



IMPERATIVES COMMITMENT

Social Equity | Community Resilience | Environmental Stewardship

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INTRODUCTION

The Etna EcoDistrict Imperatives Commitment describes the Etna EcoDistrict's commitments to Social Equity, Community Resilience, and Environmental Stewardship, including how these Imperatives will be embedded in both the Etna EcoDistrict process and its implementation outcomes. Within these overarching Imperatives, the Etna EcoDistrict focuses on six Quality of Life Issues: Water, Mobility, Air Quality, Energy, Food, and Social Equity, which were selected by community members as being most critical in affecting their livelihoods.

To date, the Etna EcoDistrict Imperatives Commitment preparation process has included a number of different engagement strategies to build the foundation for the Etna EcoDistrict and craft an Imperatives Commitment that reflects the community's goals and visions for Etna. While community representatives from the Etna Community Organization (ECO), the Borough of Etna, and the Garden of Etna attended the 2019 EcoDistricts Incubator in Pittsburgh to begin developing the Etna EcoDistrict Imperatives Commitment document, planning and formation around this has been occurring at the grassroots level for over 20 months. Beginning in June 2018, ECO and evolveEA, an architecture and urban design firm, hosted and facilitated a six-month Etna EcoDistrict Education Series. With two community meetings per month, ECO and evolveEA engaged Etna community members around the six Quality of Life Issues to develop a shared understanding of each issue, share information about existing issue-specific initiatives in Etna, and collect community input and feedback on priorities within each issue. These meetings were open to everyone and included attendance from Etna residents, organizational partners, municipal leaders, business owners, religious institutions, and other friends of Etna. Each week following the large-scale Education Series meetings, evolveEA and ECO hosted a Champions Meeting for individuals to engage in more in-depth conversation around each Quality of Life Issue. Champions used feedback from the larger community meetings to craft Vision Statements for each Quality of Life Issue that reflects the community's aspirations for Etna's future (Table 1). At the conclusion of the Education Series, six booklets, each capturing a unique quality of life issue and the engagement process, were released (see Exhibit B) and our year-long efforts were celebrated. Beginning in March 2019, ECO and evolveEA built on the feedback and visioning from the Education Series and engaged the community in a series of Etna EcoDistrict planning meetings and workshops. During these engagements, the Etna community prioritized projects and programs within each Quality of Life Issue, as well as places for place-based change, to be included in the Etna EcoDistrict Plan. Exhibit D is a record of each engagement in further detail.

In particular to the Imperatives Commitment, on March 6, 2019, ECO and our independent consultants, evolveEA, hosted and facilitated a community workshop (Etna EcoDistrict Planning Meeting #1, presentation slides can be found in Exhibit E) to engage the Etna community around the overarching Etna EcoDistrict Imperatives and the Etna EcoDistrict Imperatives Commitment. evolveEA presented Social Equity, Community Resilience, and Environmental Stewardship as the overarching principles that guide and offer direction to

our efforts in each Quality of Life Issue. These three Imperatives best reflect the Etna community's vision and priorities for a vibrant, sustainable future. evolveEA led the 37 attendees through a workshop in which everyone identified how Etna's community visions (Table 1) align with these overarching Imperatives. From this we introduced ECO's intent to steward the Imperatives Commitment, and attendees engaged in a Commitment adoption activity by adding their thumbprints and signatures to a paper button that was "pushed" to officially kick off the Imperatives Commitment and our path to official certification.

Overall, each Education Series Meeting, Champions Meeting, Planning Meeting, Community Workshop, and additional community engagement has been part of the Etna EcoDistrict Imperatives Commitment process and Working Group. This Imperatives Commitment is the result of over 20 months of community engagement and collecting and synthesizing feedback from community members regarding their goals, priorities, and visions for Etna's future. Exhibit A lists all contributors to the formation of the Etna EcoDistrict Imperatives Commitment through this engagement process. Our commitments to Social Equity, Community Resilience, and Environmental Stewardship are outlined in the rest of this document.

Table 1: Community-crafted Vision Statements for each Quality of Life Issue representing the Etna EcoDistrict

Quality of Life Issue	Vision Statement
Water	Etna is a resilient community that protects its people and waterways through creative water interventions.
Mobility	Etna is a connected community where people of all ages have safe, reliable, and affordable mobility options.
Air Quality	Etna is a healthy community with empowered advocates that take a balanced approach to air quality.
Energy	Etna is an innovative community that takes collective action to provide smart energy solutions.
Food	Etna is a food-secure community with opportunities to grow, buy, share, and eat food locally.
Social Equity	Etna is an inclusive community that embraces diversity and activates everyone to shape our future together.

COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL EQUITY

VISION AND SCOPE

To the Etna community, social equity means that all people have full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to reach their greatest potential. Creating an equitable community is about improving the quality of life for everyone by providing residents with what they need to be successful and empowered to live a life of choice. This includes being an inclusive community that embraces Etna's diversity of people and activates everyone to shape Etna's collective future together.

