

# DISTRICT



## ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

### INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION

- The District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT or d•) owns and maintains over 4,000 lane miles of roadways and streets, 240 bridges and tunnels, 68,000 street lights and over 1400 signalized intersections. It is imperative that DDOT develops ways to ensure that its infrastructure can withstand the worst weather events and minimize effects that could shorten service life. Several years ago, DDOT identified climate change adaptation as one of the 8 priorities in its Sustainability Plan.

### EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS AND TRANSPORTATION

- DDOT's Urban Forestry Administration (DDOT Trees) reported that during Hurricane Sandy, 224 trees were lost, with the largest fallen tree being 12 feet in diameter. Additionally, the June 2012 derecho caused more tree damage in the District than Hurricane Sandy.
- Based on research and expert opinion, temperature, sea level rise, precipitation, and storms were identified as the key climate variables to affect the District transportation system.

### ENVIRONMENTAL GENTRIFICATION

- Within the last 30 years, the Black population has dropped nearly 20%, as individuals and families have moved to more affordable municipalities. There is a direct correlation between housing (cost burden due to an exponential increase in rent and real estate cost), health, and quality of life. Destabilized housing and cost burden can lead to homelessness, food insecurity, job loss, and social disconnection. Black or African-Americans constitute 47.1% of the population and a significant number of people of color rely primarily on public transportation and overcrowded hospitals.

## DOES THE DISTRICT MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS?

TO MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS, THE DISTRICT MUST HAVE A:

- ✓ **Mandatory** Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) with a target of 25% clean energy by 2025 with no nuclear, biomass, or natural gas allowed;
- ✓ **Mandatory** Energy Efficiency Resource Standard per NAACP standards, as defined by: at least 2% annual reduction over each previous year's average retail electricity sales;
- ✓ **Mandatory** Local Hire Provisions and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Provisions; and
- ✓ **Mandatory** Community Solar Policy, which is legislation that allows communities to take advantage of solar energy.

## PROPOSED ACTION STEPS

1. The District of Columbia Branch will **organize** an ECJ committee and **chair** a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).
2. The District of Columbia Branch will **complete** a solar/clean energy demonstration project.
3. The District of Columbia Branch will **engage** in Just Energy Policies and Practices training that includes a local energy awareness campaign.
4. The District of Columbia Branch will **host** a Bridging the Gap: Connecting the Black Community to the Green Economy Summit.
5. The District of Columbia Branch will **join** the Climate Sustainability Table.