MANDATORY CM PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Note: All the information provided below can be found on the APA website at:

https://planning.org/cm/credits/

Of the 32 CM credits required during the two-year reporting period, four topics are mandatory: law, ethics, equity, and sustainability/resilience. These four topics, equal to four credits, are required of AICP-certified planners because they are fundamental to how planning is practiced today. To be eligible for mandatory CM topic credit, a course must meet the criteria established for that topic.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MANDATORY TOPIC CREDITS
All mandatory credit education must meet the general requirements below in addition to the specific criteria for each topic linked above.

- Education must include application of the topic to the current (two-year CM reporting period) practice of planning.
- Education must meet a one-hour minimum per CM topic for a planning-related activity. (If offering credit for multiple mandatory topics in one activity, the activity length must one-hour per topic.)
- Speaker(s)/Panel must include at least one speaker who is AICP. (Educational activities related to the ethics mandatory credit must include a majority of speakers who are AICP.)
- Diversity of speakers is strongly encouraged, including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender identity, age, national origin, cultures, abilities, sectors, allied professions and other groups representing underrepresented backgrounds in urban planning and community development.
- Review CM Providers Resources and the CM Provider Toolkit for more detail about providing CM-eligible education for AICP-certified planners.

ETHICS

Ethics training has been required since the inception of the CM program in 2008. The Ethics CM requirement is the opportunity for planners to refresh their knowledge of the AICP Code of Ethics once every two years. All planners, regardless of where they work, have a primary obligation to serve the public interest. The Ethics session should help to further that purpose and maintain the integrity of the profession.

LEARNING AREAS AND CRITERIA
- Learning Areas: The AICP Code of Ethics
  - The mandatory Ethics CM credit must be focused on planning ethics and include a refresher of the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.

Speakers
Educational activities related to the Ethics mandatory credit must include a majority of speakers who are AICP.

Suggested Structure
The Ethics session should elicit self-reflection from participants and prompt them to consider how they might react to a situation or scenario. Ethics scenarios are not always settled but can contain a high level of nuance.

1. Overview of the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, including disclaimer statement* - Approximately 10–15 minutes
2. Overview of Ethics cases from the previous year (from Annual Report) - 5 minutes
3. Applications of the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Practice to current topics facing planners today, including discussion* - 35–40 minutes
4. Conclusion and guidance for where to get more info* - 5 minutes
   * Required for all Ethics sessions
Examples and Resources

THE AICP ETHICS CASE OF THE YEAR: The AICP Ethics Case of the Year is a presentation created each year by the AICP Ethics Committee and the AICP Ethics Officer. Each year's case is a series of ethical scenarios based on real-life planning issues from the past year including advisory opinions and complaints. Names and locations are changed but the substance of the cases is not. The Ethics Committee will ensure that each year at least one scenario will be focused on the ethics of equity and social justice. The Case of the Year normally debuts at the National Planning Conference, after which time it is available for presentation at chapter and section conferences throughout the year. The Case of the Year includes all of the information necessary to ensure that the presentation meets the requirements for the mandatory Ethics CM.

EXAMPLES OF TOPICS

The Ethics session can focus on a specific topic of the AICP Code of Ethics if the required elements (see above) are included. Topic examples include:

- The Aspirational Principles
- Ethics of social justice and racial equity
- Ethics of public engagement (including with BIPOC)
- Ethics specific to public-sector employees
- Ethics specific to private consultants
- Ethics of professional practice and commitment to the planning profession
- Ethics of advocacy — how to promote commitments to the Code of Ethics while protecting your job
- Ethics and the digital world
- Ethics of environmental protection

EXAMPLES OF APPROACHES

- PowerPoint presentation with polling of the audience sprinkled throughout
- Game show format, such as "Ethics Jeopardy"
- Break-out groups facilitated by AICP planners with knowledge of the Ethics Code

LAW

Law training has been required since the inception of the CM program in 2008. Law touches on virtually every aspect of planning, from citizen engagement (due process, the digital divide) to conducting meetings, drafting and interpreting regulations, and how the judicial system works.

LEARNING AREAS AND CRITERIA

Learning Areas

For an activity to qualify for Law credit:

- The content of the activity must be related to a functional area of planning law (such as land-use law, environmental law, housing law, constitutional law) or other area of law that has an impact on planning practice (e.g., practical implications of specific constitutional law challenges).
- The content must be based on and related to current trends in planning that require legal analysis or guidance, revisit older caselaw, or provide analysis of recent (within the last 10 years) legislative activity, laws, regulatory efforts, or court decisions affecting planning practice and policy, or having implications for planning practice.
- The legal elements must constitute a majority of the content and must highlight the critical points for planning in practice.

