# MVP PLANNING 2.0 PROGRAM

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## **Agenda**

- Overview of MVP Planning 2.0 (MVP 2.0)
- Administrative details on FY26 round
- Intro to the Grants Management System
- Q&A on MVP 2.0

#### Other notes:

- This webinar is being recorded
- Please use the Q&A function for questions

### What's MVP 2.0?

MVP 2.0 continues to support
Massachusetts communities in
increasing resilience to climate change
by building off of and filling gaps
from the MVP 1.0 (Planning Grant)
process. In particular, MVP 2.0 focuses
on revisiting local climate resilience
priorities through an equitable and
inclusive process and building out and
implementing these priorities.

### MVP 2.0...

- Convenes a community team to do equitable climate resilience work
- Provides training on strategies for building resilience, equity, and climate justice
- Revisits resilience priorities with the involvement of the wider community
- Helps the municipality and community codevelop and implement a project, with guaranteed funding for implementation
- Provides a process that can be replicated for future Action Grants



Eligible entities: Municipalities, Tribal Governments, and political subdivisions (e.g., RPAs) applying on behalf a municipality/ies

# How is MVP 2.0 different than the original MVP Planning Grant (1.0)?

- Not a traditional planning process
- Expands community involvement
- Dives deeper into social resilience
- Focuses on translating priorities into action
- Trains a community team

### The MVP 2.0 Process



### **Developing a Core Team**

**Timeline: 5 months, February – June 2026** 

### **Equity Partner**

Planning Vendor

Core Team

Every municipality, Tribe, or regional partnership will get paired with an **Equity Partner** right from the start.

The Equity Partner will support the process, and will be a resource for the team in thinking about equity and climate justice.

### **Developing a Core Team**

Timeline: 5 months, February – June 2026

**Planning Vendor** 

The Municipal Lead will hire a **Planning Vendor**, following municipal procurement requirements.

### **Tools include:**



List of qualifications and sample RFP



List of vendors that have expressed interest in the MVP 2.0 process

### Skills required of the Planning Vendor / Vendor Team



### **Equity-Centered Project Facilitation**

Skills in consensus building, equitable community processes, cultural sensitivity, project management, and organizational development to support diversity, equity, and inclusion.

### **Community-Driven Processes**

Expertise in developing and implementing equitable and inclusive approaches to outreach, engagement, and community-led processes, and particularly processes designed with and for Environmental Justice and other priority populations.

### Climate and Community Resilience

Expertise in climate projections and community data, assessing climate and social vulnerability, approaches to building climate resilience, climate justice, and project design and development.

### Tasks required of the Planning Vendor



- Project management
- Help to recruit and onboard community liaisons
- Facilitate working sessions and meetings with the Core Team
- Coordinate and support community outreach and engagement
- Coordinate and support in investigating community and climate data
- Facilitate discussions with the Core Team to unpack community vulnerability and resilience, and to update resilience priorities
- Help develop a Seed Project and draft an implementation plan to build equitable community resilience
- Take notes, draft content, incorporate feedback, and oversee the completion of deliverables

### ▶ Things to keep in mind!

- The list of MVP certified providers that was provided for the original MVP Planning Grant program (1.0) has been retired.
- To help select a Planning Vendor, communities will be provided with a list of vendors who have indicated interest, as well as a sample RFP and a set of qualifications.
- Being on the list does not guarantee that a vendor is qualified.
   Communities should still vet any vendors on the list with the qualifications provided.
- In Step 9, communities will hire an Implementation Vendor to help implement their Seed Project. This could be your Planning Vendor, or a new vendor with different expertise.

Phase 1 (Steps 1 – 3)

### **Developing a Core Team**

**Timeline: 5 months, February – June 2026** 

**Equity Partner** 

Planning Vendor

**Core Team** 

Aside from hiring the Planning Vendor, steps 1-3 focus on recruiting your Core Team.

The Core Team is a team of municipal staff and community members (roughly 10 people total) that will lead this project.



### Who's on the Core Team?

# Roughly 10 people, with approximately half being community liaisons

### Community Liaisons

Individuals from and/or with strong connections to Environmental Justice and other priority populations.\* These individuals will be compensated with grant funding.

