What is Climate Safe Neighborhoods?
Climate Safe Neighborhoods is a national effort to identify neighborhoods that are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change because of racial and social injustices, spread awareness and educate residents in those neighborhoods, and ignite action towards climate resilience. The Climate Safe Neighborhoods partnership explores the relationship between historical race-based housing segregation and the current and predicted impacts of climate change. Effective community engagement is important for creating better policies and programs, addressing inequality, and building resilient communities.

What are the goals?
1. Engage residents in conversations about climate change concerns and adaptation methods unique to their neighborhoods, arming them with the knowledge to advocate for resources.
2. Raise awareness of the relationship between a neighborhood’s history and current climate-related issues.
3. Strengthen the City of Cincinnati’s climate planning process by creating neighborhood-level climate resiliency plans that prioritize the community voices and needs.

Prioritizing Community Engagement
Over the course of six meetings, community members discuss:
1. Their vision for an inclusive, equitable, and resilient neighborhood, as well as their priorities and concerns related to climate change.
2. What climate change is and how it will uniquely affect Cincinnati and their neighborhood.
3. How historic policy decisions have influenced current climate vulnerability.
4. Climate adaptation strategies unique to their neighborhood and where they want to see green infrastructure projects.

Climate Safe Neighborhood’s Partners
Together, Groundwork, the City of Cincinnati’s Office of Environment and Sustainability, and Green Umbrella have piloted an approach through Climate Safe Neighborhoods for residents to provide their neighborhood-level expertise, share a vision for their community, and co-create recommendations in the Green Cincinnati Plan, the city’s sustainability playbook.

Interested in becoming a Climate Safe Neighborhood?
Visit our website at www.groundworkorv.org and send us an email at info@groundworkorv.org

Scan here to learn more about Cincinnati’s climate concerns and where your neighborhood stands.