



In 2016, Washington, DC was selected from more than 1,000 cities around the world to join the network of 100 Resilient Cities – Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation (100RC), along with cities like Paris, New York, The Hague, and Addis Ababa. As a member of 100RC, the city receives technical and financial support to develop and implement a Resilience Strategy that allows the city to plan for, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse events and long-term challenges. **DC’s Resilience Strategy will be a holistic, action-oriented plan to build partnerships and alliances as well as financing mechanisms, and will particularly focus on meeting the needs of vulnerable populations.**



Mayor Muriel Bowser established Resilient DC within the Office of the City Administrator to help DC withstand any natural or man-made threats to our communities, and to tackle the social challenges that come with being a rapidly growing city. To make our communities stronger in the face of these shocks and stresses, Resilient DC is working with stakeholders inside and outside of government to create a comprehensive Resilience Strategy for the District that advances innovative approaches to solving our most urgent challenges.

How will DC Develop its Resilience Strategy?

Resilient DC is leading a collaborative effort to develop a roadmap to resilience for the District, engaging a broad range of community members and identifying our unique priorities, which will result in an actionable set of initiatives.

The process kicked off with a workshop in February 2017, which engaged participants from the public, private, and non-profit sectors in the planning process.

How to Get Involved



Email us
ResilientDC@dc.gov



Visit our website
resilient.dc.gov



Take the survey:
Share your thoughts on how DC can become a more resilient district: resilient.dc.gov/survey

Urban resilience is the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience.

Over the next few months, Resilient DC will continue to work with stakeholders to identify our most important challenges and determine the best way to tackle them together through a Resilience Strategy with specific short-, medium-, and long-term initiatives aimed at future-proofing DC. This process will occur in two phases:

First, we will assess the District's current resilience, while engaging stakeholders. Then, we will identify opportunities for partnership and develop a Resilience Strategy that articulates DC's resilience goals and initiatives.

Our main objective is to trigger action, investment and support within DC government and among external partners. The Resilience Strategy will continuously be fine-tuned as priorities are addressed, challenges evolve, and initiatives are implemented.

What Shocks and Stresses Affect Washington DC?

We're working to build DC's resilience to both catastrophic shocks and chronic everyday stresses in order to ensure that DC thrives in the face of change. Our scope is necessarily broad and includes potential threats like terrorism, infrastructure failure, heat waves, cyber-attacks, and floods – as well as the slow-burning disasters we face every day like racial and economic inequality, the high cost of housing, and stressed transportation networks.

Top Identified Shocks



Top Identified Stresses



Cities across the country increasingly look to Washington, DC for leadership. Through Resilient DC, we will work together to tackle 21st century challenges and create a model for other cities to follow.

How Does the Washington DC Resilience Strategy Fit into Other Planning Processes?

Our goal is to build upon, not to recreate, other efforts already underway to build the District's resilience. We are learning about existing citywide plans and initiatives that build resilience and will work to incorporate them into a single strategy, while filling in the gaps where they exist. Several strategic planning efforts are already underway, including the development of Sustainable DC 2.0 and the update to DC's Comprehensive Plan. The Resilient DC Strategy will encompass these efforts and others. Over the next few months, we will work to understand what's missing and outline opportunities for meaningful change.



100 Resilient Cities – Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation (100RC) helps cities around the world become more resilient to social, economic, and physical challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century. 100RC provides this assistance through funding, tools, resources and membership in a global network of peer cities to share best practices and challenges. For more information, visit: www.100ResilientCities.org.