

City of Richmond Office of Sustainability

For the Alexandria EPC



OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY

City of Richmond
RVAgreen
2050

MEET THE OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Our mission is to serve as the *central hub* of equitable climate action and resilience.

RVAgreen 2050 is an ongoing effort that requires the active participation of residents, businesses, and all levels of government. By working together, we can create a more sustainable, equitable, and resilient future for Richmond.



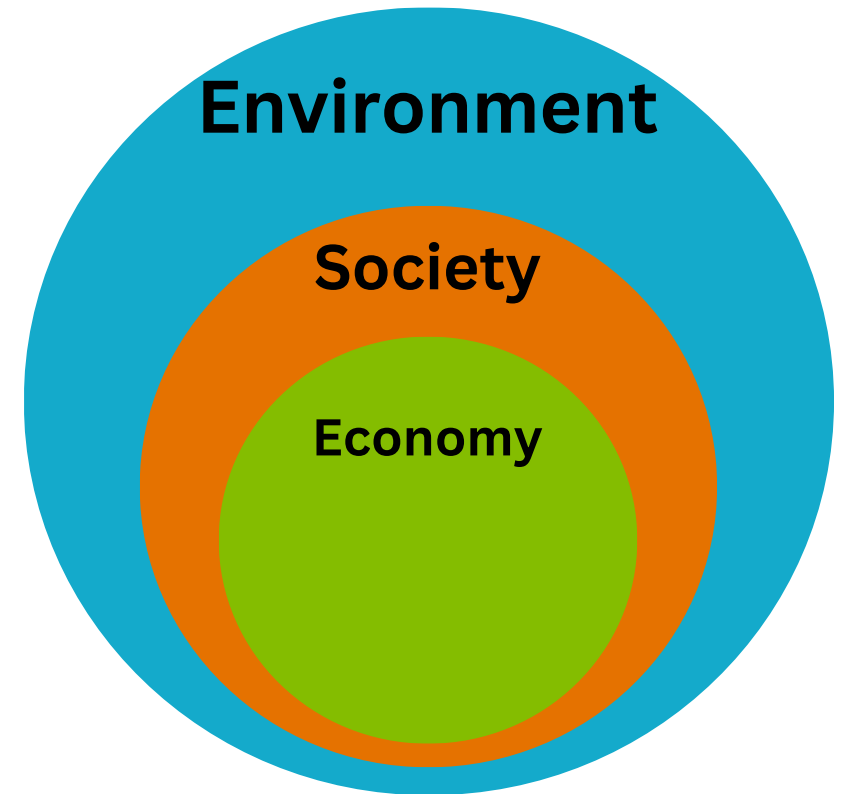
OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY VISION AND GOALS

Our Vision:

- All Richmonders, regardless of their identity or neighborhood, thrive in a climate-resilient and climate neutral community.

Our Goals:

- 45% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030
- Net-zero GHG emissions by 2050
- Prepare for, adapt, and improve the community's resilience to local climate impacts



Nested Model of Sustainability



DEFINING CLIMATE EQUITY & RESILIENCE

A climate resilient Richmond will be low-carbon and equipped to deal with the realities of a warmer world regardless of identity or neighborhood.

- **Climate Equity** - Addressing climate change in a way that is inclusive of and prioritizes those who are being impacted first and worst.
- **Climate Resilience** - The ability of a system (e.g., family, neighborhood, community, country, biosphere) to cope with short-term disruptions and adapt to long-term changes without losing its essential character and while respecting its history and development.

