
Appendix II:

Eight Municipal Green New Deals

Richmond may be interested in reaching out to other cities that have crafted Green New Deals to see how they could help each other successfully implement their green jobs plans. The following eight GNDs are all different but ambitious.

- Los Angeles Green New Deal Sustainable City pLAn
- OneNYC 2050
- Boston Green New Deal and Just Recovery
- Green New Deal, Seattle, Washington
- Austin Climate Equity Plan, Austin, Texas
- Green New Deal, Ithaca, New York
- Green New Deal, Portland, Maine
- Portland Clean Energy Fund, Portland, Oregon

Los Angeles Green New Deal Sustainable City pLAn

Los Angeles, California

The Mayor released the first Sustainable City pLAn in 2015, committing to annual progress reports and a major update to the plan every four years. L.A.'s 2019 Green New Deal is an expanded vision of their pLAn, securing clean air and water and a stable climate, improving community resilience, expanding access to healthy food and open space, and promoting justice for all and for the future. L.A.'s Green New Deal will guide the city's transition to an equitable and abundant economy powered by 100% renewable energy.

This plan will support the creation of hundreds of thousands of good green jobs in all L.A. communities by:

1. Supplying 55% renewable energy by 2025, 80% by 2036, and 100% by 2045
2. Sourcing 70% of water locally by 2035 and capturing 150,000 acre ft/yr of stormwater by 2035
3. Reducing energy use per sq ft for all types of buildings with 22% by 2025, 34% by 2035, and 44% by 2050
4. Reducing vehicle miles travelled (VMT) per capita by at least 13% by 2025, 39% by 2035, and 45% by 2050

-
5. Ensuring 57% of new housing units are built within 1,500 ft of transit by 2025 and 75% by 2035
 6. Increasing the percentage of zero-emission vehicles in the city to 25% by 2025, 80% by 2035, and 100% by 2050
 7. Creating 300,000 green jobs by 2035 and 400,000 by 2050
 8. Converting all city fleet vehicles to zero emission where technically feasible by 2028
 9. Reducing municipal GHG emissions by 55% by 2025 and 65% by 2035 (from 2008 baseline levels), achieving carbon neutrality by 2045

A 2023 progress review by the City's Controller critiqued the lack of measurable progress on the plan's 47 long-term sustainability targets and 97 short-term milestones. The Controller recommended bolder targets for renewable energy, housing, the reduction of fossil-fuel powered cars, and alignment of the most urgent priorities with Inflation Reduction Act funding opportunities.

OneNYC 2050: Building a Strong and Fair City *New York City, New York*

In 2019, Mayor de Blasio announced New York City's Green New Deal, which comprises \$14 billion in new and committed investments, legislation, and concrete action at the city level to ensure a nearly 30% additional reduction in emissions by 2030. New York views a Green New Deal as a bold vision that meets the twin challenges of climate change and inequality.

In OneNYC 2050, New York hopes to demonstrate a model for inclusive growth and climate action with a focus on:

- Creating good-paying jobs, including green jobs, and promoting prosperity and economic security for all
- Ensuring equitable access to nature, clean air, and water
- Climate and community resiliency
- Healthy food
- Guaranteeing the right to quality healthcare and education in all communities
- Promoting justice by recognizing (and repairing the damage caused by) historic oppression of communities of color, migrant communities, youth, and other frontline and marginalized communities

OneNYC consists of eight goals and 30 initiatives that comprise a strategy to

prepare New York City for the future. The eight goals are: a vibrant democracy, an inclusive economy, thriving neighborhoods, healthy lives, equity and excellence in education, a livable climate, efficient mobility, and modern infrastructure.

- Committing to carbon neutrality by 2050 and 100% clean electricity
- Requiring buildings to cut their emissions – require all large existing buildings of 25,000 sq ft or more (of which there are 50,000 citywide) to make efficiency upgrades that lower their energy usage and emissions or face steep penalties
- Banning new inefficient glass-walled buildings – will no longer allow all-glass facades in new construction unless they meet strict performance guidelines, making inefficient glass-heavy building designs a thing of the past
- Hydro-powered City government – 100% carbon-free electricity supply for City government operations with the building of a new connection linking New York City to zero-emission Canadian hydropower
- Mandatory organics recycling – will make organics collection mandatory citywide, expanding the country's largest organics management program, including curbside pickup, drop-off sites, and support for community composting opportunities
- Reducing waste and carbon-intensive consumption – the City will end unnecessary purchases of single-use plastic foodware, phase out the purchase of processed meat, reduce the purchase of beef by 50%, and commit to a carbon-neutral City fleet by 2040
- Aligning with the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals

Boston Green New Deal

Boston, Massachusetts

In 2020, the then-City Councilor, Michelle Wu, released a plan outlining a Green New Deal and Just Recovery for the City of Boston to make Boston a transformed city. A local Green New Deal and Just Recovery must direct this scale of collective action to take aim at the root causes of systemic injustices. This report presents 15 examples to demonstrate the power of cities to lead:

1. Accelerating decarbonization as Boston commits to citywide carbon neutrality by 2040, 100% renewable electricity by 2030, and a net-zero municipal footprint by 2024
2. A justice audit and framework
3. Easing upfront costs of clean-energy infrastructure through green municipal bonds and the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program

-
4. Green workforce development
 5. Divesting from harmful industries and reinvesting in a clean, just future
 6. An urban climate corps
 7. De-commodifying housing
 8. Renters' right to counsel
 9. Just and resilient development
 10. Resilient stormwater infrastructure
 11. Transportation justice
 12. An equitable small business recovery
 13. Food justice
 14. Expansion of the urban tree canopy
 15. A local blue new deal

Boston also has a Green New Deal coalition, a civic network of community organizations and issue advocates.

