

Rockefeller Foundation - 100 Resilient Cities
City of Los Angeles
Chief Resilience Officer

The City of Los Angeles has been selected as one of the inaugural members of the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities program, which aims to transform and harden the urban resilience framework of its members. The Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) will be the central focus point for promoting Los Angeles' resilience vision, expanding and implementing effective resilience strategies, and leveraging the benefits and services of the 100RC network and platform.

GENERAL PURPOSE:

Under the administrative direction of the Mayor and in collaboration with the Deputy Mayors and senior staff leadership, the CRO will further develop, implement and direct Los Angeles' resilience vision and strategy under the Rockefeller Foundation 100 Resilient Cities Challenge network and platform.

RESILIENCY PRIORITIES:

The City of Los Angeles has already undertaken a variety of activities aimed at increasing our ability to effectively respond to a wide range of disasters (natural, manmade, environmental, etc.), reduce the impact of these shocks, and ensure that the City's most critical infrastructure elements are able to support an efficient and robust economic recovery process for the residents of Los Angeles and the region.

The City of Los Angeles resilience strategy will aim to leverage the resources and support provided by 100 RC to augment and effectively complete work that the City of Los Angeles has begun with a focus on the issues that have the potential to most critically impact the following areas:

- Community readiness
- Partnerships
- Safeguarding the future
- Resumption and continuity of City services

Addressing the most critical areas of vulnerability and building the robustness of the City's resilience in these areas will ensure that LA is prepared to recover from a number of other possible shocks. As such, the City's resilience priorities will focus on seismic and sustainability threats and hazards.

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the direction of the Mayor and his senior leadership, the CRO will:

- Work closely with the Deputy Mayor for Homeland Security and Public Safety and Mayor's Office staff, as well as other City and external partners to engage stakeholders, build consensus, and implement recommendations to build the City's overall resilience.
- Implement the recommendations of the City of LA Seismic Safety Report (forthcoming), which is being produced in partnership with Dr. Lucy Jones and the US Geological Survey.
- Endeavor to implement agreed-upon resilience strategies with a particular emphasis on communities within Los Angeles that have been historically economically disadvantaged.

In addition, the CRO will:

- Plan, organize, manage and direct the planning and implementation of a City-wide resilience plan as related to the Rockefeller Foundation funding.
- Implement City's resilience goals, policies and strategic plans. Serve as the primary City representative to the 100 Resilient Cities network and initial point of contact for platform partners. Plan, develop, monitor and report on progress toward key milestones.
- Direct and oversee the resilience strategy development. Plan, develop, and monitor resilience strategy launch process, data collection and analysis, stakeholder engagement, prioritization, and documentation. Identify opportunities for improvement and recommend improvement to strategies. Identify new initiatives and catalogue lessons learned.
- Serve as advocate to oversee and promote interest/support for the City's resilience plan. Create active and inclusive engagement with a wide range of officials, City Departments, public, private, and nonprofit partners, and the public. Create a program to communicate the City's initiatives and accomplishments in resilience to local, regional, national, and international audiences.
- Direct and oversee the implementation of the City resilience strategy. Collaborate with partners to secure funding needed to implement priority resilience initiatives. Directly oversee implementation of initiatives within their purview. Influence other stakeholders to implement other initiatives. Monitor implementation process. Coordinate departmental activities with those of other departments and outside agencies and organizations.
- Work as needed on resiliency projects and strategies, as deemed necessary by the Deputy Mayor of Homeland Security and Public Safety.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

- Experience in multi-sector major initiative leadership from design through execution and evaluation;
- Application of comprehensive knowledge of resilience program practices, program planning, and development;
- Experience with local and/or regional/state/federal government, including City operations, budgeting, fiscal administration, management and long-range planning policies, practices and procedures.
- Application of good knowledge of public speaking and public relations methods to persuade, negotiate, and mediate issues. Leadership abilities to inspire, influence, and enlist others to drive development and implementation of the strategy;
- Clear, concise oral and written communication to develop and present reports to City management, Mayor and Council, businesses and the general public;
- Interpret oral, written, mathematical, legal, statistical and regulatory information dealing with resilience programs, budgets, grants, regulations or policies, ordinances and standards;
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with businesses, financial institutions, coworkers, department heads, officials, customers, regulatory agencies and the general public;
- Deep commitment to, and proven track record of, leading teams, achieving significant objectives in a timely fashion, and making collaboration and inclusiveness a priority;
- Demonstrated resiliency, creativity, resourcefulness for this position and communications skills necessary to be a key representative of the Mayor during public hearings, media interviews, and community settings of all types.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

A Bachelor's degree in Business or Public Administration, Urban Planning, Public Policy, Urban Design, Engineering, Emergency Management, Environmental Science or Policy, or a related field, and 10 years related work experience. Advanced degree preferred.

TO APPLY:

Please submit cover letter and resume to Thalia.polychronis@lacity.org.

