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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF Policy Innovation and the Future **Committee on Marine Resources - January 11, 2022**

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Maine's Climate Action Strategies



A. Embrace the Future of Transportation in Maine



D. Grow Maine's Clean Energy Economy and Good Jobs



G. Invest in Climate-Ready Infrastructure

B. Modernize Maine's Buildings



E. Protect Maine's Environment and Working Lands and Waters, Increase Carbon Sequestration



H. Engage People and Communities in Climate Impacts and Program Opportunities



C. Reduce Carbon Emissions the Energy and Industrial Sectors through Clean Energy Innovation



F. Build Healthy and Resilient Communities



Community Resilience Partnership

www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership

Purpose

Through grants and technical assistance, the Community Resilience Partnership assists communities to:

- reduce carbon emissions,
- transition to clean energy, and
- become more resilient to climate change effects such as to extreme weather, flooding, rising sea levels, public health impacts, and more.



Community Resilience Pilot Project (2021-2022)

3 regional cohorts & service providers:

Northern Region - Caribou, Fort Fairfield, Washburn

 Northern Maine Development Commission and The Nature Conservancy

Lakes Region - Bridgton, Windham

• Greater Portland Council of Governments

Coastal Region - Harpswell, Phippsburg, West Bath

• University of Southern Maine (New England Environmental Finance Center and Casco Bay Estuary Partnership)



Community/Regional Implementation Projects

Northern RegionTree plantings as windbreaks to reduce snow drifting
on roadways

Lakes RegionDeveloping resilience standards for municipal plans
and policies

Coastal Region Sea level rise adaptation options for town landings







Community Resilience Partnership

\$4.75 million in the biennial budget for local, tribal, and regional grants to reduce carbon emissions and prepare for climate change impacts

3 types of funding opportunities

- Grants to communities for planning and implementation
- Grants to service provider organizations to help communities get started
- Contracts with regional coordinators to support communities in implementation and securing funding



COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP

To Join the Partnership:

Adopt Resolution of Commitment Complete Pair of Self-Assessments

Hold Community Workshop to Prioritize Initial Climate Resilience and Clean Energy Actions

Submit

- Enrollment form
- Documentation of enrollment criteria

Open enrollment, no deadline

If a community needs assistance enrolling, there are grants available to service providers to help them with enrollment and their action grant application.

Once Joined:

To Maintain Active Status:

Congratulations!

Your community is eligible for action grants

Apply for a Community Action Grant

Applications are accepted Twice a Year: March 22 & September 20

Every 2 Years:

- Reevaluate the pair of self-assessment
- Show evidence of progress



maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership

Community Action Grants (RFA)

Grants to communities for priority **projects that reduce energy use and costs and/or make their community more resilient to climate change** effects, such as flooding, extreme weather, drought, and public health impacts.

Intended outcomes:

Emissions reductions and improved community resilience.

Leveraging federal and other funds for larger projects.



Community Action Grants (RFA)

Two options:

Option 1 No-match grants for one or more activities on the **List of 72 Community Actions** that align with *Maine Won't Wait*

Option 2 Grants for other community priorities that support clean energy, emissions reduction, and community resilience projects

