

GREEN NEW DEAL OVERSIGHT BOARD

2027-2028 Budget Recommendations



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Photo 1: GNDOB Members at their 2026 Annual Retreat.

LETTER FROM THE GREEN NEW DEAL OVERSIGHT BOARD'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Date: April 24, 2026

To: Mayor Katie Wilson, Council President Hollingsworth, Councilmember Lin, Councilmember Foster, Councilmember Juarez, Councilmember Kettle, Councilmember Rinck, Councilmember Rivera, Councilmember Saka, and Councilmember Strauss

From: The Green New Deal Oversight Board Executive Committee

Cc: Executive Operations Manager Sunaree Marshall, Director Aly Pennucci, Director of Policy and Innovation Nicole Vallesterio-Soper, Director Lylianna Allala, Council Relations and Policy Lead Adam Schaefer, Legislative Analyst Jasmine Marwaha, Council Liaison Tracey Whitten, Deputy Director Michelle Caulfield, Climate Justice Director Sara Cubillos, Fiscal and Policy Manager Saroja Reddy, Fiscal and Policy Director Akshay Iyengar, Interim Climate Justice Advisor Elise Rasmussen

Dear Honorable Mayor Wilson and Esteemed Councilmembers,

On behalf of the Green New Deal Oversight Board (GND Oversight Board), we are eager to share our recommendations for the 2027-2028 City Budget with you. Thank you for your commitment to advancing climate and environmental justice. It has been a pleasure to deepen relationships with City representatives as we continue to elevate priorities of our community members and partners. As we navigate the rollback of commitments to justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion by our federal government, it is clear investment in local solutions must be prioritized to meet the urgency of these times.

We take our role seriously to advise and make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council related to the Green New Deal (GND) for Seattle and monitor progress in meeting intended outcomes and goals, pursuant to [Ordinance 125926](#). The GND Oversight Board's mission is to eliminate climate pollution in Seattle, advance frontline community¹ resiliency and economic inclusion, and prioritize equity, social justice, and community-identified climate solutions. Our Board is composed of community leaders, Tribal and labor representatives, youth, environmental justice advocates, and technical

¹ *GND Oversight Board Frontline Communities Definition:* The communities that experience disproportionate environmental harms and risks due to exposures, greater vulnerability to environmental hazards, or cumulative impacts from multiple stressors; these include Black people, Indigenous peoples, sovereign tribal nations, communities of color, immigrants, refugees, youths, elders, houseless people, disabled people, LGBTQ+ people, people with low and no income, and people who work in outdoor occupations.

experts. We are tasked with ensuring Seattle’s climate policies and investments center justice and advance equitable outcomes. We are committed to co-creating the next phase of climate action with you. We are uniquely positioned to support the City in identifying solutions to ensure communities who are disproportionately burdened by the climate crisis benefit from the progress toward reaching the City’s climate goals.

Our recommendations are rooted in the reality of our frontline communities. As we’ve refined our methods of engagement over the last few years and in this season, we have conducted community assemblies, deepened relationships with other community members, and worked to create connections between City Programs and people who would benefit. Our recommendations include climate solutions that lead to multiple benefits that address challenges for Seattle’s communities like displacement, affordability, and safety while creating low-cost climate resiliency infrastructure. Our community members and partners have expressed concerns about their social safety nets eroding and that investing in climate resilience is a must.

We understand the severity of this year’s budget deficit at the local and state levels, and that we are no longer able to rely on federal funding. We also understand that our zip codes influence the life expectancy between the different neighborhoods in Seattle. Addressing climate change is not optional, communities are already being impacted by flooding, extreme weather disruptions, and air pollution on top of ongoing challenges like increasing barriers to address our most basic needs. Our recommendations are not costs, they are investments that are essential to building a thriving, equitable, and resilient Seattle.

