



North Suffolk Office of Resilience and Sustainability, MA

Social Vulnerability and Equity Assessment

Project Summary

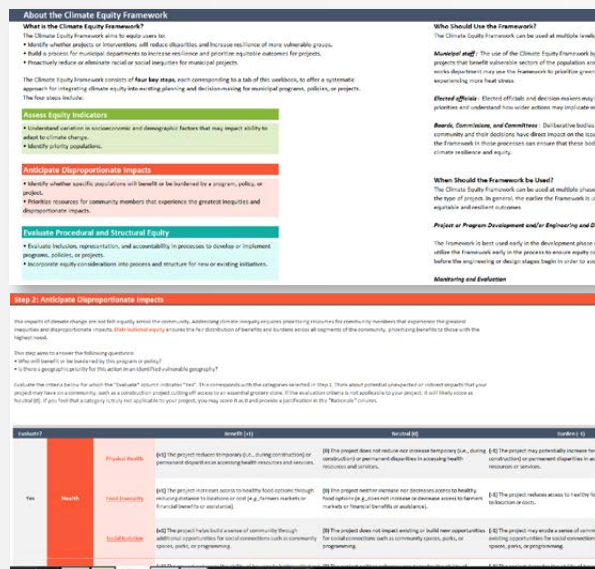
KLA worked with the North Suffolk Office of Resilience and Sustainability (NSORS) in Massachusetts to assess climate vulnerability of the communities of Revere, Winthrop, and Chelsea, which informed the development of a Climate Equity Framework. The Framework was designed to help North Suffolk communities identify which segments of the population are likely to benefit from or be disparately harmed by a proposed project by measuring the project's equity.

Timeline: February 2022 - June 2022

Project Highlight

The Climate Equity Framework is an Excel-based tool that allows municipal staff to evaluate the potential of a proposed or existing project to enhance equity. The Framework creates a process to assess socioeconomic and demographic factors that may impact a population's ability to adapt to climate change; score evaluation criteria to anticipate disproportionate impacts and evaluate procedural and structural equity; and identify opportunities to advance equity and mitigate negative impacts.

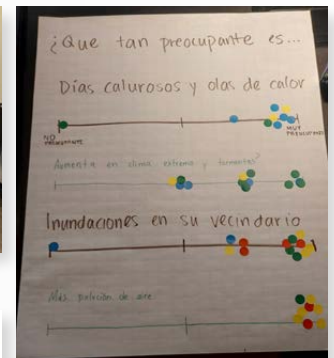
Climate Equity Framework Excerpts



Activities & Outcomes

- Assessment of social and climate vulnerability of Winthrop, Revere, and Chelsea through review of existing reports and development of a social vulnerability index
- Design and delivery of an equitable engagement process including a roundtable with community-based organizations, a public survey, and two in-person focus groups for seniors and Spanish-speaking residents
- Design of a Climate Equity Framework focused on enhancing equity of future plans and projects
- Delivery of a virtual training for municipal staff to use the Framework and institutionalize concepts of resilience and equity

Community Engagement Activities: Senior Focus Group (top left); Spanish Focus Group Activity (right); Community Organization Roundtable Virtual Activity (bottom left)



The community members I work with face the following challenges on a regular basis:

