

Greening New Haven

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City-Wide Bike Share



- Having a city-wide bike share program will promote environmental and human health. New Haven needs to have a bike share program that is accessible and affordable to its residents. Having increased transportation options is a form of *agency* and can empower the community.
- 13.3% of New Haven residents use public transportation to commute
- Create a map that indicates where these bike stops are located and shows bike trails around the city
- Can encourage people to get around the city, go to places that would not be accessible by other public transportation options
- Bike stops are self-service and maintenance costs are covered by registration fees
- Use of an app so people can easily locate and unlock bikes
- Need to survey what areas would be the most useful to put a bike stop at
- Implement a program to get incentives if you bike to work OR school
- Create bike trails that easily lead to other forms of public transportation stops



Benefits

- Reduced traffic congestion
- Reduced fuel use
- Increased use of public transit
- Increased health benefits
- Greater environmental awareness
- Increased mobility options



Food

Urban Food

- New Haven sources a majority of its food from outside of the city. Even though Farmer's Markets are expanding, there are still few options to purchase healthy and affordable groceries. Growing food in the city will give more people options to eat good food.
- The purpose of these gardens is not only to produce food, but also to educate people about the process in which our food is grown
- We need to utilize underused spaces and revolutionize them by turning them into urban farms
- Use of empty lots to create gardens (ex. lot next to Elm City Market, empty lots near residential areas and on the outskirts of town, etc.)
- Rooftop gardens on the top of buildings downtown (rooftops are often underutilized)
- Even creating small gardens on top of buses or other transportation options
- Walls could be used for vertical gardens
- Form partnerships between these urban farms and local restaurants and universities. These businesses could be customers and help pay for the costs of establishing these gardens



Revitalizing the New Haven Green

- The New Haven Green is the center of New Haven. The historical and cultural significance of the Green is undeniable. However, this Green has the potential to serve more than just the location of three churches. We can revitalize the Green to serve the community in a greater capacity.
- Allow vendors to sell things on the Green (promote and support small businesses)
- Host a "Swap"- people bring used clothing, items, books and trade them with others on the green to promote reuse
- Revitalize the Green with more native plants
- Put more seating options on the green so that people are able to gather and spend time in the space
- Install garden container boxes and allow residents to farm on the green
- Playground infrastructure or other outdoor games could make the Green a fun space for families
- Install an exercise park so that people have safe site for physical activity



Letter

(Sent to Karyn Gilvarg, City Planner of New Haven)

Dear Ms. Gilvarg,

New Haven is a place of innovation and endless growth. However, this growth needs to be coupled with environmental considerations in order to be sustainable. Cities need to be environmentally and socially sustainable. I believe that New Haven can be developed in a way that can benefit the planet and the people who inhabit it.

We need to improve bicycle infrastructure and implement a city-wide bike share. Bike shares have been used successfully by many other cities. Improving bicycle usage in New Haven can lead to a wide range of benefits including: Reduced traffic congestion, reduced fuel use, increased use of public transit, increased health benefits, and greater environmental awareness

New Haven sources a majority of its food from outside of the city. Even though Farmer's Markets are expanding, there are still few options to purchase healthy and affordable groceries. Growing food in the city will give more people options to eat good food. We need to utilize underused spaces and revolutionize them by turning them into urban farms. We can use abandoned lots, rooftops, walls, and even the tops of public transportation options. These gardens will create community spaces and also provide for the city.

Lastly, the New Haven Green is a traditionally and historically important place. However, the Green is now more of just a grass field to walk through. Like in the past, we need to use this green space to empower peoples. Encouraging small business owners to sell things on the Green, holding a community swap meet, or by installing exercise equipment and a playground can transform the space into a place that can serve all members of the community. We could also install gardens on the Green and provide more seating options so that people can sit and eat on the Green. The New Haven Green is the center of New Haven and should provide a safe place for residents to serve each other, the city, and the environment.

For a more sustainable future, New Haven needs to implement programs like the ones mentioned above. Sustainable development will protect the Elm City for years and years to come. Please let me know if you have any questions or additional ideas for how to transform New Haven into a more sustainable city.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Lauren Kim

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and sunlight filtering through the canopy. A large, semi-transparent blue circle is centered over the image, serving as a background for the text.

Sustainable Urban Pioneers

GREENING IRVINE

Jinno Vicencio
and
Lauren Kim

IRVINE SPECTRUM

- A local mall in Irvine, CA.
- Enough space to hold a weekly farmers market or open a FLOSN grocery store
- Implement a store that markets a zero-waste lifestyle and bulk ingredients, hair care, and other needs
- Could add vertical gardens to the sides of the walls to promote sustainability
- Could utilize the roofs and place solar panels to tap into renewable energy.



ORANGE COUNTY GREAT PARK

- A local attraction with museums, hot air balloon rides, and information on Orange County
- Already implemented a weekly farmers market and have a farm and food lab outdoor classroom
- Since this park has 713 acres, this space could be a great place to host environmental festivals, conferences, and even have classes on local handcrafted materials
- Museums can showcase and enlighten the public about various issues such as The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, climate change, coral bleaching and many other informative events happening in our world



ADVENTURE PLAY GROUND

- A place for kids to explore their innovative and creative minds in a playground setting
- Implement activities that involve children and their parents to teach them about sustainability and eco-friendly choices
- To have a "Build Your Own Garden" area and allow children to connect with their foods
- Have a small stand with fresh, local, and organic fruits and other various healthy dishes to promote small business and healthy eating
- Plant California Friendly plants nearby and have pieces of information on why it's good to not have water-intensive plants here

