



Building Community Resilience to Climate Disasters

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Asian Pacific Environmental Network

All people have a right to a clean and healthy environment in which their communities can live, work, learn, play and thrive.





COVID. Extreme Heat. Drought. Blackouts. Wildfires. Pollution.

“We’ve lost complete control, that there really isn’t a normal anymore.”

LA Times: “How climate change is fueling record-breaking California wildfires, heat and smog”

“As fires burn, the smoke and air pollution worsens respiratory conditions for communities that have been plagued with the burden of our polluting industries for generations.”

NBC News: “COVID-19 and the California fires have a connection. Here’s how to fight both.”

Traditional Models of Emergency Management Alone Are Insufficient



Fairgrounds are centralized evacuation spaces that are inaccessible without a personal vehicle



Cooling centers offer air conditioning but are limited in offering broader services and relief

The State Needs to Invest in Community-Driven Solutions



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Brooke Anderson

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RESILIENCE BEFORE DISASTER

The Need to Build Equitable,
Community-Driven Social Infrastructure

APEN
ASIAN PACIFIC
ENVIRONMENTAL
NETWORK

seiu 2015
California's Long Term Campaign

SEIU
California
Stronger Together



BLUEGREEN
ALLIANCE

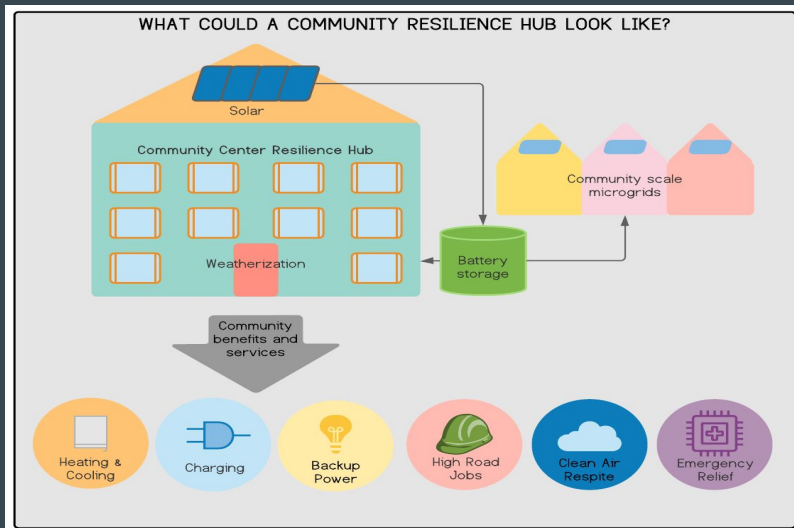
Resilience Before Disaster Report

apen4ej.org/resilience-before-disaster/

Social infrastructure: the services and facilities that secure the economic, health, cultural, and social well-being of the community.

- **Public institutions** e.g., schools, libraries, park and recreation sites
- **Community orgs** e.g., places of worship, youth and senior centers, child care
- **Small businesses**
- **Housing accessible to disadvantaged and vulnerable communities**





Community Resilience Hubs

Spaces where communities gather, organize, and access social services on a daily basis in addition to addressing critical needs during disaster response and recovery.

This includes: **cooling** and **heating**, **electricity** access, **food**, **water**, **medical supplies**, **information** and **comms** access, partner **coordination**

Resilience Hubs:

- Leverage established and trusted community and public facilities.
- Foster community governance and collaboration.
- Integrate workforce development strategies to create high road jobs.
- Target benefits to disadvantaged and vulnerable communities