

# What is Resilience?

## Draft Definition

**Resilience for the District of Columbia is the capacity of individuals, neighborhoods, institutions, businesses, and systems to thrive in an inclusive manner amidst challenging conditions and to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse events.**

## Why now?

- ◆ District is vulnerable to natural & man-made hazards, including flooding, extreme heat, sea level rise, and terrorism.
- ◆ Hazards pose threats to residents' safety, health and quality of life and to District's region-serving economy and infrastructure
- ◆ Multiple recent District government efforts to address these issues and to help DC become more resilient
- ◆ Washington, DC is now part of 100 Resilience Cities global initiative

## What will we produce?

New Resilience Element and amendments to integrate resilience into existing Citywide and Area Elements.

## Context for Resilience



## Draft Guiding Principles

- 1 Address the diversity of stresses and shocks
- 2 Recognize and maximize the co-benefits of resilience solutions
- 3 Be flexible and opportunistic
- 4 Address and promote equity
- 5 Empower the community to be resilient
- 6 Address current and potential future impacts
- 7 Protect cultural and historic structure and landscapes
- 8 Address social and economic infrastructure
- 9 Create redundant and reliable systems
- 10 Promote effective governance and leadership

## Examples of Stresses & Shocks Facing the District that Affect the City's Resilience

 <p>Rising temperatures including more heat waves and dangerously hot days (above 95°F)</p>	 <p>Increased flooding from heavy rainfall, sea level rise and storm surge</p>	 <p>More extreme weather including severe thunderstorms and windstorms, nor'easters, winter storms, etc.</p>	 <p>Aging infrastructure (e.g., transportation, energy, water, etc.)</p>	 <p>Terrorism and cyberattacks</p>	 <p>Economic inequality, lack of affordable housing, social inequity, unemployment</p>
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