As you will see in our recommendations, we’ve included a “Sustained Funding” category that elevates the success of continued partnership between the City and our Seattle communities. We’ve elevated these successes time and time again and encourage City leadership to walk beside us, continue investing in these programs, and **ensure PET funding is aligned with its original intended uses: to advance equity and justice in the housing, economic development, and climate work the City is leading.**

Aligned recommendations for the 2027-2028 Budget Cycle Programs fall into one or more of the following categories, which are our criteria for what we would like to see GND investments go toward (see Appendix B for more information on each of these categories):

1. **Building Decarbonization & Energy Efficiency**
2. **Clean & Equitable Transportation**
3. **Climate Resilience & Public Health**

4. Workforce Development & Economic Inclusion

5. Pollution Reduction & Circular Economy

Since the release of the Equity and Environment Agenda in 2016, Seattle has established itself as a global climate leader. In alignment with our City's role of being an innovative leader at a global scale, we've also included new ideas vetted with community partners for community climate resilience to support Seattle in continuing to be a global climate leader. We are excited and determined to support identifying additional progressive revenue sources to fund other programs. We look forward to working with you all to continue identifying and amplifying solutions that equitably meet the City's climate goals.

We look forward to your response and discussing our recommendations further with you and your staff.

Respectfully,

The Green New Deal Oversight Board Executive Committee



Emily Pinckney,
GND Oversight Board Co-Chair



Nancy Huizar,
GND Oversight Board Co-Chair

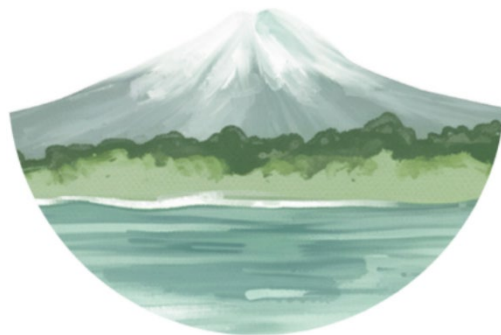


Matt Remle,
Executive Committee At-Large Member



OVERVIEW OF BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Sustain Funding for Existing Green New Deal Funded Programs
2. Return Funding for the Environmental Justice (EJ) Fund Back to its 2023-2024 Budget
3. Fund a Program for Youth-Led and Youth-Serving Community Initiatives
4. Create a Healthy & Sustainable Homes Navigator Program
5. Coordinated Neighborhood-Scale Decarbonization and Resilience Program
6. Store and Distribute Climate Emergency Kits to High-Risk Displacement Communities and Low-Income Households
7. Implement Green Infrastructure in High Air-Pollution, Urban Heat Island, and Flood Prone Areas
8. Invest in Low Carbon Concrete Sidewalk Pilot Projects Throughout the City.
9. Develop a Climate Resiliency Recovery Fund for Communities Impacted by Climate-related Disasters and Hazards.
10. Fund A Program to Provide Resilience Planning Technical Assistance to Communities Throughout Seattle
11. Identify Economically Viable Opportunities to Recover Waste Energy from Seattle's Existing Infrastructure
12. Launch a Mechanical Insulation Pilot Project in City Owned Buildings



2027-2028 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Sustain Funding for the Following Existing Green New Deal Funded Programs

The Green New Deal (GND) Oversight Board has seen the following programs align with the goals of the GND to reduce climate pollution, advance frontline community resiliency and economic inclusion all while prioritizing equity, community health, and social justice. The Board recommends sustaining funding for these programs because they are making progress toward the City's climate goals and bringing about tangible benefits to communities.

The Clean Heat Program

The Clean Heat program provides free conversions for low-income households and heat pump rebates for moderate-income households. This program is critical for ensuring residents' safety during extreme heat and cold weather events and supports the necessary transition away from fossil fuels to cool and heat homes.

