



Environment Department, Office of Climate Resilience, and the Office of Food Justice FY26 Budget

Environment, Energy and Open Space (EEOS) Cabinet

May 1, 2025

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EEOS Agenda

- Introduction
Brian Swett
- Environment Department
Oliver Sellers-Garcia
- Office of Climate Resilience
Chris Osgood
- Office of Food Justice
Aliza Wasserman

Environment Budget Overview

Budget Summary

	FY 25	FY 26	Δ
Operating (non-personal)	\$1,365,117*	\$1,639,208*	\$274,091
Operating (personal)	\$2.5M	\$2.6M	\$6184.00

	FY 25-29	FY 26-30	Δ
Capital (New Investments)	\$22.8M	\$4.2M	-\$18.6M

NEW Investments

- Boston Energy Saver

Major Changes

- Creation of Office of Climate Resilience
- Recycling function repurposed for Circular Economy
- Integration of Mayor’s Office Green New Deal staff (began in FY25)

*includes Office of Climate Resilience

Environment Budget Overview - FY25 Accomplishments

Carbon Neutrality

- Executed MOU with Eversource and National Grid, setting targets for heat pumps and weatherization, as well as committing to additional resources and collaboration for Mass Save in Boston.
- Made first awards from the Equitable Emissions Investment Fund. \$750,000 for affordable housing BERDO compliance.
- Partnered with Planning Dept to pass country's first Net Zero Carbon zoning.

Environmental Quality

- Launched \$1M Community Clean Air Grants.
- Launched Circular Economy program with key hire

Energy

- Began City's first geothermal project
- Received approval for City's BERDO Portfolio of City buildings

Policy & Planning

- Launched 2030 Climate Action Plan

Hiring

- Filled all vacant Director positions
- Reduced open vacancies from 12 to 3

New Initiatives

- Presented Boston's first Climate Leader Awards
- Launched 13-Cabinet/Agency Climate Council

Environment Budget Overview - FY26 Goals

Carbon Neutrality

- Launch of Boston Energy Saver service to help small buildings reduce energy costs and carbon emissions.
- Increase engagement and support for BERDO building owners with reporting and GHG emissions reduction.

Environmental Quality

- Complete revision of Boston Wetlands Ordinance to address climate change and Environmental Justice.
- Carry out Urban Wilds management and strategic plan.

Energy:

- Complete wind energy procurement for City operations.
- Execute energy efficiency and decarbonization projects in conjunction with other departments

Policy & Planning

- Complete 2030 Climate Action Plan.
- Launch energy grid transformation and infrastructure siting initiative with community groups, utilities, and property owners.

Hiring

- Fill key positions and retain talent.

Office of Climate Resilience Budget Overview

Budget Summary

	FY 25	FY 26	Δ
Non-Personal	\$0.00	\$0.00	-
Personal	\$503,797	\$517,980	\$14,183
External	\$169,092	\$189,484	\$20,392
Capital	\$91.3m	\$91.3m	-

Select FY26 Goals



Cool Summers



Tree Planting

Select FY '25 Accomplishments



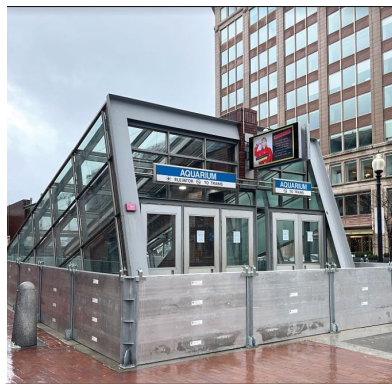
Green Roofs



Deployable Flood Walls



Coastal Designs



Interim Solutions

Food Justice Budget Overview

Budget Summary

	FY 25	FY 26	Δ
Operating	1.371M	1.426	+30K
	FY 25	FY 26-30	Δ
Capital	N/A	N/A	

Major Changes

- Level budget with cost of living adjustments

Mission

- The mission of the Mayor's Office of Food Justice is to build a food system that is equitable, resilient, sustainable, and just.

