

Seed Project Plan

Seed Projects are a way for communities to jump-start or continue to make progress towards one or more of their community resilience priorities. A wide variety of activities could be implemented – ranging from installing a rain garden, to launching a food justice council, to incorporating resilience into zoning policies. Seed Projects have a budget of up to \$50,000, and communities will receive guaranteed funding to implement their project with no local funding match required.

In Part A of the Seed Project Plan, you will **1) identify potential Seed Project actions** to advance your updated resilience priorities, **2) develop an idea for a Seed Project** that you can complete in the following year, and **3) vet that Seed Project** with community members, particularly those who will be most affected by climate change. The goal of this process is not only to design a project that will directly support community resilience, but also to build capacity within your community or region to collaborate on developing resilience solutions.

In Part B of the Seed Project Plan, you will **build out an implementation plan** for your Seed Project. This process helps take the vision for the project and make it actionable by mapping out the tasks and deliverables, timeline, budget, and how you will monitor and measure the success of the project over time. The process of completing Parts A and B **should help when applying for an MVP Action Grant or other implementation funding in the future.**

For help in thinking about types of projects and approaches, explore the [Example Seed Projects](#). Additionally, check out the [GEAR online tool](#), select the guides most relevant to your community resilience priority, and explore the “Actions to Consider” and “Case Studies” for more ideas.

For more guidance on selecting a Seed Project, see Step 6 in the MVP 2.0 Process Guide.

Part A: Seed Project Selection

Translating Priorities to Action

To get started...

Select one of your community resilience priorities as a starting point. After completing the questions below for that priority, work through the same process for another priority. This document can be used as many times as needed to arrive at a project your Core Team would like to implement. Feel free to adapt it so that it works for you.

Aims and Actions

1.1 Which community resilience priority are you focusing on? (Refer back to your Resilience Priorities Guide.)

Housing: specifically cost burden of housing in South Hadley

1.2 What outcomes are you hoping to achieve by addressing that priority? Be specific; there may be several outcomes you want to achieve.

1. Establish Affordable Housing Trust: A local housing trust allows municipalities to collect funds for affordable housing, segregate them out of the general municipal budget into a trust fund, and use the funds for local initiatives to create and preserve affordable housing.

2. Provide funding for an affordable housing project (design/engineering, legal costs, feasibility study, site acquisition, etc.)

1.3 Why do these outcomes matter? How will achieving those outcomes support a more resilient community today and as the climate continues to change?

Residents accurately noted during community engagement sessions that without basic needs met, including housing, people often cannot even consider the impending impacts of climate change.

If residents are housed, they may be able to be more active in climate efforts.

As extreme heat worsens, residents being housed and out of direct sunlight is a great thing to avoid unnecessary suffering.

1.4 Where are you starting from? What resources, skills, knowledge, or capacity already exist that can be built upon?

The Town completed an update to their Housing Production Plan in November 2023. The plan establishes goals for affordable housing in the community and a detailed action plan. Establishing an Affordable Housing Trust is among the top priorities identified. To this end, a different group of residents have been discussing their desire to work on establishing the Trust, and identifying a funding source to capitalize it, which may include initiating a campaign to adopt the Community Preservation Act, separate from this MVP 2.0 project. Our new project can build on this effort.

[Housing Production Plan | South Hadley, MA - Official Website](#)

In addition to the HPP update, we also conducted a public outreach component which was a three part housing speaker series. This recorded webinar series featured an affordable housing policy expert, affordable housing developer, and other local advocate (e.g. AHT member) from communities around Massachusetts to educate the community on all aspects of affordable housing and breakdown misperceptions about what these developments look like, who lives there, who qualifies for housing,

and some of the nuts and bolts of funding and building a project.

[What is Affordable Housing? | South Hadley, MA - Official Website](#)

South Hadley currently has a grant to continue the housing speaker series with a 4th webinar called “The Lived Experience”. This will be a short film with interviews from three families that live in affordable housing developments.

Last, we are also evaluating our current zoning and identifying amendments to incentivize affordable housing.

