NEWS

Pittsburgh 2030 District Property Partners achieve $42.8 Million in Energy Savings, meet Carbon Emissions Reduction Goal Ahead of Deadline

Nation's largest 2030 District achieved 56% reduction in carbon emissions, 27% reduction in energy use and $42.8 million in energy savings in 2025

May 14, 2026 (PITTSBURGH) – The Pittsburgh 2030 District, a project of Green Building Alliance (GBA), today released its 2025 Progress Report, revealing that District property partners reached a **56.1% reduction in carbon emissions in 2025**, or **334,000 metric tons of CO_2e emissions** avoided over baseline. This marks the *second consecutive year* that 2030 District Partners have hit the target goal of achieving a 50-65% reduction in carbon emissions by the year 2030 since the Pittsburgh District was founded in 2012.

Property partners in the Pittsburgh 2030 District that reported energy use also achieved a **27.3% reduction in energy usage over baseline** and saved **$42.8 million in energy utility costs**. **Water use reductions**, which improved slightly compared to 2024, resulted in savings of **$7.1 million**.

The Progress Report also features case studies on the renovation of the 100-year-old **City of Pittsburgh Fire Station 8**, and the design and construction of the **Pittsburgh International Airport Terminal Modernization Program**, detailing how each of these complex projects deployed innovative approaches and best practices to ensure efficiency and resiliency, reduce environmental impacts and operational costs, protect the health of users and occupants, and utilize healthy products and materials.

Carbon emissions figures reflect the impact of purchasing and/or production of renewable energy by 2030 District property partners, as well as energy use reductions and an energy grid that is growing cleaner as the mix of generation sources changes, with solar increasing and coal declining.

The District will continue to pursue the goal of achieving zero carbon emissions by 2040.

Pittsburgh 2030 District – 2025 Progress Report Stats* at a Glance

- 56.1% Carbon Reduction (including Renewable Energy Credits)
  - 334,000 Metric tons of CO_2e Emissions Avoided
- 27.3% Energy Reduction
- $42.8M in Energy Cost Savings
- 33.8% Water Reduction
- $50M Annual Utility Cost Savings

*from baseline

The Pittsburgh 2030 District comprises **75** property partners representing more than **540** buildings occupying more than **86** million square feet within the City of Pittsburgh. They include office towers, hospitals, hotels, multifamily residential buildings, universities, professional sports facilities, museums, municipal offices and facilities, and K-12 schools.

GBA also manages 2030 Districts in Erie (established 2019) and New Kensington (established 2024), working with **132** property partners across western Pennsylvania.

Through the 2030 Districts program, GBA helps property partners identify and prioritize critical investments in their buildings and operations systems to help them become more efficient.

“Hitting the 2030 emissions goal ahead of schedule for the second year in a row is a testament not only to the commitment of Pittsburgh building owners to invest in upgrades and practices that improve efficiency and embrace clean energy, but also to the value of partnering with GBA to achieve energy and cost-savings goals,” says Green Building Alliance President & CEO Jenna Cramer. “Our team works alongside commercial property owners, from businesses and corporate office towers to cultural institutions and nonprofits, helping them track and understand their energy use, implement operational changes, and prioritize needed improvements to their buildings.”

District partners receive confidential annual building performance reports that analyze progress toward energy and water reductions, utility cost savings, zero carbon, and indoor air quality performance. GBA provides context and personalized recommendations for building and systems upgrades, and property partners have access to technical assistance, and specialized training courses led by GBA staff, including Energy Efficiency 101 and ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager trainings.

"The City of Pittsburgh is transforming old facilities into state-of-the-art, sustainable buildings where we can deliver effective and efficient public services as well as support vibrant communities,” says Mayor Corey O’Connor. “Thanks to the hard work of our teams in Public Works, Public Safety, City Planning's Division of Sustainability and Resilience, and our 2030 District commitment, more and more City facilities will operate with net zero targets, energy efficiency, clean air, and people-centered design that will support our workers and communities.”

Action steps for improving energy efficiency and reducing environmental impact include:

- Changing lights to LEDs
- Installing occupancy/vacancy sensors in building spaces to reduce electricity use
- Managing plug or process loads [energy usage in a building not related to HVAC, lighting, or water heating] through building controls, occupant policies, and/or adding things like smart power strips or smart outlets
- Adding insulation to walls and roofs; sealing air leaks around windows and doors; adding gaskets to outlets; sealing leaks in ductwork; replacing single pane windows
- Producing or purchasing renewable, carbon-free energy by installing solar panels
- Purchasing renewable energy credits (RECs), or entering into renewable energy-related Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)
- Addressing refrigerant leaks in HVAC systems and ensuring proper disposal
- Reducing fossil fuel use, including replacing furnaces and boilers that run on natural gas with more efficient air- or ground-source heat pumps
- Adding aerators to faucets; changing to automatic or push button metered fixtures; upgrading existing toilets or flushometers with low-flow alternatives
- Adding rain barrels and using captured rainwater for exterior irrigation; using drought tolerant native plantings
- Reusing building materials and designing for deconstruction
- Selecting locally produced and low embodied carbon building materials

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About Green Building Alliance:
Green Building Alliance (GBA) positively transforms the world through the built environment to create a sustainable, healthy, and economically vibrant future for everyone. As Pennsylvania's authority on high-performance building design, construction, products, and operations, GBA works alongside community leaders, schools, nonprofits, businesses and more while equipping designers, manufacturers, developers, and policymakers to adopt healthy, energy efficient building practices that are as healthy for people as they are for the environment. GBA manages the largest 2030 District in North America (the Pittsburgh 2030 District), and in 2019, established Pittsburgh as the 2nd International Center of Excellence on High Performance Building in the world. GBA works throughout Pennsylvania and across the region, country, and world through strategic alliances including the 2030 Districts Network, United Nations, International Living Future Institute, and the High Performance Building Alliance (Ireland). Learn more at **www.gba.org** or reach out to **info@gba.org**.

About the Pittsburgh 2030 District:
The Pittsburgh 2030 District is a founding member of the 2030 Districts Network, which connects more than 20 cities across North America. Founded in 2012, Pittsburgh is the largest 2030 District and represents 14% of all committed square feet within the Network. The District drives market transformation by uniting leading organizations in Pittsburgh's high growth industries, creating unprecedented collaboration between sectors such as healthcare, hospitality, higher education, and technology to reduce their collective energy use, water use, and carbon emissions while improving indoor air quality.