Food Justice Budget Overview

FY25 Accomplishments

Food Access

- \$420,000 spent in farmers market coupons distributed via 33 community based partners
- Launched planning process & assessment with BPHC Chronic Disease Division to determine future farmers market affordability initiative
- Expanded Double Up Food Bucks to 4 new stores in Roxbury and Dorchester, providing access to fresh fruits & vegetables for residents receiving SNAP benefits

Food Recovery:

- Seeded Greater Boston Collaborative Food Access Hub with YMCA of Greater Boston and over a dozen food access & food recovery organizations w/ \$2M ARPA funds & MGH investment
- Completed & Released Food Recovery Assessment
- Provided \$.5M in cold storage grants to food access and food recovery organizations

Values Based Food Procurement:

- Leveraging Green Ribbon Commission to develop forum for hospitals & universities to expand values-based food purchasing and food recovery

FY26 Goals

Food Access

- Evaluate impact of Double Up Food Bucks program
- Develop sustainable approach to affordability at farmers markets
- Attract more produce farmers to Boston farmers markets

Community Engagement

- New round of Community Outreach Leaders to connect residents with services

Food Recovery:

- Prioritize and implement recommendations from Food Recovery Assessment

Values Based Food Procurement:

- Assess food spending on values based food purchasing categories
- Conduct vendor outreach to expand the number of small, regional BIPOC food producers working through procurement channels
- Develop anchor institution convening structure to reward and shift values based purchasing by public and private institutions