Recommendation

Continue to invest in the Clean Heat Program that is on track to meet its goal of transitioning all oil tank-heated homes to electric heat pumps by 2030. Continued funding would expand funding for gas to heat pump rebates for moderate-income households and support a window heat pump pilot program where 2-3 multi-family housing buildings would get access to plug in window heat pumps. Due to the recent passing of SB 6200, a tenant's right to cooling, there will be an expected increase in demand.

The Municipal Energy Efficiency Program (MEEP)

This program is working to improve energy efficiency and eliminate emissions from municipal buildings that community members rely on, such as libraries and community centers. Continued funding for this program would mean further reducing utility costs by incorporating energy efficiency, utilizing renewable energy to power these buildings, and providing cooling to adapt to hotter summers and heat waves.

Recommendation

Continue to invest in MEEP to support upgrades of City-owned, community-serving buildings, such as libraries and community centers, for clean energy and climate resilience. Ensure these investments are prioritized for facilities in frontline communities.

The First Peoples Climate Fund (formerly Indigenous-Led Climate Initiatives Fund)

The First People's Climate Fund originated from a GND Oversight Board budget recommendation to create a fund that invests in Native and local Tribal climate leadership. This Board strongly supports continuing this fund as it is an essential strategy for advancing climate and environmental justice while also uplifting the needs of urban Native communities, Tribal sovereignty, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

Recommendation

The GND Oversight Board is in strong support of continuing the First Peoples Climate Fund as it aligns with the City's commitments made at the 2025 [Tribal Nations Summit](#). This fund supports ongoing cultural and resource preservation initiatives that uplift the knowledge and expertise the original stewards of these lands hold. This fund is a critical resource to holistically address the climate crisis and meet the unique needs of Tribal and Urban Native communities.

Clean Energy Apprenticeship and Workforce Development

The Clean Energy Apprenticeship program invests in recruiting, training, and placing workers from communities who have experienced economic and environmental injustices into competitive paying construction and clean energy jobs. This program has been successful in cultivating a workforce that is prepared to support the transition away from fossil fuels while also creating opportunities for meaningful employment and living wages.

Recommendation

Continue to create climate career pathways that are connected to clean energy and to the trades, especially for individuals who are underrepresented, and located in priority hire zip codes. Focus on supporting youth, people of color, the LGBTQAI+ community, and women. Ensure there are pathways to union jobs and support targeted local hire practices.

The Building Emissions Navigator Program

The Building Emissions Navigator Program provides coaching, project management, and capital support for under-resourced building owners such as nonprofits and affordable multifamily housing providers in order to comply with the Building Emissions Performance Standard (BEPS).

Recommendation

Continue to prioritize grant funding and technical assistance for building owners that directly serve frontline communities. In addition to sustaining funding for the Navigator program, we ask the City to ensure prioritizing engagement and investments with frontline communities who are disproportionately affected by climate change, specifically in zip codes 98108 and 98118. These zip codes are where community members have expressed desire for upgrades to multifamily housing and community buildings to create healthier, climate-ready spaces for residents to promote resilience to climate threats in the region. Community members have also expressed the need for additional support and coaching to provide residents the tools they need to advocate for building owners to comply with BEPS.

Community Leadership through Community Assemblies and Community-Led Research

A [2024 Report](#) shows that community assemblies result in clear recommendations from frontline communities on how to efficiently and effectively use our City resources to co-design plans, policies, and programs to uplift climate solutions that meet community needs. The Board supports continuing funding for collaborative governance strategies that streamline City planning processes and ensure City actions meet community needs.

Recommendation

Continue to fund strategies for community leadership and policy co-creation through vetted models such as community assemblies and community-based participatory research. Taking this a step further, the City should continue to explore and enact practices of [co-governance](#). This should include investing in policy accelerator projects and seed funding to build on the momentum of community assemblies and identify how best community-driven solutions can be implemented.

