

Attachment A
**Gloucester Climate
Action and Resilience
Plan (CARP)
Scope of Work**

Project Narrative

Please provide your full project narrative. Use the rating system as a guide for what information should be included in the narrative to ensure the maximum score possible for your project. Please keep in mind that reviewers will likely not have historic knowledge of your MVP process, this project, or supporting efforts – please provide a full, yet succinct explanation for each question. This section should be completed, saved as a PDF, and uploaded to the online form in the appropriate section. Total size of all documents attached to the online form cannot exceed 25 MB. Please keep responses to a reasonable length.

1. Project Description, Rationale, and Climate Data (13 points)

- Up to **8 points** for description & rationale, including:
 - What climate change impacts/vulnerabilities this project will address.
 - What the project’s goals and objectives are.
 - If the project is one component/phase of a larger project, please succinctly describe previously completed or future work and the vision for the overall project in addition to the proposed component/phase.
 - Why the project was chosen.
 - How the project will positively impact the [resiliency](#) of the site and community.
 - If applicable, please include quantifiable information about the historic or expected future damages that are likely to occur if the project is not completed (e.g., number of people/homes/structures at risk, number of people depending on the infrastructure being improved, extent of past flooding, expected cost if infrastructure fails, etc.).
 - How the project reflects municipal priorities established in the community’s MVP-approved report or subsequent climate resilience report that built upon the MVP process.

The City of Gloucester (City), through the Clean Energy Commission (CEC), the City’s planning division, and in partnership with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), is seeking funds to develop a city-wide Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP).

The Plan will serve to identify an inventory of Gloucester’s community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, renewables, and sequestration resources by partnering with MAPC to leverage new tools, such as the [Community GHG Inventory Tool](#) for Massachusetts Cities & Towns and the [Municipal Net Zero Playbook](#). This baseline will help the community in identifying the highest priority and most feasible solutions to put Gloucester on-track to meet long-term energy, climate and resiliency goals. The CARP will include,

1. An inventory of Gloucester’s current (baseline) GHG emissions, renewables, and natural resources.
2. An equitable community outreach plan and approach based on MAPC’s Framework for

Equity and the MVP Environmental Justice and Equity Tool Kit.

3. A set of community goals (GHG emissions reduction, renewable energy deployment, and protection and growth of sequestration resources) generated from baseline data.
4. A community roadmap that sets forward both municipal and community actions that advance the community's identified climate goals.

The total amount requested for the project is \$69,890 and it will be completed and funded in one year of the 2022 MVP Action grant cycle. The City is also committing \$30,705 in matching for a total project budget of \$100,595.

The City of Gloucester has long been committed to addressing climate change. The entire community will be impacted by climate change, whether directly by the effects of increased heat, storm intensity, and flooding, or indirectly by the burden on the city to mitigate damages. The City has focused heavily on sea level rise and protection of water resources through several feasibility, design, and construction projects. Gloucester has had success funding these adaptation initiatives through a combination of City funds, Coastal Zone Management (CZM), Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grants.

Conversations with the City's Clean Energy Commission (CEC), the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), and within the City, however, have raised the **need for the City to frame out a broader, public facing strategy and identify clear goals that reflect the diversity of topics identified in our MVP Action workshop**. This includes fortifying the city's energy infrastructure, forest and watershed protection, and updating zoning regulations for climate resiliency (MVP Goals). The CARP will also help the City situate our previous and planned adaptation work within the scope of clear climate mitigation and resilience goals.

Gloucester's Clean Energy Commission, in particular, has focused on strengthening the City's energy resilience through actions like the creation of a Community Electricity Aggregation program, upgrades to improve efficiencies at the municipal level, and promotion of community energy assessments. Energy sector infrastructure is subject to a high degree of interconnectedness with critical public safety systems, economic activity, and cultural resources. Reducing Gloucester's dependence on the grid, therefore, has strong resilience and mitigation benefits.

Broadening Gloucester's climate change strategy will also have substantial implications on equity. While coastal adaptation strategies are needed in Gloucester, the direct benefit of these projects is to coastal neighborhoods, as opposed to Environmental Justice (EJ) communities, which are largely located around downtown Gloucester. Bringing EJ populations into the conversation about climate change will require an inclusive and accessible engagement process and set of clear goals that encompass action related to urban heat island effect, air quality, open space, energy costs, and other priorities identified via engagement.

Climate change calls for an approach to sustainable development that takes into account the complex interactions between climate and social and ecological systems. While prior reports have often separated mitigation and adaptation, the CARP will be structured to provide

integrated, actionable goals for emissions reduction while also elevating those that provide improved resilience to climate change.

- Up to **4 points** for the degree to which the most up-to-date climate science and data (including data found on resilientma.org and/or local-level studies) will be utilized, including specific reference to the climate data utilized. (Note: If you completed the optional RMAAT Climate Resilience Design Standards Tool in [Attachment E](#), you may use those recommendations to inform this answer.)
 - o **For Project Type 1: Planning, Assessments, Capacity Building, and Regulatory Updates- What climate data will be used to inform the process or report and how will they be utilized? If it is a regulatory project, how will the regulations use climate data to ensure they will provide reasonable and effective guidance into the future?**
 - o **For Project Type 2: Design and Permitting – What climate data and standards will be used to inform the design process and how will they be utilized?**
 - o **For Project Type 3: Construction and On-the-Ground Implementation – What is the design life of the project? What climate data were incorporated into the design and how were climate data utilized to inform the process? If a different type of implementation project (e.g., land acquisition) describe how climate data informed the project.**

Partnering with MAPC brings expertise, not just in climate action and resilience plan development, but also a large body of work developing data driven methods tailored to Massachusetts cities and towns. To facilitate an actionable understanding of community wide climate change impacts, MAPC has developed a GHG Inventory Tool and Municipal Net Zero Playbook. MAPC is also on the cusp of releasing new components of the Net Zero Playbook that will focus on Climate-Smart Zoning and Permitting, and Clean Energy Supply. Gloucester will not only benefit from this ongoing research, but also as a pioneer in implementation, providing a strong use case for MAPC to draw on in future climate zoning and clean energy planning regionally.

