

# Community Resilience Partnership

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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
**Policy Innovation  
and the Future**

*September 26, 2024*

**SPG2024-5 Service Provider Grant**  
*Informational Webinar*



# Today's Agenda

1. Maine's Climate Goals
2. Community Resilience Partnership overview
3. Service Provider Grant overview
4. Questions



# CLIMATE COUNCIL GOALS



**12.01.24**

Updated Climate Action  
Plan Due



Achieve State Carbon  
Neutrality by

**2045**

REDUCE MAINE'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY  
TARGETS OUTLINED IN STATE LAW

**45%**

BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
BY 2030

**80%**

BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
BY 2050



ENSURE MAINE PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES, AND COMMUNITIES ARE RESILIENT  
TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.







# The Maine Climate Council has 8 Climate Strategies:

**1** —

Embrace the future of transportation in Maine



**2** —

Modernize Maine's buildings: energy-efficient, smart, and cost-effective homes and businesses



**3** —

Reduce carbon emissions in Maine's energy and industrial sectors through clean energy innovation



**4** —

Grow Maine's clean energy economy and protect our natural resource industries



**5** —

Protect Maine's environment and working lands and waters



**6** —

Build healthy and resilient communities



**7** —

Invest in climate-ready infrastructure



**8** —

Engage with Maine people and communities



# 2024 Plan Timeline

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**DEC 1, 2020**

Maine Won't Wait Climate  
Action Plan Delivered to  
Legislature



**MAY 2023**

Governor Announces  
New and Returning  
Appointments to  
Climate Council



**SEPT 2023 - JUNE 2024**

Working Groups &  
Subcommittees Meet to Update  
Mitigation and Adaptation  
Strategies



**SEPT 2024**

Climate Council  
Meets to Consider and  
Adopt Strategies



**DEC 1, 2024**

Updated Climate  
Action Plan Delivered  
to Legislature

# Community Resilience Partnership

[www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership](http://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership)

## Purpose

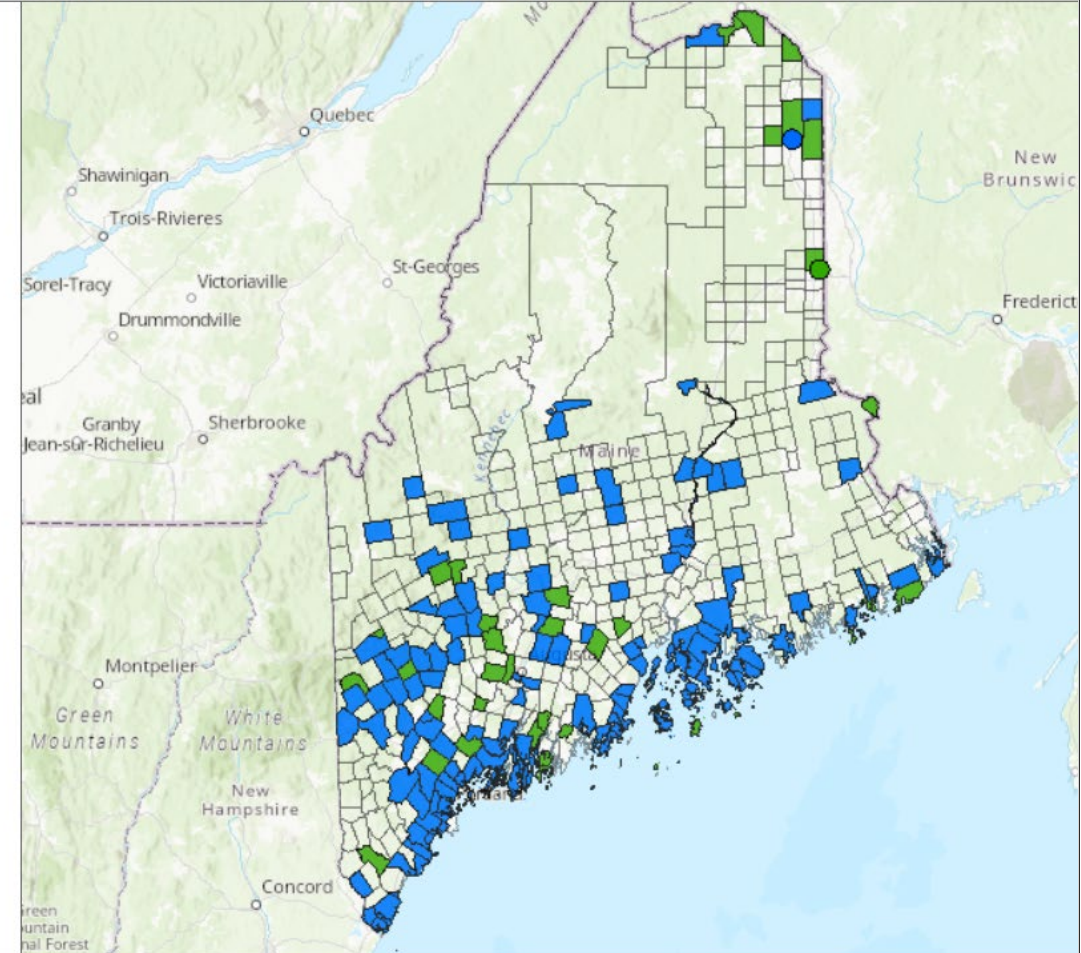
Through **grants and technical assistance**, the Community Resilience Partnership assists communities to:

- **reduce carbon emissions,**
- **transition to clean energy, and**
- **become more resilient** to climate change effects such as to extreme weather, flooding, rising sea levels, public health impacts, and more.

Maine Community Resilience Partnership December 2023

Maine Community Resilience Partnership Members (December 2023)

- Direct Partner Community
- Service Provider Partner Community



# Community Action and Service Provider Grant Funding Allocation

- **Grants to communities** for planning and implementation
  - \$7.48 million available for award this round; anticipating 90 to 100 awards
- **Grants to service provider organizations** to help communities get started and to complete vulnerability assessments
  - \$600,000 available for award this round
- A portion of this funding derives from federal sources and may carry additional federal requirements. Successful applicants will be notified if their award contains federal funding.



# Informational Webinars

There are three webinars about the Partnership's current grant opportunities. All webinars are recorded and posted to the Partnership website for replay.

- September 5 – **Energy Efficiency Planning for Rural Communities Technical Assistance** Informational Webinar - recording available.
- September 26, 10am – **Service Provider Grant** Informational Webinar
- September 26, 1pm – **Community Action Grant** Informational Webinar

Recordings accessible at: <https://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership/grants>



# Service Provider Grant Overview

Service Provider Grants support organizations to assist communities with climate action, energy and resilience planning.

In Fall 2024, a new grant opportunity is being offered for Service Providers. There are now two Service Provider Grant Tracks:

- **Track 1** Community Enrollment Service Provider Grants
  - **Track 2** Community Vulnerability Assessment Service Provider Grants
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- An organization may submit applications for both tracks in this grant round but may submit only one (1) application per track.
  - A Community may participate in applications for both tracks in this grant round but may only participate in one (1) application per track.



# Track Service Provider Grant

## Track 1: Community Enrollment Service Provider Grants

### Intended outcomes:

- Work with 2-5 communities to enroll in the Partnership
- New enrollments by each of the communities.
- Lists of each community's priority projects and cooperative priorities.
- Assistance to communities in applying for Community Action Grants.



# Enrolling in the Partnership

1. **Pass a municipal resolution or obtain a letter from a tribal chief or UT supervisor committing to participate**
  - Model language provided
2. **Complete two self-assessments**
  - List of Community Actions – completed actions
  - Community Resilience Self-evaluation
3. **Hold a community workshop and set priority action items**
4. **Submit enrollment materials through the online form**

Community enrollment is accepted on a rolling basis.

Community Resilience Partnership

Program Contact: Brian Ambrette  
brian.ambrette@maine.gov  
[Community Resilience Partnership | Office of Policy Innovation & Future \(maine.gov\)](#)

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**Community Resilience Self-Evaluation**

**Instructions:** This tool is intended to help organize your community's approach to increasing resilience to natural hazards and climate change impacts. Answer the questions to the best of your knowledge and seek information from your colleagues in municipal and county government and organizations in your community. Provide any relevant information in the explanation field. If it is difficult to give a clear yes or no response to a question, use the explanation field to explain why. **There are no wrong answers and the responses here will not affect your community's eligibility to receive grants.** Where the response to a question is no, that may indicate an area of opportunity to address through a Community Action Grant.

