

CITY OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND  
PURCHASING DIVISION  
SEALED PROPOSALS

RFP #16-020

**Resilience Innovation Hub**

Sealed Proposals are being requested to provide a **Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner**, in accordance with all terms and specifications contained herein, will be received in the Purchasing Office, City Hall, 43 Broadway, Newport, R. I., until:

**Twelve Noon (12:00) O' Clock PM, Local Time**

**September 28, 2015**

If additional information is needed, please contact the Technical POC listed in the package.

Proposals must be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the Purchasing Office, City Hall, 43 Broadway, Newport, R. I. 02840, and must be plainly marked in the lower left hand corner, **“Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner # 16-020”**. Please provide One (1) original and (3) copy of your proposal as well as one (1) electronic copy on thumb drive/CD.

Note: Bid Tabulations will be posted on the City of Newport website generally within twenty-four (24) hours of the closing date.

It is the bidder's responsibility to see that the bid is delivered within the time and at the place prescribed. Bids received prior to the time of opening will be securely kept, unopened. Bids may be withdrawn on written request (on the letterhead of the bidder and signed by the person signing the bid) which must be received prior to the time fixed for opening. Bids may be modified in the same manner. No bid or modification thereof received after the time set for opening will be considered, even if it is determined by the City that such non-arrival before the time set for opening was due solely to the delay in the mails for which the bidder is not responsible.

Any bidder taking exception to, or questioning any of the provisions, procedures, conditions or specifications herein stated should make such exceptions known to the undersigned, in writing, not less than five (5) days before the bid opening.

Any change or interpretation made as a result thereof will be published in an addendum and mailed to all prospective bidders. Should a bidder still not be satisfied, he may, in the bid, set out and stipulate the exception, with enough explanation to be understood by the City and, within the stipulation, the INCREASE or DECREASE in the bid price because of the exception shall be stated. The City may, at its discretion, accept or reject any or all exceptions.

Federal Excise Taxes and/or Rhode Island Use Taxes are not to be included in the bid. The City will execute exemption certificates if furnished by the bidder when submitting his invoice.

The bidder will state the approximate delivery date in the bid, or the time required to make delivery after notification of award.

The right is reserved, as the interest of the City may require, to reject any or all bid proposals, to waive any technical defect or informality in bids received, and to accept or reject any bid or portion thereof.

The City of Newport reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to accept any proposals deemed to be for the best interest of the City.

**The technical point of contact for this package is Paul Carroll, Director of Civic Investment. All questions must be emailed to [pcarroll@cityofnewport.com](mailto:pcarroll@cityofnewport.com).**

**If you would like to schedule a visit during the RFP open period, please email Paul Carroll at [pcarroll@cityofnewport.com](mailto:pcarroll@cityofnewport.com), to schedule a date and time.**

Note: All bidders are responsible for insuring that no **addenda** have been added to the original bid package.

CITY OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND  
Erin Mulligan, Purchasing Agent  
(401) 845-5414

### **GENERAL CONDITIONS (if applicable)**

1. The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive any informality, to request interviews of Service Providers prior to award and to select and negotiate the Service Provider services in the best interest of the City.
2. The Service Provider shall guarantee to perform the services offered and the total price of the proposal for a period of not less than 60 days from the deadline for submission of proposals.
3. The City reserves the right to accept all or part of any proposal, and to negotiate a contract for services and cost with the selected Service Provider.
4. The Service Provider shall provide all necessary personnel, materials and equipment to perform and complete all work under this proposal.
5. All original documents and drawings shall become the property of the City after completion of the Service Provider's work.
6. The City of Newport intends to recommend award of a contract to the City Council for the requested services within one (1) month of receipt of the proposals. The Service Provider shall be prepared to commence work immediately upon execution of a contract with the City.
7. Awards will not be made to any person, firm or company in default of a contract with the City, the State of Rhode Island or the Federal Government.
8. The Service Provider hereby agrees that it will assign to the City of Newport all cause of action that it may acquire under the anti-trust laws of Rhode Island and the United States as the result of conspiracies, combination of contracts in restraint of trade which affect the price of goods or services obtained by the City under this contract if so requested by the City of Newport.
9. Unless otherwise stated, invoices are to be submitted (to Accounting Office) in duplicate upon delivery of service to the City. The invoice must include an itemization of all services provided, including unit list price, net price, extensions and total amount(s) due.

