



# GREEN NEW DEAL OVERSIGHT BOARD PUBLIC MEETING

JUNE 4, 2024

# TIMELINE FOR BUDGET RECOMMENDATION DEVELOPMENT

April

- PPP Committee Recommendation refinement

May 8

- Complete list of recommendations

May 8-29

- Solicit feedback from City Depts, Board members, & community partners

Late May

- PPP Committee to refine recommendations
- PPP Committee may request additional guidance from SMEs

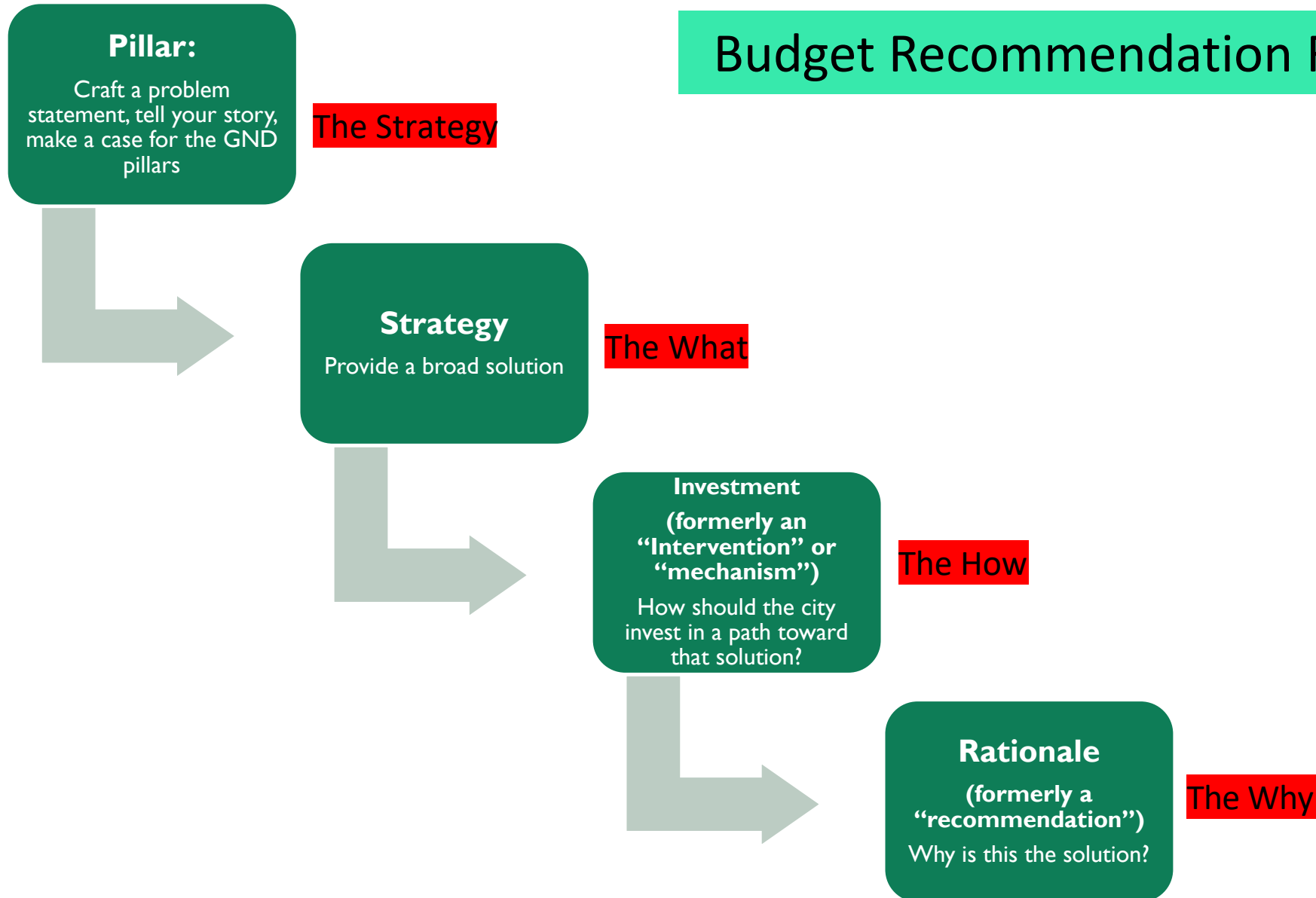
Early June

- Board vote on recommendations on **June 4**
- Transmit recommendations by **June 7**

# DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

- **Letter** from the Executive Committee
- Explanation of **Key Strategies** to advance climate and environmental justice
- Recommendations broken into **3 Categories**:
  - Continue to Invest in Existing Programs that are Successfully Advancing Climate Justice
  - Invest in Cutting-Edge and Life-Saving Climate Technologies and Programming
  - Maintain Current Investment for Climate Justice
- Appendix: Board values and mission, definitions

# Budget Recommendation Framework



# DRAFT GND OB KEY STRATEGIES TO ADVANCE CLIMATE JUSTICE

## **Develop our workforce**

For those underrepresented in the trades & furthest from economic justice

## **Develop our green and regenerative economy**

Invest in new market sectors in the green & circular economies

## **Promote climate resilience and protect health in frontline communities**

Invest in community & Indigenous-led solutions that build social cohesion & protect community health

## **Advance environmental justice**

Eliminate pollution, starting in communities who are most overburdened

## **Leverage federal & state dollars for green infrastructure**

Continue to invest City \$ to maximize contributions from the federal & state government

## **Decarbonize housing while preventing displacement**

Invest in programs that decarbonize housing while ensuring that current residents can stay in place

## FEEDBACK WE ARE LOOKING FOR...

- Anything that would keep you from voting?
- **Friendly amendments:** Small / quick changes to enhance an existing recommendation?
  - Not able to add new recommendations at this point in the process



CONTINUE TO INVEST IN EXISTING  
PROGRAMS THAT ARE SUCCESSFULLY  
ADVANCING CLIMATE JUSTICE

# DRAFT: CONTINUE FUNDING EXISTING CLIMATE JUSTICE INITIATIVES WITHIN THE CITY

- Investment:** Maintain funding and staffing for ongoing Green New Deal Initiatives across City government. This includes but is not limited to: the Environmental Justice Fund, the Building Accelerator Program to support under-resourced building to comply with the Building Emissions Performance Standard (BEPS), the Construction and Clean Energy Training Program that concretely increases access economic justice and workforce development opportunities, and existing equitable transportation electrification work.
- Rationale:** The GND Oversight Board recognizes and applauds the City of Seattle for its climate investments made to date. As the pace of climate change impacts on Seattle's communities continues to increase, now is the time to double down on the City's commitment to reduce emissions and advance climate justice.
- Strategies:** Climate Resilience, Environmental Justice, Anti-Displacement, leveraging fed and state dollars, Economic Development



# DRAFT: EXPAND THE CLEAN BUILDINGS ACCELERATOR FOR AFFORDABLE MULTIFAMILY HOUSING BUILDINGS

**Investment:** Build on the existing Clean Building Accelerator Program to focus on coaching, project management, and capital support for under-resourced nonprofit and affordable multifamily buildings that need to comply with the Building Emissions Performance Standard (BEPS).

**Rationale:** An estimated 400 nonprofit or affordable housing buildings in Seattle will need to transition away from fossil fuels in order to comply with BEPS. Meanwhile, low-income residents in these buildings have few resources to cope and are among the most vulnerable to harmful effects of heatwaves and polluted air from wildfire smoke events. and would benefit greatly from the cost savings from living in a more energy efficient home. To support this transition toward clean energy and protect many of Seattle's lower income residents' health and pocketbooks, under-resourced building owners will need project management support, coaching, and technical assistance for capital upgrades.

## **Other considerations:**

- Proactively identify opportunities to leverage state Climate Commitment Act (CCA) and federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funds for the clean energy transition.
- Work done through the Clean Building Accelerator Program should utilize priority hire and apprenticeship utilization requirements or development agreements with local unions to provide good green jobs that benefit local communities.
- Identify potential collaboration points between OSE, OH, and SHA, such as creating a BEPS Accelerator program specifically for affordable housing within OH.
- Create position(s) for programmatic staff to manage funding and culturally relevant tenant outreach.
- Identify metrics for success that ensure that the City is making strides toward its climate and equity goals, and report on those metrics on a biennial basis.

