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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The District of Columbia is unique among American cities. The District is simultaneously a place to call home for 650,000 residents as well as the axis of the regional economy and the seat of our nation's government. It is an agglomeration of small neighborhoods, local churches, and farmer's markets while also serving as the nation's ceremonial front yard and the primary employment center for the federal government. Complex legal authorities associated with these unique roles challenge resiliency planning but also present an enormous opportunity: A resilient District is not just another resilient community—it is also a resilient region with certain implications on international affairs, equating to a more durable nation.

The District's application is based on the **Resilien-Seeds** approach, which institutionalizes resilience philosophies throughout the fabric of the urban environment from the ground up. The number-one predictor of how quickly neighborhoods in New York and New Jersey would rebound from Hurricane Sandy was community cohesiveness. By focusing our efforts on building adaptive capacity on a microscale—city blocks and neighborhoods—we believe the entire city, and therefore the federal government, will be more resilient to disasters. Resilien-Seeds will also provide an avenue for examining potential secondary benefits of program actions, which could include expanded access to clean energy and enhanced water quality and habitat.

Our densely urbanized city, located on two tidal waterways, is vulnerable to extreme weather such as violent storms, extreme heat, and recurring flooding from precipitation, storm surge, and rising sea level. In the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association report, *Sea Level Rise and Nuisance Flooding Frequency Changes around the United States* (see Attachment B), the District is identified as

This application demonstrates the District has embraced resiliency planning to strengthen its neighborhoods and institutions, reinforce infrastructure for long-term sustainability, and improve readiness for routine and catastrophic shocks.

26 one of three jurisdictions that have already surpassed the tipping point for nuisance flooding
27 necessitating immediate action to address daily tidal flooding. As
28 documented in this and numerous other climate change reports, it
29 is expected that these disasters will increase in duration, severity,
30 and frequency with climate change. Any of these extreme-weather
31 events can impact our provision of utility, healthcare, and public
32 health services; integrity of critical infrastructure, including transportation systems; and ability to
33 maintain business operations and critical services needed to protect and stabilize the whole
34 community—specifically vulnerable populations—following a disaster. The District is an eligible
35 applicant for the National Disaster Resilience Competition, with four presidentially declared major
36 disasters—the 2011 earthquake, Hurricane Irene (2011), 2012 Derecho, and Hurricane Sandy (2012).

The goal of Resilien-Seeds is to support District communities to thrive—not just survive—when faced with a disaster.

37 These incidents resulted in:

- 38 ■ **\$12.7+ million** in damages to District-owned infrastructure and emergency response costs
39 (FEMA Public Assistance).
- 40 ■ **Hundreds of millions** of dollars in damages to other property owners and businesses within the
41 District (U.S. General Services Administration [GSA], Smithsonian Institution, District of
42 Columbia Water and Sewer Authority [DC Water], National Cathedral, and Potomac Electric
43 Power Company [Pepco]) as well as economic impacts due to associated loss of function.
- 44 ■ **\$1+ billion** of resiliency projects yet to be completed (see Factor 2: Demonstrating Unmet
45 Recovery Needs for details).

46 Critical vulnerabilities associated with aging and over-capacity infrastructure exacerbate shocks
47 and cascading stresses, presenting negative impacts on vulnerable populations such as the poor,
48 elderly, and those with access and functional needs. Reliance upon imported power, food, water, and
49 commodities across regional systems further amplifies the District’s human susceptibilities. Although
50 these threats are faced directly by the District and its residents, the impacts would be felt nationwide.

51 TITLE PAGE: EXHIBIT B - THRESHOLD
52 REQUIREMENTS)

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53 THRESHOLD NARRATIVE

54 Resilience is a continuous process incorporated throughout a comprehensive emergency management
55 program. The District is therefore taking advantage of this unique grant opportunity to build upon its
56 previous efforts and create a culture of resilience throughout the area. The District’s approach to
57 community engagement for disaster resilience focuses on empowerment of the community, which is
58 central to achieving resilience over the long term.

59 Authorized as an applicant by the NDRC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), the District
60 conducted an analysis to determine the “Most Impacted and Distressed” and “Unmet Needs”
61 thresholds as defined in Attachment G of the NOFA. In *Exhibit D, Factor 2*, we demonstrate the area
62 primarily benefiting from the proposed activities was most impacted and distressed due the effects of
63 the 2012 Derecho (qualifying disaster) and has unmet recovery needs. *Exhibit D, Factor 2* also details
64 how each CDBG-DR funded recovery activity proposed in this document can reasonably be expected
65 to improve the most impacted and distressed area’s resilience to current and future threats and hazards.
66 The information in *Factor 2* further demonstrates the District’s commitment to taking several
67 permanent actions aimed at increasing resilience in the target area.

68 In *Exhibit D, Factor 2: Demonstrating Distressed*
69 *Threshold* and *Exhibit E, Factor 3: Idea and Co-*
70 *Benefits*, we demonstrate that at least 50 percent of the
71 funds requested will support activities focusing on
72 District Wards 7 and 8 (see Figure 1) to provide
73 sufficient benefit to low- and moderate-income persons
74 in the form of services, area improvements, housing, or
75 jobs to meet the national objective of overall benefit to
76 low- and moderate-income persons.

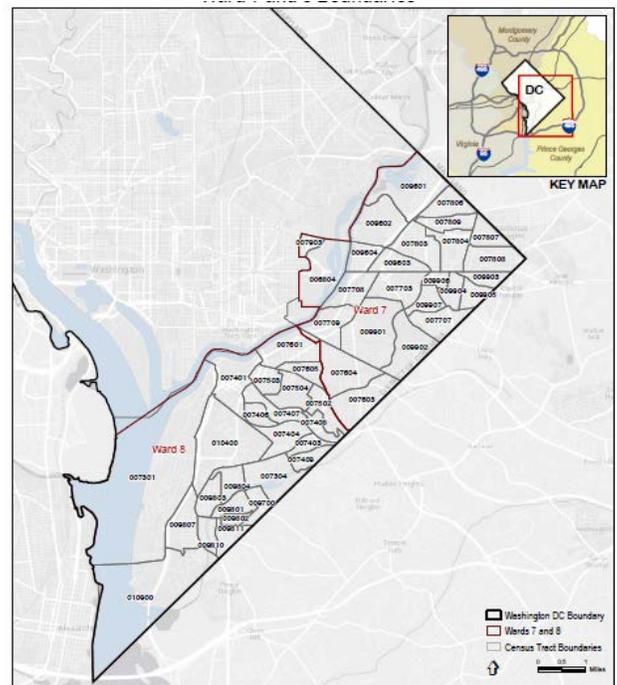


Figure 1: DC Wards 7 and 8 boundaries

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FACTOR 1: CAPACITY

General management

In order to manage and implement the Resilien-Seeds program, the District will create a Resilience program management office (PMO) to oversee resilience measures implemented District-wide (see Figure 2 and Attachment B). The PMO will be led by the District Resilience Officer, who will have direct

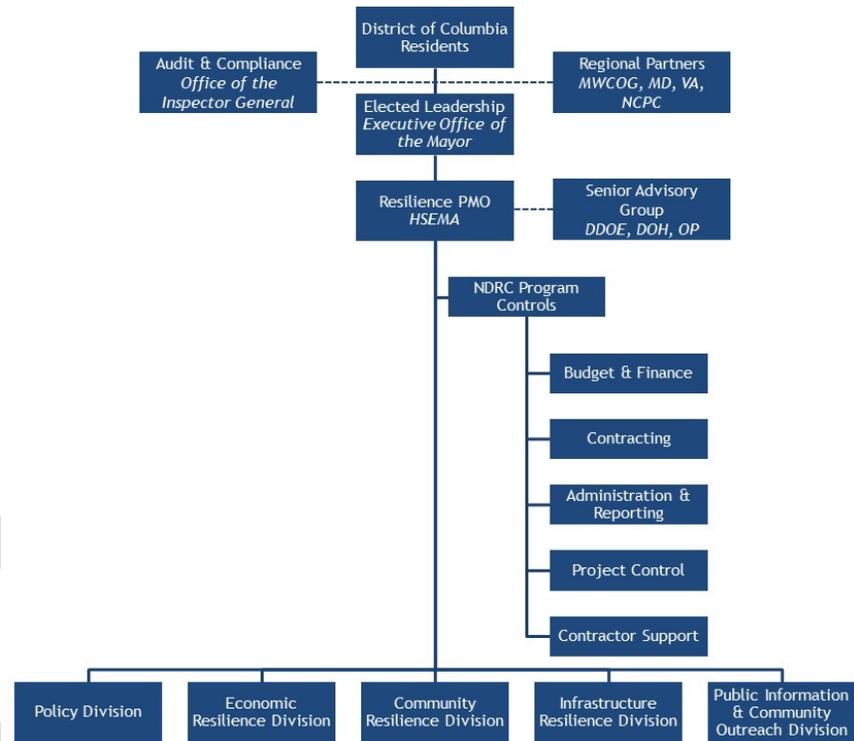


Figure 2. District Resilience PMO organizational structure

access to elected leadership as well as the Senior Advisory Group, composed of member agencies that participated in the completion of the Phase I NDRC application. The District Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) will oversee all elements of the PMO architecture, employing proven program and project management expertise to manage the PMO in a systematic, integrated, and resource-efficient manner. The creation and management of this PMO will be similar to the approach the District successfully used to create the District Preparedness System and the governing bodies of this system—District Emergency Preparedness Council and District of Columbia Emergency Response System Committee—which supports District departments and agencies in coordinating, developing,

Unlike many other jurisdictions that are currently managing federal disaster recovery and resiliency funds and need to incorporate NDRC funding into existing management structures, the District's HSEMA has the capacity to create and devote the Resilience PMO to Resilien-Seeds program management.

