



Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Municipal Adaptation and Resiliency Service

Call to Action Form

Please fill in this form with details of your municipality's planned adaptation and resiliency measures for 2014-2016. Actions listed can be any new operation, service or policy that contributes to adaptation, even if they are not part of a formal adaptation plan or strategy. This information will be made available to other Cities Initiative members on the MARS portal (www.ccadaptation.ca/MARS).

While budgets for adaptation measures are often found in multiple departments, please enter an aggregate sum if it is available.

Thank you for completing the MARS Call to Action Form. Kindly return it by email to simon.belisle@glslcities.org.

Municipality: City of Grand Rapids	Province/State: Michigan
Population: 190,411 (2012)	Lake: Michigan
Staff Contact Name: Dr. Haris Alibašić	Staff Contact Phone: (616) 456-3497
Staff Contact Email: halibasic@grcity.us	Mayor: George K. Heartwell
Summary of Adaptation Measures, 2014-2016: Through the guidance of our Sustainability Plan and recommendations presented in the 2013 Grand Rapids Climate Resiliency Report, the city is working to achieve many resiliency-oriented targets. Main focus is on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and subsequent impacts of climate change by reducing overall energy demand and fossil fuel consumption of the City. The City is additionally working to ensure the safety of all citizens against unpredictable extreme weather events by working to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain an adequate and safe water supply• Improve the quality of the Grand River and its tributary streams• Protecting and maintaining healthy ecosystems• Reusing and recycling waste• Ensuring quality design and construction of the built environment is in compliance with low impact design standards. The city focuses on these measures with a variety of actions that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• increasing the reuse of captured water/or "gray water"• reducing wastewater flow by an additional 2% over FY2013 results• reducing stormwater discharge by an additional 20,000 gallons per rain event by implementing new green infrastructures, promoting rain barrel programs, and ensuring an additional 2% of streets and alleys be made of pervious pavement• Increasing public education while expanding facilitation of commercial/industrial participation in resiliency issues• Increasing green space and acres of city owned parks while diversifying tree and plant species used in landscaping.• Increasing the urban tree canopy to over 40%• Increasing miles of on street bike lanes and sidewalks while creating "complete" streets• Promoting sustainable buildings across all sectors• Increasing recycling and compost rates• Increasing the use of renewables while diversifying the energy portfolio All of these actions are being taken in an effort to secure a growing economy while ensuring the safety of all citizens against an uncertain, changing environment.	
Estimated Budget for Adaptation Measures (if available): <hr/> <hr/>	
Partners: Community Sustainability Partnership, Kent County, West Michigan Environmental Action Council, ICLEI, GLSLCI <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
Attachments (Please list them here and email them to Simon Belisle along with this form): <hr/> Grand Rapids Sustainability Plan <hr/> 2013 Grand Rapids Climate Resiliency Report <hr/> Both can be found at http://www.sustainablegr.org <hr/>	