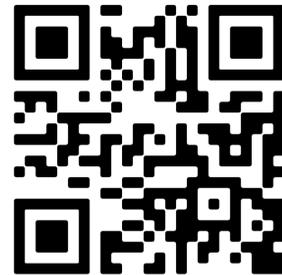




The full draft toolkit is coming soon.
We invite mayors, their staff, and other key stakeholders in your communities to get involved and share your feedback. **Scan this QR code** to receive an advance copy of the toolkit.



Or get in touch with Elemental's Policy Lab at policylab@elementalexcelerator.com to find out more about the toolkit and our work.



Toolkit for Local Climate Action

By Mayors for Mayors

Investing in innovation is investing in communities

Why We Created this Toolkit

“My first job, when I lived in Washington DC, entailed turning national policy ambition into clean energy progress on the ground in one specific community: Hawai‘i. Now this translation and implementation must happen nationally on an unprecedented scale. We created Elemental’s Policy Lab to shorten the distance between policymakers, communities, and climate entrepreneurs. **Our policy fellows, much like the tech innovators we support, are designers and implementers who see an opening for change and are audacious enough to do something about it.** Over the past year, we have been honored to work with one of our policy fellows, former mayor and climate visionary Heather McTeer Toney, to translate technology and community insights into actionable, equity-centered solutions for mayors. In partnership with the African American Mayors Association and the Environmental Defense Fund, we are energized to work with mayors and their teams to pilot and further develop the toolkit to help cities — our hubs of innovation and engines of economic opportunity — meet this moment.”

-Dawn Lippert,
CEO, Elemental Excelerator

“From putting out fires, managing a budget and keeping people safe to preparing for the future resiliency and stability of the city, mayors are the frontline gatekeepers tasked with preparation and protection. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the Justice40 Initiative represent **a generational opportunity for mayors to tap millions of dollars in federal funds to transform and protect their communities.** That’s why we’ve put together the Toolkit for Local Climate Action to get mayors the information they need about combating climate change and protecting public safety.”

-Heather McTeer Toney
former Mayor, Greenville MS

The Toolkit

Every city, large or small, has buildings to heat and cool, utilities to provide, and residents who need to move around safely and efficiently. Taking action in these sectors can improve community health and safety, save money and bring needed local jobs — all while reducing local climate impact. This toolkit is designed to help mayors and their staff identify funding opportunities that meet their priorities and needs, advance policy goals, and prepare their cities to deploy available technology and infrastructure solutions in partnership with communities, innovation and technology companies, and investors.

Sectors	Policy Actions <i>gov = government operations</i> <i>com = community wide</i>	Federal Funding Opportunities*	Examples of Tech Innovation for Your Community
Energy Efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set and strengthen energy performance benchmarks for municipal properties. (gov) Require regular energy efficiency reporting and evaluation for municipal properties to identify energy saving opportunities. (gov) Offer expedited review/permitting process for green building projects that meet LEED building standards and ENERGY STAR certification standards. (gov) Require property owners to weatherize buildings. (com) Require property owners to conduct building energy assessments that provide recommendations and incentives for all commercial and multifamily buildings and residential homes at time of sale. (com) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program – US DOE. \$550M Grants for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities – US DOE. \$500M State Program: Weatherization Assistance Program – US DOE. \$3.15B 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BlocPower decarbonizes residential and small commercial buildings in hard-to-reach communities with turnkey project management services, innovative technology and inclusive financing products. Other example technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy-efficient appliances (e.g. heat pumps, boilers, water heaters, kitchen appliances, lighting, etc.) Electric panel upgrades, smart thermostats, building automation systems Insulation, weather stripping
Energy Supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the share of renewable energy in municipal energy use. (gov) Create incentives for renewable energy installation, such as property tax exemptions, tax credits, and net metering programs. (com) Authorize the implementation of a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program. (com) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Program: The State Energy Program (SEP) – US DOE. \$500M Program Upgrading Our Electric Grid and Ensuring Reliability and Resiliency – US DOE. \$5B 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solstice Power Technologies enables residents, local businesses and city buildings to subscribe to shared “solar gardens” built on unused land such as brownfields Other example technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multifamily and community solar systems Electric grid improvements and expansions Smart meters
Transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandate the transition of municipal vehicles to electric or zero-emission fleets. (gov) Install charging infrastructure on municipal properties. (gov) Expand incentives for electric vehicle (EV) charging for multi-family homes, major employers, and parking garages. (com) Require EV infrastructure in all new commercial and multi-family construction. (com) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grants: Community Charging Program and Corridor Charging Program – US DOT. \$2.5B Low or No Emission (Bus) Grants – US DOT. \$5.6B Clean School Bus Program – US EPA. \$5B 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ChargerHelp! provides technology and training solutions to maintain EV charging stations in cities across the nation Other example technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electric buses Fast chargers for multifamily and commercial properties EV maintenance technology and service platforms Shared EVs and e-bikes Vehicle-to-grid technologies Multimodal, privacy protected traffic sensors

*The toolkit includes a list of The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) opportunities that have been pre-screened against criteria relevant to AAMA member cities and other small to mid-size cities. As notices of intent and funding opportunities are announced as part of additional funding from the Inflation Reduction Act and other existing and future legislation, those will be included in the toolkit.

How to Use It

This toolkit is designed for mayors and staff of small and mid-sized U.S. cities — whether you are just starting out on your climate journey or looking to take your city to the next level on climate and resilience policy and tech innovation. Select a sector to start with and explore the corresponding policy actions, federal funding and tech innovation examples that you can bring to your community.