10. Unless otherwise stated, payment will be made within thirty (30) days of the completion of the service, in an acceptable fashion, to the City and receipt of invoice, whichever is later.
11. City is exempt from all sales and Federal excise taxes. Our exemption number is 05-6000260. Please bill less these taxes.
12. The City of Newport's obligations to pay any amount due under a contract are contingent upon availability and continuation of funds for the purpose. The City may terminate the contract, for non-appropriation of funds, and all payment obligations of the City cease on the date of termination.
13. This contract will be for the services described above; however, this agreement should not be considered exclusive. As deemed necessary, the City reserves the right to obtain these services from any other vendor.
14. Unless otherwise specified all costs listed are firm for the term of the contract.
15. Neither party shall be liable for any inability to perform its' obligations under any subsequent agreement due to war, riot, insurrection, civil commotion, fire, flood, earthquake, storm or other act of God.
16. Notification of the parties shall be considered to have been constructively received when it is mailed via the United States Postal Service or delivered in hand to the parties as stated in the contract.
17. If any of the GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS is held to be invalid or unenforceable, it will be construed to have the broadest interpretation which would make it valid and enforceable under such holding. Invalidity or unenforceability of a term or condition will not affect any of the other GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.
18. Each and every provision and clause required by law to be inserted in any subsequent Contract shall be deemed to be inserted herein and the Contract shall be read and enforced as though it were included herein, and if through mistake or otherwise any such provision is not inserted, or is not correctly inserted, then upon the application of either party, the Contract shall forthwith be physically amended to make such insertion or correction.

19. Proposal shall also mean quotation, bid, offer, qualification/experience statement, and services. Proposers shall also mean vendors, offerors, bidders, or any person or firm responding to a Request for Proposals.

20. All contracts entered into by the City of Newport shall be governed by the Laws of the State of Rhode Island. Any disputes shall be resolved within the venue of the State of Rhode Island and Newport County.

21. The Service Provider selected for this project shall procure and maintain the following types of insurance:

- Professional Services Liability Insurance for errors and omissions (\$1,000,000.00 minimum)

# CITY OF NEWPORT

## Resilience Innovation Hub

### Request for Proposal Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner RFP#16-020

#### Overview

For the last two and a half years, the City of Newport, RI has been focused on an innovative city-wide effort to address its City Council and community goals of economic diversification, economic development and job creation through the national and global emerging growth sectors related to integrated resilience. These public, private and non-profit efforts have allowed the City of Newport to begin to emerge as a national center for integrated resilience. The City and its strategic public, private and non-profit strategic partners have laid the ground work of a portfolio of projects, initiatives and efforts within the integrated resilience growth sectors.

The City envisions some of these projects, initiatives and efforts will be developed, funded, implemented and managed through market-driven activities; some through a combination of private and public driven activities; and, some through a combination of private, public, impact investment, social financing and non-profit driven activities.

After significant positive feedback from local, national and global groups that it is moving in the right direction and can develop this portfolio of projects, initiatives and efforts into the first US model integrated resilience locale, the City is now ready to move forward aggressively with these efforts and is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP) # 16-020, for a Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner. Attached in Appendix A and Appendix B, please find the following background documents: *Creating a Model of National Resilience - Newport, Rhode Island* and *Newport Resilience Related Projects Update*. These documents should be reviewed and referenced where appropriate in responses to this RFP.

