

Implementing Climate Justice: Screening Tool

Climate Equity is having access to information, relationships, land, and resources needed to have sovereignty and self-direction in response to climate crisis events and long-term sustainability that is community-led, deeply informed, organized, prepared for rapid response, and well-resourced.

Climate Justice is the commitment to ensuring that all Asheville communities, especially Black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities, are able to achieve Climate Equity, and the recognition that these communities are disproportionately impacted by structural and environmental racism and are most vulnerable to climate crisis events.

Name of project, proposal, budget issue, or policy: _____

Description: _____

Department: _____ Contact: _____

(1) What kind of an opportunity to promote climate justice is this? (check one)

☐ Mitigation: *Reducing climate harm to BIPOC communities through decreasing greenhouse gasses (solar use, composting, decreasing reliance on gas-powered vehicles), toxic waste clean-up, repairing and maintaining vulnerable City infrastructure.*

☐ Adaptation: *Developing adaptive policy and infrastructure that will increase climate resilience in BIPOC communities -- adding usable greenspace, developing resilience hubs, flood or wildfire prevention, using climate threat data to target infrastructure investments toward most at-risk areas.*

☐ Education and Access: *Providing BIPOC community members with information and resources about climate threats and training on resilience skills and strategies, in accessible formats, mediums, and multiple languages. Providing City staff with education about climate equity and justice, especially in the context of Asheville BIPOC communities.*

☐ Unclear/Don't Know: *This is a great time to check in with the Office of Sustainability!*

(2) What form of climate threat is most likely to be addressed by this effort?

☐ Flooding/Stormwater

Run-Off

☐ Landslide

☐ Pollution

☐ Wildfire

☐ Emissions/GHGs

☐ Extreme Heat

☐ Food Access

☐ Lack of community

preparedness

☐ Inadequate emergency

response

(3) Which Asheville neighborhoods will gain the most through this effort? How will it impact BIPOC communities?

(4) Who are your partners in developing and/or implementing this effort? *Please name all individuals, community groups, or departments who you plan to or have involved.*

(5) What have BIPOC communities already told the City about this topic? *Potential existing data sets: demographics, usage, cost, reports, complaints, code violations, conversations with colleagues.*

(6) What data or information are you missing, and how can you get it?

(7) What kind of inclusive outreach and public engagement have you done? Please check all that apply.

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|--|---|--|
| ☐ Meeting/Town Hall | ☐ In-Person Neighborhood | ☐ Mailing |
| ☐ Print Materials | ☐ Social Media | ☐ Email |
| ☐ Community Leaders | ☐ Webinar | ☐ Faith Community |

(8) How has input/feedback from BIPOC community members impacted this effort? How are they involved in the planning and decision-making process? *(If you have not yet received any feedback, please note that.)*

(9) How will this effort resource BIPOC communities and support community engagement in and ownership of climate resilience and justice efforts?

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|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ Jobs | ☐ Community grants | ☐ Neighborhood |
| ☐ "Green economy" skills training | ☐ Resilience skill-building | ☐ preservation |
| ☐ Microloans | ☐ Contracts | |
| | ☐ Land access/ownership | |

(10) What unintended negative consequences could this effort have on climate justice in BIPOC communities?

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|---|---|--|
| ☐ Permeable surface reduction | ☐ Disparate exposure to toxins | ☐ Decrease in quality of life |
| ☐ Disparate emergency response access | ☐ Reduction of already sparse tree canopy | ☐ Development in areas at-risk of flood or fire |
| ☐ Increased surveillance or policing | ☐ Displacement of BIPOC/low-income residents | ☐ Other_____ |
| ☐ Increased pressure on fragile infrastructure | ☐ Devaluation/seizure of private property | |

(11) What changes could be made to the current plan to increase the likelihood of climate justice? *(Ex: siting a greenway in a different neighborhood, clarifying or increasing requirements for developers, incorporating a circular economy component, more time for community input, resourcing community-driven climate justice efforts)*

(12) What resources do you need to address climate justice successfully?

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|---|--|--------------------------------|
| ☐ Staff | ☐ Advocacy | ☐ Time |
| ☐ Funding | ☐ Community Input | ☐ Data |
| ☐ Leadership Support | ☐ OoS Coaching | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Permission | ☐ Policy Change | |

(13) How well has this effort advanced climate justice? *What worked and should be amplified? What was ineffective or even harmful? What lessons-learned could lead to further innovation? What do you still have questions about?*