1.5 What actions are needed to achieve the outcomes you outlined? What steps are involved?

- Will addressing this priority involve changes to policies or standards? Building new relationships or partnerships? Launching a new program or initiative? Training or skill development? Physical infrastructure investments? Another approach?
- Who should be involved? What steps would be necessary for it to be an effective collaboration?
- What capabilities do we need to build or improve within the town or city or within our community to achieve these outcomes?

Describe the components that will play a role.

This project will involve developing and submitting a new housing trust bylaw. We will develop an RFP to contract with a vendor for \$20,000 to guide the process. We will do community engagement to identify members of the Housing Board of Trustees who will take the project forward. Our tasks will include

- a. Task 1: Develop and submit a housing trust bylaw to the Attorney General
- b. Task 2: Establish a Board of Trustees
- c. Task 3: Record a Declaration of Trust
- d. Task 4: Set-up the trust fund account; and identify potential

sources of funding

- e. Task 5: Establish annual reporting and public communications plan
- f. Task 6: Identify housing priorities
- g. Task 7: Set a budget
- h. Task 8: Determine operating approach
- i. Task 9: Issue an RFP to offer a small grant (\$30,000) for costs associated with a local deed-restricted affordable housing project (e.g. design/engineering, land acquisition, legal costs, etc.)

Tip: For help in thinking about types of activities and approaches for building resilience, check out the [GEAR online tool](#), select the guides most relevant to your community resilience priority, and explore the “Actions to Consider” and “Case Studies.” Additionally, explore the [Example Seed Projects](#) for more ideas.

Levels of Adaptation Strategies

Consider the “Levels of Adaptation Strategies” below. Approaches across all three levels are necessary for addressing climate hazards, and the categories are often complementary and overlapping. That being said, the goal of the MVP program is to support communities with **preventative adaptation** and, most importantly (and most likely to score highly in future MVP Action Grant applications), **transformative adaptation**. Working at these levels provides a much greater capacity to address climate change in proactive, long-lasting, and systemic ways.

Levels of Adaptation Strategies
Adapted from C40 Knowledge Hub

1. **Reactive adaptation** fights the immediate consequences of climate hazards, protecting and restoring people's health, quality of life, and city or town systems *during and immediately after* climate-related disasters. Reactive adaptation actions might include a temporary increase in frontline hospital services during a heatwave, rolling out sandbags to divert water during a flood, employing an emergency communication system, or temporary water purchasing during a drought. Reactive adaptation can be rapidly effective in the short term, but the benefits are short-lived. The costs can be high if repeated interventions are needed and interventions may be insufficient to deal with future climate hazards. Reactive adaptation can be thought of similarly to emergency management or emergency preparedness.
2. **Preventative adaptation** reduces the negative consequences of climate hazards, aiming to protect people's health, quality of life, and city or town systems to *avoid* those hazard events becoming disasters. Actions include the construction of coastal protections, expanding public community spaces with energy-efficient air conditioning, planting trees or installing green spaces in areas with a lot of pavement, launching educational campaigns related to climate risk, or implementing policies for water conservation, for example. Preventative adaptation options tend to be relatively expensive in the medium-longer term and may not be sufficient to mitigate the community's future climate risks. However, they are effective at reducing near-term risk and are often relatively straightforward to plan, as they use well-established methods and technologies. Preventative adaptation in some senses can be thought of similarly to hazard mitigation.
3. **Transformative adaptation** tackles the root causes of climate risk and vulnerability, making the impact of climate hazards less likely or severe through fundamental changes to the community's fabric and systems. Transformative adaptation includes changing the way

streetscapes are designed to include safer and more accessible transportation options while incorporating green infrastructure that reduces urban heat and the risk of flooding, expanding and protecting resilient and affordable housing options, using public space for community gardens and food forests that focus on expanding food justice, implementing building codes that require high energy efficiency and cool roofs, or expanding job training or workforce development to build new capacity in climate resilience-related jobs. Transformative adaptation actions most effectively address climate risk and reduce the need for reactive and preventative measures, with additional benefits for the city or town and its residents. Because the design and implementation of transformative adaptation measures are more complex and require inputs from a wide range of stakeholders, the upfront implementation costs tend to be higher, but they are often the cheaper approach in the long term. Transformative adaptation is also referred to as building climate resilience.