#### **Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner Scope of Services/Deliverables**

The Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner scope of services/deliverables to be realized by April 1, 2016 are:

1. Recommendations of the structure and the creation and management of a system or organization that will serve to identify, organize and structure the existing portfolio of projects, initiatives and efforts into an integrated and mutually supportive program of economic diversification, economic development and job creation for the City;

2. Recommendation and implementation of applicable structures to develop and manage projects, initiatives and efforts according to their private, public, impact investment, social financing and non-profit focus;
3. Identification of a minimum of three of the current portfolio of projects, initiatives and efforts that have private and/or private and public sector focus potential;
4. Identification and recruitment of finance, technical and management strategic partners to pursue the development, funding, execution and management of the three projects, initiatives and efforts that the Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner identifies in #3 above with expressions of interest for the three projects obtained by the April 1, 2016 deadline, which may include the Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner and/or its consortium members as potential participants in the actual projects; and,
5. Development of a business plan including funding for the ongoing operations of the system or organization proposed and implemented per #1 above.

### **Initial Funding**

The City will provide an initial \$500,000 in funding to the selected Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner for this effort. As outlined above in the Scope of Services/Deliverables section, the selected Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner will be responsible for any additional funding/financing required to develop, execute and the ongoing management of the system or organization it proposes according to #1 in the above Scope of Services/Deliverables section.

### **Selection Criteria for Proposals**

The City requires that the RFP responses from Proposing Groups (“Proposer”) address the following areas:

- The response needs to include an outline as to how the Proposer will meet the Scope of Service/Deliverables required in this RFP; and,
- The response needs to include, based on the documents in Appendix A and Appendix B, what does the Proposer identifies as the uniqueness of Newport approach to integrated resilience that will make Newport a national and potentially global integrated; and,

In addition, the City recommends that included in the response be a list of potential strategic finance, development, engineering, construction, technical and management partners that the Proposer is considering bringing to the project as part of a consortium.

Finally, the responses should be no longer than 20 pages including a list of key personnel and strategic partners.

## **Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner Required Qualification**

The Primary Project Advisor and Strategic Partner, which can include the experience of strategic partners that are proposed as part of a consortium, must have the following qualifications:

1. Extensive experience and demonstrated success on a national and global level developing, funding/financing, implementing and managing major public-private partnerships (PPPs) that must include major road and transportation financing and development components;
2. Demonstrated ability to bring national and global funding/financing to major development projects;
3. Sector experience including design, engineering, construction and project management experience in the following areas/sectors:
  - Financial
  - Infrastructure (roads, water/waste water systems, port/ocean related facilities)
  - Traditional and renewable energies
  - Legal
  - At risk cultural structures
  - Education
  - Health
  - Public facilities
  - Additional desired sector experience: resilience/climate change initiatives and strategies, smart city technologies/design including innovation in traffic flow and road/transportation systems, microgrids, cybersecurity, hospitality/tourism, green infrastructure, insurance and financial sectors.
4. Demonstrated and extensive experience with major US Federal departments, agencies and organizations on traditional and sustainable major infrastructure projects;
5. Demonstrated and extensive experience with foreign private sector, governments and multilateral organizations on traditional and sustainable major infrastructure projects;
6. Ability to identify and recruit funding/financing and/or participation of national and global leadership organizations and firms within impact investment, family funds, social financing and social impact bonds and alternative financing/funding systems; and,
7. Strong relationship through current projects, past projects and/or existing contractual obligations with a Rhode Island based corporation(s). These Rhode Island based corporations must have extensive demonstrated experience in the areas of design, engineering, construction and project management of major projects.

**RFP Open Period**

The Open Period for this RFP is from Tuesday, September 1, 2015 through Noon on Monday, September 28, 2015. All submissions must be received by the City of Newport by Noon on September 28, 2015.

## **APPENDIX A**

## **Creating a Model for National Resilience**

### **Newport, Rhode Island**

#### **Opportunity Overview**

Newport, a world famous historic city, located on the New England coast between New York City and Boston, is poised to offer itself as a demonstration location for the development and implementation of a national resilience model. Newport's goal is to use the next 25 years, in preparation for its 400th Anniversary, to position itself as the representative ecosystem for global thought leadership and the applied innovation center for integrated resilience.