Social equity serves as the umbrella over which all of Etna's Community Vision Statements operate. Etna's Community Vision Statements apply to all of the people, places, and processes of Etna, including residents, businesses, and friends of the Borough. We commit to ensuring the inclusion and consideration of social equity while planning around each Quality of Life Issue, as well as embedding social equity into the planning outcomes of Water, Air Quality, Mobility, Energy, Food, and Social Equity initiatives in the Etna EcoDistrict Plan.

Our Social Equity Vision Statement (Table 1) takes into account Etna's vulnerable populations (Table 2) through inclusion, empowerment, and activation of *everyone* in Etna in all activities. This includes, but is not limited to, diverse community engagement strategies, equitable representation of the Etna community and its vulnerable populations in Etna EcoDistrict governance, consideration of social equity and inclusivity in decision-making and organizational hiring practices, and critical analysis of progress made towards advancing social equity in Etna EcoDistrict project execution, evaluation, and adjustment. Within this framework, we commit to ensuring 1) inclusive and authentic engagement of organizations that serve everyone in Etna, including Etna's vulnerable populations, throughout the Etna EcoDistrict Formation, Roadmap, and Performance phases (procedural equity), 2) transparent decision-making that considers historic and current inequities, as well as accountability for equitable decisions (structural equity), and 3) the fair distribution of benefits and burdens of Etna EcoDistrict projects and programs across all populations in both current and future generations (distributional and cross-generational equity).

CONTEXT

Etna is home to different vulnerable populations that are included in Table 2. During the first half of the twentieth century, Etna was a booming hub of regional industry and manufacturing within the Greater Pittsburgh network. At its height Etna supported a population of approximately 7,500 individuals in 1930. However, as regional industry began to wane Etna experienced economic decline and lost much of its local manufacturing as well as key resources (e.g., education, food, energy) to support its overall population. In addition, Etna experienced many severe natural disaster events (i.e., Hurricane Ivan) and the construction of the Route 28 Bypass which displaced almost 400 households. Currently, Etna is home to approximately 3,400 individuals. Each of these historical events are major factors that led to the subordination of Etna's vulnerable populations.

Today Etna no longer has indoor educational assets (e.g., schools, community library) to support the growth and learning of Etna's residents, particularly Etna's youth. Additionally, access to essential services, including affordable healthy food, medical care, financial services, etc. is limited in the Borough, and restricted mobility options make it difficult for individuals to travel outside of the Borough to access these needs. Last but not least, lack of economic opportunity burdens individuals and households from pursuing a life of choice beyond fulfilling basic needs. Median household income in Etna is approximately \$37,831 (compared to a national median household income of \$59,039). Approximately 11.3% of Etna residents live below the poverty line, meaning that they earn only enough to support their basic needs of food, housing, and transportation. Across the community, these basic needs on average account for 47.8% of Etna residents' annual expenditures.

Table 2: Vulnerable populations in the Etna EcoDistrict out of Etna's total population of approximately 3,400.

Vulnerable Group	Distribution in Etna	Vulnerability
Renters	~ 413 households	Escalating rental costs; exposure to poor interior environment conditions
Households and businesses in the floodplain	~ 427 buildings	Location in floodplain; increasing frequency of 100-year storms
Low income households (below the poverty line)	~ 181 households	Historical loss of industry & manufacturing employment sectors; historic economic decline in the Borough; lack of educational and workforce development resources
Food insecure individuals	~ 489 people*	Limited accessibility to fresh, healthy food; access preferences those with growing knowledge, transportation, time, and money
Racial minorities	~ 171 individuals	Socioeconomic inequities; systemic racism
Youth (under 20)	~ 684 individuals	Historic loss of schools, libraries, and other educational assets; lack of youth programming and educational resources
Elders (over 65)	~ 448 individuals	Inequities in accessibility; higher risk of exposure to environmental health (e.g., air quality)
People with disabilities	~ 409 households with one or more individuals with a handicap	Historical socioeconomic inequities in development and accessibility
Unemployed individuals	~ 161 individuals	Historical loss of industry & manufacturing employment sectors; lack of educational and workforce development resources
Unhoused individuals	Insufficient data	Historic economic decline; escalating housing prices
Addiction sufferers	Insufficient data	Opioid epidemic
Recent immigrants	Insufficient data	Socioeconomic inequities; lack of educational and workforce development resources; lack of social services and ESL programs

*Estimated based on Allegheny County average (Just Harvest, 1 in 7 people)

Table 3: Equity policies, programs, and plans on the municipal, regional, and county scale that are applicable to the Etna EcoDistrict.

Equity Policies, Programs, and Plans	Geography
Borough of Etna Diversity Policy	Municipal (Etna Borough)
River Bend Joint Comprehensive Plan	Municipal (Triboro)
Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) Health Equity Briefs	Allegheny County

Various social equity-focused policies, programs, and plans on the municipal, regional, and county levels apply to the Etna EcoDistrict and Etna’s planning around social equity (Table 3).