The definitions above were adapted from the C40 Knowledge Hub. The C40 Knowledge Hub is a resource for municipal governments wanting to act on climate change. The site curates a set of resources, practical information, and tools to support decision-makers. The Knowledge Hub is populated and maintained by the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group. For more information see: c40knowledgehub.org

1.6 Consider each of the actions you outlined in the previous question. Where do they fall in the Levels of Adaptation Strategies?

The actions to implement a housing trust are aligned with transformative adaptation. It's preventative since it comes from a root cause perspective to think about how can we increase the availability of affordable housing options given the shortage and expense of existing stock. Housing is key for climate resilience.

The \$20,000 for a project planning phase seems aligned with what was

outlined above, though hopefully it will get the ball rolling on a specific project in the short term.

1.7 What opportunities stand out for preventative or transformative adaptation? Are there ways to modify a strategy so that it is more transformative? In particular, consider how you might build new capability, or change systems or ways of doing things in your community or region, in order to achieve transformative adaptation.

This project is a strong one. We will modify the standard housing trust strategy to ensure that the housing trust considers climate resilience and green technology as factors in soliciting and funding projects ahead, as proposed and discussed in our community engagement.

Narrowing in on a Seed Project

Based on your answers above, propose a potential Seed Project that involves executing some or all of the steps described. Consider what could be accomplished in 9-10 months with funding up to \$50,000. In some instances, a Seed Project may accomplish the first phase of a longer project that could be later funded through an Action Grant or other implementation funding source. Again, explore the [Example Seed Projects](#) for project examples.

2.1 Give a brief overview of your Seed Project idea. What would be the primary steps or components?

Tasks 1-8: \$20,000

We will issue an RFP to hire an experienced consultant to work with us to establish the Trust.

Task 1: Develop and submit a housing trust bylaw to the Attorney General

Task 2: Establish a Board of Trustees and conduct community engagement to identify members representing key populations who are most impacted by climate concerns.

Task 3: Record a Declaration of Trust

Task 4: Set-up the trust fund account; and identify potential sources of funding

Task 5: Establish annual reporting and public communications plan

Task 6: Identify housing priorities, including climate resilience and green energy technology.

Task 7: Set a budget

Task 8: Determine operating approach

Task 9: Issue an RFP to offer a small grant (\$30,000) for costs associated with a local deed-restricted affordable housing project (e.g. design/engineering, land acquisition, legal costs, etc.) This would be the first project of the Trust and serve as a pilot project for implementation of their priorities and operating approach.

2.2 Are there any required permitting or regulatory approval processes that could prevent this project from being completed within a year? If so, please either select a piece of the project that does not require extensive regulatory approval or select a different Seed Project.

No. At Town Meeting in 2016, the Town adopted the State enabling legislation that allows them to create an Affordable Housing Trust (MGL Chapter 44, Section 55C). Thereafter, attempts to adopt the Community Preservation Act failed twice at Town Meeting, which then stymied the Town's efforts to get an AHT established and operating. Fast forward to 2024 and there is great enthusiasm and well documented need to establish an AHT and utilize that Board to advocate for and support the development of affordable housing in the community.

Centering Equity

“Centering equity” means focusing on the needs and priorities of people who will be most affected by climate change, specifically EJ and other priority populations. It also means making sure that project decisions are led or shaped by people who will be most affected. By centering equity, projects are better able to address the root causes of vulnerability, and better able to reduce the disproportionate harm caused by climate change.

2.3 Who stands to benefit most from this Seed Project? If the answer is “everyone,” consider how the project may reinforce the way that climate change affects certain populations more than others. How could this project be modified to focus on the needs of people who will be most affected by climate change in order to reduce the disproportionate harm?

Those most impacted would be low income individuals seeking affordable housing, which was the most commonly identified concern in our community engagement efforts. This includes older adults, low income and communities of color and could focus on EJ neighborhood in South Hadley Falls.

