

MILLVALE ECODISTRICT PIVOT 2.0



Millvale Ecodistrict Declaration of Collaboration

Millvale Ecodistrict is a coordinated team of people and organizations committed to support and fulfill the Millvale Ecodistrict Plan. This Declaration of Collaboration, or Memorandum of Understanding, is non-binding. The Millvale Ecodistrict will make the following commitments necessary to make the Millvale Ecodistrict Plan a success:

- Commitment to Quarterly meeting participation with Convener setting agenda, providing monthly electronic updates and reporting;
- Commitment to align with Ecodistrict Imperatives Commitments in Equity, Climate Adaptation and Resilience.
- Commitment of Partner resources (as defined by partner and approved case-by-case) to implement the Millvale Ecodistrict Plan. Resources include, but are not limited to funding, grant writing, staff time, letters of support, meeting spaces, event spaces, project materials, general infrastructure;
- Commitment to communicate among the EcoDistrict all Partner related efforts committed to advancing sustainability and the Millvale EcoDistrict Plan;
- Commitment to coordinate implementation and funding endeavors within the Ecodistrict related to the Ecodistrict Plan and its Imperatives Commitments. Specifically all partners will work together to support and promote the partner best suited to lead specific programming and funding endeavors in the spirit of collaborative program development;
- Commitment to actively collect and share data pertaining to advancement of the Millvale EcoDistrict Plan;
- Commitment to develop an equitable, resilient, and climate-protective neighborhood;
- Commitment to action by Partners to continue to develop sustainability goals and strategies while integrating the recognized goals from the Millvale EcoDistrict Plan;
- Commitment to further develop the Partners relationships by working together to develop formal and organizational commitments related to developing current and future opportunities in alignment with the Millvale Ecodistrict Plan;

Signed on this 19th day of May, 2020;

Millvale Community Library

Millvale Community Development Corporation

James Machajewski Jr

Borough of Millvale

New Sun Rising

The declaration will renew each year without notice or review unless a partner requests the declaration be reviewed. In the event that a partner wishes to terminate this declaration, that party will be required to provide a notice period of forty-five (45) days.

Decision-making Process, Reporting and Imperatives Commitment Alignment:

Decisions relevant to jointly funded collective efforts of the Millvale Ecodistrict are to be made by the Founding Organization representatives at regularly scheduled Quarterly Meetings. The Founding Organizations as of 2020 are also the decision-making body. Collective funding opportunities for joint efforts are to be communicated via e-mail or at quarterly meetings. Decision to move ahead with funding opportunities can be made through e-mail or in-person voting at quarterly meetings. Any changes to planned fund uses are to be approved through majority vote via e-mail or at quarterly meetings.

Projects impacting public spaces and infrastructure must be approved by Millvale Borough Council during regularly scheduled monthly Council Meetings. Founding Organization representatives and/or Convener must provide any relevant documents as needed for approval of requests made to Council.

Individual organizational efforts that have a positive impact on Millvale Ecodistrict goals are to be communicated with Stakeholders and Founding Organizations as needed, but do not require collective approval.

Monthly reports of relevant Ecodistrict efforts are to be created by Convener and stored in shared Google Drive. Reports are to be developed with information provided by Stakeholders and Founding Organizations.

The organizational representatives of each decision-making organization are to be chosen by the Board of Directors or Council of each organization and must hold a leadership role within the respective organization.

All activities conducted as a part of the Millvale Ecodistrict Collaborative are to support the advancement of Millvale's Imperatives Commitments in the areas of Equity, Climate Adaptation and Resilience, as outlined within the Imperatives Commitment. As projects and potential projects are reviewed, they will be tested against the imperatives commitments to assure alignment. Projects not aligned with commitments will not be considered an Ecodistrict project.

Appendix I: Millvale Ecodistrict Association Stakeholders

Meeting Convener:

Sustainability Coordinator

Stakeholders:

- **Borough of Millvale (Founding Organization):** Eddie Figas, Manager; James Machajewski, Council President
- **Millvale Community Library (Founding Organization):** Melissa Mason, President
- **Millvale Community Development Corporation (Founding Organization):** Jaime Hahn, President
- **New Sun Rising (Founding Organization, Backbone Organization):** Scott Wolovich, Executive Director
- **Gardens of Millvale:** Denise Rudar, Chair
- **Bike and Pedestrian Committee:** Jeff Carr, Chair
- **Business Association of Millvale:** Lisa Love, Co-Chair; Katie Dembowski, Co-Chair
- **Girty's Run Watershed Association:** Donna Pearson, Director
- **North Hills Community Outreach:** Jacquelyn Boggs, Outreach Manager
- **Millvale Planning Commission:** William Stout, Millvale Council
- **Triboro Ecodistrict:** Brian Wolovich, Director
- **Emergence Collective:** Danielle Spinola, President
- **Shaler Area School District:**

Backbone Organization:

New Sun Rising

Advisory Organization:

evolveEA

Appendix II: Roles and Responsibilities

Founding Organizations: Having been the primary facilitators of the EcoDistrict Plan and with representatives attending the 2016 and 2019 EcoDistrict Incubator program, these are independent, agreed upon organizations with separate fiduciary responsibilities who shall work in support of the Millvale Ecodistrict as members of the Millvale Ecodistrict Collaborative with fundraising support as well as technical assistance. These organizations are: Borough of Millvale, Millvale Community Development Corporation, Millvale Community Library, and New Sun Rising. The Borough of Millvale will be considered the primary founding organization and as such shall be recognized as guiding organization when necessary.

Stakeholders: Each of the stakeholder groups share a vested interest in and commitment to Millvale’s health and well-being. They shall constitute the Stakeholder group. Stakeholder groups can participate in all aspects of the EcoDistrict as warranted by their internal capacity. Stakeholder groups will advise Founding Organizations in implementation of Pivot 2.0 based upon their connectivity to the community.

Decision-Making Body: The decision making body is comprised of the the four Founding Organizations and are members of the Millvale Ecodistrict Collaborative. For collective initiatives, decisions will be made by a majority vote during quarterly Millvale Ecodistrict Collaborative meeting. Stakeholder groups that are not part of the decision-making body can become so by unanimous vote of the Founding Organizations at the first quarterly meeting.

Advisory Organization: Advisor organization(s) provide content expertise and consulting, but are not considered a Stakeholder for the purposes of this document.

Backbone Organization: Millvale EcoDistrict is an unincorporated group comprised of Millvale organizations and stakeholders who are committed to working collaboratively to make the Millvale Ecodistrict plan a success. The Backbone Organization helps maintain overall strategic coherence and coordinates and manages the day-to-day operations and implementation of work, including stakeholder engagement, communications, data collection and analysis, and other responsibilities.

Convener: The Millvale Sustainability Coordinator shall convene the meetings of the Millvale EcoDistrict partners, and the Millvale Ecodistrict Leadership Team. The convener will work with Founding Organization Representatives to set each quarterly meeting agenda and will keep notes in shared google drive from each meeting for historical tracking.

Millvale Ecodistrict Leadership Team: The Millvale EcoDistrict Partners understands that healthy communities actively develop new leadership and utilize robust community empowerment processes. The Millvale EcoDistrict Leadership Team program identifies, invites, builds, and empowers emerging community leaders.

Exhibit I: [Millvale Ecodistrict Pivot 2.0](#)

Exhibit II: District Boundary – Borough of Millvale

