



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs**

**Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program  
State Service-Provide Training**

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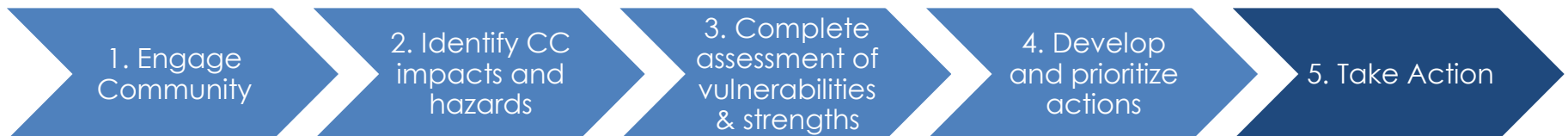
**Westborough Session**

*September 25th, 2017*

# Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP)

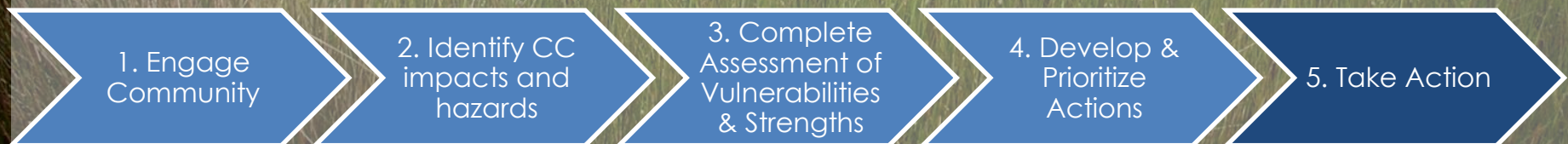


***State and local partnership to build resiliency to climate change***



# Empowering Communities & Informing Statewide Action

- **Community-led process**
- **Accessibility**
- **Partnerships** and leveraging existing efforts
- **Communities** as local innovators
- **Frame** coordinated statewide efforts.



# The MVP Process



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GOVERNOR

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SECRETARY OF STATE  
REGISTRATION DIVISION  
JAN SEP 16 PM 12:44

KARYN E. POLITO  
LEUTENANT GOVERNOR

By His Excellency  
CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 569

## ESTABLISHING AN INTEGRATED CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

WHEREAS, climate change presents a serious threat to the environment and the Commonwealth's residents, communities, and economy;

WHEREAS, extreme weather events associated with climate change present a serious threat to public safety, and the lives and property of our residents;

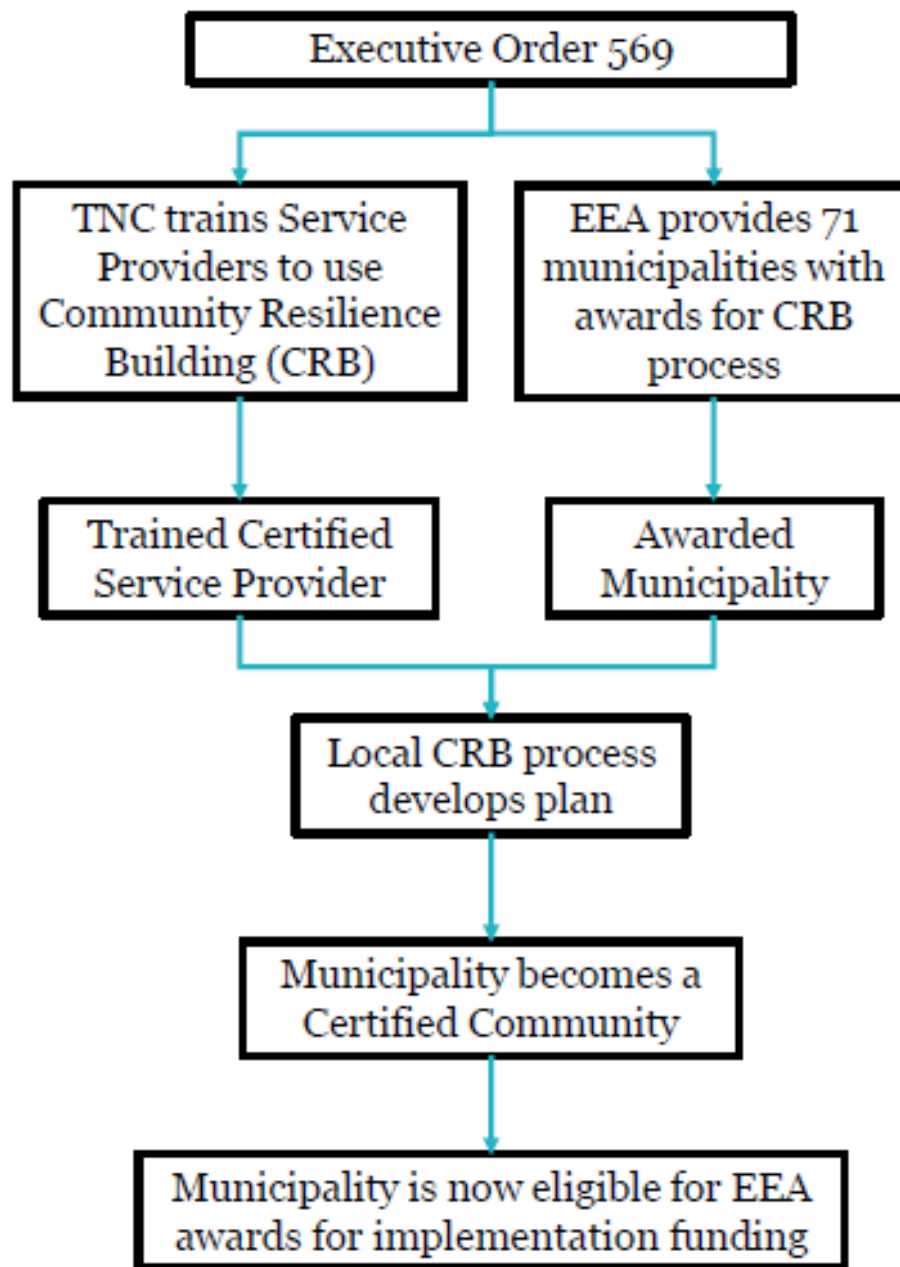
WHEREAS, the Global Warming Solutions Act (the "GWSA") directs the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs and the Department of Environmental Protection to take certain steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of climate change, including setting statewide greenhouse gas emissions limits for 2020, 2050, 2040 and 2050;