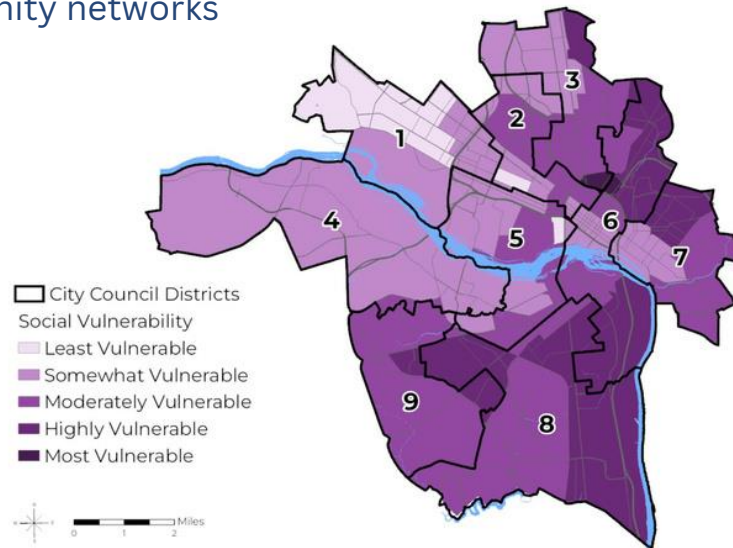


FRONTLINES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

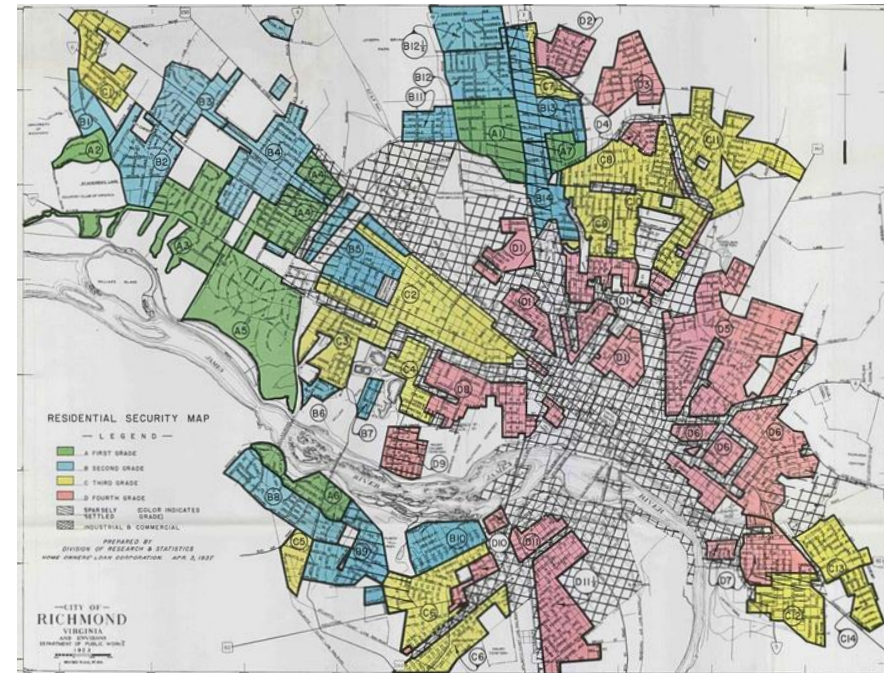
Climate change is making Richmond hotter and stormier, but the impacts of this are hitting our historically underrepresented and economically disadvantaged communities the hardest.

Community Resilience or Adaptive Capacity

- Socio-economic, cultural, and environmental conditions
- Living and Working Conditions (City services)
- Social and Community networks
- Lifestyle factors
- Individual Factors



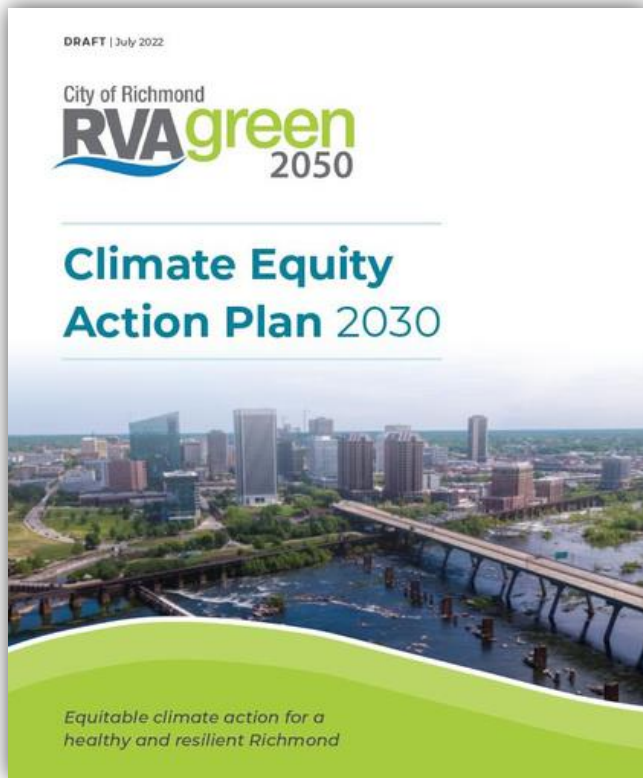
**Based on data from the U.S. CDC: Social Vulnerability Index*



Redlining map of Richmond, VA



RVAGREEN2050 CLIMATE EQUITY ACTION PLAN



RVAgreen 2050 is an equity-centered, community based, integrated climate action and climate resilience plan. It is a roadmap that lays out how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help the Richmond community adapt to climate impacts of extreme heat, precipitation, and flooding.



Buildings and Energy

Accelerate the equitable transition to healthy, resilient, climate neutral buildings and energy sources.



Transportation and Mobility

Accelerate the transition for all to clean and equitable mobility.



Community

Create an equitable and resilient Richmond while honoring and ensuring focus on community priorities.



Waste Reduction and Recovery

Foster sustainable methods of waste reduction - wasting less, reusing more.



Environment

Invest in resilient, healthy, and equitably distributed natural resources throughout the community to support biodiversity and human well-being.



DATA TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY

The OOS has developed an RVAgreen 2050 Implementation Dashboard so the community can easily track the status of each action within the [RVAgreen 2050 Climate Equity Action plan](#)

TRAC-E updates automatically each day. Realtime implementation tracking helps to ensure that City initiatives like RVAgreen 2050 are fulfilling our commitments to the community within the timeframe laid out in our plan.



TRAC-E Tracking Realtime Action for Climate Equity

Last Updated: 3/24/2025 1:17:22 AM

Filters

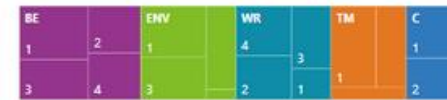
Pathway: All

Action: All

Cohort: All

Status: All

[Reset filters](#)



Pathway	Objective	Strategy	Action
BE	1	1	i
C	2	2	ii
ENV	3	3	iii
TM	4	4	iv

Action Description

BE 1.1.i: Convert all city-owned streetlights to LED, integrate solar options where feasible, and streamline efficiency measures; Prioritize improvements in formerly redlined neighborhoods and proactively communicate climate impact and resilience benefits with the communities.

BE 1.1.ii: Track energy usage in all City-owned buildings and set energy usage benchmarks according to building type and climate impacts.

BE 1.1.iii: Equitably prioritize energy efficiency retrofits of City-owned buildings in areas that serve the public therefore improving their health, safety, and accessibility while rating the highest return on investment in cost savings and GHG reductions.

BE 1.1.iv: Create an Energy Manager position with authority to identify equity gaps in energy management, work across all departments and coordinate partnerships in frontline communities.

