

New Orleans City Council
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Dear City Councilmembers:

As an advocate for sustainable energy practices, the Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate Coalition urges you to support the Building Energy Benchmarking ordinance, which requires the reporting and disclosure of energy use in large buildings. A vote for benchmarking is a vote for the future of New Orleans and its residents.

A citywide building energy benchmarking program is essential to our City's Climate Action Plan to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. Twenty percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in New Orleans come from energy use in large buildings. By tracking and disclosing energy use, this ordinance will spur cost-saving improvements, reduce emissions, and support the City's efforts to achieve its climate goals.

Benchmarking will provide the data needed to implement targeted energy efficiency measures, reduce emissions, and track progress toward New Orleans' net-zero goals. It also lays the groundwork for innovative policies that will improve energy efficiency, create local jobs, reduce stress on the electric grid, and accelerate our transition to clean energy.

With \$1.5 million in federal funding for this initiative, New Orleans is ready to join more than 50 jurisdictions that have demonstrated the success of benchmarking. I urge you to support this ordinance and help advance sustainable energy practices in our city.

Sincerely,

Pastor Gregory Manning

Pastor Gregory Manning, Founder and Chair
Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate
Coalition