

ELEMENTS OF CLIMATE JUSTICE



EQUITY

The fair distribution of the costs and benefits of climate action. It recognizes that historically marginalized communities, often with fewer resources, bear the brunt of climate impacts.



PARTICIPATION

The importance of including communities on the frontlines of climate impacts in the decision-making processes.



HUMAN RIGHTS

Protecting human rights, such as the rights to life, health, water, food, and a healthy environment.



REDRESS AND COMPENSATION

Advocating for the redress and compensation to communities affected by climate impacts, particularly those who have suffered the most.



SOLIDARITY

Fostering a sense of community, recognizing that addressing climate change is a shared responsibility that requires cooperation.



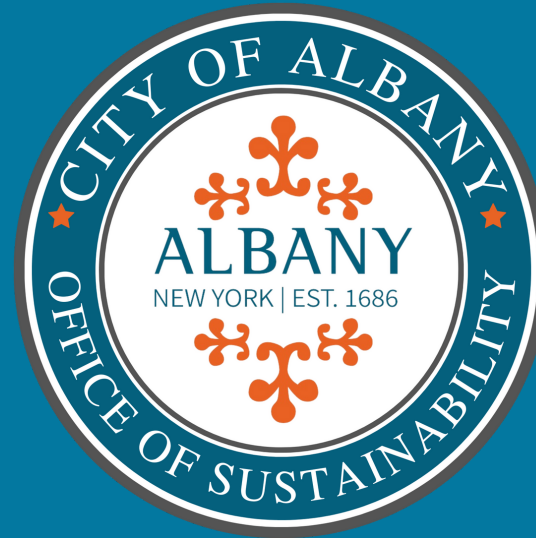
TRANSPARENCY

Ensuring that people are clearly informed about policy developments and have a good understanding of how their needs are addressed.



EDUCATION

Ensuring that people are clearly informed about policy developments and have a good understanding of how their needs are addressed.



Climate Solutions CLIMATE JUSTICE

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Image courtesy of Soul Fire Farm

WHAT IS CLIMATE JUSTICE?

The people who contribute least to climate change - people of color and those with low incomes - are disproportionately harmed by its consequences.

Climate justice seeks to address systematic inequalities such as historic redlining and chronic disinvestment in marginalized communities and ensure that actions taken to address climate change do not further imbalance social, economic, and environmental equity. Climate justice stresses the importance of involving affected communities in decision-making processes for advancing climate policies and projects.

Climate justice advocates also aim to protect the rights of future generations. It argues that present-day action (or inaction) on climate change should not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their needs and enjoy a safe and healthy world.

Climate Justice in ALBANY



A.N.S.W.E.R.S. Plant

The Albany New York Solid Waste Energy Recovery System, which incinerated trash in Sheridan Hollow to heat the Empire State Plaza until 1994. Closing this facility was a step towards improving air quality in a disadvantaged community.

Urban Forestry

Trees can shade hot city streets, reducing the temperatures of our neighborhoods. Formerly redlined areas routinely have fewer trees than others, which Albany's Division of Forestry is working to overcome.

Flood Resilience

Many disadvantaged communities are found in low-lying areas more prone to flooding (such as the South End and Sheridan Hollow). As climate change brings more intense storms and flooding, Albany is using natural solutions. Artificial wetlands, rain gardens and other 'green infrastructure' allow the ground to absorb more stormwater, preventing flooding.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Vote & Lobby Local Officials

Engage with representatives who share your interest and recognize the importance of climate adaptation.

Become a Climate Advocate

Unite with neighbors to lobby for climate-friendly policies. Join community meetings that address equitable change.

Join an Organization

PAUSE, Radix, SHARE, Climate Reality Project and others work towards a more sustainable environment in the face of climate change. Each present opportunities to get involved.

Sustainability Advisory Committee

Join residents and climate experts in Albany to discuss methods for creating a more sustainable and equitable city.

School Programs

Join sustainability and environmental conservation clubs at school.

For specific projects or opportunities to get involved, visit the City's website.

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