



Candidate Climate Plan Summary

MICHAEL BENNET

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Green New Deal is an ambitious policy agenda to tackle the climate crisis, create quality jobs, and promote justice. It has become a core element of many Democrats' platforms in the 2020 Presidential race, with more than half of all candidates endorsing the Green New Deal and widespread, bipartisan support among American voters.

To determine the thoroughness of each candidate's climate platform in addressing the features of the Green New Deal and allow for some basis for comparison, Data For Progress created a Candidate Climate Plan Summary for the debate-eligible Democratic candidates' climate policy proposals to-date. We include on a rolling basis candidates with published presidential campaign plans, rather than public statements or legislative history. Using a rubric of 48 essential Green New Deal components, we identify where each candidate 1) addressed a component with a proposed federal policy or action, 2) acknowledged a component but lacked clear policy details, or 3) did not include a component. We assess only the presence of specific components, but do not evaluate the merits of any particular approach.

If you see something missing from our analysis, please contact Data For Progress via our website.

MICHAEL BENNET

Has called for a Green New Deal? **NO**

PROPOSALS

- ★ [America's Climate Change Plan](#)

Very thorough	MICHAEL BENNET'S POLICY AGENDA: ● Addresses 18 of 48 components in our GND rubric ◐ Acknowledges 9 components
Thorough	
Incomplete	
Very incomplete	

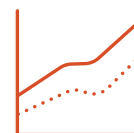
Senator Bennet's Climate Change Plan targets a net-zero emissions economy by 2050, largely achieved through a new Climate Bank to finance innovation and state action spurred by a federal Climate Challenge. The plan also aims to conserve 30 percent of U.S. lands and waters by 2030, and to reach 150 GW of renewable energy deployed on public lands in that same time period.



\$1 trillion
federal investment
in Climate Bank



10 million jobs
created in the low
carbon workforce



10 years
to achieve spending
and jobs targets

COMMITMENT TO GREEN NEW DEAL PRINCIPLES

The Green New Deal is an ambitious plan for climate action, job creation, and justice.

Bennet's climate plan focuses largely on market-based action and partnerships with the private sector and states, but includes some provisions for social and economic justice. He promises to prioritize the most-impacted communities when investing in infrastructure and waste reduction, and plans to create a new Office of Climate and Environment Justice at the EPA to help mitigate unjust environmental impacts. Bennet has no plans to hold polluters accountable or liable.

Rather than federal regulation, Bennet uses incentives, partnerships, and engagement with the private sector in the effort to decarbonize, create new jobs, and spur global action. Notably, Bennet frames his electricity sector approach in terms of consumer choice and empowerment; he requires power providers to give consumers a zero-emissions energy option, but does not require them to fully eliminate emissions on any specific timeline.

HAS MICHAEL BENNET OUTLINED A POLICY AGENDA THAT ADDRESSES THE KEY COMPONENTS OF THE GREEN NEW DEAL?

We took a look at Michael Bennet’s official climate plan(s) to determine which components of the Green New Deal he has **Addressed**, **Acknowledged**, or **Not Included**. Where obvious, we also reviewed non-climate policies and statements that outline a clear plan to address the Social Safety Net components of the Green New Deal.



Plan addresses component with federal policies and actions.






































Plan acknowledges component but lacks clear policies or actions.



Plan does not include component.

Low Carbon Economy	ELECTRICITY SOURCES & EMISSIONS Eliminating emissions from the power sector in the 10-15 year time frame	
	ENERGY SECTOR SOURCES & EMISSIONS Eliminating emissions from the full energy sector in the next 20-30 years	
	ECONOMY-WIDE EMISSIONS TARGET Eliminating emissions from the full economy in the next 30 years, including land use, industry, and waste	
	NON-RENEWABLE CLEAN ENERGY SOURCES The development and use of nuclear, hydrogen, and carbon capture energy technologies	
	CARBON PRICING & SOCIAL COST OF POLLUTION Applying a price to carbon and other pollution either through tax, fee, or cap & trade system	
	ENERGY DEMOCRACY Increasing community ownership of energy generation through more distributed system and cooperatives	
	NATIONAL GRID IMPROVEMENTS Modernizing the national grid to allow for more storage and long-distance transmission of renewable energy	
	ENERGY EFFICIENCY Energy Efficiency through new building, power, and industrial standards, technology, and retrofits	
	ELECTRIC VEHICLES Rapid expansion of zero-emissions vehicles and charging infrastructure	
	TRANSPORTATION EMISSIONS Eliminating emissions from full transportation sector, including aviation, rail, and waterborne	
	PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN INNOVATION & R&D Technology innovation research, development, demonstration, and distribution	
	MOBILIZE CLIMATE FINANCE Create a Green Bank or other fund to deploy public and private capital to achieve a low-carbon economy	