WHEREAS, the statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit for 2020 is 25% below the 1990 level of emissions and the corresponding limit for 2050 is 80% below the 1990 level of emissions, but no interim limits have yet been set for 2030 or 2040;

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth can provide leadership by reducing its own emissions from state operations, planning and preparing for impending climate change, and enhancing the resilience of government investments;

WHEREAS, the transportation sector continues to be a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the Commonwealth, and is the only sector identified through the GWSA with a volumetric increase in greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, the generation and consumption of energy continues to be a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the Commonwealth, and there is significant potential

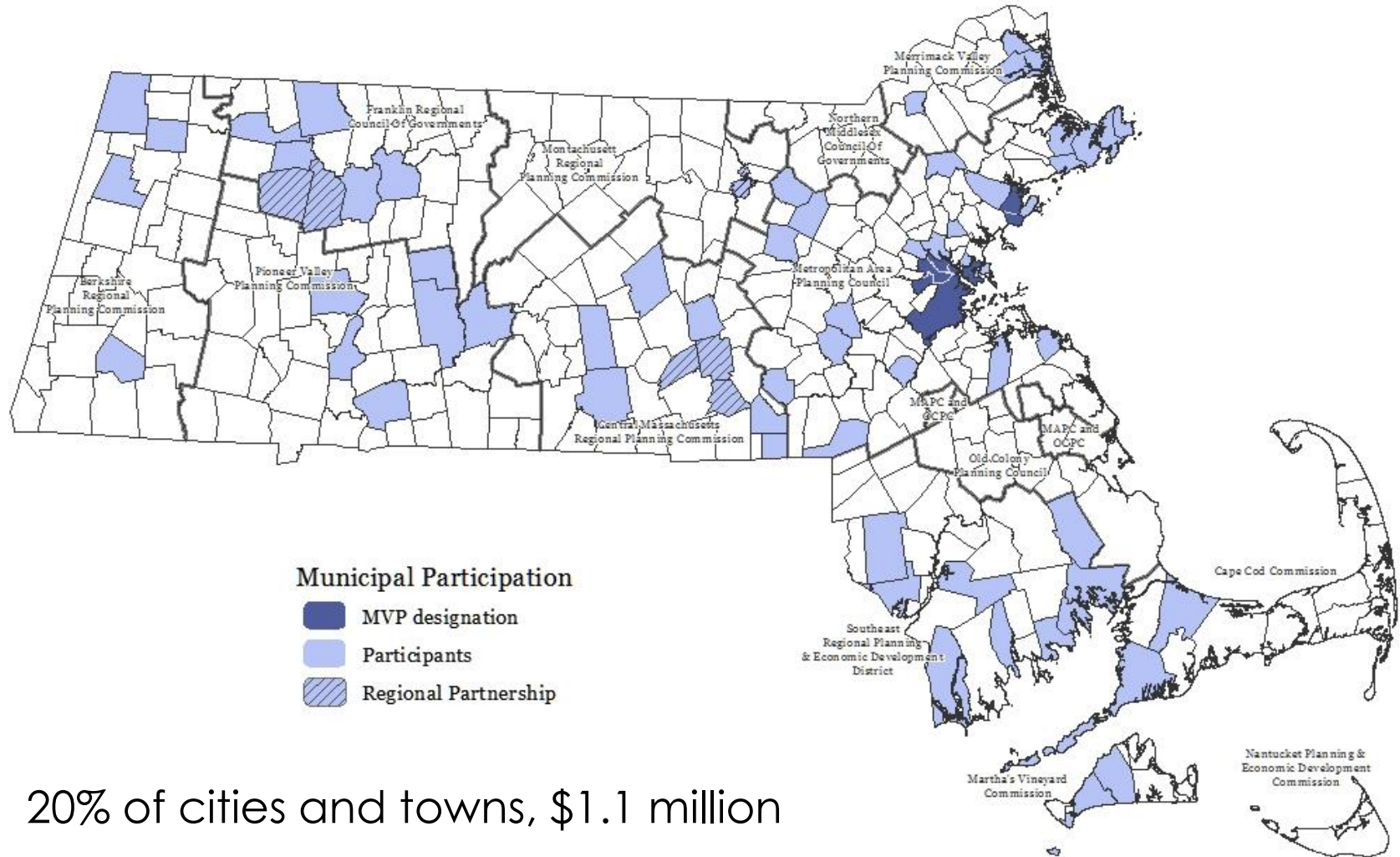


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## Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program 2017-2018



20% of cities and towns, \$1.1 million



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## MVP Aspirations and Next Steps

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- **Increase capacity of municipalities and providers:** Over 250 vendors will be trained as state service providers
- **Mobilize:** local knowledge, climate change data and existing plans to identify vulnerabilities and strengths and prioritize action steps
- **Incentivize:** Designated communities will receive advanced standing in EEA grant programs
- **Mainstream:** Incorporate climate change into existing municipal planning frameworks
- **National Model:** The Nature Conservancy is looking to MVP as a national model and EEA is sharing through U.S. Climate Alliance

## Nuts and Bolts: 2017-2018



- Responses to the RFR for communities may be submitted by any Massachusetts municipality or groups of municipalities
- All projects are required to provide quarterly reporting as well as a Final Report



## MVP Program Eligibility Criteria

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- An in-kind staff time match is required of approximately 80 hours
- Municipalities must work with a state-certified technical service provider





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## All Proposals Must Provide the Following

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- A **signed letter of support** from the chair of the board of selectmen, mayor, a town administrator, or similar city or town official;
- A **short statement of the community's commitment** to taking on this grant and planning for the impacts of climate change in the city or town;
- The name of a qualified employee of the municipality, committee member or volunteer who can serve as the **local project manager** and point of contact for the grant;
