**DRAFT A COMMUNITY VISION AND GOALS**

A vision statement captures what community members most value about their community and what they want their community to become. When drafting a vision statement, it is helpful to think about how the community will be similar or different in the future (e.g., in 10, 20, 30, or 50 years or more)—how it will function, what it will be known for, who will be served by the community and its services, what it will look like, what resources will be needed, and more.

**Preparing a Vision:** Preparation of a vision statement should be as inclusive as possible. Visioning is often the first activity of a community engagement process. The process can include a variety of activities to engage stakeholders in visioning. Ultimately, the ideas and recommendations should be compiled into a single draft vision that is vetted through the adaptation planning process.

**Preparing Goals:** Goals should be statements of the desired outcomes from the adaptation planning process based on the vision of a resilient community. A vision statement and goals should reflect the needs, priorities, and values of the community and of the stakeholders involved in the planning effort. Consider visions and goals that help connect local adaptation planning to State efforts, such as the ICARP vision and principles. Establishing goals early creates a common foundation for the future work of everyone involved. Participants can refer back to these goals throughout the planning process to help ensure that they are on the right track. Later in the process, after preparing the vulnerability assessment, participants prepare more-specific goals as a framework for the adaptation policies. Phase 3 of the APG provides additional guidance for drafting goals.

**Example Vision with Broad Goals**

*Create a resilient community that can adapt to the effects of climate change.*

Goals:

* A community and local economy that continues to function during extreme events and has coordinated and up-to-date preparedness, response, and recovery procedures.
* A water supply that meets the demand of residents, businesses, and visitors in spite of changing precipitation trends.
* A community that can continue to function and thrive with an increase in average temperature and extreme heat days.
* A medical and public health system that proactively addresses human health hazards and inequities in the community.
* Utilities, buildings, and infrastructure that can meet community needs during and after severe weather.
* Sustainably managed forests in coordination with federal, state, and local agencies that will not endanger communities with wildfires.

**Example Community Worksheet**

1. **Open brainstorm.** Consider what your ideal climate-adapted, resilient community looks like. Describe the characteristics of this community: jot down ideas, examples, and questions here. Think about how the community will be similar or different in the future (e.g., in 10, 20, 30, or 50 years or more)—how it will function, what it will be known for, who will be served by the community and its services, what it will look like, what resources will be needed, and more.
2. **Draft vision.** Using content from the brainstorm, write down 1-3 draft vision statements. These should be broad and inclusive of all the ideas generated.
3. **Draft Goals.** Use the brainstorm and vision ideas to brainstorm more specific, outcome-based goals that achieve this vision.