A Law credit course must present one or more of the following:

- Describe planning issues that make it to court and explain why—was it a policy problem, interpretation, procedural problem
- Explain what level or levels of law (federal, state, or local) was at issue, and how this might vary between states or types of cities
- Explain the practical effect and offer pointers for change or revisions to local planning practices; consider forms or ordinance examples to draw from
- Promote AICP values, including diversity and inclusion through the CM program
The format for a Law CM credit session will vary, and audience participation and a variety of formats are encouraged.

**Speakers/Panels**
Law credit educational activities must include at least one speaker who holds a law degree (JD) or is licensed as an attorney, and one speaker who is AICP.

**Examples and Resources**

**TOPIC EXAMPLES**
Some examples of topics that could qualify for a CM Law session:

- Ordinance drafting, interpretive and regulatory issues. What phrases and words have created problems in court, what limitations do planners need to be aware of (such as vague and overbroad terms, delegation of authority)?
- Federal and state court decision updates. This should specifically break down the case and identify clear takeaways for planners — what does it mean to their daily practice in applying, interpreting, or writing plans and regulations?
- Impact of specific cases on planning practice and regulation (e.g., constitutional issues such as religious freedom, free speech, takings and exactions, flood mitigation, protected land uses, transportation, fair housing).
- Legislative initiatives and efforts: these are more likely to be state-specific, but may include impacts to the planning profession for federal legislation.
- Specific topics may include: constitutional limitations on development, environmental controls on land use, zoning, and planning, the politics of development, alternative to public regulation (such as nuisance and covenants), transportation, regionalism, environmental justice, and the emerging debate over "smart growth."
- Ownership of systems and history and how they impact individuals and communities; the history of redlining and how to address this.

**RESOURCES**

APA Resources
- APA's Amicus Committee
- APA's Planning magazine Legal Lessons column
- APA's Research KnowledgeBase
- APA's Zoning Practice
- APA's Planning and Law Division
- Resource Page
- Other Resource Page

*Note: Resources may depend heavily on state and local caselaw and legislation, legal conferences, and state municipal or county league information sources.*

**Additional Resources and Organizations**
Planning and Law Division member blogs. This is a partial list; other blogs and publications may be accessed via the Resource Page link above.

- [http://landuselaw.wustl.edu/index.html](http://landuselaw.wustl.edu/index.html)
- [http://municipalminute.ancelglink.com](http://municipalminute.ancelglink.com)
- [https://www.rluipa-defense.com](https://www.rluipa-defense.com)
- [https://www.rockymountainsignlaw.com/author/bconnolly/](https://www.rockymountainsignlaw.com/author/bconnolly/)
- Law of the Land. A blog on land use law and zoning
- AARP Legal Issues
- American Bar Association State and Local Government resources
- National Poverty Law Center
- State Municipal League or State Municipal Attorney websites
- Zoning & Planning Law Report
EQUITY

Learning Areas
In order for an educational activity to qualify for Equity CM credit, it must address one of the areas below. Each area is followed by a description to assist CM Providers in fulfilling the requirement. The descriptions are adapted from the APA Equity Policy Guide.

- **Equity** — just and fair treatment in society in which all can participate and reach their full potential. Just and fair distribution of resources and improvements so that all people and communities can prosper.
- **Diversity** — awareness, understanding, and appreciation of our differences; the value of different perspectives and experiences such as race, ethnicity, culture, age, generation, immigration status, household type, family composition, disability, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and religious beliefs; identity and difference represented individually and collectively.
- **Inclusion** — the outcome of Equity and Social Justice work for all people. To be included and not excluded. Plan spaces and places where all people feel welcome, welcoming and inviting everyone to contribute and participate.

Speakers
Equity credit educational activities must include at least one speaker who is AICP. Diversity of speakers is strongly encouraged, including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender identity, age, national origin, cultures, abilities, sectors, allied professions, and other groups representing underrepresented backgrounds in urban planning and community development.

