



# Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Municipal Staff Training for Planning Grants

Michelle Rowden  
MVP Northeast Regional Coordinator

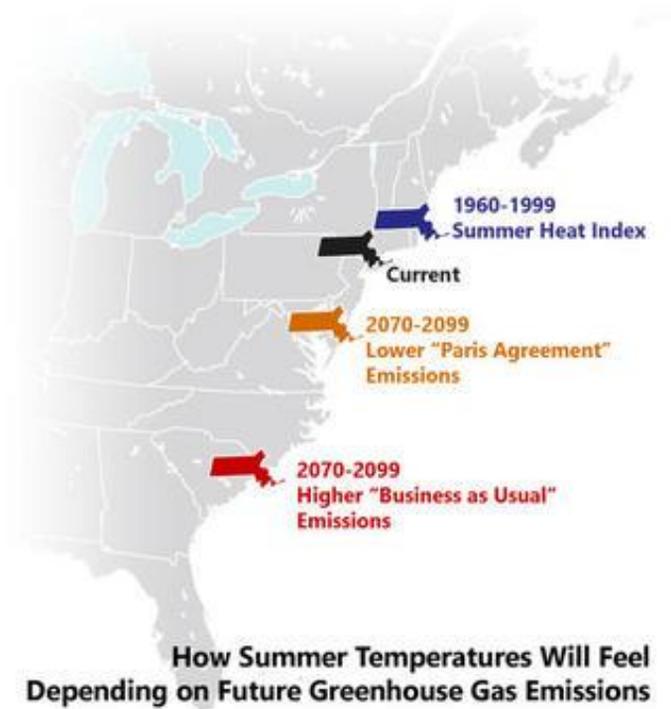


Carolyn Meklenburg  
MVP Greater Boston Regional Coordinator

MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

# Agenda

- ❖ Why and How MVP was created
- ❖ MVP Basics
- ❖ Becoming MVP Certified
- ❖ Planning Process Variations
- ❖ What's Next? MVP Action Grants
- ❖ Contact Us
- ❖ Questions



BH Boston Herald

## Spring in January: Boston reaches record-high temperatures

With temperatures reaching up to 70 degrees Saturday, Boston set a record high for the month as the city has only been that warm in January ...

1 week ago



WBUR

## April 2019 Saw The Most Days With Rain In Boston Since 1872

April 2019 Saw The Most Days With Rain In Boston Since 1872. May 02 ... This year, Boston had the most days of rain in any month since record-keeping began in 1872. ... April 2019 had 21 days of measurable rain. ... May 2, 2019



## Remnants of Hurricane Florence soak Berkshires, prompt flooding



nbc.com

## Messy 2-Day Ice Storm Set to Blast New England

Messy 2-Day Ice Storm Set to Blast New England ... Northeastern Massachusetts may see some snow before it transitions over to an icy mix.

3 weeks ago



P Patch.com

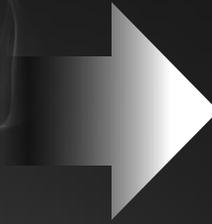
## Worcester To Hit 100 Degrees For First Time Since 1911

WORCESTER, MA — Record-breaking temperatures are expected in the city and across ... The infamous heat wave of 1911 lasted 11 days.

