



# The Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

First Report to the District of Columbia

October 15, 2019

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The Honorable Muriel Bowser  
Mayor of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC, 20004

The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 504  
Washington DC, 20004

Dear Mayor Bowser and Chairman Mendelson:

Pursuant to the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency Establishment Act of 2016, effective February 18, 2017 (D.C. Law 21-185), the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency is pleased to submit the enclosed First Report. This report describes the progress the Commission has made since it first convened on March 8, 2018. It details our work completed to date, preliminary recommendations for steps the District should take to mitigate climate change impacts and vulnerability, and preliminary recommendations to coordinate adaptation strategies across agencies and other entities.

We began our work with a strong foundation that included rigorous and robust plans developed by District of Columbia staff with input from the public and national experts, particularly Climate Ready DC, Sustainable DC 2.0, and Resilient DC.

Over the last 18 months, we organized our work into three thematic committees: Knowledge and Risk Management; Governance and Accountability; and Communications and Engagement. As a result of this work, we came to five key findings with ten associated recommendations detailed within:

1. **Prioritization and Integration.** Better coordinate, prioritize, and integrate existing resilience strategies;
2. **Budget and Managerial Decision-making.** Integration of resilience into management and budget (operating and capital) decisions;
3. **Accountability and Oversight.** Introduction of measures of accountability to support short-term actions designed to meet long-term goals;
4. **Application of Climate Data.** Develop greater consistency of data and assessments of climate vulnerabilities; and
5. **Communications and Engagement.** Improve engagement of stakeholders impacted by climate change.

The District has a global reputation for climate and resilience leadership. Adopting these recommendations will help DC strengthen this leadership reputation and help enhance the resilience of the District itself and its residents in the face of a warming planet.

On behalf of the Commission, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,



Kevin Clinton  
Chair, Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

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Uwe Brandes, Environmental Science

Kevin Clinton, Natural Resources

James Dougherty, Natural Resources

Alan Etter, Emergency Preparedness

Thomas Hampton, Insurance

Maureen Holman, Environmental Science

Anthony Kane, Transportation

Peggy Keller, Public Health

Sandra Knight, Emergency Preparedness

Melissa Lavinson, Energy

Stephen Moore, Transportation

Molly Rauch, Public Health

Jason E. Turner, Environmental Science

Kathryn Zyla, Energy

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following its legislative mandate, the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency (the ‘Commission’) has spent the last year analyzing the current state of resilience in the District and synthesizing existing resources and best practices. The Commission recognizes all the work the Council and District agencies have undertaken to strengthen the District’s current and future resilience in a rapidly changing climate, and especially appreciates the recent Resilient DC report released by the Mayor. The District has a strong framework for implementing its aggressive climate mitigation and adaptation goals and a demonstrated history of stakeholder engagement in the climate change resiliency space.

The Commission gathered and reviewed information from various internal and external sources. Based on that review and their own expertise, the Commission noted gaps and opportunities for improvement in the District's investments, regulations, and governance.

Our key findings are that there is a need for:

- ❖ Coordination, prioritization, and integration of existing resilience strategies and objectives;
- ❖ Integrating the consideration of resilience into all operating and capital budget investments and general government management decisions;
- ❖ Implementing measures of accountability and oversight to support short-term actions designed to meet long-term goals;
- ❖ Developing and adopting consistent direction for assessing climate vulnerabilities in planning and investment decision-making that can be used by government agencies and critical infrastructure companies; and
- ❖ Improved engagement and communication tailored to a diverse set of stakeholders including the public and private sectors, as well as District residents.

The Commission recommends taking a comprehensive approach to monitoring and benchmarking the District’s progress on resilience through the explicit inclusion of climate resilience goals in the District's Comprehensive Plan and the ongoing disclosure of climate indicators, which are monitored and reported over time. We urge District leadership and agencies to prioritize existing initiatives, identify short-term commitments for resilient actions, and support those initiatives through funding.

