



ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS RESILIENCE PROGRAM

**A local collaboration program brought to you by
the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)**



ABAG's Resilience Program

Created in 1970 and embedded in ABAG's Planning Department, the agency's Resilience Program is a unique effort to build disaster resilience in an on-going, dynamic process where the Bay Area's capacity to recover from natural disasters is continually improved. Resilience Program staff collaborate closely with Bay Area cities and counties in reducing the impacts of current and climate change influenced natural hazards, including: drought, earthquake, extreme heat, flooding, landslides, sea level rise, and wildfires.

Who Does ABAG's Resilience Program Serve?

- Bay Area residents
- City and county policymakers
- City and county staff
- State and federal agencies

A Unique Mission

ABAG's Resilience Program grew out of the agency's commitment to local governance, and thrives because of its dedication to support and engage local decision makers, offer technical assistance around local resilience implementation, and ongoing efforts as a regional convener for life-saving resilience planning. Through the Resilience Program, Bay Area city governments have a platform to jointly plan, share best practices, and develop solutions to local and regional resilience challenges.

The Bay Area's "Go To"

ABAG's Resilience Program is a renowned leader in disaster preparedness. For large funders like FEMA, USGS, Homeland Security, and the Rockefeller Foundation, city governments, and the public alike, ABAG's Resilience Program is the "go to" agency for resilience planning.

Resilience Program Successes

- **80+** Bay Area cities have utilized services in the last 5 years
- **80+** city and county administrators have taken part in Hazard Mitigation Plan workshops since 2005
- **15** cities have received support from the Resilience Program for soft story inventories and policies
- **1.68 million** visits to the ABAG Resilience Program website since 2011

Resilience Program Leadership

- 3.5 ABAG staff positions

By The Numbers

- All FTE and PTE positions fully grant-funded through 2017
- **\$1.3 million** grant funding from FEMA through October 2017
- **\$300,000** grant funding from Rockefeller Foundation through October 2017
- **\$100,000** grant funding from United States Geological Survey through December 2017



Association of Bay Area Governments



Investing in Safe Housing

ABAG’s Resilience Program leads the Bay Area’s resilience planning efforts at both the local and regional level to ensure all Bay Area residents—including those who live in vulnerable or fragile housing—have access to safe homes and communities.

ABAG’s Resilience Program provides technical and policy support to address housing hazard mitigation efforts, supporting pre-disaster investments that reduce long-term impacts post-disaster, and working to make all Bay Area residents safe regardless of their resources. These efforts include:

- Partnering in the development, dissemination, and implementation of a standard retrofit guide for single family homes
- A decade-long commitment to developing soft-story ordinances and supporting cities with policy and program guidance
- Accelerating the adoption of best practices in retrofit, recovery and resilience at the local level across the Bay Area

Investing in Infrastructure

In the wake of a major disaster, the recovery of major infrastructure systems (e.g. water, sewer, electricity, etc.) will play a large role in our ability to recover quickly and effectively.

Because of this, ABAG’s Resilience Program assists local cities in understanding and planning for the interconnectedness among infrastructure systems in the Bay Area and their impending, connected failures in the result of an earthquake or other natural disaster. Resilience Program staff also convene infrastructure providers to share best practices and connect these companies with needed comprehensive planning resources through a regional Lifelines Council.

Investing in Mitigation to Prepare for Recovery

ABAG’s Resilience Program focuses on the connections between mitigation and recovery, supporting investments pre-disaster to reduce the long term impacts post-disaster. ABAG’s Resilience Program offers organizational guidance and policy direction to support local cities in developing tangible recovery plans.

Resilience Program Services

The cornerstone of ABAG’s Resilience Program is the agency’s work to provide comprehensive resilience planning resources and support to the Bay Area’s 101 cities and towns and nine counties.

Resilience Program staff are hazard mitigation planning and policy experts, and offer local city stakeholders proven best practices in developing successful resilience policies. They also provide the technical assistance and support necessary to turn planning efforts into reality—helping to create safer, more resilient communities.

Resilience Program resources and tools include:

- Mitigation and Adaptation Plan Workshops & Assistance
- Best Practices Policy Database
- Regional Resilience Support Directory
- Hazard Viewer and Open Data
- Stronger Housing, Safer Communities Study
- Cascading Failures Interdependencies
- Loma Prieta 25 Symposium
- Bay Area Water Conference