As part of inventorying and setting baselines for Gloucester, we will collect and analyze a robust dataset that measures both current GHG emissions and the impact of existing resources and strategies. We will collect the following data:

1. Community and municipal electricity consumption, natural gas consumption, heating oil usage estimates, transportation/ vehicles usage, waste disposal, and recycling (as outlined in the MAPC GHG inventory tool).
 2. Sequestration resources including land use, open space, street trees, forest land, and permeable surfaces (utilizing resilientma.org where applicable and applying a new body of research and tool that MAPC is undertaking).
 3. **Sources:** resilientma.org, local-level studies, MassEnergyInsight, MAPC tools, EOLWD, etc.
- **1 point** for inclusion of MVP yearly progress report (Attachment D) or for indication that MVP Planning Grant process was completed within the past year. There is a place on the online form to upload Attachment D. If regional application please include for all MVP-designated municipalities.

Please see Attachment D

2. Timeline, Scope, and Budget (15 points)

- Up to **4 points** for project scope. Please detail each task/step of the project here and include a summarized version in [Attachment B](#). For each task, please identify if it is dependent on completion of another task.

We intend for the Plan to include community-wide and municipal goals, based on data, public engagement, and the most updated methods identified by MAPC, and individual and integrated actions to achieve those goals. There are many stakeholders responsible for Gloucester’s climate and resilience goals and we expect that actions or initiatives may apply to **the City, residents, businesses, community organizations, and various stakeholder groups**. We also expect that the Plan will identify a timeline of steps, benefits, and potential funding mechanisms for implementation of priority actions.

Scope of Work

Below is an overview of the tasks envisioned by the City for development of the **Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP)**. Detailed steps for each of these tasks follow.

Table 1: Tasks

Task	Description
Task 1: Data Collection and GHG Inventory	Collect and analyze a robust dataset that measures both current GHG emissions and the impact of existing resources and strategies.
Task 2: Goal-setting & Community Engagement Planning	Outline a comprehensive community engagement strategy based on MAPC’s Framework for Equity and the MVP Environmental Justice & Equity Tool Kit.
Task 3: Target-setting and Action Identification	Lead the community in vital conversations about target setting on emissions, renewables, and natural resources that will reinforce and guide future climate mitigation and resilience actions.
Task 4: Action Prioritization	Based on identified actions, outline and engage in an equitable prioritization process.
Task 5: Plan Development	Write and finalize Gloucester’s Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP).
Task 6: Project Management and Working Group Meetings	Meetings and time dedicated to gathering input from project working groups, including the Clean Energy Committee and municipal staff, project management and coordination.

Task 1: Data Collection and GHG Inventory

Collect and analyze a robust dataset that measures both current GHG emissions and the impact of existing resources and strategies. We will look closely at how Gloucester’s previous resiliency strategies resulted in GHG emissions mitigation, and how future energy and nature-based actions could push forward both resilience and mitigation goals.

- Identify and collect baseline data related to Gloucester’s GHG emissions, including
 1. Community and municipal electricity consumption, natural gas consumption, heating oil usage estimates, transportation/ vehicles usage, waste disposal, and

- recycling (as outlined in the MAPC GHG inventory tool).
- 2. Complementary data related to GHG emissions. This could include residential solar, municipal aggregation data, or electrical vehicle use.
- 3. Consideration of sequestration resources including land use, open space, street trees, forest land, and permeable surfaces (utilize resilientma.org where applicable).
- Develop a GHG inventory for Gloucester that includes (1) stationary energy, (2) transportation, and (3) waste. Data sources across these three areas will be identified and organized based on the methodological structure outlined by MAPC in the GHG Emissions Inventory toolkit.
- Identify possible areas to expand or refine the inventory using more precise or additional City specific data sources.
- Use GIS tools to inventory sequestration and other mitigation resources such as open space, land use, and street trees.
- Evaluate strategies for measuring the sequestration and other mitigation effects of natural resources and potential nature-based solutions, strategies that will be integrated into MAPC's ongoing EEA funded tool development process (underway).
- Train Gloucester staff to update the inventory in the future.

Task 2: Goal-setting and Community Engagement

Outline a comprehensive and inclusive community engagement strategy based on MAPC's Framework for Equity and the MVP Environmental Justice & Equity Tool Kit.

