



“BUILD FOR GOOD”

Mayor’s Office of Recovery and Resilience

OUR BIG WHY:

Houston is essential. To the region, the country, the world.
Our people are vital. We must be functional come hell, wind or high water.

OUR APPROACH:

Build a lasting evolutionary resilience, response and recovery effort from the ground up, neighborhood by neighborhood, asset by asset

OUR WAY OF WORKING:

Response and recovery move at the speed of trust. The path to success is built through collaboration. We work collaboratively, putting the needs of Houstonians first before party, opinions, and personal preferences. We believe lasting solutions are co-developed with public, private and philanthropic partners.

MORR: What we believe. How we work.

Office of Recovery and Resilience: We Build For Good

We are building on the strengths of Houston toward a more resilient and sustainable way of life.

We are responsible for the city-wide strategic coordination of recovery, resilience and sustainability activities.

Houston sits at the nexus of the pressures reshaping the world. Climate change, energy transition, globalization and migration. We are an essential city, to the region and to the world. The country depends upon the Port of Houston, The Texas Medical Center, Houston's energy production, and our exceptional ability to welcome and include newcomers.

The fundamental goal of the MORR office is to seek solutions that allow us to remain functional in all imaginable conditions across the full cycle of response, recovery, resilience and sustainability. We face significant challenges securing resources and building infrastructure more impervious to disruption. We seek pragmatic actionable projects that harden our key infrastructure elements, making basic city services reliable in all imaginable circumstances. We work to foster programs that support individuals, families and communities in their efforts to prepare and recover from all forms of upheaval. We seek solutions that guarantee as far as humanly possible the health and safety of all residents in all conditions.

While hardening our built infrastructure against disruption, we also seek to make our residents less vulnerable to disaster impacts. Toward that end, we are seeking solutions that work for people at the neighborhood level. When we speak of resiliency for families and individuals, we are focused on the availability of a source of respite from heat, wind, and high water in neighborhoods, particularly those most socially and economically vulnerable. We seek to achieve this through multisector collaborations, engaging leaders from private, public and philanthropic sectors, aligning resources toward a safer and fairer city.

BUILD FOR GOOD

What do we mean by resilience?

Resilience refers to the ability of a system, any system, to respond to and recover from shocks and threats. The principles of resiliency apply to the smallest unit, an individual or family, to community and to this city.

The larger and more complex the system the more vulnerable it is to shocks and upheaval, the more likely to be unpredictably damaged by disturbances – disturbances which may create cascades of collapse.

Interdependence = vulnerability.

Resilient systems are defined by their localized and small protections. Distributed and decentralized systems have natural “circuit breakers.”

What are the critical systems which must be resourced and supported? So that they can absorb shocks and recover?

We are **climate and risk realists** and pragmatic problem solvers.

We understand we cannot engineer our way out of all risk. Protection is not guaranteed.

The fundamental unit of resilience is the neighborhood, the community. Resilience is closely connected to ***place and people***. **Delivery of basic services at the neighborhood and community level.**

We work to guarantee basic safety and core city services come hell, wind and high water.

