

# Resilience and Sustainability Advisory Committee

March 4th 2025



# Meet the Team



- ▶ Molly Caggiano, AICP
  - ▶ Resilience & Sustainability Manager



- ▶ Aly Petruch
  - ▶ Sustainability Coordinator



- ▶ David Rhode
  - ▶ Project Officer I

# Since our last meeting in February 2024...

- ▶ **County Council approved the Climate Action Plan (August 2024)**
  - ▶ Reduce GHG emissions by 65% (2035) and 95% (2050)
  - ▶ Five (5) Big Moves and 53 Actions were identified to implement the CAP.
- ▶ **Multi-Hazard Vulnerability & Risk Assessment (October 2024)**
  - ▶ 11 Strategies and Actions for increasing resilience
  - ▶ Training held for staff on AccelAdapt data
- ▶ **Resilience & Sustainability Division was formalized (January 2025)**

# Resilience & Sustainability Division

- ▶ **Mission:** Guide and coordinate a countywide approach to resilience.
- ▶ **Goal:** Collaborate with partners to implement strategies that enhance sustainability, identify potential risks and opportunities to become more resilient, and implement mitigation and adaptation solutions that support quick recovery.
- ▶ **Objectives:**
  - ▶ Identify capabilities, challenges, risk reduction to all-hazards
  - ▶ Implement Climate Action Plan & Vulnerability Assessment Strategies
  - ▶ Conduct community outreach and public education to build local capacity.
- ▶ Identify a **Regional Vision** for resilience.

# Strategies for Collaboration

## ▶ **Internal Collaboration:**

- ▶ Inter-departmental Resilience Working Group.
- ▶ Investigating models for organization structure.

## ▶ **External Collaboration:**

- ▶ Inter-governmental Regional Resilience Collaborative (countywide)
- ▶ Regional Resilience Forum
- ▶ Coastal Resilience Forum

## ▶ **Coordination with SCEMD/CCEMD:**

- ▶ Support mitigation and recovery planning.
- ▶ VOAD, Volunteer/Donations Management, Disaster Recovery Centers

