



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Laura Patiño, Chief Resilience Officer *LP*

THROUGH: Jason Alexander, Chief of Staff

DATE: June 24, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on Community Resilience Planning (Resolution No. 20200507-022)

This memo serves as an update to [Resolution No. 20200507-022](#) and provides a response outlining the process, mission, and objectives of the City's resilience efforts and the role of the Chief Resilience Officer (CRO).

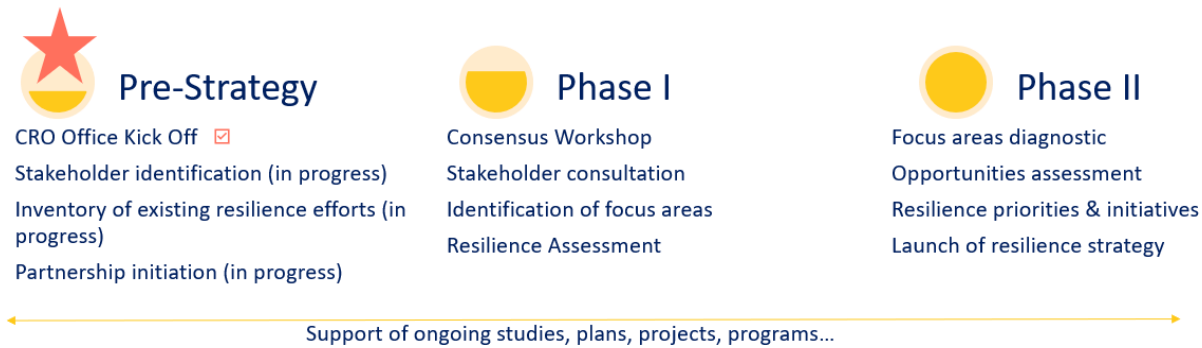
Chief Resilience Officer & Staff Support

On April 25, 2022, the City onboarded the new Chief Resilience Officer, Laura Patiño, who will lead the development and implementation of the City's comprehensive resilience strategy. Though led by the Chief Resilience Officer, this strategy will be created in concert with a range of internal and external stakeholders, including community-led organizations, governmental and non-governmental partners, businesses, and other City departments, all unified toward equitable urban resilience. Link to [news release](#) announcing Chief Resilience Officer.

The new CRO is evaluating staffing and resourcing needs to advance resilience efforts. At this moment, priority is being given to the alignment between the Office of Sustainability, Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and other departments to leverage existing resilience programs.

The process outlined below serves as a roadmap of the various phases essential in co-creating a comprehensive community resilience plan. The process is flexible and additional activities can be included based on stakeholder engagement. Currently, the CRO is working through the pre-strategy phase, with the goal of kicking off Phase I by 2023. In parallel to the strategy development, the CRO continues to support ongoing resilience actions that are advancing through the efforts of City departments and external partners.

Strategy Development Process



Ongoing Support for Resilience Actions:

- Baby Food Formula Shortage. [Link](#) to news release.
- Neighborhood Resilience Hubs (in coordination with Offices of Sustainability and Homeland Security and Emergency Management)
- Coordination with Travis County – Climate Resilience
- Partnerships & Fundraising Opportunities

The following items will be dependent on the mission, structure and objectives developed through the strategy development process and will be taken into consideration in the structuring of the resilience plan.

Equity

Equity is at the center of the resilience planning and strategy development process. Resilience efforts will align with Equity Office frameworks and apply methods in use to ensure that (1) outreach and engagement are representative of the needs of Austinites and (2) equity data is included as key prioritization criteria in determination of the focus of the plan.

Indicators and Pilot Programs

The methods for creating key performance measures and expediting implementation of community resilience will be evaluated through the community resilience strategy planning and development processes. These will be tied to existing efforts and reporting within departments and within external partners and should be centered in transparency.

Interdepartmental Collaboration and Interagency and Community Coordination

A key step in the development of a comprehensive resilience strategy includes identification of stakeholders. Stakeholders are currently being identified to guide the community-driven plan development, pilot programs, and support emergency management services and coordination.

Resilient Cities Network

The CRO is pursuing a formal partnership with the Resilient Cities Network. An initial visit for preliminary conversations is planned for July 2022.

Private Sector Coordination & Fundraising

Based on best practices from over 100 different cities across the world private sector partnerships are essential in developing and implementing resilience across different scales. A proposal that outlines

opportunities for private sector, businesses and philanthropy will be generated through the pre-strategy phase.

As the work of the strategic plan process advances, staff will provide an update to Council on efforts by mid-December.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at laura.patino@austintexas.gov.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
 Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager
 Lucia Athens, Chief Sustainability Officer
 Juan Ortiz, Director, Homeland Security and Emergency Management