

# American City Summit Biographies

**Anchorage-** Anchorage is the largest city in Alaska, and given its distance from other major cities, faces unique challenges that few other American cities are familiar with. Alaska's economy, and by extension Anchorage's, [is uniquely dependent on oil](#). While this has made some efforts at sustainability difficult for the city, Anchorage has sought to be a leader in energy efficiency. For example, municipal buildings [are organized around](#) the best practice of building management to cut waste and energy usage. Additionally, LED streetlights, which are more efficient, [are being installed](#) across the city. However, in many ways, Anchorage is similar to other American cities due to the economic importance of immigrants. In 2014, [foreign-born residents contributed](#) \$1.9 billion to the city's GDP, while holding 7.3% of Anchorage's spending power. Additionally, business groups in Anchorage [believe that](#) many labour shortages associated with its remote location could be solved by immigration. Anchorage can become a leader on immigration reform and issues of sustainability if it builds off its progress and begins to advocate more forcefully for policies that are positive for its economy.

**Atlanta-** Atlanta has become a regional leader in promoting sustainability. In 2008 the city [founded its sustainability office](#) in order to promote sustainable policies. The city has focused on expanding and curating green areas, [passing \\$105 million program in 2005](#) and establishing the [Beltline](#), [improving water conservation](#) by designing green buildings and reducing leaks, and [developing a](#) comprehensive public transit plan. Although Atlanta has become a leader in sustainability, it has taken a more reserved approach to immigration politics. For example, while the [Mayor has condemned](#) the Trump administration's policies on sanctuary city, the city has not declared itself a sanctuary city. The city [has taken other steps](#) to improve the lives of immigrants, declaring itself a *Welcoming City* and establishing an Office of Immigrant Affairs. Atlanta is attempting to walk a fine-line that would allow them to continue to be perceived as a positive environment for immigrants, while not running afoul of the Trump administration.

**Baltimore-** In regards to sustainability, Baltimore is an up and coming city. In 2006, the Baltimore City Planning department created a [Comprehensive Master Plan](#) designed to position Baltimore as a world-class city. Organized around four themes representative of life in Baltimore; Live, Earn, Play and Learn, the plan was designed to respond to opportunities for growth in Baltimore. The Plan aspires to achieve [goals](#) that range from cleanliness, to transportation, to education and awareness. The city of Baltimore planned to [reduce Baltimore's greenhouse gas emissions](#) by 15% by 2015 and to [provide safe, well-maintained](#)

[public recreational space](#) within 1/4 mile of all residents, among others. This plan has remained largely successful in the years following its fruition and can be seen as an accurate illustration of the city's attitude toward conservation and sustainability. Baltimore has recently unanimously passed a [resolution](#) that highlights key immigration issues. [In this Resolution](#), the City of Baltimore, with its diverse constituency with a large African-American population, its rich history of immigration, and its proud hard-working blue collar tradition, recognized two very important aspects of Baltimore's need for immigration reform: the importance of immigration in the economy and the need for a mechanism that allows for a clear path to citizenship. It seems that this resolution is a clear indicator of the direction that Baltimore is headed in and their accepting attitude towards immigration in the face of federal opposition.

**Boston-** Like most of America's modern cities, Boston is committed to combatting climate change on all levels by utilizing sustainability plans. [The Climate Action Plan](#) serves as Boston's blueprint for reaching its goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 25 percent by 2020 and 80 percent by 2050, and making sure the City is prepared for the impacts of climate change. With this Plan, Boston will continue to develop as a vibrant and sustainable city for current and future generations and champion the actions needed to meet the global challenges of climate change. In 2011, the City released A Climate of Progress, Boston's first community-wide plan for environmental sustainability. In contrast to the city's more recently established affair with sustainability, Boston has had a long and rich history of immigration. According to a recent [MIT study](#), Greater Boston's economy relies on immigrants much more heavily than the country as a whole, noting that foreign-born workers have provided nearly all the growth in the labor market in recent years. The city, in more recent months, has begun [several campaigns](#) that welcome immigrants to the area in response to the controversial actions of the President. [Boston also funds centers](#) that assist immigrants with legal issues, learning English, finding housing, healthcare, and jobs. Boston is committed to helping immigrants find their place within the community.

