



Climate Justice Advisory Board (CJAB)

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CJAB will advise the Mayor and City Council on the development of policies and programs related to the City of Saint Paul's Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP). The CJAB's focus will be to ensure that the costs and benefits of new programs in clean energy, energy efficiency, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and climate resilience and adaptation, are equitably distributed and address the challenges faced by our most vulnerable populations and neighborhoods.



CLIMATE JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD

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Climate Justice Definition

To achieve equitable and just outcomes, we must ensure equity & inclusion are centered in decision-making & utilize a climate justice lens. Climate Justice aims to establish a world where everyone has dignity & can thrive. Climate Justice is realized when the residents & communities that experience the most harm from unhealthful air & water, the urban heat island effect, fewer trees & less access to greenspace, & other inequities related to environmental racism, are prioritized with investments that lead to cleaner air, water, more energy-efficient and healthful homes & businesses, equal access to greenspace, & accelerated economic opportunity.

A Climate Just Saint Paul looks like a community in which there are equitable & sustainable systems so that everyone has dignity & can thrive by having access to clean air, water, greenspace & natural areas, economic stability & mobility, healthy food, affordable & safe housing and neighborhoods, & safe and quality education.

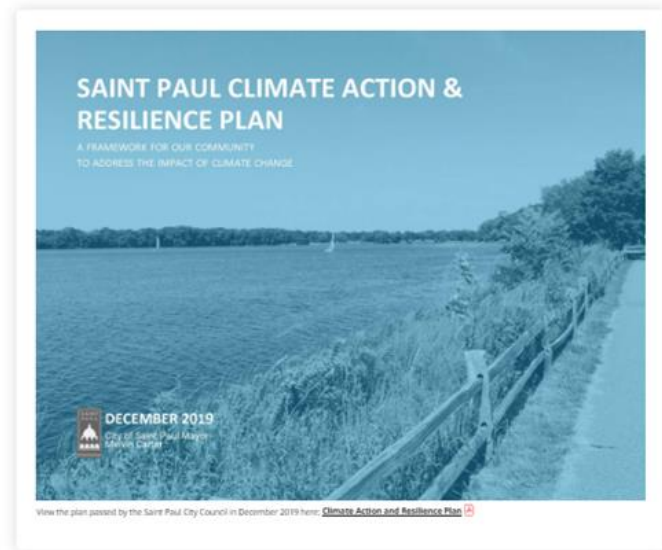
Board Structure

- Shared Leadership including Co-chairs, Chair Designate, Secretary, and a youth leader
- Diverse and representative leadership including youth and Saint Paul community advocates
- Staggered terms to support leadership development
- Rotating leadership: New chair every 6 months



Year 2 Activities

- Developing frameworks for decision-making and preparing speakers
- Began providing direct feedback/input:
 - 1-4 Unit housing
 - Rethinking I-94
 - Climate Dashboard Ideas
 - Healthy Homes
- Started to build intentional relationships with community, including planning public events



Our connections with the Council

**Some members requested
and held 1:1 meetings**

Being here today.

**We look forward to more
opportunities for
engagement!**

CJAB Community Building

Building the CJAB community

- We continued to focus on building the CJAB community through regular in-person meetings

Challenges

- Board member recruitment
- Board members representing community, not just climate/energy professionals

Opportunities

- Recruitment through district council
- Researching compensation models
- City Council recruitment!

CJAB Priority Areas of Interest

Identified Priorities:

- Transportation
Rethinking 94
- Energy burden
Opportunities to leverage IRA
Healthy Homes Saint Paul
- Green workforce development and inclusion
Hear from Ramsey County
- Emergency preparedness
Hear from Emerg. Mgmt
- Communication/education
Recruitment and engagement
at district councils, hearing from SPPS

Communication & Education

- CJAB will advise on elements of new Climate Action Dashboard
- How can City support/partner with schools on climate justice?
- How can the Youth Commission and CJAB work together?
- Are there other voices we (and the City) should be connecting with?
- Continuing to envision the future of CJAB in terms of capacity to engage, authority to advise, or resources available



**What are the top
Climate Justice issues
for CJAB members?**

Nick Martin

"A climate justice issue in Saint Paul that is top of mind for me is energy burden. With so many households already struggling, and well-known racial disparities in home ownership/building age/building efficiency etc., I want Saint Paul to be sure to carefully manage the coming clean energy transition and drive to electrify transportation and buildings to be sure we reduce rather than widen existing disparities in energy burden, wealth, health and comfort."

Janiece Watts

"A climate justice issue in Saint Paul that is top of mind for me is waste. When I go outside and see all the waste floating down my street it is upsetting. Waste gets in our water, soil and air through garbage burning and landfilling and all of that impacts our health. We need more strategies to address waste and we must recognize this as a major climate and environmental justice issue."

**Kristen
Poppleton**

"A climate justice issue for me in Saint Paul and statewide is Climate Justice Education and how educators are being prepared to bring climate justice into the classroom. The high school students in our organization have been stewarding a bill the last few years on this and there is a group in SPPS thinking as well."

Audel Shokohzadeh

"A climate justice opportunity I am excited about is around restoring and rebuilding generational wealth and health. As we continue to invest public dollars, and see an infusion of private dollars, into communities, how do we make sure we direct those investments to the people that bear the burden of the negative effects of climate injustice? And how do we do so in an intentional and sustainable way to ensure multigenerational well being and wealth?"

Patty Born

"For me, climate justice makes me think about children: first, how do we ensure that the children of Saint Paul have a healthy environment (that means, land, water, air) to live and play and grow? This is every child's right, let's show Saint Paul's children that we truly care about them and are willing to protect their future so they can thrive.

Secondarily, I think about the important role of education. How are we, as a community, ensuring that our residents receive scientifically accurate, age-appropriate, and timely information not just about what climate change means and it's effects, but how they can get involved and make a difference?"

Deepa de Alwis

"The main Climate Justice issue for me is the disproportionate health impacts of climate change on people of Saint Paul (and statewide). As the temperatures rise, so would the concentration of volatile air toxics (aka Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)), and other air pollutants. BIPOC and low income people already bear the brunt of air pollution. Climate change is only going to make it worse."

Dominique Diaddigo-Cash

I'm hopeful for Saint Paul to adopt strategies from the community that are rooted in self determination. Local solutions can be transformative. Looking holistically at the data available from community is more democratic than hiring out-of-state consultants.

As an example, it's possible for urban agriculture to drastically reduce the need for food transported by freight, a top emitter of greenhouse gases.

An Invitation!

We'd love for you to
join a meeting and are
always available for
consultation on related
issues!



Questions?