



## News Release

### For Immediate Release

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### R1 Resiliency Initiative – 3-Year Plan

**ROCKFORD, IL** — In November of 2021, Region 1 Planning Council facilitated the process of creating a more resilient region through the launch of its new Resiliency Initiative, approved by the agency’s governing board of appointed and elected leaders. See the release [here](#). The purpose of the R1 Resiliency Initiative is to provide support and foster resilient social, economic, and natural systems in Northern Illinois.

As environmental issues continue to pose threats to vulnerable communities, regional environmental planning has directed long-term goals to promote resiliency by focusing on adaptability, disaster planning, and building the capacity to anticipate and bounce back from shocks to the systems. In the face of climate change and a changing world, the R1 Resiliency Initiative shifts the focus from problem-solving to resiliency preparation, or planning for the region to absorb shocks and bounce back stronger. This larger-scale planning initiative accounts for factors outside of local governments’ control such as climate change, global health concerns, supply chain shocks, and international relations.

In the latest **Resiliency Initiative** news, today at the R1 Governing Board Meeting, R1 released its preliminary concept paper with a proposed 3-Year Plan to create the “Resiliency in Action: A Framework for the Northern Illinois Region” (Resiliency in Action).

The plan proposes the following:

**Year 1 – Listen & Learn** – Efforts will be focused on community outreach and establishing the structures needed to engage and learn about key issues in the region. Various community outreach activities such as surveys, interviews, meetings, and workshops will take place to learn what the community would like to include in the Resiliency in Action Plan.

**Year 2 – Planning for Progress** – Once R1 has supported the community in identifying the scope and direction of the plan, Year 2 will focus on writing the Resiliency in Action Plan and continuing efforts to engage local leadership in addressing the needs identified by the community through efforts such as the Regional Resiliency Leadership Summit.

**Year 3 – Action & Implementation** – Efforts will focus on the adoption of the Resiliency in Action Plan and the implementation of the strategies outlined therein. R1 will provide support as needed to local governments and organizations looking to apply for funding opportunities or begin new projects outlined in the plan, potentially leading to the creation of a Regional Resiliency Center.

The 3-Year Plan will allow the region to create an in-depth Resiliency in Action Plan through community outreach and data collection, data modeling and summary, and public participation and comment. This effort will also allow for a community-led, modern planning document that can be used to track and report progress, support equitable transitions, increase transparency, apply for funding programs, and launch new resiliency initiatives across the region.

The entire 3-Year Plan proposal is attached.

**ABOUT R1:** Region 1 Planning Council (RPC) is a special-purpose, regional government agency. Regional councils are public organizations comprised of local elected officials that promote collaboration among local governments, working across the jurisdictional silos of states, counties, and municipalities.

For more information, visit [www.r1planning.org](http://www.r1planning.org)

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