



Brittany Salen, Chair
Executive Director
Environmental Justice Initiative

May 31, 2017

William Swiatek, Vice Chair
Senior Planner
Wilmington Area Planning Council

DNREC Division of Energy and Climate
Attn. Michael Tholstrup
State Street Commons, Suite 5A
100 W. Water Street
Dover, DE 19904

Michelle Harlee,
Councilperson
City of Wilmington

Marie Reed,
President
Southbridge Civic Association

RE: City of Wilmington, Delaware, 2017 Sustainable Communities Planning Grant

Travis Smith, Sr.,
President
Southbridge Connects

Dear Mr. Tholstrup,

Gina Moody,
Principal
Elbert-Palmer Elementary School

Through the above referenced grant application, the City of Wilmington seeks critical financial support from DNREC as a first step in developing a vulnerability assessment and resiliency plan for the City ("Plan"). The first phase, for which the City of Wilmington is seeking \$80,000, will be used to develop a resiliency framework, which will clarify the city's resiliency vision and provide a recommended path forward after careful consideration of our existing risks and initiatives. The results will help the City of Wilmington craft a path toward resiliency, with special attention paid to issues of vulnerability and equity for communities most at risk to the effects of climate change, sea level rise, chronic flooding and acute flooding.

Alison Windle,
Executive Director
Neighborhood House

The City of Wilmington is requesting \$80,000 from the DNREC Sustainable Communities Planning Grant. The City of Wilmington will provide a match for a portion of the requested grant consisting of both cash and in-kind services. The City of Wilmington Department of Public Works will lead the project.

Deborah Wiggin Neff,
Population Health Specialist
Nemours Health & Prevention Services

The South Wilmington Planning Network (SWPN) supports the City of Wilmington's Vulnerability Assessment and Resiliency Plan, and the first phase for reviewing existing information and developing a resiliency framework. Environmental, social, and economic resiliency is central to Wilmington's success, and supports the work of South Wilmington Planning Network.

Jim Black,
Consultant
Delaware Partnership for Sustainability

Patricia Kelleher,
Executive Director
Delaware Housing Coalition

The SWPN is a collaborative partnership of Southbridge residents and government, nonprofit and private agencies. The mission of the Network is to serve as a vehicle for information-sharing and the leveraging of resources on collaborative projects to improve the community's quality of life.

Victor Perez,
Assistant Professor
University of Delaware

Randi Novakoff,
Chairperson
SWPN Youth Committee

Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (607) 592-7650 or via email at brittsalen@ejinitiative.org.

Sincerely,

Brittany Salen
South Wilmington Planning Network, Chair