



Berkeley's Climate Equity Pilot

The City of Berkeley's Climate Equity Pilot was funded by City Council to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the impact of climate change on low-income residents, by providing building and transportation electrification and resilience benefits. Electrification refers to the process of replacing technologies that use fossil fuels, such as oil and natural gas, with technologies that use electricity. The Climate Equity Pilot has three focus areas: **Home Electrification**, **Electric Mobility** and **Community Engagement**.

Home Electrification Grantees

Three agencies were awarded a total of \$250,000 to help make building electrification more affordable for income-qualified residents. Climate Equity funds can be used for labor, energy efficiency equipment, building envelope improvements, heat pump water heaters and/or heat pump air space heating/cooling, induction cooking ranges, and related work for health and safety upgrades in buildings with income-qualified residents.

[Association for Energy Affordability \(AEA\)](#) provides technical and construction management for building decarbonization of multifamily buildings. AEA also works with multifamily property owners and their income-qualified residents to access and leverage all available funding sources for energy efficiency and electrification upgrades. AEA is using Climate Equity funds to upgrade several multifamily buildings in Berkeley that house low-to-moderate income residents.

[BlocPower](#) is a financing agency for energy and electrification retrofits and an intermediary between customers and energy contractors. Through the Climate Equity Pilot, BlocPower is providing electrification upgrades to income-qualified, single-family homeowners in Berkeley.

[Northern California Land Trust \(NCLT\)](#) owns and operates a portfolio of affordable housing units across the Bay Area. NCLT's work includes acquiring and managing buildings whose residents are at-risk for displacement and making the buildings into permanently affordable housing for those residents. In collaboration with the Climate Equity Pilot, NCLT is working to fully decarbonize its eight-unit building at 10th Street in Berkeley.

Electric Mobility (E-Bike) Grantee

[Waterside Workshops](#) is a Berkeley based nonprofit organization that engages Bay Area youth with hands-on vocational training in bicycle mechanics, wooden boatbuilding, and outdoor education, and operates a full-service bike sales and repair shop. With \$250,000 in Climate Equity funds, Waterside Workshops, with assistance from GRID Alternatives, is implementing the [Berkeley E-Bike Equity Program](#) (BEEP) to distribute 50 electric bikes (e-bikes) to income-qualified Berkeley households for long term use. Through the UC Berkeley Chancellor's Community Partnership Fund, Waterside Workshops has distributed an additional six e-bikes. BEEP also offers a high road workforce training program to youth intern bike mechanics to learn how to assemble and service the e-bikes, giving them hands-on experience in a rapidly expanding segment of the bike industry.

Community Engagement (Climate Equity Collaborative and Resilience Measures) Grantee

The [Ecology Center](#) is a Berkeley based nonprofit organization with a mission to inspire and build a sustainable, healthy, and just future by improving the health and environmental impacts of urban residents. With \$100,000 in Climate Equity funds, the Ecology Center convenes the [Climate Equity Collaborative](#) to amplify Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) voices, elevate their experiences, and build their capacity to collaborate as partners in developing and implementing climate change and resilience solutions. The Climate Equity Collaborative also supports community-based organizations to procure resilience measures for low-income Berkeley communities that are most impacted by climate change.