# Resilience Projects

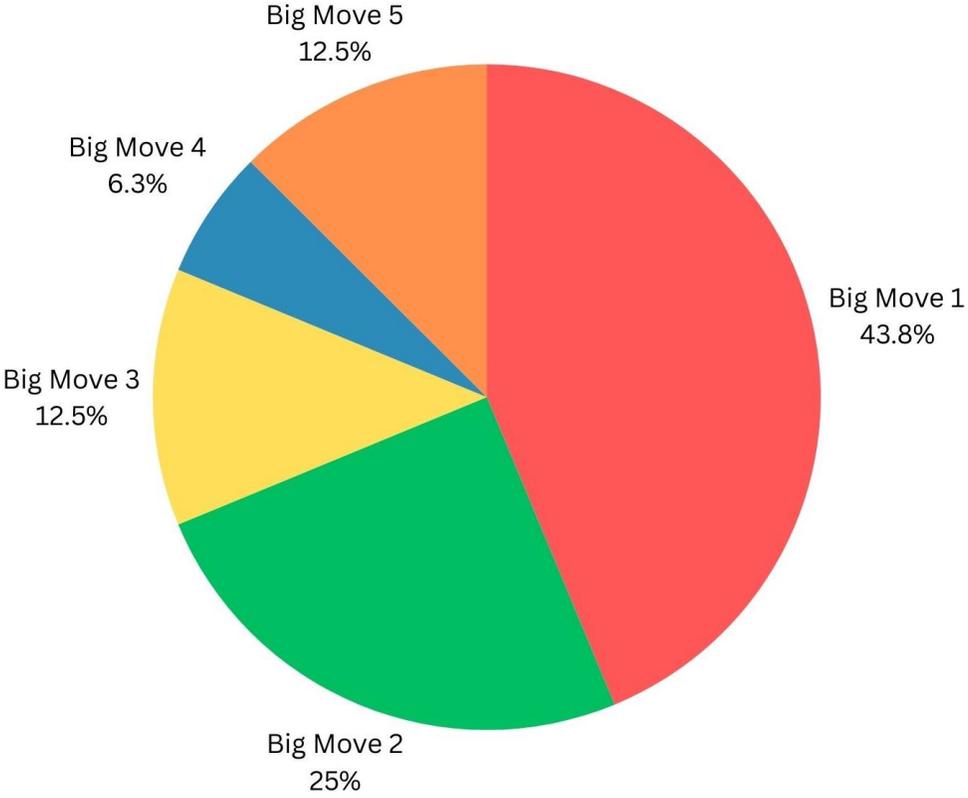
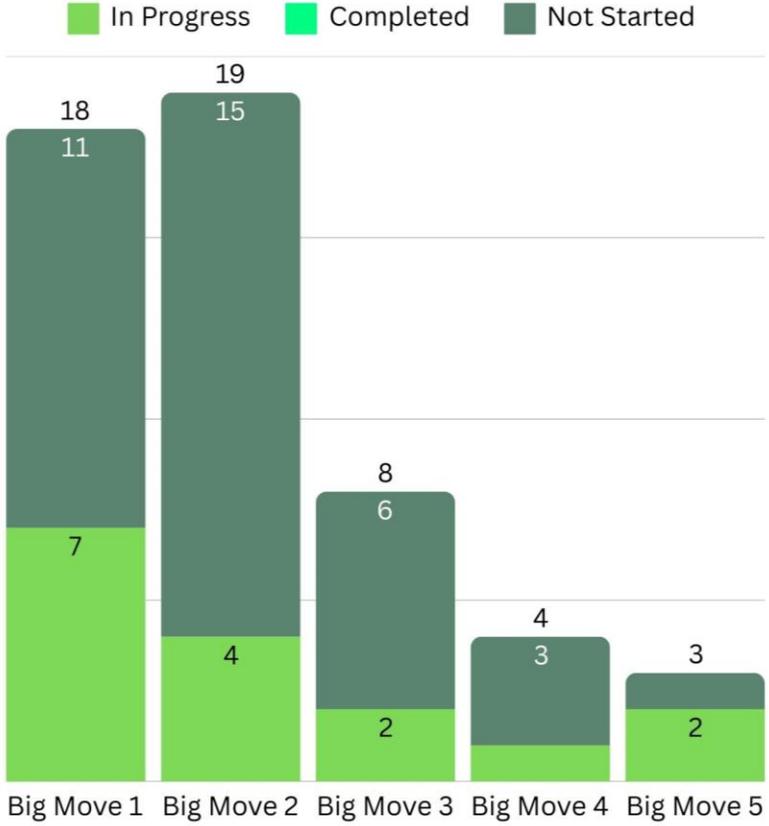
## ▶ **Flood Mitigation Framework**

- ▶ Make project selection easier by defining criteria for prioritization
- ▶ Insurance gap analysis
- ▶ Project pipeline for consistent funding

## ▶ **Brownfields Redevelopment and Community Revitalization**

- ▶ Toolbox for county to reactivate our brownfield redevelopment program
- ▶ Brownfields Inventory
- ▶ Strategic Plan for revitalizing vacant and underused spaces

# CAP Implementation Progress



16 / 53 strategies are in progress

# Focus Areas for 2025

## Big Move 1: Affordable and Resilient Buildings

- Construct new buildings to net-zero standards
- Deep retrofit existing buildings

## Big Move 2: Sustainable and Inclusive Transportation

- Create complete communities
- Expand transit and active infrastructure
- Switch to zero-or-low emission vehicles





Project Updates  
(Detail in project packet  
provided)