Going forward, there is a need to develop cross-agency accountability and oversight mechanisms, collaborative processes for envisioning future risk scenarios, and highly-effective stakeholder engagement strategies which result in far greater preparedness of District residents to climate-related risks.

We believe that the Commission has a critical, ongoing role to play as the District refines and expands its climate change and resilience activities. Its oversight and advice can provide needed guidance to the Mayor and the Council on the complex and multi-faceted issues associated with climate change mitigation and adaptation. Please see Appendix A for recommendations on the mandate and administration of the Commission moving forward.

## COMMISSION WORK TO DATE

The Commission was formed by the Council of the District of Columbia to identify and advise on best practices in climate resiliency, projected impacts of climate change on critical infrastructure, and proactive solutions to mitigate these impacts. Since the official formation of the Commission in March of 2018, Commissioners have conducted an extensive literature review to fully understand the current state of resilience in the District and establish a foundation on which to build future recommendations. The Commission represents a diverse set of stakeholders with far-reaching arms into the city beyond traditional environmental constituencies, including: universities, national advocacy groups, utilities, environmental justice organizations, local experts, and broad-based civic organizations.

### The Mandate of the Commission

1. Assess the potential effects of climate change on the District;
2. Assess the District's ability to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change;
3. Assess the District's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from severe, adverse weather events;
4. Identify vulnerabilities related to climate change effects and preparedness and prepare recommendations to the Council and the Mayor to mitigate those vulnerabilities; and
5. Provide comments and recommendations to all District agencies on climate change adaptation and vulnerability mitigation plans.

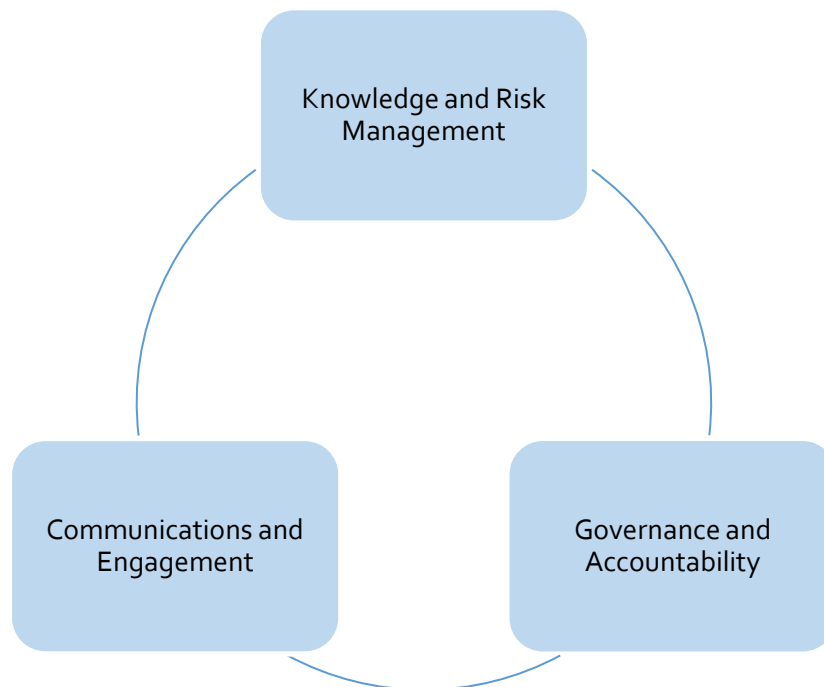
Since the original legislation that established the Commission, District government agencies have undertaken significant efforts to assess, analyze, and develop strategies and initiatives to combat climate change and build resilience in the District of Columbia. During the Commission's first year of work, Commissioners met with District government representatives who worked on plans that advance the District's resilience goals, including Climate Ready DC (DOEE), Clean Energy DC (DOEE), and Resilient DC (OCA), among others. These representatives provided insight into the preparation of each of these plans and the strategies employed to address climate change impacts in the District.