2. Return Funding for the Environmental Justice (EJ) Fund Back to its 2023-2024 Budget

The EJ Fund continues to create an enormous impact in advancing public health, youth development, land stewardship, and climate resilience. The growing pool of applications for the EJ Fund has far surpassed available funding. The EJ Fund's [report](#) demonstrates the impacts of the first five years of this grant program shows that in 2022 the EJ Fund awarded a total of \$750,000 while the total requested amount for all applicants combined was \$3,800,000. This discrepancy between available funding and total requested funds demonstrates the growing need for community-scale solutions to the climate

crisis. The EJ Fund is integral to ensuring Seattle’s residents with the fewest resources have what they need to adapt to a changing climate.

Recommendation

Restore the EJ Fund’s budget to \$1.7 million to make deeper and wider investments in climate solutions led by communities who are hit first and worst by climate change.

3. Fund a Program for Youth-Led and Youth-Serving Community Initiatives

Young people are the future. They will enter the workforce as we retire and inherit the Earth and our changing climate. Investing in the education and skill development of youth is a necessary part of taking climate action. Currently in Seattle, there are many youth-serving career focused programs but very few of them bring youth into environmental justice work to build career skills, provide strong mentorship and financial compensation. There is a need to address this gap as we plan for our future and ensure young people have the skills and confidence to go into climate and environmental careers.

Recommendation

Contract with a community organization to establish and run a one-year youth leadership fellowship pilot program, based on the examples of previous and existing programs such as Rooted in Vibrant Communities’ former Green Pathways Fellowship and the Washington Bus’ Summer Fellowship. This program should support initiatives focused on building youth leadership (ages ~15-30) in climate and environmental justice and include paid opportunities to learn leadership, organizing, advocacy, policy development and civic engagement skills. This pilot would support the City’s workforce development goals, while adding capacity for community organizations. The pilot project could start in Lake City or South Seattle, prioritizing low-income neighborhoods, and expand to other neighborhoods over time.

4. Create a Healthy & Sustainable Homes Navigator Program

In addition to the climate crisis, Seattle is facing a gentrification and housing displacement crisis. This investment aims to increase access to existing low-income homeowner rebate programs that are often difficult to successfully navigate. Access to these services could address immediate health and maintenance concerns in homes while delivering other home upgrades that reduce climate emissions and allow low-income or fixed-income homeowners to remain in their homes.

Recommendation

Provide funding to expand existing City liaison programs to connect low-income residents with the full suite of City home-related upgrade services such as: weatherization, electrification, water conservation, tree planting, fire alarm installations, side sewer replacements, minor home repairs, emergency preparedness resources and other measures that support healthy homes, and mitigate economic displacement and gentrification. Liaisons would ensure that low-income residents are aware of existing services and would support residents as they navigate access to the services they are eligible for through coaching and technical assistance with the City's [Civiform](#).

5. Coordinated Neighborhood-Scale Decarbonization and Resilience Program

The City is already advancing building and home decarbonization through the Building Emissions Performance Standards, Clean Heat, and the Municipal Energy Efficiency Programs, as well as other initiatives and investments across City departments. Most of these efforts focus on individual buildings and owners versus broad scale actions. Scaling up decarbonization and climate resiliency requires shifting away from building-by-building approaches while expanding neighborhood-scale efforts. Scaling up could greatly expedite emissions reduction while improving air quality in frontline communities. Prioritizing neighborhood-scale decarbonization better serves communities with limited resources for upgrades and the greatest burden of pollution and climate change impacts. This work is already taking place on a small scale like the Resilience District in the Duwamish Valley or Brighton Communities that is building [decarbonized community-driven housing](#) at a neighborhood scale. By expanding this type of work, the City could scale up decarbonization in more neighborhoods and intentionally plan for community resilience and the energy transition.