Pathways	Objectives	Strategies	Actions
5	17	49	136
Not Started	Planning	In Process	Completed
32	33	46	25



RVAgreen 2050 Action:

Implementation Phase:

Status:

Start date:

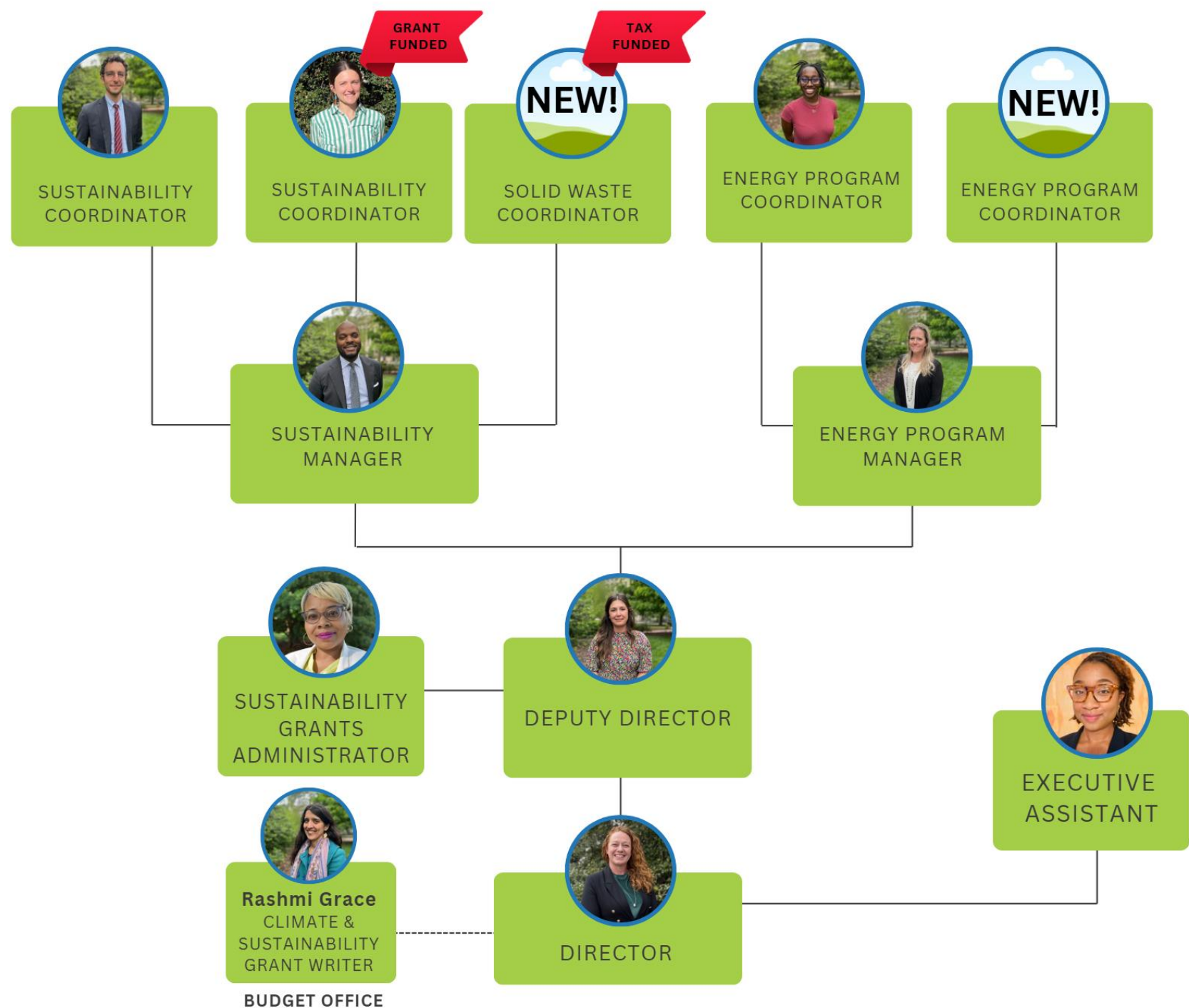
End date:

OOS Champion:

City Steward:

ORGANIZATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

- PROJECTED FY27 FTE: 12 (*ish*)
- 9 FTE Permanent General Fund
- 1 FTE (P) in Budget Office
- 1 Grant Funded FTE (2030 Transition to GF)
- 1 Tax Funded FTE



AGENCY BUDGET

TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENDITURES	\$1,003,735.00
GF Account	Allocation Amount
Management Serv	\$463,600.00
Printing & Bind - Internal	\$1,500.00
Printing & Bind - External	\$1,500.00
Transportation	\$3,500.00
Lodging	\$1,500.00
Food & Drink Se	\$7,500.00
Office Supplies	\$2,500.00
Employee Apprec	\$2,500.00
Conference /Con	\$15,000.00
Membership Dues	\$10,000.00
Employee Traini	\$15,000.00
Software License	\$4,500.00
Employee Parking	\$2,160.00
Total	\$1,532,335.00

OTHER FUNDS

Description	TOTAL AWARD
Estimated Plastic Bag Tax Revenue	\$480,000.00
DOE EECBG	\$262,000.00
Clean Energy Revolving Fund	\$126,000.00
VERS	\$10,000.00
Direct Pay	\$62,000.00
USDN Catalyst	\$10,000.00
ARPA	\$865,000.00
DOE EFG	\$498,750.00
TOTAL	\$2,313,750.00

General Fund: \$1.5M (\$1M personnel; \$0.5M Agency Spend)