2.4 What outcomes are you looking for by taking that approach?

We are seeking to address the dearth of affordable housing and the economic and health impacts of not having safe and healthy housing.

2.5 How will insight and expertise from the community, and specifically from EJ and other priority populations and those who will be most impacted by the project, shape the decisions made in this project? Based on your answer, who should be a project partner or advisor in designing and implementing this project?

We will build on the community engagement and connections made by our Core Team as we recruit Housing Trust members. Our Core Team will spread the word and we will outreach to additional organizations including Friends of Council on Aging, Housing Authority and other affordable housing development, South Hadley Falls Neighborhood Association, and new connections made through this process, including church, South Hadley Family Center, School district.

Our Housing Trust Board of Trustees will be the key partner and we will seek TA from MA Housing Partnership and CHAPA.

2.6 Who are additional stakeholders and contributors to the project? Who might have complementary knowledge, skills, or resources that can support project objectives?

South Hadley has several existing boards and committees that have expressed interest in seeing an Affordable Housing Trust established, and could be supportive stakeholders and contributors:

- Human Rights Commission
- Commission on Disabilities
- Council on Aging
- Planning Board

Using Climate Projections

Climate hazards—such as rising temperatures, more extreme storms, and flooding—will continue to increase over the coming decades.

Consequently, designing and constructing neighborhoods, buildings, and infrastructure based on current climate conditions will no longer be sufficient. Similarly, the way we manage and care for ecosystems will need to account for how environmental conditions will shift, and the resources, services, or capabilities people and organizations will need in order to contend with these changes will need to evolve, too. Considering climate projections for your region in the design and implementation of resilience projects can make sure that the project is accounting for future conditions.

2.7 What time horizon is most relevant to your project? (What is the “lifespan” of your project?) How is the climate projected to change over that time frame for your region?

It will take the 12 months to form the trust, recruit and start the Board of Trustees and identify funding source(s). Thereafter the trust will operate in perpetuity to support the construction of affordable housing that is energy efficient and focused on green technology.

2.8 In what ways will this project account for the changes we can expect over the timeframe relevant to this project? How will decisions on this project be informed by climate projections for your region? If the project is focused on a specific site and includes physical assets (e.g., a building,

infrastructure, natural resources) how will the project use the preliminary risk rating and recommended design standards from the [RMAT Climate Resilience Design Standards Tool](#)?

The housing trust will be set up to be flexible to address and support climate resilience as an ongoing and long term so as climate change impacts increase, this project can continue to support the community to have affordable housing that is energy efficient and focuses on alternative green energy.

Integrating Ecosystem and Community Health

Our health and wellbeing are connected to and interdependent with the health and wellbeing of natural systems. Healthy natural systems (such as forests, wetlands, bodies of water, and street trees) play a big role in supporting physical and mental health, providing clean air and water, reducing the impact of climate hazards (such as flooding and high temperatures), and slowing climate change by removing and storing carbon out of the atmosphere. By protecting, restoring, or expanding the health of natural systems, ecosystems are better able to adapt to climate stresses, and better able to support community resilience.

2.9 In what ways could this project protect, restore, or expand the health of ecosystems to support community resilience? In what ways could this project provide the tools, frameworks, or ways of thinking (such as through regulations, design guidelines, curriculum development, or knowledge sharing) to support these same aims?

Adding in a focus on climate resilience and green energy technology will mean that the affordable housing projects funded through the AHT will address community health and ecosystem. Projects could be encouraged to take into account the need for shade trees or other landscaping to address heat and potential flooding. Housing improvements could address asthma triggers or lead paint abatement to improve health. Adding in mini-splits and solar could address heat and energy concerns. The guidelines for the trust will be developed to consider these climate and health issues.

2.10 What outcomes are you looking for by taking that approach?

Additional affordable housing to address the current needs, improved and more resilient housing that can address the extreme heat and potential flooding or mold issues related to climate change.

Considering impacts across local and regional scales

The effects of climate change on communities, health and social services, local economies, neighborhoods, and ecosystems often have regional implications. Oftentimes it may make sense to work across municipal boundaries to address a challenge more holistically. In instances when a particular risk is best addressed at the local level, there may be opportunities for other communities to learn from your experience.