#### **Integrated Resilience**

For Newport, integrated resilience is the systematic impact of challenges and synergy of opportunities among the built/natural environment, economics, social/political, educational, health and cultural sub-systems. Moreover, Newport has a unique perspective on resilience and identifies it as having three stages:

1. **Surviving the Shock**  
Be it a weather event, cyber-attack, economic/social/health crises or some combination of these shocks;
2. **Sustainability**  
What did we learn from the shock? How to either avoid or prepare for the next shock; and,
3. **Resilience – Profiting from the Shock**  
Utilize the sustainability exercise as “first adopters” to identify how to transform the challenges of the shock(s) into economic opportunity by being more competitive compared to other locales by utilizing new technologies, materials, designs and processes for both local economy AND by the export of technologies, products and experience to other US and global locales.

Newport recognizes that one major component of this new ecosystem will be the emerging role, function and mission of the public sector, specifically the role of city/local government. Moreover, we propose that a good initial and over-arching test issue for the development,

implementation and management of this new ecosystem is resilience innovation connected to ocean-related climate change.

To develop and implement this test ecosystem, Newport needs strategic partners to help it visualize and begin to put in place the fundamental building blocks for the type of local government that will be needed to realize this national resilience model.

### **Why Ocean-related Climate Change Resilience Innovation as a Test Issue**

As a test issue, ocean-related climate change resilience innovation:

- is one of the greatest global challenges and economic opportunities given that 70% of global urban centers, which contain the world's major centers of population, finance, logistics, education, cultural and social impact, are affected by the ocean-related climate change;
- represents a major global issue that is too large and potentially devastating to be addressed solely by one actor (i.e.; public sector);
- provides a multifaceted framework within which the new ecosystem can be tested, developed and monitored;
- requires affiliated, linked, cooperative and integrated exchange, understanding and action among the built/natural environment, economics, social/political, educational, health and cultural sub-systems;
- impacts communities and locales independent of social, economic, ethnic and religious differences; and,
- offers major economic and social opportunity as the systems approach will require and develop the means to address this challenge across the six areas: built/natural environment, economics, social/political, educational, health and cultural sub-systems.

As a beta location, Rhode Island, with the City of Newport as a leading proponent, is in an ideal position for developing and testing this new innovative ecosystem. Its location, population and geographic size, the challenges it faces (natural/built environment, economic, social, academic and cultural), and the "two degrees of separation" between stakeholders and decision makers across all sectors provide a manageable platform to develop, test and observe the emerging ecosystem. The benefit from a national perspective is that Rhode Island, when compared to larger states, can furnish quick evidence-based results that demonstrate the successes and weakness of the emerging paradigm. Moreover, Rhode Island's test results allow a system-driven ecosystem and economic development to be considered for application and scalability to other states.

For the realization of this new emerging ecosystem, Newport is focusing on the urgently needed technical and social innovation related first and foremost to living in an era of climate change, particularly for urban centers impacted by ocean-related events. Therefore, our aim in Newport is to be at the forefront of an effort to demonstrate how epic socio-economic change will be developed, financed, implemented and managed in an era of shrinking public sector budgets. Thus, Newport and the larger Rhode Island community present a striking opportunity not only to innovate technologically, socially, industrially and economically (trade, jobs), but also to show how the public sector will need to engage with other stakeholders to generate the urgently needed socio-technological projects involving coastal protection and resiliency.

## APPENDIX B

## Newport Resilience Related Projects

### Update

#### 1. **Innovate Newport** (Repurposing the former Sheffield School)

**Project Overview:** Newport is repurposing a former 30,000 sq. ft. school property as a technology accelerator and flex space. This project is a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) focused on resilience-related technologies, products and design including ocean engineering, defense (particularly cyber security related) and alternative/renewable energy.