- Review previous city climate planning efforts, reports, and studies to determine how best to integrate and build on the community's existing programs and policies via the **Climate Action and Resilience Plan**.
- Conduct an equity assessment to identify who attends existing meetings, who has found previous processes to be inaccessible, and which languages are spoken. The equity assessment will also identify Climate Vulnerable populations that are disproportionately affected by air quality, flooding, urban heat island effect, and other climate impacts in the community.
- Based on the equity assessment, craft an outreach strategy that centers the communities least represented and most impacted by the effects of climate change. Examples of possible outreach include holding a workshop at the high school, advertising in environmental justice (EJ) neighborhoods (downtown Gloucester), and connecting with community groups that support these populations.
- Present on the planning process to the Gloucester City Council.
- Connect with community partner organizations like Action, Inc., a Community Action Agency (CAA) the Cape Ann Climate Coalition, and others identified in the Stakeholder Assessment to share the planning process and co-create outreach strategies.
- Plan and facilitate a community visioning workshop to identify a climate vision for Gloucester, priorities, and potential goals and summarize results
- Launch online engagement (webpage and social media) to ensure stakeholders have a continuous way to engage with the development of the Plan.

Task 3: Target Setting and Action Identification

Lead the community in vital conversations about target setting on emissions, renewables, and

natural resources that will reinforce and guide future resilience actions.

- Work with MAPC to develop strategies/ review past work related to climate smart zoning and clean energy supply that will be used as examples for other Cape Ann communities.
- Develop and deploy a community-wide survey to gather input on climate priorities and strategies for community members.
- Develop a preliminary list of strategy recommendations for the CARP based on background research and community input. Analyze categorical GHG emissions reduction potential, resilience, equity, public health, and other co-benefits of potential climate actions for Gloucester.
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- Work with partner organizations like the Action CAP and the Cape Ann Climate Coalition to reach more community members and collect input.
- Based on ideas generated and feedback received, refine the list of potential climate mitigation and adaptation strategies. This list will then be used as the foundation for Task 4: Action Prioritization.

Task 4: Action Prioritization

Based on identified actions, outline and engage in an equitable and thorough prioritization process.

- Create and implement a process for prioritization of climate actions to include in the final plan based on feedback received from community members and municipal staff. Potential criteria may include cost to implement, level of impact, time to implement, effort needed, urgency, co-benefits, etc.
- Organize and host a community workshop or other community engagement to review prioritized actions for input
- Work with partner organizations like the Action CAP and the Cape Ann Climate Coalition to reach more community members and collect input.
- Compile all input received and create a master list of all prioritized actions.

Task 5: Plan Development

Develop an implementation plan to achieve community goals.

- Develop a first draft of the CARP and share for review.
- Make revisions to the draft plan based on feedback from municipal staff and other stakeholders.
- Graphic design of final CARP.
- Present the final plan to the Gloucester City Council.

Task 6: Project Management and Working Group Meetings

Meetings and time dedicated to gathering input from project working groups, including the Clean Energy Committee and municipal staff, project management and coordination.

- Facilitate monthly meetings with key city staff to review roles and expectations, walk through the planning process, review draft goals and set goals, review action and prioritization criteria, and finalize the list of actions for inclusion in the final CARP.
- Facilitate monthly meetings of the Gloucester Clean Energy Committee to advise on the project throughout.

- MAPC project management and internal project planning and coordination meetings.
- Up to **4 points** for the project budget. Applicants will include budget numbers for each task and sub-task via [Attachment B](#). There is a place to upload Attachment B as an Excel spreadsheet on the online form. The second tab on the spreadsheet is **now optional** but can be used to calculate budget numbers to the extent helpful, identify assumed rates for project team time and municipal in-kind match, or justify high grant funding requests for specific tasks by providing greater detail. The Applicant may also use another format to provide greater detail on these items (e.g., a quote from a contractor) if available. There is a spot to upload additional materials on the online form.

Please see [Attachment B](#)

- Up to **4 points** for a clear project timeline that can be completed within the specified contract period. For projects that require completion of [Attachment C](#), please include major milestones, regulatory touchpoints and approvals, and information on how any project planning, design, and regulatory compliance efforts will be met during the grant period. Please ensure the timeline dates align with start and end dates for each task in [Attachment B](#).

Table 2: Timeline

Task	Anticipated Timeline
Task 1: Data Collection and GHG Inventory	September - October
Task 2: Goal-setting & Community Engagement Planning	September - November
Task 3: Target-setting and Action Identification	December - February
Task 4: Action Prioritization	February - April
Task 5: Plan Development	April - June
Task 6: Project Management and Meetings	Ongoing

- Up to **3 points** for identification of regulatory project components (including satisfactory completion of [Attachment C](#) if a design, permitting, or construction project). Documented coordination with applicable regulatory agency/ies is encouraged. Projects with significant regulatory compliance barriers identified through assessment of [Attachment C](#) or construction projects that do not have all necessary permits and permissions in hand may be disqualified. There is a place on the online form to upload [Attachment C](#).

The intended Plan will be overseen by the City of Gloucester’s planning department with the support of the administration of Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken, and in partnership with the Gloucester Clean Energy Commissions (CEC), and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), letters of support for the Mayor's office, the CEC, and MAPC are attached.