Jul 19, 2019



**More  
evaporation**

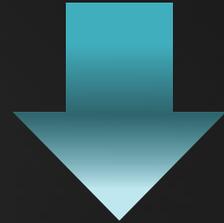


**More  
fuel for storms**

To  
understand  
why, you  
need only  
consider  
your  
morning  
coffee



**More  
Heat**

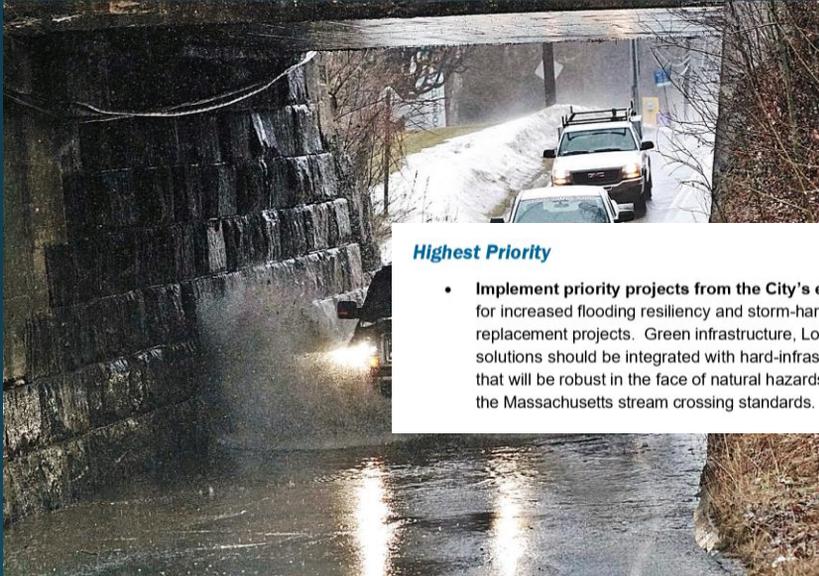


**More  
precipitation**

**Rising Temperatures  
Bring More Rain/Ice/Snow**

# Local Climate Change Impact Stories

## Stormwater Flooding in Pittsfield



### *Highest Priority*

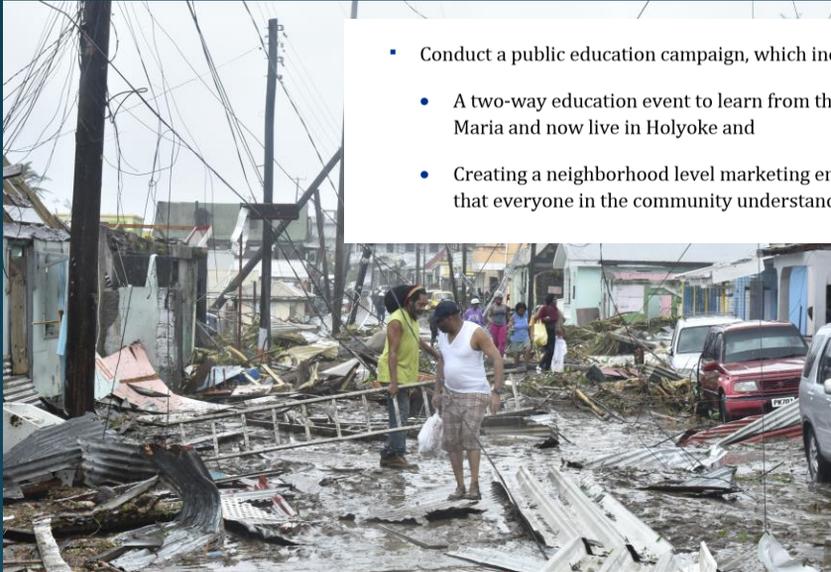
- **Implement priority projects from the City's existing field inventory of culverts, and bridges** for increased flooding resiliency and storm-hardening, including design of priority re-sizing or replacement projects. Green infrastructure, Low-Impact Design, and other nature-based solutions should be integrated with hard-infrastructure improvements to establish approaches that will be robust in the face of natural hazards and climate-change scenarios and that will meet the Massachusetts stream crossing standards.

Photo Credit: Berkshire Eagle

**MVP Action Grant:** Churchill Brook and West Street Culvert Replacement Project

# Local Climate Change Impact Stories

## Climate Migration to Holyoke



- Conduct a public education campaign, which includes: (3 groups)
  - A two-way education event to learn from the experiences of people that fled Hurricane Maria and now live in Holyoke and
  - Creating a neighborhood level marketing engagement and training program to ensure that everyone in the community understands what they need to do to be resilient.

Photo Credit: Wikimedia Commons

**MVP Action Grant** | The City of Holyoke's Response to Climate Change Displacement: The Case of the Post-Maria Migration of Puerto-Ricans



It's getting  
hotter...  
so what?

#ClimateChange

## WHETHER YOU LIVE IN A...



Rural village



Small island or  
coastal town



Big city

## CLIMATE CHANGE THREATENS YOUR HEALTH

**Drought,**  
floods and  
heat waves  
will increase.



**Vector-borne  
diseases,** like malaria  
and dengue virus will  
increase with more  
humidity and heat.

## Basic necessities will be disrupted...



### FOOD

Hunger and famine will  
increase as food production  
is destabilised by drought.



### AIR

Pollution and pollen seasons  
will increase leading to more  
allergies and asthma.



### WATER

Warmer waters and flooding  
will increase exposures to  
diseases in drinking and  
recreational waters.

Between **2030** and **2050** climate change is expected to cause

# 250 000 ADDITIONAL DEATHS PER YEAR

due to malaria, malnutrition, diarrhoea and heat stress.

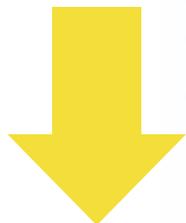


World Health  
Organization

# Changing Energy Use and Demand

## More Warm Winter Days, Less Heating Demand

(based on annual Heating Degree-Days, base 65)



**26.2%**

by the 2090s

1971-2000 Average:  
6839 Heating Degree-days

## More Warm Summer Days, More Cooling Demand

(based on annual Cooling Degree-Days, base 65)



**178%**

by the 2090s

1971-2000 Average:  
457 Cooling Degree-days

# Impacts from Changing Precipitation Conditions



Photo Credit: Jeff Brown

- Increased total rainfall
- More intense downpours
- Changes to rainfall and snowfall patterns



Photo Credit: Dave Sherman

# Impact Example: Public Health Algal Blooms

West Monponsett Pond, Halifax, Massachusetts



# MVP: Policy Context

<b>2008</b>	<b>Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA)</b>	To set economy-wide greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for Massachusetts that will achieve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 25% reduction in GHG emissions by 2020</li><li>• 80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050 (<a href="http://www.mass.gov/2050RoadMap">www.mass.gov/2050RoadMap</a>)</li></ul>
<b>2008</b>	<b>Green Communities Act</b>	A comprehensive reform of the Massachusetts energy marketplace that will greatly improve the state's ability to meet the GWSA targets
<b>2016</b>	<b>Executive Order 569</b>	A comprehensive approach to reduce GHG emissions to combat climate change and prepared for the impacts of climate change with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A State Adaptation Plan</li><li>• Agency Climate Coordinators &amp; Vulnerability Assessments</li><li>• Municipal Support</li></ul>
<b>2018</b>	<b>Environmental Bond Bill</b>	\$2.4 billion bond bill with focus on climate change resiliency <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Over \$200 million authorized for climate change adaptation</li><li>• Codifies EO 569, including the MVP Program</li></ul>

# Massachusetts State Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan (SHMCAP)



Acknowledges that climate change is already worsening natural hazards, **integrating information and planning elements** for 14 natural hazards that affect the Commonwealth

## Implementation

- *State*: Resilient MA Action Team (RMAT)
- *Local Partnerships*: Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program

# Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program



State and Local Partnership



Financial and Technical Resources to  
Address Critical Municipal Needs:

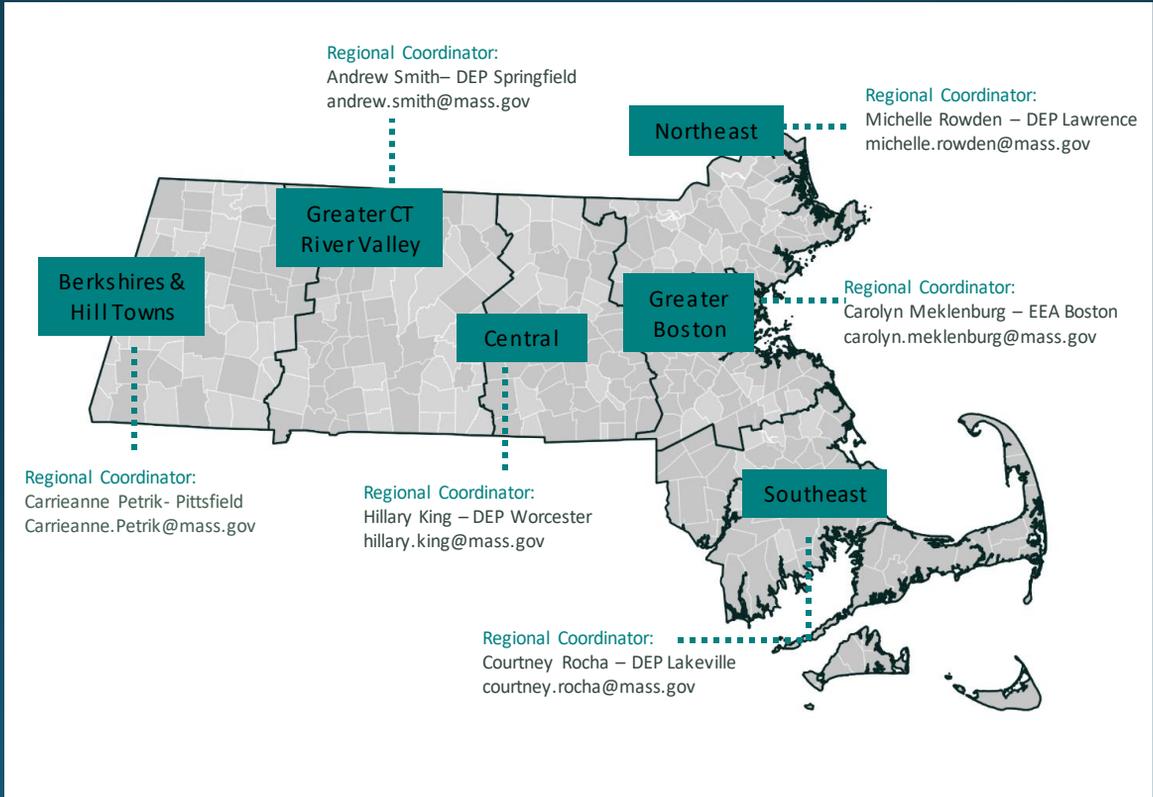
12,000+ culverts and small  
bridges needing replacement

1,100 municipally-owned  
coastal structures

300 high-hazard dams

96% DHCD housing  
developments to see 5.4°  
increase in max temperature  
by 2070

# MVP Regions



# MVP Regional Coordinators...



Manage MVP Grants



Conduct Outreach + Education on MVP



Provide Technical Support



Work to Improve MVP Program

# Three Years of MVP

## MVP Designations

71% of the Commonwealth

249 communities

## Action Grant Projects

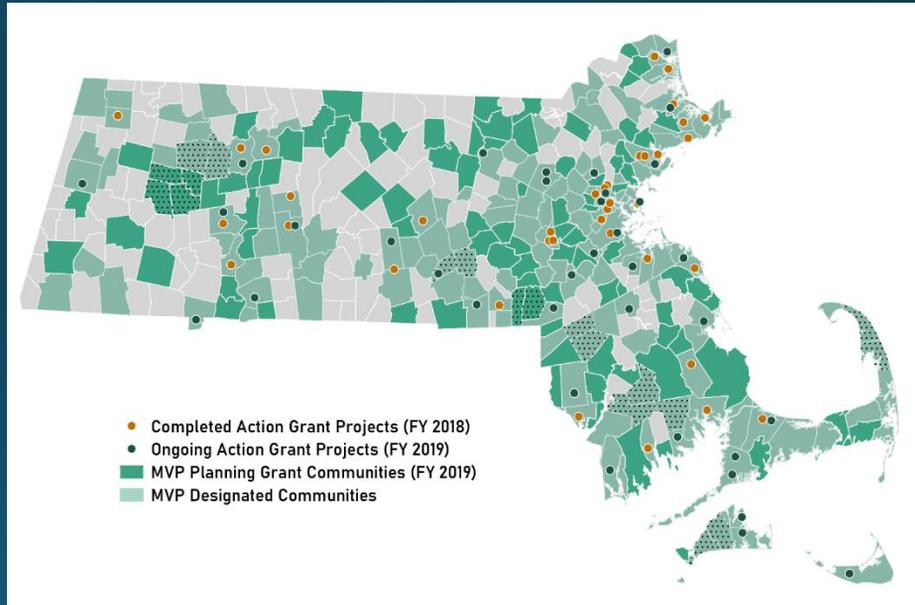
FY 18: 37

FY 19: 36

FY 20: TBA

## Total Awards

\$17M+ in planning and  
action grants to date



# MVP Grants

18



## MVP Planning Grant

- \$15,000- \$100,000 per plan
- Some expanded scopes
- *\$1M available*



## MVP Action Grant

- Open to MVP communities
- \$25,000- \$2M per project
- 25% (non-state) match required
- *\$10M available annually*

# MVP Principles

A community-led, accessible process that:

- Employs **local knowledge** and buy-in
- Utilizes **partnerships** and leverages existing efforts
- Reaches and responds to risks faced by **EJ communities and vulnerable populations**
- Is based in **best available climate projections** and data
- Incorporates principles of **nature-based solutions**
- Demonstrates **pilot potential** and is **proactive**



# Outreach and Engagement

- Who
- Priorities
- Obstacles to Involvement
- Existing Partnerships
- Experienced Vendors



Be Creative!

# Our Definition of Resiliency is Evolving

Climate change is felt amongst all populations, but it is most acutely felt within populations that have emitted the fewest GHG emissions

- Very young, by definition they have done the least
- Low Income
- Indigenous Communities, 80% of world's intact ecosystems are managed by indigenous communities
- Minority groups (as defined in the North American context)
- Differently-abled
- Incarcerated
- Queer community
- Unhoused

Yet, the data we have from the program does not indicate that these voices have been incorporated into planning projects

- Thousands of conversations have happened around the Commonwealth around the topic of Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation...this is inherently good
- But we can bring in different voices

Municipal Staff Conducted  
CRB Workshop

Heard specific concerns  
from stakeholder about  
barriers to participation

Town opted to hire this  
stakeholder as a Community  
Liaison

- Drove outreach process to people living in public housing
- Identified public housing residents who could serve as translators
- Arranged childcare and food for additional workshops

Town held two workshops  
that reached beyond  
“frequent flyer” participants

Resulted in fundamental  
reappraisal of planning  
process

- **Applied** for a FY 2020 Action Grant specifically designed to address equity

Not deliberate, but it  
worked!!!