**Strategies:** climate resilience, environmental justice, workforce development, leveraging state/federal dollars for clean energy

# DRAFT: EXPAND CLEAN HEAT PROGRAM: 30 X 30 CAMPAIGN TO INSTALL 30K ADDITIONAL HEAT PUMPS BY 2030 AND INVEST IN ELECTRIFICATION

**Investment:** The Clean Heat Program is on track to meeting the goal of transitioning all oil tank-heated homes to electric heat pumps by 2030. Build on the success of the Clean Heat program by:

- Accelerate electric appliance adoption through the 30 X 30 campaign: The Clean Heat Program would target a goal of 2,000 households for full conversions by pairing existing state and federal funds with GND allocated funds.
- Offer additional incentives for households in Seattle to go beyond heat pumps to electric water heating and cooking. These incentives should include specific provisions to ensure households that rent also receive the benefits of this program.
- Develop an implementation plan in coordination City Light for life-saving and cost-saving home weatherization and electrification measures with the goal to leverage state and federal funding such as: insulation and air sealing, advanced window technologies, energy recovery ventilation systems, passive solar heating and cooling, solar thermal systems, and smart thermostats and zoning systems.
- Ensure that this work creates good green jobs with provisions including prevailing wage, apprenticeship utilization standards, and targeted local hire.

**Rationale:** Extreme heat is the number one killer of all climate-related events combined. The 2021 heat dome alone [killed over 400 Washingtonians and sent thousands more to emergency rooms](#). Seattle residents' health depends on developing a myriad of decarbonization and weatherization strategies to create more climate-ready homes as extreme heat events are expected to occur with more severity and frequency. Transitioning to heat pumps as well as other home weatherization and electrification measures offers multiple benefits such as heating, cooling, indoor air quality, energy efficiency, and cost savings.

**Strategies:** climate resilience, leveraging state/federal dollars for clean energy, environmental justice, workforce development, pollution reduction

# DRAFT: INVEST IN CLIMATE-READY COMMUNITY-SERVING FACILITIES

**Investment:** Fund a two-pronged approach to create a network of community and City owned climate-ready facilities to support the: 1) implementation of strategies outlined in the forthcoming Citywide Resilience Hubs Plan and 2) Municipal Energy Efficiency Program's (MEEP) existing work to upgrade community-serving facilities in frontline communities.

- Invest in the implementation of strategies outlined in the forthcoming Citywide Resilience Hubs Plan which will include recommendations for how communities-owned facilities can effectively operate a resilience hub for everyday needs while also being ready to respond before, during, and after a disruption. City investments now can support community-based organizations in their efforts to leverage federal funds for community resilience strategies and capital improvements.
- Continue to invest in the Municipal Energy Efficiency Program to support upgrades of City owned community-serving facilities for clean energy and climate resilience. Specifically, transition gas boilers to heat pumps, upgrade existing HVAC systems for air filtration, and ensure a highly reliable grid and utilize clean energy solutions like solar and back up batteries.
  - Prioritize community-serving facilities in frontline communities, such as the City's designated anti-displacement zones
  - Installation work should utilize City's existing Community Workforce Agreement
  - Identify opportunities for state and federal funding such as state Climate Commitment Act funds or qualifying federal Inflation Reduction Act Direct Pay projects to recoup installation costs
  - As the City invests in these upgrades, include opportunities for community cohesion, education, and resourcing through programmatic investments such as a tool or emergency preparedness resource library, trainings, etc.

**Rationale:** Heat waves, flooding, and wildfire smoke events are becoming our new normal and Seattle's residents need safe and accessible places to seek refuge and protect health during and after a climate-related emergency. The City must invest in both the recommendations and strategies included in the forthcoming Citywide Resilience Hubs Plan and the City-owned community-serving facilities, specifically in frontline communities, to meet the needs residents have at scale of the climate crisis.

**Strategies:** climate resilience, environmental justice, workforce development, leveraging state/federal dollars for clean energy

# DRAFT: CREATING GREEN JOBS BY GREENING OUR CITY

**Investment:** Implement greening strategies in formerly redlined neighborhoods and frontline communities while also creating long-term green jobs with low barriers to access.

- Make initial investments to fund the implementation of actions included in the Sustainability Goal from the [Mayor's Recommended Seattle Transportation Plan](#) such as: planting more trees and native plants, creating and maintaining urban gardens, building green roofs and vegetated spaces, and increasing green stormwater infrastructure.
- Invest in the ongoing work at Seattle Parks & Recreation to create pathways for green jobs in urban forestry and ensure the inclusion of considerations for equitable hiring pathways that create and maintain economic opportunities for women & BIPOC workers.
- Invest in the implementation of the strategies included in the forthcoming Tree Canopy Equity Plan.