TOPIC EXAMPLES
The following are examples of topics that could qualify for the one-hour CM Equity credit activity:

**Race/Anti-racism**
- Anti-racism in action in plans, policies, projects, and regulations
- Racial injustice and discrimination in planning
- Racial and ethnic disparities (jobs, housing, education, public health)
- Bias (explicit, conscious, and unconscious) including white privilege and the resulting impact in the workplace, profession, and the general public

**Housing**
- Evictions and mortgage defaults
- Redlining, greenlining, displacement, and gentrification
- Unhoused and homeless
- Universal design principles in housing and public spaces
- Accessory dwelling units and aging in place

**Equity**
- Equity in practice such as parks and public spaces, health, mobility and transportation, education, and housing
- Equitable allocation of capital improvements as part of the Capital Improvement Plan, such as infrastructure and parks

**Diversity**
- Diversity and inclusion in practice in the workplace and in the practice of planning
- Environmental justice
- Social justice

**Inclusion**
- Planning with immigrants and refugees
- Public engagement with diverse communities including addressing access and language barriers
- Feeling safe and welcome in parks and public spaces
- Planning for inclusive communities, diverse populations, youth, the aged, and those with accessibility and other special health needs
- Religious land uses
- Voter suppression and gerrymandering; impacts of systematic exclusion in planning

**Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement/Police Reform**
- Incarceration disparities
- Impact of police brutality and criminal justice system on people and communities of color
• The role of planner as a component of the "police" or "policing" industrial complex
• Public protests as a means to policy changes
• Pros and cons of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Community Design (CPTED)

Planning History/Historical Context
• History of planning practices and the planners who supported them
• Examples include methods that had negative implications to communities of color including zoning, urban renewal plans, redlining, predatory lending, restrictive covenants, homeowner association documents, and Heirs property
• Historical planning contributions of planners of color and other traditionally disenfranchised people
• AICP Code of Ethics — Recognize our unique responsibility to eliminate historic patterns of inequity tied to planning decisions represented in documents such as zoning ordinances and land use plans (A 3 (a))
• The disproportionate impacts of pandemics, such as COVID-19, on communities of color
• HIV/AIDS: Housing opportunities for people living with AIDS, planning for the facility needs of drug injection users and needle exchange programs, disproportionate and ongoing impacts of HIV/AIDS on communities of color, demographic impacts of HIV/AIDS leading to a missing generation of LGBTQ+ elders
• Zip codes: How life expectancy and other indicators are not due to genetic differences but to where we live
• Public health/health equity/health outcomes/social determinants of health
• Age: concerning housing and access to public spaces Gender Identity/Transgender Rights
• Gender and transportation: street harassment and gender identity, perceptions of safety with active modes of transportation, commuting patterns by gender, transportation "pink tax": how women often pay more for transit options for safety reasons
• Gender and zoning: the impacts of modern zoning codes on work-life balance; the impacts of modern zoning codes on work-life balance and ability to have home-based occupations or multigenerational housing (more women are caregivers than men), gender mainstreaming of policies and codes (how-to)
• Gender and wealth: Addressing the planning salary gap, how family-friendly workplace policies support gender equality
• Gender and data: Historic lack of women's input in the built environment and consequences, the need for planners to collect gender information and determine preferences by gender, how gender bias is built into AI and smart cities, etc.
• Gender and public participation: Time, location, format of public meetings, and ability of women (particularly caregivers) to fully participate

KEY TERMS
• Anti-racism — The policy or practice of opposing racism and promoting racial tolerance (Oxford Dictionary)
• BIPOC — Acronym for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color
• Cultural Competency — Skill development for work across cultural lines (Adapted from https://nccc.georgetown.edu/curricula/culturalcompetence.html)
• Environmental Justice — The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies (EPA)
• Greenlining — Efforts aimed at increasing investment in neighborhoods which have been redlined or are otherwise disadvantaged (Lexico/Oxford)
• Individual/Interpersonal Racism — Prejudgment, bias, stereotypes, or generalizations about an individual or group based on race. The impacts of racism on individuals — white people and people of color (internalized privilege and oppression). Individual racism can result in illegal discrimination. (City of Seattle Race & Social Justice Initiative)
• Institutional Racism — Policies, practice, and procedures that work to the benefit of white people and the detriment of people of color, usually unintentionally or inadvertently (City of Seattle Race & Social Justice Initiative)
• Intersectionality — The interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class, and gender as they apply to a given individual or group, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage. (Oxford Dictionary). This term was coined by Black feminist scholar and professor Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw in 1989 to explain how overlapping vulnerabilities created by systems of discrimination and disempowerment create specific kinds of challenges (Racial Equity Tools). For example, a Black woman who is a lesbian must deal with the intersectionality of dealing with racial, gender, and homophobic discrimination or bias.
• POC — acronym for People of Color
• Privilege — Privilege exists when one group has something of value that is denied to others simply because of group membership and not based on what a person or group has done or failed to do. (National Association of School Psychologists)