# Nature Based Solutions



Low Impact Stormwater Design



Forest Management

## Why nature-based?

Cost-effective

Protects water quality and quantity

Provides food and recreation opportunities

Reduces erosion

Minimizes temperature increases associated with developed areas and climate change

# What are Nature-based Solutions?

## Problems facing towns



Riverine flooding



Coastal flooding



Coastal erosion



Stormwater flooding



Heat island effects

## Nature-based solutions

Open space preservation

Ecosystem restoration

Low Impact Development

## Additional benefits



### Infrastructure benefits

Nature-based solutions can save \$5 on every \$1 spent, increase property value by up to \$20, and create local jobs and capital inflows.



### Societal benefits

Natural areas can reduce the likelihood of obesity by 40%, improve air and water, and draw people together to strengthen community ties.



### Environmental benefits

Most natural systems rely on linkages with others. By prioritizing natural solutions, communities can provide restored links that augment biodiversity.



## BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN THE COMMONWEALTH

### RESILIENCE

The ability of a system and its component parts to anticipate, absorb, accommodate, or recover from the effects of a hazardous event in a timely and efficient manner.

= MITIGATION +

aims to reduce the causes of climate change

### ADAPTATION

involves modifying our decisions, activities and ways of thinking to adjust to a changing climate



Definitions taken from the Massachusetts 2018 State Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan and Canada in a Changing Climate report (Adaptation.NRCan.gc.ca)

# Becoming MVP Certified

# MVP Process

## MVP Planning Grant



## MVP Action Grant



# Who's Involved?



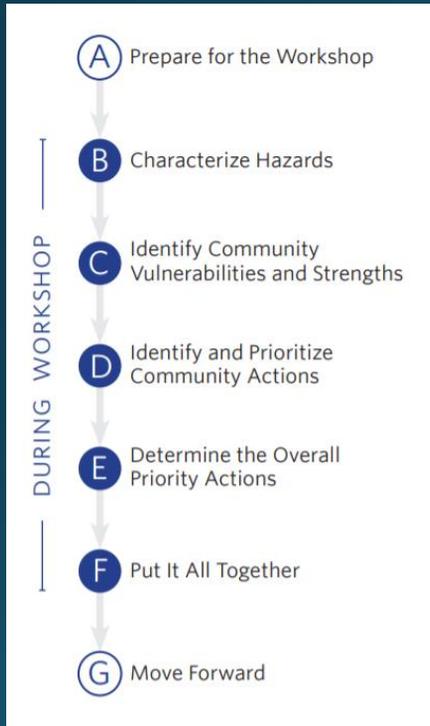
EEA (MVP Regional Coordinator)



Consultant



# Community Resilience Building Workshop



## *Your Opportunity To:*

- Gather stakeholders
- Start the climate conversation
- Brainstorm priority resilience actions for future funding

# Stakeholder Mapping



# CRB Risk Matrix

## Community Resilience Building Workshop Risk Matrix

H - M - L, priority for action over the Short or Long term (and Ongoing)

V = Vulnerability S = Strength

Top 4 Hazards (tornado, floods, wildfire, hurricanes, snow/ice, drought, sea level rise, heat wave, etc.)

Features	Location	Ownership	V or S	Coastal Flooding SLR/Storm Surge	Inland Flooding and Rain Events	Ice and Snow	Wind	Priority	Time
								H - M - L	Short Long Ongoing
<b>Societal</b>									
Elderly Citizens (facilities)	Multiple	Private	V	Assess and identify vulnerabilities to determine residents needs during emergencies; Coordinate emergency planning efforts; Conduct routine evacuation drills				H	S
Neighborhood Cooperation	Town-wide	Private	V	Assist associations in identifying and conducting best practices to reduce risk; Advance a "Neighbor helping Neighbor" Program through Community Center training				H	S
Faith-based Organizations	Multiple	Private	V	Coordinate organizations in identifying and conducting best practices amongst members to reduce risk				H	S
Homeless Population	Town-wide	Town	V	Extreme weather flyers and communications about available services				M	S
Vulnerable Neighborhoods	South side	Town/Private	V	Identify level and location of vulnerable units; Develop longer term plan to reduce vulnerability				M	L
Coordinated Evacuation Plan	Town-wide	Town/State	V	Reconfigure evacuation routes; Update signage along critical routes				L	S
Sheltering Facility (upgrades)	Town/Region	Town/State	V	Conduct feasibility analysis for regional sheltering facility; Seek to construct over next 15 years.				L	L
Shelter Management Plan	Town-wide	Town	S	Review and update as needed on annual basis; More resources required (cots, shampoo, etc.)					Ongoing
Lower Household Expenses (flood insurance)	Town-wide	Town	S	Continue enrollment in FEMA Community Rating System (CRS); Reduced number flood insurance rate payers through volunteer buyouts/relocation					Ongoing
Volunteer Fire Department	Town-wide	Town	S	Continue support (well equipped and experienced) to further strengthen services - volunteer outreach					Ongoing

### More examples of actions:

- Strengthen volunteer opportunities for residents
- Increase hazard awareness in high risk areas through education and outreach
- Foster a neighbor-helping-neighbor program across the community

### When prioritizing, consider factors such as:

- Funding availability and terms
- Agreement on outstanding impacts from recent hazard events
- Necessity for advancing longer-term outcomes
- Contribution towards meeting existing local and/or regional planning objectives

### Examples of urgency:

- A current regional sheltering and shared services agreement is an ongoing (**O**) action.
- A communication campaign on hazard impacts implemented in next six months is a short-term (**S**) action.
- Relocating affordable housing from high-hazard areas is a long-term (**L**) action.