**Rationale:** The benefits of planting trees, landscaping with natural elements, and installing permeable materials are a core strategy for climate resiliency in cities worldwide. Investing in Seattle's green spaces in BIPOC communities who are [disproportionally losing canopy cover](#) provides multiple benefits such as: mitigating the heat island effect and stormwater pollution runoff, protecting and restoring natural habitats, improving human and ecosystem/species health outcomes, sequestering climate pollution, advancing Seattle's climate and environmental justice goals, and creating green career pathways.

**Strategies:** climate resilience, environmental justice, workforce development

# DRAFT: WMBE SUPPORT PROGRAM

**Investment:** Leverage existing state funding for Women and Minority Business Enterprises (WMBE) contractors by investing City resources that would increase technical capacity and equitable equipment access for WMBE contractors to meet the City's existing WMBE goals. The City currently has funding to support WMBE contractors, but additional funding is needed to coordinate these existing resources to ensure WMBE contractors have access. Specific investments could include:

- Targeted funding for training programs
- Low- to no-interest leases or grants for business and project equipment
- WMBE contractor tools and resources libraries
- Cash incentives to purchase electric vehicles and electric bikes for business purposes

**Rationale:** The City has an opportunity to make substantial investments in WMBE businesses as more state and federal funding becomes available for workforce development, clean energy, and climate resilience. Investing in WMBE contractors gets at the heart of Seattle's value of race and social justice by continuing to increase the diversity of the City's contractor pool at a pivotal moment when the global economy is transitioning from fossil fuels to clean energy and climate resilience measures are needed now more than ever.

**Strategies:** Develop our workforce, leverage state and federal dollars for green infrastructure



INVEST IN CUTTING-EDGE AND LIFE-  
SAVING CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES AND  
PROGRAMMING

# DRAFT: CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH CULTURAL PRESERVATION AND LAND RESTORATION

**Investment:** Fund a Seattle Public Utilities study which identifies paved-over streams, wetlands, and possible other areas of cultural significance in Seattle which could be daylighted and restored for Indigenous cultural preservation, and to mitigate heat waves, manage urban flooding, reduce water pollution, and support salmon recovery.

## Other considerations:

- This study will need to include time for Tribal Consultation with local Tribes to ensure proprietary cultural resource knowledge is managed and kept by local Tribes.
- Consult with Indigenous sustainability leaders who have experience with mapping traditional harvesting areas, PNW native plants, Indigenous food and medicine systems, and/or ecosystem restoration.
- Identify which projects are in environmental justice communities.
- Estimate number of jobs created if the work is done by SPU under the existing Community Workforce Agreement.
- Identify what resources are needed for long-term site maintenance and place-based education about Indigenous history and cultural significance, ecosystem restoration and climate resilience.

**Rationale:** Seattle's Thornton Creek restoration is a climate resilience success story. Thornton Creek and its 11.6sq mi urban watershed are on the ancestral lands of the Duwamish peoples. Today, the Muckleshoot Tribe co-manages fisheries throughout the watershed. Once a heavily polluted waterway that dangerously flooded at least once a year, Thornton Creek is now a thriving local ecosystem. Daylighting the creek has restored the health of the waterway, reduced stormwater runoff, helped mitigate heat waves and provided much-loved greenspace for the local community. Notably, the creek hasn't flooded since restoration in 2015, despite multiple major storms; and in 2018, endangered Chinook salmon returned to spawn for the first time in twenty years. Local community members are now working with the Indigenous people of the area to re-name the natural area with a Lushootseed name, recognizing its historical, cultural and ecological significance, and the Indigenous peoples past and present who have stewarded the land we all call home.

Seattle should build on the Thornton Creek model and scope citywide restoration projects that can help us manage the impacts of climate change while building healthy environments, community resilience and good green jobs. This work should be done in partnership with local Tribes, so that ecosystem repair is interwoven with cultural preservation, Traditional Ecological Knowledge and healing from Seattle's colonial history.