• Redlining — The practice of refusing to give mortgages to African Americans or extracting unusually severe terms from them with subprime loans. The Homeowners' Loan Corporation created color-coded maps of every metropolitan area in the nation, with the safest neighborhoods colored green and the riskiest colored red. (The Color of Law)

• Social Justice — the view that everyone deserves equal economic, political, and social rights and opportunities (SD Foundation)

• Structural Racism — The interplay of policies, practices, and programs of differing institutions that leads to adverse outcomes and conditions for communities of color compared to white communities that occurs within the context of racialized historical and cultural conditions. (City of Seattle Race & Social Justice Initiative)

• Unconscious Bias (implicit bias) — Social stereotypes about certain groups of people that individuals form outside their own conscious awareness. (https://diversity.llnl.gov/about/bias) Everyone holds unconscious beliefs about various social and identity groups, and these biases stem from one's tendency to organize social worlds by categorizing. A strong feeling in favor of or against one group of people, or one side in an argument, often not based on fair judgment (Lexico/Oxford).

RESOURCES

• APA Resources
• AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct (revised November 2021)
• APA Equity Resources
• APA Healthy Communities Policy Guide
• APA Planning Advisory Service Report 593. 2019. Planning with Diverse Communities. Ivis García, AICP, PhD, Andrea Garfinkel-Castro, and Deirdre Pfeiffer, AICP, PhD.
• APA's Planning and the Black Community Division
• Additional Resources and Organizations
• Active Living Research
• AARP
• Annie E. Casey Foundation
• Center for Social Inclusion
• ChangeLab Solutions
• Congressional Black Caucus
• Creating Healthy Places Guidebook, University of Colorado Denver's College of Architecture and Planning
• Dream Defenders
• Equal Justice Initiative
• Ford Foundation Center for Social Justice
• Gerrymandering
• Inclusive Action for the City
• Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
• League of United Latin American Citizens
• M4BL: The Movement for Black Lives
• Policy Guides from the Movement for Black Lives
• NAACP
• National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
• National Center for Transgender Equality
• National Council of Negro Women
• National LGBTQ Task Force
• National Urban League
• PolicyLink
• Prevention Institute
• Race Forward
• Southern Poverty Law Center
• Transportation Research and Education Center, Portland State University
SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE
In the fall of 2019, the AICP Commission approved the establishment of a mandatory targeted topic CM credit. The first targeted topic is Sustainability and Resilience. Planning for sustainability means balancing social, economic, and environmental resources, incorporating resilience, and linking local actions to regional and global concerns. Planning for resilience means supporting the capacity of individuals, communities, and systems to survive, adapt, and thrive in the face of chronic stresses and acute shocks and even transform when conditions require it.

LEARNING AREAS AND CRITERIA
Coursework in the AICP Sustainability and Resilience CM Targeted Credit Program must instruct within at least one of the following sustainability OR resilience learning areas. Instruction on a topic, tool, or project MUST integrally consider the equity, diversity, and inclusion implications for disadvantaged communities and convey relevant facts and analysis to attendees.

Sustainability Learning Areas
- Livable Built Environment: Ensuring that all elements of the built environment, including land use, transportation, housing, energy, and infrastructure, work together to provide sustainable, green places for living, working, and recreation, with a high quality of life
- Harmony with Nature: Ensuring that the contributions of natural resources to human well-being are explicitly recognized and valued and that protecting them, maintaining their health, and leveraging them are primary objectives
- Sustainable Economy: Ensuring that the community is prepared to deal with changes in its economic health and to initiate sustainable urban development and redevelopment strategies which foster workforce development and job opportunity in new, green industries as well as promote a circular economy which utilizes clean, affordable energy sources
- Interwoven Equity: Ensuring fairness, inclusiveness, and equity in providing for the housing, services, health, education, safety, and livelihood needs of all residents and populations, thereby reducing poverty and inequality while advancing peace and justice in our communities
- Healthy Community: Ensuring that public health needs are recognized and addressed through provisions for healthy foods, physical activity, access to recreation, health care, environmental justice, and safe neighborhoods
- Responsible Regionalism: Ensuring that all local proposals account for, connect with, and support the plans of adjacent jurisdictions and the surrounding region
- Sustainable Development & Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction: Ensuring that new buildings, projects, and communities are developed in such a way to minimize negative impacts on air quality and stormwater, reduce GHG emissions and environmental pollution