At the municipal level, the Borough of Etna has adopted a **Diversity Policy** to support the “maximum practical utilization of certified Minority/Women/Disadvantaged Business Enterprises” through normal business practices and participation of subcontractors and suppliers. The Borough identifies its participation in the Etna EcoDistrict Education Series and EcoDistrict partnership with evolveEA as demonstrations of its commitment to serve underrepresented groups under this policy. Future partnerships and sub-contracts needed for implementation of the Etna EcoDistrict Plan will be analyzed to adhere to this policy. Additionally, Etna’s [Joint Comprehensive Plan \(River Bend\)](#) shared with the neighboring Boroughs of Millvale and Sharpsburg identifies shared issues throughout each community and opportunities for collaboration to access greater pools of resources to meet collective needs. This initial collaboration allowed for each Borough to share a zoning map to better distribute zoning requirements across the three Boroughs and led to the Triboro Ecodistrict Initiative.

At the county level, the Allegheny County Health Department has published [Health Equity Briefs](#) on [Health Access](#), [Chronic Disease and Risk Behaviors](#), [Environment](#), [Maternal and Child Health](#), and [Mental Health and Substance Use](#) that describe the causes of differences in the quality of health across different populations and municipalities in Allegheny County, including Etna. The briefs identify disparities related to chronic diseases, access to healthcare, the environment, maternal and child health, and mental health and substance abuse. The Health Equity Briefs were used as a resource to provide statistics on health and equity in Etna during the Etna EcoDistrict Social Equity Education Series.

WORK PLAN

The following work plan describes what specific tasks will be integrated into each EcoDistricts Protocol implementation phase to advance Etna's Commitment to Social Equity.

Equity in the Formation phase:

Procedural:

- P1. Convene a small group of stakeholders (residents, Borough, Triboro neighbors) to understand Etna's issues and opportunities, how they fit into the larger Triboro (Etna, Millvale, Sharpsburg) context, and the capacity to collaborate
- P2. Host an Etna Ecodistrict Education Series that will empower our community members with the knowledge needed to actively participate in our Ecodistrict planning process and make informed decisions in their own lives

Structural:

- S1. Disperse leadership by empowering community members to take on leadership roles as Champions for each Quality of Life Issue / Host Champions meetings
- S2. Prepare a governance strategy that outlines our "backbone organization" (Etna Community Organization in close collaboration with the Borough of Etna), which will serve to represent the Etna community to its fullest extent and carry out the Etna Ecodistrict Roadmap through an equitable process driven by community input
- S3. "Form a district team" that represents the community and is committed to making decisions with the community's best interests in mind, especially those of vulnerable populations

Distributional / Cross-Generational:

- D1. Prepare an Asset Map that identifies social, economic, physical, and organizational assets to understand how assets are currently distributed in the community and where efforts can be concentrated so that all of Etna's community can benefit

Equity in the Roadmap phase:

Procedural:

- P1. Host community workshops that prioritize projects, programs, and places in Etna to be included in the Roadmap, led primarily by community input

Structural:

- S1. Align Etna's Quality of Life Issue framework with EcoDistricts Priorities and corresponding objectives that best represent community input
- S2. Select indicators that best reflect community needs to advance equitable change and are feasibly measurable

Distributional / Cross-Generational:

- D1. Draft an Ecodistrict Roadmap that is crafted by, implemented by, and representative of the Etna community so that all of Etna's populations, including future generations, are considered in how projects and programs will impact the community

Equity in the Performance phase:

Procedural:

- P1. Collect data biannually based on chosen indicators and analyze to determine progress towards a more equitable Etna
- P2. Ensure transparency in data collection and reporting by making reports public and open to community feedback
- P3. Adjust the Roadmap as needed to advance equity in Etna

Structural:

- S1. Host public quarterly ECO meetings to provide progress updates, collect feedback, and ultimately maintain our open and transparent public engagement process

Distributional / Cross-Generational

- D1. Collect data after implementation of each project, program, and event to understand who is benefiting and to inform Roadmap adjustments as needed for a more equitable distribution of positive impact

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SCHEDULE

Table 4: Social equity responsibilities and timeline. Under "Equity task," "P" represents a procedural equity task, "S" represents a structural equity task, and "D" represents a distributional / cross-generational equity task. The Equity tasks align with the previous "Work Plan" section.

Equity Task	Responsible Party	Timeline
Formation Phase		
P1	Community leaders in Etna, Millvale and Sharpsburg	Completed: December 2016
P2	ECO, evolveEA	Completed: December 2018
S1	ECO, evolveEA	Champions Meeting completed with Etna EcoDistrict Education Series, December 2018 *will be an on-going effort going forward
S3	ECO, Etna Borough, evolveEA	Completed: February 2019
S2	ECO	Completed: March 2019
D1	ECO, Etna Borough	Completed: January 2017
Roadmap Phase		
P1	ECO, evolveEA	Began: February 2019 Anticipated completion by: September 2019
S1	ECO	Began: April 2019 Anticipated completion by: September 2019
S2	ECO	Began: April 2019 Anticipated completion by: September 2019
D1	evolveEA, ECO	Began: February 2019 Anticipated completion by: September 2019
Performance Phase		
P1	ECO	Biannually beginning 2 years after certification (Anticipated certification November 2019)
P2	ECO	Annually beginning 2020
P3	ECO	Biannually beginning 2 years after certification (Anticipated certification November 2019)
S1	ECO	Quarterly beginning January 2020

INDICATOR

For the Social Equity Imperative, we will measure "percentage of population living below the poverty level," as suggested in the EcoDistricts Protocol, which we define as only earning enough income to support the bare necessities of food, housing, and transportation.