2.11 What are the potential impacts of this project at the neighborhood scale? At the town or city scale? At a regional scale? How would adjusting the design of the project (or who is involved) influence the impact at those scales?

This project will focus on low income communities with a priority for the EJ community of South Hadley Falls. This will reach the priority populations in the town.

2.12 If impacts are local, only, what resources, approaches, or information from the project can be shared for regional benefit?

Adapting the Housing Trust Fund to address climate resilience and green energy needs would provide the state and other communities a blueprint for addressing both housing and climate resilience. This will be an important advance to share across the commonwealth.

At this point, you are encouraged to go back to the beginning of this plan document to complete the first two sections for another priority. If you have already completed the questions for each of your top priorities, work together as a Core Team to select and move forward with a Seed Project idea. Consider which projects might be most feasible in the upcoming year, which projects could set the stage for future efforts (including future Action Grants), and how well the potential projects could create measurable impact towards your community resilience priorities.

Specify which Seed Project you plan to move forward with below.

Seed Project Name:

Establish an Affordable Housing Trust

Brief Description:

We will work with a consultant to set up the Trust and get it operational (\$20,000). As their first pilot project, we will issue a \$30,000 grant to support the development of an affordable housing project in South Hadley (e.g. design/engineering, land acquisition, legal costs, etc.)

Tip: In specific instances, you could identify more than one project to vet with community members or create a process whereby Environmental Justice and other priority populations decide which project to pursue.

Vetting your Seed Project

Once you have selected a Seed Project, move forward with vetting the project with the community. Vetting the Seed Project provides the opportunity to ask:

- Did we “get it right?” Does this Seed Project effectively work towards our community resilience priorities?
- What will be important to consider as we develop the implementation plan for this Seed Project?

Use the Engagement Plan to design an approach for vetting your Seed Project idea, specifically with community members who will be most affected by climate change or community members who will be most impacted by the project. Attach any documentation or notes from your engagement activities below.

3.1 What feedback did you hear? Outline any modifications or additional considerations you will incorporate into your Seed Project based on the feedback you heard.

In selecting this priority seed project, residents accurately noted during community engagement sessions that without basic needs met, including housing, people often cannot even consider the impending impacts of climate change. If residents are housed, they may be able to be more

active in planning and address climate resilience. As extreme heat worsens, residents being housed and out of direct sunlight is a great thing to avoid unnecessary suffering.

After a presentation on the specifics of the AHT, Community Liaisons had this feedback:

- South Hadley doesn't feel right for large projects of 70 units. Rehab may work best here, or other creative ideas.
- AHT project should consider the need for connection to transportation.
- Undeveloped land not connected to public transit might not be viable option.
- Consider land where there are old/collapsed factories instead.
- Helpful to have a vision for 10,15,20 years out and keep in mind information on flood plains, etc.
- Reference the Housing Production Plan
- Purchase homes, renovate, add deed affordability restriction, a lottery for housing seems like good ideas in SH
- Add optional donation line on quarterly tax bill could be funding source
- Trust could be a landlord or management company to help seniors/others without capacity to manage rentals but have space for other housing.
- "Trust can't take no for an answer. The time is now"
- Need to make sure the trust considers people w/ disabilities, low income folks, other groups we prioritized through this MVP process
- Trust being a 'filler of gaps' such as Amherst AHT may be feasible in SH
- Consider rehab, ADUs, and mixed use

Documentation of Engagement Activities

Document your outreach and engagement activities that you used to vet your Seed Project in the tables below. Feel free to copy and paste the table as many times as needed if you used more than two activities.

Activity 1	
Name of activity:	Engagement Event
Date(s) of activity:	June 4, 2024
Brief description of the activity. Who were the participants?	Review of options for seed project
Add a link to a folder with documentation of the activity (e.g., notes, photos, etc.)	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Ak1Jvh8m9ORBZPju8YTRjs5wANtOVcpp?usp=sharing
How successful was this engagement activity? Consider your engagement goals and use the metrics or evaluation approach you outlined in your Engagement Plan to answer this question.	There was a small but engaged group. Everyone participated in the discussion and a plus/delta showed that even though the vote was close, those who did not initially vote for the housing trust fund, they were in agreement that it was a good project. They also asked that the communication project be considered for a future effort.