Clean Air and Clean Water	CLEAN AIR National clean air attainment	
	METHANE LEAKAGE & CAPTURE Eliminate emissions from existing oil and gas operations, and capture emissions from waste/wastewater systems	
	REFRIGERANTS AND HIGH-GWP POLLUTANTS Phase-out all remaining high-GWP and ozone-depleting pollutants	
	CARBON REMOVAL Direct air capture and other negative emissions technologies	
	WATER INFRASTRUCTURE National lead pipe removal and water treatment upgrades for universal clean water	
	CLEAN WATER ACCESS Affordable water access and national conservation	
	WATERWAYS PROTECTIONS Expanded protections to national waterways from agricultural and industrial pollution	
	POLLUTER LIABILITY Holding firms civilly or criminally accountable for their current or historical pollution	
Natural and Working Land Restoration	PUBLIC LANDS Moratorium on fossil fuel extraction on public lands	
	REFORESTATION & AFFORESTATION Forest and grassland restoration	
	SENSITIVE LANDS AND BIODIVERSITY Protection for crucial wildlife habitat, biodiversity hotspots, and ecosystem services in U.S. public lands and waters	
	ARCTIC PROTECTION Banning offshore drilling in the Arctic and the ANWR	
	WETLAND RESTORATION Expanded wetland protection and restoration	
	SUSTAINABLE FARMING Incentives and standards for sustainable farming practices with reduced chemical use and more diversification	
	SOIL HEALTH Incentives and standards to promote soil health for better food, water quality, and carbon storage	
	BROWNFIELDS & HAZARDOUS SITES Remediation of polluted sites to return to natural or economic use	

Sustainable and Resilient Communities	COMMUNITY RESILIENCE Infrastructure and education to improve community resilience to climate related hazards	
	PUBLIC SPACES Increase availability and access to community green spaces and outdoor recreation	
	PUBLIC HEALTH Improving quality of, and access to, health services to address the public health impacts of climate change	
	URBAN LAND USE & MOBILITY Reduce sprawl and vehicle travel by improving range, frequency, speed, safety, and affordability of mobility	
	ZERO WASTE Eliminate as much landfilling as possible through material waste reduction, reuse, and recycling	
Job Creation and Economic Development	JUST TRANSITION Targeting support to industries and communities affected by the transition away from fossil fuels	
	JOB GUARANTEE Ensuring anyone who wants a good job can have one supporting public projects	
	WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING Education, training, and certification for good jobs required in the economy	
	JOB QUALITY STANDARDS Labor protections, minimum wages, and collective bargaining rights for all jobs	
	LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Targeted investment to grow jobs particularly in marginalized and frontline communities	
Social Safety Net*	ANTITRUST Returning fairness to the economy by breaking up monopolies across various industries	
	ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL JUSTICE STANDARDS Ensuring all government actions, programs, and project abide by standard of fairness and equity	
	SOVEREIGNTY RIGHTS & INDIGENOUS LANDS Respecting and strengthening the rights of indigenous peoples for the use of their historical lands	
	BASIC INCOME PROGRAMS Guaranteeing a basic level of income to provide for basic needs - food, housing, transportation	
	UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE Guaranteeing access to affordable healthcare for all and affirmation of health care as a human right	
	PUBLIC BANKS Using the US Postal Service or other entity to provide accessible and affordable banking to the economically vulnerable	
	AFFORDABLE HOUSING Solving the shortage of accessible, transit-connect, and affordable through financing, new construction, and policies	
International Leadership	EDUCATION AND SCHOOL INVESTMENT Funding infrastructure repair and upgrades for schools, investing in STEM education, climate and environment education programs	
	GLOBAL GREEN NEW DEAL Forming an international agreement or body to advance sustainable economy policy globally	
	INTERNATIONAL TRADE Using the power of trade to incentivize other countries to reduce carbon emissions and other pollution	