American Cities Climate Challenge
Buildings and Transportation are the two largest sources of carbon emissions in U.S. cities.
American Cities Climate Challenge

• Sponsored by the Bloomberg Foundation
• 100 Largest Cities invited to compete for deep support through 2020
• 51 cities applied
• 25 selected
• Potential short term impact: 100MMT and on track to meet Paris Goals
Working with partners

NRDC
IMT Institute for Market Transformation
NACTO
ROCKY MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE
WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE
USDN urban sustainability directors network
Delivery Associates
C40 CITIES Climate Leadership Group
FORTH
American Cities Climate Challenge
What will cities receive, if selected?

Cities will receive a robust technical assistance and support package valued at more than $2 million per city, potentially including some of the following:

- A philanthropy-funded team member to facilitate the development and passage of high impact policies
- Data, design, and innovation resources to help city officials design and deliver bold programming
- Leadership development supports to help city officials get the best from key members of their teams
- Implementation coaching to drive results
- Citizen engagement supports to maximize community buy-in
- Polling and communications support to amplify the city’s megaphone
- Robust peer-to-peer learning and networking to ensure the Leadership Cities learn from and push one another
The 25 winning cities represent a diverse cohort in varying political contexts across states.

Cities Selected:
- Albuquerque
- Atlanta
- Austin
- Boston
- Charlotte
- Chicago
- Cincinnati
- Columbus
- Denver
- Honolulu
- Indianapolis
- Los Angeles
- Minneapolis
- Orlando
- Philadelphia
- Pittsburgh
- Portland
- San Antonio
- San Diego
- San Jose
- Seattle
- St. Louis
- St. Paul
- St. Petersburg
- Washington, D.C.
Cities will make an impact through a mix of policies and programs.

**FOUNDATIONAL**
Experts believe should be standard practice in cities seriously committed to reducing carbon pollution.

**AMBITIOUS**
More challenging, yet critical for Leadership Cities to undertake in order to deliver significant carbon reductions.

**MOONSHOT**
Other policies that must be implemented now in order to achieve your climate goals or areas of innovation.
Cities chose 170+ foundational and ambitious actions in buildings and transportation, with significant moonshot potential for both.

Total actions chosen across 25 selected cities:

- **Foundational**
  - Buildings: 30
  - Transportation: 36

- **Ambitious**
  - Buildings: 40
  - Transportation: 30

- **Moonshot**
  - Buildings: 18
  - Transportation: 18
Building and Energy
Foundational / Ambitious / Moonshot

**FOUNDATIONAL**
- Energy efficiency and retrocomissioning of municipal facilities (8)
- Municipal electricity through renewables (10)
- EV charging in municipally owned parking lots (2)
- Energy code enforcement (3)
- Building challenge programs (4)
- Workforce development programs (5)

**AMBITIOUS**
- Financing programs (9)
- Benchmarking, audit, and retrocomissioning policy (14)
- Performance standard for existing buildings (5)
- EV and Solar readiness or installation requirement (6)
- Community solar projects (9)
- Local energy resource center (4)

**MOONSHOT**
- Building decarbonization incentives and demonstration projects (4)
- Building decarbonization through local codes (6)
## Transportation

**Foundational / Ambitious / Moonshot**

### Foundational
- Improve public transit speed, reliability & user experience (12)
- Bike and pedestrian improvements (6)
- EV education & incentives (9)
- New mobility options (9)
- Commuter incentives (8)
- Electrify city fleets and buses (6)

### Ambitious
- Congestion pricing (6)
- Behavioral incentives (8)
- Full bike/ped buildout (3)
- Parking management and pricing (8)
- Low emissions zones (1)
- Expand public transit (5)
- EV market transformation (5)

### Moonshot
- Transit oriented development (3)
- Ubiquitous EV (2)
- Public transit capital investment
- Shared EV network
- Mobility as a service pilot
- Major commercial EV deployment
City Support Team

**Supports the city as a whole**

- **Implementation Coach**
  - Project management for ACCC support team
  - Implementation support

- **City Strategist**
  - Drive strategic and tactical advocacy
  - Support program and policy passage

**Supports specific policies and programs**

- **Climate Advisor**
  - Embedded in cities
  - Expertise based on city need

- **Technical Strategist**
  - Strategic guidance on design and deployment
  - Overall policy strategy

- **ACCC Partners**
  - Specialized support as needed by the city
  - E.g. IMT, RMI, NACTO
Capacity Building and Technical Assistance

**Support type**

- **Low**  
  Broad & shallow  
  Tools and resources for benefit of all

- **Medium**

  Targeted technical intervention

- **High**
  Narrow & deep  
  Allocate % of time to city

**City example**

- SEI / Greenlink model impact analysis; USDN monthly working groups; short publication on top tips and considerations in designing congestion pricing

- NACTO hosts an accelerator workshop to support a bus rapid transit project in a city.

- IMT provides biweekly technical assistance to a city seeking to pass a benchmarking and transparency policy

**City support team:**

- City Strategist
- Implementation Coach
- Climate Advisor