103 refining, and expanding the District’s prevention and protection, mitigation, response, and recovery
104 capabilities.

105 The District possesses the relevant project management, quality assurance, financial and
106 procurement, and internal control capacities to quickly launch and implement major projects. For this
107 competition, HSEMA will fill the role of grant manager; an initial management task will include
108 reaching out to partner agencies to determine implementation actions for each project. As the
109 coordinating agency for all disaster-related actions and grant funding, HSEMA has significant previous
110 experience working with and coordinating partners (including contractors, funders, sub-recipients,
111 community stakeholders, and other government agencies) for projects similar in scope and scale to the
112 proposed activities. A highlight of the District’s grant management expertise is included in Attachment
113 B.

114 For example, HSEMA serves as the State Administrative Agency (SAA) for the National Capital
115 Region (NCR) Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and also coordinates and administers all District
116 and NCR Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funds.

117 As the SAA, HSEMA is responsible for monitoring activities
118 of grant recipients to confirm reasonable assurance to
119 FEMA’s National Preparedness Directorate that grant
120 recipients are administering the HSGP in compliance with
121 federal and state requirements. In fiscal year 2014, the District
122 administered more than \$60 million in HSGP and Emergency
123 Management Performance Grants funding.

124 Cross-disciplinary technical capacity

125 The District understands that stakeholder and partner engagement is critical to sound planning
126 processes. When developing our Phase I approach, the District established an NDRC Collaborative
127 Planning Team of key Whole Community stakeholders (in this application, the use of Whole

The District’s current bond ratings (S&P: AAA/AA; Moody’s: Aa1/Aa2; Fitch: AA+/AA) reflect our commitment to sound financial management.
<http://cfo.dc.gov/service/credit-ratings-dc-municipal-bonds>

128 Community is in the spirit of FEMA’s approach to emergency management principles, which provides
129 a national framework for community involvement in enhancing resiliency). To ensure a well-rounded,
130 inclusive approach, the Collaborative Planning Team brought together District partners with a diverse
131 range of knowledge including data analysis, community planning, affordable housing, climate change,
132 and engineering. This team consists of members of the Core Planning Team—HSEMA, District
133 Department of the Environment (DDOE), DC Office of Planning (OP), and Department of Health
134 (DOH)—as well as representatives from the Whole Community including the Executive Office of the
135 Mayor, Office of the City Administrator, District Department of Transportation, Office on Aging,
136 Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, Joint Forces Headquarters-NCR, DC Water, Serve
137 DC, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), and Pepco. For a more detailed list
138 of participants, see Attachment E for planning meeting minutes. The collective knowledge and
139 experience of the Collaborative Planning Team is invaluable and essential to successfully
140 implementing Resilien-Seeds, and members of the team have previously partnered on numerous
141 District and NCR initiatives as well as collaborated on the development and refinement of the Resilien-
142 Seeds concept.

143 The District’s cross-disciplinary project implementation capacity is demonstrated by the level of
144 resources devoted to better understanding our significant vulnerabilities to human-caused and natural
145 disasters. We have developed and annually update a Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk
146 Assessment (THIRA) to identify and prioritize the District’s most significant hazards and their
147 impacts, an initiative that requires significant coordination and cooperation with regional partners.
148 Recently DOH, along with public health, healthcare, and emergency management stakeholders, also
149 completed a Public Health Risk Assessment and Hazard Vulnerability Analysis to identify and
150 mitigate risks to District (and regional) public health and healthcare systems.

151 To better prepare the public for disasters, the District is committed to continual comprehensive
152 assessments of threats and impacts, and recently received Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant funding to

153 conduct enhanced HAZUS loss estimation analyses. The District has also established mitigation
154 support functions (MSF) and will be developing a Mitigation Operational Plan that will include a risk
155 analysis and vulnerability assessment MSF annex and a loss avoidance and resilience analysis MSF
156 annex. These annexes will determine roles and responsibilities, define District standards, and establish
157 a cyclical process for executing recurring assessments and analyses.

158 The District currently is identifying and assessing science-based information on existing and future
159 risks from climate change in its Climate Change Adaptation and Preparedness Plan that will be
160 finalized soon. DDOE, the lead agency on climate change planning for the District, is also undertaking
161 a climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning process that will be finalized later
162 this year. The agency is leveraging existing and new scientific analyses of the current and future
163 effects of climate change including downscale projections of extreme temperature and precipitation
164 events. As part of this effort, DDOE completed the development of *Climate Change Projections for*
165 *the District of Columbia* and *Methodology for Future Design Storms* in March 2015 (see Attachment
166 B) which included planning scenarios for climate risk and vulnerability assessments. The next steps of
167 DDOE's Climate Change Adaptation and Preparedness Plan is comprehensive modeling of sea level
168 rise and storm surge, providing the District (and the abutting region) with a more realistic assessment
169 of joint probability events and possible implications. The agency will partner with the District to
170 address possible climate-related and other environmental benefits and outcomes of District resilience
171 initiatives over the project lifetimes.

172 The Mayor's designated office for land-use planning in the District, OP incorporates community
173 engagement with technical expertise to guide the District's development while preserving and
174 revitalizing its neighborhoods. OP's range of services directly support District resilience initiatives,
175 including the development of small area (neighborhood) plans with residents and stakeholders citywide
176 (22 completed and approved by the District Council since 2000); planning initiatives in areas such as
177 affordable housing, retail, transportation, urban design, and sustainability; facilities planning for other

178 District agencies; historic preservation; development review; and management of the District’s 20-year
179 Comprehensive Plan. OP houses its own GIS division and the State Data Center, which is the District’s
180 official liaison with the U.S. Census Bureau.

181 Utilizing predictive modeling technology and statistical data, the District has the ability to project
182 future conditions for the nation’s capital and the region. Leveraging our municipal GIS capacity and
183 other District resources, we have the ability to identify, collect, and analyze science-based information
184 on flood, surge, and other climate change risks with tools and studies that have been developed by
185 local professionals, educators, and government agencies, such as the StormCaster tool and surge and
186 inundation models.

187 Several partners (Office on Aging and the Department of Housing and Community Development)
188 have experience addressing civil rights and fair housing issues and analyzing data for racial and
189 economic disparities. Additionally, the District has extensive experience working across
190 neighborhoods, various levels of government, regional jurisdictions, and public and private sectors to
191 achieve shared goals. Successful examples of comprehensive, collaborative planning processes that
192 have led to policy change and actionable results in support of resilience include:

- 193 ■ ***Resilient DC***—an initiative that convened healthcare, emergency management, cultural and
194 faith-based social services, and communications stakeholders to implement neighborhood
195 emergency response and recovery programs that benefit vulnerable populations such as the
196 elderly, those with access and functional needs, and groups receiving constant medical care.
- 197 ■ ***Power Line Undergrounding Task Force***—engaged city and federal agencies, utilities, energy
198 providers, and local businesses to develop (and now implement) a strategic plan to reduce
199 power disruption with a \$1 billion retrofit plan.
- 200 ■ ***National Security Special Events***—coordination and planning for frequent events that engage
201 District and federal health, medical, transportation, and emergency planners; security and
202 military forces; and communication experts.

- 203 ■ ***DC Silver Jackets***—ongoing (since 2012) team engagement of multiple District, federal, and
204 regional agencies as well as academia to address infrastructure risks such as flood, storm
205 surges, interior flooding, sea level rise, and community awareness and resilience,
- 206 ■ ***Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG)***—active engagement on
207 regional coordination for homeland security, emergency management, transportation, water
208 quality and supply, public safety, land use, energy, and climate.
- 209 ■ ***Sustainable DC***—an initiative that began in 2011 and is the cornerstone for community
210 engagement and resilience training in the future. This program engages District agencies,
211 businesses, civic leaders, community organizations, and residents to achieve ambitious
212 sustainability goals developed through extensive public input.
- 213 ■ ***Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP)***—builds safe communities with
214 measurable standards of excellence for emergency management programs. EMAP fosters
215 excellence and accountability in emergency management and homeland security programs by
216 establishing credible standards applied in a peer-review accreditation process. The District is an
217 EMAP-accredited jurisdiction—an achievement that was accomplished through strong
218 multidisciplinary stakeholder partnerships and required demonstrated coordination and
219 collaboration with public and private sector partners in the District, region, and nationwide.

220 As demonstrated by the complex, multidisciplinary programs listed above, the District is confident
221 in its capacity to quickly launch and implement major projects. The active and consistent collaboration
222 within the District on major projects and the diversity of subject-matter experts able to concurrently
223 provide suggestions and feedback eases the process of determining and ensuring excellent design
224 quality for long-term resilience projects. This multi-perspective approach has proven to be effective for
225 the District and its partners in achieving success in project quality and design.