Activity 2	
Name of activity:	Meeting at Council on Aging
Date(s) of activity:	6/26/2024
Brief description of the activity. Who were the participants?	Presentation by Anne Capra on AHT Presentation by Carol Lewis, Amherst Housing Trust member on Amherst's trust and their work.
Add a link to a folder with documentation of the activity (e.g., notes, photos, etc.)	LINK TO ANNE's presentation and materials shared.
How successful was this engagement activity? Consider your engagement	The discussion was rich with good feedback for the project moving forward.

goals and use the metrics or evaluation approach you outlined in your Engagement Plan to answer this question.	
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Once you feel ready to move forward with your Seed Project idea, **email Part A of your Seed Project Plan** to your MVP Regional Coordinator. Submitting this form will trigger disbursement of the second installment of funding (\$50,000) to complete the Seed Project.

Part B: Seed Project Implementation Plan

Seed Project Vision and Goals

1.1 Give a brief overview of your Seed Project. What are the goals and desired outcomes? Consider the outcomes you outlined in Part A above. How will achieving those outcomes help to build resilience in your community or region in the near-term and as the climate continues to change?

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Establish Affordable Housing Trust: A local housing trust allows municipalities to collect funds for affordable housing, segregate them out of the general municipal budget into a trust fund, and use the funds for local initiatives to create and preserve affordable housing.2. Provide funding for an affordable housing project (design/engineering, legal costs, feasibility study, site acquisition, |
|--|

etc.)

Residents accurately noted during community engagement sessions that without basic needs met, including housing, people often cannot even consider the impending impacts of climate change.

If residents are housed, they may be able to be more active in climate efforts.

As extreme heat worsens, residents being housed and out of direct sunlight is a great thing to avoid unnecessary suffering.

1.2 Building community resilience is an ongoing process. Where does this project fit in? How does this project build on existing work? How does this project lay the groundwork for future steps?

This project builds on previous work on the Housing Production Plan (see above) and will bring renewed community engagement in support of the need for addressing affordable housing through a Housing Trust Fund and funding options such as the CPA. It shows that a totally separate process with different stakeholders again raises the need to address housing affordability strengthens this project.

Project Partners

2.1 Who will be the project partners involved in developing and implementing this project? What are their roles and responsibilities on this project? What experience or expertise do they bring? Identify all project partners who will be paid from the Seed Project. If specific individuals or vendors have not been identified, name the role that will be filled.

We will build on the community engagement and connections made by our Core Team as we recruit Housing Trust members. Our Core Team will spread the word and we will outreach to additional organizations including Friends of Council on Aging, Housing Authority and other affordable housing development, South Hadley Falls Neighborhood Association, and

new connections made through this process, including church, South Hadley Family Center, School district.

Our Housing Trust Board of Trustees will be the key partner and we will seek TA from MA Housing Partnership and CHAPA.

Project Scope

3.1 What are the steps involved in completing this project? Break the project down by phases or by tasks. For each phase or task, specify:

- What is the objective of this phase or task?
- What are the activities that will be completed?
- How will community members, and specifically EJ and other priority populations, provide insight, advise the process, participate in decision-making, or vet the ideas during this step of the process?
- What are the deliverables or outputs of this task or phase?

Tip: For projects that have discrete tasks, consider listing out the steps by task. Alternatively, if many of the tasks are integrated or occurring simultaneously, consider breaking the project into phases.

Tasks 1-8: \$20,000

We will issue an RFP to hire an experienced consultant to work with us to establish the Trust.

Task 1: Develop and submit a housing trust bylaw to the Attorney General

Task 2: Establish a Board of Trustees and conduct community engagement to identify members representing key populations who are most impacted by climate concerns.