3. Nature-Based Solutions and Environmental Co-Benefits (16 Points)

- Up to **10 points** for the degree to which nature-based solutions (i.e., solutions that protect, restore, or manage ecological systems) are incorporated into the overall vision of this project and how the selected strategy/ies will help the community adapt to existing and projected impacts of climate change. More information about nature-based solutions can be found in the [MVP toolkit](#). Consider the following questions in your response:
 - o **For Project Type 1: Planning, Assessments, Capacity Building, and Regulatory Updates– How will this work “set the stage” for future implementation of nature-based solutions?**
 - o **For Project Type 2: Design and Permitting – Describe all design options (including nature-based options) that will be evaluated or considered in the design process.**
 - o **For Project Type 3: Construction and On-the-Ground Implementation – What are the nature-based solutions being implemented? If the project is not nature-based, describe a clear assessment of design alternatives and discussion of why a nature-based solution was not chosen.**

(**Note:** Hard infrastructure projects in any phase may still receive a maximum of **5 points** for a response to this question that demonstrates why this approach was deemed necessary over nature-based approaches and illustrates how environmental conditions will improve with grey infrastructure implementation.)

The CARP will be structured to provide integrated, actionable goals for emissions reduction and improved resilience to climate change, recognizing the complex interactions between climate and social and ecological systems. Gloucester’s ecological resources are rich and highly interconnected. Given this, the City has a keen understanding of the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to promote resiliency, mitigation, cultural, and economic goods in the community. This Plan is intended to look closely at how Gloucester’s previous nature-based and resiliency strategies resulted in GHG emissions mitigation, and how future nature-based actions could push forward both resilience and mitigation goals.

The City is also poised to support MAPC in identifying methods of understanding the co-benefits of mitigation and resilience related to protection of natural resources like urban trees, open space, and forest. MAPC is currently developing a set of tools, funded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, to inventory and understand the climate impact of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). The timing of this climate planning process will allow Gloucester to pilot and test these approaches.

- Up to **6 points** for identifying and describing environmental co-benefits of the proposed project in the table below. For non-implementation projects, please identify how this work will “set the stage” for future co-benefits.

Table 3: Environmental Co-Benefits

Environmental Co-Benefit		Description of how the project will produce this environmental co-benefit
Promotes Biodiversity (habitat restoration, creation, or enhancement)	X	Working with MAPC, the intended project seeks to expand the region's understanding of the climate impact of, as well as set targets related to, the community’s natural sequestration
Restores/remediates Project Site	X	

		resources, such as forest land, permeable surfaces, and urban trees.
Promotes Environmentally-Sustainable Development / Reduces Development in Climate Vulnerable Areas	X	Working with MAPC, the City of Gloucester intends to look closely at implementation of Climate Smart Zonings strategies for resilience and mitigation as part of the planning process, drawing on a regional Net Zero Planning guidebook MAPC is currently developing.
Improved Air Quality	X	By setting specific GHG, sustainability, and natural resource targets, the City of Gloucester has the potential to improve air quality through both emissions reduction and sequestration related projects.
Climate Mitigation (carbon sequestration, site-scale improvements for cooling, reduced energy use)	X	Setting GHG emissions reduction targets will give the community a clear path towards Climate Mitigation.

4. Environmental Justice and Public/Regional Benefits (14 points)

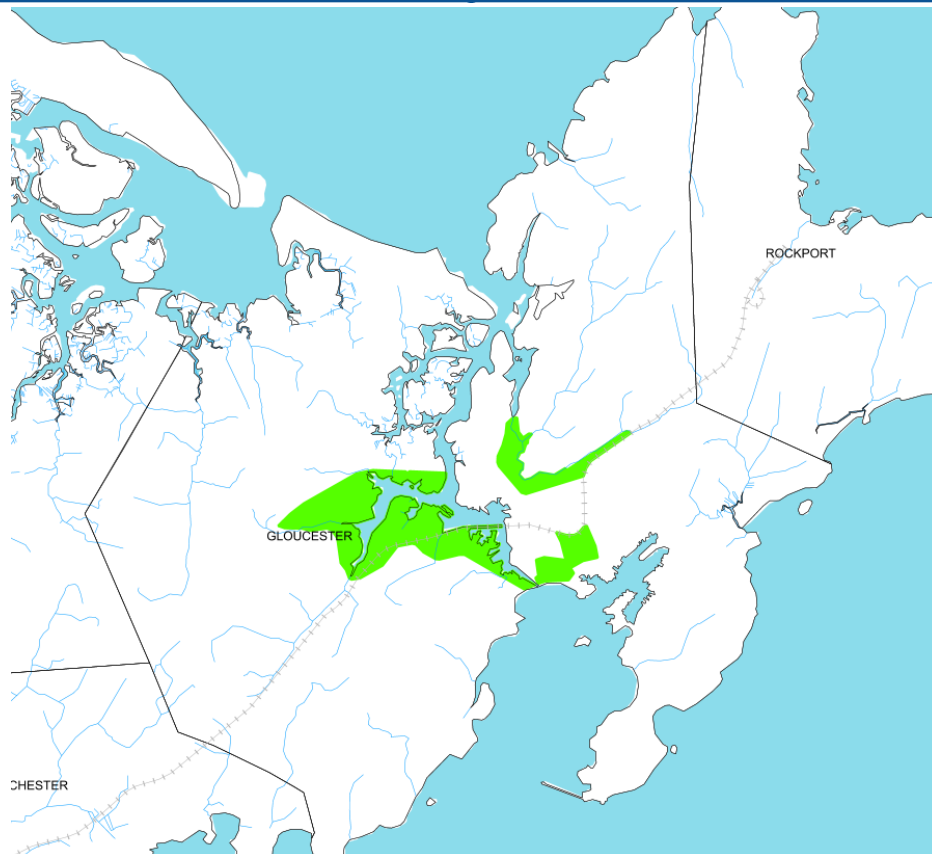
- Up to **8 points** for a project located within a mapped EJ Population, identified through the Massachusetts [EJ viewer](#), **with demonstrated positive impacts to that community** and **demonstrated support from the community**. To receive full points, the Applicant should:
 - Provide specific relevant demographic information related to the Environmental Justice Population (i.e., income, race, and English isolation) and a description of where the community is located geographically relative to the project site.
 - Demonstrate how the project will increase climate resiliency for this EJ Population.
 - Demonstrate support from the EJ Population that the project is intended to benefit. Demonstration of support may include:
 - Letters of support from residents or community groups representing these populations.
 - Indication that residents or community groups representing these populations will be part of the project team (i.e., the community liaison model described in [Attachment F](#)) and, **if so, specifically how much of the project budget will be used to compensate them for their work and on what tasks?** (Please make sure this partnership is easily identifiable in your [Attachment B](#) scope/budget).

