Richmond's 2017 Heat Watch Pilot — Seeding CAPA Strategies' Global Urban Heat-Mapping Network

City Innovation Library · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 90/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

In July 2017, 15 volunteer teams in Richmond, Virginia logged 60,000+ car-mounted temperature readings, finding 15–20°F intra-city gaps that helped secure five new parks and ~$1M in tree funding — a protocol NOAA and CAPA Strategies have since run in 120+ communities worldwide.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	3/3
Scalability	3/3
Sustainability / continuity	2/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	3/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-09-08

Science Museum of Virginia / CAPA Strategies / NOAA / Portland State University — accessed 2026-09-08

NOAA Climate.gov case study — Richmond — accessed 2026-09-08

Houston Advanced Research Center — H3AT 2024 campaign — accessed 2026-09-08

NOAA — mapping heat inequities in 14 cities — accessed 2026-09-08

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