A Step-By-Step Guide to Climate Adaptation and Resilience Planning with the NYS Climate Smart Communities Program

1. **Designate the lead** for developing and implementing your Resilience Roadmap (e.g., a Waterfront Advisory Board, Waterfront Resilience Commission, Climate Smart Task Force or similar).

2. **Develop an inclusive stakeholder outreach plan.** Consult with community groups in impacted neighborhoods to develop an effective strategy for engaging a diverse group of stakeholders in the CARP process. Check out Inclusive Planning for Community Resilience for ideas and resources.

3. **Understand your community’s risks with a Climate Vulnerability Assessment** (CSC PE7, 4-16 points)
   - Analyze existing municipal plans, codes and ordinances
     - Tool: Climate Smart Resiliency Planning tool (CSC PE7 Resilient Policy Analysis, 6 points)
     - Example: Final CSRP summary from X
   - Have a community conversation
     - Tools: Community Resilience Building, LWRP Public Meetings
     - Example: Final CRB report from X
   - Optional: get more detail by conducting a spatial analysis
     - Tools: Scenic Hudson sea-level rise mapper and sea-level & marsh migration mapper, Hudson River Flood Impact Decision Support Tool
     - Example: Climate Change in Orange County, NY

4. **Develop a Climate Resilience Vision** (CSC PE7, 3 points) by getting stakeholder input on:
   - What is unique about your community?
   - What do you value in the waterfront?
   - How have you experienced flooding and other climate risks in your community? Where?
   - What does resilience look like to you?

5. **Select your Climate Adaptation Strategies** from a list of actions (use this checklist), based on results from steps 2 and 3, adding your own along the way. Strategies cover four key themes:
• Emergency communication + management
• Public outreach
• Municipal planning + operations/infrastructure
• Zoning + code

6. **Compile your CARP** (CSC PE7, 8 points) by bringing together your community’s vulnerability assessment, climate resilience vision and adaptation strategies:
   • Share draft for public input
   • Incorporate input and finalize
   • Officially adopt and post on your website
     - Example: [City of Kingston’s website](#)
   • Incorporate into other planning processes, including comprehensive planning

7. **Implement your CARP** with the help of state and federal funding (tool: financing fact sheet). Priority strategies to implement:
   • Incorporate Adaptation Actions into future comprehensive plans, zoning, building codes and other municipal planning processes
   • Apply to create or update a Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan or element, including your Adaptation Actions in your proposed projects
   • Participate in the 5-year updates to your county’s [Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates](#) (CSC PE7, 3 points), which make you eligible for FEMA funds
   • Apply to upgrade infrastructure to be resilient

8. **Use CSC guidance** to implement aspects of your CARP, such as designating [Cooling Centers](#) (CSC PE7, 1-9 points), adopting [Freeboard Policies](#) (CSC PE7, 4-19 points), and implementing [Green Infrastructure](#) projects (CSC PE7, 1-14 points)

9. **Revisit and update** your Resilience Roadmap every five years and at the beginning of another community planning process (e.g., comp plan):
   • describe how strategies within the prior plan have been implemented,
   • update the climate science data and projections,
   • address any changes in policy or infrastructure since the last plan, and
   • modify the existing strategies or add new recommendations as appropriate.