Other Funds: \$2.3M

GRAND TOTAL: \$3,846,085

Approx
\$6.75/Person
Annually



ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

1 Mayor (“Strong Mayor”)

1 CAO

2 Deputy CAOs

28 Agencies

4,500 Employees

9 District-Specific City Council

City Council President

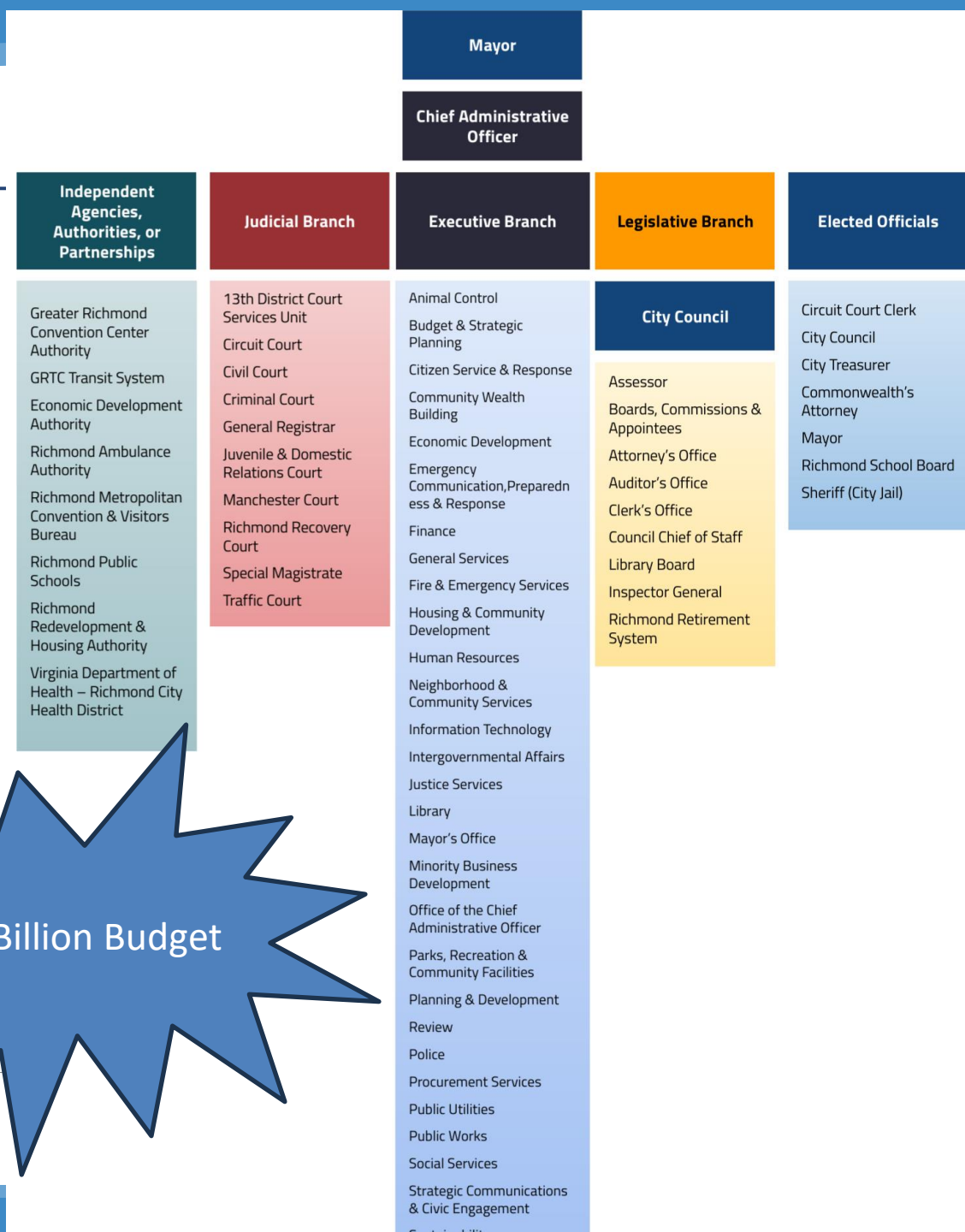
City Council Vice President

Legal

Auditor

Inspector

55+ Boards & Commissions



\$3 Billion Budget

RICHMOND CITY IN CONTEXT

- Dillon Rule
- Capital City (State, VCU, VCU Health, UoR, VUU, Courts, etc.)
 - Richmond has approximately \$29.8 billion in real property, of which roughly \$7.3 billion (about a quarter) is tax-exempt
 - **\$45–70 million missed per year**, net of the ~\$3.9M State PILOT
- Non-integrated Counties
- City Charter & Separation of Powers



The JET breaks down departmental silos and fast-tracks sustainability initiatives to advance our clean energy future.

The Joint Energy Team (“JET”) is the governing body for energy management for municipal operations chaired by the DCAO of Operations and facilitated by the Energy Program Manager. Members include DCAOs, Chiefs, and Department Directors or a designated Department representative(s).

The JET was established in FY24 to provide the mechanism needed for all departments to share in the responsibility of energy management and partner in strategic planning for all related initiatives.



