

BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Equitable Strategies for Health, Affordability, and Climate



THE PROBLEM

Environmental racism impacts Black and Latine communities in Chicago’s ‘sacrifice zones’ - neighborhoods disproportionately burdened with pollution, environmental hazards and corresponding health and economic disparities. Residents of these neighborhoods are more likely to be **energy burdened and face rising energy costs**, alongside all Chicagoans.

KEY DATA

69%

of greenhouse gas emissions come from building emissions.

27%

of the city’s carbon emissions come from residential buildings.



What creates greenhouse gas emissions?



Gas stoves or factories

16%

of children in Chicago have an above rate of asthma.



TABLE MEMBERS

Co-leads

- People for Community Recovery
- City of Chicago Department of Environment (DOE)



PEOPLE FOR
COMMUNITY
RECOVERY



CHICAGO

Voting members

- Environmental Justice-focused community based organizations, representing those most impacted by climate change, local pollution, and rising energy costs
- Technical & policy experts focused on energy efficiency
- Tenant’s rights organizations
- Consumer advocates
- Storytellers/communications experts



DELIVERABLES

- Establish an Advisory Committee rooted in co-governance values to guide policy, strategy, and program implementation for the next Equitable Buildings Decarbonization Strategy.
- Complete a program assessment of two existing decarbonization programs — Green Homes Chicago and Multifamily Housing Decarbonization — and provide feedback to shape Phase 2 of each program.



Building decarbonization can address historic harms, including improved housing affordability, air quality, and public health. These positive impacts can only be realized for historically underinvested communities through equitable policy design and program implementation. Co-governance is a key strategy for directing the shared efforts of local government and community stakeholders to achieve these positive impacts.

-Co-gov Pilot Co-leads



Learn more at chi.gov/co-governance