



Community Resilience Pilot Project

Town of Windham Council Meeting
October 12, 2021

GPCOG
GREATER PORTLAND
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Process Overview

Governor's Office of Policy and Innovation and the Future (GOPIF) awarded GPCOG a grant to lead Windham and Bridgton in a pilot program designed to increase municipal capacity to plan for climate change



- Held a series of 3 workshops
- discussing climate hazards and impacts
 - assessing vulnerability of local assets to these hazards
 - identifying actions that can improve resilience



Town teams identified a list of priority projects that build resilience



Submit funding proposal to GOPIF for full funding from the state (\$28,000 per cohort for 8 month project)

Top Concerns Identified

- +Impacts from extreme weather events (storms and droughts)
- +Inadequate infrastructure to meet changing climate (culverts, roads, bridges, other critical infrastructure)
- +Increased stormwater runoff and degraded water quality
- +Impacts to vulnerable populations (lower-income, no access to vehicle)
- +Destruction of natural resources (lakes and fresh water resources)
- +Development pressures (loss of open space)
- +Lack of public awareness



Priority List

1. Establishing resilience standards/protocols for Town planning and project development processes.
2. Vulnerability assessment of critical municipal infrastructure with a focus on equitable and safe futures.
3. Update zoning code for sustainability and resilience of natural resources (protect head water streams, etc.); consider expanding CEO authorities.
4. Awareness campaign around connection of water quality and tax assessments (i.e. shoreland zoning protections).

FUNDING PROPOSAL:

Establish resilience standards/protocols for Town planning, budgeting and project development processes

- + **PROCESS:** Assess existing policies, plans, ordinances, and operational and capital investments for alignment with climate goals. Propose 1-2 recommendations that will increase resilience of future development and infrastructure and lay groundwork for municipalities to continue to implement resilience actions.
- + **OUTCOME:** Council and boards will consider policy changes that will increase resiliency of future development in each town.
- + **FUNDING** from the state will go towards:
 - GPCOG to complete assessment and recommendations
 - GPCOG Resilience Fellow (one year 50% of time to support project)
 - Community Outreach (public and/or committee meetings)