



# City of Buffalo, NY

Climate Smart Buffalo | Climate Resiliency Planning Project, Phase 1

## Project Summary

KLA partnered with the City of Buffalo, NY to develop a municipal greenhouse gas emissions inventory and climate action plan and a community climate vulnerability assessment to develop targeted actions to reduce climate pollution, build resilience to climate impacts, and meet the requirements for the NY Climate Smart Communities certification. Throughout the planning process, KLA and Buffalo have engaged with community members and used the latest climate data available to lead with equity and justice as the City achieves their climate goals.

Timeline: December 2023 - October 2024

## Project Highlight

Community engagement played a critical role in the development of Buffalo's Climate Vulnerability Assessment. KLA developed a Community Engagement Strategy to facilitate the collection of local knowledge and experiences related to climate hazards and vulnerabilities. Engagement tactics included a focus group with community leaders and an online survey that received more than 600 responses. To conduct the survey and reach a broader audience, KLA worked with a local community partner to hire, train, and compensate a team of Survey Representatives to promote **Climate Smart Buffalo** and the survey during Buffalo's annual Juneteenth Celebration.

Survey Representatives at the Juneteenth Celebration



## Activities & Outcomes

- Creation of an overarching brand and an [overview factsheet](#) for the Government Operations Climate Action Plan, **Climate Smart Buffalo**
- Development of a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory for municipal operations
- Delivery of a GHG reduction pathways analysis for municipal operations to illustrate strategies with the highest potential for reducing emissions
- Design and execution of an equitable engagement process to develop the Climate Vulnerability Assessment, including a community survey, focus groups, interviews, and community events
- Facilitation of three Advisory Group meetings of City staff to guide the planning process for **Climate Smart Buffalo**
- Identification of goals, strategies, actions, and metrics for **Climate Smart Buffalo**
- Creation of a Sustainability Framework to guide City projects and decision-making in the future
- Formal presentation to the County Commission to present the plan for adoption

Climate Smart Buffalo Overview Factsheet