**Chicago-** By looking at the [Sustainable Chicago 2015 Action Agenda](#), it is clear that Chicago thinks that there is no need to choose between the environment and the economy and that sustainability can be found in every neighborhood. This is especially important when considering that Chicago has had trouble in the past with effectively implementing sustainability policies in both the wealthy metropolitan areas and the poorer inner city. [The city of Chicago](#) has closed coal power plants and removed coal from the power purchased for public facilities, opened parks and rebuilt over 225 playgrounds across the city, launched recycling citywide and accelerated energy efficiency in every community, [risen to one of the country's most bike friendly cities](#) and launched one of the largest bike share equity programs in North America with Divvy for Everyone, and provided summer jobs in sustainability to over 2,000 high school students through the Greencorps Chicago Youth Program. This type of initiative in the past few years shows great promise for Chicago.

Chicago has one of the richest immigration histories among American cities. Since the immigration [reforms of 1965](#), the city and its suburbs have attracted growing numbers of Asians and Latin Americans. The Chicago region continues to have one of the largest and most diverse immigrant populations in the country. Among metropolitan areas, the number of Chicago-area immigrants [ranks seventh](#) in the nation, with 1.4 million immigrants. The lives of immigrants often improve after moving to the Chicago area, as shown by [census data](#) that says that foreign-born socioeconomic status clearly improved during the 1990s in the Chicago. In response to the President's immigration reforms, [Chicago's mayor announced](#) that the city would be filing a lawsuit, alleging it's illegal for the federal government to withhold grants from "sanctuary cities." [The mayor](#) told the media that Chicago and that the city would not be forced to change its core values and wishes to remain a welcoming city to all.

**Cleveland-** the city of Cleveland, Ohio located on the southern shore of Lake Erie, has a reputation shared with the whole state of Ohio as a proud blue-collar town with an industrial past. However, the city has turned over a new leaf and has established its own [Office of Sustainability](#) that is dedicated to making the City of Cleveland and the region of Northeast Ohio a more sustainable and environmentally-friendly place. In June 2008, the City of Cleveland [adopted](#) a citywide Advanced Energy Portfolio Standard (AEPS). The standard ensures that 15% of Cleveland Public Power's energy comes from advanced or renewable sources by 2015, 20% by 2020, and 25% by 2025. The City also actively lobbied for the statewide AEPS that was passed in 2008. On top of that, the City of Cleveland has committed itself to becoming a more bicycle friendly city to encourage less reliance on fossil fuels for transportation whenever possible. The City of Cleveland's [Bikeway Implementation Plan](#) is designed to increase the number of bicycle-accessible miles by 250% by the end of 2017. As another way reduce Cleveland's carbon footprint, the city introduced an [anti-idling policy](#) in 2006. On the immigration front Cleveland unexpectedly was the first city in the country to declare itself a [sanctuary city back in 1987](#) when a wave of refugees from Latin American countries, hit hard by internal conflicts, came to the United States. Cleveland has remained a sanctuary city ever since then. Because of this status as a sanctuary city, coupled with President Donald Trump's stance on sanctuary cities, there is widespread fear that the City of Cleveland could lose access to large amounts of federal support in the form of grants. Cleveland's mayor even said that [the city would not aid in the rounding up and deporting of illegal immigrants.](#)

