

Welcome to the first meeting of the Resilience Working Advisory Team



INTRODUCTIONS

Climate Leadership Commitments

Signed by University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



The Climate Commitment

Integrates a goal of carbon neutrality with climate resilience and provides a systems approach to mitigating and adapting to a changing climate. Designed to blend these two critical components of climate leadership.



The Carbon Commitment

Focused on reducing the emissions of harmful greenhouse gases to zero and mitigating campuses' contribution to climate change.



The Resilience Commitment


Focused on climate adaptation-specific goals, as well as building community capacity to deal with a constantly changing climate and resulting extremes.

Proclamation

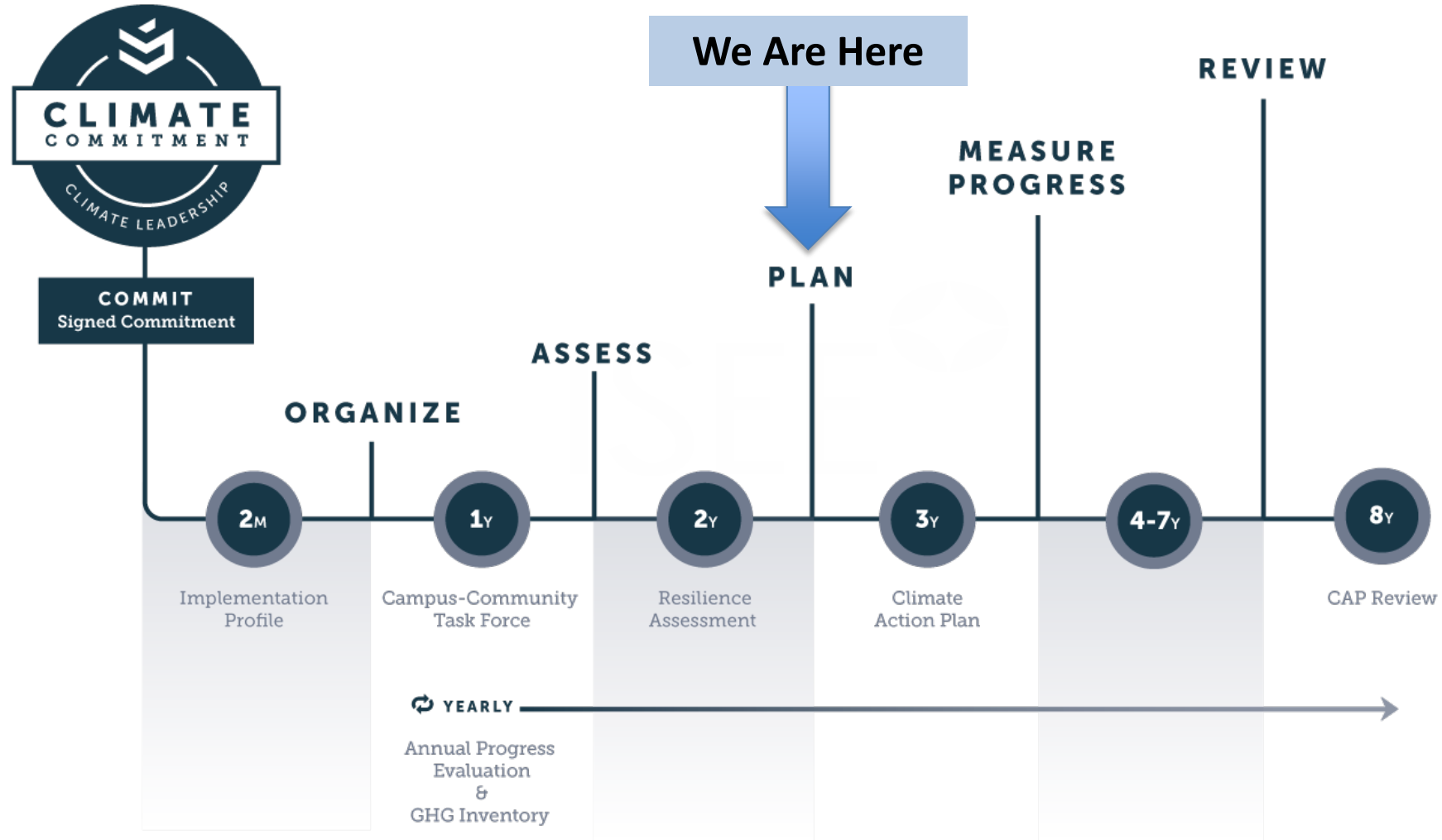
AFFIRMING A LOCAL PARTNERSHIP FOR
JOINT CLIMATE RESILIENCE EFFORTS


Mayor Deborah Patrick Feinen
Champaign, Illinois


Mayor Diane Marlin
Urbana, Illinois


Chancellor Robert Jones
University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign

Review of Resilience Commitment



Initial Indicators

Social Equity & Governance	
Emergency Preparedness Planning and Intergovernmental Agreements	To some extent there is shared planning and existing agreements between the University and the community for emergency preparedness planning, though most of the existing partnerships only address acute emergencies, not longer-term recovery or preparation for ongoing climate change impacts. Immediate areas of growth included expanding joint planning and conducting vulnerability mapping exercises for the area.
Food Security	A number of food banks exist to serve campus and the Champaign County community at large. A formal assessment needs to be conducted to measure how many individuals / families can be served by area food banks and how much additional support is needed from campus and the community moving forward.
Inclusive Access to Diversified Modes of Transportation	Much of the campus and community currently have multiple options for transit to campus, even in the immediate aftermath of extreme weather events. Low or no cost use of local buses is available to residents in the area, and buses can operate in conditions where single-occupancy cars may not be able to. A continual area of growth is in expanding access to outlying areas where many faculty and staff commute from.