226 The NDRC Collaborative Planning Team is dedicated to enhancing resilience within the District
227 (see Attachment F for partner letters of commitment). As Resilien-Seeds projects are developed and

228 implemented, we recognize that partner involvement may wane. In the event that a team member
229 discontinues support for project efforts, the Collaborative Planning Team will conduct an impact
230 assessment of program efforts and, where necessary, work with District partners to identify
231 replacement team members.

232 Project costs will be subject to rigorous, cost-benefit analysis to determine acceptability. Through
233 FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Cost Effectiveness process, HSEMA has extensive experience conducting
234 cost-benefit analyses on a daily basis. When prioritizing projects, the agency regularly pairs cost-
235 benefit analysis with the STAPLE-E criteria suggested in FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Planning How-to
236 Guide series, representing social, technical, administrative, political, legal, environmental, and
237 economic feasibility questions. STAPLE-E ideology attempts to address project feasibility, cost-
238 effectiveness, and environmental considerations and aligns with
239 the objectives presented by this NDRC NOFA.

240 Community engagement capacity

241 Engagement with the Whole Community is the starting point for
242 building disaster resilience—without it the District cannot
243 achieve its long-term resilience goal. We must understand day-
244 to-day community functions, following the impacts from

245 previous disasters, and potential actions to improve the ability to withstand future disasters. The
246 community must also have the capability and opportunity to provide feedback to inform the Resilien-
247 Seeds program. As such, community engagement is the cornerstone to the District’s approach for
248 implementation, as outlined in Exhibit E. An empowered and active community is vital to the success
249 of Resilien-Seeds.

250 While many emergency management agencies, including HSEMA, currently push out disaster
251 response and recovery information and recommended protective actions to the community, the
252 Resilien-Seeds initiative will incorporate processes to facilitate community feedback and leverage the



253 existing public comment adjudication processes to guide the District’s development and investment
254 efforts in resilience projects. As we develop Resilien-Seeds, the District will follow a model that
255 details principles and approaches of community engagement in the emergency management context.
256 The model draws on the internationally recognized International Association for Public Participation’s
257 Public Participation Spectrum (IAP2), which is a tool designed to assist community engagement
258 practitioners in selecting the level of participation that defines the public’s role in any community
259 engagement program.

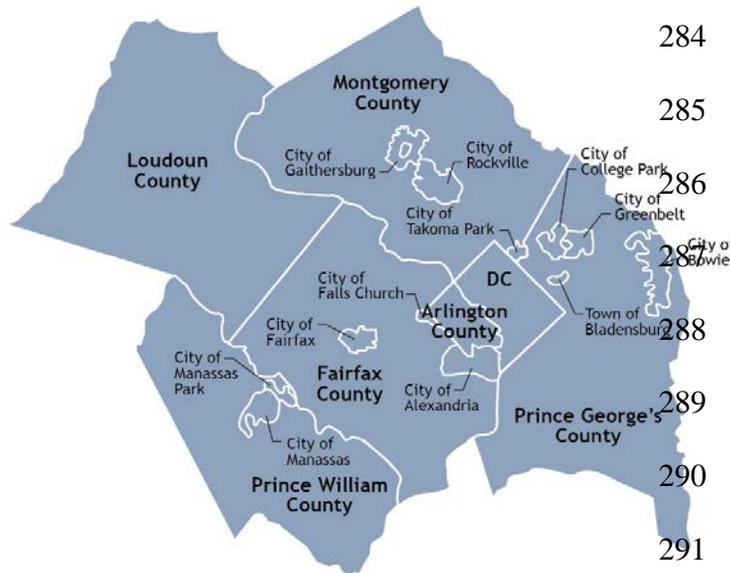
260 HSEMA previously conducted a ward-based hazard vulnerability assessment (HVA) that
261 effectively communicated risks to residents and resulted in a prioritized list of facilities by ward and
262 potential mitigation actions. After receiving this information, community members provided invaluable
263 feedback to the Core Planning Team at an NDRC public meeting and through Resilient DC focus
264 groups with community leaders. Based on this feedback, the District has become aware of the role
265 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANC) and civic groups can fill as community coordinators as
266 well as the need to provide resilience education funds to these small organizations to facilitate
267 knowledgeable community discussions on resilience. While not a traditional, physical infrastructure
268 investment, investing in the District’s civic infrastructure builds upon our resilience outreach activities
269 to development community resiliency through empowerment.

270 The District will also leverage OP’s expertise in community engagement. As the District’s land use
271 planning agency, OP conducts public engagement as a core component of its work, and assigns
272 planners to each ward of the District in addition to its other planning staff. OP staff regularly
273 collaborates with ANCs, citizen associations, residents, businesses, elected officials, agencies, and
274 other stakeholders. OP uses a wide variety of engagement methods to provide multiple opportunities
275 for community comments and feedback during all phases of plan development. In addition to public
276 meetings, OP employs advisory committees, focus groups, neighborhood “office hours” and tours, its
277 website, social media, and online crowd-sourcing. These public engagement strategies will assist the

278 District’s implementation of Resilien-Seeds and help implement a new community-driven model of
279 emergency planning in the District.

280 Regional or multi-governmental capacity

281 The Washington, DC, metropolitan area has a long history of cooperation, coordination, and joint
282 planning initiatives. The National Capital Planning Act of 1952 established the NCR as a non-
283 operational network comprising the District; Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties in Maryland;



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Figure 3. NCR member jurisdictions

284 Arlington, Fairfax, Loudon, and Prince
285 William Counties in Virginia; and all cities
286 and other units of government within the
287 geographic areas of those counties and the
288 District (see Figure 3). This was later
289 reinforced and defined in Title 10, U.S.
290 Code § 2674(f)(2)(A-D).

291 In 1957, MWCOG was established to
292 provide networks among federal, state, and

293 local governments in the NCR. MWCOG is an independent, nonprofit association that brings area
294 leaders together to address major regional issues within the District, suburban Maryland, and northern
295 Virginia. MWCOG’s membership consists of 300 elected officials from 22 local governments,
296 Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress.

297 Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and the creation of the U.S. Department of
298 Homeland Security, UASI established funding opportunities for the highest-risk urban areas in the
299 country. The NCR is a designated UASI area, whereas MWCOG is an association of governments
300 within the NCR. UASI funding is used to address the complexity with which multiple federal, District,
301 and local governments, emergency management structures, countless security organizations, and
302 jurisdictions are in play within the NCR. This close-proximity work environment for many law

303 enforcement and emergency management leaders creates unique opportunities for coordination,
304 communication, preparedness, training, and exercises.

305 As the seat of the federal government and the nation’s capital, the NCR constitutes an unmatched
306 concentration of federal buildings and operations, irreplaceable cultural and historic treasures,
307 nationally significant monuments and landscapes, and diverse communities. In 2013 the NCR
308 assembled 38 local, state, regional, federal, and private sector stakeholders to conduct a series of
309 webinars and workshops on climate change and resilience. The NCR is already experiencing the
310 effects of climate change—increased frequency of extreme weather incidents, rising temperatures, and
311 recurring flooding. Climate change experts are predicting that these changes will continue and
312 anticipate even greater frequency and intensity of incidents. For example, deaths due to heat in the
313 District (1960–2013) have far outnumbered deaths due to other environmental disasters. The following
314 vision statement resulted from these 2013 meetings: “A climate-resilient National Mall and National
315 Capital Region for future generations, built upon science-informed planning and decision making and
316 sound risk management.” In order to achieve its vision, the NCR developed strategies and
317 recommendations to ensure a more resilient region. The final report, *Building a Climate Resilient*
318 *National Capital Region*, was used as a reference for the Resilien-Seeds initial approach and concept.

319 THIRAs have been developed for both the District and NCR. Due to the District’s physical
320 location within the UASI, there are significant commonalities between the threats and hazards within
321 each THIRA. As the center for the regional economy, Resilien-Seeds in the District will naturally have
322 a regional effect when responding to threats and hazards. Through established relationships and
323 committees, the District will work regionally to ensure that Resilien-Seeds has positive effects within
324 the NCR and, where possible, leverage initiatives that are currently under way within Maryland or
325 Virginia to provide practical and cost-effective solutions.

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327 FACTOR 2: NEED/EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

328
329 Demonstrating most impacted threshold

330 *Infrastructure - Derecho, June 29-July 1, 2012*

331 One of the most destructive complexes of thunderstorms swept through the NCR on June 29, 2012,
332 packing wind gusts of 60-80 miles per hour. The storm produced extensive damage, downing hundreds
333 of trees, leaving more than a million area residents without power, and resulting in five fatalities within
334 50 miles of the capital. This kind of fast-moving, long-lasting, and violent thunderstorm complex is a
335 weather system known as a derecho. The 2012 Derecho caused significant power and electrical
336 infrastructure damage and outages. Damages specific to the District totaled \$2,551,307 and affected
337 Wards 7 and 8. The arrival of the derecho coincided with the onset of an unprecedented heatwave
338 event. On June 29, Reagan National Airport reported temperatures soaring to a record high for the day
339 and month of 104 degrees Fahrenheit. The heatwave lasted 11 days from June 28 to July 8, broke many
340 long-standing temperature records at the Reagan National Airport weather station, and resulted in
341 seven heat-related deaths in the area including one in the District. At its peak, the derecho interrupted
342 power to more than 75,896 District customers including public health care facilities with long-term
343 dependents. Some customers did not have power restored until 9 days after the derecho passed.
344 Exacerbating the situation, power outages to two regional water filtration plants resulted in water
345 restrictions for several areas within the NCR, highlighting the interdependencies of the utilities.