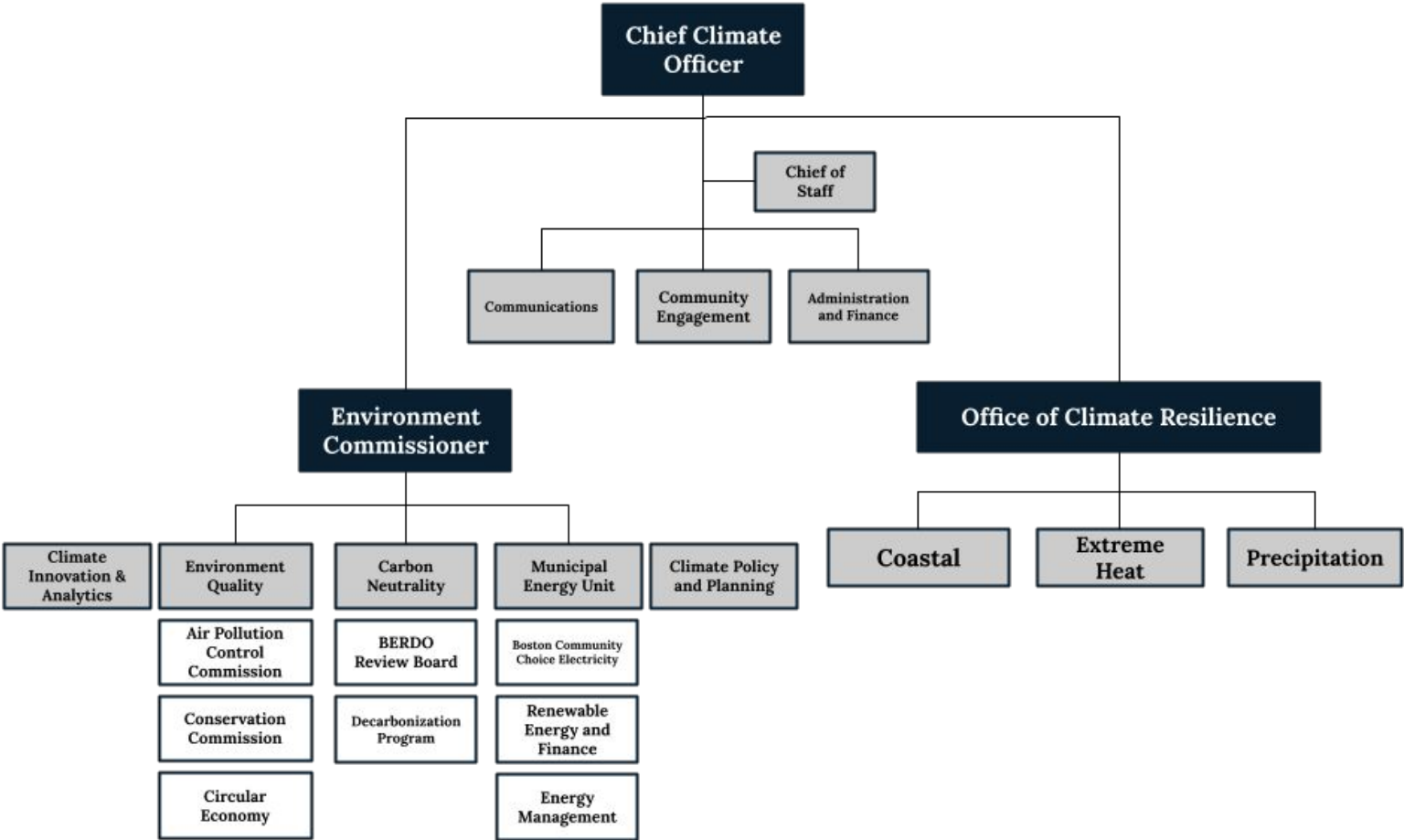
Climate Council

- Created by Executive Order on September 2024
- Coordinates all of government action on climate
- This Council includes 13 Cabinet members:
 - Chief Climate Officer (Co-Chair)
 - Green New Deal Director (Co-Chair)
 - Administrator of the Boston Housing Authority
 - Chief of Community Engagement
 - Chief of Emergency Preparedness
 - Chief Financial Officer
 - Chief of Housing
 - Chief of Operations
 - Chief of Planning
 - Chief of Streets
 - Chief of Worker Empowerment
 - Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission
 - Executive Director of the Boston Water and Sewer Commission

With partnership with Boston Public Schools and other City departments



Organizational Chart (EEOS, Environment, OCR)



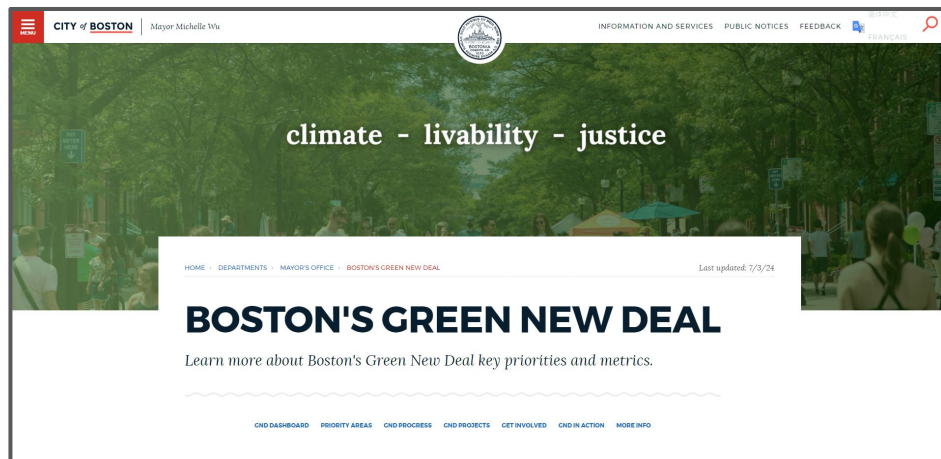
Climate Action Plan Accountability: GND Dashboard



The GND Dashboard currently provides metrics related to the city's climate efforts in five priority areas:

- Building decarbonization
- Transportation
- Clean Energy
- Resilience & Nature
- Workforce

We anticipate the GND Dashboard to adapt to the Climate Action Plan and serve as a public-facing accountability tool and performance reporting site for the City's goals and targets.



GND Landing Page: boston.gov/gnd

GND Dashboard: boston.gov/gnd-dashboard



THANK YOU

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