**Denver-** The city of Denver, Colorado continues to uphold its reputation as one of the most liberal cities in the United States. A reputation proved as much by becoming one of the first U.S. capitals where recreational marijuana was legalized as by its liberal immigration and environmental policies. The Denver City Council maintains an [Office of Sustainability](#) that focuses on reaching the city's [sustainability goals](#) by the year 2020. These goals are separated into Community Goals and Government Operations Goals. With help from residents,

business leaders, nonprofits, and the city, the Office of Sustainability developed “Community Goals” which include cutting fossil fuel usage by 50%, reducing water usage by 22%, as well as reducing CO2 emissions in the city of Denver back to 1990 levels. “Government Operations Goals” are the Denver City Council’s commitment to make its own operations more environmentally friendly including reducing water use in parks and golf courses by 22% and in city buildings by 18% and establishing a 40% recycling rate. On the immigration front, Denver officials have said that they will not impede the detention of undocumented immigrants in the city and currently the city does not hold sanctuary city status. That being said, Denver city officials still fear that they will be unable to provide support to less fortunate families in Denver because of their [reliance on federal money](#), in a time when overall federal government support for all types of social safety net programs have decreased.

**Detroit-** Detroit has completed several large-scale environmental sustainability and protection initiatives in recent years. Detroit’s demolition program has been [acknowledged by the EPA](#) as one of the safest and most environmentally friendly programs in the country. The city has allowed DTE Energy to build one of the [largest urban solar arrays in the U.S.](#) on 10 acres of previously unused land in O’Shea Park. Furthermore, at the end of 2016, Detroit became the largest city in the U.S. to [convert all of its streetlights to use LED lighting](#). Recently, Detroit has created the [Office of Sustainability](#) and appointed a director to lead it. The Office of Sustainability will help to make sure that the city develops in a way that leaves a smaller environmental footprint. When it comes to immigration, [Detroit’s mayor has stated](#) that Detroit is a “welcoming city” but has not gone so far as to call it a “sanctuary city” due to fears of losing federal funding. Detroit has had a particularly large influx of Chaldean and Hispanic immigrants. Many of these immigrants who have committed prior criminal offences have been [taken into custody by ICE officials](#) in random “sweeps”, causing alarm in immigrant communities. Moreover, immigrants and refugees have been viewed [as an economic lifeline](#) for Detroit, touted as a cure to Detroit’s population loss over the last 50 years.

**Honolulu-** Located on a low-lying ocean coast, Honolulu is particularly susceptible to the effects of global climate change. Currently, the city gets most of its electric energy from oil, most of which it must import, however the city has plans to build a rapid transit system. While some opponent [contend that it is too expensive](#), its [proponents claim](#) it will reduce traffic congestion and reduce carbon emissions by 53,000 tons as people use the train rather than automobiles. Also, given that it is surrounded by salt water, [water conservation is important](#) for Honolulu, [these efforts have included](#) rebates for toilets and faucets that use less water, as well as rain barrel installation to collect water for use outside the home, such as watering gardens and the grass. Honolulu, [whose economy is dependent on immigrants](#), is not officially a sanctuary city, but in many ways its policies are those of a sanctuary city. For

example, [Honolulu's resources](#) are not used to help the federal government arrest suspected undocumented immigrants. All in all, with nearly 21,000 undocumented immigrants, [mostly from Japan and the Philippines](#), Honolulu has worked to integrate these individuals into the economy and the city culture, and it plans to make strides in the future on both issues of sustainability and immigration.

**Houston-** Houston is a city well known among Americans for its contribution in space research. Similarly, Houston has made great strides toward sustainability. Houston is committed to making itself an environmentally friendly city. In 2008 Houston established an [Emissions Reduction Plan](#) that has driven much of the City's current energy efficiency and renewable energy activity. The city is working hard for efficiency in the home through a program known as [PACE](#) (Property Assessed Clean Energy). This program allows property owners in Houston to finance energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation projects. Houston is also involved in other green projects such as a 345 mile interconnected bikeway network and educating its citizens about air quality and waste disposal. Additionally, Houston is fighting closely with cities around the country for [immigration reform](#). Houston believes that immigrants should be able to work legally and contribute to the country's economy. Houston's ideas for sustainability and immigration show that it is willing to fight for what is right despite a lack of support at times.

