

IBTS Planning and Economic Development Services

IBTS integrates resilience into our community planning approach to strengthen communities and create vibrant neighborhoods that balance economy with equity. Our services focus on increasing the safety, security, and stability of the community, while maintaining a sense of place and social integrity unique to the region.

IBTS can supplement local resources by assisting with creating and updating comprehensive and master plans, strategic resilience planning, code updates, economic development strategies, and other municipal functions. We take a holistic approach by integrating climate change risks and social equity in mainstream governance into our resilience planning solutions.

WHY IBTS?

We are driven by resilience.

As climate and land use patterns, demographics, and economies change, our priority is to help your community adapt. We help your community build resilience by addressing stressors to your social fabric, economic development, infrastructure, and built and natural environments.

We are more than a planning firm.

We take a multidisciplinary approach to solve challenges in your community. We integrate expertise from all of our service areas – from hazard mitigation and disaster management to building department services, grant management, and energy and sustainability – and tailor an approach that best meets your community's needs.

We are built by local government.

Our team comes from every corner of local government. We work with your community's leadership to customize strategies that can be readily implemented and work seamlessly with your community.

IBTS Community Resilience Assessment Framework & Tools (CRAFT)

IBTS uses CRAFT to perform resilience baseline assessments in collaboration with the public, private, and nonprofit community stakeholders. Our assessment platform identifies gaps and current and future vulnerabilities while simultaneously highlighting existing strengths to leverage in building greater community resilience. The assessment results in practical, actionable suggestions for improvement and aligns resilience projects with potential funding sources.



Our Services

Our team leverages decades of expertise in resilience planning to support communities.



Community Engagement

Identify influencers, community stakeholders, and citizens from all sectors of the community to educate and engage them on the public process, opportunities to shape the community's vision, and the importance of resilience. IBTS offers full-service marketing and market research teams to support this effort.

Benefit: Ensures all voices are heard and integrated into the plan, that the community is invested in and has ownership over the process, and avoids conflicts of interest later on.



Comprehensive Planning

We develop actionable strategies and implementation plans to guide communities toward the future by addressing social, economic, and environmental risks – both manmade and natural – and other vulnerabilities.

Benefit: Creates a solution-driven framework and customized vision for resilience efforts, provided by IBTS's experienced, full-time planners at a fraction of the cost.



Economic Development Strategies

We integrate pre-disaster recovery into economic planning initiatives and other documents to identify persistent economic challenges, and to promote economic diversity and flexibility. IBTS bolsters both steady-state and responsive initiatives for a community's ability to withstand an economic disruption.

Benefit: Ensures achievable long-term adaptability by coordinating efforts across municipal functions and across municipal and county lines.



Code Updates

We update local codes to ensure that they reflect comprehensive plans and unified development ordinances, and integrate long-term objectives for resilience planning in the community. IBTS experts perform updates in tandem with plan updates, or as a separate service.

Benefit: Promotes the health, safety, and welfare of your citizens while ensuring resilience is integrated into future community growth and development.



Pre- and Post-Recovery Planning Services

Resilience planning services can also be made specific to disaster planning and hazard mitigation, focused on preventative and preparedness measures to reduce the impacts of future disasters. Services include:

- Pre-Event Recovery Ordinances
- Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Recovery Plans
- Resilient/Green Infrastructure Plans
- Public Engagement in Recovery Planning
- Housing and Economic Recovery Planning

Benefit: Reduce disaster impacts and recovery time for your citizens and have a plan in place to minimize the unexpected in the wake of a disaster.



Resilience Assessments, Project Prioritization, and Workshops

We work with community stakeholders to identify community strengths and vulnerabilities using our Community Resilience Assessment Framework & Tools (CRAFT). We can then identify high-impact resilience projects and match them with potential funding sources.

Benefit: Strengthen your community's ability to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and manmade disasters, and maximize funding opportunities to do so.



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Sometimes the City gets flak for its decisions, but something that I will never regret is the decision to bring IBTS on board.

- Tim Rundel, City Manager, City of Durant



Our Work

Breezy Point, NY, Build it Back Program, Construction Inspection Services

After Hurricane Sandy swept through Breezy Point, NY, IBTS provided construction inspection services for the New York City Build it Back (BiB) program. IBTS' support resulted in hundreds of rehabilitated and elevated homes that are flood- and fire-resistant and compatible with the historical and architectural context of the community.

Durant, OK, Comprehensive Plan Development and Unified Development Code Update

IBTS provides a Community Development Director and a Chief Building Official for the City of Durant, supplemented with remote planning staff. Our team updated the City's comprehensive plan, engaging Durant's citizenry in public meetings to refine the values, vision and goals section of the plan. At the guidance of the city manager, IBTS developed a concise, user-friendly plan that reflected the long-term objectives of the citizenry, community stakeholder, and city staff.



Contact

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About IBTS

We are building resilient communities by reducing risk and providing quality assurance measures to improve quality of life. IBTS is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization specializing in disaster recovery, resilience planning, energy and local government services. We help you meet governance challenges while enhancing public safety, economic development, and the general welfare of communities.



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