



Electrifying Bend's Future

Building a Clean Energy Path for our Community

What's Happening?

The City of Bend is developing a **new policy** to address the use of natural gas in residential buildings. This approach may:

- **Discourage new natural gas infrastructure in residential buildings**
- **Account for the environmental and social costs of carbon**
- **Support** incentives that encourage switching to electricity

The goal is to help Bend transition toward clean, **renewable energy**-especially as Oregon law requires our electricity supply to be **100% renewable by 2040**.

Project Background

Bend's **Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP)**, adopted in 2019 and updated in 2025, is the City's roadmap for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and building climate resilience. It outlines strategies across transportation, energy, buildings, and waste to help Bend meet its climate goals.

- The CCAP identifies **building electrification** as a key strategy, since **residential and commercial buildings account for 48% of local emissions**.
- By shifting to electricity, especially as our grid becomes cleaner, we can significantly reduce Bend's carbon footprint and improve air quality.



Achieve a 40% reduction in community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2030



Achieve a 70% reduction in community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2050

What We've Done So Far

In 2024, City Council asked the Environment and Climate Committee (ECC) to explore ways to encourage building electrification. After research and community input, Council directed staff to develop a policy mechanism to reduce natural gas use in new residential construction, and use this tool to help fund incentives for electrification. Between July 2025 - April 2026, staff continued exploring policy mechanisms and Council ultimately gave the direction to develop a climate pollution fee on natural gas appliances in new construction. The policy is expected to be adopted by Council in late Spring/early Summer of 2026.

Important Note

This policy would not apply to existing homes or buildings. If your home currently uses natural gas appliances, this proposal would not require their removal or impose any fees. The climate pollution fee under consideration would apply only to new residential construction.

What's Next

- April 2026: Council-led stakeholder roundtable (April 8) and work session (April 22) to finalize policy details
- May/June 2026: Public hearing and policy adoption by Council



**Did you know?
95% of new single
family homes in
Bend have a gas
hookup.**



**Scan to learn more
about the Climate
Pollution Policy!**

How You Can Get Involved

- **Attend an Environment and Climate Committee Meeting** – Learn about updates on the electrification policy and/or give public comment
- **Contact the Environment and Climate Team** – climateaction@bendoregon.gov
- **Email your City Councilors** – Share your thoughts
- **Attend the April 8 roundtable** – Listen to stakeholder perspectives and hear the latest updates on the policy
- **Attend City Council Meetings** – Learn more and share your feedback via public comment
- **Subscribe to our Environment and Climate Newsletter** – Stay up to date on progress and opportunities

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Servicios de asistencia lingüística e información sobre alojamiento para personas con discapacidad

Puede obtener esta información en formatos alternativos como Braille, formato electrónico, etc. También disponemos de servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Póngase en contacto en correo electrónico accessibility@bendoregon.gov o número de teléfono 541-693-2198. Los usuarios del servicio de retransmisión deben marcar el 7-1-1. Por favor, envíe sus solicitudes con 48-72 horas de antelación al evento; todas las solicitudes están sujetas a los tiempos de procesamiento del proveedor.