# CAP Implementation Project Plans for 2025

- ▶ **Environmental Guidelines for new development and retrofits**
  - ▶ Like the point system Mt. Pleasant adopted
  - ▶ Considerations for implementing environmentally friendly designs
  - ▶ This is a point-based guideline with a few sections for points. This could benefit resiliency as well with different risk mitigation strategies for new builds and retrofits
  - ▶ Timeline is to have it finalized by 2026
    - ▶ Covers **Big Move 1**, Strategies 2, 4, 5
    - ▶ **Big Move 2**, Strategies 19 & 31



# CAP Implementation Project Plans for 2025

- ▶ Education Program on incentives and Weatherization techniques
  - ▶ Potential partners county libraries and local organization in similar fields
  - ▶ This will allow us to engage with our community and understand what issues residents are having in terms of energy costs
  - ▶ Implements **Big Move 1**, Strategy 18



# CAP Implementation Project Plans for 2025

- ▶ Increased events and outreach
  - ▶ Spread awareness of the CAP (Internally & Externally)
  - ▶ On BCDCOG's Technical Assistance Committee for CAP
  - ▶ Many Strategies highlight educational programs or outreach events
    - ▶ EX) 18,25,42,43,52,53
  - ▶ Strengthen relationships and trust
    - ▶ Fellow county departments
    - ▶ Fellow municipalities
    - ▶ Residents
    - ▶ Schools
    - ▶ Outside business and organizations



# R&S Outreach

Event	Partnerships	Date	Attendance	Topic
CCPL Lunch and Learn	City of Charleston & CCPL	Wednesday, Feb, 5th	29	Compost
North Charleston Compost	City of Charleston, City of North Charleston	Thursday, Feb 6th	30	Compost
Tabling at the GIBBS	Gibbs Museum	Sunday, Feb 23	637	Compost
Class presentation	CofC	Wednesday, Feb 26th	22	R&S team and CAP
CofC Drop Site Opening	CofC	Thursday Feb, 27th	30	Compost
Black Expo	Floodplain	Saturday, March 8th	TBD	R&S Team
Children's Composting	CofC, CCPL	Thursday, March 13th	TBD	Compost
Compost	City of Charleston, CCPL	Saturday March 15th	TBD	Compost
BCDCOG Pannel Discussion	BCDCOG, Clemson Design, Urban Land Institute	Wednesday, March 20th	TBD	CAP
Earth Week Tabling	Lowcountry Land Trust	Sunday, March 30th	TBD	R&S and Compost
Composting Tour	Environmental Management	Saturday, April 19th	TBD	Bees Ferry
Folly Composting	City of Folly Beach	Tuesday, April 22nd	TBD	Compost

# Current Grant Funds 24-25

Subject to change based on federal funding freeze

Project	Applicant	Funds	Progress
Coastal Carolina Community Charging	BCDCOG	\$6,602,400	Paused
Residential Weatherization and Energy Audits	R&S	\$75,000	Paused
Ford F150	R&S	\$53,865	Completed
Two Ford Mustangs	R&S	\$74,590	Completed
CSCI	Fernleaf Consulting	\$121,821	In Progress
Joint-Base Microgrid	Charleston County	\$1,000,000	Award announcement: mid-April 2025

**Current Total - \$8,327,676**

Project	Applicant	Funds	Progress
EPA Community Change Grant - Union Heights	Sustainability Institute & City of North Charleston	\$11,400,000	In Progress
Building a Resilient and Efficient Southeast Collaborative	Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA)	120 staff hours (in-kind)	In Progress

# RSAC Moving Forward

- ▶ Originally, Rules & Procedures focused on advising on CAP and HV Assessment.
- ▶ Moving forward, the role of RSAC is to continue advising on projects, offering guidance, bring community perspectives, and share connections to build community resilience and improve sustainable practices. *What else?*
- ▶ **Proposed Annual Meeting Schedule:**
  - ▶ June 10, 2025 @ 9:30am
  - ▶ September 9, 2025 @ 9:30am
  - ▶ December 9, 2025 @ 9:30am
  - ▶ March 10, 2026 @ 9:30am



# Public Comment Period

- ▶ Members of the public will have 2 minutes to comment.

# Next Agenda