### Municipal Staff & Partners

Individuals who work in planning, housing, public works, conservation, health, or social services could all be a fit.

\* Priority Populations: Priority populations are people who will be disproportionately impacted by climate change. In addition to factors that contribute to Environmental Justice status (i.e., income, race, and language), other factors like physical ability, access to transportation, health, and age can indicate whether someone or their community will be disproportionately affected.

### Resources for supporting Core Team recruitment

#### The Social Resilience Roadmap

# Part 1: Identifying Lived Expertise in Your Community

Asks questions such as....

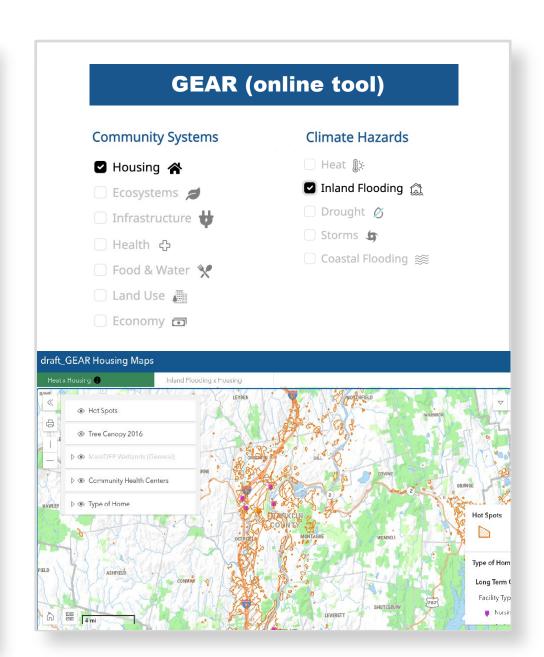
What languages other than English are predominantly spoken in your community?

What proportion of people in your community live with a disability?

What proportion of people in your community don't have regular access to the internet?

And...

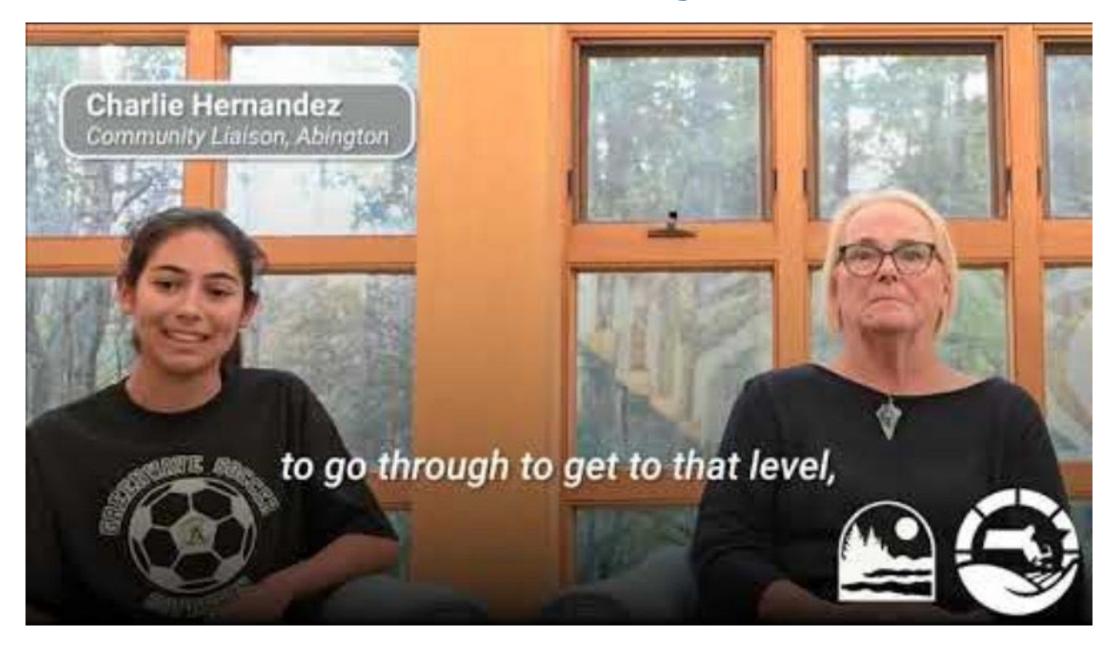
Who will be important to connect with? How will you reach them?