**Partners:** City of Newport and the Newport Chamber of Commerce.

**Current Status:** In 2013 the City issued an RFP for a preferred developer partner that will be responsible for the building design and construction management; program design, tenant recruitment and operations management. The Economic Development Foundation of Rhode Island (EDFRI) was chosen and approved by the City Council as that preferred developer. EDFRI has brought together a consortium of design, legal and marketing groups to move the project forward. The design phase is targeted to be completed by August 2015 with construction beginning in Fall 2015 and targeted operational date of late Fall 2016.

**Opportunities:** Currently two private sector groups have expressed interest in being anchor tenants when facility is operational. One of these groups is a Californian consortium focused on cyber security. The other firm is an ocean engineering firm.

**Funding:** This project is being funded by a \$1.67 million US Department of Commerce EDA Public Works and Development Facilities grant. The City is contributing both an equal dollar match in the amount of \$1.67 million from its Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG), as well as the contribution of the property and building estimated at \$800,000

#### 2. **Resilience Innovation Hub**

**Project Overview:** Newport is developing the Resilience Innovation Hub as a national model for integrated resilience. This initiative is for a 60+ acre planned applied research and development (R/D) technology commercialization transfer and service centers, focusing on resilience/climate change, ocean, defense, cyber security, green infrastructure and digital industries, their support sub-sectors, and associated training and job creation centers, and their ancillary financial, commercial and retail/hospitality support services. The goal is for this hub to

be a nationally and globally recognized center of excellence for integrated resilience's best practices, a new applied technology and design test center, and a key global convening locale for national and global integrated resilience thought leaders. The Resilience Innovation Hub will include land made available from the realignment of the Pell Bridge Ramps and the Hub's associated internal road, pedestrian and bike transportation systems. The Pell Bridge realignment is a key component and project that needs to be executed for the realization of the Resilience Innovation Hub.

**Partners:** City of Newport, Rhode Island Department of Transportation, Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority, Rhode Island Department of Administration and the Newport County Chamber of Commerce.

*Strategic Allies:* US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association (RINLA), Salve Regina University and the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography.

**Current Status:** The City of Newport issued an RFP in October 2013 for a consultant group to work with the City to scope out the Resilience Innovation Hub opportunity, as well as create and issue a developer's package and RFP. The City chose a team led by Matrix Design of Boulder Colorado that includes HR&A Associates of New York. To date, Matrix has provided the following deliverables: a comprehensive vision document and strategic plan; a draft overlay zoning change; SWOT analysis; conducted multiple stakeholder meetings; as well as, submission of alternative bridge realignment and internal hub transportation system. Newport is waiting for approval and cost estimates from Rhode Island Department of Transportation and the Turnpike & Bridge Authority on the suggested design alternatives presented by Matrix Design Consultant for the Pell Bridge Ramp realignment and the hub's associated internal transportation system. Matrix and the City have had multiple meetings and follow-up conversations with RIDOT and Turnpike & Bridge Authority. Both indicate acceptance of alternative designs and costs will be forthcoming in the very near term.

**Opportunities:** There exist multiple potential end users and strategic partners that have expressed interest in participating in the innovation hub including academic institutions, ocean-related applied research and policy groups, foreign ocean technology and applied research institutions and alternative energy and environmental firms.

**Funding:** Funding for the Matrix group for this project was provided by a \$100,000 Federal Highways Grant via the Rhode Island Department of Administration, with an additional \$50,000 grant for the Newport County Chamber of Commerce.

### 3. Naval Hospital

**Project Overview:** As part of the Resilience Innovation Hub, the City of Newport currently is engaged in the acquisition process from the Department of Navy of the former nine acre waterfront Naval Hospital as a City property for inclusion in the Resilience Innovation Hub development.