Resilience Learning Areas
- Best Practices in Resilience: Creating policies and multidisciplinary processes that integrate planning principles with the best current science, engineering, and innovation, leading to transformation and equitable outcomes
- Data and Predictive Models: Assuring easy, consistent, and affordable access to community and regional data to support planning for the future
- Resilience Standards: Developing resilience standards and a resilience lens throughout planning, design, development, and implementation processes
- Equity as an Essential Element of Resilience: Ensuring that all resilience policies and programs strive for equitable and inclusive outcomes, in recognition that residents and stakeholders who experience demographic, geographic, economic, or environmental disparities are also disproportionally vulnerable to impacts of shocks and stresses
- Resilience Finance: Expanding on programs such as the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS), which provide economic incentives for communities and property owners who mitigate for hazards, or resilience bonds that support increased physical protection and financial insurance against disasters
- Public Education and Involvement in Resilience: Educating community leaders and residents of all ages on the interrelated issues of hazard/climate risk reduction, mitigation, adaptation, sustainability, responsible consumption and production, and social determinants of health
• Adaptation of the Built Environment: Investing in and building infrastructure improvements and land-use modifications that will allow communities to respond proactively and sustainably to changing environmental, economic, and social conditions
• Preparedness, Response, and Recovery for Shocks and Stresses: Planning for resilient logistical, fiscal, and economic responses to shocks and stresses as well as an inclusive approach to disaster preparation, response, and recovery. Supporting legislation, regulation, and land-use authority that will direct the development and implementation of coordinated resilience and risk reduction measures
• Protection of Vulnerable People, Places, and Systems: Identifying vulnerable people, places, and systems, devising strategies with stakeholder input to mitigate hazard impacts, and ensuring full and rigorous implementation that promotes equity and protects vulnerable populations and assets
• Natural and Nature-Based Solutions for Resilience: Developing green infrastructure solutions that mimic nature, minimize environmental damage, and address flooding, urban heat, air quality, and quality of life
• Public Health as an Element of Resilience: Explicitly addressing public health/social determinants of health considerations in natural and man-made resilience and sustainability planning, community engagement, and implementation.

**Topic Examples**

In addition to originating in at least one of the Learning Areas above, coursework provided under the AICP Sustainability and Resilience (S&R) CM Targeted Credit Program must also build knowledge about at least one of the following 12 topics (or sub-topics thereof).

**Disruptors of S&R**

- Climate phenomena and science, including global warming, sea level rise, storm intensity, etc.
- Extreme natural hazards, including hurricanes, tornados, wildfires, earthquakes, flooding and/or drought, excessive heat, etc.

**Addressing Climate Change**

- Climate change adaptation, such as green infrastructure, transit-oriented development, infill development, or complete streets
- Climate change mitigation, such as alternative energy and infrastructure/utility modalities, life-cycle assessment in building and development, green building and design, regenerative building, hazard zone designation, or waste reduction

**Strategies Advancing S&R**

- Social equity, such as institutional, political, and economic strategies advancing equity; environmental justice; mitigating gentrification/displacement
- Public health issues and outcomes, such as strategies to address epidemics and health issues such as infant mortality, and obesity, addiction, and life expectancy
- Economic strategies, addressing the rise or collapse of key industries; changes in financial, regulatory, or tax systems; changes in wealth distribution
- Preparedness strategies addressing shocks and stresses to community and environment

**Tools & Mechanisms for S&R**

- Policy tools and development that promote strategic change and/or regulatory improvement
- Finance tools, such as tax incentives, subsidy, (revolving) loan programs, grants, bonds, trade programs, public-private partnerships
- Technology tools, such as breakthroughs in energy generation and distribution, communications/sm art city monitoring, or transportation

**Multidimensional Interaction for S&R**

- Interdisciplinary approaches, such as approaches that span many disciplines and sectors and are improved by interdisciplinary coordination — from environmental psychology to ecology, from public health to landscape architecture, from the built environment to the natural environment

**Speakers**

Speakers or groups presenting sessions that qualify for the Sustainability and Resilience CM Credit must include one speaker who is either AICP or FAICP. Speakers must be subject matter experts, thought leaders, or have...
substantial experience in the sustainability and resilience field, including within the learning areas or topic areas that are the primary presentation subject as described in the Sustainability and Resilience CM Credit Criteria. A session's speakers should collectively have a breadth of experience in implementation as well as theoretical and/or academic experience.