**Indianapolis-** Indianapolis, one of largest cities in the U.S, is also going to be one of the most environmentally friendly cities in the U.S. In 2011, the mayor of [Indianapolis](#) unveiled a plan that would make its City-County Building one of the most energy-efficient government office buildings in the nation. This plan guarantees energy savings of \$750,000 every year until 2026. Indianapolis makes it its mission to become the forefront of the green revolution. Therefore, Indianapolis has taken many strict actions [including](#) the establishment of a system of bikeways, education on food waste, push for proper recycling of electronics and light bulbs, and regular checks of air quality. In conjunction, Indianapolis is working closely with the state of Indiana to push for a federal immigration reform. The state has [calculated](#) that immigrants in Indiana earned \$8.1 billion in 2014, paying \$702 million in state and local taxes and \$1.6 billion in federal taxes. Indianapolis says this is very significant, and without more immigration the economy can face trouble. The actions taken by Indianapolis in the realms of sustainability and immigration are noteworthy and should be an example to other cities around the nation.

**Kansas City-** Many schools and businesses in Kansas City have adopted sustainability plans. For example, the University of Kansas has made it a goal to publicly report their sustainability in all aspects of their community as well as setting budgets and other plans keeping the sustainability of the school in [mind](#). There have also been efforts made in protecting the city's natural resources as well as decreasing the use of fossil fuels in their

public [transportation](#). Regarding immigration, many Kansas City officials have agreed with Trump's approach to immigration reform. However, they all believe that this should be done along with congressional action in order to ensure that legal immigrants are [protected](#). In contrast to this, many citizens in Kansas City disagree with Trump's immigration reform and believe that there are other ways to fix the broken immigration [system](#).

**Las Vegas-** Las Vegas has an [excellent sustainability plan](#) that it has stuck to for years. Since 2008, the city has reduced its water consumption from 1.47 billion gallons to 1.18 billion gallons in 2016. These savings were achieved through the replacement of more than 40-acres of grass with synthetic turf at city sports fields and [parks](#). In the community, water use has declined from approximately 350 gallons per person per day (GPCD) in 1990 to less than 220 GPCD today. Southern Nevada will soon surpass the region's 2035 goal to reduce consumption through conservation to [199 GPCD](#). Also, the city of Las Vegas receives 100 percent of the energy it needs from renewable sources. Nearly 100 percent of the city's vehicle fleet runs on alternative [fuels](#). In regards to immigration, many residents and officials believe that comprehensive reforms need to include securing the borders, developing a better system for employers to verify the legal status of employees, and creating a policy that allows undocumented immigrants to come out of the [shadows](#). Los Vegas' mayor also [signed the city](#) onto a statement that demanded that "Dreamers", or undocumented immigrants brought into the United States as children, be given a priority by the Trump administration for legal status.

**Los Angeles-** Long a leader in progressive politics, Los Angeles came late to the sustainability movement, with [their first sustainability plan](#), *the pLAn*, released in 2015. The pLAn tackles all facets of sustainability, but has already made strides in several areas, such as [water conservation](#), [recycling](#), [increase solar power generation](#), and [a bike share program](#) that is integrated throughout the city. Most importantly, the [city has improved](#) housing and development projects around transit hubs, such as light rail stations and multimodal stations for buses and the bike share program, in order to more densely house the city's residents, this decreases the amount of space used, increases mass-transit ridership and reduces carbon emissions from automobiles. On the front of immigration, Los Angeles has been and continues to be a leading liberal voice. The city, which has continually been remade and reinvented by waves of immigrants [founded a national advocacy](#) group for immigration reform, Fwd.us. Additionally, the city [is an official sanctuary city](#) and has [doggedly opposed](#) the Trump administration's immigration policies.