**Partners:** City of Newport

**Current Status:** City has been working to acquire the nine acre (seven acre land and two acre water) since the property was identified as excessed properties from Naval Station Newport. The acquisition process began as part of a proposed a combined effort with the other two Aquidneck Island communities (Middletown and Portsmouth) for the excessed properties in the three communities. Due to the length of time for the availability of the Portsmouth property, it was decided that it was more appropriate for all three communities to consider negotiated purchases of the respective properties directly from the Navy. Newport acquisition process was challenged in late 2014/early 2015 by the US Bureau of Indian Affairs on behalf of the Narragansett Tribe. After a thorough review, the Federal Government issued a statement that the Narragansett Tribe did not have claim on the property, allowing Newport to continue the process. Newport has submitted its Public Benefit Statement (i.e.: document that serves as the bases for the ongoing negotiation and purchase process). The City is waiting for Navy's acceptance of the Statement, but the City to date has received no negative comments on its Public Benefit Statement from the. Once that is completed, targeted for the Fall 2016, the City and Navy will be able to move to the next stage of the process with anticipated conclusion by 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Calendar Year 2016.

**Opportunities:** The Naval Hospital property represents one of the most potentially commercially lucrative underdeveloped waterfront properties in Rhode Island. It is of strong interest to developers. Moreover according to Matrix and other reviewers, its inclusion in the Resilience Innovation Hub adds substantially to both its value and the value of the larger hub area. Interest in this property includes an upscale hotel, ocean-related climate change center, major event convening center or some combination of all.

**Funding:** The City has sold one of the excessed public schools. Part of the revenues from that sale are being held by the City to cover the anticipated costs of the Naval Hospital acquisition.

### 4. Green Infrastructure Job Identification and Placement Initiative

**Project Overview:** The City of Newport has been partnering with the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association (RINLA), a trade association that represents Rhode Island's \$2.5 billion land based industries, and the Town of South Kingstown to develop a green infrastructure job creation and placement effort. This effort, in conjunction with a consortium of the state, local, national and global firms and organizations, targets 20-30 year old unemployed or underemployed citizens from economically disadvantaged groups.

**Partners:** City of Newport, RINLA, Town of South Kingstown, Harvard University’s Zofnass Sustainable Infrastructure Institute and the Law School’s Environmental Policy Clinic, University of Rhode Island’s Department of Agricultural Economics, Community College of Rhode Island and Operation Stand Down, which services economically struggling returning veterans in finding housing and employment.

**Current Status:** The City of Newport and RINLA are working with both the State grant agency and partners to put together appropriate timelines, deliverables and contracts. This administration work will be completed by the end of August 2015. Project implementation target date is September 1, 2015.

**Opportunities:** The initiative will allow Rhode Island to identify the types of jobs that will develop in this emerging sector, the type of policies Rhode Island will need to adopt, as well as train and place individuals in these positions. In addition, partners see this initiative as being a benchmark national effort in helping to identify types of job creation will develop in the emerging green infrastructure sector, as well as those skills needed for this sector.

**Funding:** In June of 2015, the City of Newport and partners were awarded a \$2.3 million Superstorm Sandy Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) grant to begin this initiative. In addition, we are pursuing additional funds to increase the initiatives scope by an additional \$7.6 million from major national foundations, potential impact investors and other sources of funding and support with the goal of 3,000 job placements within five years.

## 5. Microgrid

**Project Overview:** The City of Newport is looking at two opportunities to be a test case in Rhode Island for a community microgrid project. The first opportunity is an approximate mile and half project that would keep critical facilities and shelters online during a natural or manmade disaster. These facilities include the main Fire Station (and Emergency Management Headquarters), City Hall, Thompson Middle School (potential shelter in place facility), Police Headquarters, as well as Newport City Hospital. The second opportunity is for a system to service the Resilience Innovation Hub as a permanent (not just emergency) grid.

*Additional opportunity:* Linked to the Resilience Innovation Hub, the City and strategic partners are beginning to explore, based on recent Administration Executive Order and associated departmental directives, the potential for the microgrid to serve Naval Station Newport in an “across the fence” base-community project.

**Partners:** City of Newport, National Grid, IPERC, the New England Clean Energy Council, an energy policy advocate from an adjacent community, and EPA Region 3’s Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland, College Park.