The Commission also had an opportunity to provide strategic input on the Resilient DC plan as it was being developed. During the summer of 2018, Commission members participated in the Resilient DC kickoff and in five discovery area working groups that met on a biweekly basis. Members of the Commission who participated in the groups helped to conduct analysis and diagnostic work that advanced new opportunities. The Commission also participated in the Resilient DC Vision Setting Workshop, which included the Mayor's Resilience Cabinet. At the meeting, the Commission took part in an exercise to finalize an outline for DC's Resilience Strategy that included the vision, goals, and objectives for the strategy.

Since the release of these plans, the Commission has focused on developing recommendations for mitigation of climate change impacts and coordinated adaptation strategies across agencies and other entities. At the beginning of 2019, the Commission held a facilitated strategic planning retreat hosted by Georgetown University with the purpose of developing a strategic work plan and

timeline for meeting the Commission’s legislative requirements. Given that the District has already developed a climate vulnerability assessment and published numerous agency-based plans outlining climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, Commissioners focused on three broad areas of potential improvement for District government action on climate change and resilience.

### Areas of Potential Improvement for District Government Action on Climate Change and Resilience



The Commission has since established committees based on these focus areas to help execute this work plan and provide a deeper dive into each topic area. The section below is a synthesis of the key findings and recommendations of all three groups. The following three sections outline the observations of each committee, including existing strengths and gaps in the District’s resilience work. Appendix B presents a matrix outlining the recommendations that came out of this work.

This report is reflective of the work of volunteer Commission members who have met more frequently than their mandate of quarterly meetings. With dedicated staff, the Commission could play an even more substantive role in ensuring the District is a leader in this space in the years to come.

## SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The key findings and recommendations below originate from the work of three Commission subcommittees. For a detailed look at each of these recommendations, please see Appendix B.

### Prioritization and Integration

Coordinate, prioritize, and integrate existing resilience strategies and objectives.

While indicators that aim to measure progress have been established in published plans such as Climate Ready DC, Sustainable DC 2.0, and Resilient DC, these metrics remain in silos with no clear cross-cutting relationship or reporting mandate. The Commission recommends establishing high-level metrics or indicators that are publicly reported in regular intervals. These indicators should be tied to agency performance, and should be supported by funding and regulations needed to achieve outcome-based goals.

Additionally, there are many climate and resilience actions in the plans, but no clear roadmap on where to start or how to prioritize resource allocation. The Commission sees an opportunity to prioritize these strategies and establish near-term deadlines for completing specific actions. This prioritization should be based on feasibility, funding, and alignment with long-term goals so as to maximize positive impact.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

1

Prioritize and align the many resilience initiatives included in DC plans.

2

Establish high level/District-wide climate change resilience indicators or metrics of success that have the necessary budget and authority to achieve outcome-based goals.

### Budget and Managerial Decision-making

Integrate resilience strategies into the budget and funding decision-making process.

The Commission found that funding to support climate and resilience initiatives does not match ambitions in the plans. This has resulted in significant challenges in implementation. As such, the Commission recommends supporting the high priority climate and resilience actions with dedicated funding. Additionally, resilience should be an explicit factor in the preparation of the Capital Improvement Plan in order to ensure that investments are taking into account future conditions. Finally, a sound resilience implementation strategy does not necessarily mean that an



entirely new set of budget line items be generated; integrating and better coordinating existing funded actions may actually achieve greater efficiency and more comprehensive outcomes.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

3

Adopt a resilience framework for all operating and capital budget investments and general government management decisions that prioritizes the avoidance of long-term costs and is based on contemporary vulnerability assessments.

