



### Dear Friends,

In 2020, Urban Green rose to meet extraordinary challenges. We took our events online and increased our attendance and engagement to record levels. We released three new reports and furthered our reputation as trailblazers in sustainability. And perhaps most importantly, we launched a series of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives to help address systemic racism in the green building industry. As we navigate this historic time for public health, climate change and racial equity, we know the built environment sits front and center. And as a community of building industry professionals, we have a large role to play in shaping a healthy, safe and sustainable future for all.

Thank you for your tremendous support during these most difficult of times—we will continue to search for solutions to big climate challenges in 2021, and look forward to working with all of you.

### Join us!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Mandyck".

John Mandyck  
Chief Executive Officer



Urban Green Council's mission is to transform buildings for a sustainable future in New York City and around the world.

## FOCUS ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION



Through a new board-led convening on race and sustainability, we're embarking on initiatives to educate the sustainability community and create new opportunities for BIPOC.



We've developed action plans in four key areas: human resources, employee education, program delivery and member engagement. We've also increased our focus on exploring environmental justice and health issues in NYC buildings.

## WE CONVENE

### GOING ELECTRIC

In April, we released *Going Electric* and identified **nine crucial steps** to jumpstart electrification in NYC's large multifamily buildings—and facilitate compliance with Local Law 97.

The report examines the technology behind electrification and the challenges to adopting heat pumps in NYC.

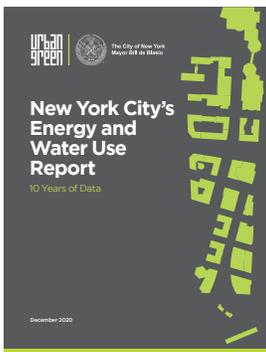
### TRADING

In June, we released *Trading: A New Climate Solution for Buildings*, which identified 59 policy options for a carbon trading program among buildings. With the right design, such a program could:

- ▶ **Drive** building retrofit investments in environmental justice areas
- ▶ **Enable** building owners to comply with Local Law 97 at lower cost while achieving the same overall carbon reductions
- ▶ **Incentivize** earlier carbon savings from buildings by rewarding owners who act sooner

Based on our efforts, the Mayor's Office appointed Urban Green as the stakeholder convener for their trading study. Our stakeholder group began meeting in April 2020 and the city is expected to release recommendations for a trading program in 2021.

## WE RESEARCH



### 10 YEARS OF BENCHMARKING DATA

In December, we released the *New York City's 2020 Energy and Water Use Report*, the largest dataset of building energy use in the country. Highlights include:

- 1 A trend analysis** of 10 years of benchmarked energy and emissions and the first analysis of the energy and water used in midsize buildings
- 2 An assessment of the progress** NYC's benchmarked buildings have made toward decarbonization goals and mandates
- 3 Access to Urban Green's cleaned public dataset and data dictionary** to encourage the sustainability community to conduct additional research

# WE ADVOCATE

## IMPLEMENTING LOCAL LAW 97

To refine the groundbreaking emissions law and inform its implementation, Urban Green was appointed to two of the Advisory Board's Working Groups.

## CARBON ACCOUNTING



Will recommend to the **Advisory Board** refinements to the metric and methodology for calculating building-level greenhouse gas emissions.

## COMMUNICATIONS



Will recommend how best to reach and educate the **building owners, designers and operators** who need to comply with the law.

## GREENING THE GRID

**With Local Law 97 carbon emissions limits, understanding the grid is critical.** Owners will be accountable for emissions from the electricity they use. To understand where new renewable electricity will be generated and when it will be available to NYC buildings, we:



**Published *State of the Grid*, a policy brief that explains where we stand today.** Cleaning the grid will require dramatic changes to electricity generation, transmission and distribution to NYC buildings, all while maintaining grid reliability.



**Held our largest conference ever on getting renewables to NYC.** Experts discussed active large-scale renewable projects, how to transmit this energy to NYC and what buildings must do to adapt to a greener grid. NYC will rely primarily on natural gas power plants until renewables come online in a meaningful way.

# WE EDUCATE



↑ **40%** increase in **Public Programs attendance** since 2019, an all-time high

## TRANSITIONING ONLINE

We quickly transitioned all our events and trainings online due to COVID-19 and saw **record engagement and attendance**.

We developed and launched **brand-new courses** for the city and state's new Energy Code through NYSERDA funding.



**3,057**

**building professionals** were trained in 2020.

**We trained 1,069 tradespeople, building operators and other professionals** through our GPRO courses in 2020.

**Launched *Urban Green Live***, an online interview series hosted by Urban Green CEO John Mandyck and featuring experts on green building, climate change and more. With thought-provoking discussions and a live audience Q&A, these events instantly became some of our highest-attended offerings!

# THANK YOU

TO OUR SUPPORTERS.  
YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR WORK POSSIBLE.

> [CLICK TO SEE OUR 2020 DONORS](#) <  
> [CLICK TO SEE OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS](#) <

## SUPPORT URBAN GREEN

---

Your support is vital to our work.  
**Here's how you can get involved:**

**Become a Member** and receive discounted admission to events and access to special programs and tours.

**Join the Trust for Urban Green** by making a donation of \$1,000 or more. Trust benefits include Urban Green membership, invitations to exclusive events throughout the year and the opportunity to network with NYC's most committed green building advocates.

**Become an Organizational Member** to demonstrate your firm's commitment to sustainability and join an influential community of firms who publicly support the green building movement. Includes individual memberships for staff.

**Become a Sponsor** for increased visibility within the Urban Green community and expanded benefits, including promotion on our website, in our newsletter and at events. Includes individual memberships for staff.



Urban Green Council  
55 Broad Street, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10004  
[urbangreencouncil.org](http://urbangreencouncil.org)

To find out about ways to support us, please contact  
**Chris Anjesky**, Managing Director:



[development@urbangreencouncil.org](mailto:development@urbangreencouncil.org)



212-514-9385 ext. 119