

Building Strong Communities with Grant Funding

May 10, 2022 | 5:30-7:30 PM



Introductions

Please add your organization name to your Zoom profile:

- Go to the Participants list
- Find your name
- Click "more" and then "rename" and add in your org name



Introductions



- Martha Sheils
- Chloe Shields
- Courtney Crossgrove



- Victoria Boundy
- Josee Stetich

Background



- 2020 Climate Resilience Funding Workshops
 - *Setting Municipalities up for Success*
 - *Setting Funders up for Impact*
- Governor's Office of Policy Innovation & the Future (GOPIF) Community Resilience Pilot (Coastal Communities)
- New GOPIF Community Resilience Partnership

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP

For Service Providers

Recruit
a group of 2-5 communities
and apply for a Service
Provider Grant.

Assist
communities to join the
Partnership by completing
the 3 criteria

Assist
communities to apply
for action grants

Community
Resilience Pilot
(Summer 2021)

Service provider grant
applications are accepted
two times per year:

FEBRUARY 15
AUGUST 16

3 CRITERIA:

adopting a resolution of commitment, completing
a pair of self-assessments, and holding a
community workshop to prioritize initial climate
resilience and clean energy actions.

Open enrollment, no deadline

Action grant applications
are accepted two
times per year:

MARCH 22
SEPTEMBER 20



maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership

Agenda



- 5:40-6:10 p.m. Community Success Stories:
Collaborating to Secure Funds and Implement Projects**
- 6:10-6:25 p.m. Poll followed by short break**
- 6:25-7:05 p.m. Regional Breakout Groups: Connecting
Communities and Partners**
- 7:05-7:25 p.m. Breakout Debrief and Discussion: Inland
Community Priorities and Challenges**
- 7:25-7:30 p.m. Wrap Up & Closing**

Community Success Stories: Collaborating to Secure Funds and Implement Projects

6:40-6:10 p.m.

Jay Kamm

Senior Planner, Northern Maine Development Commission

Kelly Rehberg

Sustainability Programs Coordinator, Greater Portland Council of Governments



Community Resilience Pilot Project

WASHBURN – CARIBOU – FORT FAIRFIELD

Aroostook County

Summer and Fall 2021

- *Each community is located in the Aroostook River watershed*
- *All have experienced flooding associated with spring runoff and ice jams as well as from severe summer storms.*
- *Each has a relatively compact downtown or village center and are surrounded by large amounts of agricultural or forestland.*
- *They have a history of working together on a wide variety of projects including solid waste management (are owner communities of the regional landfills), land use and corridor management planning, shared municipal services, and natural resource management.*
- *One of the unique features is that there is a Regional Board of Appeals, made up of the area code enforcement officers that serve as Washburn and Caribou's Board of Appeals.*



~ Resilience Roundtable Objectives ~

- 1. Foster deeper awareness and understanding across all three municipalities of the top priority actions generated via respective Community Resilience Building Workshops.*
- 2. Recognition of both individual priorities and commonalities in top priority actions across the three municipalities.*
- 3. Identification and agreement on one or more top priority actions to advance via an immediate funding opportunity.*

Top Hazards

The communities identified the top hazards as (independently and collectively):

- 1. Excessive Rainfall- Flooding (riverine, flash flooding, and runoff)*
- 2. Extreme Winter Storms (including ice, wind, and snow)*
- 3. Drought and Heat Waves.*
- 4. Thaws, Refreezing, and Ice Outs*



