



# Fulton County Community Resilience Hub 2021

Fulton County and Southface Institute are working together with the county's residents to establish a Community Resilience Hub — a new model of centralized resources and services that increase a community's capacity to thrive before, during, and after extreme weather events and emergencies.

## What Is Resilience?

**Community Resilience:** The capacity of a community to operate and sustain critical systems, even under stress; adapt to changes in the physical, social, or economic environment; be self-reliant if external resources are limited or cut off; and learn from experience to improve itself over time.

**Climate Resilience:** Achieved by mitigating the sources of human-driven climate change; preparing for and adapting to the weather and temperature extremes fueled by climate change; and ensuring that all improvements address the procedural, distributional, structural, and transgenerational aspects of social and racial equity.



Services and  
Programming



Building and  
Landscape



Communications



Operations



Power  
Systems

## What Is a Community Resilience Hub?

Resilience Hubs are community-serving facilities augmented to support residents, coordinate communication, distribute resources, and reduce carbon pollution while enhancing quality of life before, during, and after emergencies. While the framework was developed by the Urban Sustainability Directors Network, the exact resources and opportunities provided at each hub are determined by extensive input and feedback from the community. They often incorporate technologies like solar + storage and rainwater harvesting so they can continue operating even when the power is out.

Contact the project leads for more information:

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# Candidate Sites



**Metropolitan Branch Library**



**Louise Watley Library at Southeast**



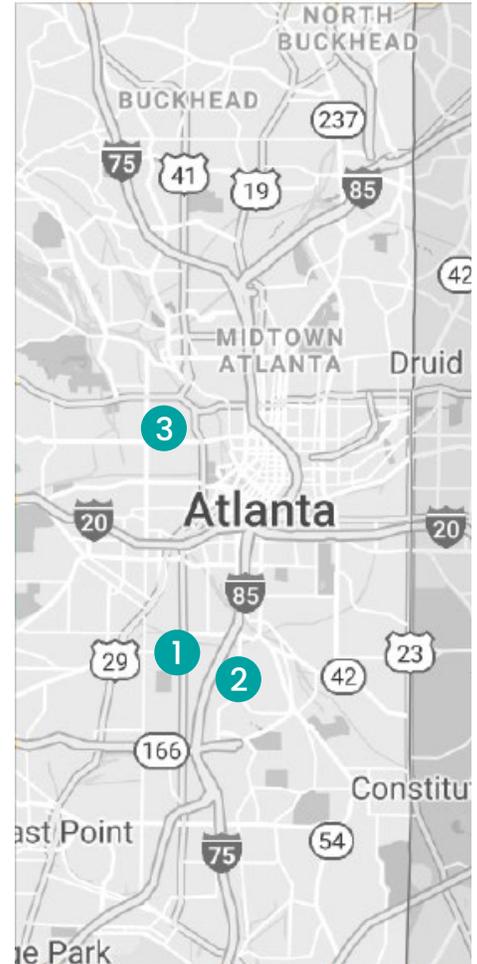
**Neighborhood Union Health Center**

**1** **2**

**Three candidate sites** have initially been selected from Fulton County's portfolio of community-serving facilities based on a high-level analysis of community data and solar + storage feasibility.

Community engagement and educational programming are taking place at all three sites, with one selected to become a fully equipped Community Resilience Hub.

**3**



## Why Fulton County?

In the past decade, power outages caused by extreme weather and transportation crises have become major problems for the state and its communities, though not everyone experiences these emergencies in the same way. Because of housing discrimination and underinvestment, people of color and those with fewer financial resources disproportionately live in older houses served by older infrastructure that don't withstand storms and other environmental stressors as well. As the most populous county in Georgia, Fulton County is home to over one million residents who are racially, ethnically, and socio-economically diverse, and many of them are without sufficient resources to proactively decrease their risk or easily recover from the disruptions and harm caused by such events.



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## Desired Outcome

Over a period of two years, Fulton County and Southface will work with local residents to identify an ideal site and establish a Community Resilience Hub at one of the county’s community-serving facilities. The ultimate goal is to provide the surrounding community with the support needed in case of extreme weather events and to equip residents to increase their climate resilience and reduce the risk of negative impacts to their daily lives.

## Project Timeline

<p><b>2020–2021</b></p> <p><b>Community Outreach, Assessments &amp; Analysis</b></p>	<p>Community outreach to residents, organizations, and businesses via Neighborhood Planning Units, Neighborhood Associations, etc. to build awareness of the project scope and outcomes and develop relationships</p>	<p>Prepare educational information and materials on sustainability and resiliency</p>
<p>Complete building assessments for energy and water efficiency, rainwater harvesting, solar storage, and resilient technologies</p>	<p>Perform technical feasibility analyses of rainwater harvesting and solar + storage to maximize the duration of resilience in times of emergency</p>	<p>Research items to include in emergency and daily resilience kits for community members</p>
<p><b>2021–2022</b></p> <p><b>Community Engagement and Resilience Hub Design &amp; Implementation</b></p>	<p>Facilitate three rounds of virtual and in-person community engagement sessions to receive input on resilience needs and priorities and assets related to the five layers of a hub: programming and services, operations, communications, power systems, and building and landscape</p>	<p>Community input and recommendations as well as results of assessments and analyses will determine the selection of the preferred facility for the community resilience hub</p>
<p>Design, purchase, and install resilient technologies, including solar + storage, rainwater harvesting, etc., as well as programs and services that may include job training and workforce development, childcare and after-school programming, healthy eating and nutrition, etc.</p>	<p>Purchase and distribute resilience kits to community members and for checkout at the hub</p>	<p>Develop operational procedures and guidelines and partnerships for the selected hub in addition to developing overall guidelines for future hub implementation</p>

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