### ▶ Things to keep in mind!

- The community liaisons can be paid directly by the municipality or paid through the contract with the Planning Vendor.
- If you plan to pay the community liaisons directly, consider working with human resources now to coordinate how this would be set up (and to troubleshoot if needed).

### **MVP Video Series: Community Liaisons**



## **Revisiting Resilience Priorities**

Timeline: 5 months, July – November 2026

### **Kick off collaboration**

Uncover social resilience

Reset priorities

Hold a "dinner and movie" night to watch the MVP 2.0 kickoff videos.

Get to know each other and build skills for working together.

### **Revisiting Resilience Priorities**

Timeline: 5 months, July – November 2026

Kick off collaboration

Uncover social resilience

Reset priorities

Investigate community and climate data.

Design engagement activities and hold conversations with community members.

Compile information to understand what shapes vulnerability and resilience for people in your community.

# **Revisiting Resilience Priorities**

Timeline: 5 months, July – November 2026

Kick off collaboration

Uncover social resilience

**Reset priorities** 

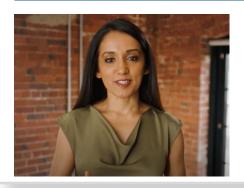
Update your community resilience priorities (from MVP Planning 1.0) based on what you've learned.

Vet the updated priorities with the community.

# Resources for Steps 4-6



#### **Kick-off Videos**



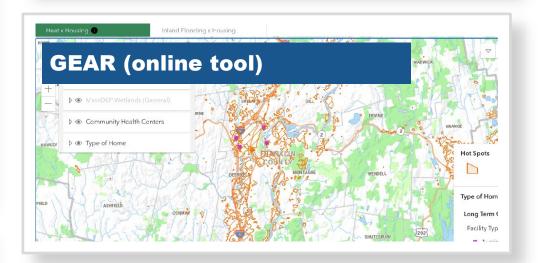


### **Engagement Plan**

Designing your Inclusive and Equitable Outreach and Engagement Activities

### **Social Resilience Roadmap**

### Part 2: Investigating Community Vulnerability and Resilience



#### **Resilience Priorities Guide**

Craft and Update Priorities with Insight from the Community

Plus facilitated discussions led by your Equity Partner focused on:

### Lived expertise -

What is lived expertise? Why is it important for building resilience?

# Social vulnerability & climate equity –

What are the root causes of social vulnerability and how does it relate to climate equity?