EVALUATION AND ADJUSTMENT

Etna commits to measuring each chosen indicator, honestly reporting progress based on such data, using each progress report to evaluate our efforts, and adjusting our plan as needed to advance equity in Etna. We commit to transparency in this process and will allow opportunities for community engagement and public feedback to better align our Roadmap to our equity vision, as needed.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

For our Commitment to Social Equity we have received Letters of Support from PA State Senator Lindsey Williams, PA State Representative Sara Innamorato, Allegheny County Councilwoman Anita Prizio, and Shaler Area School District that can be found in Exhibit C.

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

VISION AND SCOPE

To the Etna community, community resilience means being proactive, adaptive, and transformational when facing adverse events, whether they be social, environmental, or economic. Creating a resilient community is not only about strengthening our capacity to bounce back from shocks or stresses, but also about transforming adverse events into opportunities and thereby bouncing forward. We recognize that resilience must be integrated into each of our Quality of Life Issues, as well as into the overarching systems through which each Quality of Life Issue interacts with one another. To protect our residents and minimize impact from adverse events, we must take a holistic approach to Water, Air Quality, Mobility, Energy, Food, and Social Equity that prepares our community to face the expected and unexpected with strength.

Community resilience also requires us to rely on networks of knowledge, expertise, and organizational resources that strengthen our ability to recover from shocks and stresses. We commit to: 1) integrating resilience into initiatives addressing water, food, energy, air, mobility, and social equity and empowering our community members and leadership with the knowledge and expertise needed to prepare for, recover from, and transform shocks and stressors (knowledge and expertise); 2) strengthening social networks, collective identity, and financial resources by building relationships through diverse engagement processes, advancing social equity, empowering community Champions as leaders, and securing continuous financial resources from a diverse pool of sources (organizations and networks), 3) strengthening the accessibility of essential services and economic opportunities that improve individual and community health, well-being, and overall quality of life (people), and 4) improving the health and functionality of Etna's ecosystems and building infrastructure to withstand repeated physical stress and absorb shocks and stressors (place). Examples of knowledge, expertise, organizations, and networks in Etna that can be relied on to enhance the community's resilience include community member knowledge and expertise, support networks at Etna's various churches and affiliations, including Calvert Memorial and Bread of Life Food Pantry, the Senior Center, All Saints, and Roots of Faith; the Borough of Etna; the Etna Economic Development Corporation; Millvale, Sharpsburg, and the Triboro Ecodistrict; and CONNECT, among many others.

Overall, we commit to being a resilient community by proactively identifying existing and potential shocks and stresses that could impact our community, empowering our residents with the knowledge they need to minimize or avoid their impacts, mitigating the negative impacts of shocks and stresses as a united community, and transforming adversity into opportunity so that our community may thrive.

CONTEXT

Various social, environmental, and economic shocks and stresses, as detailed in Tables 5 and 6, currently impact, have impacted, or may impact the Etna community. Actions in the Etna EcoDistrict Plan will aim to implement proactive strategies, better prepare the community, and lessen the impact of these shocks and stressors.

Table 5: Potential social, economic, and environmental shocks in the district

Shocks	Type	Character	Relative Magnitude	At-risk Population
Flooding	Social, Environmental	Occur most often in the spring and summer	High	Households in the floodplain
Infrastructure collapse	Environmental	Buildings and infrastructure are aging with limited funds for repairs	Medium	Everyone, especially homeowners
Landslides	Social, Environmental	Occur infrequently after heavy rain events	Medium	Homeowners on or below unstable hillsides
Heat wave	Social, Environmental	Extreme weather can cause blackouts and health concerns	Medium	Youth; Elders; Individuals with health concerns
Polar vortex	Social, Environmental	Extreme weather can cause blackouts and health concerns	Medium	Youth; Elders; Individuals with health concerns
Major employer moves to Etna or the region (such as HQ2)	Social, Economic	A major employer moving in can put stress on cost of living and housing prices	Medium	Low income households; Renters
Economic collapse	Economic	National economic collapse would impact jobs and cost of living	Medium	Everyone, especially low-income and unemployed households
Disease outbreak	Social	Occurs infrequently but could put pressure on health care services	Low	Youth; Elders; Individuals with health concerns

Table 6: Chronic social, economic, and environmental stresses in the district.