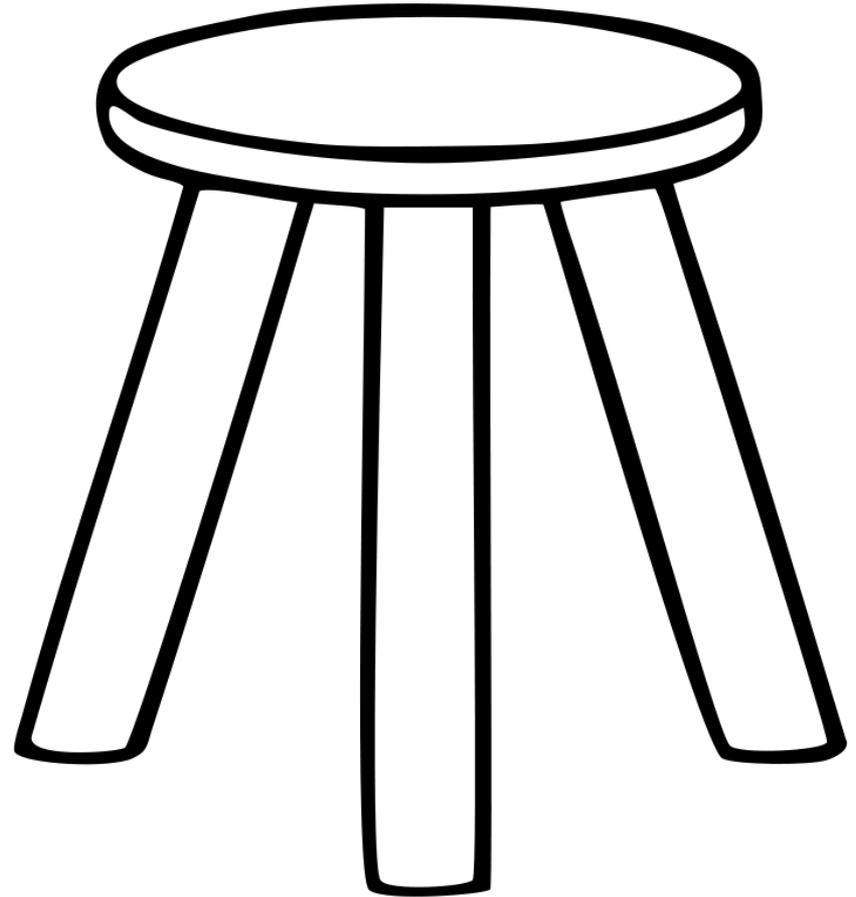
- Food, water and emergency response.
- Access to refuge from heat, water and wind through shelters and community centers.
- Ongoing protection from a hazardous environment

We know the only path to resiliency is built through collaboration. We work collaboratively, putting the needs of Houstonians first before our party, opinions, personal agendas.

