



Mike
Duggan

Climate Resilience Ordinance

The DEA supports passing the Climate Resilience Ordinance, a municipal law that will help the City reduce greenhouse gas emissions incrementally through 2050. This law will help protect residents, especially our low-income communities of color, from impacts of climate change (e.g. extreme weather).

Q: What are your priorities to reduce emissions and lessen the impacts of climate change in Detroit during your term in office?

A: Under the Duggan administration, the City of Detroit established its first Office of Sustainability. The office's goals include: Develop emissions reduction goals and action plan through the Sustainability Action Agenda process for City and community. Invest in City Buildings to reduce City energy usage and emissions (currently auditing 70 city buildings to assess potential energy savings). Participate in the 2030 district to encourage other building owners to set emissions reduction goals. Begin to incorporate energy efficiency and healthy buildings standards into city RFPs for City Buildings and other development sites.

Sustainability & Equity

Sustainable and equitable development requires our City officials to balance public health and environmental needs with economic growth and job creation. When new projects and developments are under consideration, all too often economic interests may outweigh critical environmental concerns, that are likely to decrease the quality of life for residents, especially low-income, people of color, and other vulnerable communities.

Q: As you consider development proposals in your role as an elected official, how would you balance economic interests and environmental concerns?

A: As Mayor, I strongly believe any development must improve the quality of life of residents. A community's quality of life is measured by both the economic and environmental impacts. We will continue to weigh both factors as we determine which projects merit public support and ensure the public is engaged and these issues are addressed through the City of Detroit's planning process.

Air

The DEA supports the air quality improvements recommended in the Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments (CA-PHE) Detroit Air Quality Public Health Action Plan.

Q: Share up to three air quality improvements you will work to enact during your term in office. Explain how.

A: (1) Support City ordinance now before Council to regulate the storage of potential pollutants. (2) Continue to fight to restrict air polluters in non-attainment areas as I did in successfully opposing Marathon proposal. (3) Encourage the development of solar projects in the city to reduce dependence on coal fired power and provide jobs for Detroiters as we did in the recent O'Shea Park project.

Waste

Recycling brings value back into the waste stream, reduces negative effects of disposal (including toxic emissions, leakages, and lost resources and energy), and creates the potential for new markets. Detroit has an opt-in curbside recycling program limited to single households and residences up to four units. Given your role, share the strategies and policies for waste reduction and reuse you will support in response to the question below.

Q: How will you work to increase recycling options for all residents, including people who live in apartments?

A: The City of Detroit will: Continue working with Zero Waste Detroit, Green Living Science, and other partners to increase residential recycling rates and educate residents on the benefits of recycling. Leverage state and private dollars to improve these rates. Work with multifamily building owners to encourage building wide recycling programs and ensure that there are spaces to collect and store these materials for pick up.

Q: How will you work to increase diversion of waste from the incinerator, for use in industry and commerce?

A: The City of Detroit will: Work on increasing recycling efforts in residential, multifamily, business, and City locations. Explore options for organics collection and composting, to divert these resources from the waste stream, provide economic development opportunities, and create soil fertility for the many urban agriculture operations throughout the city.

Land Use and Food Access

The City of Detroit owns 24 square miles of structure-free, vacant land that can be put into private hands for productive use.

Q: What is your top priority for publicly-owned land in Detroit?

A: Our top priority when considering disposal of publicly owned land is to ensure that land is transferred to responsible owners who will improve the property and maintain it in a way that positively impacts their neighborhood.

Q: Given your role, what would you do to ensure that residents have access to healthy, culturally-appropriate food?

A: (1) Incorporate healthy food access as an amenity into neighborhood planning frameworks. (2) Ensure there are places to grow food at the appropriate scale in every neighborhood. (3) Provide training and business development support to Detroiters regarding food growing, processing, and culinary skills so that they can benefit from the burgeoning local food economy.

Water

Detroit is a Great Lakes city. The DEA supports the Detroit Water Agenda, which provides recommendations for ensuring all Detroiters will have access to affordable, clean, safe water to drink and use. It encourages water conservation and endorses effective models of resilient water management, which embrace a basin-wide perspective and integrated planning of urban development, green and gray water infrastructure.

Q: Share up to three Detroit Water Agenda recommendations you will work to enact during your term in office. Explain how.

A: (1) Continue to implement green stormwater infrastructure practices city wide to reduce the incidence and impacts from combined sewer overflow. (2) Use incentives and other methods to encourage water users to implement water saving technologies and to reduce their connections to the sewer system.

Green stormwater infrastructure helps manage sewage overflows, reduces basement flooding and builds healthier, more attractive neighborhoods. Residents, businesses, and places of worship can receive stormwater/drainage credits from the City to help build green stormwater infrastructure.

Q: How would you help people build green stormwater infrastructure and access to these credits during your term of office?

A: (1) Provide \$5 million dollars of matching grant dollars annually to enable businesses and institutions to implement green stormwater infrastructure. (2) Implement demonstration green stormwater infrastructure examples on city properties and work with partner organizations to promote and educate residents on the value of GSI. (3) Train Detroit contractors and residents on the installation and maintenance of GSI. (4) Incentivize businesses to hire Detroit Based businesses to install and maintain their GSI installations.