346 The District is focusing on threats and hazards that have the ability to disrupt day-to-day functions
347 of Wards 7 and 8 (census tracts shown in Figure 1) as well as the capacity to maintain these vulnerable
348 populations to keep communities intact and in-place during future catastrophic events. Such
349 infrastructure vulnerabilities, as demonstrated by the 2012 Derecho, include centralized utility systems
350 that are interrelated and could cause cascading failures if resilient repairs and redundancies are not
351 implemented, with the most significant system being the District’s electrical conveyance and
352 distribution system.

353 The District is unique with respect to public utility service in that single, independent utility
354 purveyors provide public water, wastewater, and electrical service to a franchise area that comprises
355 the entirety of the District’s political boundaries and extends into certain area in Maryland and
356 Virginia. Impacts to any of these systems causes inherent risk as they cannot easily be refitted and/or
357 rerouted to restore service with infrastructure from surrounding communities, as is typical of many
358 metropolitan systems where redundancy can be obtained through cooperative interconnections between
359 metropolitan and independent suburban systems. The following companies and agencies are critical to
360 the short- and long-term survival of the District after a catastrophic event:

361 ***Pepco*** – Provides electricity to approximately 265,000 residential, commercial, institutional,
362 educational, and federal customer accounts in the District covering all Wards and census districts
363 including DC Water and the Washington Aqueduct.

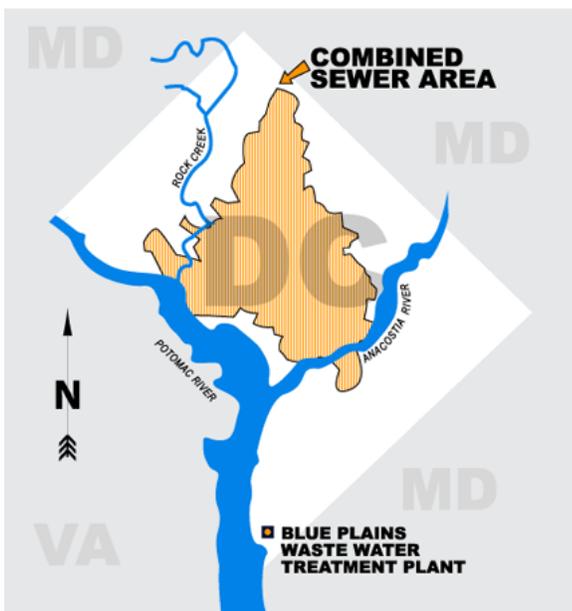
364 ***Washington Aqueduct*** – A division of USACE Baltimore District, Washington Aqueduct is a
365 federally owned and operated public water supply agency that produces an average of 180 million
366 gallons of water per day at two treatment plants, Dalecarlia and McMillan, both of which are located in
367 the District and draw raw water from the Potomac River. All funding for operations, maintenance, and
368 capital improvements comes from revenue generated by selling drinking water, not from federal
369 budgets, and is therefore challenged to fund short- and medium-term resiliency improvements due to
370 budgeting constraints associated with the rate-based capital improvement budgeting model.

371 ***DC Water*** – Regionally provides wholesale, wastewater treatment service to Montgomery and
372 Prince George’s Counties in Maryland and Fairfax and Loudoun Counties in Virginia, representing
373 approximately 1.6 million people. DC Water receives 100 percent of its potable water from the
374 Washington Aqueduct; no other sources of water are available. The District’s system is engineered to
375 provide two types of service—potable drinking water for residential, commercial, institutional,
376 industrial, and government demands; and fire water supply for the hundreds of thousands of interior
377 building sprinkler systems and thousands of fire hydrants located throughout the District.

378 Approximately 160 million gallons of water are consumed by the District on an average day, and
379 water pressures are maintained at a level consistent with guidelines established by National Fire
380 Protection Act codes. It is critical to understand that both water flow and water pressure are keys to the
381 resiliency and survival of the District during catastrophic incidents. If flow is reduced, water pressure
382 will be lowered and fire suppression systems will begin to become inoperable, affecting uninsured and
383 underinsured residents, in addition to the community’s loss of access to clean drinking water and fire
384 service to Wards 7 and 8.

385 *Environmental degradation - Hurricane Irene, August 26-September 1, 2011; Derecho,*
386 *June 29-July 1, 2012; Hurricane Sandy, October 26-31, 2013*

387 DC Water operates a wastewater collection system that consists of “separate” and “combined” sewers.
388 Separate systems consist of two independent piping systems—one for “sanitary” sewage and one for
389 stormwater. Currently, approximately two-thirds of the District is served by separate sewer systems.
390 The remaining one-third of the District is served by a combined sewer system (CSS) that was
391 developed before 1900. A CSS conveys both sanitary sewage and stormwater in one piping system.
392 During periods of significant rainfall, CSS capacity is exceeded and the system is unable to convey the
393 mixture of stormwater and sanitary wastes to the treatment plant. When this issue occurs, regulators
394 are designed to let the excess flow—the combined sewer overflow (CSO)—discharge directly into the



Anacostia River, Rock Creek, Potomac River, or tributary waters. The District has 53 CSO outfalls listed in the existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from EPA.

Rainfall from Hurricane Sandy, the derecho, and Hurricane Irene overloaded the District’s CSS, causing untreated sewage and stormwater runoff to flow directly into the waters in and around the District.

403 While the total overflow amount from the 53 CSO outfalls cannot be determined, CSO data are
404 measured at eight pumping stations, the Northeast Boundary Swirl facility, and at eight of the CSO
405 outfalls where inflatable dams are installed. At pumping stations and swirl facilities, the overflow is
406 measured in volume (millions of gallons), whereas the inflatable dam sites measure overflow by
407 duration (minutes).

408 **Hurricane Sandy** caused roughly 475 million gallons of CSO from the O Street pump station and 141
409 million gallons from the Northeast Boundary Swirl Facility to flow into the Anacostia River. At
410 the CSO inflatable dam sites, the overflow duration varied at each site, and the overall
411 combined duration of overflow was 863 minutes affecting the Anacostia River, Rock Creek,
412 and Potomac River.

413 **Hurricane Irene** caused roughly 220 million gallons of CSO from the O Street pump station and 103
414 million gallons from the Northeast Boundary Swirl Facility to flow into the Anacostia River. At
415 the CSO inflatable dam sites, the duration varied at each site, and the overall combined
416 duration of overflow was 624 minutes affecting the Anacostia River, Rock Creek, and Potomac
417 River.

418 **The 2011 Derecho** caused roughly 13 million gallons of CSO from the O Street pump station and 8
419 million gallons from the Northeast Boundary Swirl Facility to flow into the Anacostia River. At
420 the CSO inflatable dam sites, the duration varied at each site, and the overall combined
421 duration of overflow was 187 minutes affecting the Anacostia River, Rock Creek, and Potomac
422 River.

423 While the total CSO volume for each event cannot be determined, DC Water states that large
424 rainfalls (greater than 1 inch of rain) create effects of CSO on water quality that can last up to 3 days,
425 and even smaller rainfalls can generate CSO effects on water quality that could last up to 24 hours.

426 Based on this metric, we can infer a significant contribution to environmental degradation due to poor
427 water quality for an extended period of time following all three qualified disasters.

428 Beyond the immediate consequences of foul smells, the sight of floating waste, and the associated
429 cleanup, sewage overflows can have serious impacts on public health and on the ecosystems in the
430 receiving waterways. During major flooding incidents, there is an added health risk associated with
431 contaminated standing water—raw and inadequately treated sewage contains bacterial and viral
432 pathogens that can lead to serious health problems, particularly concerning immune-compromised
433 individuals. In addition to these pathogens, inadequately treated sewage can impact the health of an
434 aquatic ecosystem by depleting the available oxygen and creating an imbalance of nutrients for
435 organisms living in the contaminated environment. Similarly, untreated sewage contains high
436 concentrations of phosphorus and nitrogen, which promote plant growth. With this sudden nutrient
437 increase, algae in the contaminated waterways can grow very quickly, collect on the water surface in
438 unattractive green algae blooms, and displace normal aquatic life.

439 Demonstrating distressed threshold

440 Vulnerabilities are characteristics of structures, places, people, or communities that increase their risk
441 of suffering losses during and after a disaster. The District, like many other jurisdictions, is looking at
442 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance as it relates to emergency service provision to all
443 populations, including vulnerable populations, at the time of an emergency. Potential gaps in service
444 were identified through exercises, during real-world responses, and through lessons learned from other
445 jurisdictions. Additionally, a September 2014 lawsuit alleged that the District was not compliant with
446 ADA regulations. The District is currently in negotiations to settle this lawsuit on the basis of the
447 District's current efforts to address potential gaps in providing services to all District populations in the
448 event of an emergency. The District will ensure that access to NDRC program information and benefit
449 is not limited based on a protected class such as race, color, national origin, religion, sex, family status,
450 or disability. Applying a comprehensive-risk approach to analyzing needs resulting from
451 vulnerabilities, the District considered historical impacts and forward-looking analyses of risks of both
452 structural and social vulnerabilities to disasters (such as those exacerbated by a derecho-type event).