Stresses	Type	Character	Magnitude	At-risk Population
Pine Creek water quality (CSOs)	Environmental	CSOs dump sewage into Pine Creek, affecting stream and animal health	High	N/A
Substance abuse	Social, Economic	The opioid epidemic is prominent and severe	High	Addiction sufferers
Food insecurity	Social, Economic	Access to healthy, fresh food is limited; ~489 people are food insecure	High	Low income households; households that do not own cars; youth
Educational access	Social	Lack of adult and youth educational resources	Medium	Youth; Unemployed individuals
Poor air quality	Environmental, Social	Greater Pittsburgh region suffers from NAAQS non-compliance for Ozone and PM2.5	Medium	Everyone, esp. youth, elders, and those with health concerns (esp. heart disease and asthma)
Aging infrastructure	Environmental, Economic	Buildings and infrastructure are aging with limited funds for repairs	Medium	Everyone, especially homeowners
Inefficient public transportation	Environmental, Economic	Bus service is limited, esp. on weekends; ~10% of residents do not own a car	Medium	Households that do not own cars
Rising cost of living	Economic	The greater Pittsburgh area is experiencing a steady rise in living costs	Medium	Everyone, esp. low-income households
Poverty	Social, Economic	~181 households in Etna live below the poverty line	Medium	Low-income households; Unemployed individuals
Energy burden	Social, Economic, Environmental	Rising energy costs; instability of the grid; environmental impact of burning fossil fuels	Medium	Low-income residents; Renters
Unemployment	Social, Economic	~161 individuals in Etna are unemployed	Low	Low-income households
Aging population	Social	~20% of Etna's population is over the age of 65 and services to support them may be lacking	Low	Elders

Table 7: Resilience policies, programs, and plans applicable to the Etna EcoDistrict.

Resilience Policies, Programs, and Plans	Geography
Etna Stormwater Management Ordinance (No. 1378)	Municipal (Borough of Etna)
Etna Floodplain Management Ordinance (No. 1353)	Municipal (Borough of Etna)
Etna Green Infrastructure Master Plan	Municipal (Borough of Etna)
Community Rating System	Municipal (Borough of Etna)
River Bend Joint Comprehensive Plan	Regional (Triboro)

Various resilience-focused policies, programs, and plans at the municipal and regional levels apply to the Etna EcoDistrict and Etna’s planning for community resilience (Table 7).

At the municipal level, the Borough of Etna has adopted two ordinances to address stormwater runoff and flooding concerns: [Etna Stormwater Management Ordinance \(No. 1378\)](#) and [Etna Floodplain Management Ordinance \(No. 1353\)](#). Ordinance No. 1378 outlines requirements for the safe management of stormwater runoff in the Borough to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of Etna’s residents. Ordinance No. 1353 was adopted in 2014 to outline minimum requirements for new construction and development within areas of the Borough that are subject to flooding. The Borough of Etna also has a [Green Infrastructure Master Plan](#) and participates in the [FEMA Community Rating System](#), both of which address stormwater mitigation. Etna’s Green Infrastructure Master Plan assesses the feasibility of green infrastructure projects as a way to reduce flooding and reduce or eliminate the need for new gray infrastructure projects. The plan outlines five phases of green infrastructure projects (23 sites) that are estimated to manage up to 16.1 million gallons of stormwater runoff per year. Participation in the Community Rating System program provides an opportunity to lower Etna’s vulnerability to flooding through a series of volunteer initiatives. Beginning in 1996, the Borough of Etna has reduced its class rating from 10 to 7, which allows for a 15% discount on flood insurance premiums to anyone in Etna purchasing insurance. These resilience initiatives in the Borough have been presented to the community as part of the Etna EcoDistrict Education Series, and future sites in the GI Master Plan have been included in the Etna EcoDistrict Plan designs.

At the regional level, the [River Bend Joint Comprehensive Plan](#) offers guidance to the Etna EcoDistrict Plan and supports Triboro collaboration for the three Borough’s to address shocks and stresses together.

WORK PLAN

The following work plan describes what specific tasks will be integrated into each EcoDistricts Protocol implementation phase to advance Etna's Commitment to Community Resilience.

Resilience in the Formation phase:

Knowledge & Expertise:

- KE1. Convene a core Ecodistrict team at the 2019 Pittsburgh Incubator to equip each community member with appropriate knowledge and process community input to best understand how resilience integrates into our planning strategy
- KE2. Empower community members and stakeholders with subject knowledge on our six Quality of Life issues and EcoDistricts Imperatives as they relate to community resilience through a year-long Etna Ecodistrict Education Series

Organizations & Networks:

- ON1. Build up the Etna Community Organization as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a staffed Director to serve as the backbone organization to carry out the Etna EcoDistrict Plan, in close collaboration with the Borough of Etna
- ON2. Form Champions Groups of Etna community members for each Quality of Life issue to decentralize leadership, build community and form relationships, and ensure sustainability

Resilience in the Roadmap phase:

Knowledge & Expertise:

- KE1. Engage all stakeholders in Community Planning Workshops to collect community input, leverage partner knowledge and expertise, and build an Ecodistrict Plan by the community, for the community

Organizations & Networks:

- ON1. Develop a financial funding strategy that will diversify our resource pools to carry out our Roadmap
- ON2. Provide mini-grant funds during the planning process for community members to develop equitable projects around water, air, mobility, food, and energy, take ownership over small-win projects, and advance Etna's Ecodistrict work

People:

- PE1. Ensure that the health, well-being, and quality of life of Etna's residents is at the center of each Roadmap action item, project, or program

Place:

- PL1. Ensure that improvement of infrastructure and ecosystem health are considered in the Plan to build resiliency in Etna's physical features