Note: Recognizing that there may be members of your community who are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change that do not meet the specific criteria or thresholds of an EJ population, the MVP program also recognizes benefits to and involvement of “Climate Vulnerable Populations.” Climate Vulnerable Populations are those who have lower adaptive capacity or higher exposure and sensitivity to climate hazards like flooding or heat stress due to factors such as access to transportation, income level, disability, racial inequity, health status, or age. Projects that benefit and involve Climate Vulnerable Populations outside of a mapped EJ area may receive **up to 4 points** in this category by answering the above questions for the Climate Vulnerable Population(s).

More information on Environmental Justice, Climate Vulnerable Populations, and the MVP program can be found in the [MVP toolkit](#).

Broadening Gloucester’s climate change strategy will have substantial implications on equity. While coastal adaptation projects are needed in Gloucester, the direct benefit of these projects is to coastal neighborhoods, as opposed to Environmental Justice communities, which are largely located around downtown Gloucester, as can be seen in Figure 1. Furthermore, Gloucester’s EJ populations are all identified based on income level, as can be seen in table X, making affordability a likely key part of the conversation in addressing the concerns of Environmental Justice communities. Bringing environmental justice populations into the conversation about climate change will require an inclusive and accessible engagement process and set of clear goals that encompass actions that are a high priority for EJ and Climate Vulnerable communities. For example urban heat island effect, air quality, open space, economic opportunity, and energy costs are priorities that could be raised via engagement processes.

Figure 1: Gloucester's Environmental Justice Populations are Concentrated Around Downtown



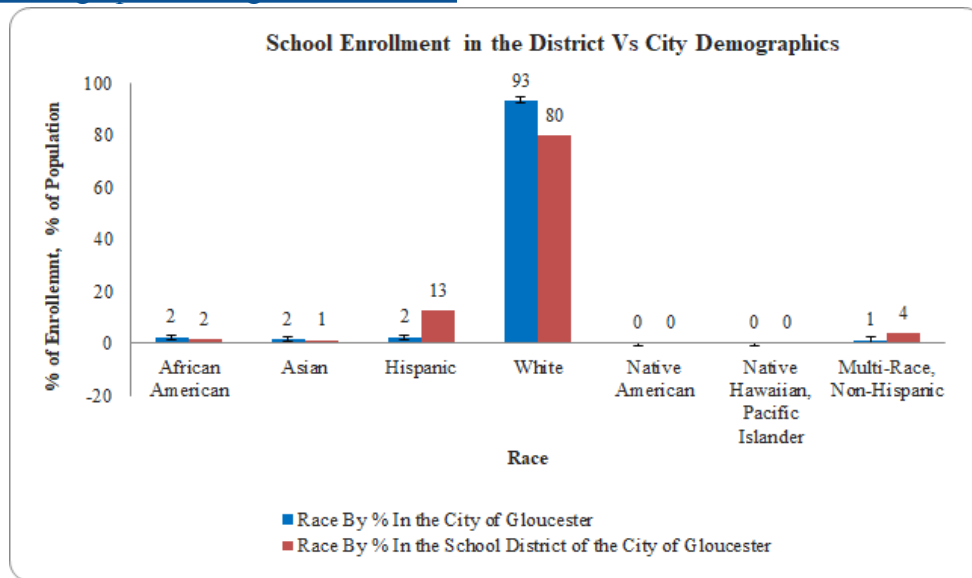
Included in our scope of work (Task 2) is an Equity Assessment. This tool was created by MAPC to evaluate our current outreach strategies, the success or failure of previous equity efforts, and identify vulnerable communities, specifically within the framework of climate change. Using this tool will allow us to make a concerted effort and reassess what kinds of engagement works, who we need to reach out to, and where we may have blind spots in our existing network of community partners.

We have not outlined specific community partners here because we hope that following a clear and consistent framework will help the City to identify communities we need to engage, and how to engage them, with a fresh perspective. Given this, the project's community engagement plan will include dedicated time to identify, engage, and partner with community organizations based on the Equity Assessment. We also intend to recruit and hire a stipend youth intern to be a liaison between the planning team and young people in Gloucester. Young people represent a change in the future demographics in the City, as can be seen by Figure 2, making youth engagement an important part of engaging both EJ and Climate Vulnerable populations.