Community Resilience and Emergency Messaging	Many emergency communications are only available in English despite a large portion of the community having other primary languages. Preparedness messaging tends to be available in multiple languages, but there is always opportunity to grow in this area.

Initial Indicators

Health & Wellness	
Healthcare Coverage and Access	As part of the planning process for future resilience efforts, data on the current percentage of local population that is uninsured and the current ability of local hospitals to provide indigent care will be collected.
Emergency Shelter for Extreme Climate and Weather Events	Campus and the surrounding area have a number of facilities that can serve as shelter during extreme weather / climate events, ranging from tornado shelters during extreme storms to cooling / heating centers during extreme heat or cold. As part of the upcoming vulnerability mapping efforts, assessment will be conducted on the current locations of shelters relative to the needs of at-risk groups, and whether these spaces are appropriately stocked to support those present during extreme weather events.
Emergency Healthcare Preparedness	Local hospitals, long-term care facilities, and dialysis centers are required by state law to have emergency plans in place and on file. An assessment of the current number of emergency beds available in the immediate community relative to the total population will be conducted in the coming year.

Initial Indicators

Ecosystem Services	
Stormwater Management	Campus and community both have strong stormwater abatement strategies with plans for areas of improvement. For example, campus has been considering expansion of bioswales and permeable pavement to reduce impervious surfaces around campus. As part of vulnerability mapping and planning exercises, data will be collected on the number of local residences and businesses that have flood insurance and, as available, the number of reports of flooding (especially basement flooding) of local areas.
Tree Health and Tree Canopy	Both campus and the local cities have been recognized as Tree Cities USA / a Tree Campus USA, and have numerous healthy trees in the area. The main area of focus for this indicator is ensuring continued care of trees and appropriate replanting to protect and expand these efforts.
Grounds Management	Campus already has some level of sustainable grounds management policies; however, additional training and policies are needed to improve the native plant ecosystem, support pollinators, and reduce need for watering and external inputs.