- A summary of **community support** and any project partners and letters of support
- A description of any **ongoing planning efforts** such as local hazard mitigation plans, open space plans, master plans, etc.;
- A description of any **ongoing climate-change related projects** within the community or region;



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## Payment

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All communities were granted an initial sum of \$10,000. Up front payment was intended to help municipalities:

1. Organize a core team
2. Procure a vendor
3. Collect relevant background materials
4. Plan workshops and work with provider to assemble materials
5. Run workshop

Final payment will be made upon delivery of final summary report.



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## MVP Contracts

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Led by a local project lead, a core team from the municipality, and the MVP provider, communities will gather available background information on hazards, vulnerabilities and strengths, conduct interviews with staff and volunteers, and plan two 4-hour workshops or one 8-hour workshop.



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## Workshops

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In the workshop approximately 30 town staff, residents and volunteers will work to:

- Understand connections between ongoing community issues, hazards, and local planning and actions in the municipalities.
- Identify and map vulnerabilities and strengths to develop infrastructure, societal, and natural resource risk profiles for the municipalities.
- Develop and prioritize actions and clearly delineated next steps for the municipalities, local organizations, businesses, private citizens, neighborhoods, and community groups.
- Identify opportunities to advance actions that further reduce the impact of hazards and increase resilience across and within municipalities.



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## Contract

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After appropriate local procurement, the municipality will conduct the following tasks, working with the contracted MVP provider:

- Prepare for the workshop(s):
- Characterize hazards:
- Identify Community Vulnerabilities and Strengths
- Identify and Prioritize Community Actions
- Determine the Overall Priority Actions
- Put it All Together
- Move Forward

Upon successful completion of Steps 1-6 of the CRB process and clearly defined efforts to begin Step 7 including conducting at least 1 public session, municipalities will be designated as a “Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Climate Community,” or “MVP Climate Community” which may lead to increased standing in future funding opportunities and follow-on opportunities.





