

2022 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM: Integrating Resilience into Local Planning

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Local governments face increasing pressure to ensure the safety and health of residents, businesses, infrastructure, and the natural environment in the midst of a changing climate. The development, integration into existing plans, funding, and implementation of actionable resilience plans are key to the success of building this local resilience. However, there are persistent barriers to achieving this success, including staff capacity limitations, lack of funding clarity, and unclear paths to resilience plan implementation. Addressing these targeted, persistent barriers can catalyze the success of these local resilience efforts.



(Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program)

BARRIERS

BUILDING BUY-IN

- Lack of political and community interest and support
- Limited staff capacity to oversee and develop plan
- Lack of funding and staff capacity to seek and obtain funding

PLANNING PROCESS

- Limited staff capacity to oversee and develop plan
- Limited subject matter expertise and technical assistance
- Break down silos and build partnerships
- Empower the community in the planning and decision-making process. Address inequities

IMPLEMENTATION

- Large-scale, high-cost solutions are more likely to have more beneficial results
- Limited funding and inability to access funding resources
- Lack of subject matter expertise to design projects



For access to the 2022 Forum report visit: chesapeakebay.net/who/group/lgac

RECOMMENDATIONS

COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

Develop clear, localized language to provide local governments with public education and outreach resources to build support and buy-in for resilience efforts.

GUIDANCE

Provide local governments guidance on integrating resilience into existing processes, based on state and federal mandates and requirements such as hazard mitigation, stormwater, watershed, and comprehensive land use plans.

FUNDING

Expand funding opportunities to increase flexibility and eligibility criteria for funding sources while demystifying and streamlining funding application process.

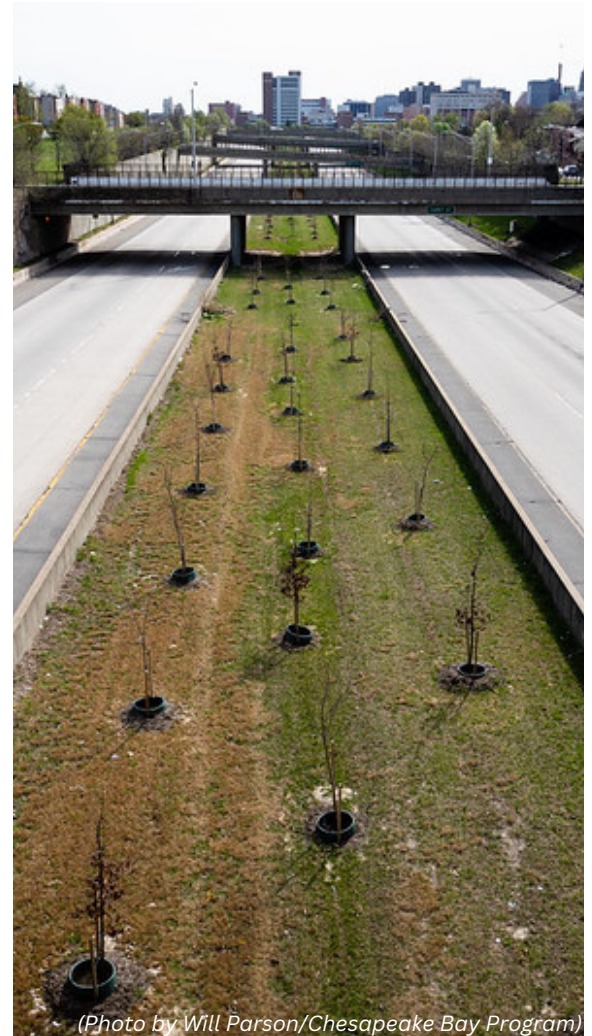
PARTNERSHIP & BUY-IN

Host an annual resilience conference for local and state elected officials, local government staff, academia, and subject matter experts within the non-profit and private sectors to increase awareness regarding the need for resilience throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed, promote buy-in and support, and highlight funding opportunities.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Identify a mechanism to build additional capacity in each state to provide technical assistance and support local governments with resilience planning and grant writing with consideration for additional dedicated full time staff.

CONTACT: LGAC Staff, lgac@allianceforthebay.org



For access to the 2022 Forum report visit: chesapeakebay.net/who/group/lgac