### Accountability and Oversight

Increase accountability and oversight to support short-term actions designed to meet long-term goals

In its review, the Commission found the lack of resilience requirements in existing regulations as a significant barrier to creating widespread participation in resilience actions. The Commission recommends integrating resilience planning into the District's Comprehensive Plan in order to create legally binding and enforceable measures that will support implementation. The Comprehensive Plan is the District's long-term vision for our community and it provides the basis for legally enforceable actions which may take many years to implement.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

4

Ensure that the Commission has information on District agencies' existing climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience efforts that will allow the Commission to map needs as well as play a role in agency oversight.

5

Integrate resilience planning into the District Comprehensive Plan to create legally binding and enforceable measures.

### Application of Climate Data

Develop and adopt consistent direction for assessing climate vulnerabilities in planning and investment decision-making that can be used by government agencies and critical infrastructure companies.

While the District has developed climate projections and inventoried climate vulnerabilities to infrastructure and neighborhoods, the Commission has found that forward-looking climate science is not consistently used for strategic decisions in planning, investments, and design.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

6

Establish Resilience Standards for development in the District and establish directives to standardize and regularly update existing climate models and risk assessments.

7

Ensure continuity of operations for critical facilities, including non-District managed facilities, to help verify readiness for extreme weather events.

### Communication and Engagement

Improve engagement and communication tailored to a diverse set of stakeholders including the public and private sectors, as well as District residents.

Though the District has conducted strong community engagement while developing climate change and resilience plans, less work has been done to keep community members engaged after a plan is released. Even more, communication strategies may not be reaching a diversity of audiences including the private sector and residents of all ages. The Commission recommends expanding climate change and resilience outreach and communication modalities to make information more accessible and to empower residents to actively learn, understand, and interact with resilience initiatives and accomplishments in the District. For example, the District should develop an interactive website that shows climate challenges and resilience progress. The District should also integrate resilience actions and sustainability education into various outreach and educational contexts, including certification programs and elementary education curricula.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

8

Increase the visibility of Resilient DC and Climate Ready DC plans for broader dissemination and increased public awareness.

9

Improve social media presence to promote and educate individuals on the District's climate change and resilience actions/goals.

10

Integrate resilience actions and sustainability initiatives into community engagement, outreach, and educational programs.

*The recommendations outlined in section 2 were developed through a research process looking at current efforts in the District through three lenses: knowledge and risk management; governance, accountability and reporting; and communications and engagement. The following three sections outline more detailed observations of each committee.*

## KNOWLEDGE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The Knowledge and Risk Management committee reviewed the underlying science, technology, data, standards, and analysis that informed the vulnerabilities to climate change and the resilience strategies developed by District government across plans and agencies. The committee reviewed existing climate change and resilience plans in the District, noting that each plan includes a series of actions and initiatives, some with overlapping objectives and many that are interrelated, such that, when implemented, one initiative could impact the outcome of others. Several of the plans reference the need for inter-agency partnership and participation, as well as the need to partner with non-governmental organizations and critical infrastructure providers, such as water, electric and natural gas.

### Existing Strengths Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Existing plans focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation provide a strong framework and a set of recommendations for immediate action to address climate change and build resilience in the District
- ❖ Efforts have already been undertaken to apply climate scenarios, model vulnerabilities, and conduct vulnerability assessments
- ❖ Existing reports have already utilized a number of key strategies directly related to the Commission's efforts including:
  - Data collection on existing and expected future hazards
  - Climate change impact evaluation
  - Vulnerability assessments for critical infrastructure
  - Development of recommendations to address vulnerabilities, increase resilience and address climate adaptation and mitigation

### Existing Gaps Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Lack of connectivity between the goals and objectives outlined in the District's climate and resilience plans and how these plans align with a higher set of measurable indicators of success
- ❖ Lack of prioritization among the various goals, objectives, and initiatives
- ❖ No mandate to update vulnerability assessments/climate models, nor direction as to how they can be used by District government agencies and other key partners
- ❖ Capital funding does not consider operational costs and savings from resilience and clean energy goals

- ❖ Objectives and initiatives identified in District plans are high-level with no clear process or funding mechanism for translation into actions for implementation
- ❖ Lack of buy-in and involvement from other federal entities, neighboring jurisdictions and private sector stakeholders
- ❖ Lack of a governance and accountability model to align and prioritize plans, goals and objectives.
- ❖ Use of historic flood maps does not accurately capture current or future flood risks

Overall, there is a need to identify areas of overlap in existing plans, better understand the extent of coordination and integration required, and identify additional needs and clear accountability for successfully completing initiatives, including clear timelines and desired outcomes.

## GOVERNANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING

The role of this committee is to examine how oversight is done for existing climate change mitigation and adaptation plans and how the Commission can support and uplift climate action through strengthened accountability and oversight. This committee's efforts extend to administrative, regulatory, enforcement and reporting recommendations related to feasible and efficient implementation of risk mitigation. One of the key action items identified by this committee is to conduct formal outreach to District government agencies requesting information on agency operations related to climate change and resilience.

### Existing Strengths Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Council action has created legislative mandates for aggressive climate mitigation
- ❖ Many agencies have already been identified as partners to coordinate implementation of existing plans
- ❖ The City Administrator's Resilience Cabinet is a body which shares information on existing climate change priorities
- ❖ Sector pledges under the Sustainable DC plan are a strong example of ways to engage non-government stakeholders and set valuable vision for next steps
- ❖ The Commission has a diverse set of non-government expertise from the private sector, academia and non-profit organizations

### Existing Gaps Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Lack of accountability and enforcement for achieving actions outlined in existing plans, even when agencies have been identified as lead actors
- ❖ Lack of inter-agency integration of emergency preparedness strategies with climate mitigation and adaptation strategies which involve a wider net of participants
- ❖ Lack of legislative and regulatory mandates which make various resilience strategies a required course of action
- ❖ Lack of clear short-term actions which are first steps to achieve long-term goals
- ❖ Lack of a clear approach to resource allocation for the many climate adaptation and mitigation strategies which are currently unfunded, including the lack of resilience goals in the capital improvement plan decision-making process

While the governance committee has made a number of observations thus far, it believes that additional strategic outreach is needed to a variety of government agencies. Ongoing engagement would allow the Commission to ask targeted questions, explore future scenarios, and provide more detailed recommendations. The Commission plans to spend the next year playing this role.

## COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The Communication and Engagement committee was formed to make recommendations on engaging external stakeholders outside the District government and supporting inclusive public participation.

This committee found that the District of Columbia has a number of characteristics that indicate it is ripe for high levels of community engagement regarding climate change and resilience. Increasing outreach with key groups and expanding the message beyond the usual targets could increase momentum for more widespread action. This can help drive public engagement with resilience and sustainability.

### Existing Strengths Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Strong commitment to addressing climate change as demonstrated by the Clean Energy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018 committing the District to 100% renewable energy by 2032 and carbon neutrality by 2050
- ❖ Demonstrated commitment to stakeholder engagement and communications in the climate resilience space. Past and current examples of this work include:
  - National Park Service flood mitigation work
  - Resilient DC stakeholder engagement and feedback process
  - Ward 7 Equity Advisory Group and Resilience Hub Community Committee
- ❖ Existing consortium among local universities in the District studying the effects of climate change locally and globally and developing best practices for communicating this information

### Existing Gaps Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Not enough focus on co-benefits of climate resilience, such as sustainable development or improved public health. There is a need to draw the connection between climate change and individual welfare
- ❖ Limited opportunities and modalities available for District residents to learn about, understand, and interact with the Resilient DC Plan, Climate Ready DC, and other DC accomplishments in the areas of climate change and resilience
- ❖ Lack of integration of resilience strategies to existing preparedness trainings, outreach, and educational programs

Initiatives recommended by this committee are intended to help coordinate engagement and communication strategies on climate change and resilience across public and private sector agencies as well as to improve engagement and communication with District residents.