We work in collaboration ...
for the benefit of Houston residents

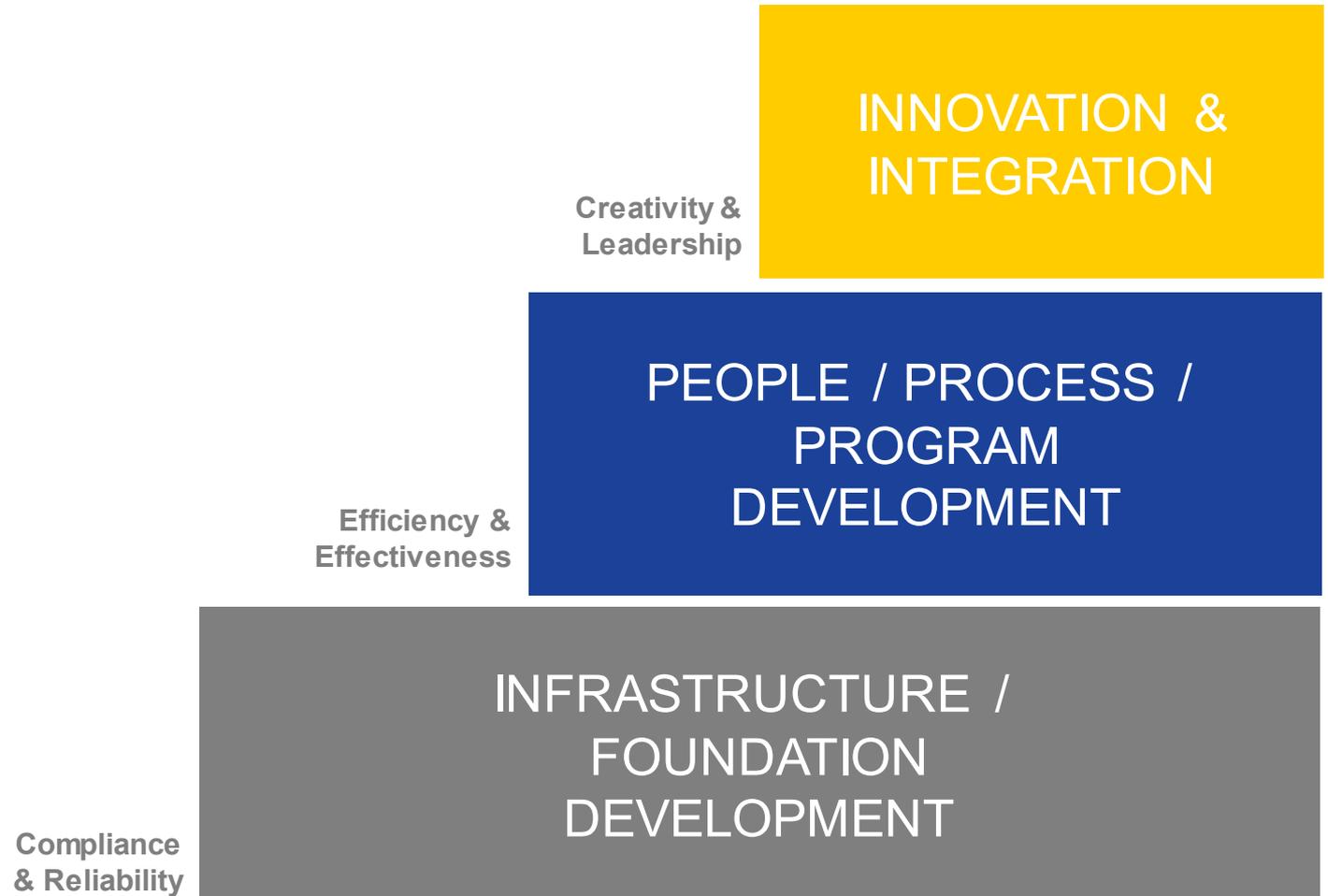
Public
Private
Philanthropic

Lasting solutions are built
on a three-legged stool.



BUILD FOR GOOD:

building an evolutionary resilience, response and recovery effort from the ground up, neighborhood by neighborhood



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE

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1 Regional Resilience Scorecard

2 Resiliency Hubs

3 Infrastructure Protection



MORR: Priorities on a page 2025-2027

RECOVERY

Improve coordination across response agencies. Align key players and resources to coordinate plans, staging, data sharing, delivery and measurement.

Volunteers: Create a streamlined platform to match skills and needs, conduct pre-disaster training and onboarding

Alignment: Improve transition from “uniforms to t-shirts”, drive continuity, accountability and momentum over full arc of response and recovery.

Neighborhood Readiness: Identify, engage and resource neighborhood leaders to educate, prepare and respond.

Seniors and vulnerable populations: Align regulation, data, education and partnerships to address specific protections for vulnerable residents. (facilities, registration, etc...)

Food: Create a dedicated activation unit with defined partners and roles to improve coordination and meal delivery across the full disaster arena during response

Financing: Align public and private funds, leveraging all sources in coordinated manner across full arc of recovery. Advocate for necessary support from state and federal agencies for fundamental elements of recovery.

RESILIENCE

Make the city and neighborhoods more resilient to future upheaval. Drive improvement in blue-sky times.

Resilience Scorecard

Develop a scorecard to drive a cross sector regional approach to resilience. Create accountability for measurable improvement on agreed upon priorities. Scorecard will be grounded in practical actionable measures and will be developed with widespread engagement.

Neighborhood Resilience Hubs

Build a neighborhood-based resiliency effort Deploy public-private partnerships to maintain, strengthen and transform multi-service centers into functioning resilience hubs.

Climate Action Plan Update

Partner with Harris County to fulfill commitment. Update CAP 2025.

Infrastructure Protection

Strengthen key infrastructure elements such that residents can count on basic services to be operable under all imaginable conditions.

**Innovate/
Integrate**

**People-
centric
programs**

**Essential
infra-
structure/
basic needs**



Resilience Working Group Goals

SCORECARD

Assemble experienced leaders across sectors and disciplines who will work toward creating resilient systems, hardening our critical institutions and services against upheaval

Develop a **shared regional scorecard** against which we will measure our efforts:

- Inventory and document key resilience projects and programs in the region
- Build alignment with respect to goals and coordination where possible
- Foster a neighborhood and community approach to resilience, treating neighborhoods and communities as the basic molecules of resilience

Deliver a **resilience agenda and program plan** that:

- Identifies key leaders in critical institutions charged with working on regional resiliency
- Captures essential lessons from prior and existing resiliency efforts
- Identifies sources of funding and support for resiliency
(with an emphasis on power protections for critical assets and vulnerable communities)
- Captures key recommendations for advancing response and resiliency effectiveness
- Identifies national and international resilience and sustainability efforts and resources
- Clarifies how and if Houston should align with national and international efforts

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Angela **Blanchard**

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