



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF CLIMATE AND RESILIENCY

Position Title: Science Advisor for Climate Science and Services

Job ID Number: 34440

Organizational Profile

The Mayor's Office of Climate Resiliency (MOCR) strives to adapt New York City to the unprecedented challenges 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, MOCR leads the City's efforts to transform the city's communities, buildings, infrastructure, and waterfront to build resilience in the face of multiple climate threats, including sea level rise, storm surge, extreme heat, and intense precipitation, in the near- and long-term.

We achieve our mission by focusing on four central pillars as described by OneNYC 2050: (1) mitigating physical risks, (2) empowering residents and businesses, (3) building a climate-ready government, and (4) advancing and applying climate science. MOCR is also developing a new Climate Adaptation Roadmap, which will incorporate the successes and lessons learned from the post-Sandy recovery and rebuilding period, while also planning for the next generation of climate hazards. This Roadmap will identify the greatest climate-related threats facing New York City, and recommend a prioritized sequence of climate adaptation measures for the short, medium, and long-term, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable residents and neighborhoods.

Equity is central to MOCR's work. MOCR launched a cross-office Equity Core Team which is working to better understand how inequitable systems and institutions make communities more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and develop new policies to proactively address these inequities and advance climate equity in New York City.

MOCR is composed of climate policy experts, urban planners, architects, scientists, engineers, and lawyers. Under the direction of the Director, MOR is organized by seven teams that are led by Deputy Directors: (1) Climate Science and Services, (2) Social Resiliency, (3) Land Use & Buildings, (4) Infrastructure and Energy, (5) Waterfront Resiliency, (6) Program Coordination and Delivery, and (7) External Affairs.

The Opportunity

MOCR recently created a Climate Science and Services team to equip City decision-makers and the people they serve with actionable information to adapt to climate change. We do this by, among other things, exploring context, supporting evidence-based decision-making, generating useful scientific information, and designing processes for learning (e.g. coproducing knowledge). In keeping with MOCR's commitment to equity, the Climate Science and Services team is particularly focused on climate services, highly collaborative and just approaches to develop and use scientific information in climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Job Description

MOCR seeks a Science Advisor for Climate Science and Services. Working with the Deputy Director for Climate Science and Services, the Senior Science Advisor will manage MOCR-led initiatives from the

recently announced post-Ida report titled [The New Normal: Combating Storm-Related Extreme Weather in NYC](#) and can expect to support the development of a compound flood risk map for New York City.

Extreme rainfall, higher seas, and higher water tables can have a compound effect. Current flood maps and models depict these climate-related hazards separately. Future flood risk cannot accurately be mapped or modeled without an accurate depiction of present-day flood risk under existing conditions. A comprehensive map including coastal flooding, stormwater and groundwater modeling is needed. The City will create an integrated map to visualize the cumulative or compound effect of weather and climate hazards. The map and the analytical framework used to produce it will help the City and private partners identify key infrastructure and neighborhood investments that need to be made and help City agencies determine the most effective use of City resources.

The day-to-day responsibilities of the Senior Science Advisor include, but are not limited to:

- Liaise with and coordinate scientists, City personnel, and external stakeholders.
- Serve as a subject matter expert in water resources and climate within MOCR and among other government experts.
- Analyze stormwater maps, review technical analyses, and develop and edit technical scopes of work.
- Build internal capacity (tools, proficiency, understanding) on flood risk within City government.
- Coordinate internally across MOCR teams to advance stormwater resiliency.
- Develop innovative products and services that visualize data, concepts, and other actionable information on complex subject matter.

Candidate Qualifications

- A bachelors degree with 3-5 years of relevant, full-time professional work experience in science, engineering, or environmental studies with a concentration on water resources. Familiarity with participatory research and coproduction of knowledge strongly preferred.
- Strong grasp on issues relating to climate change in a large urban setting. New York City-specific understanding a plus.
- Experience analyzing and synthesizing complex data and subject matter to produce descriptive statistics, charts and graphs, infographics, and data-rich maps. Fluency in GIS, statistical, and/or data visualization software a plus.
- Ability to work with professionals from a variety of disciplines in the natural and social sciences, across a range of policy fields, and in different organizational settings.
- Experience convening collaborative meetings, including agenda development, facilitation, and evaluation.
- Experience setting clear objectives and timelines, balancing and adjusting to external factors and competing priorities, and inspiring individuals and teams to achieve outcomes and complete products.
- Ability to participate in collaborative processes playing both supporting and leading roles, as needed, and able to both listen and contribute when needed.
- Ability to communicate complex ideas and translate highly technical information to diverse audiences in writing, public speaking, and meeting settings.
- Willingness to travel in the 5 boroughs and work after hours or on weekends, as required.

Salary:

Commensurate with experience

To Apply:

Please send a copy of your resume, a cover letter, and three (3) references to [Candidate Application](#)

**New York City Residency Is Required Within 90 Days of Appointment.
The City of New York and the Office of the Mayor are Equal Opportunity Employers.**

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If you are a qualified individual with a disability or a disabled veteran, you may request a reasonable accommodation if you are unable or limited in your ability to access job openings or apply for a job on this site as a result of your disability. You can request reasonable accommodations by contacting Human Resources at HR@cityhall.nyc.gov.

As of August 2, 2021, all new hires must be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus, unless they have been granted a reasonable accommodation for religion or disability. If you are offered city employment, this requirement must be met by your date of hire, unless a reasonable accommodation for exemption is received and approved by the hiring agency.