Table 4: Environmental Justice Data

2010 Median Household Income in Gloucester's EJ Neighborhoods
\$40,335
\$31,307
\$33,077
\$21,938

Figure 2: Demographic Change in Gloucester



Source: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education 2020 - 2021 School Year and

We also will embed equity into the plan's content to ensure that EJ communities benefit from and are not disproportionately burdened by any strategies proposed in the plan. The strategy identification and prioritization process will center equity as an important consideration in each proposed action within the plan.

- Up to **3 points** for the degree to which the project has broad and multiple community benefits. Rationale should include:
 - How the project will provide the highest level of climate resilience for the greatest number of people and/or largest geographic area possible.
 - What community co-benefits the project will provide (e.g., social, economic, public health, recreational, public access, equity, etc.). Please focus on non-environmental co-benefits as environmental co-benefits are included in Question 3 above.

The planning process will provide the City of Gloucester with the expertise and capacity to launch a broad, equitable conversation about climate change solutions. The plan will act not only as a roadmap, but a public-facing resource for the community to participate in climate resilience and adaptation goals. This is particularly important in a community like Gloucester that has pursued a number of renewable opportunities like municipal aggregation. The City has also entered into a public-private partnership associated with a wind turbine and is in a power purchase agreement to access the electricity it generates. City operations, however, are only a fraction of all electrical use and continuing to advance resilient energy and other efforts will require projects that encompass the entire community.

Table 5: Non-Environmental Co-Benefits

Other Co-Benefit		Description of how the project will produce this co-benefit
Economic and Cultural	X	Energy sector infrastructure is subject to a high degree of interconnectedness with critical public safety systems, economic activity, and cultural resources. Increasing the community’s use of renewables coupled with energy storage will make Gloucester less susceptible to grid failures, a goal identified in the City’s MVP workshop. The plan also offers opportunities to help train and build Gloucester’s climate and clean energy workforce.
Public Access/ Affordability	X	Programs like Community Electricity Aggregation and adoption of renewables have in the past, and have the continued potential to stabilize energy prices for Gloucester residents. The planning process offers the chance to review new strategies the city could pursue to ensure more affordable energy costs for lower-income residents.
Public Health	X	Action items in the plan that will reduce GHG emissions will also improve air quality (both indoor and outdoor), preserve forests, expand canopy cover, and protect salt marshes.
Equity	X	Air quality, urban heat island effect, and other adverse climate related effects tend to harm our communities in downtown where the majority of our EJ populations live. Shifting our focus to more holistic climate planning beyond sea level rise, will lead to a more equitable and cohesive resilience strategy that includes everyone in our community.

- Up to **3 points** if the project is regional/has regional benefits, including:
 - If the project is being led by a regional partnership (i.e., two or more municipalities are submitting the application together). If yes, the application should include a letter of support from each partnering municipality.
 - To what extent resilience benefits of the project go beyond the boundaries of one municipality.

MAPC is currently developing and will soon be releasing new chapters of the Net Zero Playbook that will focus on Climate-Smart Zoning and Permitting, and Clean Energy Supply. Gloucester

will work closely with MAPC to pilot the utilization of these strategies. The City is also poised to support MAPC in identifying methods of understanding the co-benefits of mitigation and resilience (sequestration) related to protection of natural resources like urban trees, open space and forest. MAPC is currently developing a set of tools, funded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, to understand the climate impact of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). Exploration of the integrated benefits of NBS in Gloucester will extend to planning in the entire Cape Ann region. Gloucester commits to sharing the best practices and templates developed with its neighbors, as a building block for their climate action to follow. This will build on the strong ties and coordination among the Cape Ann communities on climate and other issues such as Cape Ann Saves Energy Saves program.

5. Public Involvement and Community Engagement (12 points)

- To complete this section, include a narrative and fill out the matrix below. **For guidance and an example showing how to fill out this section and suggested principal and assisting print, digital, and in-person strategies, see [Attachment F](#). Please note that all tasks proposed here should be clearly incorporated into the required Scope/Budget spreadsheet ([Attachment B](#)).**
 - 1 point for each principal strategy (**up to 3 points total**) as described in the narrative and table below. May have one per print, digital, and in-person category or distribute among those categories (e.g., two in-person, one print, no digital). **The review team will consider the effectiveness of each identified strategy and inclusion in the project scope/budget when awarding points.**
 - 0.5 points for each assisting strategy (**up to 3 points total**) as described in narrative and table below. May distribute among print, digital, and in-person categories as desired. **The review team will consider the effectiveness of each identified strategy and inclusion in the project scope/budget when awarding points.**
 - 1 point for each equitable engagement modifier (**up to 4 points total**) as described in the narrative and table below. May distribute among print, digital, and in-person categories as desired. **The review team will consider the effectiveness of each identified strategy and inclusion in the project scope/budget when awarding points.**
 - Up to **2 points** for how stakeholder feedback will be incorporated into the project and mechanism by which stakeholders will be notified of the results of the public involvement and community engagement process and the final project deliverables (see examples in [Attachment F](#)).

***NOTE: For Project Type 3: Construction and On-the-Ground Implementation** – Applicants may fill out the table/narrative and receive points based on community engagement strategies that have occurred in earlier phases of the specific project and how feedback has been incorporated into the final design. Applicants may also describe strategies that will be employed during this project phase. Please make clear which strategies have been completed and which are proposed to be conducted within the proposed phase of the project.*

Public Involvement and Community Engagement Plan Narrative:

Specific tasks related to the CARP outreach strategy are outlined in Task 2 of the scope of work. Included in our strategy is public meetings, stakeholder meetings, an online community survey, online presence through a website and social media, flyers, and working with community partners. We also intend to recruit and hire a stipend youth intern to be a liaison between the planning team and young people in Gloucester.