# Town of Wareham MVP Workshop Risk Matrix

Priority Level  
 H = High M = Medium L = Low  
 Time  
 S = Short L = Long O = Ongoing

★ ⇒ TOP 5 ACTIONS

## Top Priority Hazards

1) Nor'easters 2) Hurricanes/Tropical Storms High Winds 3) Flooding

## Action Items

Hazards Addressed

Priority / Time

### Infrastructural Features

Feature	Action Item	Hazards Addressed	Priority / Time
Town Roadways (Onset Ave, County Rd)	Update asset management plan to enhance structural integrity of roadways + strengthen roadside vegetation management	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O
Bridges (ex. Ferring Hill Bridge)	Adopt a bridge vulnerability assessment + traffic impact assessment	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O
Stormwater/Drainage System	Adopt a flood risk assessment to prioritize drainage system improvements + enhance storm preparation protocol	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O
Tremont Dam / Wareham Dams	Identify stakeholders + conduct an environmental/surrounding water-bodies	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O

### Societal Features

Evacuation Plan / Emergency Response Act	Emergency Plan (especially with pop. program) / Establish an Emergency operations center (EOC)	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O
Shelter in Place / Vulnerable Popul	Shelter in place locations	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O
Public Transportation / School Accessibility	Public safety program to increase awareness of SAR + driver/student safety protocol	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O
Community Organizations (activist groups NPO/NGO, land conservation)	Coordinate with community groups to create a hazard mitigation education outreach program (ex. facilities tours, open houses, booths at town events, outreach at schools)	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O

### Environmental Features

Snow Removal	Implement a snow removal plan + establish a destination to avoid environmental impacts. Potential destination could be the wastewater treatment plant	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O
Onset Wells (Drinking Water)	Identify new locations for wells due to current saltwater intrusion issues	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O
Salt Marsh Conservation	Conserve adjacent uplands to prepare for salt marsh migration	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O
Beach Erosion	Create a beach nourishment plan for all beaches to expedite implementation	A/B/C/D	H/M/L S/L/O

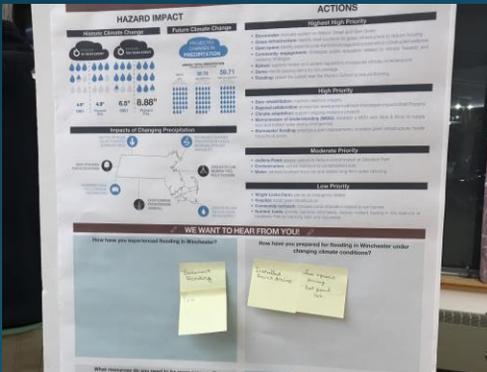
Develop action items based on each categorized feature

# Public Listening Session

*Opportunity to receive public feedback!*



Return to your stakeholder map: who wasn't represented at your workshop?



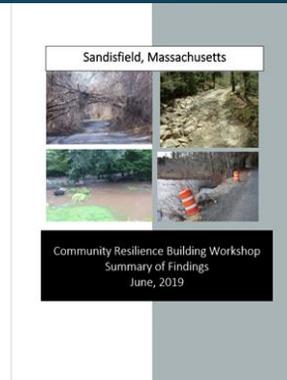
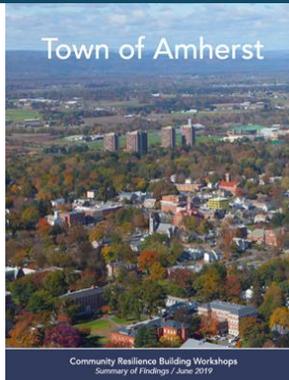
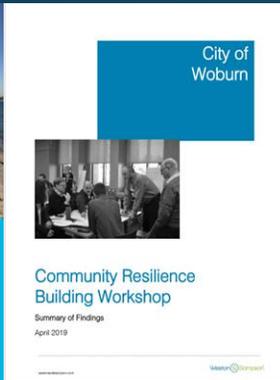
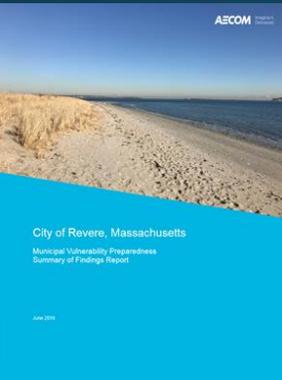
How can you reduce or eliminate barriers that would prevent residents from attending?

Consider multiple points of engagement

# Summary of Findings



<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness-mvp-program-planning-reports>



# MVP Planning Grant: Municipal Role

120-200 Hours of Staff Match Time To:



- Select MVP Vendor and Core Team
- Plan and Host CRB Workshop
  - Stakeholder outreach
  - Data gathering
  - Logistics
- Conduct Follow-up Outreach
  - Public listening session
- Communicate with EEA
  - Progress and spending reports
  - Summary of Findings
  - Yearly progress report

# MVP Planning Grants: Provider Role

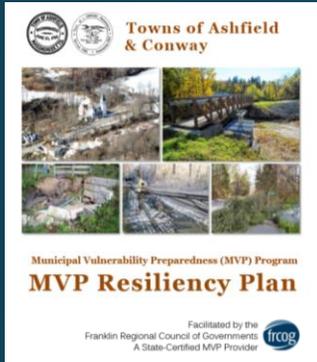
Certified MVP Providers will work with municipal project manager to:



- Select Core Team
- Scope the project
- Gather data and community information
- Plan for and Facilitate CRB Workshop
  - Basemaps
  - Climate data
  - Existing Plans
  - Risk Matrix
- Communicate with EEA

# MVP Planning Process: Variations

# Regional Planning



- Take advantage of regional partnerships
- Towns/cities increase capacity by working together
- More voices and perspectives = comprehensive outcome

## Expanded Scope

- Translational services or other targeted outreach
- Childcare services during meetings/workshops
- Additional listening sessions



**GO GREEN | Medford**

**A Program of the City of Medford, MA**

Childcare provided onsite by the Medford Family Network.  
Snacks will be served.  
Interpretation is being arranged for Haitian/Creole.  
To request other languages, contact Alicia Hunt at:  
ahunt@medford-ma.gov | 781-393-2137  
For accommodations call 781-393-2137. TTY: (781) 393-2516.