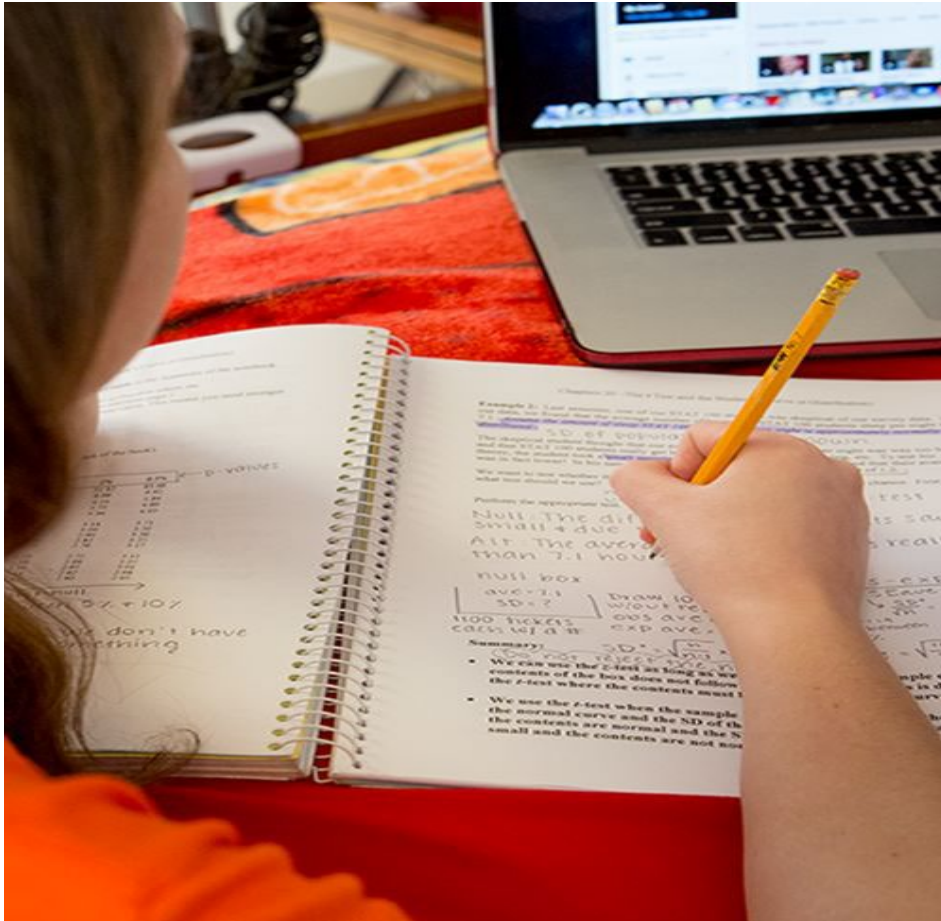
Initial Indicators

Infrastructure	
Grid Capacity	Champaign County has one of the first microgrids in Illinois. Ameren Illinois, the local utility provider, has already equipped 83,000 local homes with smart meters, with plans to expand smart meter use to the entire service area by 2019. These efforts will assist in avoiding brownouts or power shortages, even in times of heavy demand.
Building Standards	Campus builds all new construction and renovation over a certain cost to international building standards for utility efficiency and ability to withstand extreme weather. All facilities are built to state energy efficiency standards by law.

Initial Indicators

Economic	
Financial Assistance for Residential Weatherproofing	Both Ameren Illinois and Champaign County Regional Planning Commission offer incentives and assistance to area residents, including UIUC faculty, staff, and students, to weatherproof their homes. While programs exist, data needs to be gathered on current utilization and opportunities for expansion.
Stormwater Utility Fee	Champaign and Urbana both charge a stormwater utility fee based off impervious area of commercial and residential properties that augments general fund monies to support expanded stormwater abatement efforts.
Emergency Funds for Disaster Relief	Campus has a small Faculty/Staff Assistance Program that provides funds to support faculty and staff through times of need in some cases. One area of possible support from campus for the community at large is providing assistance from expert faculty in drafting emergency preparedness grants for community organizations.

Homework



Suggested 2020 iCAP objectives,
for discussion at our next meeting