Resilience in the Performance phase:

Knowledge & Expertise:

- KE1. Collect and publicly report data bi-annually based on identified indicators in the Etna Ecodistrict Plan and use information to identify progress made and adjust plan as needed
- KE2. Engage the community in transparent feedback collection to analyze progress made towards fulfilling Etna's community Visions and strengthen the plan accordingly

Organizations & Networks:

- ON1. Pursue funding sources and other organizational collaborations that continually strengthen Etna's Ecodistrict Plan and support its implementation in the district
- ON2. Report progress made over the measuring period to funders and partner organizations

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SCHEDULE

Table 8: Community resilience responsibilities and timeline. Under "Resilience task," "KE" represents a "knowledge & expertise" task, "ON" represents a "organization & networks" task, and "PE" represents a "people" task, and "PL" represents a "place" task. The Resilience tasks align with the previous "Work Plan" section.

Resilience Task	Responsible Party	Timeline
Formation Phase		
KE1	ECO	Completed: April 2019
KE2	evolveEA, ECO	Began: June 2018 Completed: December 2018
ON1	ECO	Began: January 2018 Anticipated 501(c)(3) status: December 2019
ON2	ECO, evolveEA	Champions Meeting completed with Etna EcoDistrict Education Series, December 2018 *will be an on-going effort going forward
Roadmap Phase		
KE1	ECO, evolveEA	Began: February 2019 Anticipated completion by: September 2019
ON1	ECO	Anticipated completion by: December 2019
ON2	Triboro Ecodistrict, ECO	Began: January 2019 Anticipated completion by: September 2019
PE1	ECO	Anticipated completion by: September 2019
PL1	ECO	Anticipated completion by: September 2019
Performance Phase		
KE1	ECO	Biannually beginning 2 years after certification (Anticipated certification November 2019)
KE2	ECO	Quarterly beginning January 2020
ON1	ECO	Quarterly beginning October 2019
ON2	ECO	Biannually beginning 2 years after certification (Anticipated certification November 2019)

INDICATOR

For the Community Resilience Imperative, we will measure "percentage of voter participation in the latest election" as a social indicator, "percentage of households in poverty" as an economic indicator, and "percentage of land area in a 100-year floodplain" as an environmental indicator. Percentage of voter participation will allow us to understand civic engagement and resilience in our community's social network. Percentage of households in poverty will allow us to understand if quality of life is improved and gauge our community's preparedness to face economic stressors or shocks. Percentage of land area in a 100-year floodplain will allow us to understand the most flood-vulnerable areas of the community and land uses (green space, residential, commercial) that may be impacted by severe flooding.

EVALUATION AND ADJUSTMENT

Etna commits to measuring each chosen indicator, honestly reporting progress based on such data, using each progress report to evaluate our efforts, and adjusting our plan as needed to advance equity in Etna. We commit to transparency in this process and will allow opportunities for community engagement and public feedback to better align our Roadmap to our resilience vision as needed.

LETTER OF SUPPORT

For our Commitment to Community Resilience we have received a Letter of Support from ALCOSAN that can be found in Exhibit C.

COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

VISION AND SCOPE

To the Etna community, environmental stewardship describes the responsible use and protection of the natural environment through community-led conservation, restoration, and the implementation of sustainable practices. As a community we are working to reduce the negative impact that we have on the environment (our environmental footprint), while working to maximize the positive environmental and social impact that we have (our handprint), so that our current needs do not compromise those of future generations. We understand that local actions in our community to care for our built environment and surrounding natural habitats together will have the greatest impact in protecting the health of the environment and the community. We commit to approaching environmental issues from a systems perspective that considers ecosystem health, habitat restoration, natural resource conservation, public health, and climate protection.

We commit to being a steward for our environment. To do this successfully, we must be intentional about incorporating restorative and sustainable practices into each of our Quality of Life Issue focus areas. Within **Water**, we commit to preserving and strengthening the Pine Creek ecosystem, conserving water through sustainable practices (e.g., rain barrel), and effectively managing stormwater through the support of green infrastructure projects. Within **Mobility**, we commit to enhancing Etna's walkability and bikeability, strengthening Etna's public transportation connections to the region, and expanding alternative, renewable fuel options for vehicles to transition away from carbon-based transportation. Within **Air Quality**, we commit to educating the community about harmful air emissions both indoors and outdoors, creating clean air buffers and carbon sinks through vegetation, parklets, and other strategies, and preventing pollution when possible. Within **Energy**, we commit to improving energy efficiency, reducing building energy consumption when possible, decarbonizing electricity generation and reducing the use of grid-supplied energy to meet Borough energy demand, and achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 (to be refined in the Roadmap Phase). Within **Food**, we commit to encouraging local, low-input growing, strengthening the quantity and access to Etna's food resources, and reducing food waste. Within **Equity**, we commit to strengthening access to healthy outdoor environments to everyone in Etna and ensuring that vulnerable populations are not disproportionately affected by environmental concerns.

