

30 Organizations Call on EGLE, Council on Climate Solutions to Center Climate Justice, Adaptation, and Wellbeing in MI Healthy Climate Plan

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DETROIT – Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition submitted [comments](#) yesterday on behalf of 30 organizational signatories and many individuals, calling for robust inclusion of frontline communities and solutions in the final MI Healthy Climate Plan. The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) submitted the [Draft MI Healthy Climate Plan](#) for comment on January 14, 2022.

“The Michigan Healthy Climate plan must include all Environmental Justice communities in Michigan,” said **Brandi Crawford-Johnson, Kalamazoo Environmental Justice activist**. “Kalamazoo is a frontline community with the highest asthma hospitalization in our region. Our community has a 14 year death gap because of the constant release of toxic gasses in the tons.”

Raising concern about a singular focus on carbon emission reduction, signatories call on EGLE and Council on Climate Solutions to adopt people-centered goals, such as access to safe, affordable housing, water, and energy, as well as to establish implementation plans in concert with Environmental Justice communities, tribes, and rural, low-wealth communities.

“Our communities are overburdened with pollution, excessive heat, flooding and limited access to resources. We organize frontline communities to care for each other. Follow our lead and enact the policies that will bring climate justice for all,” said **Reverend Sharon Buttry of the Detroit Hamtramck Coalition for Advancing Healthy Environments**.

“The only way forward is to fully embrace a vision of our state that cares for and centers families, their homes, and a just climate future free of fossil fuels, nuclear energy, and other false solutions,” said **Gabriela Alcazar, Detroit homeowner and Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition Network Manager**.

Read the full text of the letter, addenda, and a list of signatories [here](#).

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