FY25 JET Committees

- **Renewable Energy Planning Committee**
- **Smart Infrastructure Committee**
- **Municipal Energy Assessments Committee**
- **Electric Vehicle Transition Committee**
- **Energy Conservation & Education Committee**

RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

- TB Smith
- East End Solar Farm
- Solar Feasibility Study
- RECs
- Inter-Jurisdictional VPPA
- 50% Renewable E (Muni)



REQUEST FOR INTEREST
EAST END SOLAR FARM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

August 12, 2024



OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY

City of Richmond
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ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RELATED EFFORTS - MUNICIPAL

- Clean Energy CAPital Fund (CECAP)
- Building & Energy Efficiency Assessments
- RPS Support
- Energy-Focused Administrative Regulation
- Lighting Upgrades (LED)
- EnergyCAP & Utility Monitoring
- Streetlight Conversion



ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RELATED EFFORTS - COMMUNITY

- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)
- Municipal Investment Fund (MIF)
- EVSE City-wide Policy
- Energy on the East End
- Brightening Smart Communities Pilot
- SUN Solar Co-op & Solarize
- Sustainability Guide & External Education



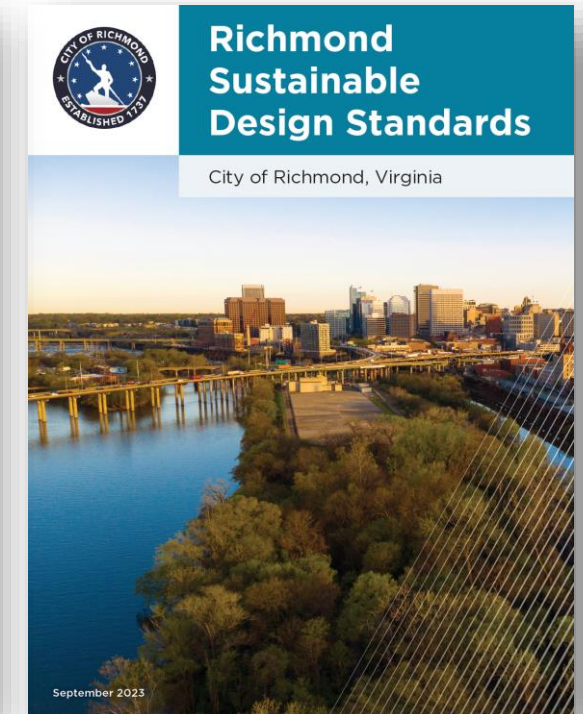
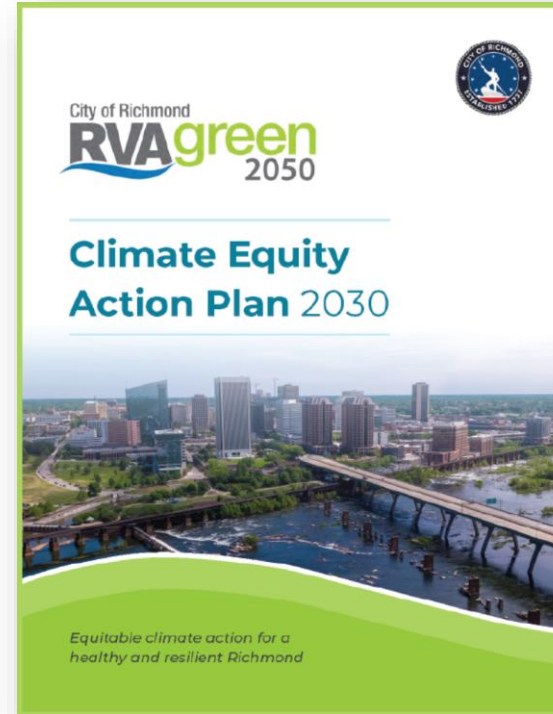
FLEET TRANSITION

- 25 Electric Vehicles
- 45 Hybrids
- 32 EV Chargers
- 37th Greenest Fleet in the U.S.
- 90-100% Fleet Staff Trained
- EVSE Contracts (Suite of 5)



POLICY DEVELOPMENT

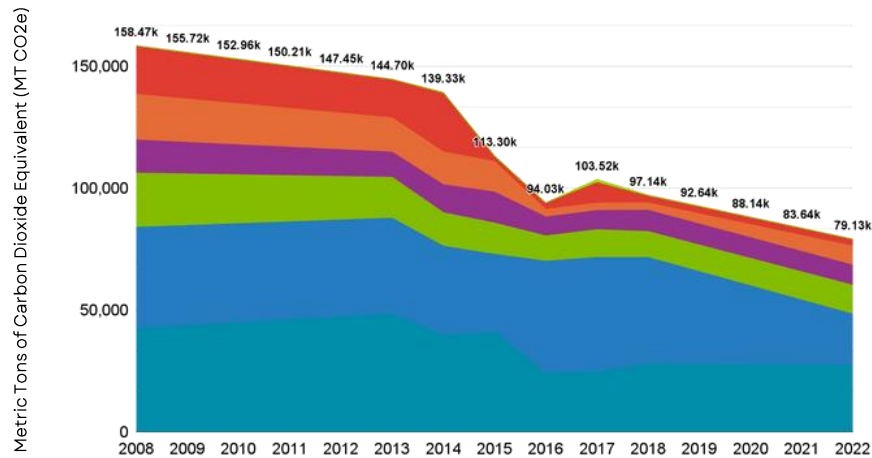
- RVAgreen 2050 Adoption
- EVSE City-wide Policy
- Tree Ordinance Policy
- Virginia Friendly Landscaping
- Energy Conservation AR
- Sustainable Design Standards
- Fleet Replacement Process
- C-PACE
- Clean Energy Revolving Fund (in progress)



