

## Frequently Asked Questions about Steps 5-7 (Supplemental Section) in the Capstone Worksheet

### *Water Related Questions*

1. What rain patterns will my municipality experience in the future? *Stormwater management needs to consider future climate needs.*
  - a. See page 11
2. Where is flooding a concern in my community? *It is important to know where flooding occurs when thinking about locations for installing infrastructure or doing outreach about flooding.*
  - a. See pages 12-13 for locations.
3. What water pollution concerns do the open bodies of water have in my community? *The available data only talks about pollution in rivers, streams, and lakes which can make drinking water more costly to sanitize. Green stormwater infrastructure can help clean polluted water before it gets to pipes and open bodies of water.*
  - a. See page 17
4. How much impervious surface (does not absorb water) is in my community? *More impervious surface in a community means more water rushing into the pipes, which means that the area is more susceptible to flooding.*
  - a. See page 14
5. How is the land in my community being used? *Land use impacts the economic development potential in a community. When it comes to flooding - the land use can impact how susceptible to flooding the area is (depending on available open space), how much pollution is in the flood waters (depending on industrial land use), and how much area is available for stormwater management (vacant land).*
  - a. See page 14

### *Heat and Air Quality Issues*

6. What heat patterns will my municipality experience in the future? *Green stormwater infrastructure can make areas feel less hot when installed thoughtfully.*
  - a. See pages 10 & 15
7. What will the energy burden (cost of utility bills) be in this climate future? *As temperatures increase, people will depend more on AC to feel comfortable at home. The cost of this additional energy can be expensive for households and make it harder to respond to flooding.*
  - a. See pages 11 & 16
8. What is the air quality like in my community? *Healthy green stormwater infrastructure can improve air quality, but stopping the source of pollution is best.*
  - a. See page 16

## **Resident Characteristics**

9. What is the demographic make-up of my community? *Think about which populations, especially those who are vulnerable, are left out of the design process. Make sure their experiences are considered in the design process. When thinking about outreach, it is important to consider what methods would best reach vulnerable populations or populations particularly affected by the issues.*
  - a. See page 18 (for demographics), page 20 (for percent of renters and owners, and households that lack a car)
10. What kind of financial burdens do people in my community face? *Solutions will take additional funding. It is important to consider funding options that do not put additional burden on households with low-moderate or fixed incomes.*
  - a. See page 16 (for energy cost burden), page 20 (for housing cost burden and transportation costs)
11. How prevalent are different health concerns in my community? *Climate crises add additional stress on individuals with health concerns, making it harder for them to be resilient to stormwater without proper support from their local governments and community.*
  - a. See page 21

## **About my community**

12. What is the tax base in my community? *A community's tax base informs how many projects can be funded directly from the municipal budget, versus what needs to be supplemented by grants or loans.*
  - a. See page 19
13. How old are the residential buildings in my community and what types of residential buildings do we have? *The age and type of residential building can mean that it requires a different stormwater management solution, which needs to be considered in the program design.*
  - a. See pages 19 (for age of buildings) & 20 (for number of units in residential structure)
14. How many vehicles do households have? How many households don't have vehicles? How good is the public transit system? *During a flood (or other climate emergency), evacuation might be needed. If a household doesn't have a vehicle and public transit isn't available, this household is at extreme risk.*
  - a. See page 20 and 21
15. How available are parks in my neighborhood? *Parks can be sites for green stormwater infrastructure. If there aren't very many parks, vacant lots could be converted to address both flooding and heat concerns, as well as benefit community members' mental health.*
  - a. See page 20 (for acreage of park per 1,000 people) and page 14 (for open space on the land use pie chart)