

# CITY OF CLEVELAND CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2025

## This Plan

**The City of Cleveland is building a healthier, more resilient, and thriving city for everyone.** Our updated Climate Action Plan (CAP) will guide work from 2025–2029 and will strive to reduce pollution, create jobs, and protect our communities from climate impacts. **The City of Cleveland is committed to reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.**

## Why the Work is Important

Climate change is connected to public health, safety, and threatens our quality of life. **As part of this CAP update, the City has identified 3 main climate hazards:**

- **Poor Air Quality**
- **Extreme Heat**
- **Heavy Precipitation and Severe Storms**

The most vulnerable groups are those experiencing homelessness, children, outdoor workers, individuals with disabilities, and low-income areas.

We are already feeling the effects of these climate hazards and extreme weather, and they are expected to worsen. However, **Cleveland is in a strong position to take action now and build resilience for the future.**

## Big 10 Highlights

1. Climate change is **a crisis already harming Cleveland.**
2. Cleveland has made progress, but there is still **a lot of work to do.**
3. Climate action will **improve the lives of Clevelanders.**
4. We need to **increase clean energy production and usage across the city.**
5. It's important to update buildings to **reduce energy waste.**
6. The City will **improve how residents travel** around Cleveland.
7. We will use nature to **lower pollution and increase resiliency.**
8. Cleveland is focused on **protecting the most vulnerable communities.**
9. The City will work with businesses to transition to a **circular economy.**
10. All Clevelanders **have a role to play** in climate action!

### Questions?

Email us: [Sustainability@ClevelandOhio.gov](mailto:Sustainability@ClevelandOhio.gov)

**[Click here](#) to download the complete Climate Action Plan.**



**CITY OF CLEVELAND**  
Mayor Justin M. Bibb

**MAYOR'S OFFICE OF  
SUSTAINABILITY**

## BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Describes any human-made or modified structures where people live, work, or play.

### Goals

- All commercial and residential buildings **achieve net zero emissions by 2050.**
- Cleveland will fully **embrace a circular economy** by 2035.
- Transition existing land use patterns to **reduce car dependency** and increase transportation choice.

### Benefits

- **\$15.4 million in total household energy cost savings** through 2030.
- **33% reduction** in average energy costs for retrofitted homes.
- **34% reduction** in the number of households experiencing high energy burdens.
- **2,700 jobs created** in the built environment through 2030.

**Big Win:** City of Cleveland received a LEED Silver Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

## NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

Protecting, managing, and enhancing of natural ecosystems such as air, water, and green spaces.

### Goals

- Enhance nature-based infrastructure to **create a more climate resilient watershed.**
- **All residents live within a 10-minute walk of a safe, accessible, and robust green space** that supports an increasing tree canopy by 2045.
- **Enhance reuse and repurposing of organic materials** to improve economic and environmental health.

**Big Win:** \$3.4 million USDA grant to update the City’s tree inventory and tree care strategy, and expand maintenance and planting.

## CLEAN ENERGY

The transition to 100% renewable, natural sources or technologies that produce little to no pollution or greenhouse gas emissions such as solar, wind, and hydropower.

### Goals

- CPP delivers **affordable, clean, reliable electricity** to residents and businesses.
- Ensure that **all small businesses and residents can benefit** from the transition to clean energy.
- **Decarbonize energy** provided by private sector, non-municipal facilities.

### Benefits

- **3.3 GW and 54.4 GW of solar energy added** through 2030 and 2050, respectively.
- **2.9 GW of wind energy capacity added** through 2030 and 17.3 GW added by 2050.
- **5,900 clean energy jobs** created through 2030.

**Big Win:** The Industrial Heartland Solar Coalition secured \$156 million for rooftop and community solar projects, anticipated to impact 4,000+ households.

## RESILIENT PEOPLE

Ensuring that everyone has equitable resources and opportunities to adapt, recover, and thrive. Initiatives include education access, affordable housing, and transforming recreation centers into full-service resource hubs.

### Goals

- **Make Cleveland resilient** to priority climate hazards.
- **Strengthen the capacity of Cleveland’s residents to adapt** and address the climate crisis.
- **Strengthen social equity and inclusion** for frontline communities.

**As climate change worsens, we need to make sure that those most vulnerable are prepared and taken care of first.**

– Tremont resident

**Big Win:** \$1.3 million NOAA grant supported the Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition’s resilience initiative.

## CLEAN TRANSPORTATION

Making travel more efficient, accessible, and environmentally friendly using methods such as public transit, electric vehicles, biking, and walking.

### Goals

- **Improve non-single occupant vehicle (SOV) options** to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 15% by 2030 and by 30% by 2050.
- **Decarbonize Cleveland’s transportation fleet** by 2050.
- **Increase transportation choice for all Clevelanders** regardless of age, ability, or resources.

### Benefits

- **\$2.1 million in total transportation fuel cost savings** through 2030.
- 23 and 169 **traffic fatalities avoided** from reduced VMT through 2030 and 2050, respectively.
- **800–2,000 jobs created** from expanding active transportation and EV charging infrastructure through 2030.

**Big Win:** \$10 million secured for Safe Streets for All and state safety grants to improve traffic safety.

## CIRCULAR INDUSTRY

Reducing waste, reusing resources, and transitioning industries from take-make-waste to reduce-reuse-recycle-recapture.

### Goals

- **Achieve net zero emissions within the industrial sector** by 2050.

**We’ve seen the heaviest burden of toxic emissions, businesses must clean up and decontaminate the east side.**

– St. Clair Superior resident

**Big Win:** \$575 million from the U.S. Dept. of Energy awarded to Cleveland-Cliffs to decarbonize steel plants.

[Click here to view the full list of Objectives & Actions.](#)