**Miami-** Along with New Orleans, [Miami is perhaps the city most at risk](#) to flooding due to rising sea levels brought about by climate change. Therefore, the city has started to take



strides to become more sustainable. Currently, [they have committed](#) to reducing greenhouse gas emissions 80% below 2008 levels by 2050. [In order to meet this ambitious target](#), Miami is seeking to alternative sources of energy for electricity, such as solar and wind, as well as increasing energy and water efficiency in government buildings, and in homes and businesses through private-public partnerships. The city has [also committed to crafting vibrant communities](#) by creating more green areas and planting native trees throughout the city that are suited to the Florida environment. However, despite the importance of immigrants to the Miami-area, where nearly [500,000 undocumented immigrants live](#), the city is not a sanctuary city and, indeed, [voted to not become](#) a sanctuary city in 2017. It is largely thought that [this change was prompted](#) by the Trump administration's crackdown on undocumented immigrants and threats to rescind federal funding.

**Minneapolis-** The Midwestern metropolis of Minneapolis has become a leader in sustainability, setting far-reaching policies and investing in Smart and forward thinking infrastructure projects. Forming one of the municipal [first plans to cut greenhouse gas emissions](#), in 1993, Minneapolis has expanded to other sustainable projects, such as tough [energy efficiency standards](#), a [tree program](#) since 2006 that has planted 13,000 trees, [and a light-rail line](#) that stretches across the metropolitan area, creating jobs and connecting previously marginalized communities. Immigrants in Minneapolis have helped create the vibrant city that it is today, with immigrants from Somalia, Vietnam, Mexico and China contributing the city's diverse culture. Currently, [Minneapolis is a sanctuary city, but some questions remain](#) over whether this designation has been effective as some police forces have continued to cooperate with ICE. However, [with an estimated 6,000 Dreamers](#) and 100,000 undocumented in total in Minnesota, the city's mayor has [continued to challenge](#) the Trump administration and its rhetoric on immigration.

**Nashville-** On first inspection, Nashville is not considered a progressive leaders on issues of sustainability, but it has taken great strides in becoming the Southeast's green leader. Recognizing the importance of becoming a more sustainable city, Nashville founded the program: [Livable Nashville](#). This program [hopes to increase](#) energy efficiency of government buildings and low income homes as well as increase the number of trees in Nashville by 500,000 trees. Additionally, [Nashville hopes](#) to reduce food waste by 10% by 2020 as well as increase bike transit in order to directly and indirectly reduce the city's carbon footprint. On immigration, Nashville has been less of a progressive leader. This year, there were efforts to declare the city a sanctuary city, but these efforts [were put on hold](#) as it was not likely that the city could force the independently elected sheriff to not cooperate with ICE. Nevertheless, immigrants [are important to Nashville's economy](#) and the city's [mayor has](#)

[asked](#) the Trump administration to not end DACA, a program that allow some undocumented youth, to remain in the United States without the threat of deportation.

**New York City-** New York City has a reputations as one of the more liberal cities in the United States. Mayor Bill de Blasio has dedicated himself to turning his city into his city into a clean energy haven that is welcoming to people from all walks of life, especially immigrants. When President Trump announced he was removing the United States from the Paris Climate deal, de Blasio announced that he would [continue his efforts](#) to make the city as energy efficient as possible, keeping in line with the city's history of being energy efficient which dates back to 1876 [when recycling was introduced](#). In 2015 [the OneNYC](#) plan was introduced, which vowed to being developing more energy efficient buildings and reduce the city's total greenhouse emissions by 80% by the year 2050. New York City has also introduced a new rideshare program called [511NY Rideshare](#) which aims to make carpooling easier so less vehicles are on the road On the topic of immigration reform, New York City is a sanctuary city and in 2016 Mayor de Blasio set aside \$17 billion to aid in the [legal defense of immigrants](#). In 2014 the city [enacted laws](#) that that limited the city's law enforcement agency's interaction with ICE. The laws stated that law enforcement could not hold immigrants for ICE to collect unless that their was a court ordered warrant for that person's arrest for a for a violent crime committed in the last four years. Mayor de Blasio will most likely continue to enact policies such as those mentioned above throughout all of President Trump's presidency.