# MVP and Hazard Mitigation Integrated Plans

MVP



HMP

Include neighboring municipalities, local and regional agencies

Vulnerability Assessment  
ALL natural hazards, structure counts, development trends and loss estimates

Development of Hazard Maps

# Climate Data and Projections



resilient MA

Climate Change Clearinghouse for the Commonwealth

Explore Sectors

Identify Changes

Take Action

Maps

Data

Documents

Search for resources...

QSearch

Providing the most up-to-date climate change science and decision-support tools for the Commonwealth. [More »](#)

## Climate Change Data

The Baker-Polito Administration is investing in the best science and data to understand how the climate is projected to change and to allow Massachusetts to plan and adapt for the future.

[More »](#)

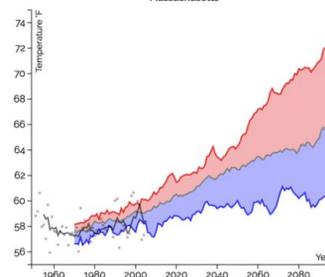
State: Massachusetts

Calculated Variable: Maximum Temperature

Season: Annual



Annual Maximum Temperature  
Massachusetts



Download Data

Observed

5-yr Mean  
Max  
Median  
Min

Modeled °F

Changes from 1971-2000 for:

2020 - 2049	3.83°F
2040 - 2069	5.02°F
2060 - 2089	6.14°F
2080 - 2097	6.84°F



1

2

3

4

5

# Climate Data

NOAA Regional Climate Center

<http://scacis.rcc-acis.org/>

## Maximum 3-Day Mean Max Temperature for WESTFIELD BARNES MUNICIPAL AP, MA

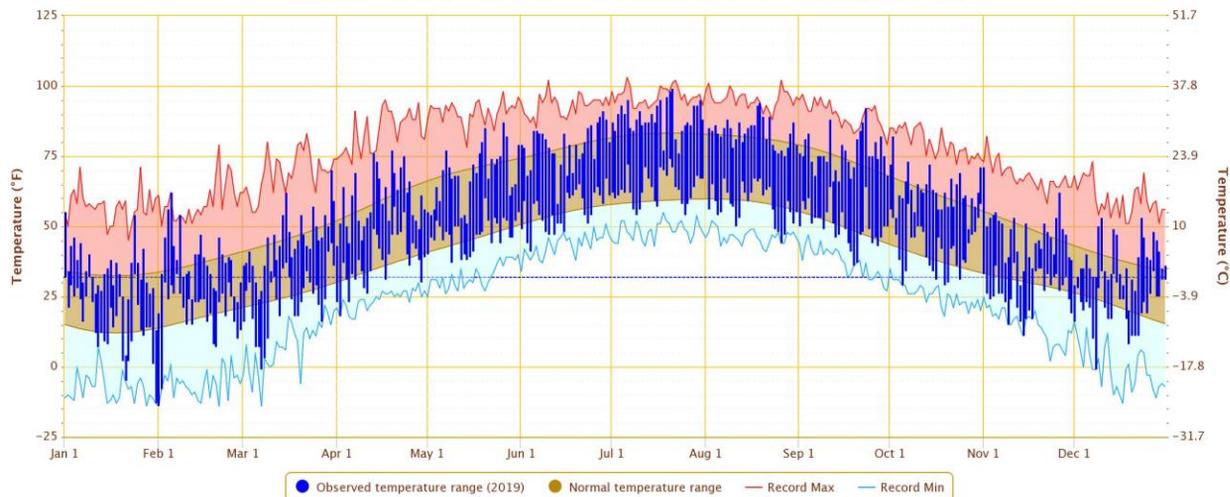
Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Value	Ending Date	Missing Days
1	100.7	2011-07-23	0
2	100.3	2010-07-07	0
3	99.3	1948-08-28	0
4	99.0	2011-07-22	0
5	98.3	2010-07-06	0
-	98.3	1948-08-27	0
7	98.0	2010-07-08	0
-	98.0	2006-08-03	0
9	97.7	2019-07-21	0
-	97.7	2012-07-18	0

Period of record: 1948-06-01 to 2020-01-07

### Daily Temperature Data – WESTFIELD BARNES MUNICIPAL AP, MA

Period of Record – 1948-06-01 to 2020-01-07. Normals period: 1981–2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



# Climate Projections

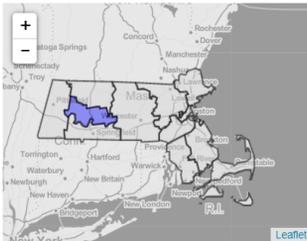


County ▼ Hampshire County, MA ▼

Calculated Variable:

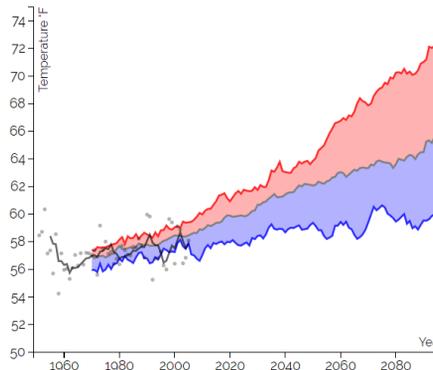
Maximum Temperature ▼

Season: Annual ▼



Add Chart

Annual Maximum Temperature  
Hampshire County, MA



Download Data

Observed

5-yr Mean

Modeled °F

Max  
Median  
Min

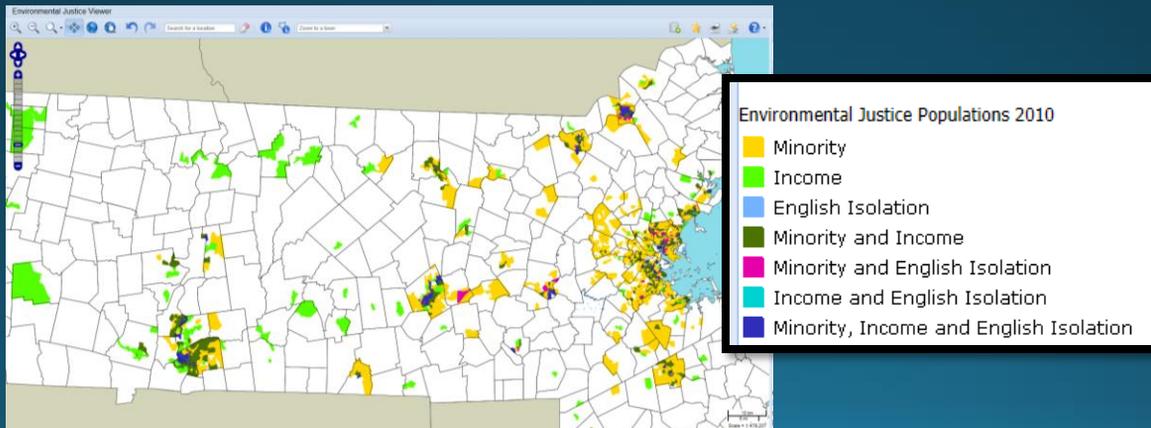
Changes from  
1971-2000 for:

2020 -	3.90°F
2049	
2040 -	5.08°F
2069	
2060 -	6.37°F
2089	
2080 -	7.13°F
2097	

About the Source  
Data

# Social Data

- [Massachusetts Environmental Justice Mapper](#)
- [US Census Bureau / American FactFinder](#)
- [Massachusetts Environmental Public Health Tracking](#)
- Regional Planning Agency (RPA)

