



ABOUT US

The Office of Sustainability was first created in 2010 as the “Mayor’s Office of Energy and Sustainability.” Today, the Office is made up of two full time staff (as well as various fellows and interns) housed in the Department of Administrative Services.

Albany continues to evolve into a more sustainable city. Today, the biggest obstacle we face is the global danger of climate change.

The Office of Sustainability works to reduce Albany’s emissions, adapt to the changes already locked in, and encourage resilient neighborhoods able to thrive in the new world we are creating with climate change.

These efforts include:

- mapping the city’s emissions
- expanding the use of renewable energy
- studying the effects of urban heat islands
- investing in EV charging stations
- performing energy audits of City buildings
- electrifying the city fleet
- outreach in the community
- and more!



City of Albany OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY



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INITIATIVES



Climate Action Plan The City of Albany is embarking on a collaborative effort to develop a comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CAP). This plan will encompass the City's internal operations as well as the wider community. The City will utilize an equity-based approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impact of climate change.



EV Chargers Albany is dedicated to building the infrastructure we need to transition away from fossil fueled cars. The City has secured funding for almost 40 public EV charging stations, (including 15 in municipal parking garages) and more are being planned. Combined with the growing number of private charging stations, Albany is well positioned for our electric future.



Street Lights In 2019, Albany purchased all 10,500 streetlights from National Grid and converted every light to high-efficiency LEDs. This conversion saves thousands of kWh worth of electricity and over a thousand tons of CO2 emissions each year - all while saving the City hundreds of thousands of dollars in energy and maintenance costs. The Office of Sustainability continues to manage and improve our new streetlight system.



Electrifying Our Fleet Albany has invested heavily in electrifying our municipal fleet, dedicating more than \$11 million over the next five years to convert our light-duty vehicles to an all-electric fleet by 2030. The City has begun the process of a 'fleet electrification study' to develop a roadmap for electrical system upgrades, charging infrastructure needs, and vehicle purchase priorities.

ONGOING EFFORTS



Climate Action Plan Climate change means summer heat waves will be more common. A white roof reflects that heat, keeping your home cooler and reducing electric bills. Albany is looking for ways to expand white roofs in the city, from requiring them in new construction to including them in ACDA's rehab projects to painting city-owned roofs white.



Solar Panels Albany is dedicated to Solar power is a cornerstone of our clean energy future and the city is working to bring more solar to Albany. We are exploring the solar potential of all city-owned properties, subscribing to a local solar farm, and doing outreach to encourage residents to sign up for community solar themselves.

Did you know that solar panels are installed on the roof of Swinburne Ice Skating Rink?

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Established in 2013 by the Common Council, the Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) is dedicated to advancing sustainability practices and uniting action on climate change within Albany.

The 15-member SAC is made up of 10 residents and 5 City staff. The SAC is engaged in policy research on topics as varied as urban agriculture, reducing food waste, and exploring ways to electrify the aging housing stock of low-income neighborhoods. The SAC's priorities are:

- Energy efficiency in building codes
- Fossil fuel-free new construction
- Electric heating in existing structures.
- More electric vehicle charging stations.
- Renewable energy across city sectors.
- Efforts to reduce heat stress.
- Methane reduction through food waste management
- Local food resilience, particularly in vulnerable communities.