Not all speakers need to be AICP or FAICP. Depending on the specific topic, speakers from other disciplines or related fields may be equally if not better qualified to present on a specific topic. Speakers should have presentation, including conference presentation, experience. Consistent with APA policies regarding diversity, inclusion, and equity, speakers from diverse sectors, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, national origin, cultures, abilities, and other groups representing underrepresented backgrounds are encouraged.

RESOURCES

APA Resources

- APA Climate Change Policy Guide, 2020. (Sources for this document include, but are not limited to, the IPCC 2018 Special Report on Global Warming, the Fourth National Climate Assessment, the Ellen MacArthur Foundation Circular Economy Model, the USDA Forest Service Climate Change Tree Atlas 2020, and APA Sustaining Places PAS Report 576). The "Sustainability Learning Areas" were adapted from this source.
- APA Hazard Mitigation Policy Guide, 2020. (Sources for this document include, but are not limited to, the FEMA National Disaster Recovery Framework (Second Edition 2016), FEMA Local Mitigation Planning handbook (2013), and the APA's Planning for Post-Disaster Recovery PAS Report 576. The criteria in "Resilience Learning Areas" and "hazard mitigation" definitions were adapted from this source.
- APA PAS Report 578 Sustaining Places: Best Practices for Comprehensive Plans by David R. Godschalk, FAICP, and David C. Rouse, FAICP, 2015. The "sustainability" and "climate adaptation" definitions as well as the "Sustainability Learning Areas" of these criteria originated from this source.
- APA Research KnowledgeBase Collection: Social Equity. Resource limited to APA members.

Additional Resources

- Biomap
- Ecosystem Services (Research Program of Climate Change and Food Security, CGIAR (formerly the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research), 2014 and ongoing, Wageningen University & Research, Wageningen, the Netherlands)
- Fourth National Climate Assessment
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 10/2018 Special Report on Global Warming
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Data Distribution Centre Glossary. The "greenhouse gas" definition is adapted from this source.
- Ellen MacArthur Foundation
- Ellen MacArthur Foundation City Resilience Framework, updated December 2015, and 100 Resilient Cities. The resilience definition was adapted from this source.
- Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs: Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program
- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

KEY TERMS
• Climate Adaptation — Adjusting natural and human systems to projected impacts such as sea level rise and increased frequencies of extreme weather events as well as long-term shifts in precipitation levels, growing season length, and native vegetation and wildlife populations. Successful adaptation strategies reduce community vulnerability and minimize adverse effects on the environment, economy, and public health.

• Diversity — Awareness, understanding, and appreciation of our differences; the value of different perspectives and experiences such as race, ethnicity, culture, age, generation, immigration status, household type, family composition, disability, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and religious beliefs. Identity and difference represented individually and collectively.

• Equity — Just and fair treatment in society in which all can participate and reach their full potential. Just and fair distribution of resources and improvements so that all people and communities can prosper.

• Green Infrastructure — A strategically planned and managed network of wilderness, parks, greenways, conservation easements, and working lands with conservation value, typically at the regional scale (Benedict and McMahon, Green Infrastructure: Linking Landscapes and Communities, Island Press, 2006) and also more specifically a stormwater management approach that mimics natural hydrologic processes, typically at the local and site scales (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). Common to both definitions is the notion that green infrastructure provides environmental, economic, and social co-benefits.

• Greenhouse Gas (GHG) — Gaseous constituent of the atmosphere, either natural or anthropogenic, that absorbs and emits radiation at specific wavelengths within the spectrum of thermal infrared radiation emitted by the Earth's surface, the atmosphere itself, and by clouds, causing the greenhouse effect (warming of the atmosphere). Water vapor, carbon dioxide (CO2), nitrous oxide (N2O), methane (CH4) and ozone (O3) are the primary greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere.

• Hazard Mitigation — A series of actions that lessen the severity or intensity of a natural or man-made hazard when it strikes.

• Inclusion — The outcome of equity and social justice work for all people. To be included and not excluded. Plan spaces and places where all people feel welcome, welcoming and inviting everyone to contribute and participate.