

MUNICIPAL GUIDANCE FOR COASTAL RESILIENCE: *Model Ordinance Language For Maine Municipalities*



Building climate resilience is essential for communities' well-being and local action is critical for addressing the impacts of climate change and coastal hazards. Municipal land use planning and regulations are indispensable tools for enhancing local climate resilience. Where and how communities accommodate growth and development affects the exposure of people and property to natural hazards, as well as the health of the natural environment. Maine's home rule status offers valuable opportunities for municipalities to adopt creative, innovative, and flexible land use solutions that address coastal hazards and are tailored to local needs and conditions.

The ***Municipal Guidance for Coastal Resilience: Model Ordinance Language for Maine Municipalities*** document was developed to support municipal staff and planning boards integrate resilience measures into land use regulations. The document provides a menu of land use provisions and resilience measures that municipalities can incorporate into existing ordinances or combine for a standalone coastal resilience ordinance.

Benefits of Municipal Guidance for Coastal Resilience: Model Ordinance Language for Maine Municipalities

- Designed to allow a municipality to select resilience-based land use approaches that address local conditions, hazards, and needs.
- Provides specific yet customizable language that municipalities can integrate into land use regulations to enhance coastal resilience.
- Fosters the implementation of resilience strategies that protect people, property, and the natural environment from evolving coastal hazards.
- Facilitates land use planning that accounts for climate change impacts, minimizes risk from those impacts, and is designed for flexibility and adaptability to changing environmental conditions.
- Supports consistency in land use requirements between municipalities.

[Click here to access The Municipal Guidance for Coastal Resilience document \(available on SMPDC's Website\)](#)

Municipal Guidance for Coastal Resilience offers suggested resilience measures to integrate into existing ordinances, including:

- Floodplain Management
- Shoreland Zoning
- Subdivision and Site Plan Review
- Zoning

The Municipal Guidance for Coastal Resilience document includes:

- Hazards and topics to consider when amending existing municipal ordinance(s).
- Technical ordinance language
- Examples of resilience ordinance measures from other communities.
- Resources for understanding, identifying, and mapping coastal hazards and climate change impacts.

For additional information, please contact:

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