**Current Status:** The City has had highly productive meetings and exchanges with National Grid, IPERC (a major national microgrid integrator firm), the US Department of Energy’s Washington, DC policy group, the USEPA-established Environment Finance Center at the University of Maryland, the New England Clean Energy Council and the Clean Tech Open potentially to use Newport and eventually the Resilience Innovation Hub as an application and test center for microgrid technologies and those technologies associated with smart grids/smart building technologies.

In addition, the City will be exploring with its Congressional delegation, the Navy, alternative energy providers and private finance groups the above referenced “across the fence” base-community opportunity.

**Funding:** None to date.

### *Other Resilience-Community Enhancement Projects and Initiatives*

#### 1. Cyber Security

**Initiative Overview:** The City is pursuing, as mentioned in the above Innovate Newport (former Sheffield school) initiative, a series of cyber securities initiatives with local, national and global firms and organizations linking technology development firms and insurance firms in a co-located environment to address potential cyber-attacks on maritime and energy systems during a time of a natural ocean-related emergency, as well as critical facilities.

**Partners:** Salve Regina University and ARCSAFE

**Current Status:** Partnering with Salve Regina University and its cybersecurity and digital forensics program to recruit a consortium of California cyber firms to Newport with strong interest as an anchor tenant in the Innovate Newport and then migrating to the Resilience Innovation Hub when operational. This activity has been paired with potential partnering with Israeli cyber groups.

**Funding:** N/A.

## 2. Fast Pyrolysis Energy

**Initiative Overview:** Working, in conjunction with the microgrid effort, with RINLA to recruit a fast pyrolysis energy firm that can utilize waste to produce both energy, at Tier 4 (California Standards) emission rates, and biochar that can be used as both a soil amendment for land productivity enhancement and as a component in new materials for advanced manufacturing.

**Partners:** Prairie Fire, SAIC, Dow Chemical and RINLA

**Current Status:** First set of conceptual and business estimates have been exchanged between SAIC-Prairie Fire and Dow Chemical.

**Opportunities:** In addition to the microgrid opportunity, the City, Prairie Fire, SAIC, Dow Chemical and RINLA are exploring a pilot opportunity to utilize the SAIC-Prairie Fire fast pyrolysis technology to transform plastic into “drop in” diesel and gasoline.

**Funding:** In discussions.

## 3. Oceanography Technology

**Initiative Overview:** The City of Newport is serving as facilitator and connector for the University of Rhode Island’s Graduate School of Oceanography (URI GSO) and the commercialization office at NAVSEA Naval Undersea Warfare Center Newport (NUWC) for opportunities to attract research and foreign ocean-related firms for cross-fertilization of R/D and commercialization efforts in Newport.

**Partners:** City of Newport, NAVSEA NUWC, URI GSO, Irish Maritime & Energy Resource Center, Marine Institute Ireland, Dublin City University, as well as the US Embassy Lisbon (to link with Portuguese centers of ocean technology and engineering excellence at the University of the Azores).

**Current Status:** Through the City’s outreach, meetings in Rhode Island are scheduled between URI’s GSO and the Oceanographic Department of the University of the Azores for the beginning of September. In addition, Irish oceanography and ocean-related energy groups are scheduled to come to Rhode Island in late September to meet with the City, University of Rhode Island’s Graduate School of Oceanography and NAVSEA Naval Undersea Warfare Center to discuss potential opportunities for collaboration and technology commercialization. In addition through the City’s outreach and efforts, the US Embassy in Lisbon has facilitated introductions between the University of Rhode Island and the University of the Azores for research and potential commercial collaboration. The City and the US Embassy in Lisbon also are working on developing a program to link Portuguese firms and organizations within the renewable energy and cyber sectors potentially to utilize the Innovate Newport (repurposed Sheffield school) and

eventually the larger Resilience Innovation Hub as their platform for commercialization and operations in the US market.

**Opportunity:** In addition to the potential strategic application of research and the commercialization of ocean related technologies, products and design, this effort has an opportunity to link Newport's Resilience Innovation Hub with efforts in Portugal, Ireland, United Kingdom and France that are interested in developing similar ocean related resilience innovation hubs and associated mix-use development. Three immediate potentials are projects being considered are in the southern part of the Republic of Ireland, Thames River Estuary, as well as in northwest France.