Recommendation

Scale up existing City work to decarbonize and harden buildings to make them more climate resilient by taking a neighborhood-scale approach, starting in frontline communities across Seattle. Include climate resilience measures in this planning, such as upgrading HVAC systems and backup battery storage, in addition to transitioning buildings from gas and oil to electric heating. Create opportunities for programming, education, and resourcing that gets neighbors and the neighborhood prepared for various climate hazards. Prioritize affordability and anti-displacement measures including: strong protections for tenants, minimizing upfront costs, and keeping utility bills as low as possible for residents. Partner with existing organizations, affordable housing developers, and trusted community

spaces that support low-income residents stay in place. Ensure that work to upgrade buildings is done by union labor.

6. Store and Distribute Climate Emergency Kits to High-Risk Displacement Communities and Low-Income Households

Climate change exacerbates existing inequities, and while no one is immune to the risk that climate emergencies pose, frontline communities are most at risk with the fewest resources to cope and adapt. As the frequency and intensity of climate-related hazards such as flooding, wildfire smoke, and extreme heat increase, these same communities will need support to ensure they withstand these climate threats. This investment would support community climate resilience by distributing climate emergency preparedness kits to low-income households and those at risk of displacement, using existing social infrastructure such as mutual aid initiatives, resilience hubs, community centers, libraries, clinics, and other spaces used by the community to store and distribute these kits, in a hub and spoke model.

Recommendation

Purchase supplies and create distribution kits that include air purifiers and filters, n95 masks, fans, bottled water, emergency blankets, and flood mitigation supplies. The City should work with mutual aid initiatives, community centers, and libraries to store and efficiently distribute materials in neighborhoods. These distribution sites should be selected to efficiently reach communities at greatest risk of climate disaster impacts, while also respecting culturally or environmentally sensitive spaces to ensure they remain undisturbed. Funding should also be provided to compensate workers and volunteers who will distribute these materials and resources. Additionally, the City should be working closely with shelters, community centers, daycares, clinics, elder care facilities, schools, and mutual aid initiatives to do education and outreach on how to prepare for climate hazards. Implementation of this must also include clear, timely, and multi-lingual materials on how to access emergency services to ensure community members know when and where to access these resources. Communication should include leveraging the existing networks of resilience pods and mutual aid initiatives as they are skilled in getting information out quickly. The City should also utilize existing communication avenues that the Office of Emergency Management and public utilities use to contact community members and rate payers.

7. Implement Green Infrastructure in High Air-Pollution, Urban Heat Island, and Flood Prone Areas

Poor air quality, the urban heat island effect, flooding, and sewer overflows are not experienced equally in our city. Environmental and climate-related inequities in urban areas stem from a long history of redlining, roadway expansion, and heavy industry in, throughout, and around low-income and communities of color. Intentionally planning and implementing green infrastructure like buffer zones and sustainable stormwater infrastructure can work towards closing these inequities and building community climate resilience during extreme weather events such as heat waves and heavy storms.

Recommendation

Implement green infrastructure solutions in residential areas that regularly experience poor air quality, urban heat island effects, and flooding due to proximity to heavily trafficked areas and industry. Build off the Office of Sustainability and Environment's (OSE) Tree Equity Planning and Seattle Public Utilities' (SPU) Green Stormwater Infrastructure Mapping efforts that have identified areas most impacted by poor air quality and urban heat islands. These efforts have also identified where green stormwater infrastructure projects have already been implemented. Green infrastructure solutions could include trees, plants, green walls, rain gardens and green rooftops between highways, heavy freight routes, existing right of ways and areas around schools, daycares, and playgrounds. Implementation should be done in coordination with OSE, SPU, Seattle Department of Transportation, WA Department of Transportation, and Seattle Parks & Recreation.