453 The NDRC requires demonstration in at least one of four characteristics to indicate that an area
454 meets the distressed threshold, all of which focus on vulnerability. The District here-in submits data to
455 demonstrate that it meets the following distressed threshold characteristics for the disaster-impacted
456 area—low- and moderate-income (LMI) households; economically fragile area; and prior
457 environmental distress.

458 *Low- and moderate-income households*

459 To qualify for the LMI criteria, we must demonstrate that more than 50 percent of the people in the
460 target area earn less than 80 percent of the area’s median annual income. According to HUD Income
461 Limits from 2014, which take into account the D.C. metropolitan statistical area, the median family
462 income is \$107,000. Eighty percent of this value is \$85,600. From the most recent U.S. Census Bureau
463 American Community Survey, the median family income in the District’s NDRC target area is
464 \$65,830. Simply stated, half the population of the District makes less than \$65,830 annually. At almost
465 \$20,000 below the 80 percent threshold, the District in its entirety meets LMI criteria. A more detailed
466 map on LMI in the target area can be found in Attachment D. These data support the mapped Social
467 Vulnerability Index (SoVI) (also provided in Attachment D) developed by the Hazards and
468 Vulnerability Research Institute at the University of South Carolina, which shows high vulnerability
469 scores throughout the District and particularly in the southeast portion of the city. The SoVI analysis
470 includes vulnerability factors in addition to income such as minority ethnic populations, renters, and
471 service industry employment. The SoVI analysis is further confirmed by U.S. Census data and District
472 Department of Employment Services, Office of Labor Market Research and Information data (see
473 Table 1), revealing that Wards 7 and 8 (see Ward map in Attachment E), which are both located east of
474 the Anacostia River, face additional challenges as compared to other wards in the District. These
475 challenges include lowest median household income, highest percentage of families in poverty, highest
476 percentage of individuals in poverty, highest percentage of people under 18 years old in poverty,

477 lowest percentage of bachelor's degree or higher, highest percentage of female householder with no
 478 husband present, and highest percentage of unemployment.

479 **Table 1. Income vulnerability factors for DC by ward**

	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Ward 6	Ward 7	Ward 8
Median household income	\$77,602	\$94,346	\$106,151	\$66,245	\$53,058	\$87,393	\$38,660	\$30,263
Families in poverty	8.9%	4.4%	1.3%	9.4%	17.4%	10.7%	24.2%	33.1%
Individuals in poverty	13.2%	12.5%	9.5%	13.2%	21.5%	14.6%	27.2%	38.4%
Under 18 years old in poverty	21.9%	5.1%	2.1%	18.4%	27.1%	22.0%	40.0%	50.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	62.7%	82.5%	85.1%	43.6%	33.2%	62.8%	17.1%	12.3%
Female householder, no husband	9.8%	1.9%	4.0%	18.0%	21.5%	11.9%	32.9%	39.0%
Unemployment	4.9%	2.5%	2.7%	7.8%	11.3%	5.4%	14.3%	17.0%

480
 481 ***Economically fragile area***

482 In addition to meeting the LMI criteria, the District also meets the criteria for an economically fragile
 483 area due to the fact that the District has an unemployment rate that is more than 125 percent of the
 484 national average unemployment rate. From the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, the national
 485 unemployment rate for December 2014 was 5.4 percent. During that same month (most recent data),
 486 District unemployment was 7.2 percent, which is 133.3 percent of the national average or 8.3
 487 percentage points higher than the distressed requirement (refer to Attachment A for data
 488 documentation). In wards 7 & 8, unemployment was 14.3% (265% higher than national average) and
 489 17.0% (315 % higher than national average) which demonstrates the significant distressed
 490 characteristic.

491 The median rental cost for the District – the 4th highest in the nation – adds another layer of
492 complexity for LMI households as they work to create economic stability pre- and post-event. The
493 average renter within the District can face serious hardship in meeting rent obligations. If these
494 residents have to leave the District to find less expensive housing post event, additional impacts would
495 be felt within the District’s economy.

496 *Environmental distress*

497 The third and final criteria that the District satisfies is one of prior environmental distress. To qualify,
498 the area must contain contaminated property cleaned, undergoing cleanup, or proposed for cleanup.

499 Nine Superfund sites are located within the District’s geographic boundaries. One of these sites
500 (Washington Navy Yard) is also on the National Priority List (NPL). Additionally, brownfields are
501 located throughout the District, with the largest clusters of brownfields along the traditional industrial
502 or commercial strips. These sites are shown in Attachment A and in a map located in Attachment D.

503 Over the last 200 years, the District’s waterways have been subject to human influences such as
504 dredging, filling, and contamination. Each year, 1.5 billion gallons of diluted sewage (CSO) is
505 discharged into the Anacostia River alone. The result of this contamination is that the river has been
506 seriously degraded from its natural state. The District’s Water Quality Assessment 2006 Integrated
507 Report to EPA documented that the District’s rivers and streams could only support the designated use
508 of navigation; they were not designated for swimming, secondary recreation contact, aquatic life, or
509 fish consumption. The District’s Water Quality Assessment 2014 Integrated Report indicated the same
510 results.

511 *Demonstrating unmet recovery needs*

512 *Infrastructure - Derecho, June 29-July 1, 2012*

513 The electric system is of particular concern to the District as its transient and non-transient population
514 could be placed in significant risk due to immediate loss of primary and secondary electrical service, as
515 was observed in Wards 7 and 8 during the 2012 Derecho event. Information in support of unmet needs

516 was derived from reports compiled by USACE, Pepco, and DC Water in response to the 2012 Derecho
517 event as required by the District and/or the federal government.

518 **Pepco.** After catastrophic losses from Hurricanes Irene and Sandy and in direct response to the
519 2012 Derecho event, Pepco developed the \$1 billion District of Columbia Power Line Undergrounding
520 (DC PLUG) capital improvement initiative in coordination with the District to improve reliability and
521 resiliency by approximately 95 percent for customers who are served by selected primary feeders. The
522 areas designated to be included in the initiative will be the high-voltage feeders most affected by
523 overhead-related outages in Wards 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8, where feeder distribution lines currently exist. In
524 addition, even though only a select number of feeders will be placed underground, the DC PLUG
525 initiative will improve overall reliability and resiliency for all District customers.

526 About half of the District is already served by underground power lines. After lines are placed
527 underground, there will still be secondary feeders and service lines running overhead on existing poles
528 (most prevalent in Wards 7 and 8). These secondary feeders, which impact the communities
529 independently of the primary feeders, suffered significant damage during the derecho event, causing
530 Ward-wide power outages of up to 9 days. Restoration time for these secondary feeders is typically
531 much longer than the time needed to restore the high-voltage primary lines, as resources are dedicated
532 to restore primary feeders first, then moved to restore secondary feeders in the communities last. As
533 observed in the derecho event, damage to the secondary feeders prolonged outages at hospitals and
534 schools as well as rendered air conditioning inoperable for vulnerable senior citizen populations during
535 the sweltering 100+ degree temperatures that accompanied this event.

536 **Washington Aqueduct.** During the early stages of the
537 2012 Derecho, rain-saturated soils combined with high winds
538 caused loss of power to the Little Falls raw water pumping
539 station for nearly 48 hours because fallen trees had damaged
540 the local power grid serving the station (specific damage



Figure 4: Georgetown (Washington) Aqueduct

541 location will not be included in public documents due to vulnerability of the assets being discussed).
542 As with most critical water system components, redundant power systems serve the facility. However,
543 at this facility power originates from one electric company, Pepco, which was also experiencing
544 regional impacts from the derecho, taking down large portions of its systems and, more importantly,
545 impacting its repair resources.

546 Pepco implemented interim emergency repairs to restore power to the facility before severe water
547 service interruptions were experienced by the Washington Aqueduct or DC Water. The derecho not
548 only caused significant damage but also exposed a systemic problem from similar storm incidents,
549 particularly in the case of cascading effects. The Washington Aqueduct developed a permanent
550 infrastructure resiliency program, in agreement with Pepco and DC Water, which includes reimbursing
551 Pepco for undergrounding its existing power feeders to the Little Falls raw water pumping station to
552 provide resiliency from future storms and/or increased severity of storms from climate change at a cost
553 of \$30.2 million as well as construction of an independent, emergency, generator-based power supply
554 at a cost in excess of \$15 million to serve as a redundancy to Pepco's system. Had funding for this
555 resiliency program been available, a major interruption of the water supply during the derecho-type
556 event would not be considered a threat. Both indicated improvements serve only the unmet needs
557 criteria without the need for leveraging funds.

