

GREEN NEW DEAL *for Cities*

Congresswoman Cori Bush (MO-01) and Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY-14)

As the climate crisis escalates, communities like St. Louis and Queens are dangerously heating up and flooding at the same time. These communities, and every other community in this country, need climate action and environmental justice more urgently now than ever. Our cities, towns, and communities need jobs, racial justice, and new investments in our future. We all need a Green New Deal. This legislation would fund one in every US community.

Just as the American Rescue Plan provided much needed federal resources to city, state, local, tribal, and territorial governments to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Green New Deal (GND) for Cities would provide funding directly to these governments to respond to the climate crisis, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs in the process. Already, cities, counties, and states around the country are fighting for Green New Deals where they live, and this legislation would make all of that possible.

This legislation would match for climate programs what the HEROES Act provided for state and local governments in COVID-19 relief funding. A national poll found that 84% of Americans supported that level of local funding in the HEROES Act.¹

Specifically, the Green New Deal for Cities would:

- **Authorize \$1 trillion**, with a minimum of 50% of all investments going each to frontline communities and climate mitigation (these categories can overlap)
- **Fund an expansive array of climate and environmental justice projects** in keeping with the values of the Green New Deal, including wind power procurement, clean water infrastructure, and air quality monitoring
- **Prohibit false solutions or projects** that may be applicable elsewhere but do not fit into this bill. Examples include geoengineering, expanding fossil fuel infrastructure, direct air capture, among others
- **Support housing stability by conditioning funding to local governments** to ensure they work with tenant and community groups to prevent displacement in communities receiving investment
- **Prioritize workers** by including prevailing wage requirements, equitable and local hiring provisions, apprenticeship and workforce development requirements, project labor agreements and Buy America provisions

The Green New Deal for Cities, Towns, Counties, States, Tribes, and Territories is supported by People's Action, Labor Network for Sustainability, Sunrise Movement, Climate Justice Alliance, Green Latinos, Indigenous Environmental Network, Gulf Coast Center for Law and Policy, Greenpeace USA, Friends of the Earth, 350.org, Food and Water Watch, Center for Biological Diversity, Earthworks, Zero Hour, Progressive Democrats of America, and more.

¹ <https://www.afscme.org/blog/poll-most-americans-support-stimulus-for-states-cities-and-towns>