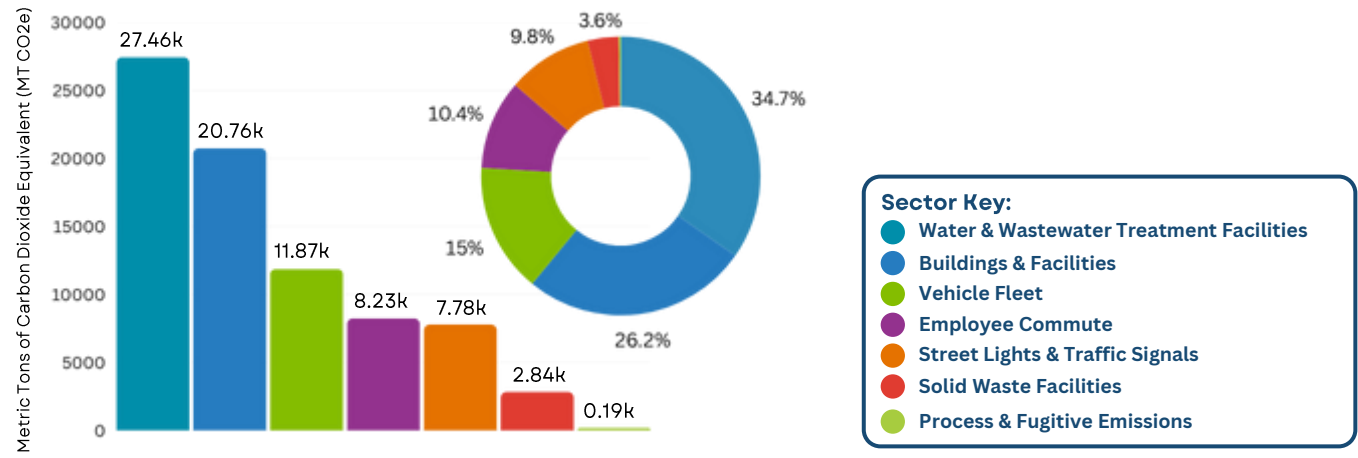
2022 GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY

The City has prepared annual inventories for the calendar years 2013-2018 and recently completed its 2022 GHG Emissions inventory with plans to release updated reports every 4 years. Richmond's inventories are verified as compliant with the ICLEI Protocol for Government Operations and the US Protocol for Accounting and Reporting of GHG Emissions.

Municipal GHG Emissions are down 50.1% since 2008



2022 Municipal GHG Emissions by Sector



Water & Wastewater

DOWN 35%

Buildings & Facilities

DOWN 50%

Employee Commute

DOWN 39%

Street Lights & Traffic Signals

DOWN 58%

Solid Waste Facilities

DOWN 86%

COMMUNITY-BASED PARTNERSHIP | \$6 MILLION

In July 2024, the City of Richmond (COR) and four community-based organizations (CBOs) began a collaborative project to invest in greening projects, workforce development, and institutional capacity building to increase Richmond's tree canopy.



155+

Community members engaged



495

Trees planted



18

Agroforestry certificates awarded



SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE COMMISSION

The Richmond Sustainability & Resilience Commission (“SRC”) is a 10-member public commission tasked with advancing climate action in Richmond. The SRC collaborates with the Richmond Office of Sustainability to implement the RVAgreen 2050 Climate Equity Action Plan 2030 and holds 6 annual meetings that are free and open to the public.

<https://www.rvagreen2050.com/src>

Consider joining our next meeting!
(Main Public Library) Visit [RVAgreen2050.com](https://www.rvagreen2050.com) to learn more!



RICHMOND
SUSTAINABILITY &
RESILIENCE
COMMISSION



OFFICE OF
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SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP & GUIDE

Addressing climate change can be overwhelming. To assist, our Office offers a [Sustainability Workshop and Guide](#) for our community. This summer, we hosted two sessions monthly and plan to increase that number. Presentations are available on demand.

Our guide covers:

1. What are Sustainability, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice?
2. Introduction to RVAgreen 2050
3. Where Do I Start?
4. Building Your Toolbox
5. Staying Connected and Getting Involved
6. *Energy Education



The graphic features a cityscape background with a blue and green color scheme. At the top right, there is a circular icon with a recycling symbol and a leaf. The main title 'SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP' is prominently displayed in white and green text. Below the title, a paragraph describes the workshop's purpose. A list of topics to be discovered is provided, each preceded by a green checkmark. A yellow hand icon points to a 'REGISTER NOW' button. At the bottom left, the 'City of Richmond RVAgreen 2050' logo is shown. At the bottom right, contact information is provided, including an email address and an envelope icon.

SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP

Whether you're new to sustainability or looking to deepen your knowledge, this workshop offers valuable resources and community support to help you learn, connect, and contribute to a greener future for all in the City of Richmond!

Discover the following:

- ✓ Practical Sustainability Tips
- ✓ Actionable Climate Strategies
- ✓ Community Resilience Resources

REGISTER NOW

City of Richmond
RVAgreen
2050

Questions? Email us!
rvagreen@rva.gov



NEIGHBORHOOD CLIMATE RESILIENCE GRANT

The NCRG Program supports the implementation of equity-centered, neighborhood-based planning and climate resilience projects within the City of Richmond.

2025 NCRG AWARDEES



★ FLIPP Inc.
\$49,999

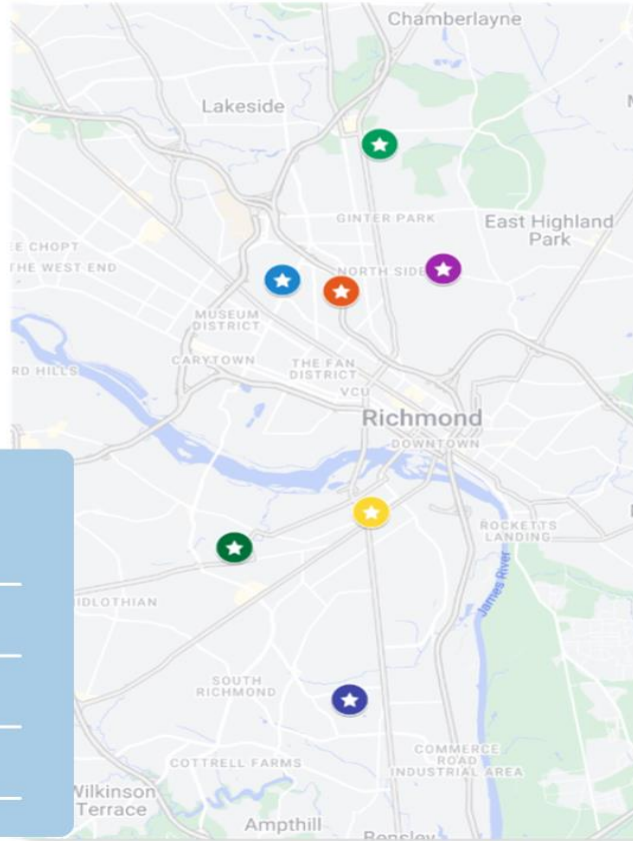
To support renewable energy workforce training with formerly incarcerated veterans, BIPOC, and women.

