

RESILIENT
Anchorage
Stronger Together

Resilient Anchorage Roadmap

A roadmap for success and innovation in a time of environmental and economic transformation



Map by Lucie Conoley, provided courtesy of the Anchorage Museum

Our Intention

Anchorage, Alaska is the gateway to America's Arctic. Our city sits on the traditional homelands of the Dena'ina Athabascans and this tradition of welcoming and resilience are values that define us. We understand that being in a remote city, on the periphery of the continent, we rely on our neighbors not just for our survival but for our success. As Alaskans, we know that when a snowstorm or cold weather threatens our safety, what matters is our willingness to extend a hand to one another.

We strive for resilience because we know that as Alaskans, change is our steady state – between seasons, changing daylight hours, between past and future. The difference now is the rapid rate of change in our culture, environment, and economy. Adhering to these values, we intend to:

- Design systems that integrate communities regardless of race, economic status or other attributes.
- Improve access to decision making processes and to decision makers, improving and enhancing resident engagement in city policy.
- Ensure that environmental benefits and burdens are distributed equitably.
- Include local knowledge in data collection and decision-making.
- Break down barriers to markets and build sustainable and resilient economic opportunities.

Our Opportunities and Challenges

Anchorage is focusing in a new direction – one that places equity and inclusion at the heart of our environmental and economic resilience policies and practices. In Anchorage, our opportunity is to ensure our people and neighborhoods have the capacity to thrive as we respond to changing climates and economies. We rely on our deeply rooted traditions of innovation and collaboration to successfully adapt to our changing north.

Our challenge is to align our policies and practices with these goals to create a welcoming and resilient Anchorage. Anchorage is a dynamic, changing city. This Resilience Roadmap is a starting point to engage many voices in the necessary processes and actions that reflect our shared values of equity, inclusivity, and justice. It is a companion to the Welcoming Anchorage Strategic Roadmap. Together, these Roadmaps are the Municipality's strategy to build an AWARE city: Anchorage, Welcoming and Resilient.

This Resilience Roadmap is part of AWARE: Anchorage Welcoming and Resilient. The AWARE team would like to thank the Alaska Community Foundation, Cities of Service, the New American Economy, Welcoming America, the Rose Center for Public Leadership in Land Use, the Anchorage Museum, the University of Alaska (ACEP and ISER), Agnew::Beck and The Nature Conservancy for their generous support and partnership.

Our Roadmap



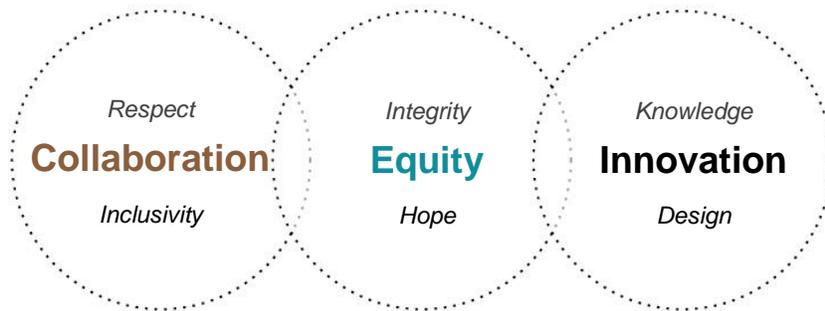
Our **VISION** is that Anchorage has the capacity to **thrive** and **survive** through **acute shocks** and **chronic stresses**

Fires, floods, earthquakes, erosion, freeze-thaw cycles



Unemployment, inadequate housing, poverty, poor infrastructure and communication networks, social and economic exclusion

Our efforts to create a more resilient community are instilled with the following shared **VALUES**



Six pillars organize and drive our resilience strategy:



Infrastructure

Infrastructure improves climate readiness, equity and wellbeing.



Energy

Anchorage is the most energy efficient city in the country.



Emergency Preparedness

Anchorage residents are prepared for emergencies.



Economic Opportunity

Economic opportunities and entrepreneurship in emerging economies are accessible to all residents.



Health + Wellbeing

Community health and wellness is a priority and protected.



Engaged Residents + Neighborhoods

Community members are engaged and vital partners in creating a welcoming and resilient Anchorage.

 **Infrastructure**

Vision: Infrastructure improves climate readiness, equity and wellbeing.

Values:

- Ensure infrastructure investments and improvements are designed to respond to changing environmental and equity needs.
- Provide diverse and affordable housing options, walkable neighborhoods and access to public transportation.
- Build green and accessible parks, public spaces, gardens and rain gardens.

 **Energy**

Vision: Anchorage is the most energy efficient city in the country.

Values:

- Ensure all municipal and government buildings are energy efficient and minimize greenhouse gas emissions.
- Diversify energy portfolio using geothermal, wind, solar, tidal and other renewable sources.
- Electrify the municipal vehicle fleet and build publicly accessible EV infrastructure.

 **Emergency Preparedness**

Vision: Anchorage residents are prepared for emergencies.

Values:

- Enable residents to respond to disasters and emergencies through accessible emergency planning material.
- Translate emergency resources into widely spoken languages.
- Stabilize fuel and food supply and diversify energy sources.



Economic Opportunity

Vision: Economic opportunities and entrepreneurship in emerging economies are accessible to all residents.

Values:

- Grow energy and knowledge economies in renewable technologies.
- Invest in renewable economies.
- Stem brain waste by creating job opportunities for new Americans and newcomers from rural villages.

Health + Wellness

Vision: Community health and wellness is a priority and protected.

Values:

- Create a stable and accessible food system for reliable supply of affordable, healthy, and culturally appropriate foods.
- Ensure proactive, accessible and affordable health care options including mental health and substance abuse treatment.
- Work with State of Alaska (SOA) to identify and implement action items from the SOA Climate Change Health Impact Assessment.

Engaged Residents + Neighborhoods

Vision: Community members are engaged and vital partners in creating a welcoming and resilient Anchorage.

Values:

- Integrate the voices and vision of residents in Climate Action Planning.
- Work with community based organizations to ensure participation in resilience and welcoming efforts.
- Develop communications strategy to inform residents on resilience.