8. Invest in Low Carbon Concrete Sidewalk Pilot Projects Throughout the City

The construction sector accounts for [23% of global greenhouse gas emissions](#), with concrete production being a significant contributor. The City of Seattle's Department of Transportation is considering ways to build sidewalks in neighborhoods that currently do not have any. The GND Oversight Board sees an opportunity for the City to partner with union labor to utilize low-carbon concrete and [supplementary cementitious materials](#) (SCMs) to build more pedestrian-friendly infrastructure while continuing to bolster

Recommendation

Utilize SCMs in pilot projects and eventually write specifications to require utilization in all projects containing concrete. This investment would integrate low-carbon concrete into

existing sidewalk replacement projects, planned sidewalk additions, and new capital projects using SCM. During implementation, prioritize neighborhoods that don't currently have sidewalks and neighborhoods where sidewalks are deteriorating. By embedding low-carbon concrete requirements into its sidewalk program, the City can also send a strong, predictable market demand signal that accelerates industry adoption, reduces CO₂ emissions, and supports the regional transition to cleaner construction materials. This pilot program offers a practical, high-visibility opportunity for the City to lead by example, demonstrate feasibility, and catalyze broader market transformation in the concrete sector, all while promoting walkability and non-motor vehicle transportation modes.

9. Develop a Climate Resiliency Recovery Fund for Communities Impacted by Climate-related Disasters and Hazards.

Climate change is already here, and frontline and low-income communities are experiencing harmful impacts during these disasters, including displacement, health complications, economic disruption and job loss, property damage, and the effects of disaster gentrification. The City must play a role in meeting immediate community needs in the aftermath of extreme weather and climate disasters, as well as exploring options for funding longer-term recovery.

Recommendation

Develop a Climate Resiliency Recovery Fund to support frontline communities impacted by climate related disasters and hazards, especially when there are gaps in emergency response funding, or barriers resulting from jurisdictional lines. This may include supporting households with costs related to temporary or transitional housing, remediation to enable re-occupancy, rental assistance, and utilities assistance for those displaced by climate disasters. Utilizing an [existing City analysis](#) on which communities are most impacted by and vulnerable to climate change hazards, the City can equitably distribute these funds to efficiently and effectively mitigate the impacts of climate-related disasters and accelerate recovery efforts.

10. Fund A Program to Provide Resilience Planning Technical Assistance to Communities Throughout Seattle

Neighborhoods and communities that are hit first and worst by the impacts of climate change often lack the resources to adapt and build neighborhood-scale resilience. To ensure Seattle's frontline communities can build climate resilience, the City must provide technical assistance and resourcing to organizations already working on neighborhood resilience. By building on the forthcoming Climate Resilience Framework and the

[Juneau Street Resilience Pod Toolkit](#), communities most impacted by climate injustices can be prepared with resources and tools to create long-term, neighborhood-scale resilience and foundation for recovery in the face of increased climate impacts.

Recommendation

Develop and implement a program to support communities across Seattle in developing resiliency pods and/or hubs. This would be a pilot Resilience Pod/Hub Program with 5 groups in Othello, Rainier Beach, Chinatown-International District, Rainier Valley, and Beacon Hill. This program would build on partnerships with organizations and communities who have started this work from the Community Climate Resilience Framework early implementers and Office of Emergency Management Puget Sound Resilience Hub Cohort to support community-led stewardship of public green spaces, connect residents to existing City services that promote resilience, and develop a neighborhood-based communication chain for emergency correspondence.

11. Identify Economically Viable Opportunities to Recover Waste Energy from Seattle’s Existing Infrastructure

Waste energy is energy that is consumed but not used for its intended purpose and often escapes in unusable forms like heat (waste heat) or noise. Discarded hot water produced from industry is one of the major producers of waste energy. If strategic investments are made in technologies that turn waste energy into affordable clean energy, like the South Lake Union [sewer heat recovery system](#) which uses wastewater heat, to provide hot water and space heating to supply 70% of the Alexandria Center Campus and the 303 Battery Street residential tower heating needs, this would reduce the cost of heat for all users on these systems. This is a tested and innovative way to reduce pollution, generate affordable clean energy, and invest in climate-resilient power sources. Seattle has several existing district energy systems which could tap into waste heat to reduce the cost of heat for frontline communities and low-income households. Harnessing and utilizing waste heat to heat homes could reduce utility costs as well as reduce pollution and its impacts on residents. Projects like these also align with Seattle City Light’s [IRP goal](#) of expanding in-territory power generation to prepare for major anticipated load growth in the next 20 years.