★ Studio Two Three
\$49,999

To support rewilding the property with wildflowers, gardens, and other greening projects.

★ Reedy Creek Coalition
\$1,500

To support invasive plant removal with RVA Goats at Crooked Branch Ravine Park.



★ Future Habitats
\$25,000

To support a Pine Camp land restoration project.

★ ProFarms Gateway
\$48,500

To support RVA Adult Autism Services through urban garden aquaponics training and inclusion opportunities.

★ Richmond Community ToolBank
\$25,000

To design and prototype inclusive and accessible park furniture.

★ Renewal of Life Land Trust
\$49,999

To support soil rehabilitation projects in Richmond's 8th district.

NCRG BY THE NUMBERS

Total Applications Received: 41

Total Funds Requested: \$1,433,856

Total Funds Awarded: \$250,000

Growth in Applicants: +37% YoY



ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES

And SO much more...!

- Environmental Justice
- Community Benefits Agreements
- Energy On The East End
- Resilience Hubs
- Pollinator Gardens
- Composting & Recycling
- Workforce Development
- EV Policy
- Data Transparency & Reporting
- State, Legislative & Regulatory Work
- Energy Benchmarking
- Communications, Branding, etc.
- So.... So much more!



SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FRAMEWORK

Regular Evaluation

- Outcomes and Indicators
- Annual progress report
- Biannual greenhouse gas emissions inventories
- Climate Equity Index
- Project Tracker

Institutionalizing Sustainability in City Government

- Employee orientation, training, and performance
- Climate ambassadors
- Internal operations and policies
- Climate considerations in budgeting and finance
- Leadership engagement, education, and catalyzing interdepartmental partnerships



Transparency

- RVAgreen 2050 Plan, goals, and outcomes
- Community priorities
- Climate Equity Index
- Interactive website, newsletters, and social media

Culture of Improvement

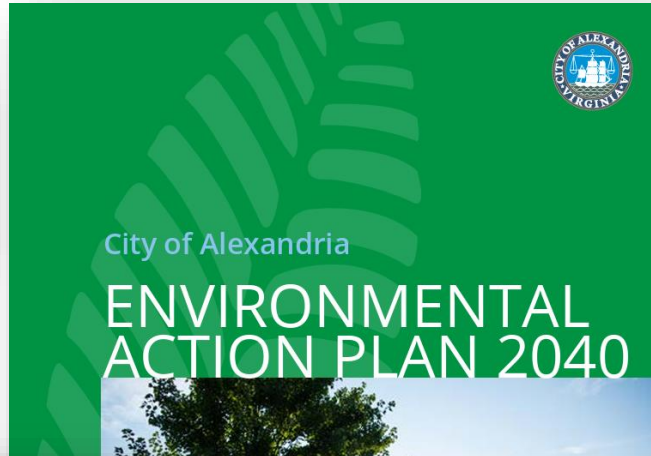
- Equity screening tool and Equitable Implementation Guide
- Annual community-wide survey
- Annual equity evaluation and lessons learned
- Plan update every five years

Trusting Relationships

- Implementation teams
- Racial Equity & Environmental Justice Roundtable
- Annual convening of partners



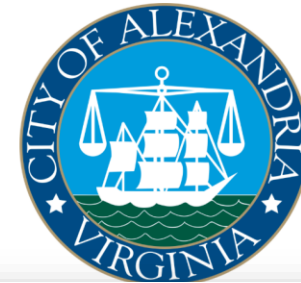
YOUR INSPIRATION!



VCC News

City of Alexandria Introduces Multi-Family EV Charging Project

April 18, 2025



ECO-CITY FESTIVAL 2025

Sustainable Celebration

Saturday, May 10
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Ben Brenman Park

Join the City of Alexandria at the Eco-City Festival!

The Eco-City Festival is a FREE family-friendly event full of fun games and activities to learn about environmental practices and interesting programs happening in our community!

Spend a few hours with us and experience:

- EV Showcase and EV Ride and Drive
- E-bike and scooter test rides
- Fun games
- Interactive activities
- Food trucks
- Talk to City staff about the City's sustainability efforts and how you can get involved!!

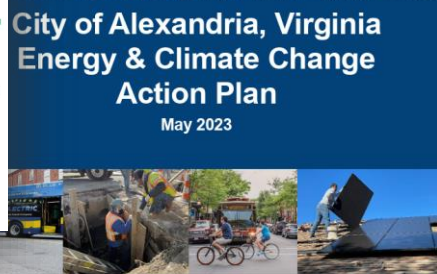
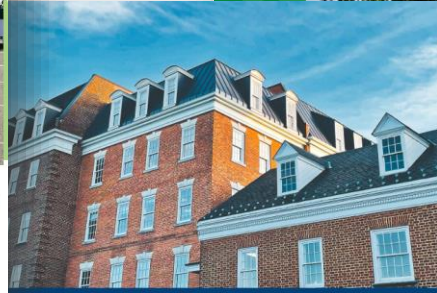
There will be a FREE bike valet on-site for those who want to bike to the event.