558 The undergrounding would be owned, maintained, and operated by Pepco, and the emergency
559 generator would be owned, operated, and maintained by USACE. At the time of this submission, all
560 parties are in agreement with the preliminary plan; however, no funding is available for the
561 improvements and both

562 Insert Bob's
563 PE Stamp

Realizing the importance of the threshold data required by the
NOFA, HSEMA developed Exhibit D with the assistance of a
Professional Engineer. The data was collected and documented
under the direction of Robert Yurick, PE. District of Columbia
License #PE905227

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FACTOR 3: SOUNDNESS OF APPROACH

Stakeholder consultation

The number and variety of stakeholders that exist within the District’s geographical boundaries play a critical role in establishing institutionalized, long-term resilience measures. An illustrative, though not an exhaustive, list of stakeholders includes the following:

- Local community: Homeowners, renters, businesses (small and large), charter and private schools, nursing homes, hospitals, universities, and religious organizations
- Non-governmental organizations and private businesses: Red Cross, The Urban Institute, Center for Community Change, Vulnerable Populations Community Healthcare Coalition, Historical Society of DC, disability resources, community civic associations, Community Foundation for the NCR, and Pepco
- Government: Federal agencies, District agencies, Congress, regional MWCOG, critical infrastructure, and WMATA

The District makes an effort to consistently engage stakeholders on recovery needs, community development issues, and priority vulnerabilities. However, given the short time frame allotted for the initial NDRC application, the Core Planning Team leveraged the outreach captured by Resilient DC, a program leading the country by inspiring conversations on resilience in local communities. All stakeholders were afforded the opportunity to provide input for this application at the public meeting held on February 18, 2015. In addition to the community engagement model detailed in *Factor 1*, it is envisioned and intended to further expand outreach efforts throughout Phase 2 to make stakeholder engagement more comprehensive and specific to the projects that will be identified.

As part of Resilient DC, DOH conducted focus groups with the general public and community leaders. The feedback associated with this project was extremely helpful in forming ideas for potential NDRC project proposals. Of note, participants discussed that, across all DC wards, the term “resilience” is associated with characteristics of fortitude, strength, and courage. Participants honed in

593 on the “powerlessness” that people feel during and after disaster, causing the planning team to
594 recognize that the empowerment model for community engagement is the best approach for achieving
595 resiliency.

596 The majority of participants could not identify one person in the community who served the role of
597 preparing the community for emergencies, though many suggested that communicating through ANCs
598 would be a good way to build in that role. The groups considered leadership a key component in
599 resilience work. ANCs consist of established, neighborhood-level, elected officials within each ward
600 who consider a wide range of policies and programs affecting their neighborhoods, including traffic,
601 parking, recreation, street improvements, liquor licenses, zoning, economic development, police
602 protection, sanitation and trash collection, and the District’s annual budget. The existing structure of
603 these ANCs forms a natural bridge between the bottom-up and top-down approaches, facilitating the
604 sharing of information and ideas among various stakeholder groups.

605 Also discussed was the definition of community. Participants felt that communities can be both
606 culturally as well as geographically based. Some people felt particularly disconnected from those
607 within their immediate geographic proximity because of the turnover of residents within the area
608 and/or the “hustle and bustle” of city life. Central congregating or coordinating locations for resilience
609 actions was encouraged, though the location is completely dependent on the neighborhood—for some,
610 it was churches, but varied for others. Community members from Wards 7 and 8 felt that the increase
611 in vulnerability factors among the population, combined with a high crime rate, led to a high level of
612 distrust among neighbors and created serious barriers to creating social connections.

613 Comments received at the February 19, 2015 public meeting were very much in line with the
614 community feedback recorded by Resilient DC, and predominantly concerned the opportunities
615 provided by the ANCs; the active city culture that makes engagement in resilience actions seem like a
616 possible “inconvenience”; and use of churches and other central locations as good coordination points.
617 Specific comments that had not been encountered previously included the District as the literal and

618 figurative center of the regional economy; resilience of tourist sites supporting business resilience;
619 weaving in the historical, disaster context during education and dialogue with neighborhood residents;
620 and the challenge of overcoming the gap between “the haves and have-nots.” Meeting notes have been
621 included in Attachment E for review.

622 The overlap between Resilient DC focus group comments and the NDRC public meeting highlights
623 cumulative impacts of the District’s overall risks and specific vulnerabilities, independent of the type
624 of threat and/or hazard. The time frame of the four qualifying disasters were such that the District and
625 its stakeholders (including utilities, agencies, and communities) did not have time to fully recover. The
626 four qualifying disasters occurred in quick succession and caused significant damage, but not to the
627 point of requiring substantial FEMA mitigation funds; hence, many recovery projects were unfunded
628 and left unaddressed before the next disaster occurred, resulting in compounded disaster damages.
629 Much of the damage was to utilities (power and water) servicing the District, including low- and
630 moderate-income populations, thereby increasing risk for vulnerable populations. The results of the
631 collaboration with stakeholders, project partners, and residents have shaped the District’s NDRC
632 proposal by:

- 633 ■ Identifying target areas of concern, including neighborhoods in Wards 7 and 8 whose residents
634 struggle daily with affordability challenges in the absence of a disaster.
- 635 ■ Prioritizing utility needs as a result of damage suffered.
- 636 ■ Targeting outreach materials toward appropriate stakeholders based on suggestions for
637 improvement.
- 638 ■ Focusing on a neighbor-to-neighbor approach to community engagement.

639 Ideas and co-benefits

640 Programs focused on resilience in the District may have been initiated under different titles but are all
641 part of the comprehensive resilience efforts by the District inclusive of its inhabitants, infrastructure,
642 and overall governance to be sustainable to disaster shocks and stresses. Development of the District’s

643 NDRC application and approach of integrating proposed and existing resilience programs and projects
644 (DC Silver Jackets, Resilient DC, and Sustainable DC, mentioned in *Factor 1: Cross-Disciplinary*
645 *Technical Capacity*) under a unified Resilien-Seeds program is a priority that is being undertaken by
646 HSEMA and all District agencies and community partners.

647 The Resilien-Seeds program builds upon the District’s Hazard Mitigation Plan, which is aligned
648 with past and current planning requirements for the Flood Mitigation Plan, Floodplain Management
649 Strategic Plan, and Flood Map Modernization Business Case. The District has been a proud participant
650 in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and is actively pursuing admittance in the Community
651 Rating System (CRS) program with an initial rating of 10. The goal is to achieve a rating of seven or
652 higher, which will result in additional flood insurance savings for the District and its homeowners. The
653 District is committed to disaster mitigation, including flood measures such as the CRS program and
654 meeting the infrastructure and outreach goals.

655 The Resilien-Seeds program utilizes existing District mitigation and pre-disaster planning tools that
656 influence actions taken in advance of a disaster. Mitigation encourages public safety and emergency
657 management professionals to creatively identify urban improvement opportunities, as well as serves as
658 a guide toward redevelopment after a disaster occurs. Together, the Resilien-Seeds planning process
659 and implementation provide the framework for District officials to make informed decisions
660 supporting permanent hazard protection. Resilien-Seeds activities conducted before or after a disaster
661 will immediately result in cost-effective benefits including a reduction in the impact of physical, social,
662 and economic damage sustained by communities and residents; elimination of the repetitive damage
663 cycle; reduction in economic costs to the taxpayer; and fewer resources expended to prepare for,
664 respond to, and recover from future disasters.

665 The District of Columbia Public Emergency Act of 1980, DC Law 3-149, authorizes the HSEMA
666 Director to act on behalf of the District Mayor, as the mayor’s authorized representative (MAR), in
667 matters related to disaster management. In this capacity, the HSEMA Director has the authority to act

668 on all emergency management matters, including leading the Resilien-Seeds program. HSEMA has
 669 primary responsibility for identifying hazards, as well as implementing pre-disaster hazard mitigation
 670 and permanent post-disaster recovery programs in the District to prevent future damages. HSEMA has
 671 a strong allegiance to protect District residents and visitors from future disasters by implementing a
 672 comprehensive, community-based resilience strategy for managing and minimizing hazards.

673 The vulnerabilities and unmet recovery needs faced by the District from the four disasters will need
 674 to be addressed both internally within the District and externally with federal, state, regional, and
 675 private partners. The District has demonstrably long-standing, collaborative relationships with these
 676 partners (U.S. Congress, GSA, USACE, FEMA, MWCOG, DC Water, and Pepco). As an indication of
 677 their support for building resiliency in the District, several private entities have provided partner letters
 678 of commitment (see Attachment F).

679 The aforementioned existing projects and initiatives and those listed in Table 2 that follows are
 680 examples of potential Resilien-Seeds projects that support the District’s objectives to achieve
 681 community, economic, and infrastructure resilience. In addition, Resilien-Seeds will also advocate for
 682 policy initiatives that address social cohesion as an integral aspect of resilience, providing program
 683 support for at-risk LMI populations residing in flood-prone areas and updating building codes as part
 684 of adopting Executive Order 13690, *Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a*
 685 *Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input*, which calls for floodplain
 686 management for federal investments based on best-available data.