Recommendation

Fund an initial study that would identify economically viable waste heat recapture projects within Seattle City Light’s service territory. The study would identify ways to recapture waste energy from current industrial buildings and infrastructure in order to utilize that repurposed energy to provide city-wide efficiency savings. If this study determines that this is feasible, the utility costs for rate payers in frontline communities and low-income

households should be lowered. Additionally, this study should also ensure that these communities would not see an increase in pollution as a result of implementation.

12. Launch a Mechanical Insulation Pilot Project in City Owned Buildings and Spaces

In January of 2024, Seattle faced an extended period of freezing temperatures which caused the Seattle Fire Department to respond to 150 calls for leaks across the City. Until pipes are inspected and missing or damaged insulation is repaired, our city will continue to experience large-scale freeze-thaw pipe failures when we experience freezing temperatures. Fortunately, fixing missing or damaged insulation saves energy. This means that in some cases, insulating pipes can pay for itself through lower utility bills, especially at a larger scale. As part of the Board’s deep engagement practices, this recommendation was informed by the conversations and solutions identified by trade labor workers at the [2024 Community Climate Resilience Assembly](#).

Recommendation

The City should run a large-scale pilot project to pay for insulators to inspect mechanical insulation on City-owned or operated buildings. The pilot project will attempt to quantify how much money is being saved through avoided freeze-thaw pipe failures, as well as through energy savings. The City should present its findings to local stakeholders such as other similarly situated public and private portfolio building owners and local utilities.



THE GREEN NEW DEAL OVERSIGHT BOARD

Emily Pinckney: Executive Committee Member, Emissions Reduction Specialist

Matt Remle: Executive Committee Member, Frontline Community Representative

Nancy Huizar: Executive Committee Member, Frontline Community Representative

Akiksha Chatterji: Emissions Reduction Specialist

Brittani Cain: Labor Union Representative

Camille Gipaya: Youth Representative

Elizabeth Baskerville: Frontline Community Representative

Fatima Kabba: Environmental Justice Organization Representative

Hannah Lindell-Smith: Youth Representative

Jamie Stroble: Environmental Justice Organization Representative

John Sanchez: Labor Union Representative

Leah Wood: Environmental Justice Organization Representative

Nina Olivier: Emissions Reduction Specialist

Peter Hasegawa: Labor Union Representative

Rachel Heaton: Tribal Representative

Rosalund Jenkins: Workforce Training Representative

Stephanie Ung: Frontline Community Representative



APPENDIX A: GND OVERSIGHT BOARD MISSION STATEMENT AND CORE VALUES

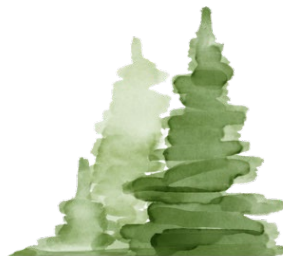
MISSION STATEMENT

The Green New Deal Oversight Board connects frontline community-led voices and the Seattle City government to eliminate Seattle’s climate pollution by 2030, while resolving racial, social, and economic inequities. We do this by:

- Recommending systemic changes and budget priorities to the Mayor, City Council, City departments, and advisory boards.
- Supporting departmental planning and implementation.
- Coordinating efforts with City departments and related advisory groups pursuant to Ordinance 125926.

CORE VALUES

The Green New Deal Oversight Board adopted the following values which guide the way we enact our mission. We act with mindful urgency to accomplish our vision and mission. We listen to and are guided by frontline communities. We engage, consult, and obtain consent from impacted tribal nations. We practice having an open mind and cultural humility. We seek to build trust and reliability with respectful, honest, caring, and transparent interactions within and outside the Green New Deal Oversight Board. We are guided by accurate information, science, and community experience and insight. We seek to creatively solve problems and conflict by addressing the root causes and will not accept false solutions that continue extractive practices and/or prioritize profits over communities.



