

Request for Nominations for New York City Panel on Climate Change Members

The Mayor's Office of Resiliency (MOR) strives to adapt New York City to the unprecedented challenge of climate change, creating a more resilient, equitable and vibrant city for the New Yorkers of today and generations to come. Through science-based analysis, policy and program development, and capacity building, MOR leads the City's efforts to ensure that New York City is ready to withstand and emerge stronger from the multiple impacts of climate change in the near- and long-term.

The New York City Panel on Climate Change (NPCC) is a critical part of these initiatives. NPCC is a Mayor-appointed advisory board of researchers with expertise on issues pertaining to climate change. NPCC's main charge, as generally articulated in Local Law 42 of 2012, is to provide an authoritative source of actionable information on future climate change and its potential impacts to support City decision-making. NPCC achieves these goals through climate analysis and integrated, transdisciplinary assessment every three years.

NPCC assessments serve the City, the Climate Change Adaptation Task Force (CCATF), and the public. For the City, the Mayor's Office of Resiliency directs the NPCC process working with an NPCC Leadership Team (see below), ensuring robust exchange with City agencies, CCATF, and relevant stakeholder groups. The CCATF consists of city, state, and federal agencies and private organizations and entities responsible for developing, maintaining, operating or overseeing the City's public health, natural systems, critical infrastructure (including telecommunications), buildings and economy. While NPCC's primary charge is producing actionable information to support the City and the CCATF, there is broad recognition of the need to also facilitate the public's understanding of climate change and, in the process, strengthen public participation in the City's efforts.

NPCC's fourth assessment initiative (NPCC4) will meet the requirements of local law and the evolving needs of the public good through improved engagement, interactive information dissemination, and new assessment of emerging science on vulnerability, impacts, and adaptation. NPCC is at an exciting juncture where a new leadership team and panel members will be appointed by the City, with the goal of releasing the first in a series of NPCC4 products (e.g. web-based reports, graphics, visualizations, etc) starting in Fall of 2021.

With this request, MOR is seeking nominations for authoritative, representative, and diverse scholars and scientists committed to New York City's longstanding climate response. MOR will work with previous and new NPCC leadership to evaluate the nominations and identify approximately 15 scientists covering a range of scientific and research disciplines and relevant fields of technical practice (e.g. design, architecture and engineering). More information on NPCC4 can be found below.

Nominations must be submitted using [this electronic form](#) by 5 pm Eastern time on Monday, January 13, 2020.

Requirements for Nomination

Interested persons may nominate themselves or third parties and may nominate more than one person, with a maximum of three nominations per person. Each nomination must include:

- Curriculum vitae (CV) (no more than 4 pages): CVs should include: a) full name, title, institutional affiliation, and contact information; b) the nominee's area(s) of expertise; c) a list of recent scientific publications, which should include peer-reviewed publications and may include technical reports, d) recent communications for a general audience and/or policy makers (e.g. briefs, public talks or lectures, etc), and d) a list of participation in and any roles served for professional societies or other advisory committees.

- Use case for research (approximately 500 – 1,000 words): A brief written statement on how the nominees work has contribute to: a) societal outcomes; b) decision support products, tools, or applications; and/or c) cases where research has supported action or capacity-building.
- References or endorsements (one document with approximately 3 – 5 endorsements of no more than 300 words each): A brief summary of one paragraph endorsements from colleagues and/or collaborators in both research and practice supporting the nominees' ability to: a) work in teams; b) work across disciplines and topics relating to multiple climate impacts and hazards; c) synthesize complex subject matter into actionable findings; and/or d) familiarity with and commitment to climate resiliency and adaptation in New York City. Additionally, we strongly recommend a reference or endorsement from the nominees' home organization or institution. For each endorsement, please provide the name, title and home institution of the person endorsing the nominee.
- Current and Pending Commitments (no page limit): A list of current and pending commitments on other projects.

Evaluation Criteria

The City and MOR are striving for NPCC to be authoritative, representative, and diverse. Because NPCC is an integral and important part of the City's climate response, we are seeking people who are committed to rigorous and actionable assessment and to public outcomes. MOR will work with previous NPCC leadership to evaluate the nominations on the following basis, list in no particular order of priority:

Expertise: Nominees should have a well-established or promising record of scholarly contributions reflected in the number and influence of peer-reviewed publications and/or written products. Nominees should demonstrate dedication to their respective field through service roles in professional societies and recognition as thought leaders in their field. Nominees should be able to interpret quantitative and qualitative data from disparate sources and even share data relevant to NPCC4. A concentration in urban systems (human and natural) is a plus.

Applications Experience: Nominees should have extensive experience making the results of their research useful for decision-makers and vulnerable populations, from producing or coproducing actionable data and findings to contributing to capacity building efforts. A commitment to shared learning, as evidenced through iterative exchange with a particular sector or community, is ideal. Familiarity with New York City is a plus.

Assessment Experience: Nominees should have experience with complex technical and scientific assessments. Experience with assessments related to climate and its impacts are ideal, but not necessary. Nominees should be able to work collaboratively with diverse experts from various stages in their career and from different research disciplines or practical fields. Nominees should have experience contributing constructively to expert elicitations. Familiarity with assessing and communicating scientific uncertainty is a plus.

Accessibility and availability: Nominees should be able to dedicate at least 10% of their time over the span of the NPCC4 process (see Details on NPCC4 below). Periodically, nominees should be able to travel to New York City for in-person meetings and events, and whenever necessary to support the collaborative process, nominees should be available to meet in person or via virtual meetings.

Communications Experience: Nominees should demonstrate their ability to communicate to a wide variety of audiences, from residents to legislators, and be open to communicating through a variety of media. Nominees should demonstrate an ability to speak on behalf of NPCC or a collective research endeavor and distinguish communications from their individual research interest.

