

## **Appendix 1.** The Climate Resiliency Toolbox instrument

All numbered prompts are rating-response items on a 1-5/Disagree-Agree scale accompanied by “I don’t know” and “N/A”.

### **Emergency Preparedness** – *How should we prepare for emergencies and disasters in West Michigan?*

1. In preparing for disasters like increased flooding, we should prioritize infrastructure over disaster response strategies.
2. Emergency management must take into account uncertainties about climate change.
3. Any defensible emergency preparedness plan must protect the integrity of natural systems.
4. Emergency preparedness plans for West Michigan must minimize exposure of the least advantaged citizens to harm.
5. Any acceptable storm water management plan for West Michigan must not worsen flooding outside West Michigan.
6. Society must limit which lost structures can be replaced in areas highly susceptible to flooding.

### **Sustainability** – *How should West Michigan define sustainability in an uncertain future?*

1. Sustainability is self-defeating because it requires economic development to solve problems created by economic development.

2. Sustainability investments should have a return on investment competitive with non-sustainability investments.
3. Environmental losses are permissible when offset by economic gains.
4. It is possible to live sustainably without being an environmentalist.
5. To be truly sustainable, West Michigan needs to be self-reliant.
6. Neighboring organizations should invest in shared resources for improved sustainability and cost savings, such as on-site energy production or green infrastructure.
7. Sustainable development is code for no business at all.

**Energy** – *How should we approach energy production and consumption in West Michigan?*

1. Incentives must be provided to encourage more sustainable energy practices.
2. We must pursue alternative energy sources like solar and wind if we are to remain economically viable as a region.
3. Energy programs that threaten natural resources in the region are unacceptable.
4. On-site renewable energy production is preferable to utility-scale renewable energy production.
5. Those who profit the most from unsustainable energy practices have a special obligation to pay for mitigation and adaptation efforts.
6. We must restrict our energy use out of concern for the wellbeing of future generations.
7. We can resolve our energy challenges by simply reducing consumption.

**Government** – *How should government help West Michigan achieve climate resiliency?*

1. Local municipalities have a responsibility to help repair and replace property lost in in floods.

2. Industry, not the government, should be in charge of regulating energy practices.
3. Proper planning for emergencies associated with climate change requires local governments to take the lead.
4. The citizens of West Michigan have a moral right to be protected by their governments from natural disasters.
5. Governments should prevent construction in areas highly susceptible to the impacts of global climate change (i.e., flooding).
6. Government and not private landowners should fund storm water management.