Resilience Hub Mapping

Building connected communities through inclusive engagement

People & Environment Recovery Board

February 9, 2026

Thrive AVL

Thriveavl.org

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE



Project Background

2020

Climate Emergency

Declared by council, set course for community-facing engagement, staff research, and next steps

2021-2022

Listening & Learning + Resource Development

Key recommendations:

- Community-Led Resilience Hubs
- Green Economy
- Effectively Engage Frontline Communities

2022-2023

Incorporation into City Operations

- Climate Justice Data Map
- Screening Tool
- Organizational Work Plan (OWP) project
- Municipal Climate Action Plan Activity #19

2024-2025

Elevate AVL, CSUP & Community Engagement Academy

- Engagement Academy
- Community Space Upfit Projects
- Elevate Climate Action Toolkit
- Neighborhood Case Studies
- Explore Resilience Hubs OWP

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE



ELEVATE AVL

Scope of Work FY26 Resilience Hub Mapping

The desired outcome is a community-wide resilience hub asset map and analysis

Research Strategy Development

Craft key research questions and equitable engagement plan to seek and organize community-informed data

Community Inventory

Document resilience hub locations and services activated or initiated after Tropical Storm Helene

Visual Asset Mapping

Create geolocated visual map showing post-Helene activity and identify geographic or service gaps.

Analysis & Recommendations

Complete project analysis and final report to guide future city and community investment & strategy

Role of P&E Recovery Board

Organizational Work Plan Project

P&E to recommend key considerations that inform policy to support the city's role in a robust community-led resilience hub framework including:

- Shared definitions and city facility use priorities
- Opportunities to invest in and support appropriate features at City-owned facilities
- Insights to support strategic collaboration with community-led initiatives

Resilience Hubs Mapping Project

P&E to apply resources, connections, networks and values to support the project by advancing:

- Comprehensive, inclusive engagement planning
- Amplified engagement opportunities
- Review of preliminary deliverables to identify gaps or questions
- Identification of key considerations for council review

THRIVE ASHEVILLE

Thrive Asheville's Mission

Collaborate with local residents and leaders from diverse perspectives to:

- → Understand our city's challenges
- → Forge new relationships
- → Act on the best solutions together

THRIVE ASHEVILLE



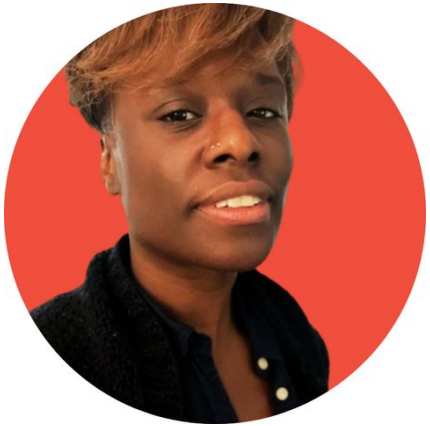
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Our Team

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Municipal Resilience Policy & Planning Advisor

CPC
ignite transform heal

Research & Strategy Development



Community-Based Participatory Research

- Supporting the development & facilitation of the Community Advisory Committee
- Key Informant Interviews-Key Informants will be people like hub manager and community leaders who serve populations of interest (e.g., Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community)
- Day of Listening

Backend Correction

Addressing gaps

Targeted outreach to underrepresented groups through trusted messengers

Disability Inclusion

14%

of Asheville resident report having a disability (2020 Census)

THRIVE ASHEVILLE

Community Inventory



Asset Survey

Short survey focused on an inventory of community resilience assets

Leading a Team of Experts

Local experts who have deep knowledge and subject matter expertise.

Data Analysis

Working with the team, Thrive will analyze collected data for themes and trends.

Community Advisory Committee

Partnering with Center for Participatory Change to ensure community-informed processes

40HEARTS

Model: Elevate AVL Climate Action Toolkit



Accessibility

Ensuring all materials and platforms are accessible to people with varying abilities

Community Networks

Leveraging existing networks for authentic outreach and engagement

Trusted Communicators

Working with 40 Hearts to ensure messages reach and resonate with communities

Community Co-design

Partnering with Center for Participatory Change to ensure community-informed processes

fernleaf

Visual Asset Mapping



Data Layers

Individual Hub Layer
Assets and resources at each hub

Hub Network Layer
Connectivity, coverage, information flow

Analysis Layer
Identify gaps and opportunities

Audiences & Purposes

City Leadership: Decision making tool mindful of Integration with existing City GIS infrastructure (Esri AGOL)

Hub Leaders: Network visualization tool to support collaboration & self-organizing

Residents: Accessible tool showing neighborhood resources and hubs

★ Prioritize mapping tools that support City Leadership's understanding & decision making while ensuring that tools are relevant to and support ongoing community-level resilience work.

★ Fernleaf will build on its first-hand knowledge of the Climate Justice Initiative to convey and connect these data in meaningful ways.

Map Model: Hub Cohort Network Tool



Additional asset to support ongoing work with Hub Leaders

A public-facing, interactive map that Hub leaders can use to organize their network and strengthen the flow of information and support.