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## MVP contracts

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**REPORT:** All workshop outputs and background materials must be compiled into an easily accessible Community Resilience Building final report or summary of findings, based on a template provided by the state.

**LISTENING SESSIONS:** As an immediate next step, each community must complete at least one public listening session with the whole community invited and should have a clearly articulated list of priority next steps and actions and how to implement these.



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## Maintaining MVP Designation

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Each municipality must provide the Commonwealth with a yearly progress report outlining the steps they have taken towards implementing their priority actions. Steps may include (but are not limited to):

1. applying for grant funding
2. working to implement local changes to policies or bylaws
3. updating existing local plans using the outcomes of the workshop, etc.

A progress report template will be provided to the municipality to help them complete this requirement.



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## **Municipal Staff Commitment: 80 hours**

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The municipality must provide sufficient staff time (estimated at 80 hours) to assuring completion of this planning exercise and community engagement. Staff time provided by the municipality will include the following activities:

- Procure a state certified MVP provider
  - Establish a core team within the town or region to steer the project;
  - Coordinate, schedule, send invitations and attend planning meetings and several workshops;
  - Work with MVP service provider to identify and engage stakeholders;
  - Help coordinate staff interviews to collect information prior to the workshops;
  - Help the MVP provider find relevant data and other information useful to conducting the planning exercise
  - Provide access to relevant planning documents, budget information, and other information as needed;
  - Commit to working to continue municipal outreach and engagement, use the completed plan to inform existing planning and project activities, and secure additional data and information needed to improve the plan.
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- Find volunteers to serve as scribes during the sessions



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## **Provider Tasks: Total Time Estimate = 120-140 hours**

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1. Meet with Municipal Project Manager to set out project scope, timeline, and compile list of data needs; help with stakeholder mapping; set schedule for workshops
2. Meet with Community Core team 1x to help plan for workshop and collect information
3. Conduct several interviews with key municipal staff
4. Prepare materials for workshop including:
  - Basemaps of town with critical layers
  - Climate change data relevant to the town and summary of potential impacts
  - Relevant planning documents and other existing town information about current hazards
  - Risk matrix
5. Serve as the lead facilitator during workshop and bring 4-5 lower level staff to assist as table facilitators. Designate town leads to be scribes at each table
6. Document all workshop outcomes and prepare final risk matrix and summary reports.
7. Work with town to submit all materials to Commonwealth.



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## State Certified Service Providers

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- **Municipal experience** in Massachusetts
- **Community planning/facilitation** experience
- Experience working on **climate change vulnerability assessments**, risk assessment or hazard mitigation
- **GIS**

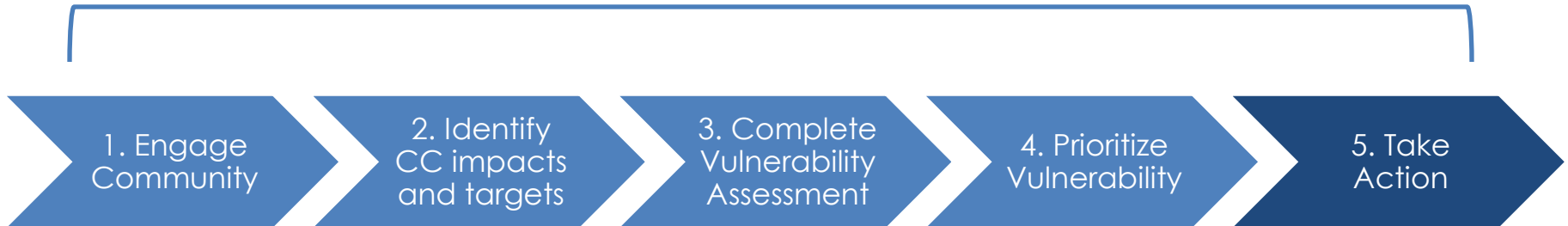
Please partner to fill any gaps!



# Integrated with A State Website

1. State website provides critical structure for process
2. Provides climate data
3. Provides geospatial data at the town level
4. Runs vulnerability assessment
5. Connects to adaptation actions and grant opportunities
6. Specifically designed for cities and towns

## MA CLIMATE CHANGE CLEARINGHOUSE





# MA CCC

Massachusetts Climate Change Clearinghouse

Explore  
Sectors

Identify  
Changes

Take  
Action

Maps

Data

Documents

Search for resources...

Q Search

## Climate Planning

Lorem ipsum lorem mupsum,  
lorem chewbacca applesauce  
maybe? When the life and times  
are here. We need to grow the  
state budget for more waffles.

More »

## Explore Sectors »



Agriculture



Coastal Zones



Economy



Energy



Forestry



Infrastructure



Local Government



Natural Resources /  
Habitats



Public Health



Public Safety /  
Emergency  
Response



Recreation



Water Resources