Overall, as a community we chose to address Environmental Stewardship as an Imperative rather than Climate Protection because it best resonates with our collective values and Quality of Life Issue Vision Statements. Despite this, we recognize EcoDistricts' designated Climate Protection Imperative in the EcoDistricts Protocol as an important component to be incorporated within our Commitment to Environmental Stewardship. Furthermore, we recognize the importance of setting a commitment to carbon neutrality as a pathway for incorporating intentional practices in our community that will encourage us to be better

stewards of our natural resources and overall environment. As an EcoDistrict, Etna is committed to implementing the necessary practices and tools to achieve carbon neutrality by the year 2050. To meet this goal, we will intertwine our efforts on reducing carbon emissions within each Quality of Life Issue with a particular focus on the built environment and transportation, building (residential, municipal, and commercial), and infrastructure sectors. If needed, this date can be refined in the Roadmap Phase as we work towards achieving our community visions.

CONTEXT

With respect to energy consumption, estimated annual energy consumption of all buildings in the Borough is over 260,000,000 kBtu (based on NREL estimates), with 60% attributed to residential buildings, 23% attributed to commercial buildings, and 17% attributed to industrial buildings. Likewise, based on the fuel source breakdown for Etna's region and the source energy breakdown for the Ohio Valley electric grid (RFCW), it is estimated that Etna produces over 55,000 metric tons of CO₂ emissions annually. This equates to 16 metric tons per Etna resident. Approximately 48% of these emissions are attributed to vehicles (80% gasoline/20% diesel), 11% is attributed to natural gas (15% industrial/50% commercial/35% residential), and the remaining 41% is attributed to electricity (22% industrial/40% commercial/38% residential). While Etna does not contain any landfills, the waste produced in the Borough does have an impact on GHG emissions, however, we are unable to quantify to what extent at this time. The Etna EcoDistrict intends to calculate more specifically the Borough's detailed baseline energy use, CO₂ emissions inventory, and waste generation to the best of our ability during the Roadmap phase.

In other ways, the Etna community has a strong relationship with the natural environment. Pine Creek is a central feature that runs through Etna's urban environment before emptying into the Allegheny River. The Dougherty Nature Trail allows close access to Pine Creek for recreational activities. Work to restore Pine Creek's riparian buffer is a priority of the Borough for beautification, habitat restoration, and flood absorption services. Etna is also home to many street trees and innovative green stormwater infrastructure projects that purify air, absorb stormwater, and harmonize Etna's urban systems with natural ecosystem functioning. The Garden of Etna is a community garden located on a formerly vacant lot that allows residents to interact with the food production process by sustainably growing and harvesting their own food organically. The Etna EcoDistrict intends to build upon these assets to strengthen the community's relationships with the natural environment and ingrain sustainable practices into our daily lives.

Table 8: Environmental Stewardship policies, programs, and plans applicable to the Etna EcoDistrict

Environmental Stewardship Policies, Programs, and Plans	Geography
Etna Green Infrastructure Master Plan	Municipal (Borough of Etna)
Pittsburgh Climate Action Plan (PCAP) 3.0	Regional (City of Pittsburgh)
PA State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency	State (Pennsylvania)

At the municipal level, the [Etna GI Master Plan](#) aims to effectively manage stormwater and reduce flooding as well as reduce or eliminate the need for new gray infrastructure projects (see the Commitment to Community Resilience). The Etna GI Master Plan incorporates sustainable practices in an urban environment that more closely mimic natural systems, such as the use of rain gardens, pervious surfaces, and stormwater catchments.

At the regional level, the [Pittsburgh Climate Action Plan \(PCAP\) 3.0](#) is a comprehensive plan to address climate change. Within this plan are 2030 District Goals that set national standards for high performance buildings by committing properties to 50% reduction in energy use, water consumption, and transportation emissions by 2030, while improving indoor air quality. The Etna EcoDistrict will use the PCAP 3.0 as a resource and potential model during the Roadmap Phase and future Plan revisions to reduce the Borough's carbon footprint and transition to carbon neutrality.

At the state level, there are a number of different [incentives for renewables and efficiency](#) to encourage individuals to be more energy efficient and transition to alternative fuel for their homes and/or vehicles. These include tax credits, rebates, and loan programs, including but not limited to Tax Credits for Consumer Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Products, the Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) Rebate Program, and the Keystone Home Energy Loan Program. The Etna EcoDistrict Plan will consider these programs as options to share with the community when pursuing initiatives to reduce resident energy burden and encourage the use of alternative fuel.

WORK PLAN

Environmental Stewardship in the Formation Phase:

1. Empower community members and stakeholders with subject knowledge on our six Quality of Life issues and EcoDistricts Imperatives as they relate to environmental stewardship through a year-long Etna Ecodistrict Education Series
2. Invite key stakeholders and partners in energy, food and agriculture, environmental protection, water resources, and other fields to provide subject-matter expertise at community meetings to inform planning decisions

Environmental Stewardship in the Roadmap phase:

1. Ensure that ecosystem health, preservation of green space, and relationship between Etna's urban and natural systems are considered in Etna EcoDistrict Plan action items, projects, and programs
2. Collect baseline data on Etna's energy consumption, pollution types and sources, proportion of conserved and preserved ecosystems, and other data that will establish our reference for progress as we implement the Etna EcoDistrict Plan
3. Refine the target year set to achieve carbon neutrality and minimize our overall environmental impact to net zero

Environmental Stewardship in the Performance phase:

1. Collect and publicly report data bi-annually based on identified indicators in the Etna Ecodistrict Plan
2. Engage the community in transparent feedback collection to analyze progress made towards fulfilling Etna's environmental stewardship and carbon neutrality commitments, identify areas for improvement, and adjust the plan accordingly .