\$50,000 for individual communities\$100,000 for multi-community proposals

Community Resilience Partnership List of Community Actions Revised December 1, 2021				
✓ Strategy Areas & Actions		egy Areas & Actions	Additional Resources (\$=funding source)	
		Area E: Protect the Environment & Promote Natural Clin	nate Solutions	
Protec		ural and Working Lands and Waters		
		Set targets for increasing green space and tree planting to increase shade and water access in public spaces and carbon sequestration.	DACF Project Canopy (\$)	
	E2	Incorporate a goal into conservation plans of conserving 30% of land in the community by 2030 (including undeveloped town property), with a priority on addressing conservation gaps related to high biodiversity areas, undeveloped blocks, and land and water connectivity.	IWF: Beginning with Habitat	
	E3	Create or update a watershed plan to identify flooding and water quality priorities and adaptation options.		
	E4	Develop a natural resource and habitat inventory that includes climate stressors and impacts.	ME Natural Areas Program: Maps, Data, and Technical Assistance	
	E5	Conserve, revegetate and reconnect floodplains and buffers in riparian areas.		
	FP I	Preserve climate-threatened natural areas such as wetlands, riparian areas, and headwater streams through zoning or other regulations.		
	E7	Implement a source water protection program.		
		Adopt policies that prioritize natural, nature-based or ecologically enhanced shoreline protection for coastlines, rivers, and lakes.		
	E9 I	Identify and protect sites for living shorelines and saltmarsh migration areas.	ME Natural Areas Program: Maps, Data, and Technical Assistance	
		Identify and protect open space in the floodplain to increase flood buffers and community resilience.	ME Natural Areas Program: Maps, Data, and Technical Assistance	
		Area F: Build Healthy & Resilient Communities		
Plan f		mmunity Resilience		
	F1	Conduct a community vulnerability assessment that identifies climate risks and vulnerable populations and includes a review of existing plans and policies. Adopt a climate resilience plan that describes high priority strategies for reducing risk and vulnerabilities (may be a standalone plan or included in a recommendation plan).		
		included in a comprehensive plan). Update the local or county EMA hazard mitigation plan to address changing/future conditions and identify specific strategies to reduce		

Community Action Grants (RFA)

Equity

- Maine's climate response must ensure shared benefits across **diverse populations of people in Maine**.
- **Robust community engagement**, for example inclusive planning processes so that diverse community voices are able to participate.
- Applicants should consider the potential benefits of their proposed climate action projects and, if applicable, describe how the project distributes benefits equitably.



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Service Provider Grants (RFA)

Grants to regional service providers who recruit groups of two to five communities to join the Partnership, conduct robust <u>community engagement</u> <u>that sets priorities</u> for implementing actions on the List of Community Actions, and <u>apply for Community Action Grants</u> and other funding opportunities to implement community energy and climate priorities.

Intended outcomes:

New enrollments by 2-5 communities, including:

Lists of each community's priority projects and cooperative priorities.

Assistance to communities in applying for Community Action Grants.



Service Provider Grants (RFA)



Awards: Up to \$10,000 per community in the group

• An additional \$2,500 may be requested for each community with a population below 4,000 and for communities with high social vulnerability.

Intend to make at least one award in each region:

Region 1: York, Cumberland, Sagadahoc, Lincoln, and Knox Counties
Region 2: Waldo, Hancock, and Washington Counties
Region 3: Androscoggin, Oxford, Kennebec, Franklin, and Somerset Counties
Region 4: Piscataquis, Aroostook, and Penobscot Counties
Region 5: Federally recognized Tribes in Maine

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Regional Coordinators Pilot (RFP)

This pilot complements the Service Provider and Community Action grants, with a focus on supporting communities and their service providers <u>to fund</u> <u>and implement priority climate and energy projects</u>.

Intended outcomes:

12-15 communities secure funding and other resources to implement emissions reductions and resilience projects



Regional Coordinators Pilot (RFP)

<u>Awards</u>: A one-time pilot with two-year funding, up to \$100,000 per year for two years.

Regions

Region 1: York, Cumberland, Sagadahoc, Lincoln, and Knox Counties.

Region 2: Waldo, Hancock, and Washington Counties.

Region 3: Androscoggin, Oxford, Kennebec, Franklin, and Somerset Counties.

Region 4: Piscataquis, Aroostook, and Penobscot Counties.



Grant Deadlines

Community Action Grants

Service Provider Grants

Regional Coordinators Pilot

March 22 & September 20

February 15 & August 16

January 25



Website and Contact

www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership

- Joining the Partnership
- 3 program applications
- Frequently Asked Questions

Brian Ambrette

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Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund (Maine DOT)

www.maine.gov/mdot/grants/mjrp



<u>Contact</u>: Maine Department of Transportation

- **\$20 million** from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan
- Support local, regional, and state infrastructure projects that address climate effects and support public safety
- Fill gaps in existing infrastructure programs, not duplicating other grant programs
- Eligible projects include scoping, design, implementation and construction
- Encourage project designs that consider future climate projections

Thank You

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