Action 4. **New Buildings - Educating Developers** Xcel design assistance, PACE funding

Action 5. **Supporting Legislation or Statewide Policy Improvements** net-zero construction

Action 6. **Truth in Sale of Housing Inspections** Adding an energy audit and energy score

Action 7. **Cities comments on Inclusive Financing docket with the PUC** Completed June 2020



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## Clean Energy Grid

City operations, local solar, community-wide access to renewable energy

Action 1. **Procuring Renewable Energy for City Operations**

Action 2. **Solar Ready Building Construction** City owned buildings, businesses, multifamily

Action 3. **Expanding Rooftop Solar within City** Businesses, Institutions (schools), Residents

Action 4. **Support Legislation to Continue Xcel Energy's Solar Rewards 2021**

Action 5. **Cities commenting on Xcel's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)** October 2020 deadline

## Low Carbon Transportation / Land Use

Electric vehicles, transit investment, bike, walkability, equitable TOD, in-fill redevelopment

Action 1. **Support sustained state, regional & county transit investments** Reprioritize spending

Action 2. **Prioritize pedestrians, bikes, transit in public right of ways** complete streets

Action 3. **Plan for equitable in-fill redevelopment** Net Zero, Equitable, Walkable, TOD

Action 4. **Support increased adoption of Electric Vehicles** City Fleets, E.V. Charging Ordinance

Action 5. **Shared Mobility** Joint powers agreements to regulate shared mobility modes

## Innovating High Impact Actions for Resilient Cities

### The Opportunity

There are several major areas within cities' Comprehensive Plans that we will convene in future discussions to identify and prioritize high impact actions for climate adaptation and resilience, including urban carbon capture, solid waste management, green economic development, and equitable development strategies.

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