**Funding:** N/A.

#### 4. Catalyzing Newport

**Initiative Overview:** The City of Newport is assisting the *Catalyzing Newport* initiative ([www.catalyzingnewport.org](http://www.catalyzingnewport.org)), a multi-year project that brings thought leaders from organizations such as Knight, Pew and Brookings Institute to assist Newport explore and utilize the place making, arts, culture and heritage as economic and civic building blocks and major contributors to a healthy and diverse community fabric.

**Partners:** City of Newport, Rhode Island Humanities Council, multiple national professionals from leading community organizations and foundations, as well as multiple local stakeholder groups.

**Current Status:** By the end of July 2015, one webinar and two catalyzing week long network sessions and public participation programs will be completed.

**Opportunity:** Ability to bring together cross sector, economic and demographic groups to build productive community discussion, cohesion and stakeholder participation.

**Funding:** Funding for this initiative is by grants raised by Rhode Island Humanities and local foundations.

#### 5. Urban Agriculture

**Initiative Overview:** The City is in preliminary exploration for the potential repurposing of one of its former large four story brick school building into a test center for new technologies and design for the development of 12 month urban agriculture productions.

**Partners:** City of Newport, Environmental Finance Center, RINLA, and local venture funders. Additional targeted potential partners include GE and Siemens.

**Current Status:** Initial design and conceptualization in process.

**Opportunity:** The opportunity includes provision of food for the community during disaster periods, provision of fresh food sources to Newport schools, as well as a 12 month supply of fresh locally grown items for a weekly farmer's market program.

*Additional Opportunity:* As complementary to the purpose of the Resilience Innovation Hub, there exists the opportunity to look at how former large institutional and industrial facilities can be repurposed to provide locally based food security during crises, as well as year-long fresh locally grown food sources for the community.

**Funding:** TBD

## 6. Live/Creative Space

**Initiative Overview:** The City of Newport is looking to repurpose an additional former grammar school into a microloft live/creative space for young tech and design individuals.

**Partners:** City of Newport and the Catalyzing Newport Initiative.

**Current Status:** Preliminary meetings and conceptualization ongoing. Project was presented as one of the items during the July 2015 Catalyzing Newport program, which included Carol Coletta of the Knight Foundations. Ms. Coletta is a national leader in visualizing and execution of repurposing of former schools in this type of project.

**Opportunity:** The City is trying to address the need for housing and common space for young technology and design professionals that are just starting out. It is considering the use of the former school as microlofts or mini-apartment and community space for young design artists and recently graduated start-up technology entrepreneurs to provide a place for them to live and exchange ideas and opportunities at a reasonable living cost in order to keep them in and build Newport. This type of space will allow an initial housing platform and idea exchange for individuals that will be attracted to opportunities at the Innovate Newport (former Sheffield School) and Resilience Innovation Hub projects.

**Funding:** TBD.

## 7. **Race to Resilience**

**Initiative Overview:** The City of Newport is developing a cooperative working arrangement with the City of Annapolis, MD to link the resilience initiatives and efforts of Newport with those of Annapolis in a collaborative competition called *the Race to Resilience*.

**Partners:** City of Newport, City of Annapolis, EPA Region 3's Environmental Finance Center, University of Maryland, EPA Chesapeake Program, RINLA and Newport and Annapolis community stakeholder groups.

**Current Status:** Multiple meetings between Newport and Annapolis have taken place through the facilitation of the Environmental Finance Center. The Environmental Finance Center is working with both cities to create a mutually beneficial working arrangement.

**Opportunity:** This initiative allows both cities to bolster their efforts to create resilience. For Newport, the opportunity is contact and exposure to additional cyber related firms, as well as federal agencies and department agendas in the Washington, DC area. For Annapolis, it allows for access and cooperation with Newport's associated national and global ocean engineering and technology partners and potential partners.