

BUILDINGS & ENERGY

How can Biddeford make our city's buildings and energy systems ready for climate change?

B1. Building weatherization

Create a program to help single family homes increase energy efficiency through weatherization efforts, such as improved insulation, sealing leaks, or improved ventilation.

B5. Renewable energy

Encourage and incentivize small scale renewable energy installation, such as rooftop solar panels



B9. Improve grid resilience

Work with power companies and state agencies to advocate for efforts to improve the resilience of the electrical grid.

B2. Risk management

Reduce climate risks to buildings through improved information, education, and action, including

- Requiring hazard disclosures for property transactions
- Increasing awareness of adaptation options
- Encouraging actions to manage flood risks

B6. Building electrification

Create a program to encourage existing buildings & new construction to shift to all-electric heating and appliances.

B10. Energy efficiency

Increase efficiency of large buildings and rental properties through local ordinances and standards, including:

- Standards to increase efficiency over time
- Programs to track and disclose energy consumption
- Efficiency standards for rentals

B3. Maintain power at critical facilities

Develop and implement a plan for maintaining power at critical facilities during power outages.



B7. Municipal energy efficiency

Increase municipal energy efficiency through:

- Energy audits
- Renewable energy installation
- Energy efficiency measures for all city-owned properties and buildings

B4. Critical facility resilience

Increase the resilience of critical facilities such as our wastewater treatment facility through risk reduction or relocation.

B8. Maine "Stretch Code" adoption

Adopt the most up-to-date building codes (also known as "stretch codes") to help new buildings to be more efficient.



B11. Limit reconstruction & encourage relocation

Limit reconstruction and/or encourage relocation of buildings damaged by hazards that are expected to recur or intensify with climate change.

B12. Resilient design standards

Encourage or require new and redeveloped buildings to include sustainable and resilient design measures, especially in flood-prone areas.

Help Guide Biddeford's Climate Action Plan! The Biddeford Climate Task Force has been working hard to create a Climate Action Plan focused on changes that will have the biggest impact. What do you think of the proposed strategies? Answer the survey linked in the QR code:



TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

How can Biddeford make our transportation systems and infrastructure ready for climate change?

T1. Public transit



Expand access to and use of public transit services.



T5. Protect critical infrastructure



Protect critical infrastructure such as wastewater treatment and evacuation routes from climate change hazards.

T8. Reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips



Assess methods to reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips made by municipal staff.

T2. Increase walkability



Improving the "walkability" of our city's roadways through a safe, comfortable, and convenient network of pedestrian walkways.

T6. Increase bikeability



Improve the "bikeability" of our city's roadways with safe, comfortable, and convenient networks of bikeways and bike-related infrastructure.



T3. Encourage transition to electric vehicles (EVs)



Encourage maximum transition to electric vehicles (EV) through:

- Streamlined permitting, installation of public EV chargers
- Requirements for EV chargers in new development
- Transitioning city fleets to EV

T4. Transit-oriented development

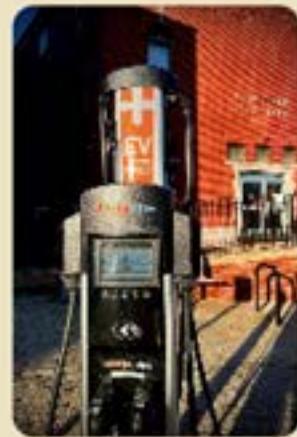


Concentrate housing, business, and leisure activities within easy walking distance to public transit in new development.

T7. Vulnerability assessment



Assess the vulnerability of transportation infrastructure to the impacts of heat, groundwater rise, and saltwater intrusion caused by sea level rise.



T9. Build infrastructure resilience



Modify roads, culverts, and bridges to increase their resilience to flooding, sea level rise, and other climate hazards, including raising, relocating, and/or upsizing.

T10. Direct development



Decrease the need for private vehicles by reducing sprawl through:

- Directing new development to areas where services are easily accessible
- Reducing minimum parking requirements

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LAND USE & NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

How can Biddeford help our city's natural environment be ready for climate change?