**New Orleans-** Lying mostly below sea-level makes New Orleans particularly vulnerable to rising waters as well as storm events that cause flooding. Hurricane Katrina, in 2005, served as a wake-up call that focused the city on efforts it could take to be more sustainable. Specifically, to deal with water-related issues, the city has [integrated wetlands](#) that will help soak in excess water, filtering it slowly to the soil and groundwater. New Orleans is most unique for sustainability among its [grassroots community](#), with houses reconstructed with reusable materials and in more sustainable ways since the destruction of Hurricane Katrina wiped out much of the city. Additionally, New Orleans has established bike lanes throughout the city ([increasing from 10 miles in 2004 to 92 miles in 2014](#)), allowing for commuters to bike to work, [even earning](#) a Silver-level award from the Bike Friendly Community from 2011-2018. In terms of immigration, the city's [mayor has demanded](#) that congress pass comprehensive reform to the system; he is angered at the many inconsistencies within the system. Moreover, immigrants [play a crucial role](#) in New Orleans's economy, making up 7.4% of its population and contributing nearly \$8 billion to its gross domestic product. Given their importance, the city [has tried to be welcoming](#) to immigrants, prohibiting police officers from asking about immigration status to victims and witnesses of crimes and refusing



ICE requests. In a way, New Orleans has sought to reinvent itself after 2005, working to become more sustainable and welcome immigrants to help revive its moribund economy.

**Omaha-** Omaha is the largest city in the State of Nebraska, situated at the eastern border of the state. Over the past few years the city has begun to enact numerous sustainability programs, all under [CSO: Clean Solutions for Omaha](#). The CSO program has extensive goals, all centering around reducing energy use, preserving the cities vegetation, and reducing sewage runoff. As of 2017, the city has fully completed [28 projects](#), all of which are sewage separation projects that will prevent runoff into the Mississippi River. A majority of the city's green infrastructure lies in its [five parks](#), where native grass is grown and trees are replanted regularly. The parks also feature their own pipelines which feed to a nearby water treatment plant, aiming to further reduce sewage runoff into the Mississippi River. Omaha's other major green energy project is creating porous pavement throughout all of the city. In terms of immigration reform, Mayor Jean Stothert has stated that Omaha will not follow the immigration plan laid out by President Trump, and that Omaha Police Department will not actively check the status of immigrants, unless that person has been [designated as a fugitive by ICE](#). Omaha Public Schools [passed a resolution](#) saying they too will not turn over immigrants to ICE. Although the state of Nebraska [has not taken major steps in terms of immigration reform](#), Mayor Stothert will do everything she can to ensure the safety of immigrants.

**Philadelphia-** One of America's oldest major cities, Philadelphia has a long reputation as a forward-thinking metropolis. In 2016, the city adopted an [ambitious sustainability plan](#) that sought to increase the use of clean energy for electricity, improve air quality and improve waste management techniques. The city has even sought [to adapt for the effects](#) of climate change by minimizing current risks to important infrastructure such as transportation and electric and sewer lines. In this same vein, [Philadelphia pledged to remain](#) in the Paris Accord, despite the United States leaving the agreement in 2016. On the immigration front, [Philadelphia acts as a sanctuary city](#), opting not to cooperate with federal law enforcement to deport undocumented immigrants. The city has also [set-up a hotline](#) for undocumented immigrants that are caught in raids. Above all, Philadelphia has continued to advocate for immigration reform as immigrants are a vital part of the economy and are net-contributors to the region as a whole.

