



Resilient DC

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

In 2016, Washington, DC was selected from more than 1,000 cities around the world to join the network of 100 Resilient Cities – Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation (100RC), along with cities like Paris, New York, The Hague, and Addis Ababa. As a member of 100RC, the city receives technical and financial support to develop and implement a Resilience Strategy that allows the city to plan for, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse events and long-term challenges. DC’s Resilience Strategy will be a holistic, action-oriented plan to build partnerships and alliances as well as financing mechanisms, and will particularly focus on meeting the needs of vulnerable populations.



Urban resilience is the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience.




Mayor Muriel Bowser established Resilient DC within the Office of the City Administrator to help DC withstand any natural or man-made threats to our communities, and to tackle the social challenges that come with being a rapidly growing city. To make our communities stronger in the face of these shocks and stresses, Resilient DC is working with stakeholders inside and outside of government to create a comprehensive Resilience Strategy for the District that advances innovative approaches to solving our most urgent challenges.

How will DC develop its Resilience Strategy?

Resilient DC is leading a collaborative effort to develop a roadmap to resilience for the District, engaging a broad range of community members to develop an actionable set of initiatives that address our unique identified priorities.

This work is guided by the Mayor’s Resilience Cabinet and the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency. Over the next few months, Resilient DC will continue to work with stakeholders to determine the best way to tackle our most important challenges together through a Resilience Strategy with specific short-, medium-, and long-term initiatives aimed at future-proofing DC.

How to Get Involved

-  **Email us** ResilientDC@dc.gov
-  **Visit our website** Learn about upcoming events and ways to get involved at resilient.dc.gov
-  **Follow us** @resilient_dc

What is Resilient DC focused on?

We think the big questions about DC's resilience revolve around integrated citywide planning, climate action, economic and population growth, racial equity, technological change, and the Anacostia River. This spring and summer, Resilient DC will organize interdisciplinary groups to examine these big questions and advance our collective understanding. Then, we will identify opportunities for partnership and develop a Resilience Strategy that articulates DC's resilience goals and initiatives.

Top Identified Shocks



Top Identified Stresses



Our main objective is to trigger action, investment and support within DC government and among external partners. The Resilience Strategy will continuously be fine-tuned as priorities are addressed, challenges evolve, and initiatives are implemented.

What shocks and stresses affect Washington, DC?

We're working to build DC's resilience to both catastrophic shocks and chronic everyday stresses in order to ensure that DC thrives in the face of change. Our scope is necessarily broad and includes potential threats like terrorism, infrastructure failure, heat waves, cyber-attacks, and floods - as well as the slow-burning disasters we face every day like racial and economic inequality, the high cost of housing, and stressed transportation networks.

Cities across the country increasingly look to Washington, DC for leadership. Through Resilient DC, we will work together to tackle 21st century challenges and create a model for other cities to follow.

How does Washington, DC's Resilience Strategy fit into other planning processes?

Our goal is to build upon, not to recreate, other efforts already underway to build the District's resilience. We are learning about existing citywide plans and initiatives that build resilience and will work to incorporate them into a single strategy, while filling in the gaps where they exist. Several strategic planning efforts are already underway, including the development of Sustainable DC 2.0 and the update to DC's Comprehensive Plan. The Resilient DC Strategy will encompass these efforts and others. Over the next few months, we will work to understand what's missing and outline opportunities for meaningful change.



100 Resilient Cities - Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation (100RC) helps cities around the world become more resilient to social, economic, and physical challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century. 100RC provides this assistance through funding, tools, resources and membership in a global network of peer cities to share best practices and challenges. For more information, visit: www.100ResilientCities.org.