Target Expertise

MOR encourages and welcomes a wide range of expertise to help make NPCC4 useful and relevant to the City's climate response. The list below provides a sample of research disciplines and technical and/or practical fields or issues. The list is intended as an example of the range of expertise sought for NPCC, not a definitive list.

Meteorology	Demography
Climatology	Geography (all sub-disciplines)
Hydroclimatology	Public Health (all fields)
Atmospheric science	Agriculture and agronomy
Geology, geomorphology, hydrogeology	Energy
Coastal hazards	Transportation
Ecology (all sub-disciplines)	Civic Engagement
Biology (both terrestrial and aquatic)	Urban Planning
Economics	Public Policy
Behavioral Psychology	Law
Anthropology	Public and private financing
Ethnography	Architecture and Design
Sociology	Engineering
Communications	
Journalism	

Details on NPCC4

NPCC provides authoritative, city-specific climate information that serves as the cornerstone of the City's overall risk management response to climate change. For example, in 2013, NPCC science was the basis for the City's rate case testimony that led to \$1 billion in resiliency investments by Con Edison. Additionally, NPCC climate projections informed 16 local laws that have incorporated additional safety measures into the building code to address events like Hurricane Sandy. Looking ahead, the City is making new investments in flood protection, energy supply, and building retrofits to address growing climate risks, all of which rely on NPCC assessments.

As mentioned previously, MOR is working with previous NPCC leadership to develop a fourth assessment initiative that will meet the requirements of local law and the evolving needs of the public good through improved engagement, interactive information dissemination, and new assessment of emerging science on vulnerability, impacts, and adaptation. The final scope and details of NPCC4 will be determined in the first half of 2020, in collaboration with successful nominees, new NPCC leadership, MOR, CCATF, and stakeholders. We are designing NPCC4 around three phases outlined below, the exact timing and scope of which are subject to refinement.

Phase 1: Scoping and Vision (Early to middle of 2020)

Following the appointment of successful nominees, MOR and NPCC will iterate on a final vision and scope of NPCC4. In parallel, with input and participation from NPCC members, MOR will lead a process to gather input from City agencies and departments on knowledge priorities and gaps. This phase will also include gathering input and perspective from various interest groups and communities around the City.

Phase 2: Climate Analysis (Middle 2020 to late 2021)

A central element of NPCC work has been to report on observed climate trends and patterns and to provide projections of future climate. NPCC4 will provide updated analysis and assessment of the status and trends of current and future climate using variables and metrics of relevance to City decision-making. NPCC4 will be a two- or multi-part series of assessments, starting with climate but followed by one or more reports related to the impacts and implications for various parts of the City.

Phase 3: Vulnerability, Impacts, and Adaptation Analysis (Early 2021 to middle of 2022)

In addition to future climate trends, the City is continually enhancing its understanding of and response to impacts and vulnerabilities, as well as assessing the state of adaptation to potential climate impacts. Previous NPCC assessments have included work on coastal flood risk, community-based adaptation, and other similar topics of relevance to the City's climate response. Similar to the climate projections, MOR aims to formally establish a regularly recurring component of NPCC work focused on updated information on impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability (IAV). In NPCC4, the current objective is that this IAV report will be the second component of a linked series of reports and findings. The IAV component of NPCC4 could potentially be further broken down into more than one report following the climate analysis. However, the scope and scale of the IAV effort will be decided by the final panel members, in collaboration with the City and MOR.

IAV topics related to previously identified knowledge gaps and City priorities include, but are not limited to: integrated and intersecting hazards (e.g. joint probability flooding where stormwater and coastal flooding intersect); groundwater fluctuations and resulting hazards; causes of social vulnerability and assessment of adaptive capacity across the City; and public health impacts resulting from climate hazards such as flooding, heat, and/or stress.

Roles of Authors and NPCC leadership

NPCC4 will further build on previous processes by establishing a leadership team comprised of approximately 4 – 5 experts from diverse disciplines and backgrounds. The NPCC leadership team will work closely with program support staff and MOR to oversee and guide the assessment process. The leadership team will also symbolize and strengthen the longstanding commitment to an integrated the knowledge base spanning research to practice.

Through this call, we are seeking nominations for the remaining 15 panel members. Local Law 42 of 2012 stipulates that NPCC members serve the Mayor without compensation. However, MOR will work with institutional partners to raise funding to support the process. For example, we anticipate funding to support workshop costs, including travel, and program support staff. Additionally, while NPCC4 will place an emphasis on synthesizing existing research and data, we anticipate the need to raise funds for certain analyses to support both the climate report (e.g. analysis of the latest climate projections) and the impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability report.

Benefits of being an NPCC member include:

- Opportunity to learn more about and contribute directly to New York City's climate response
- Interaction with city personnel in a variety of sectors
- Recognition as an emerging or established leader in climate research
- Opportunity to contribute to the City's climate research and monitoring agenda
- Collaboration with other leaders in the field
- Experience with cutting-edge assessment and risk communication techniques

MOR expects the responsibilities of NPCC members to be refined in the scoping and context setting phase in early 2020. Based on past assessments, member responsibilities include, but may not be limited to:



- Participate in approximately three scoping workshops in the first half of 2020
- Participate in regular calls with co-authors and working groups that include City personnel and stakeholders
- Participate in two all-NPCC meetings in New York City each year
- Perform literature review and synthesis
- Analyze complex data
- Contribute to expert elicitation
- Produce written reports and visualizations (e.g. maps, figures, graphics)
- Respond to peer review and public comments
- Participate in public presentations and NPCC4 outreach