

Building a Resilience Hub Network in Austin

When disaster strikes, people across Austin need trusted community spaces they can turn to for supportive services that help meet basic needs. When paired with traditional emergency planning, disaster response, and sheltering plans, Resilience Hubs can help provide relief during extreme weather events and other emergencies.

What are Resilience Hubs?

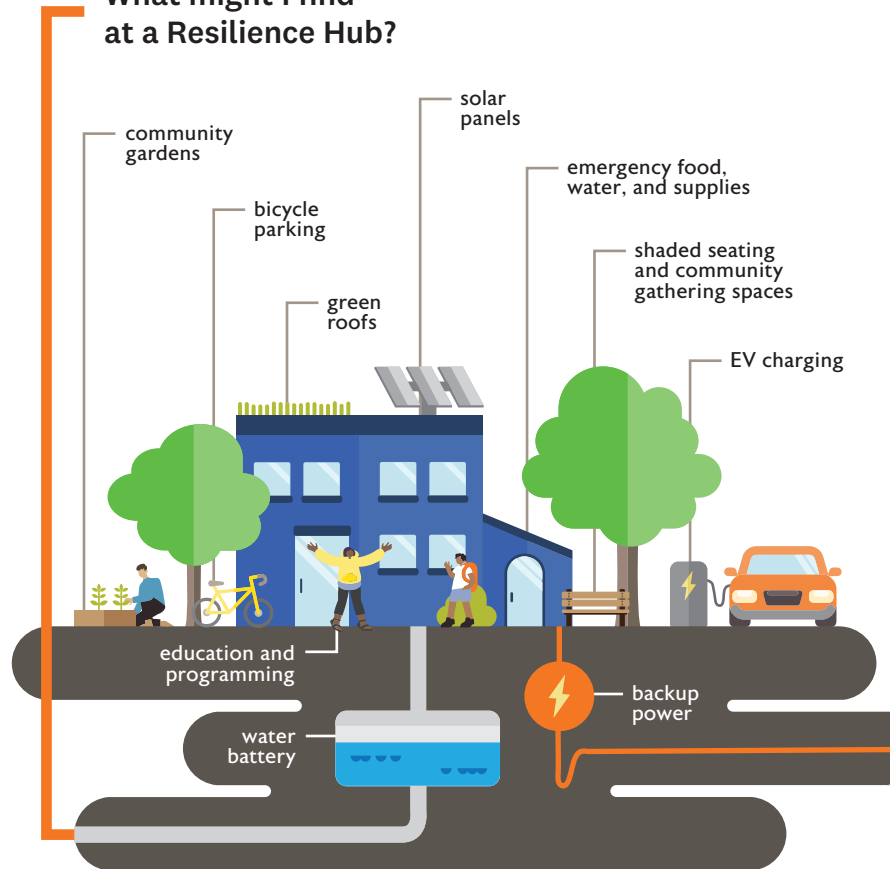
Resilience Hubs are community-focused physical facilities that can offer day-to-day services and programming and can also be activated to support the community before, during, and after a disaster. Each hub is unique to the community it serves. While some hubs can offer information, accessible bathrooms, and cell phone charging, others can be set up to shelter residents and provide food and water during an emergency.

Why do we need Resilience Hubs?

While Austin has historically experienced severe weather disasters and other disruptions, recent extreme weather events, economic stressors, and the COVID-19 pandemic have been particularly harmful to people in our community. Although disasters and severe weather can affect everyone, communities of color, lower-income groups, the elderly or very young, people with disabilities, and those experiencing homelessness are most impacted.

As climate change accelerates the frequency and severity of extreme weather, there is a need for accessible community spaces, supply distribution centers, backup power and water, safe temporary shelter, and better engagement and information around emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. Resilience Hubs can offer support in meeting these needs.

What might I find at a Resilience Hub?



What's happening locally?

The City of Austin is working with Travis County, the Austin Independent School District, and other partners to create and activate six initial Resilience Hubs. The group is also assessing existing facilities in the Austin area to create a future network of hubs to serve the community.



For more information on preparing for the effects of climate change, visit: austintexas.gov/climatepreparedness



Questions?

Contact the Office of Sustainability at: sustainability@austintexas.gov



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