



Why Now?

The increasingly urgent and complex challenges of sustainability and climate change are here to stay. In response, we must *coordinate* all our investments in the built and natural environment, give priority to investments that produce *co-benefits* (those addressing multiple problems at once), and promote sustainability and climate change resilience in order to ensure maximum benefits for Worcester and its residents.

How was the Plan developed?

The City’s Energy and Asset Management Division developed the plan in 2019-2020 with the assistance of the Green Worcester Working Group, made up of city staff, representatives of environmental organizations and residents, and a consultant.

Public participation included a professional, scientific public opinion survey; several online surveys; a public workshop; and a public open house on proposed goals and actions.

To learn more - visit www.WorcesterMA.gov/GreenWorcester



We are already on our way. In the next couple of years, we plan to:

- Create the following agencies dedicated to implementing the plan: a new municipal **Department of Sustainability**, an inter-departmental municipal **Green Worcester Implementation Committee**, and a **Green Worcester Advisory Committee**, with a focus on the equity, health, and prosperity benefits of climate action.
- Design and implement **sustainable transportation and mobility** options.
- Implement more on-site natural **green infrastructure projects**.
- Pass a policy for **Net Zero Buildings**.
- Promote a **100% renewable energy** option via electricity aggregation.
- Develop and start implementing an **Urban Forestry Master Plan**.
- Develop and start implementing a **Zero Waste Master Plan**.



The City of **WORCESTER**

City Manager
Edward M. Augustus, Jr.

→ the green worcester sustainability and resilience strategic plan

→ 2020

→ **Green Worcester** is a city in which government, residents, businesses, and institutions work together in shared stewardship and mutual care of our city and our planet. We will do this by efficiently and wisely using our resources to minimize impact on our environment while creating a more livable, prosperous, and equitable city.

→ **The Green Worcester Plan** is a roadmap to making Worcester one of the most sustainable and climate-resilient mid-sized cities in America by 2050!



GREEN WORCESTER

Community | Resilience | Sustainability



Our Green Worcester Vision and Goals
Twenty-first century Worcester will be sustainable, resilient, green, livable, prosperous, and equitable.

Enjoy Green and Blue Spaces!

Be Healthier!

Create Jobs!

Save Money!

Keep Cool!

Our commitment to sustainability and resilience benefits everyone who lives, works, plays, and studies in Worcester.

Check out www.Worcesterma.gov/GreenWorcester to read the plan's actions that will help us achieve these goals!

Our Vision	Our Goals
<p>1. Worcester will be powered 100% by clean and affordable energy.</p>	<p>By 2030 - 100% renewable energy for municipal facilities By 2035 - 100% renewable electricity citywide By 2045 - 100% renewable energy in all sectors, including heating and transportation</p>
<p>2. Our connected green and blue open spaces will support a healthy natural environment for people and wildlife.</p>	<p>Maintain, improve, connect, and expand quality natural systems in a linked network of parks, open spaces, and waterways, including street trees and public spaces.</p>
<p>3. All buildings will consume net zero energy, and be healthy and climate resilient.</p>	<p>Require new buildings to be net zero (produce enough energy for their own needs), and stimulate deep energy retrofits of existing buildings. Promote climate resiliency and healthy homes programs.</p>
<p>4. Residents and visitors will have numerous sustainable transportation and mobility choices.</p>	<p>Provide safe, convenient, and comfortable pedestrian, bicycle, and public transportation networks to get around our vibrant city, and promote the transition to vehicles powered by renewable energy.</p>
<p>5. Our water and related infrastructure systems will be managed as one system to enhance sustainability and resilience.</p>	<p>Manage drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater as one resource; integrate the use of on-site natural green infrastructure in all construction projects to manage stormwater and avoid flooding.</p>
<p>6. Government, citizens, and businesses will move toward zero waste.</p>	<p>Implement a plan to prevent, reduce, recycle, and repurpose waste.</p>
<p>7. Our food will be sustainably grown and locally produced.</p>	<p>Develop a strong and resilient regional food system that provides city residents with access to food that is sustainably produced, locally sourced, healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate.</p>
<p>8. Our water, soil, and air will be clean and healthy.</p>	<p>Ensure that our residents breathe healthy indoor and outdoor air, and are not exposed to contaminated soils, polluted waters, or toxic substances.</p>
<p>9. Our city will be resilient to climate change impacts.</p>	<p>Make the city's social, environmental, and physical systems resilient to climate change impacts such as extreme storms, flooding, and heat.</p>
<p>10. Sustainability and resilience principles will permeate education and all municipal policies and actions.</p>	<p>Implement integrated municipal policy and planning for sustainability and resilience in land use, transportation, housing, and economic development. Make the city the regional center for sustainability education and vocational training, raising good stewards of our planet and providing clear paths to local, well-paid green jobs.</p>