

CLIMATE, JOBS AND JUSTICE PLATFORM

Oakland County must join governments around the world pledging to curb climate change. We have an opportunity and an obligation to lead in addressing the climate crisis. We have the resources and ability to show the way in taking real action to protect our children, our livelihoods, and our own lives. We call on Oakland County to implement the following actions, to do our part for a healthy climate, green jobs and environmental justice:



HEALTHY CLIMATE

Start NOW to bring Greenhouse Gas Emissions to net-zero in Oakland County, and do our part to keep global temperature increase under 1.5C.

- Commit to net-zero greenhouse-gas emissions from county operations through renewable energy by 2030.
- Commit to net-zero greenhouse-gas emissions throughout Oakland County by 2050 using renewable energy, energy conservation and energy storage.
- Create a sustainability office to develop and oversee climate goals.
- Conduct an assessment of greenhouse-gas emissions by the county and throughout the county.
- Advocate for clean energy reform at the legislature and at the Michigan Public Service Commission.

Stop supporting fossil-fuels for energy and transportation, and speed up the transition to renewable energy, public transit and other clean and equitable energy and transportation choices.



- Promote low-carbon alternatives to driving, including affordable electrified public transit and high-occupancy vehicle lanes.
- Create a comprehensive plan to link Woodward Avenue to nearby communities through low-and-no-carbon means.
- Stop widening roads. Create high-occupancy lanes on I-75 and other highways and create a plan to equitably decrease the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) across the county.
- Advocate for a quick transition from fossil fuels to renewable sources in the production of energy at the legislature and at the Public Service Commission.
- Support U.S.-made transit of the future by working with auto and bus producers and electric utilities to make electric charging stations ubiquitous in the county.
- Support efficient, affordable electrified public transit connecting all communities along Woodward Avenue, modernizing rapid public transit to include at-stop ticket purchasing, credit card use and real-time updates.

Create a Climate Resilience Plan to improve sanitation, affordable water systems and heat preparedness to protect the county and vulnerable communities from the effects of current threats and coming climate change.

- When state law change makes it possible, require stormwater utilities in all cities and townships, with heaviest users paying their fair share and vulnerable communities protected.
- Require regular septic system inspection, under state sanitary code if one is passed or county code otherwise, to protect aquifers and lakes for future generations.
- Promote habitat restoration and the use of native plants in landscaping to improve the quality of our waters, conserve resources and improve the health of the environment.



GREEN JOBS

Create job opportunities for those who have been shut out in the past—while we also create a safe, healthy world.

- Support creation of green businesses throughout the county, and especially in communities most in need.
- Develop green job training programs in coordination with labor unions and educational institutions.
- Work with unions, advocacy groups and low-income communities to manage the transition from fossil fuels to climate health and maximize the quantity and quality of green jobs.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Protect against the effects of climate change on poor and vulnerable communities, right old wrongs, create a clean climate for all, ensure a strong future.

- Make affordable public transit work efficiently and effectively, priced to make it available to all.
- Increase energy efficiency, distributed renewable energy, and home insulation programs in low-income neighborhoods.
- Support and advocate for investment by utilities in low-income neighborhoods.
- Secure funding for replacement of all lead water service lines, with priority to the most vulnerable customers.
- Advocate for toxic site cleanups with polluters paying the cost.
- Support hassle-free access to voter registration and voting and oppose roadblocks to democratic participation.
- Upgrade affordable clean water systems, stormwater runoff flooding protections and heat relief facilities and programs to protect against the effects of climate change.

Implementing these changes will not only do our part to decrease global climate change but will also leave Oakland County a healthier, more resilient, and more attractive community for all residents, today and into the future