

Massachusetts Climate Resiliency: This state effort is helping communities confront weather-related natural disasters through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Hampshire County towns are not included, and PVPC is interested in getting Hampshire County into the program. There is grant money to help with emergency preparedness and recovery. A letter of interest is due August 7.

Fire Department and Emergency Management recommends this.

Please take a vote.

# MASSACHUSETTS CLIMATE RESILIENCY - SOLICITATION OF INTEREST

Posting date: July 16, 2015

Submission Deadline: August 7, 2015

Project Budget range: \$10,000 – 10,000,000+

## Share your ideas on how to increase resiliency in Massachusetts against natural disasters and climate change!

### Background

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is seeking project ideas for inclusion in its Phase 2 application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under its National Disaster Resilience (NDR) Competition\*. As one of 40 finalists, Massachusetts has been invited to propose specific projects that advance recovery and resilience to natural disasters and climate change. Proposed projects should mitigate damages from and build resilience against damage that occurred as a result of six federally declared disasters that occurred in Massachusetts in 2011, 2012, and 2013 (Table 1).

**Table 1. Federally-Declared Disasters in 2011, 2012, and 2013**

<u>Disaster Number</u>	<u>Incident Begin Date</u>	<u>Incident End Date</u>	<u>Declaration Date</u>	<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Title</u>
1994	2011-06-01	2011-06-01	2011-06-15	Tornado	SEVERE STORMS AND TORNADOES
1959	2011-01-11	2011-01-12	2011-03-07	Snow	SEVERE WINTER STORM AND SNOWSTORM
4028	2011-08-27	2011-08-29	2011-09-03	Hurricane	TROPICAL STORM IRENE
4051	2011-10-29	2011-10-30	2012-01-06	Severe Storm(s)	SEVERE STORM AND SNOWSTORM
4097	2012-10-27	2012-11-08	2012-12-19	Hurricane	HURRICANE SANDY
4110	2013-02-08	2013-02-09	2013-04-19	Severe Storm(s)	SEVERE WINTER STORM, SNOWSTORM, AND FLOODING

### Request

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is requesting ideas from community leaders, planners, citizens, businesses, and other interested parties for projects in eligible Target Areas and across the state. "Target Areas" likely include all of Hampden County, portions of Franklin County, northern Berkshire County, the metro-Boston area and some coastal communities and were chosen because they sustained major damage during one or more of the disasters listed above, have not been able to identify other funds for recovery ("unmet recovery need"), are considered "distressed" by HUD (for example, are of low and moderate income), and are likely to experience even more challenges in recovery. Proposals for projects benefitting other areas as well as the entire Commonwealth are also sought.

Projects must be related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from a major disaster listed in Table 1. Proposed projects shall be innovative, and forward-looking, and should also address resilience needs. Examples of projects that reduce the Commonwealth's vulnerabilities and enhance its economic resiliency and community development include infrastructure repairs or re-design; flood-proofing; natural resource restoration; green infrastructure projects; floodplain restoration; buy-outs of vulnerable properties; clean resilient energy; and assessments, studies and planning.

Applications shall:

- Include name and contact information of person or organization making the proposal;
- Describe the Target Area (location will directly benefit from the project) through a map, street address, name of community, latitude/longitude;
- Describe specific project tasks;
- List affected parties and potential partners;
- Be related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from one of the six major disasters listed in Table 1;
- Help the community/region recover from the effects of the covered disaster;
- Advance community development objectives such as economic revitalization;
- Improve the community's or state's ability to absorb or rapidly recover from the effects of future extreme events, stresses, threats, hazards, or other shocks;
- Increase statewide understanding of climate change and its impacts, with particular relevance to Target Areas;
- Help increase resiliency in vulnerable areas more resilient; and
- Work across municipal boundaries (encouraged but not required).

#### **Submission procedure**

Parties submitting project ideas should submit the requested information by 3:00 pm August 7, 2015.

All emailed submissions should include "Solicitation of Interest – National Disaster Resilience Competition" in the subject line. Submissions may be a brief paragraph or more detailed descriptions, but should be no more than two (2) pages of single-spaced text. Additional maps and graphics may be linked to or attached and will not count in the page limit.

Please send your project ideas to:

KATHLEEN BASKIN  
Director of Water Policy  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114  
Email: [kathleen.baskin@state.ma.us](mailto:kathleen.baskin@state.ma.us)

\*This competition will award supplemental disaster recovery Community Development Block Grant (CDGB) funds competitively for resilient recovery activities. Among major disaster recovery programs, CDBG is notable in its statutory focus on determining and meeting the unmet needs of vulnerable lower-income people and communities and targeting the most impacted and distressed areas. CDBG considers a wide range of local community development objectives related to recovery and economic revitalization, including integrally related resilience objectives.