**Phoenix-** Phoenix is a city that [is particularly vulnerable](#) to the changes, such as less rainfall and warmer temperatures, on average, brought about by climate change. In this sense, it has tried to become more sustainable and lessen its environmental footprint. For instance, [while the city's population has grown](#) over the last several decades, it has decreased its water usage by regulating groundwater use, reusing wastewater, and increasing the water efficiency of buildings. Phoenix has also [developed a sustainability plan](#) with the goal of enhancing the

quality of life by 2050. These [goals include expanding](#) transit options so that 90% of residents are only a 10-minute walk away from public transit and 40% of commutes are made by transit, car-shares, walking, and biking, and [reduce waste](#) by 40% by 2020 in order to achieve zero waste by 2050. Arizona [state law prevents](#) Phoenix from becoming an official sanctuary city, but the Phoenix police have worked [to minimize situations](#) in which immigration status is applicable for the police. In this way, the police look to maintain a trusting relationship with Phoenix's large undocumented population, while not angering the Trump administration and violating state law. Moreover, Phoenix [gives city-ID cards](#) to undocumented immigrants so that they can access local services. Phoenix, with a sizeable undocumented immigrant population must work to integrate this population into its society and continue to attract documented immigrants if it wants to continue to grow its population and economy.

**Portland, Oregon**-the City of Portland is, like many other American cities, committed to sustainability and creating a more environmentally friendly society. The City of Portland maintains a [Bureau of Planning and Sustainability](#) whose task is to ensure that Portland continues to strive towards becoming a sustainable city. The City of Portland has vowed to switch to 100% renewable energy by the year 2050. Under the [Sustainable City Government program](#), emissions generated by government buildings and other infrastructure have dropped 17% below 2006 levels despite a sizable increase in population since that date. The City of Portland also [maintains a comprehensive recycling program](#) that will help the city to reach its goal of reducing the amount of waste produced by 90% by the year 2030. On the immigration front, the City of Portland voted to declare itself a sanctuary city. It has also become one of the most outspoken opponents of the [Trump administration's immigration policies and have made it clear that they will not change their stance despite AG Jeff Sessions threatening to stop federal money going to](#) cities that openly work against federal officials attempting to carry out orders from President Trump.

**Salt Lake City**- Salt Lake City's population growth in the past several decades has not come at the cost of sustainability. Salt Lake City has a [Sustainability Department](#), which advocates for green and sustainable policies from regulations to improve air and water quality to improved waste management policies. For example, the department [was instrumental](#) in the enactment of a resolution that committed Salt Lake City to having a 100% of electricity supplied by renewable energy by 2032 as well as an 80% reduction in community greenhouse emissions by 2040. More recently, an [Urban Farming Program](#) was launched. Finally, the city created a comprehensive [sustainability plan in 2015](#). On the front of immigration policy, Salt Lake City has worked to welcome immigrants, including [hosting several rallies](#) and creating a ["Welcoming Salt Lake Week"](#) for immigrants. Salt Lake City, while not technically a

sanctuary city, acts like one, [according to the Mayor](#). Nevertheless, Salt Lake City [is refusing to cooperate](#) with federal government's recent immigration policies.

**San Francisco**- San Francisco has a reputation as one of the country's most liberal cities, a reputation that is reflected in its policies regarding sustainability and immigration. San Francisco [committed itself](#) to sustainable policies such as increased public transit options, reductions in waste and an increase in energy efficiency of buildings back in 2002. This work continues to the present, with the [city committing](#) to reducing its waste to zero by 2020 through innovative waste prevention and recycling efforts. In climate politics, San Francisco has played a leading role in working to mitigating climate change, even [promising to remain](#) in the Paris agreement after the Trump administration withdrew in 2017. Additionally, in the realm of immigration, San Francisco has worked to welcome immigrants. For instance, San Francisco [became a sanctuary city](#), or a city that does not cooperate or use resources to help Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) enforce federal immigration law, in 1989, well before this issue was considered in most cities. Even more recently, [the city has sued](#) the Trump administration over his Sanctuary City Order, [funded a legal office](#) to defend undocumented immigrants, and is a key site [for immigration reform](#) for high-skilled immigrants (given its proximity to Silicon Valley). In many ways, San Francisco encapsulates the very heart of this topic as it seeks to craft policy on topics that are considered to be under the purview of the federal government. The actions taken by San Francisco on both immigration and sustainability demonstrate the cities can influence policy even if the federal government takes opposite actions.