APPENDIX B: GND Funding Categories

The GND Oversight Board recommends the City prioritize climate investments with funds allocated from the Payroll Expense Tax revenue to advance the following policies, programs, and projects:

Building Decarbonization & Energy Efficiency

- Electrification of buildings (residential, commercial, and public spaces).
- Energy efficiency retrofits, including insulation, HVAC upgrades, and smart energy systems.
- Renewable energy deployment, such as community solar and microgrids.
- Affordable, clean energy access programs for frontline communities.

Clean & Equitable Transportation

- Expansion of electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure and incentives for low-income residents.
- Investments in public transit electrification and accessibility improvements.
- Support for active transportation (bike lanes, pedestrian infrastructure, multi-modal options).
- Zero-emission freight and commercial vehicle conversion programs.

Climate Resilience & Public Health

- Urban green space expansion, tree canopy restoration, and cooling infrastructure.
- Flood mitigation, stormwater management, and heat resilience projects.
- Community-led disaster preparedness and emergency response programs.
- Indoor air quality improvements and pollution reduction efforts in frontline communities.
- Climate resilience spaces to protect vulnerable residents.

Workforce Development & Economic Inclusion

- Training programs for green jobs and arts & culture work with a focus on BIPOC, low-income, LGBTQ+, veterans, immigrants, and elderly workers.
- Support for small, BIPOC-, immigrant-, and women-owned businesses in the green economy.
- Policies that ensure family-wage, union jobs with strong labor protections.

Pollution Reduction & Circular Economy

- Programs to reduce industrial and vehicle emissions in overburdened neighborhoods.
- Waste reduction, recycling, and circular economy initiatives.
- Sustainable materials and low-carbon construction practices.

APPENDIX C: Budget Process Overview

Overview

[Ordinance 125926](#) calls for the GND Oversight Board to provide recommendations on City budget priorities. To do this, the Board provides annual budget recommendations, closely follows the City's budget process from start to finish, and tracks the impact of the City's climate investments to ensure those investments bring about equitable and impactful outcomes for Seattle's frontline communities.

GND Oversight Board Budget Recommendation Development Process

The GND Oversight Board gathers input from community members, partners, and technical subject matter experts within and outside of City government to carefully curate our budget recommendations. We also receive briefings from City Budget Office representatives to understand the current conditions of the City's budget and Payroll Expense Tax revenue forecast to right-size our recommendations.

The Board's Policy, Projects, and Programs (PPP) Subcommittee leads the budget recommendation development process for the Board. Throughout the year, the Committee did extensive research by reviewing previous Board budget recommendations, community reports, past budget books and government documents to understand what we would like to continue to see funding for and where current gaps exist. The PPP Committee also did outreach and engagement across the Board and other partners to bring additional recommendation proposals, and refine promising proposals using the expertise from all Board members via one-on-one conversations, office hours, and an in-depth recommendation development workshop at the Board's annual retreat.

City staff supported the PPP Committee by setting up lunch and learns and sending Board questions with requests for written responses to City program staff to learn more about how the implementation of GND-funded programs is going. Staff also briefed leadership from the Office of Sustainability and Environment on the Board's budget recommendations.

This process culminated in an official Board vote at our April public meeting, where the full slate of recommendations was unanimously approved.

Next Steps: Tracking the City Budget Process & City Investments

Each year the Board closely reviews the Mayor's proposed budget to understand which recommendations were included. We will often respond to the Mayor's proposed budget with a letter to City Council suggesting amendments that align with the priorities outlined in our budget recommendations. Board members then closely follow Council's process to adopt the budget. Once the budget is adopted, we have ongoing consultations with staff who lead GND-funded programs to understand how implementation is benefitting frontline communities and suggest areas for improvement.