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[July 20, 2021](#)

[Land Use and Local Government Recommendations – Wednesday, July 14, 2021](#)

By Anastasia Gordon

On July 14, Environmental Advocates NY (EANY) and a group of local government leaders sent a [letter](#) providing comments on the [Land Use and Local Government \(LULG\) Panel's recommendations](#) for the consideration of the Climate Action Council. Recognizing the key role of local governments in achieving the goals of NY's climate law, EANY convened a roundtable of 24 local government leaders and experts to review and build upon the emissions reduction recommendations of the LULG Panel.

Overall, the group was supportive of several of the Panel's recommendations, in particular, developing a comprehensive strategy to transition away from existing natural gas infrastructure. However, they offered other proposals to strengthen the LULG mitigation strategies. These included prioritizing disadvantaged communities and a just transition in smart-growth land-use planning and reforming regional economic development councils to ensure that climate and equity are integrated into funding decisions. The letter also outlines additional themes that emerged from the roundtable around funding, local planning assistance, and grid-level considerations.