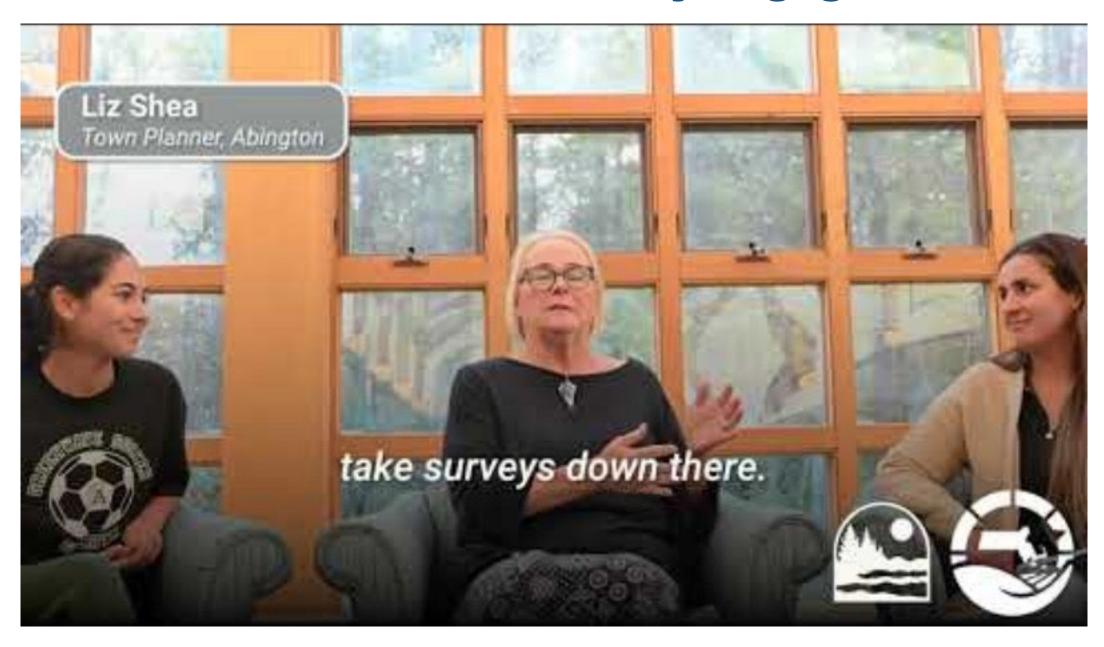
### Inclusive engagement -

What does inclusive engagement look like? What methods would work for our community?

# Monitoring & measuring equity –

What are ways to measure and monitor the equity impacts of projects?

### **MVP Video Series: Community Engagement**



Timeline: 13 months, December 2026 – December 2027

### **Select a Seed Project**

Develop an Implementation Plan

Implement your Seed Project

Reflect and Next Steps

### What's a Seed Project?

A project selected by the Core Team that will jump-start or advance the community's resilience priorities, and that can be completed in 9-10 months. Communities will receive \$50,000 to complete a Seed Project.

Timeline: 13 months, December 2026 – December 2027

### **Select a Seed Project**

Develop an Implementation Plan

Implement your Seed Project

Reflect and Next Steps

Identify a few potential Seed Projects that could support your resilience priorities.

Vet the potential projects with the community, and select a project to move forward with.

Timeline: 13 months, December 2026 – December 2027

Select a Seed Project

### Develop an Implementation Plan

Implement your Seed Project

Reflect and Next Steps

Develop an implementation plan for your Seed Project.

Identify and work with a subject matter advisor to help develop the plan (with allocated grant funding).

Timeline: 13 months, December 2026 – December 2027

Select a Seed Project

Develop an Implementation Plan

Implement your Seed Project

Reflect and Next Steps

Hire an Implementation Vendor. (Could be your Planning Vendor, if relevant.)

Implement your Seed Project!

Timeline: 13 months, December 2026 – December 2027

Select a Seed Project

Develop an Implementation Plan

Implement your Seed Project

**Reflect and Next Steps** 

Reflect on the process to integrate learnings.

### Resources for Steps 7-10

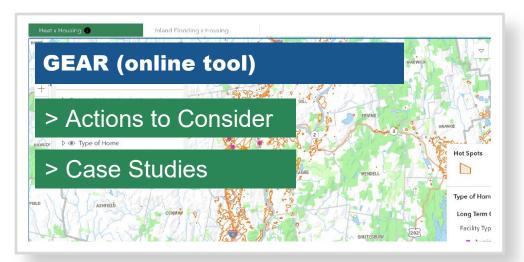


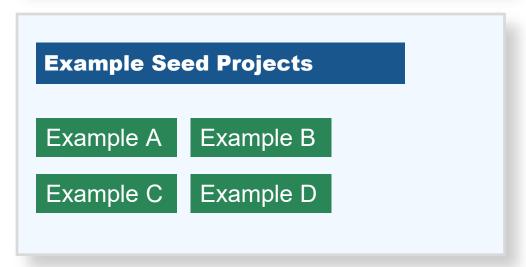
### **Seed Project Plan**

Selecting a Seed Project and developing an Implementation Plan

### **Engagement Plan**

Designing your Inclusive and Equitable Outreach and Engagement Activities





### **Reflection Roadmap**

Reflect on the process and integrate learnings for next time

### **MVP Video Series: Seed Projects**



### **Grant Deliverables**

### **Completed materials:**

- Engagement Plan
- Social Resilience Roadmap (Parts A + B)
- Resilience Priorities Guide
- Seed Project Plan (Parts A + B)
- ☐ Interim Submission Form (including all deliverables above)
- □ Reflection Roadmap
- ☐ Final Submission Form (including final invoices, deliverables and photos from Seed Project, and Reflection Roadmap)



### MVP 2.0 FY26 Round Details & Timeline



### Eligibility and selection:

- Municipalities, MVP-eligible Tribes, and political subdivisions (e.g., RPAs) applying on behalf a municipality/ies
- Regional applications encouraged
- Municipalities on the next slide must apply to maintain eligibility for Action Grants.
- All other interested communities are encouraged to apply. Likely several slots for non-required communities.