Table 6: Public Involvement and Community Engagement Plan Table

Gloucester Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP) Public Involvement and Community Engagement Plan Table Summary (summarized version of narrative)			
	Print	Digital	In-Person and/or Zoom (Based on covid-19 restrictions at the time of the strategy)
Principal Strategies	Flyers	Online Survey	Public Meetings, Stakeholder Meetings

Assisting Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canvas in the downtown area. • Add a notice in the Gloucester Daily Times. • Post in local shops. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project website. • Email to distribution list that includes community stakeholder groups. • Post on City website. • Share with local blogs. • Promote on local cable access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a notice in the Gloucester Daily Times. • Record and post a video of the meeting.
Equitable Engagement Modifiers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the flyers available in other languages based on the needs outlined in the Equity Assessment. • Target canvassing in areas identified as having EJ or Climate Vulnerable populations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the Survey available in multiple formats (paper, online, QR code). • Make the survey available in other languages based on the needs outlined in the Equity Assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select meeting hours that correspond with hours that are feasible for working parents. • Providing childcare during meetings. • Reach out to EJ and Climate Vulnerable populations and encourage them to attend via community groups that continuously engage with them.
<p>How community feedback will be incorporated into project and mechanism by which results will be shared:</p> <p>The results of the plan will be communicated to the public through an engaging plan layout, a public meeting, and online promotion. Feedback from the public on the final plan will be welcomed and facilitated within each of these methods, as well as throughout the planning process.</p>			

6. Project Transferability, Measurement of Success, and Maintenance (8 points)

- Up to **4 points** for projects that serve as a demonstration project and are transferable to other communities (i.e., innovative projects that provide deliverables that can be easily adopted by other communities or outline processes that will streamline other similar projects). Please outline what these deliverables are and how they will be shared with other communities.

The completed CARP will become part of a library of Climate and Resilience Plans in the MAPC region that are developed based on MAPC's methodology. This will allow for strong comparability between communities into the future in order to identify appropriate action items and provide case studies.

For example, MAPC is currently developing, and will soon release, new components of the Net Zero Playbook that will focus on Climate-Smart Zoning and Permitting, and Clean Energy Supply. Gloucester will work closely with MAPC to act as a demonstration project for utilizing these strategies. MAPC is also currently developing a set of tools, funded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Planning Assistance Grant program, to understand the climate impact of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). The City is poised to provide MAPC an opportunity to explore methods of understanding the co-benefits of mitigation and resilience (sequestration) related to protection of natural resources like urban trees, open space and forest, particularly in a coastal environment. Deliverables will include,

- Final plan document
 - Case studies related to MAPC's new Climate-Smart Zoning and Permitting, and Clean Energy Supply
 - Insight that will be incorporated in the MAPC's development of tools to understand the climate impact of natural assets at the local level as part of GHG inventories and climate action strategy development particularly when applied in a coastal setting
-
- Up to **2 points** for how project success will be measured and monitored. Please provide outcomes that can be linked to the project (e.g., reduction in flooding, increase in tree canopy cover, reduced risk of sewer overflows) and any metrics that the applicant will be able to track to indicate whether or not the project is accomplishing these outcomes over time. The review team is not looking for general statements around the completion of tasks in the scope of work (e.g., "the project is successful if we complete it on time").

The CARP will serve to identify an inventory of Gloucester's GHG emissions, renewables and sequestration resources. This will allow goals and actions to be tied to specific baselines within the data. For example, based on a baseline of GHG emissions attributable to the building sector in the community, we may set a goal of halving that by 2030.

- Up to **2 points** for clear description of plans for how any future maintenance needs of or updates to the proposed project would be addressed to ensure the project's goals continue in the long-term.
 - **For Project Type 1: Planning, Assessments, Capacity Building, and Regulatory Updates-**
 - **Describe how the project deliverables will be utilized to continue local resilience work (e.g., regular meetings to track identified plan actions, list anticipated town meeting dates and/or plan to approve updated regulations,**

how data collection or modeling will support current/scheduled local efforts, etc.)

- **If applicable, how will the plan, assessment, or regulation be updated in the future to make sure it stays current?**
- **For Project Type 2:** Design and Permitting – Describe the path forward for the project – construction, further regulatory approval, potential funding sources. Describe any initial plans for how the asset would be maintained into the future if/when implemented.
- **For Project Type 3:** Construction and On-the-Ground Implementation – Will this project produce an operation and maintenance plan? If applicable, who is responsible for future maintenance? If applicable, what is the plan for replacing the asset at the end of its useful life and how will you ensure the replacement asset is also resilient?

The Clean Energy Commission, who will oversee the progression of the planning process, will also be responsible for tracking and reporting on the plans goals going forward. Gloucester planning staff will be trained by MAPC in updating and understanding the database generated by MAPC in order to be able to track progress empirically and qualitatively.

7. Need for Financial Assistance (6 points)

- Up to **4 points** based on the equalized valuation per capita, **to be completed by EEA**
- Up to **2 points** for financial need as demonstrated through Applicant narrative, as described below:
 - Demonstration that the municipal budget cannot accommodate this project, including specific examples beyond regular budgetary constraints.
 - Demonstration that other grant programs were considered, and it was determined that MVP was the best programmatic fit.
 - Demonstration that MVP funding would clearly address a funding gap that would make an otherwise robust project unlikely to be implemented.