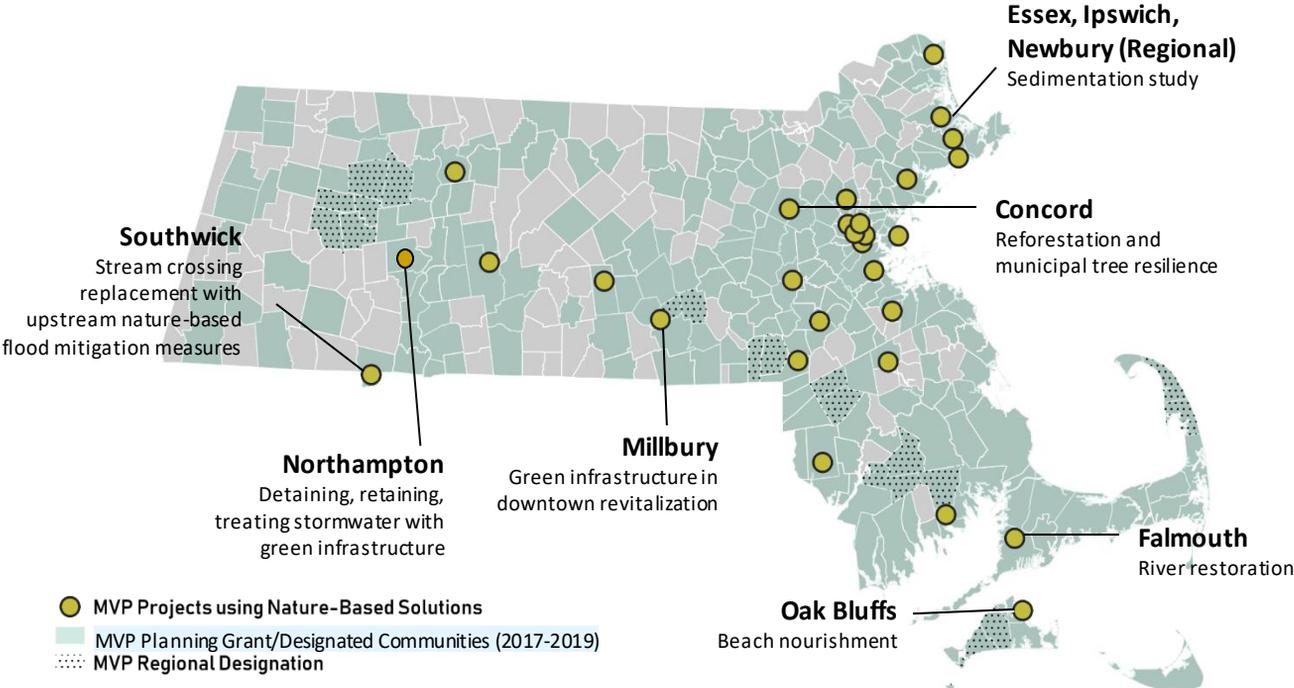


# What's Next? MVP Action Grants

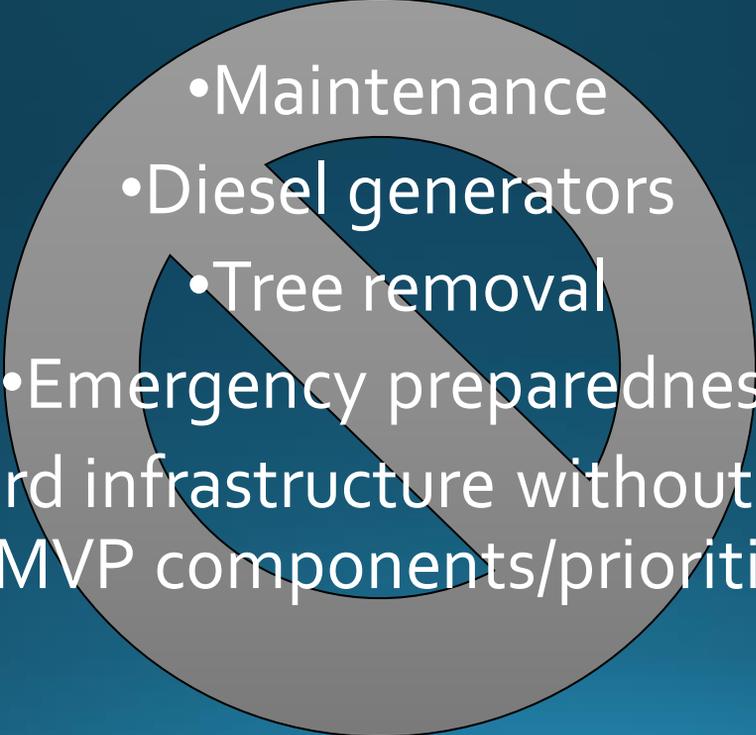
# MVP Action Grant Project Types

- Vulnerability and Risk Assessment
  - Community Outreach and Education
  - Local Bylaws, Ordinances, Plans, and Other Management Measures
  - Redesigns and Retrofits
  - Nature-Based Flood Protection, Drought Mitigation, Water Quality, and Water Infiltration Techniques
  - Nature-Based Infrastructure and Technology Solutions to Reduce Vulnerability to Extreme Heat and Poor Air Quality
  - Nature-Based Solutions to Reduce Vulnerability to Other Climate Change Impacts
  - Ecological Restoration and Habitat Management to Increase Resiliency
- Energy Resilience
  - Chemical Safety
  - Land Acquisition for Resilience
  - Subsidized Low-Income Housing Resilience Strategies
  - Mosquito Control Districts

# Nature-Based Solutions



# Projects that are NOT MVP-competitive:

- 
- Maintenance
  - Diesel generators
  - Tree removal
  - Emergency preparedness
  - Hard infrastructure without core MVP components/priorities

## Example Action Grant Projects

Nature-Based Flood Protection, Drought Prevention, Water Quality, and Water Infiltration Techniques

48

### Millbury



Utilizing **green infrastructure** like stormwater planters, bioretention bump outs, rain gardens, and other measures like porous pavers and pervious pavement **to reduce heat island effects and stormwater runoff** into the Blackstone River.

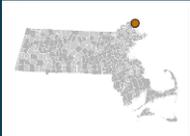
Nature-Based  
Solution



## Example Action Grant Projects

Redesigns and Retrofits

# Salisbury



Increasing the resilience of the neighborhood of Ring's Island by **raising its access/egress roads** and by improving tidal flushing through **culvert replacements**



Proactive

## Example Action Grant Projects

Land Acquisition for Resilience

### Mattapoisett



Purchasing 120 acres of forest, streams, freshwater wetlands and coastal salt marsh as conservation land to prevent development in vulnerable areas



Proactive Approach

# Example Action Grant Projects

Local Bylaws, Ordinances, Plans, and Other Management Measures

## Boston



Developing its first ever resilient design guidelines for new buildings so that development in the future floodplain is prepared for at least three feet of sea level rise, the likely scenario by late century



Proactive

Pilot Potential

OFFERED BY Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

# Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Action Grant Projects

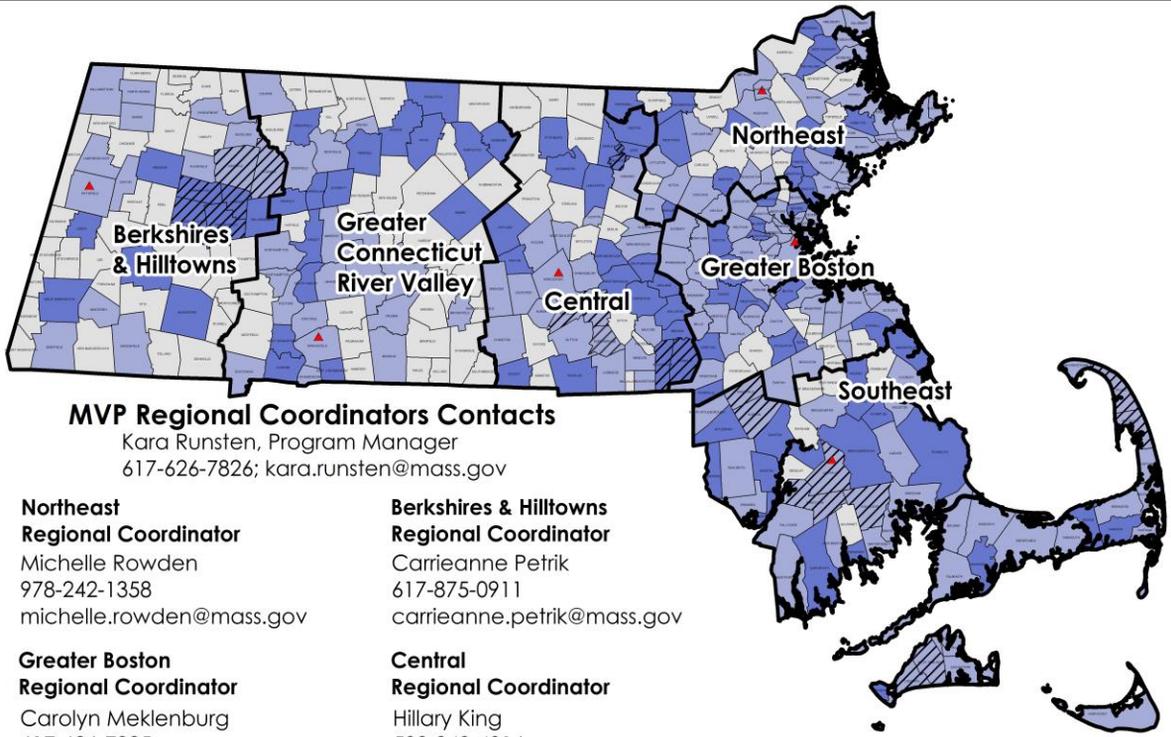
Find a summary of all FY18 action grant projects as well as detailed deliverables below.

[FY18 MVP Action Grant Summary](#)

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To view more examples of MVP Acton Grant Projects:  
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness-program-action-grant-projects>



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-  Office Locations
-  MVP Designated Communities
-  **NEW** MVP Planning Grant Recipients (FY19)
-  Regional Partnerships

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<https://www.mass.gov/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness-program>