RESPONSIBILITIES AND SCHEDULE

Table 9: Environmental Stewardship responsibilities and timeline

Climate Protection Task	Responsible Party	Timeline
Formation Phase		
1	ECO, evolveEA	Completed: December 2018
2	ECO, evolveEA	Completed: December 2018
Roadmap Phase		
1	ECO	Anticipated completion by: September 2019
2	ECO, Borough of Etna	Anticipated completion by: May 2020
3	ECO, Borough of Etna	Anticipated completion by: September 2019
Performance Phase		
1	ECO	Biannually beginning 2 years after certification (Anticipated certification November 2019)
2	ECO	Quarterly beginning 2020

INDICATOR

For the Environmental Stewardship Imperative, we will measure “renewable power generated within the district” (in megawatt hours per year) to meet the Borough’s energy demands, as well as percentage of Pine Creek riparian buffer that is fully functioning. Renewable power generated within Etna to meet Etna’s energy demand will allow us to understand our progress towards the implementation of carbon-free, clean energy production strategies. Percentage of Pine Creek riparian buffer that is fully functioning will allow us to understand our progress towards restoring ecosystem health in critical areas that provide key services (e.g., recreation, flood absorption) to our community.

EVALUATION AND ADJUSTMENT

Etna commits to measuring each chosen indicator, honestly reporting progress based on such data, using each progress report to evaluate our efforts, and adjusting our plan as needed to advance equity in Etna. We commit to transparency in this process and will allow opportunities for community engagement and public feedback to better align our Roadmap to our environmental stewardship vision as needed.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

For our Commitment to Environmental Stewardship we have received Letters of Support from Friends of the Riverfront and Conservation Consultants Inc. (see Exhibit C).

EXHIBITS

- A. [Etna Community Working Group](#):** This document includes everyone involved in the Etna EcoDistrict process to date, including attendance at meetings, workshops, and events and total engagements with the Etna EcoDistrict. The Etna EcoDistrict process has held approximately 33 public meetings with at least 325 unique participants and 1,118 points of engagement. In particular, the Etna EcoDistrict Planning Meeting #1 represents the adoption of the Etna EcoDistrict Imperatives and initiation of the official certification process. See Exhibit D for descriptions of other meetings and engagements.
- B. Etna EcoDistrict Education Booklets:** The Etna EcoDistrict Education Booklets are a set of educational resources on our Quality of Life Issues produced from the Etna EcoDistrict Education Series. They are a public resource that can be accessed digitally online by anyone. Additionally, there are 42 printed booklets that are shared and circulated by community members using a lending system.
1. [Etna EcoDistrict Water Booklet](#)
 2. [Etna EcoDistrict Mobility Booklet](#)
 3. [Etna EcoDistrict Air Booklet](#)
 4. [Etna EcoDistrict Energy Booklet](#)
 5. [Etna EcoDistrict Food Booklet](#)
 6. [Etna EcoDistrict Equity Booklet](#)
- C. Letters of Support**
- Social Equity
1. [County Councilwoman, Anita Prizio](#)
 2. [PA State Representative Sara Innamorato](#)
 3. [PA State Senator Lindsey Williams](#)
 4. [Shaler Area School District](#)
- Community Resilience
5. [ALCOSAN](#)
- Environmental Stewardship
6. [Conservation Consultants, Inc.](#)
 7. [Friends of the Riverfront](#)
- General
8. [412 Food Rescue](#)
 9. [Grow Pittsburgh](#)
- D. [Etna EcoDistrict Community Engagement Schedule, Agenda, and Record](#):** This document describes each of the 33 community engagements throughout our EcoDistrict process to date, as well as outlined future meetings. Date, location,

agenda, and outcomes are included for each meeting. Information on attendees and contributors to the Etna EcoDistrict process thus far is displayed in Exhibit A.

- E. **Etna EcoDistrict Planning Meeting #1 Presentation:** These slides serve to provide context on the first Etna EcoDistrict Planning Meeting in which our independent consultant, evolveEA, presented the three Etna EcoDistrict Imperatives to the Etna community. Attendees learned about each overarching Imperative, introduced as guiding principles to each Quality of Life Issue. At the close of the meeting, we reached consensus for adopting the Imperatives through an activity where attendees signed the Etna EcoDistrict Button with their names and thumbprints in ink. We "pushed" the button to officially kick off our EcoDistrict Certification journey. Please note that the entire Imperatives portion of the presentation is included, but some slides in the presentation have been omitted in this exhibit, such as introductory acknowledgements, prior meeting recaps, future meetings, etc. due to relevance and presentation size.