687 **Table 2: Project ideas and co-benefits**

Program objective	Potential project	Information/links to program sites	Existing/ongoing project	Co-benefit to unmet need
Community resilience	DC NFIP CRS program	DC CRS plan http://ccap.org/resource/analysis-report-the-	DC completed CRS study in Sept 2014 and is actively	Compliance with these programs directly benefits the overall community and

Program objective	Potential project	Information/links to program sites	Existing/ongoing project	Co-benefit to unmet need
Community Resilience		district-of-columbia-community-rating-system-program-review/	complying with NFIP and CRS programs, focused on minimizing flood risk and achieving reductions in flood insurance premiums.	provides rerouting of community resources that would otherwise be dedicated to assistance in flood-prone areas.
	Neighbor-to-Neighbor Resilience Program	https://vimeo.com/115574137 Password: resilient	Yes, began post-Hurricane Isabel in 2006 and is continuing today as a neighborhood-centric coordination and outreach program.	Supports neighborhood-level interaction and pre- and post-disaster support.
	Metro DC 211	http://211metrodc.org/about-metro-dc-2-1-1	Yes, the NCR 2-1-1 Combined Database project was initially funded by a grant from DHS UASI. It is now part of the resilience fabric of DC and is ongoing.	This program supports DC's population pre- and post-disaster. Post-disaster this site is a central portal and database for recovery services, including case management support for the LMI community.

Program objective	Potential project	Information/links to program sites	Existing/ongoing project	Co-benefit to unmet need
Economic resilience	District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU)	Helps DC residents and businesses use less energy and save money.	Yes, DCSEU is operated by a private company under contract with DDOE.	Improve the energy efficiency of low-income housing, increase the number of jobs and specialized job training.
	Targeted construction skills training	DC DOES Apprenticeship Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://does.dc.gov/service/apprenticeships 	Leveraging the DC DOES Apprenticeship program to provide specialized post-disaster training	Increasing resilience with the added benefit of building the economy and also buy-in from the community.
Infrastructure resilience	Clean Rivers Project (Bloomingdale/Ledroit Park)	Compliance with DC Water/EPA consent decree to reduce impacts of stormwater on the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers.	Ongoing to meet Clean Water Act requirements: http://www.dewater.com/clean_rivers	Reduce flow and mitigate environmental impacts from managing stormwater flow in CSO portion of the District. See Attachment D for map.
	Build a project in tandem with Pepco's efforts to bury power lines through DC PLUG	Improve service reliability to community electrical supply zones during storm incidents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.pepco.com/dcplug/ 	Ongoing	Convert existing high-value surface feeders to underground design for resiliency during storm incidents. Primary drivers: Hurricane Irene, Hurricane

Program objective	Potential project	Information/links to program sites	Existing/ongoing project	Co-benefit to unmet need
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://oca.dc.gov/page/dcplug 		Sandy, and 2012 Derecho.
	DC Water Blue Plains Flood Wall	Protect Blue Plains wastewater treatment plant from inundation due to storms and storm surge that threatens to shut down the facility's 1-billion-gallon-a-day capacity.	Phased approach, with phase 1 complete. Remaining phases are unfunded.	Every storm of significance places DC Water on high alert to maintain plant operations. Inundation could cause treatment outages greater than 30 days.

688

689 **Resilien-Seeds program approach**

690 Upon receipt Phase 1 funding for planning and program execution, the Resilien-Seeds program would
 691 employ the following approach to further build out our Phase 2 project application and commence
 692 institutionalizing Resilien-Seeds as presented in our Phase 1 application. The multi-step approach is
 693 intended to facilitate the District's use of community based decision making during the expedited
 694 Phase 1 time period. The approach allows for the:

- 695 • Identification of projects of interest (Phase 1)
- 696 • Conceptual project design (Phase 1)
- 697 • Development of the NDRC Phase 2 Application
- 698 • Final design and implementation of community selected projects (Phase 2)

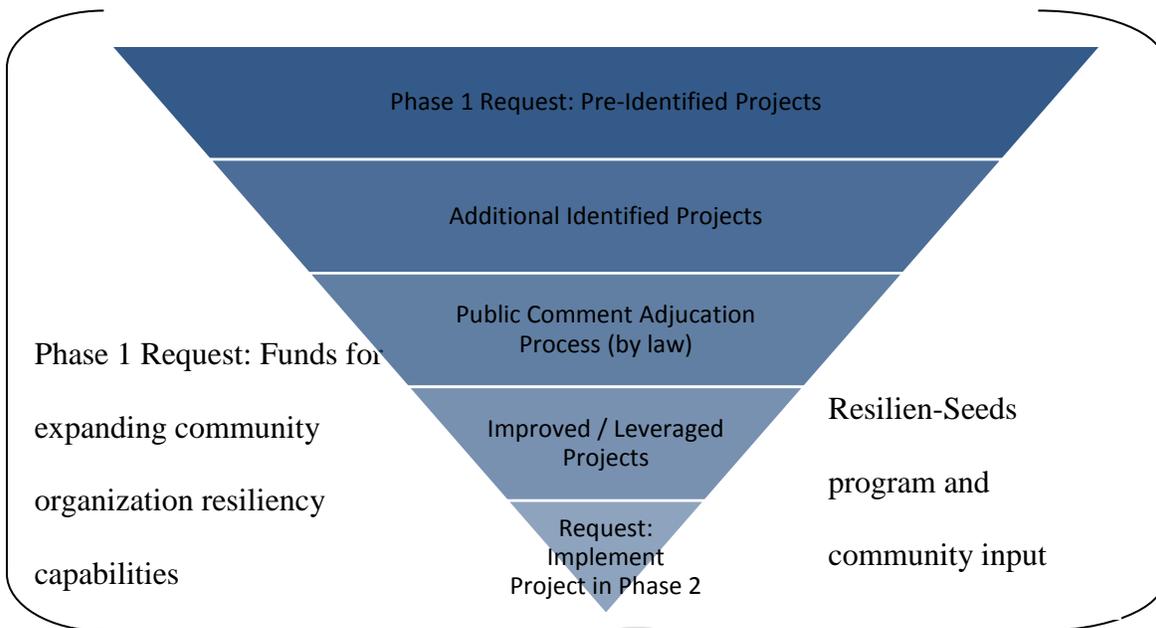


Figure 5: Phase 1 to Phase 2 Resilien-Seeds program approach

699

1. Implement the Phase 1 Award District NDRC Resiliency Program Management

700

Organization (Page 7):

701

a. Implement our proposed program management structure to administer the Phase 2

702

grant application; develop and commence integrated resilience planning across the

703

District’s existing programs, inclusive of community organizations district-wide, to

704

provide Phase 1 award funds for resiliency education and training to improve

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community-based resilience capabilities and to further define the District’s NDRC

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infrastructure projects

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2. Establish Competitive Grant Program for Community Based Resiliency

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Capacity. Requested funding, as part of the Phase 1 NDRC would be used to establish a

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competitive grant program for local community organizations interested in building their

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technical expertise in the resiliency fields. The focus of this program would be to enable

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local organizations to obtain the technical understanding and expertise related to resiliency

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issues (infrastructure design, economics, impacts, etc.) and subsequently furthering their

713 active participation in the Resilien-Seeds program. The grant program would focus on
714 education, training and technical capacity building.

715 3. Identify the universe of existing, unfunded projects for hazard reduction, mitigation, and
716 resiliency that should be evaluated and enhanced to meet the Resilien-Seeds team’s NDRC
717 program objectives:

718 a. Identify a potential pool of projects in the following areas with a focus both District-
719 wide and specifically to those located within census tracts in Wards 7 and 8

720 b. Identify additional projects from the Phase 1 application that can be implemented
721 and/or leveraged with other components of the Resilien-Seeds program

722 c. Identify supporting policy improvements that can be made to enable long-term
723 success of resilience projects:

724 i. Work with District agencies (adopting building codes, modifying ordinances,
725 etc.)

726 ii. Work with MWCOG on regional adoption and implementation of Resilien-
727 Seeds program

728 iii. Support federal partners’ adoption of various resilience standards, including EO
729 13690 regarding guidance to federal buildings and flood risk management

730 4. Evaluate and ensure projects will leverage District/private/philanthropic funds and existing
731 successful District programs:

732 a. Outreach to private/philanthropic organizations and District government for support

733 b. Buildout of Phase 2 application and selected project(s) to include multiple funding
734 sources, thereby fully engaging the Whole Community for Resilien-Seeds Phase 2
735 application and the District’s Resilien-Seeds program

736 5. Evaluate and ensure projects will build upon existing programs and can leverage District
737 and regional resilience efforts:

- 738 a. Identify project linkages and opportunities to leverage existing programs
- 739 b. Does this project build upon existing District programs, such that this Resilien-
- 740 Seeds project will have longevity with the community?
- 741 c. Can it be institutionalized and how?
- 742 6. Evaluate the feasibility of the projects:
- 743 a. Can they be built and implemented?
- 744 b. Develop an action plan for existing policies/governance that would need to be
- 745 amended to allow projects, once awarded, to be built based on Phase 2 application
- 746 c. Does the infrastructure project meet engineering principals? What aspects need to
- 747 be further defined in Phase 2 to enable constructability?
- 748 7. Scalability of projects:
- 749 a. Can the projects be completed within the 4-year timeline of the NDRC program?
- 750 b. What project amendments are necessary to enable completion within the timeline?
- 751 c. If enhancements are made, will the project meet previous criteria?
- 752 8. How and which shocks and stressors does the project address?
- 753 a. Ability to reduce economic impacts to LMI population post-event. Does the project
- 754 offer opportunity for large employer partnering? Does it provide an opportunity for
- 755 entrepreneurship within the neighborhood? What is the prospective development
- 756 growth around the project?
- 757 b. Reduce vulnerability to specific hazards, using the District THIRA for identification
- 758 of priority (ranking) of addressing hazards and level of consequences
- 759 c. Create community cohesion – connection: Does the project engage the community
- 760 and provide opportunities for partnerships?
- 761 9. Quantifiable and measurable return on investment:

762 a. Identify projects with the highest return on investments utilizing a cost-benefit
763 analysis and STAPLE-E criteria as defined in Phase 1

764 b. Does the project meet the Resilien-Seeds performance metrics?