Green New Deal *Seattle, Washington*

In 2020, the Seattle City Council voted to form the Green New Deal Oversight Board to advance the work of establishing a Green New Deal for Seattle. In 2022, Mayor Bruce Harrell signed into law \$6,491,539 in Green New Deal Opportunity Fund investments, which will accelerate the City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, build community resilience to climate change, and increase net-zero affordable housing. These investments are the first set to be recommended by the Oversight Board, which also suggested \$2.6 million in rebates and incentives to help middle- and low-income residents to transition off oil to clean electric heat pumps.

Investments for the \$6.5 million Green New Deal Opportunity Fund include:

1. \$2.4 million to identify and develop resilience hubs in Seattle
2. \$2.3 million to support efforts to get all City-owned buildings off fossil fuels by 2035 (the City of Seattle owns 650 buildings, including 27 public libraries, which are increasingly on the front lines of community care during climate emergencies)
3. \$2 million to increase the number of city-funded affordable housing projects
4. \$300,000 to support climate data and the Community Health Indicator project
5. \$100,000 for community engagement to inform climate elements of the One Seattle Comprehensive Plan update

Austin Climate Equity Plan

Austin, Texas

In September 2021, the City Council adopted the Austin Climate Equity Plan. The plan includes the bold and aggressive goal of equitably reaching net-zero community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2040, with a strong emphasis on cutting emissions by 2030. Austin's Climate Equity Plan was created with input from nearly 200 community members, with an intentional focus on engaging racially and economically diverse residents about the challenges, barriers, and opportunities facing historically excluded groups.

Community Climate Ambassadors were mobilized to engage members of the Austin community on climate-related topics and provide feedback on potential strategies. Additionally, each strategy in the plan was evaluated through an equity tool that accounted for outcomes related to health, affordability, accessibility, community capacity, cultural preservation, accountability, and a just transition to green jobs. The plan comprises 17 goals and 74 strategies to achieve net-zero across five focus areas: Sustainable Buildings, Transportation and Land Use, Transportation Electrification, Food and Product Consumption, and Natural Systems.

Overarching strategies of the plan include green jobs and entrepreneurship; prioritization of local community initiatives; regional collaboration; and local carbon-reduction projects, carbon dioxide removal, and carbon offsets.

Green New Deal

Ithaca, New York

On June 5, 2019, the City of Ithaca Common Council unanimously adopted the Ithaca Green New Deal resolution, a government-led commitment to community-wide carbon neutrality by 2030 that focuses on addressing historical inequities, economic inequality, and social justice.

The Green New Deal goals include: 1) Community-wide carbon neutrality by 2030; 2) Ensuring that benefits are shared among all local communities to reduce historical social and economic inequities; 3) Meeting the electricity needs of government operations with 100% renewable electricity by 2025; and 4) 50% reduction of emissions from the city vehicle fleet by 2025.

Ithaca also has an ecovillage, a community of three neighborhoods that have been built over 20 years. Each cohousing unit has pioneered and continues to develop

new practices for green buildings and energy use. Ithaca also launched Electrify Ithaca, an initiative to replace all fossil fuel infrastructure with electric equivalents (such as heat pumps, induction cooktops, and air sealing) to ensure conditioned air is kept indoors. The City has partnered with expert BlocPower to provide competitive financing for residential and commercial electrification.

Green New Deal

Portland, Maine

Portland's Green New Deal requires any project receiving more than \$50,000 in public subsidy to include solar or green roofs and to match other energy efficiency standards, and it requires developers of those projects to meet certain pay standards and employ apprentices on each job.

It also increases inclusionary housing standards so that 25% of units in new projects will be affordable to people earning up to 80% of the area median income, which in Portland is just over \$100,000 a year for a family of four. The fee for opting out of including those units on site will be raised from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

The law also requires that the City produce an annual report surveying the reduced use of fossil fuels in building and construction. By tying together climate, housing, and labor goals, the measure is meant to show how the concept of a Green New Deal can be implemented at a local level.

In 2020, Maine also passed An Act to Establish a Green New Deal for Maine. The law will create a task force of labor, youth, climate science, and other representatives to craft a strategy for achieving 80% renewable energy in Maine by 2040, for creating good jobs in renewable energy and manufacturing, and to ensure low-income households have access to affordable solar power.

Portland Clean Energy Fund

Portland, Oregon

In 2018, Portland voters passed a ballot measure that created the Portland Clean Energy Fund (PCEF), which was officially adopted by the city council in 2019. The PCEF establishes a 1% business tax on companies that annually make over a billion dollars nationally and more than \$500,000 locally. That money will be used for environmentally friendly job creation and sustainable building projects that will benefit low-income people and people of color.

Through this fund, small organizations can apply for mini-grants of up to \$5,000 for projects that address racial, social, and climate-justice issues. The Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability released a full draft of the PCEF inaugural five-year Climate Investment Plan that outlines proposed funding allocations, strategies, and outcomes for program investments from 2023 through 2028.

Priority funding categories include: renewable energy and energy efficiency projects; transportation decarbonization projects; green infrastructure projects; regenerative agriculture projects; climate jobs training, apprenticeships, and contractor development projects; organizational capacity-building projects; and other projects that reduce or sequester greenhouse gases.