



Climate Resiliency Forum

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 24th, 2023 (4:00pm – 5:00pm)
127 N Wyman St, Rockford, IL 61107

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:02pm.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Staff Present: Sydney Turner, Gabrielle Gamily, Austin Powell

3. Items Presented for Information or Discussion:

a.) Public Comment

- a. No comment

b.) Discussion

a. R1 Introductions

- i. Introductions were provided by staff and stakeholders

b. Core Planning Documents

- i. Staff provided a presentation introducing Region 1 Planning Council and their purpose. 3 core planning documents were discussed in detail, specifically the CEDS, MTP, and the Climate Action Plan. Within these documents, a 5-year update cycle, areas covered, and topics considered were mentioned.
 - 1. Overarching elements of the documents were highlighted: 1. Infrastructure, 2. Economy, 3. Environment, 4. Housing, 5. Workforce.
 - 2. Overarching themes of the documents were discussed: 1. Recovery, 2. Resiliency, 3. Equity, 4. Connectivity, 5. Innovation, 6. Livability.
- ii. A public engagement process was presented, with a number of actions planned such as working groups, surveys, scenario planning, open houses, and presentations.
- iii. The climate action plan was discussed in detail, the background of what laid the foundation for the plan, and what this updated plan will work to achieve.
 - 1. Examples include conducting a Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Air Quality study
 - 2. A three-year plan is provided for the CAP
 - a. Listen and Learn (FY 2023)
 - b. Planning for Progress (FY 2024)
 - c. Action & Implementation (FY 2025)
 - 3. Data collection methods were provided and how they will be used to further the plan.

c. Direction of Climate Resiliency Forum

- i. The forum will serve as a steering committee to the CAP, discuss, and track progress.
- ii. Stakeholder question: on whether the five overarching elements will be within the CAP as well as health will be included within the plan
- iii. Stakeholder suggestion: utilizing a study by Yale to assess health by census tract.
- iv. Stakeholder question about what the current indicators are for the climate action plan
 1. Discussion centered around the difficulties to get that data to a census tract level
 2. Stream gauge data was suggested to coordinate existing data from ISWS and the State Climatologist.
- v. Stakeholders prefer the current outline structure.
- vi. A charter for the climate resiliency forum was provided with expectations presented to stakeholders. Staff asked stakeholders to reach out about elections for chair and vice chair and what those roles would entail.
 1. Meetings would be held on a bi-monthly basis.
 2. Public participants can attend the Resiliency Forum
 3. Meetings are in-person, with the goal of having a rotating location to ease the burden on traveling members.

c.) Staff Reports

- a. No Report

d.) Agency Reports

- a. Mr. Anthony provided context on available agriculture funding from a recently passed federal bill
 - i. Newly available practices such as rain gardens.
- b. Mr. Von Bergen provided a update on a stormwater management ordinance to be more in line with ISWS 2019 data. Awaiting confirmation of a grant to pull Winnebago rd out of a floodplain. Ongoing update of the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (due in Dec 2024).
- c. City of Rockford is taking the steps to update their Stormwater Management Plan as well as additional ordinance.
- d. Westgate Coalition is putting together a job description for an executive director.

e.) Other Business

- a. No business

4. Adjournment

- a. Adjournment was called at 4:43pm

Meeting minutes prepared by: ATP
Minutes approved by action of the Board: _____