### **Funding and grant admin:**

- → \$50,000 for Steps 1-8 and Step 10
- \$50,000 per community for Step 9 (Implementing the Seed Project)
- Two-year grant
- No formal match requirement



### Timeline:

- RFR release: November 2025
- RFR Q&A period ~2 weeks
- Applications due: December 2025
- Projects start: January/February 2026
- Projects end: December 2027



Submit applications through the NEW Grants Management System

#### **Notes:**

- Applicants are still able to apply for MVP Action Grants at the same time
- MVP will take compliance with Section 3A of MGL c. 40A into account.

### Communities that need to apply this round

### Priority communities for this round:

- Adams
- Buckland
- Concord
- Essex
- Falmouth
- Gloucester
- Gosnold
- Grafton
- Lanesborough
- Lawrence
- Littleton
- Manchester-by-the-Sea
- Marblehead
- Marion
- Mendon

- Millbury
- Monterey
- Newbury
- Newton
- Norton
- Norwood
- Sandwich
- Shrewsbury
- Southwick
- Stow
- Wareham
- Weymouth
- Williamstown
- Winthrop

Priority communities for last round who still need to apply:

- Blackstone
- Braintree
- Holden
- Mattapoisett
- North Reading
- Rehoboth
- Rockport

### **MVP 2.0 Application**

### ~ 6 straightforward questions about:

- Letter of commitment from chief official (e.g., Mayor/Town Administrator, or equivalent)
- Why community is interested in MVP 2.0
- Description of EJ or other priority populations in community and commitment to centering these populations in the process
- Any challenges the community has faced moving from climate resilience planning to action
- Description of other ongoing grants and capacity to take on this 2-year process
- Translation/interpretation needs

### Other attachments:

- MVP 2.0 FAQ
- Request for Modified Scope or Designation as an MVP
   2.0 Community Based on Prior Work









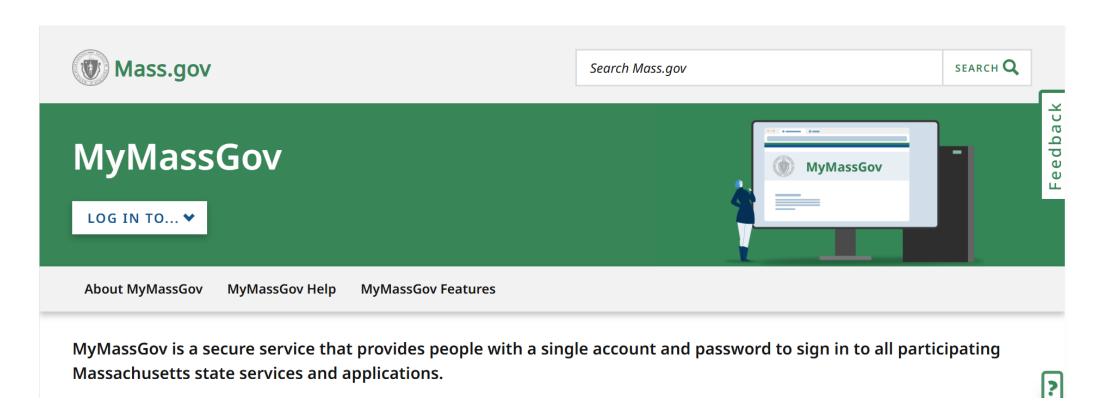




### **GMS Slides**

# The application for MVP 2.0 will be submitted via EEA's new Grants Management System

It is easy and fast to sign up with MyMassGov!



### **GMS Slides**

### Here's how to sign up for GMS:

Visit <u>Grants Management System (GMS) | Mass.gov</u> for instructions

Watch our instructional playlist on YouTube: <a href="https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzQVK6KiTOqyPW5P">https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzQVK6KiTOqyPW5P</a>
UOcFE42iRJgdm8LA\_&si=Wm2l78OgFDZ-1nA\_

See our user guide at the GMS Portal: Help - Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs Grants Management System

# Q&A