

# ANNUAL WORK PLAN

---

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY  
BOARD

FY 2025

---

# ANNUAL WORK PLAN

## INTRODUCTION

The EAB's proposed FY 25 work plan aligns with the Council-adopted Community Climate Action Plan, with the main goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, address equity, and build community resilience to the impacts of climate change. The work plan is designed to focus on high-impact strategies within the City's control and to support other major planning efforts, including the upcoming Comprehensive Plan update.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The EAB is an all-volunteer board created by the City Council in 2006. The City Council deemed it in the public interest and affirmed the importance of protecting the environment by creating the board that provides the Council with expert and comprehensive advice on various matters related to environmental quality and safety.

## ISSUES AND GOALS FOR FY 2025

*The Environmental Advisory Board considers equity and environmental justice vital components of each of its work plan items. Consideration of equity and environmental justice will guide the Board's review of each item on its work plan.*

*The Board will:*

1. Manage and host Raleigh's annual Environmental Awards process and ceremony, which recognizes environmental champions across the community and highlights examples of impactful environmental action.
2. Review strategies for continuing to implement the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP), including CCAP's goals to reduce greenhouse gas emission 80% by 2050, addressing equity, and building community resilience to the impacts of climate change. These include:
  - a. Explore and provide recommendations for areas of focus in the city's upcoming Comprehensive Plan update, including:
    - i. Urban Forestry: Assessing and maintaining the city's overall tree canopy and street trees.
    - ii. Urban Heat: Addressing Urban Heat Islands and the means of mitigating climate-related heat impacts, through strategies such as tree planting, green infrastructure and cool pavement coatings.
    - iii. Stormwater: Exploring recent changes to stormwater and floodplain regulation to mitigate flooding and learning about any additional strategies.
    - iv. Explore options to reduce vehicles miles traveled through non-car transportation options. The EAB examined transit during its previous work plan. This item will focus on other mode options, including walking, biking, scooters, and other means of transport.
  - b. Learn about Best Practices for Sustainable Building Design, including Wake County Energy Design Guidelines: This item will focus on learning about best practices, including

an update on initial results from the creation of Wake County's Design Guidelines, which aimed ensure higher levels of energy efficiency and inclusion of renewables in new government facilities.

- c. Affordable Housing: Learn about the pilot projects and look for opportunities to include sustainability features in affordable housing, such as energy efficiency, solar power, green infrastructure, food security, and clean transportation, including the importance of density related to climate change and equity.

## **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

The Environmental Awards, mentioned above, is the EAB's major activity for education and outreach. The awards involve extensive outreach and education.

The outreach component involves working with the community on potential projects for consideration and communicating with residents, businesses, students, and more to encourage them to apply – and to educate on ways to consider incorporating more sustainable principles in projects generally. The education component involves lifting up the winners, who serve as examples of leadership in local environmental action.

## **BOARD MEMBERS**

### **Environmental Advisory Board, June 2024**

Scott Greenman, Chair

Denzel Burnside, Vice Chair

Jess Anastes

Lamya King

Kevin Hernandez

Zoey Niebuhr

Thomas Ridley

Sana Siddiqui

Coleen Sullins