Key Features

- Interactive map interface
- Search by location or service
- Hub profiles and contact info
- Real-time updates

Community Benefits

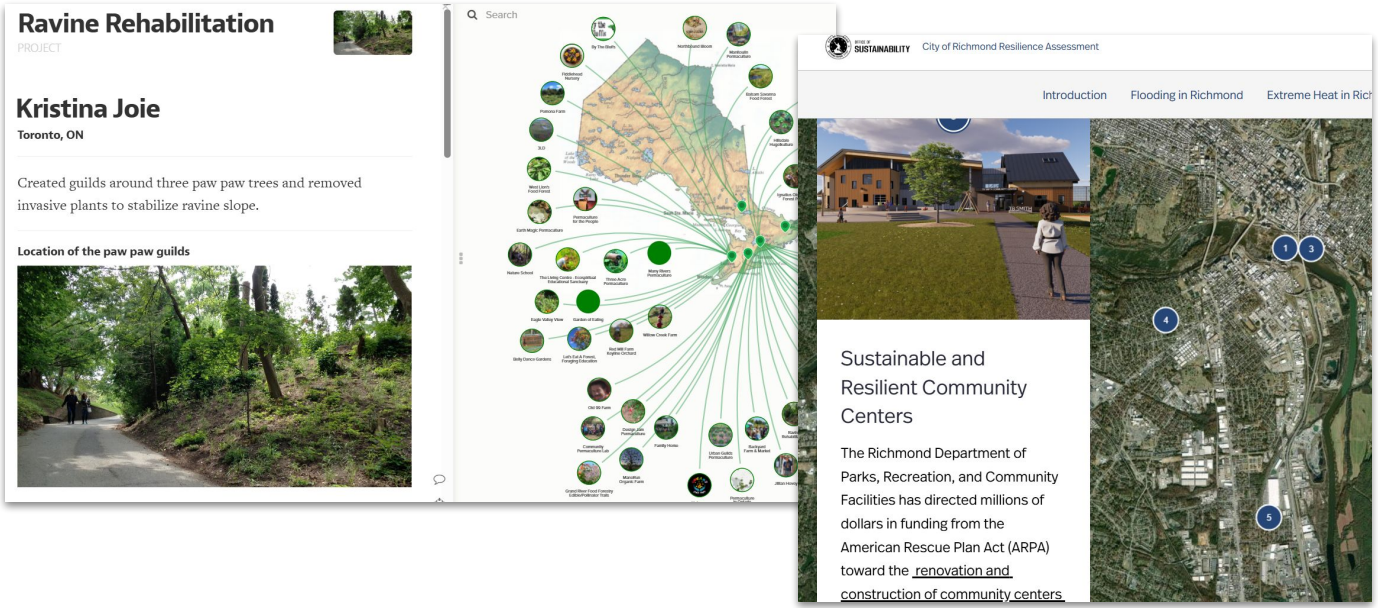
- Easy access to resources
- Build awareness of hubs
- Strengthen connections
- Ongoing engagement tool

Map Model: Visual Asset Mapping

A visual representation of resilience hub assets can serve as a tool for communication and prioritization of resources.

Examples

- Kumu Network Mapping (Ontario)
- Esri Storymap (Fernleaf- City of Richmond)



Implementable strategies for Asheville



Municipal climate policy

- Siler Climate Consulting (SCC) brings experience in municipal climate policy
- SCC will support defining the City's unique role in next steps

Implementation

- With equity and community centered data at the forefront, SCC will bring focus on strategies and steps that are implementable across resilience hubs network

RESILIENCE HUB MAPPING
6 MONTH PROJECT TIMELINE



Building the Foundation

JANUARY

Project Planning, tool development, platform launch, Community Advisory Committee (CAC) identified. P&E Input



Data Collection Phase 1

FEBRUARY

Survey data collection launch and strategic outreach. Interview and community listening sessions designed. CAC convened for input. Participatory Mapping. Hub Summit: February 27



Data Collection Phase 2

MARCH-APRIL

Preliminary Community Inventory Report, Key Informant Interviews, Day of Listening. Second People & Environment Recovery Board input session. Map draft presented for review. Data gap analysis.



Analysis & Final Map Review

MAY

All data analyzed, information gaps filled, final map draft shared with CAC and other key groups.



Project Close Out

JUNE

Final project deliverables shared

P&E Task - Inform Comprehensive, Inclusive Engagement

WHO are the organizations, groups, or individuals that organized Helene response activities in your networks?

WHAT essential services are you aware of that should be represented or considered?

WHERE were/are things happening?

For the purposes of this discussion: a working definition of a resilience hub could be any location, formal or informal, that provides critical services, resources, or coordination for residents of Asheville to meet ongoing community needs that can be activated in a crisis like Helene. This includes established organizations that can quickly pivot, efforts activated by trusted community members, faith-based organizations, neighborhood gathering spaces, and cross-sector coordination points.

Thank You

Building resilient communities together through participatory engagement

Thrive Asheville

thriveavl.org

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