Follow us on Social Media

@EcoCityALX

For more information or if you need reasonable accommodation, please contact Amy Posner: 703.746.3916 or amy.posner@alexandriava.gov

alexandriava.gov/Eco-City



News

City Council approves new energy standards for developments in Alexandria

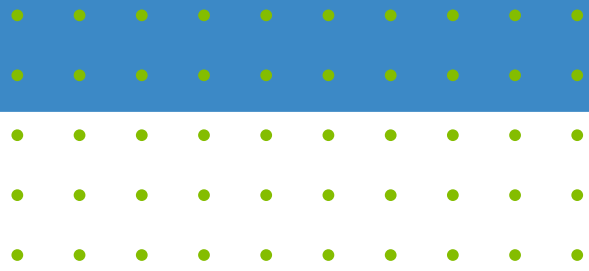
By Emily Leayman
Published January 27, 2026 at 11:50AM



Attendees at City Council's Jan. 24, 2026 public hearing (via City of Alexandria)

to facilitate the Plug In Alexandria project. This support program helps electric vehicle (EV) chargers by providing expert guidance and financial assistance. For more information, visit: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/eco-city>

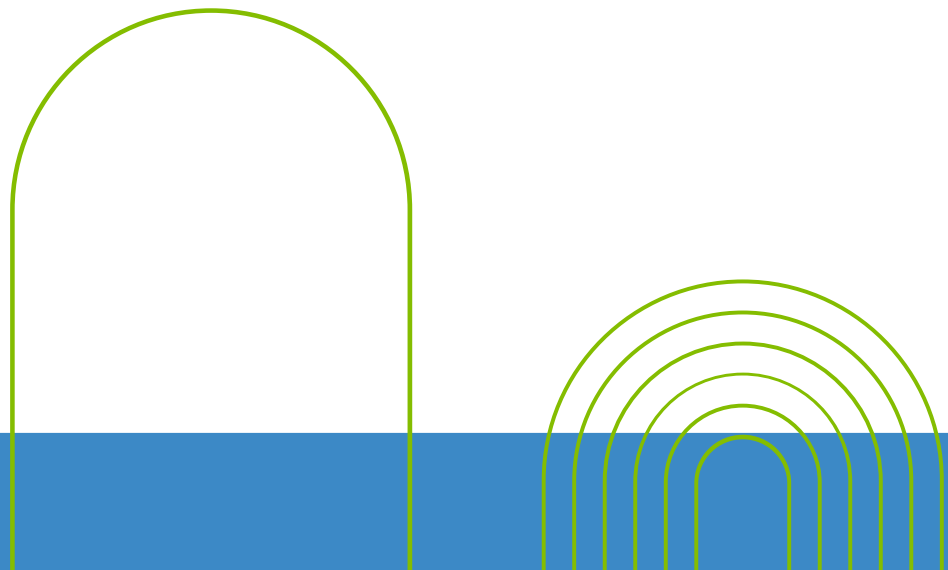




THANK YOU

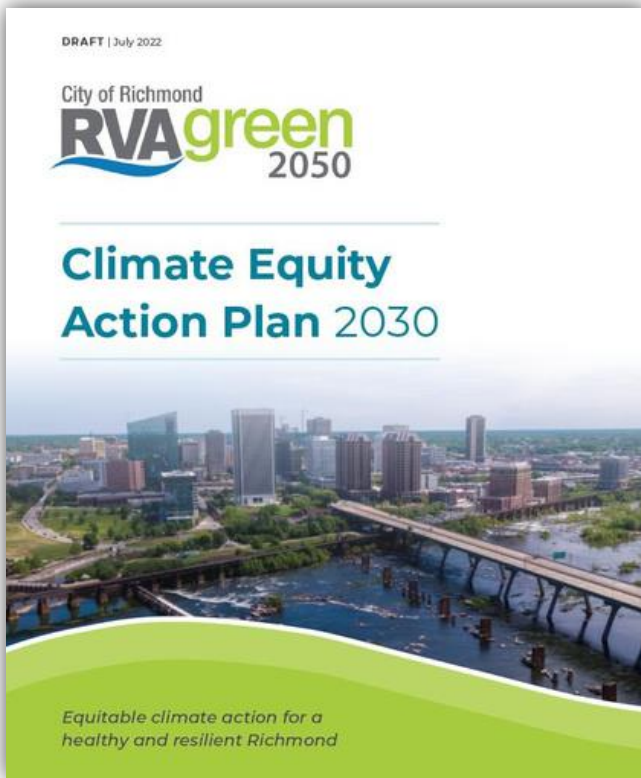
Do you have any questions?

rvagreen@rva.gov
www.rvagreen2050.com



OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY

RVAGREEN2050 Action Item Examples



BE – 1.1ii | Track energy usage in all City-owned buildings and set energy usage benchmarks according to building type and climate impacts.

BE – 1.1iii | Equitably prioritize energy efficiency retrofits of City-owned buildings in areas that serve the public therefore improving their health, safety, and accessibility while rating the highest return on investment in cost savings and GHG reductions.

BE – 1.2i | Incorporate electrification requirements into all Capital Improvement Plans (CIPs).

BE – 2.1i | Facilitate energy efficiency upgrades through community-based programs, advocacy, partnerships, and low/ no-cost financial options.

BE – 2.1iii | Educate all residents about the benefits of electrification by sharing targeted case studies in the areas of highest utility burden.

...and more!