## APPENDIX A

### Recommended Considerations for the Mandate and Administration of the Commission

Over the last two years, the Commission has taken concrete steps to fulfill its legislative duties to assess the effect of climate change and identify opportunities to adapt to climate change. Along the way, the Commission has reflected on how its duties, functions, procedures, and powers could be enhanced to better meet the objective of encouraging meaningful climate change and resiliency action in the District. To effectively address the shocks and stressors related to climate change - including complex governance and social inequalities - the Commission has a series of recommendations to institutionalize its efforts.

Some of the recommendations the Commission believes will strengthen its resilience management efforts include the need to:

<b>1</b>	Make it a priority to immediately fill the two environmental justice positions that are currently vacant.
<b>2</b>	Ensure that the reporting requirements for the Commission are in alignment with ongoing performance reporting by the District. Resilient DC recommends that the Commission’s work should be presented in conjunction with a dashboard that tracks District Government implementation of Climate Ready DC, Clean Energy DC, Sustainable DC, and the All-Hazards Mitigation Plan (Objective 2.2.3 of Resilient DC).
<b>3</b>	Revise the duties of the Commission to include strategic oversight and implementation support. In addition to its role of identifying climate vulnerabilities and risks to encourage tangible action, the Commission proposes to monitor progress by District agencies to assess ongoing progress, identify challenges, and propose potential solutions. This work would be catalyzed by the District’s progress on Objective 2.2.2 from the District’s Resilience Strategy that recommends there be formally designated climate champions in each government agency.
<b>4</b>	Appropriate funds for an administrative budget for the Commission to support the following functions:
<b>Paid and Assigned Staff</b>	The Commission members are extremely knowledgeable in their sectors; however, there is a need to have engaged staff to help synthesize the ideas and information generated by the Commission to guide program development and actions. From this first year of operation, it is recommended that at least one full-time and one part-time staff member be provided to support the Commission with capabilities to synthesize member ideas and expert inputs into summary documents, help steer the activities of the Commission, provide



	logistical support, and has the authority to connect the Commission to District Government Climate Champions when needed to bridge the communication between the Commission and agencies.
<b>Additional Expertise</b>	The Commission may at times need access to a staff attorney, project managers, and/or external expert reviewers, especially scientists and technical analysts.
<b>A website that is accessible to the public</b>	<p>A website is needed with key content such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Accessibility to resources such as annual reports, laws and executive orders, and publications where the Commission’s work is highlighted.</li> <li>2) Availability of key publications in multiple languages.</li> <li>3) A list of members of the Commission and their committees/working groups.</li> <li>4) Identification of staff supporting the Commission to manage the website, including external expert reviewers.</li> <li>5) A calendar identifying future meetings, work plan schedules, and actions of the Commission.</li> </ol>
<b>5</b>	Review the best approaches or coordinating structure for engaging District agencies, federal, non-profit and industry partners, recognizing the many evolving governance committees and commissions in the region and country.

## APPENDIX B

### Recommendations of the Commission

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
1	Prioritize and align the many resilience initiatives included in Dc plans, and establish near-term deadlines for completing specific resilience actions that have long-term impacts.	X	X		Climate Ready DC has prioritized actions within the plan itself.	No prioritization across plans and prioritization is not linked to funding. Prioritization should be based on feasibility and long-term impacts.	The Chief Resilience Officer should work in close coordination with District agencies to incorporate priority projects into the District Hazard Mitigation Plan (HSEMA) and other critical plans.	Short
2	Establish high level/District-wide climate change resilience indicators or metrics of success that have the necessary budget and authority to achieve outcome-based goals.	X			Some metrics have been established in other District plans including Climate Ready DC, Resilient DC, and Sustainable DC 2.0.	Current plans/metrics are unfunded and have no regulatory requirements. There is no clear relationship between the metrics in the various District plans.		Medium