Community name:	
Self-Evaluation responses provided by: Please include contact info	
Date:	
Was this a community effort?	

Once the questions are answered, please see Instructions on Introduction tab and Example sheet.

Complete	In Progress	No Progress	Strategy Areas & Actions (mark Columns A, B, C as complete, in progress, or no progress)	Additional Notes/Comments
<b>Strategy Area A: Embrace the Future of Transportation</b>				
Accelerate the Transition to Electric Vehicles (EVs)				
<b>Note: A maximum of \$7,500 of a Community Action Grant may be applied to the purchase of an electric vehicle for municipal or tribal fleets (Action A1). Eligible vehicles for Action A1 include light-duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty on-road electric vehicles as well as electric riding mowers and electric outboard engines that are part of a municipal fleet, all subject to the maximum award amount. Where applicable, Efficiency Maine's electric vehicle rebate (Action A1) or EV charging rebate (Action A2) must be included in the applicant's project budget.</b>				
			A1 Purchase or lease electric vehicles for municipal or tribal government-owned vehicle fleets.	
			A2 Install EV chargers in public parking areas.	
			A3 Adopt ordinances to encourage EV charging infrastructure, including at multifamily dwellings, businesses, and public parking areas.	
			A4 Adopt an anti-idling ordinance.	
Improve Mobility and Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)				
			A5 Implement strategies that increase public transit ridership and alternative transportation modes, including bike and walking infrastructure.	
			A6 Implement strategies that encourage municipal/tribal employees to commute via carpools, public transit, bike/walk, or other alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles.	
			A7 Adopt a telework policy for municipal/tribal government staff positions that can work remotely some days per week.	
			A8 Adopt land use and development policies in plans and codes that reduce the need for driving (e.g. locating schools, workplaces, and shopping near where people live; encouraging density of development near housing and	

# Track 2 Service Provider Grant

## Track 2: Community Vulnerability Assessment Service Provider Grants

### Intended outcomes:

- Work with 2-5 enrolled or enrolling communities
- Completion of a community vulnerability assessment that meets program requirements (see Program Statement Section 2.5, Subsection D.)
- Assistance to communities in seeking a Community Action Grant or other funding for priority projects.



# Community Action Grant Assistance

*Grants to communities for priority projects that reduce energy use and costs and/or make their community more resilient to climate change effects, such as flooding, extreme weather, drought, and public health impacts.*

## Intended outcomes:

- Emissions reductions and improved community resilience
- Leveraging federal and other funds for larger projects

## Eligibility

- **Municipalities, Tribal Organizations, Townships, Plantations, and Unorganized Territories**
  - Collaborative multi-community applications are encouraged
- **Currently enrolled or submitting an enrollment** form with Community Action Grant application
- **Regional planning organizations** (RPOs, COGs, EDOs, and EMAs) may apply **on behalf of enrolled communities** with letters of commitment
- Communities that already have an active Community Action Grant from a previous round are eligible to apply in this round but may not apply for new funds to support a previous scope of work.

# Service Provider Grant Eligibility

## Eligibility

- Regional planning organizations, councils of governments, regional economic development organizations, county governments (including EMAs and soil conservation districts)
- Nonprofits
- Academic institutions and cooperative extension programs
- For-profit enterprises
- In special cases, a municipality that demonstrates robust in-house capacity that will be provided to smaller communities in the region



# Service Provider Grant Awards

**Awards:** Applicants may request up to \$10,000 per community in the group.  
15% cost share (in-kind allowed)

- An additional \$2,500 may be requested for each community with population below 4,000 or in the highest social vulnerability category
- Grant period is 12 months. However, service providers are encouraged to prepare communities for the earliest practicable enrollment and the next Community Action Grant deadline (August 2025)