Task 3: Record a Declaration of Trust

Task 4: Set-up the trust fund account; and identify potential sources of funding

Task 5: Establish annual reporting and public communications plan

Task 6: Identify housing priorities, including climate resilience and green energy technology.

Task 7: Set a budget

Task 8: Determine operating approach, including strategies for regular outreach to priority populations identified, including low incomes, residents of the South Hadley Falls, older adults and people with disabilities.

Task 9: Issue an RFP to offer a small grant (\$30,000) for costs associated with a local deed-restricted affordable housing project (e.g. design/engineering, land acquisition, legal costs, etc.) This would be the first project of the Trust and serve as a pilot project for implementation of their priorities and operating approach.

The Board of Trustees will be selected through engagement that builds on the MVP process, ensuring that priority populations and their viewpoints are represented. The AHT will set up an approach that includes strategies for ongoing engagement.

3.2 Outline your engagement plan for the activities that involve community outreach and engagement. For each activity, specify how the activity is specifically designed for, or increases accessibility for, EJ and other priority populations. Use the Engagement Plan document for developing your approach.

- 1) Info sessions for recruitment and training of AHT Board
We will set up an info session about the AHT to recruit members to the board. Once the committee is formed and education for them on this project.
- 2) Outreach about funding sources
As the Board reviews options for funding sources, they will do outreach and education on the proposed funding sources in order to gain support and buyin, such as support for a CPA.
- 3) ID criteria for trust projects. Again there will be ongoing public outreach about the criteria and type of projects.

After the establishment:

- 4) Project participation. As projects are developed, there will be outreach to get participation to utilize the funds or participate in the funded project.
- 5) Collecting and disbursing funds. The Board's decisions will be shared in the community.

Project Budget and Timeline

4.1 Use the Budget and Timeline template provided to plug in your tasks and subtasks and map out your project timeline. In the box below, list the dates for the completion of major milestones. Note when you will provide your half-way project report to the MVP team. List any regulatory or permitting approvals that may be required and note where they will fall in the project timeline. Please do not select a Seed Project that will require extensive regulatory approval or permitting.

\$50,000 - Seed Project

\$20,000 for consultant to shepherd the development of the AHT, including recruitment of board members.

\$30,000 for an initial project to be determined by the AHT Board of Trustees.

4.2 Use the Budget and Timeline template to map out your project budget. Does the budget feel feasible? Which parts may be tight? Are there adjustments you would make to the scope to better fit the budget?

Measuring Impact

5.1 How will you know if the project is successful? What will be the signs? How will you evaluate whether the project is supporting equity and social resilience? Consider the desired outcomes you outlined in Part A of your Seed Project Plan and refer to the ways to measure procedural, distributional, and interactional justice that you learned about in training 3 of the Equity and Climate Justice Learning Series. How will the people who will be most impacted by the project evaluate or weigh in on whether the project is successful?

Desired Outcomes:

- Formation of the Trust
- Board of Trustees recruited and trained
- Criteria for projects established
- Funding source(s) identified

Pilot project:

- Utilize a public health focus on specific populations at risk from climate (ie children with asthma and older adults)
- Link to key partners who can help identify participants (ie South Hadley pediatrics, COA, South Hadley Falls Neighborhood Association)

Evaluation:

- Procedural: Ongoing community engagement with the populations most impacted/or organizations involved
- Distributional: Tracking of information on those who are served by the AHT, demographics, income status, disability status, etc.
- Interactional: Trust in the town will be built as projects are approved and implemented and shared with priority populations.

5.2 How might the learnings from this project be transferable to other communities? Will this project create tools, frameworks, or methods that

could be easily adopted? How will the learnings from this project be shared with other communities?

This AHT project could create stronger criteria to address housing and health related to climate, that could be shared statewide. This linkage of housing and climate resilience could offer ways to promote CPAs and AHT where this has been hard to establish.

5.3 What will be needed to sustain or maintain this project over the long-term? Outline how the municipality or region will plan on addressing those needs.

Funding sources for the trust fund are key to make this successful. Considering a variety of sources (ie CPA, private donations etc) will make this more likely to sustain.

The municipality will be the fiscal agent and will review potential grant and other opportunities for funding.