**Resilience**

Updated with suggestions from R-WAT team, Campus Sustainability Celebration participant suggestions and Student Input Session participant suggestions.

**Resilience Advisory Team**

**DRAFT Objectives and Action Steps**

**Substantially Implement by 2025:**

1. Develop an urban biodiversity master plan and implementation working group to make the Champaign, Urbana, Savoy, and Campus metro area a model for:
   1. Including native plant species,
   2. Using tree canopy and other vegetation to curb heat island effect, manage stormwater, improve air quality, and reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere,
   3. Planting to support pollinator and bird habitat,
   4. Planting to support human health and wellbeing:
      1. minimize illness due to mosquitos and ticks, and
      2. reduce the adverse health and environmental impacts of lawn and other landscape maintenance practices
   5. Develop model ordinances for use in our metro area and to share with other communities.
   6. Engage faculty and students to develop monitoring programs to assess the effectiveness of practices, making the metro area a test bed for information and innovation
   7. Develop community garden and/or food forest.
2. Assess metro area resilience and actively address related environmental justice issues.
   1. Recognize existing programs within the communities.
   2. Identify common principles – entities work separately
   3. [Have U of I students & faculty] Conduct climate and other environmental vulnerability assessments of population on the campus and in the communities
   4. Incorporate resources to improve food security in vulnerable areas, such as shuttles, food trucks, and community gardens,
   5. Identify locations where cooling centers are needed for vulnerable residents, including an education component, and
   6. Develop training programs to employ at risk youth and adults in resilience jobs, such as green or renewable energy design and maintenance, food security program, and other new or expanding job markets.
3. Design and identify funding mechanisms for a program that connects Champaign, Urbana, and Savoy test sites to University of Illinois scholars and students so that researchers and classes are addressing the Illinois’s most pressing sustainability challenges in our communities in a way that can be directly applied to those communities.

Steps:

* 1. Form a working group of faculty and communities to discuss a plan that will integrate campus scholarship into community project sites.
  2. Finalize a working plan for soliciting community projects, matching them with campus faculty, classes, or students, and assisting communities in implementation. The plan should include funding mechanisms for each step.
  3. Connect 5 communities to classes to do applied projects.
  4. Launch this as a full component of the University.

1. Engage community members in climate action as outlined in previous objectives to extend the impacts from public to private land including:
   1. Encourage residents to monitor conditions, such as basement flooding, and report so that decision makers have accurate data on conditions, practice effectiveness, and potential problem areas, and
   2. Develop materials and programs for residents about best practices and provide training and incentives, through such things as stormwater utility fees, to implement BMPs.
   3. Utilize CCNet to spread awareness of local sustainability programs
   4. Implement geothermal energy for extreme weather resilience.
   5. De-centralize energy production.
   6. Identify carbon-free and emissions-free baseload energy generation options.
   7. Retrofit buildings for severe weather.
2. Coordinate Rainwater Management Plans for entire urbanized area
   1. Designing for rainwater management through green infrastructure including permeable pavement, bioswales, green roofs, rain gardens, etc…
   2. Engage U of I F&S in preparing a rainwater management plan for campus that includes green infrastructure.
   3. Encourage developers to have Green Roofs on Green Street and other high traffic areas
   4. Encourage developers to install permeable surfaces.
   5. Monitor performance of permeable pavements.
   6. Create drought management plan.

6. Support Vision Zero as a county-wide goal for safe and sustainable transportation.