



## ORGANIZATIONS & ADVOCATES

# How can community-based organizations and advocates use the Clark County Climate Vulnerability Assessment?

Community-based organizations and advocates in Clark County that offer support for Clark County residents can use the CVA to understand where more action is needed to increase resilience of residents that are most vulnerable to climate hazards.

### **Climate Vulnerability Assessment:**

*A planning tool that identifies systems, people, and services that are vulnerable to climate hazards, as well as opportunities to enhance their near- and long-term resilience.*

## How Will Climate Change Impact the Region?

The CVA identifies the following climate hazards will impact Clark County:



### **EXTREME HEAT**

The 2.3 million people living in Clark County will be highly vulnerable to extreme heat as some regional projections indicate that the **number of days over 115°F could increase by 10 times by the end of the century.**<sup>1</sup>



### **DROUGHT**

**Drought is expected to continue to impact the region's water supply**, which may result in water shortages that have the potential to impact community members and the services they rely on.



### **WILDFIRE**

**Local wildfires will become larger, more frequent, and more intense**, especially in rural communities near Mt Charleston, and growing regional wildfires will **significantly impact air quality for Clark County residents**, especially those with pre-existing health conditions.



### **FLOODING**

Precipitation is expected to fall in **less frequent, but heavier, bursts**, which may result in flash flood events that poses a public safety threat for frontline communities.

<sup>1</sup> Clark County. (2021). Climate Summary for Clark County, Nevada. Prepared for Clark County by Kim Lundgren Associates, Inc. and Adaptation International.



## Where Are We Most at Risk?

The CVA identifies the most significant climate impacts facing residents and the services and infrastructure they rely on and the greatest opportunities for action.

RISKS		 HEAT	 DROUGHT	 WILDFIRE	 FLOODING
Reduced Access to Public Spaces or Services	Not designed to withstand impacts				
	Inaccessible to community members due to outdoor conditions				
Impacts to Human Health	Impacts to people experiencing homelessness				
	Impacts to those with preexisting health conditions				
	Impacts to people without vehicle access				
Challenges for Rural Communities	Limited access to emergency response resources				
	Increased exposure to climate hazards				
Challenges for Indigenous Populations	Institutional social and economic barriers that limit adaptability to climate change				
	Loss of culturally and traditionally significant sites				

## What Are Our Priorities for Action?

The CVA identified priority recommendations to address the most significant vulnerabilities facing the county and enhance resilience to climate hazards. Community-based organizations and advocates can increase climate resilience in Clark County by advocating for policies and programs to:

- **Inform community members** about how climate change will impact them and how they can prepare.
- **Partner with local and regional governments** to coordinate communications to reduce exposure to multiple climate and health hazards, such as extreme heat days or bad air quality days.
- **Protect and expand natural habitats.**
- Increase energy resiliency by **collaborating with energy utilities** to ensure services remain available in emergencies, and consider **installation of energy storage and microgrids** in community-use spaces.
- Support requirements that **protect outdoor workers** and provide worksite emergency preparedness training.

### Example Action: Resilience Hubs

Resilience hubs are community-serving facilities that support residents, coordinate communication, and distribute resources during extreme weather events and climate emergencies. Often located in existing community facilities, resilience hubs leverage inter-agency, multi-organizational relationships, and resources to support residents most vulnerable to climate change.