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
3	Adopt a resilience framework for all operating and capital budget investments and general government management decisions that prioritizes the avoidance of long-term cost and is based on contemporary vulnerability assessments.	X	X		This recommendation is echoed in strategies within Resilient DC, Climate Ready DC, and Sustainable DC 2.0.	Necessary mandates to consider climate change not yet developed nor a process by which to do so.	Increase pacing of producing Resilient Design Guidelines and incorporate them into capital budget process.	Short
4	Ensure Commission has information on District agencies' existing climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience efforts that will allow the Commission to map needs as well as play a role in agency oversight.		X		Commission has drafted letters to send to agencies. DOEE and the Chief Resilience Officer have attended Commission meetings.	Lack of information on resilience work done by government agencies, especially beyond DOEE and the Resilient DC office.	Send letters to District agencies.	Short

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
5	Integrate resilience planning into the District's Comprehensive Plan to create legally binding and enforceable measures.		X		Work has been done to identify resilience strategies in the comprehensive plan and a current draft is underway.	Lack of resilience requirements in existing regulation and strategies.		Short
6	Establish Resilience Standards for development in the District and directive to standardize and regularly update existing climate models and risk assessments.	X	X		Resilient Design Guidelines currently under development by DOEE will provide a voluntary, beta-version of what development guidelines could look like. Climate modeling and risk assessments have been conducted for the district.	Lack of resilience requirements in existing regulation and strategies.		Medium
7	Ensure continuity of operations for critical facilities, including non-District managed	X			Resilience Hub working group tasked with siting a resilience hub in	Overall lack of coordination between existing efforts, lack of capacity to improve facilities, and no clear	Direct HSEMA to provide to the Council a quarterly report that verifies the readiness of those facilities	Short

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
	facilities, and help verify readiness for extreme weather events				Ward 7 that can be used during extreme weather events / disasters. Climate Ready DC has outlined a plan for assessing resilient power in case of emergencies. HSEMA has developed a critical facility assessment.	guidance and rules on facility requirements.	identified as critical to public safety in the case of an extreme weather event, including those facilities that are designated as heating and cooling centers, evacuation centers, and hospitals. Coordinate efforts with private sector utilities, water, and metro.	
8	Increase the visibility of Resilient DC and Climate Ready Dc plans for broader dissemination and increased public awareness.			X	Resilient DC received significant public input from a variety of forums. Sustainable DC 2.0 process actively engaged residents from across the district to receive feedback. Climate Ready DC is developing public-facing implementation roadmap.	Governmental plans should be supplemented with information on individual actions that can increase resiliency and reduce vulnerability; these plans need to be more accessible and digestible to the public. Existing plans not designed to support action outside of government processes.	Translate climate plans into an infographic or other visual to make it easier for individuals to understand the plan. Develop a public facing portal about Resilient DC and other climate strategies that could solicit input from individuals for the strategies and measures, into a matrix to score public reactions to the plan.	Short
9	Improve social media presence to promote			X	Individual agencies have social media	Current efforts do not reach most District residents.	Establish a public-facing website to educate	Short

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
	and educate individuals on the District's climate change and resilience actions/goals.				presence where they can disseminate information and promote other agencies' initiatives. Sustainable DC has an active newsletter and social media account.		individuals on the actions undertaken by the Commission.	
10	Integrate resilience actions and sustainability initiatives into community engagement, outreach, and educational programs.			X	Disaster preparedness programs already in place. DOEEE's GZEP program provides sustainability lessons to participating high school students. PSSE has developed environmental literacy curriculum. Ready.DC.Gov has action items for preparedness available on their website.	Need more specific focus on sustainability and resilience in existing emergency training programs. No District-wide sustainability/resilience curriculum.	Integrate sustainability education and community resilience actions into Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Serve DC youth preparedness program (Commander Ready), and develop sustainability and community resilience curriculum for elementary and middle school students. Add resilience strategies to District's preparedness education outreach.	Medium