

Community Climate Resilience Checklist (Revised, March 2026)

The first step in a community climate resilience assessment for a ZTA or master plan involves an initial applicability review and directional impact assessment. This includes considering whether the ZTA or master plan will influence activities that may result in changes in community climate resilience. It also includes an evaluation to qualify whether these activities that may be influenced may have a positive or negative impact on community climate resilience. If the impact for an activity is indeterminate, then note this on the checklist and provide an explanation in the assessment narrative. If the impact for an activity can be either positive or negative, then check both the positive and negative impact boxes and provide an explanation in the assessment narrative. While the checklist provides a starting point, it is not a comprehensive list of all potential community climate resilience-related activities for a specific ZTA or master plan. Planning staff should supplement climate assessments with additional data and information as appropriate. The checklist also does not cover how much of an impact may be involved and how it might relate to other impacts, which should be part of the qualitative narrative of the climate assessment. As noted in this checklist, some of the factors overlap with factors in the GHG Emissions and Sequestration checklist.

Please Note: The checklist below revises Table 8 in the *Final Report: Climate Assessment Recommendations for Master Plans and Zoning Text Amendments in Montgomery County, ICF, December 1, 2022*. For more information regarding definitions of terms and factors, and additional guidance in preparing a narrative assessment, including relevance to climate impacts, see pages 29 – 43 in the *Final Report*. The *Final Report* also provides guidance for quantitative assessments, if applicable.

<p><i>Does the ZTA/Master Plan concern any of the following factors:</i></p> <p><i>(Indicate if there is no anticipated impact, or if an impact is indeterminate because you cannot say whether there will be an impact or not.)</i></p>	<p><i>If there is an anticipated impact, are changes to each factor expected to have a positive or negative impact, or both, on community resilience or adaptive capacity?</i></p> <p><i>(The assessment narrative should indicate minor, moderate, major, a combination, or a range of possible impacts based on the location and extent of potential changes that could occur under the ZTA or Master Plan.)</i></p>				
COMMUNITY CLIMATE RESILIENCE					
Exposure-Related Factors					
<i>(Change in the factor reduces (positive impact) or increases (negative impact) people or infrastructure experiencing a hazard)</i>	No Impact	Indeterminate	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
Activity in flood risk areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Activity in urban heat island	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Exposure to other hazards (e.g., storms, wind, drought)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sensitivity-Related Factors					
<i>(Change in the factor reduces (positive impact) or increases (negative impact) impact severity)</i>	No Impact	Indeterminate	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
Change to forest cover*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change to non-forest tree canopy*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Sensitivity-Related Factors (continued) <i>(Change in the factor reduces (positive impact) or increases (negative impact) impact severity)</i>	No Impact	Indeterminate	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
Change to quality or quantity of other green areas (e.g., wetlands, meadows, turf)*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change to impacts of heat (e.g., cool pavements, cool roofs, air conditioning, energy efficiency improvements)*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change in perviousness*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change in stormwater management system treatments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change to water quality or quantity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change to air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Infrastructure design decisions (e.g., sizing, materials)*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adaptive Capacity Factors <i>(Change in the factor increases (positive impact) or decreases (negative impact) ability to respond and bounce back)</i>	No Impact	Indeterminate	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Comments
Change to accessibility or prevalence of community and public spaces (e.g., libraries, air-conditioned cooling centers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change to emergency response and recovery capabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change in access to transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change to accessibility or prevalence of local food sources and other goods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change in availability or distribution of economic and financial resources (e.g., employment, income equality, business size and diversity)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change to community connectivity (e.g., social connections, sense of place and belonging)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Change in distribution of resources and support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

*Overlaps with a greenhouse gas emissions sector or activity