# A National Plan for Climate, Justice, and Sustainable Transformation

This plan presents an integrated, science-based framework to transform the United States into a climate-resilient, socially just, and environmentally sustainable nation. Building on the original pillars of urban reform, transportation transformation, ecosystem restoration, and participatory governance, this updated framework broadens the vision to include national decarbonization, economic democratization, and systemic shifts toward equity, care, and ecological balance. It lays out a practical yet transformative roadmap for achieving deep emissions reductions, clean energy transition, industry regulation, and equitable societal change.

## 1. Urban Planning and Land Use Reform

Urban planning reform will dismantle exclusionary zoning, end car-centric sprawl, and enable compact, walkable, transit-oriented, and equitable development. In addition to legalizing multifamily housing and ADUs, the plan calls for eliminating parking minimums, adopting form-based codes, and integrating anti-displacement protections. Vacant and underutilized land will be repurposed for affordable housing, green infrastructure, and public spaces.

## 2. Public Transportation and Mobility Transformation

A national commitment to zero-fare, electrified, high-frequency public transit will reduce emissions, improve access, and reverse decades of car dependency. The plan includes expanding light rail, BRT, and streetcars; retrofitting streets for people instead of cars; building a national high-speed rail network; and eliminating short-haul flights where rail alternatives exist. Mobility justice will prioritize underserved communities, ensuring equitable access.

## 3. Urban Greenspace and Ecological Restoration

We will plant 1 billion urban trees, restore ecological corridors, and guarantee access to greenspace within a 1/4 mile of every home. Vacant lots, parking lots, and dead malls will be converted into parks and green spaces. Restoration will prioritize communities suffering from historic environmental injustices. Urban forestry will use native, diverse species and protect mature trees through preservation ordinances.

## 4. Environmental Remediation and Habitat Restoration

A national cleanup effort will accelerate remediation of Superfund, brownfield, and contaminated sites, especially in environmental justice communities. Restoration of wetlands, riparian corridors, prairies, and coastal ecosystems will sequester carbon, improve water quality, and rebuild biodiversity. Nature-based solutions such as living shorelines, green infrastructure, and bioremediation will be prioritized for flood control, pollution reduction, and resilience.

## 5. Decarbonization, Industry Transformation, and Green Energy

We will phase out fossil fuels with binding emissions caps and no new extraction. A 100% renewable, publicly owned energy system will be built by 2035, ensuring energy as a public good. Industrial policy will impose strict emissions limits while supporting circular economy practices and durable production. Heavy industries will receive support to decarbonize with strong labor protections for workers transitioning out of fossil fuels.

## 6. Green Jobs Guarantee and Economic Justice

A federal Green Jobs Guarantee will ensure every worker access to living-wage, unionized employment in restoration, renewable energy, transit, care work, and public infrastructure. Priority hiring will go to frontline, unemployed, underemployed, and fossil fuel-impacted communities. The economy will shift from extraction and growth to care, repair, and regeneration.

## 7. Data, Monitoring, and Participatory Governance

Open geospatial data platforms, participatory GIS, and public dashboards will democratize data access and empower communities to co-create environmental and climate solutions. Participatory budgeting and oversight boards will institutionalize community-led decision-making. Accountability frameworks will tie transparency to enforceable corrective action.

## 8. Reimagining Society: Degrowth, Humanism, and Environmental Stewardship

We will reject GDP growth as the sole measure of progress, embracing well-being, equity, and sustainability. The economy will prioritize sufficiency, care, and shared prosperity within planetary boundaries. Public goods will be decommodified, workplaces democratized, and wealth redistributed. Environmental stewardship will reconnect people to nature, recognizing humanity’s role as caretakers in Earth’s living systems.

## 9. Science-Informed Mitigation and Climate Literacy

All interventions will be grounded in peer-reviewed science (e.g., IPCC AR6, Griscom et al., 2017; Fargione et al., 2018), using spatially explicit data to set quantifiable targets for carbon sequestration, ecosystem restoration, and emissions reduction. Public education will embed climate literacy, ecological ethics, and environmental justice across all levels of learning.