The City of Gloucester is challenged to provide public infrastructure over a large geographic extent (26 square miles) with significant areas of low density residential land use, and a limited commercial and industrial tax base. The City has been committed for nearly two decades to infrastructure upgrades to its water, stormwater and sewer systems, which has commanded much of the city's bonding capacity. City departments have been delivering a high level of service with lean staffing levels, however in some cases such as this important effort, the assistance of outside expertise is required.

The City has a successful working relationship with MAPC and has worked on numerous efforts with them spanning housing needs assessment, to open space planning, to the development of floodplain management strategies that incorporate climate resilience. If not already committed to other efforts utilizing District Local Technical Assistance support, direct partnering would have been considered. It is for these reasons this Climate Action and Resilience Plan, which is well aligned with the MVP program grant framework, is being applied for. This grant will allow the city to assemble the necessary expertise to assist in the inventorying, analysis, and engagement with the community to help build consensus around local implementation strategies.

8. Project Feasibility, Support, and Management (6 points)

- Up to **2 points** for a description of the project team’s technical, financial, and management capacity. (Note: If your municipality has a previously awarded MVP Action Grant that will be ongoing at the same time as this proposed project, please list that grant and detail your municipality’s capacity to manage multiple grants in FY22.)

The project team is composed of three entities, the staff in the City of Gloucester Planning Division, the City’s Clean Energy Commission (CEC), and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). An overview of the technical capacity and roles of these three entities throughout the planning process is provided here:

Table 7: Timeline

Entity	Role	Expertise/ Qualifications
City of Gloucester Planning Division	Provide necessary data, leverage local relationships, coordinate with city apartments and stakeholders and between MAPC and the City.	Local planning expertise, project background, and relationships with community stakeholders and city departments.
Gloucester’s Clean Energy Commission (CEC)	Drive the planning process by working with MAPC and the public, set timely interim deadlines, identify potential action items, and lead outreach to the community.	Knowledge of local Climate and resiliency matters, connections to multiple community based and regional organizations.
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)	Provide technical support, GIS and data analysis, identify case studies, generate potential action items based on expertise, outline an equitable and engaging community process, craft a final plan including graphic design and branding	Public regional planning agency for Metro Boston, created by the Legislature in 1963. More than 10 years of experience directly working on climate and resilience planning with cities and towns in Massachusetts, including Energy Reduction Plans, Climate Actions Plans, Net Zero Plans, Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plans, and Climate Vulnerability Assessments. Recent planning efforts include Newton Climate Action Plan, Natick Net Zero Action Plan, Arlington Net Zero Action Plan, and the Marblehead Climate Vision, with more underway.

Furthermore, the City of Gloucester has demonstrated a strong commitment to addressing the effects and contributors to Climate Change in the past, our efforts have included, Some of Gloucester past work that demonstrates the City’s commitment to addressing climate change include,

- **Sea-level Rise:** Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan (CCVAAP) that identified a number of construction projects to mitigate future sea level rise. The city recently received a grant from CZM to design and prepare bid specifications for infrastructure improvements at five of its most vulnerable pump stations.
- **Water Supply:** MVP Action Grant to create a Watershed and Water Supply Vulnerability, Risk

Assessment and Management Strategy. The project assessed the long-term impacts of climate change on the City's water supply and reservoir, including its watersheds, and shall build upon the CRB Workshop and 2015 Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan (CCVAAP) introduced.

- **Flood Mitigation:** The City of Gloucester worked with the support of the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management to better understand our current and future risk from flooding and coastal storms, and measures that may be taken to better prepare the community.
- **Green Communities:** Gloucester was one of the first communities in the state to achieve Green Communities Designation in 2010. By becoming a Green Community, Gloucester has been awarded grants that help fund various energy conservation projects, including efficiency upgrades at 17 municipal facilities and citywide LED streetlight retrofits.
- **Municipal Energy:** Since late December 2012, a substantial portion of Gloucester's municipal electricity has been purchased through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Equity Industrial Partners, LLC for a two turbine (4MW total) wind project located at the Blackburn Industrial Park.
- **Community Aggregation:** The City Council voted to authorize the Mayor to investigate and establish the City's Community Electricity Aggregation program on April 26, 2016. The Aggregation program is currently renewed for a second year.
- **Gloucester Green:** Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken launched Gloucester Green, a new program designed to help residents save money and energy, as well as helping to reduce their carbon footprint one household at a time. The city has partnered with National Grid for the initiative, with the utility provider offering no-cost energy assessments and assistance for local households.
- Up to **2 points** for letters of support from landowner, public, and/or community partners. Applications with 3+ letters of support from diverse groups (e.g., community-based organizations, local businesses, nonprofits, neighborhood groups, etc.) and a letter of support from landowner (if the project is to take place on non-municipal land) will be scored highest. There is a place on the online form to upload support letters that have been combined into a single PDF document. Support letters should be submitted in this fashion and not sent in separately if at all possible.

See Attached Letters of Support

- Up to **2 points** for good standing in the MVP program – based on timely submittal of progress reports, lack of project extensions, timely correspondence, and compliance with program guidelines, **to be completed by the MVP program team.**

End of project narrative. [Note: An additional 10 points will also be allotted based on overall project quality at the discretion of the review committee.]