



Date: January 21, 2017

To: Board of Mayor and Alderman, Committee on Administration/Information Systems

From: Christa Daniels, Program Manager, Center for Climate Preparedness and Community Resilience, Antioch University

Antioch University New England and the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** is seeking to collaborate with the **City of Manchester, NH** to host the **3rd Local Solutions: Eastern Climate Change Conference** in the spring of 2018.

Thanks to the engagement of more than 500 participants from Washington, D.C. to Maine, the first **Local Solutions** conference in May 2014 in Manchester NH was a great success. Our second conference in April 2016 in Baltimore MD continued to draw participants across the eastern U.S. to successfully deliver interactive capacity building sessions on all aspects of preparing for severe weather and climate change impacts in the United States. In addition, each conference has benefitted the host cities from the recognition and visibility that comes as a result of the visiting participants. Each host city has also seen a local economic benefit from participant spending while visiting the city. See our web site for more information on the past two conferences:

<http://www.communityresilience-center.org/conference-2016/>

For **this third conference**, we are proposing to collaborate with the City of Manchester to host the conference in Manchester. Topics will cover a range of climate preparedness and resiliency issues such as: sea level rise, urban heat, and both coastal and inland flooding issues. The conference is geared for small government planners and decision-makers striving to create healthy resilient communities with how to better handle severe weather and climate impacts. The current methodologies, protocols and policies inherent in planning and budgeting at the community level are not always adequate for the recent onslaught of climate impacts. This conference guides local government planners on how to make climate resilience an aspect of their daily operations.

The conference will be organized with the help of a diverse and dedicated Steering Committee, which will include members from state and federal

agencies, non-profits and academic institutions from around the eastern United States.

The following are the specific requests we are asking from the city of Manchester to ensure a successful event:

- Include the current Mayor or other public official in welcoming the participants to the conference;
- Include a city planner to serve on the Steering Committee to ensure the conference is a valuable asset for the city of Manchester. This should include 3-5 phone meetings with the full Steering Committee to shape the specific content of the conference;
- Work with designated city liaison (steering committee member) to create walking and/or bike tours to showcase various sustainability-based projects the city has implemented;
- Use the City seal on factual promotional materials about the conference, listing the city as the host city partner. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) logo will also be used in all of these materials about the conference.

We will host the conference at the **Manchester Radisson** on **April 30 and May 1, 2018**. For any questions, please contact Christa Daniels at cdaniels1@antioch.edu or 603-313-5182. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Christa Daniels
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Antioch University New England