PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE RESILIENCE HUBS



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AGENDA

- I. Council Resolution and Resilience Hub Overview
- II. Austin ISD Partnership
- III. Working Together

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 20210408-028

PLAN:

- Conduct an **assessment** to identify potential locations for resilience hubs.
- Explore "passive survivability", redundant power and water.
- **Engagement with each community,** center the needs of the most vulnerable and affected community members.
- Potential resilience hubs are based on **15-minute walkshed** of each neighborhood.

DELIVERABLE:

- **Budget** sufficient to fund recommendations and strategies to design and equip hubs.
- Plan, budget recommendations, funding strategies, and a timeline for designing and equipping an initial **six pilot hubs for disasters**.
- Intergovernmental memorandum necessary to memorialize community partnerships necessary to create resilience hubs."







WHY RESILIENCE HUBS?

Disaster Frequency and Intensity is Increasing

- Extreme Weather Events
- Power and Water Outages
- Health & Safety emergencies

Equity Focus

- Empower low-income communities and communities of color in the planning process
- Build an equity lens for all staff participating in the process
- Move as much as possible towards community leadership and ownership of the work

Extreme Weather Events Highlight the Need For

- Accessible community spaces
- Distribution centers (water, food, medicine, etc.)
- Back-up power & water
- Sheltering during events
- Truly engaging community

SVI in Travis County

Higher

Lower

Some communities are disproportionately exposed to and affected by climate hazards more than others based on social vulnerability.

Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) is a measure of both the sensitivity of a population to natural hazards and its ability to respond to and recover from the impacts of hazards.

AUSTIN

Round Rock ed ar Park Vulnerability man Vulnerability Page 5 Source: A2SI

WHAT ARE RESILIENCE HUBS?



AUSTIN

What they are:

- Networks of Physical Facilities
- Community Focused

What they are not:

- Replacement for traditional emergency planning and disaster response
- Replacement for sheltering plan

Day to Day v. Emergency

- 98% of the time, function to serve the community
- 2% of the time, activated with resilient systems

STAKEHOLDERS & TOPICS

- City and County
- Community Organizations
- Faith-based Groups
- Schools & Higher Ed
- Utility Providers
- Housing Authority
- Local Businesses
- Chambers of
 Commerce
- Others





RANGE OF FACILITIES





DRAFT HUB LEVEL DEFINITIONS

Prerequisites	1. Physical ability to be a Resilience Hub, 2. Structure not exposed natural hazards, 3. Publicly Accessible		

	Facility Attributes		Staffing + Supplies
Level 1 GATHERING HUB	Gathering space (conditioned indoor & shaded outdoor space)	Public Restrooms Access to electricity	Trained Staff Information & care kits Small amount of snacks and water
Level 2 (Level 1+) RELIEF HUB	Parking lot for water/food distribution Wifi	Dry storage space Shower access Portable generators / solar kiosk	Larger supplies of food and water
Level 3 (Level 2+) SHELTER HUB	24-Hour Shelter (Cots and Sleeping area) Grid-independent power	Commercial kitchen Refrigerated storage Backup Water System	Additional Shelter Staffing Resources



STARTING WITH EXISTING FACILITIES

Range of Facility Types

- City (Rec Centers, Libraries, Health Centers, Convention Centers, etc.)
- School Districts (Elem, Middle, High School, etc.)
- County
- Community College / Universities
- Health Clinics

Range of Functionality

- Range of neighborhood typology
- Range of community needs
- Range of size and facility attributes

Baseline Facility Data Collection Now

- Mapping in Google Maps
- Analyzing based on SVI
- Sorting into Hub Levels
- Determine Gaps (Facility, Staffing, Supplies)

AUSTIN ISD PARTNERSHIP







AISD EQUITY BY DESIGN





ROLE IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Schools are a trusted part of the Community

- Built in Communication Network: External and Internal
- During extreme events, the community gravitates towards schools
 - Flexibility in Crisis

Schools have functioned as community hubs and shelters during past events

 Logistics - Infrastructure, Distribution and Storage, Purchasing Power, etc.





AISD LONG-RANGE PLANNING

LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEES:

- Academics & Career and Technical Education
- Athletics
- Visual & Performing Arts
- Facilities
- SAFETY, SECURITY & RESILIENCY
- Transportation, Food Service & Maintenance
- Technology

Committee members include 13 community members, 2 students and 6 AISD staff.





WORKING TOGETHER







AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING

• \$3M allocated to Resilience Hubs by the Council-approved American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding framework

 We plan to share resources across a network of hubs for project planning and capital investments

• The funds need to be spent by December 31, 2024



THE APPROACH



Building Partnerships: AISD, Travis County, Austin Community College, Central Health

Identify Existing Assets and Facilities

- Creating a Google Map to ID existing facilities + assets
- Identify gaps to create a hub and spoke network

Identify & Prioritize Sites for Potential New Investments

- Focusing first on AISD, City of Austin, and Travis County
- Methodology focused on SVI, equity, transparency
- Consider range of 3 types of Hubs

Conduct Stakeholder Engagement to Inform the Process

- Centering Equity in the Process
- Starting in January 2022
- Beginning with a 10-15 person Advisory Panel
- Once Initial Sites are Selected, Conduct more detailed Neighborhood level engagement around sites

Upgrade Facilities, Train Staff, Launch the Hub and Spoke Network

DRAFT TIMELINE



Data Collection/Analysis

Map hazards and Social Vulnerability Index (SVI). Conduct basic assessments, identify Level 1 sites

Community Engagement

Engage community groups and create an advisory board. Provide outreach on Level 1 sites.

Initiate Pilots

Based on SVI and community groups, engage neighborhoods to determine needs, select pilot sites, and start implementing simple strategies

Implementation

For sites that are ready to function, train staff, get supplies, Website go-live, Communications and Promotion

For sites that need capital upgrades: Schematic design, design development, contract document, bid/selection, construction