# DRAFT: HEALTHY & SUSTAINABLE HOMES NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

**Investment:** Provide funding to expand existing City liaison programs to connect low-income residents with the full suite of City home-related upgrade services such as: weatherization, electrification, water conservation, tree planting, fire alarm installations, side sewer replacements, minor home repairs, emergency preparedness resources, and other measures that support healthy homes, and mitigate economic displacement and gentrification. Liaisons would ensure that low-income residents are aware of existing services and would support residents as they navigate access to the services they are eligible for.

**Rationale:** In addition to the climate crisis, Seattle is facing a gentrification and housing displacement crisis. This investment aims to increase access to existing low-income homeowner rebate programs that are often difficult to successfully navigate. Access to these services could address immediate health and maintenance concerns in homes while delivering other home upgrades that reduce climate emissions and allow low-income or fixed-income homeowners to remain in their homes.

**Strategies:** Climate Resilience, Environmental Justice, Anti-Displacement, leveraging fed and state dollars



# DRAFT: CLIMATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE

**Investment:** Fund the engagement for and implementation of a Workforce Roundtable to discuss and plan for the future of the climate workforce. This Roundtable should engage diverse stakeholders, including youth, tribal members, organizations that support career pathways for BIPOC communities, and the reentry population.

**Rationale:** This initiative aims to foster inclusivity and equity in workforce development to ensure that communities at the margins of society benefit from emerging opportunities in the green economy. The Climate Workforce Roundtable would serve as a collaborative platform to address unique barriers these groups face and develop targeted strategies that enhance their access to and participation in the green economy.

**Strategies:** workforce development, leveraging state/federal dollars for clean energy, environmental justice

# DRAFT: STUDY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A ROOFTOP SOLAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AT SEATTLE CITY LIGHT

**Investment:** Fund a feasibility study at Seattle City Light to identify how the utility could become a full-service solar developer. The utility would perform marketing, planning, installation, and maintenance to partner with property owners to enable a rapid build-out of rooftop solar energy in the City of Seattle.

## Other considerations:

- The study should include financial modeling to show whether and how this program could be self-sustaining, in addition to showing what kinds of start-up investments are needed.
- The study should describe how rooftop solar could provide economic benefits for property owners.
- The study should discuss workforce needs for this program and assume in its modeling that additional jobs are created in targeted local communities using the City's existing Community Workforce Agreement.
- The study should describe ways in which this program could exist cooperatively with existing solar developers, especially by filling in gaps in the market.

**Rationale:** We need drastically more renewable energy than we currently produce. Putting solar panels on rooftops has the potential to help meet that demand, avoid complex disputes over siting large-scale facilities, and put money into the pockets of schools, community non-profits, and everyday homeowners. Rooftop solar can provide City Light with energy to meet its own shortfalls during peak demand in the summer. A 30% rebate for materials and labor from the Direct Pay provision of the Inflation Reduction Act makes this an ideal time to build out solar capacity. Having City Light do this work is an effective way to ensure that this work gets done on a large scale, quickly, while creating high-quality jobs.



MAINTAIN CURRENT INVESTMENTS FOR  
CLIMATE JUSTICE

# DRAFT: MAINTAIN CURRENT ALLOCATION OF PAYROLL EXPENSE TAX DOLLARS FOR ITS LEGISLATED USES

**Investment:** Refrain from covering budget deficits by re-allocating Payroll Expense Tax (PET) dollars. Continue to invest in Payroll Expense Tax initiatives that communities need now more than ever. Maintain the intended allocations for the PET Revenue, including the 9% allocation for Green New Deal implementation. The GND Oversight Board also recommends maintaining the other legislated allocations for the PET revenue which include 62% for affordable housing, 15% for small businesses, and 9% for the Equitable Development Initiative.

**Rationale:** The PET is the first and only City revenue source that funds community-led solutions that advance equity, reduce pollution, and take steps toward ensuring community resiliency in the face of climate change. Maintaining PET funding for its intended purposes, especially amid a budget shortfall, provides multiple benefits for Seattle's communities at a time when community members need it the most. PET dollars fund initiatives that support the City's topline priorities of public safety, public health, economic development and our local economy, affordable housing and anti-displacement measures, and good governance – all of which advance climate justice and the City's climate goals.

**Strategies:** Climate Resilience, Environmental Justice, Anti-Displacement, leveraging fed and state dollars, Economic Development