TOP PRIORITIES

MUNICIPALITY	TOP PRIORITY	TOP PRIORITY	TOP PRIORITY	TOP PRIORITY	TOP PRIORITY
WASHBURN	<u>Facilities:</u> - New Public Safety Building.	<u>Transportation:</u> 1) Route 164 to Presque Isle, 2) Salmon Brook Bridge	<u>Water Use:</u> 1) Private Well Assistance Program, 2) Irrigation Assistance	<u>Power:</u> Routine Power Interruptions	
CARIBOU	<u>Communications:</u> 1) Automated Emergency Communications Platform, 2) Broadband	<u>Transportation:</u> 1) River Road, 2) Grimes Road, 3) Fencing/Living Fencing Program	<u>Wastewater:</u> Increase & Improve Capacity	<u>Power:</u> Update & Upgrade to Reduce Outages	<u>Land Use:</u> Soil Conservation Practices and Land Use
FORT FAIRFIELD	<u>Infrastructure:</u> 1) Upgrade Warning System for Levy, 2) Broadband	<u>Transportation:</u> 1) Main Street & Presque Isle Street upgrades, 2) Living Fencing (tree planting and soil conservation	<u>Water Management:</u> 1) Culverts Upgrades, 2) Private Well Assistance, 3) Irrigation	<u>Power:</u> Update & Upgrade to Reduce Outages	

Top Priorities

- *Each of the priority actions were consistent with strategies located in the Aroostook County Hazard Mitigation Plan, local comprehensive plans, local ordinances, or regional transportation plans.*
- *In several cases, priority actions are also identified in the Aroostook-Washington Economic Development District's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Identification in this plan opens action items to potential funding through the Economic Development Administration (EDA).*

This brings up some points to consider.

Successes

The biggest takeaway from the workshops were:

- *Not all funding for climate resiliency planning and implementation has to come from traditional sources. Think outside the box. EDA being an example.*
- *Climate resiliency has a very different meaning to many- know your audience. Priorities may be economic development, community development, transportation planning, and environment.*
- *Partnerships are key.*
- *Positive Outcome- low hanging fruit.*
 - *Aroostook Emergency Management Agency is now working with each community on early warning communication improvements.*



Ultimately the biggest success was best described by Fort Fairfield's Town Manager who said, "The process made each community look at climate resiliency in a different light without getting into the political arena."

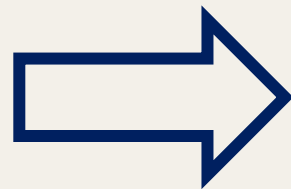
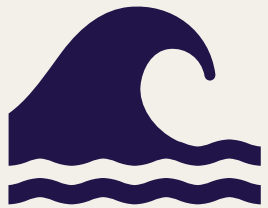
Community Resilience Pilot

+

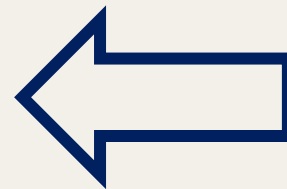


Hazards, Impacts, and Vulnerabilities

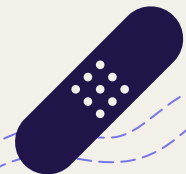
**Climate
Hazards**



**Climate
Impacts**



**Social
Vulnerabilities**



Overview of prioritization process

1. What hazard is the top priority to address?

2. Who or what is the highest priority for supporting resilience to this hazard? (i.e., natural resource, infrastructure, social group)

3. What data do you have that supports this?

4. What are the benefits of addressing this hazard?

5. What are the barriers to addressing this hazard?

Process Overview

GOPIF awarded GPCOG a grant to lead Windham and Bridgton in a pilot program designed to increase municipal capacity to plan for climate change



- Held a series of 3 workshops
- discussing climate hazards and impacts
 - assessing vulnerability of local assets to these hazards
 - identifying actions that can improve resilience



Town teams identified a list of priority projects that build resilience



Submit funding proposal to GOPIF for additional funding from the state

Break!

Please feel free to step away from your computer, mute your microphone, and/or turn off your video, just remember we will...

Reconvene at **6:25 p.m.**



Breakout Groups: Connecting Communities and Partners

6:25-7:05 p.m.



Breakout Rooms



The majority of you were preassigned a room by region:

- 1. Northern & Eastern Maine (NMDC, EMDC, Sunrise County Economic Council)*
- 2. Central, Western & Midcoast Maine (AVCOG, KVCOG, MCOG)*
- 3. Southern Maine A (GPCOG)*
- 4. Southern Maine B (SMPDC)*

If you were not preassigned a room you can select from the above options

Breakout Debrief & Discussion: Inland Community Priorities and Challenges

7:05-7:25 p.m.



Wrap Up & Closing