# Service Provider Grant Tasks

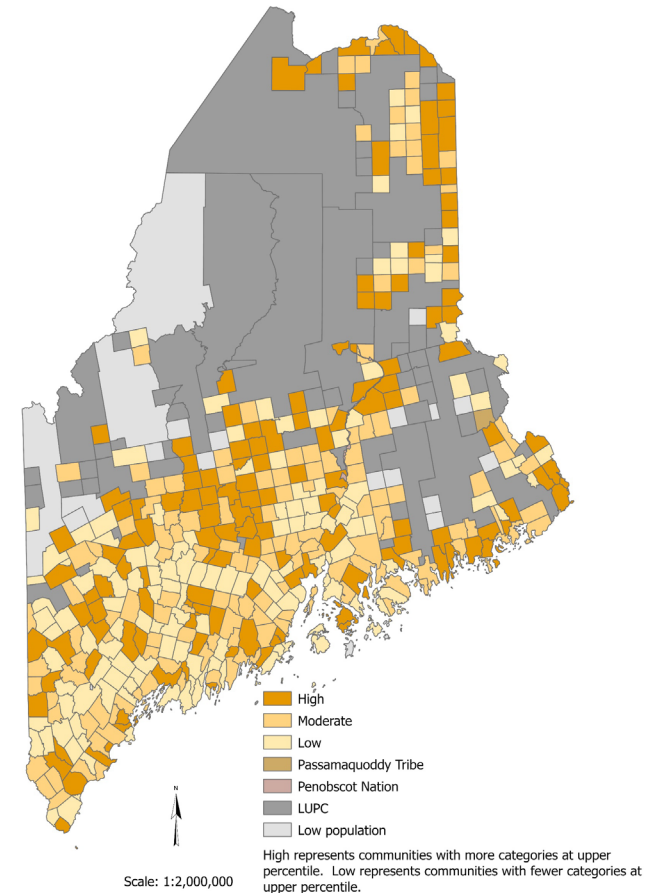
## Tasks

- As part of the grant application, **recruit a group of 2-5 communities** and provide letters of support from each (strongly encouraged to seek letters from municipal officials and town councils or selectboards)
  - **Scoring - additional points available:** Up to 10 points available for recruiting medium/high SVI communities and/or small/medium population communities
- Once grant is awarded, assist the communities in the group with **completing the program deliverables**
- Assist communities in the group with **applying for Community Action Grants** or other funding options for priority actions
- Provide to GOPIF **quarterly reports and a final case study** on lessons learned
  - Late or missing reports can disqualify Service Providers from participating in future grant rounds



# Maine Social Vulnerability Index

- The MSVI is used by this grant program to understand socio-economic vulnerabilities that may be unique to a community.
- This Index was recently updated utilizing 2020 US Census data and new vulnerability indicators, resulting in changes in categorization for some communities.
- Applicants should reference the updated MSVI, linked in the Program Statement, to determine the current community vulnerability categorization.



# Information for this grant round

- \$600,000 available for awards in this round
- **Considerations for applicants**
  - Strong applications will demonstrate the strength of service provider (and partners, if desired) in both climate resilience and clean energy/emissions reductions
  - Clearly communicate to community leaders and staff about the program requirements and their roles in the process.
  - Describe actionable steps that will be taken to include a diverse group of community stakeholders in the program process, and how community benefits will be considered when prioritizing community actions



# Applying to the Service Provider Grant

- **Application deadline: November 8, 2024**
- Questions can be submitted to Ashley Krulik (ashley.krulik@maine.gov)
  - Responses will be posted to the Partnership website on a rolling basis until October 25, 2024
- Program Statement available at: <https://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership/grants>
  - Program Statement contains the required application form.
  - Application form and any letters of support must be submitted as a package via the instructions in the Program Statement.
  - Be sure that letters of support from each community are signed, dated, and on community letterhead.
- Award notifications anticipated in December 2024

# Future Community Action Grant Round

The next Community Action Grant round is expected to occur in **Summer 2025 (Round 5)**.



# Website and Contact

[www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership](http://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership)

- Joining the Partnership
- Links to the grant applications
- Frequently Asked Questions

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State of Maine  
Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

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## Community Resilience Partnership

Working to help Maine communities reduce emissions and prepare for the effects of climate change.

**NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**  
"NOW POSTED"

**COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP**

Through grants and direct support to municipal and tribal governments and unorganized territories, the Community Resilience Partnership assists communities to reduce carbon emissions, transition to clean energy, and become more resilient to climate change effects such as extreme storms, flooding, rising sea levels, public health impacts, and more.

[See our Partner communities and where grants are at work across Maine.](#)

**Hear from Partnership communities in our video:**

**SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITIES**

Communities in Maine can join the Partnership individually, or through a regional group, after

**GRANT & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

Grants are available for communities to pursue climate action and for regional service providers to assist

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

For more about community resilience and details of the Partnership, please visit our FAQs.

# Questions

Please put questions into the chat

# Thank You

[www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership](http://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership)