LN1. Protect vulnerable areas



Conserve areas of the city that are vulnerable to climate hazards, as well as those that help to minimize climate risks through carbon storage and flood reduction.

LN4. Encourage development in appropriate areas



Encourage development in appropriate areas that are already developed, have public services (e.g. water and sewer), and are less vulnerable to natural hazards.

LN7. Sustainable landscaping



Promote and practice climate resilient and sustainable landscaping approaches, including limiting use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides.

LN5. Mixed-use zoning



Implement zoning to allow a blend of residential and commercial uses in some areas of the city, in order to reduce sprawl and make neighborhoods more walkable.



LN2. Nature-based solutions



Promote and enable "nature-based solutions", such as the restoration of sand dunes or wetlands, to protect shorelines and coastal property from flooding and erosion.

LN6. Restoration of natural habitats



Promote the restoration or enhancement of natural habitats for biodiversity and wildlife protection.

LN3. Land use ordinance review



Conduct a review of the city's land use ordinances and policies to identify changes needed to include climate resilience and sustainability measures and standards.



LN8. Sustainable food systems



Promote and expand local and resilient food systems through sustainable practices, such as actions that improve soil health and store carbon.

LN9. Direct development



Direct development away from areas of the city that are exposed to climate-related risks, including sea level rise, erosion, and inland flooding.

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HEALTH, SAFETY, & WELL BEING

How can Biddeford increase health, safety, & well being in our city?

H1. Improve disaster planning



Improve disaster planning and response to be better prepared for climate change risks, including early warning systems and community evacuation plans.

H2. Climate hazard training



Provide emergency responders and medical providers with training about the types of illnesses that might occur as a result of climate hazards.



H3. Affordable housing



Encourage and support the creation of resilient, energy-efficient, and low-carbon affordable housing.



H4. Shade structures ordinance



Develop an ordinance to require shade structures on city-owned properties. Shade structures can include: trees, covered bus stops, gazebos, etc.

H5. Public health outreach



Conduct outreach about public health advisories for climate-related health impacts and weather events.

H6. Resilience Hubs



Establish a designated site to serve as a 'resilience hub' that can provide critical services to residents during climate-related emergencies or disruptions.

H7. Monitor vector-borne diseases and invasive species



Explore options for monitoring and managing pests, like ticks and mosquitoes, that are associated with increases in diseases (e.g. Lyme disease) using natural and ecologically sound methods.



H8. Ensure safe drinking water supply



Ensure the safety and quality of drinking water supplies, including through assessment and management of climate change impacts to septic systems and wells.

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LEADERSHIP & SUPPORT

How can the City of Biddeford foster leadership and support to implement our Climate Action Plan?

LS1. Create Climate Commission



Create a municipal Climate Commission made of up city residents to assist with the implementation of the Climate Action Plan.

LS2. Create Office of Sustainability



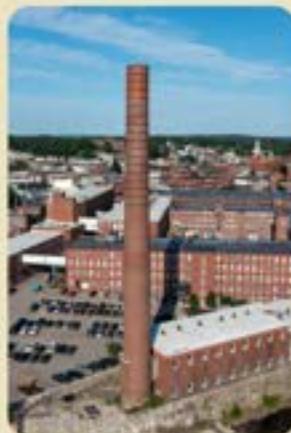
Create a municipal Office of Sustainability and position of Sustainability Coordinator, whose mandate will be to implement the Climate Action Plan.



LS3. Include climate in decision-making



Incorporate future climatic conditions in land use planning and municipal policies.



LS4. Include climate in municipal investments



Incorporate climate resilience and carbon emissions measures into planned investments for city - owned infrastructure and equipment.

LS5. Build municipal capacity



Ensure municipal departments have the resources, guidance, and support to implement the Climate Action Plan.



LS6. School curricula



Support local schools to include climate change and sustainability in school curricula.



LS7. Establish local funding



Establish local funding mechanisms, such as fees on new construction, to support implementation of the Climate Action Plan.

LS8. Climate change training



Provide climate change training for municipal boards, commissions, and committees.

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