

# INTEGRATING RESILIENCE IN LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATES



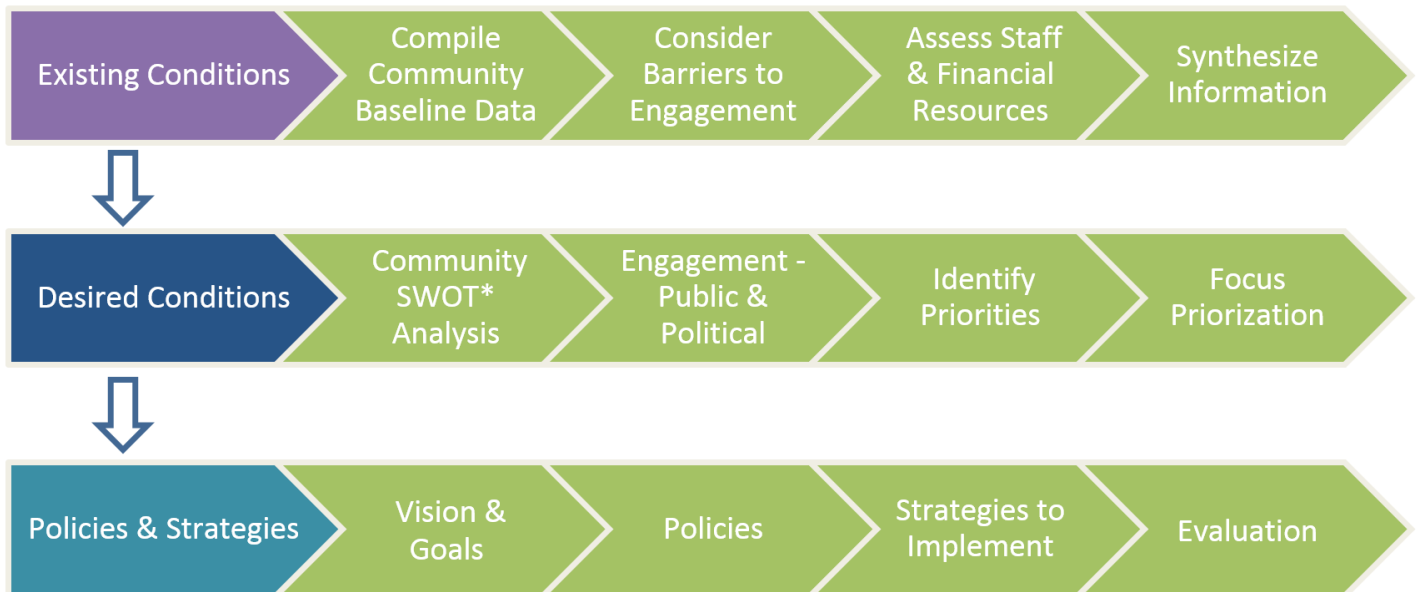
## REGIONAL POLICY – BUILDING IN RESILIENCY

To build on the foundation of the Sustainability Outcome within Thrive MSP 2040, the Council has identified the land use policy 'Building in Resiliency,' which seeks to develop local resiliency to the impacts of climate change. A community's role in 'Building in Resilience' can include the following:

- Address climate change mitigation and adaptation in locally meaningful ways in the Plan;
- Identify local measures that result in reductions energy use and resource consumption;
- Ensure that the Plan protects and enable the development of solar resources;
- Consider the development or use of community solar gardens (CSGs);
- Establish measures to address the community impacts from extreme climate events;
- Participate in programs that evaluate and share city practices and provide technical support, such as the GreenStep Cities program and the Regional Indicators Initiative.

## THE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING PROCESS

In order to ensure success in integrating resilience planning throughout the comprehensive plan, it is important to highlight a standard compressive planning flow chart, for reference:



\*SWOT – strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats

## INTEGRATING RESILIENCE INTO THE PLANNING PROCESS

The principle challenge to integrating resilience planning into the comprehensive plan stems from the fact that Plan chapters are often delegated to particular departments or work units within a local community. In order to ensure that resilience planning is properly incorporated and integrated throughout the Plan, a city can consider the following provisions:

- Establish a staff & City Council resilience lead;
- Institutionalize & embed resilience planning across departments/work units;
- Source data at the local level (e.g., from Watershed Management Organizations);
- Front-load the process by engaging with the community early and in meaningful ways;
- Consider community identity as part of the visioning process;
- Communicate the process and milestones often with stakeholders;
- Meet in the middle – frame the Plan but allow local advocates to contribute;

Continue to next page →

- Assess & plan beyond community boundaries through multi-jurisdictional partnerships;
- Build capacity through partnerships with agencies and academic institutions;
- Create policies that address community needs and can be implemented and evaluated;
- Be aspirational with the vision, goals, and policies; be specific with implementation strategies and evaluation measures;
- Consider the co-benefits when creating policies and implementation strategies;
- Consider strategically assessing/scoring your Plan to ensure integration.

## STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The example below, taken from the APA's *Sustaining Places: Best Practice for Comprehensive Plans*, shows how integration can occur using a strategic approach to ensuring that visions and goals are integrated throughout the Plan. A community may wish to employ such a method to measure the achievement of incorporating resilience visions and goals within the various Plan Elements in order to ensure that policies and implementation strategies link back to the overall community vision.

### APPENDIX C: PLAN SCORING MATRIX

BEST PRACTICES FOR PLAN PRINCIPLES	N/A	0	1	2	3	Source
<b>1. LIVABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b> —Ensure that all elements of the built environment, including land use, transportation, housing, energy, and infrastructure, work together to provide sustainable, green places for living, working, and recreation, with a high quality of life.						
1.1. Plan for multimodal transportation.						
1.2. Plan for transit-oriented development.						
1.3. Coordinate regional transportation investments with job clusters.						
1.4. Provide complete streets serving multiple functions.						
1.5. Plan for mixed land-use patterns that are walkable and bikeable.						
1.6. Plan for infill development.						
1.7. Encourage design standards appropriate to the community context.						
1.8. Provide accessible public facilities and spaces.						
1.9. Conserve and reuse historic resources.						
1.10. Implement green building design and energy conservation.						
1.11. Discourage development in hazard zones.						
<b>TOTAL SCORE: 1. LIVABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b>						

\*N/A = Not applicable; 0 = Not present; 1 = Low achievement; 2 = Medium Achievement; 3 = High Achievement; Source (indicate where in the plan each best practice is discussed)

## FOR MORE RESOURCES

Metropolitan Council staff are in the process creating workshops and more Local Planning Handbook resources for community use:

- Local Planning Handbook: <http://metro council.org/Handbook>
- PlanIt Training series: <https://metro council.org/Handbook/PlanIt.aspx>

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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