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Climate Action in Milwaukee



“WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE MILWAUKEE A WORLD CLASS ECO-CITY ON AMERICA’S FRESH COAST.”

City of Milwaukee Climate Planning

- 2013 ReFresh Milwaukee Sustainability Plan
- 25% by 2025 renewable energy goal for City operations
- 45% by 2030 community carbon reduction goal
- Green Infrastructure Plan
- MMSD Regional Resilience Plan
- City-County Task Force on Climate and Economic Equity

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Building Energy Efficiency



- Wisconsin's first Commercial PACE financing program
- 14 PACE projects totaling \$25.3m in energy efficiency projects funded
- Comprehensive Better Buildings Challenge program with over 133 buildings pledged
- Over 1,300 homes get efficiency upgrades through Me2
- Joining US DOE's Workforce Accelerator
- **State government building energy codes need to be upgraded or give more control to local control governments**





Milwaukee
SHINES
ecoCITY of
MILWAUKEE

Renewable Energy

MILWAUKEE SHINES supports solar energy projects and policy to help create clean, renewable energy and local jobs.

- 218 homeowners have installed 871 KW of solar through Milwaukee's Shines group-buy program
- 209 KW Solar on City Buildings
- Seeking clarity on third party financing
- 2.25 MW solar on city-owned landfill
- **We cannot achieve our carbon reduction goals under current state and utility energy policy**





City County Task Force on Climate and Economic Equity

- Twin crises of climate threats and racial disparities
- Need to reduce green house gas emissions and address racial and economic inequity through green jobs.
- Current ECO programs need to be massively scaled up to meet need

TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Ald. Nik Kovac, Co-Chair

Sup. Supreme Moore-Omokunde, Co-Chair

August M. Ball

Rafael Smith

Barbara Richards

Erick Shambarger

George Martin

Janet Meissner Pritchard

Julie Kerksick

Pam Fendt

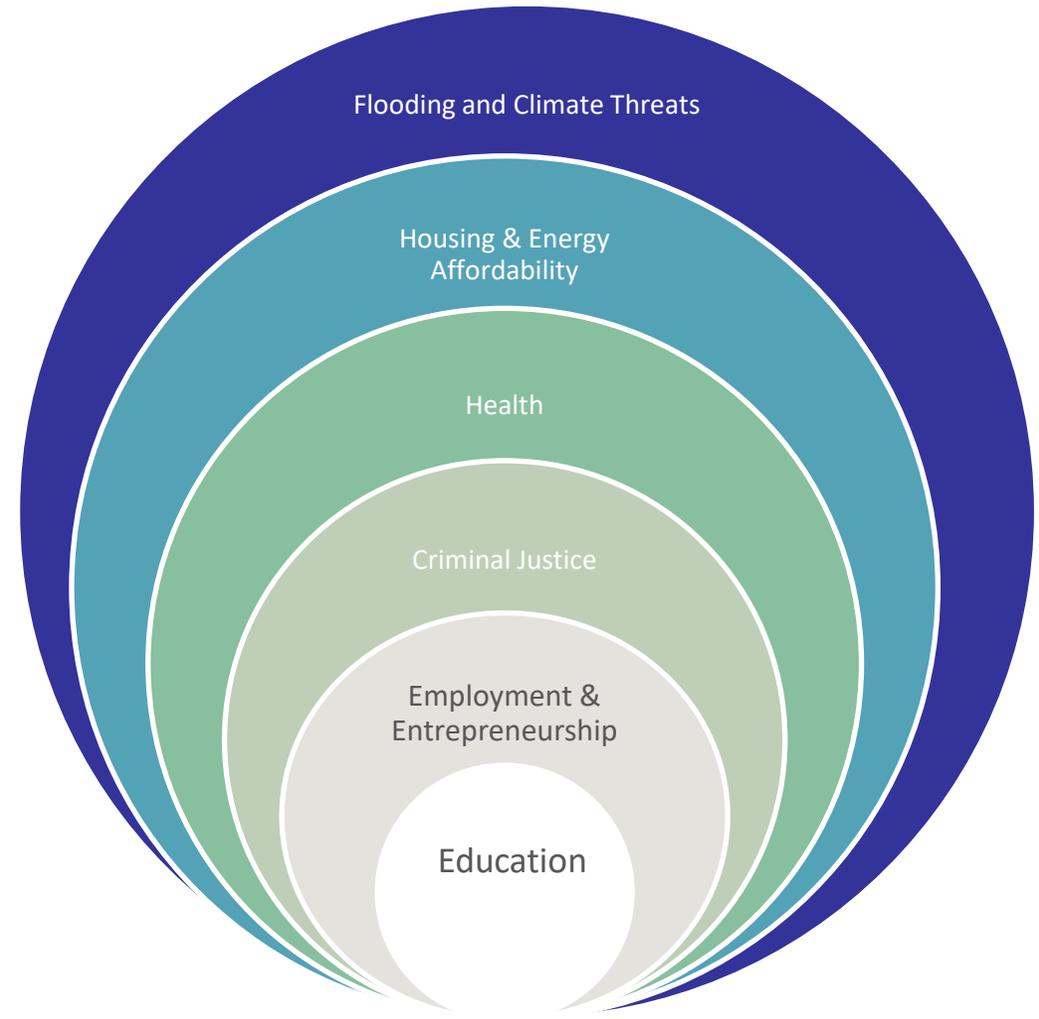
Pamela Ritger

Ted Kraig

Ayanna Lee - Inactive

Racial and Environmental Equity

Wisconsin
&
Metro Milwaukee
have
a lot of work to do
on racial equity



State Action Needed

PSC & Utilities

- ✓ Wisconsin's Office of Energy Innovation (OEI) should release additional funding to local governments through the [Energy Innovation Grant Program](#) (EIGP).
- ✓ Clarify that roof-top solar installers that provide customer financing are not “public utilities,” thus ensuring that utilities connect third-party financed systems to the grid.
- ✓ Require all electric and gas utilities to annually issue [community energy reports](#)
- ✓ Allow utilities to invest in electric vehicle charging infrastructure as part of their rate base.
- ✓ Set solar net metering rates equal to the retail rate of electricity (up to 1 MW)
- ✓ Require Wisconsin electric utilities to develop plans to phase out all coal-fired power plants by 2040;
- ✓ PSC's draft Strategic Energy Assessment needs re-writing to account for climate goals
- ✓ Require utilities to invest in energy efficiency by requiring them to offer “[on-bill financing](#).”
- ✓ Help utilities meet customer demand by requiring them to offer [community solar](#) options.

State Action Needed: Buildings

- ✓ Strengthen Wisconsin's Commercial Building Energy Code (SPS 363), and/or allow municipalities to adopt a stronger "[stretch code](#)" for energy.
- ✓ Typical mortgage financing tied to surrounding home values limits housing investments. WHEDA should develop a new Net-Zero Energy home financing program to advance net-zero energy improvements (including HVAC, lighting, building envelope) for new construction and gut-rehabs in low-income neighborhoods.
- ✓ Establish a "[Green Bank](#)", structured to provide financing to local governments *without contributing to their municipal debt limit*.
- ✓ Ensure Wisconsin's technical colleges have programs in renewable energy, weatherization, and HVAC and take proactive steps to make these programs accessible to people of color.

State Action Needed: Transportation

Provide balanced transportation funding from the WisDOT. In particular:

- ✓ Transportation plans and funding should be designed to support and increase population density, rather than fueling new ex-urban development. Example: [SEWRPC's Vision 2050](#).
- ✓ Increase funding for multi-modal freight networks and public transit