765 10. Develop portfolio of prioritized projects:

766 a. Create a portfolio of community-based, resiliency projects that meet the above
767 criteria and develop a project summary sheet for presentation and evaluation

768 11. Public comment and adjudication process:

769 a. Using a best practice from the OP Small Areas Planning Process, the Resilien-Seeds
770 team will produce a Public Comment Digest that captures 1) all public comments,
771 by name/organization, received on a Phase 1 Projects received during the required
772 public comment period; 2) Resilien-Seeds's response to the comment; and 3) an
773 indication of whether or not we modified the draft project based on the
774 comment. This can become a public document if it is submitted it to Council.

775 12. Post-public comment/adjudication process:

776 a. Enhance and address any project-specific request that meets the Resilien-Seeds
777 program evaluation criteria

778 b. Identify order of projects for implementation

779 13. Select the top projects for Phase 2 application submittal:

780 a. Need to meet community cohesion, infrastructure resilience, and economic
781 resilience as defined by Resilien-Seeds

782 b. Develop detailed work plans and project implementation components with Phase I
783 funding as part of the Phase 2 submittal

784 c. All projects will be shovel-ready and able to be completed within 4 years of Phase 2
785 application award

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787 | FACTOR 4: LEVERAGE AND OUTCOMES

788 | Outcomes

789 | The District understands there is no one-size-fits-all solution to resiliency. Solutions need to be tailored
790 | to the ward, neighborhood, and community. In Phase 2, the District will consider projects of all scales
791 | and varying lifespans. For instance, grassroots efforts to integrate resiliency into the fabric of the
792 | District’s communities will involve a life-long time frame, whereas infrastructure projects could have a
793 | useful lifespan between 20 and 50 years. Considerations will also include projects that provide
794 | multiple co-benefits such as energy efficiency, air quality improvements, improved community
795 | livability, business opportunities, stormwater management, and recreational prospects, as demonstrated
796 | in the *Table 2: Project Ideas and Co-Benefits in Factor 3: Idea and Co-Benefits*.

797 | Since the District will provide a comprehensive approach to resiliency, the Collaborative Planning
798 | Team feels the portfolio of projects should be implemented in an environmentally and financially
799 | sustainable manner. This process will allow diversity in breadth and scale of projects and allow for
800 | attainable goals over an extended period of time. The existing foundation within the District and the
801 | relationships with community and regional partners increases the capability to identify and implement
802 | sustainable techniques as the cornerstone of resilience projects.

803 | An assessment of vulnerabilities in the District, both social and structural, revealed an opportunity
804 | to leverage the implementation of resiliency projects as an avenue for enhancing community assets,
805 | such as providing job training for the unemployed. Job training for resilience project implementation
806 | supports the prospect of increased employment resulting from actionable job skills in the very same
807 | communities affected by resilience projects. Particularly in Wards 7 and 8, where the unemployment
808 | rate is considerably higher than other wards, developing community buy-in with resilience projects
809 | while providing immediately useful training would be especially productive.

810 Concepts such as empowerment and resilience require creative approaches for quantification due to
811 their dependence on qualitative measures such as cohesion, preparedness, and flexibility. Additionally,
812 determining a metric to measure the efficacy of resilience measures depends heavily on the actions of
813 each individual resilience project. Therefore, metrics will be described in greater detail in the Phase 2
814 application. The critical elements that will inform the framework and approach to resilience metrics are
815 social vulnerabilities, recovery time for critical infrastructure, structural integrity of community
816 coordination points, and risk communication.

817 During the development of this application it has been determined that all eight wards, in addition
818 to the metropolitan region, are susceptible to the effects of disasters and the disruptive effects of
819 climate change if resilience measures are not taken. While project-specific metrics will be developed
820 under Phase 2, the District has been developing climate-resilient program goals for some time under
821 the Sustainable DC initiation and with MWCOG. Current programmatic goals include:

- 822 1. Educating and informing leaders and communities about the risk of climate change to NCR.
- 823 2. Coordinating individual adaptation efforts to maximize benefits and minimize unintended
824 negative impacts (interdependencies among built systems with the socioeconomic and natural
825 systems imply failure of one system will lead to a cascading failure of other systems).
- 826 3. Agreeing on collective risks and a commitment to a shared set of priority actions.
- 827 4. Integrating adaptation strategies into existing policies, capital planning, and operations, and
828 using a “risk management” model to address climate risks.
- 829 5. Funding system-wide adaptation actions through innovative partnerships.
- 830 6. Encouraging grassroots initiatives alongside government actions.

831 The District believes that, in addition to detailing specific goals and objectives to assess success,
832 evaluation is a continual process in order to achieve quality improvement and must begin during the
833 program design phase. The program will be evaluated using specific measures for processes, outcomes,

834 and costs as they relate to selected projects under Phase 2. For long-term project and program
835 sustainability, disseminating evaluation findings is critical.

836 Leverage

837 Attachment F details letters of commitment and support from District, private sector, and regional
838 partners and resources that will assist in the implementation and maintenance of projects addressing
839 the District's vulnerabilities. These letters represent long-standing, working relationships between
840 HSEMA and these partners. As the Collaborative Planning Team builds individual projects as part of
841 Phase 2, projects will be evaluated against each other to determine cascading benefits. For example,
842 projects avoiding road closures during flash flooding will result in a stronger economic base for
843 businesses. Alternatively, there are also options of projects that present an opportunity for financing
844 the resilience action itself through Public Private Partnerships, such as an underground garage that can
845 sustain flooding in an area that is plagued by flash flooding.

846 An additional significant step demonstrating long-term commitment is Smart911 and DC 211. The
847 DC Office of Unified Communications introduced Smart911 to the District in July 2012 to improve 9-
848 1-1 services to residents, an important step to increasing resilience by allowing residents to create a
849 free Safety Profile for the household that includes any information that 9-1-1 and first responders
850 should have in the event of an emergency (disabilities, vulnerabilities, sensitivities, etc.). Smart911
851 immediately displays a caller's Safety Profile to emergency service dispatchers and provides vital, life-
852 saving information that can be used to facilitate the proper response to the proper location. The
853 community engagement approach detailed in *Factor 1: Community Engagement Capacity*, which
854 focuses on empowerment of local communities by improving risk communication and understanding,
855 will support the mission of Smart911 by encouraging the public to engage in self-motivated disaster
856 preparedness by signing up and entering information that includes their own family's vulnerabilities.
857 The DC 211 system is a free service that links District residents to government and community

858 programs that can assist with crisis intervention; referrals to mental health professionals, food subsidy
859 programs, employment, job training, and post-secondary education; information about health
860 insurance; and information about home ownership programs. The District is actively investing in this
861 community based service, providing assistance in over 140 languages. It is critical to long term
862 survivability of residents post-event to have known accessible resources that can assist with navigating
863 the post-event environment. DC 2-1-1 is that resource.

864 Streams of public funding to the District will likely be used differently in the long-term as a result
865 of this approach. For example, significant public funding currently used for community outreach and
866 affairs could be directed to Resilien-Seeds. A more permanent result would be reduced public spending
867 during disasters of all types and at all levels as a result of the Resilien-Seeds program. This would be
868 particularly evident in cases of local flooding and non-federally declared disasters. With more resilient
869 infrastructure, there will be a reduction in public safety spending that, in the past, has been directed
870 toward providing life safety and resources to individuals without power. Implementing resilience
871 measures means potentially saving lives and money for individuals and the government over time.

872 By introducing resiliency improvements to the District's distressed and most impacted areas,
873 economic resiliency will be improved for residents in suburban Maryland and Virginia who commute
874 to, or work within, the District. A majority of this area's population works daily to support efforts
875 within the District, and any improvements to the District's portfolio will have a positive outcome for
876 Maryland and Virginia commuters as well as DC residents.

877 **Committed leverage resources**

878 (HSEMA will have the District's response prepared before submittal.)

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880 FACTOR 5: REGIONAL COORDINATION AND LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

881

882 The District is committed to increasing resilience in the jurisdiction, regardless of whether or not it is
883 the recipient of a CDBG-NDR award. Examples of commitment to resilience-building have been
884 referenced throughout this document. For example, the teams already mentioned in *Factor 1: Cross-*
885 *Disciplinary Technical Capacity* have been engaged in resilience actions in our communities and will
886 continue to do so in the future.

887 In a major step towards increasing resilience in the jurisdiction, DOH has been a member of the
888 National Academy of Sciences Workgroup for Measurements of Community Resilience since its first
889 workshop in September 2014. As part of its initiatives in the target area, DOH has used the information
890 gained from the workshop to provide resilience training throughout the District to more than 500
891 participants in FY 2014, with 700 set as the target for resilience training in FY 2015, which will
892 increase even more as the focus on resilience continues to grow.

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