



## Press release

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## Amsterdam on course to reduce carbon emissions by 55% in 2030

The measures that Amsterdam will take to cut carbon emissions in the coming years are expected to deliver a 48% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030. In doing so, the city will almost comply with the terms of the National Climate Agreement (a 49% reduction by 2030). With additional measures, Amsterdam's more ambitious target of cutting carbon emissions by 55% also lies within reach. This is shown by calculations on the package of measures in the 'Amsterdam Climate Neutral Roadmap', adopted by the Mayor and Cabinet today. The Roadmap contains targets and measures for all relevant sectors: the built environment, mobility, electricity, and industry & harbour.

Alderman Marieke van Doorninck (Sustainability): "Global warming is disrupting our climate. We've already seen destructive forest fires caused by increasing drought and heat, and melting sea ice is causing the sea level to rise. To bring a halt to climate change, we must reduce our carbon emissions; not only for ourselves, but also for the generations to come and people all around the world. Amsterdam is taking its responsibility for this. The Roadmap shows what the transition to clean energy will entail in the coming years, and how we can all ensure that Amsterdam becomes a climate-neutral city."

### Calculating emissions

For the first time, Amsterdam has produced a detailed picture of how much CO<sub>2</sub> the city emits and where the emissions come from. Partly due to the strong growth of the city, emissions rose from slightly less than 4,000 kilotons in 1990 to more than 5,500 kilotons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year in 2010. Emissions have fallen steadily since then. At present, most carbon emissions result from electricity usage and the consumption of natural gas and heat in homes, offices, and social and civic buildings.

In order to gain an insight into the effects of the planned actions and measures to reduce carbon emissions, a calculation has been made. The calculation shows that emissions in 2030 are expected to be 48% lower than in 1990. The calculation will be updated annually. Based on the outcomes, the municipality will be able to make adjustments by adapting or adding measures.

Van Doorninck: "The fact that Amsterdam is growing fast makes it particularly difficult for the city to cut emissions. Despite this, we've succeeded in limiting emissions, for example by building

natural gas-free homes and by taking steps to limit car traffic in the city. We will continue along this path. The calculation shows that our measures will produce the desired results in practice, which is a fantastic boost for us. With the aid of businesses and Amsterdam's citizens, a 55% carbon reduction by 2030 lies in reach, but a huge amount has to happen at the same time. We're calling on central government to make haste with introducing simple and effective subsidy schemes and legislation."

### Measures

The Roadmap contains targets and measures for all relevant parties. For example:

- The municipality is supporting citizens with collective purchasing schemes for sustainable energy, and will be launching an app this year with an action plan for people who want to start using solar energy;
- Also this year, 29 GVB buses will be made emissions-free;
- At the end of 2020, an environmental zone will be introduced for the most polluting diesel passenger cars;
- In 2024, the decision will be taken to disconnect 55,000 homes from the natural gas grid, and by 2030, 260,000 homes and buildings will be natural gas-free;
- In 2025, all permits for new wind turbines will be issued;
- In 2030, half of all suitable roofs will be used for generating solar energy;
- Between now and 2050, Vattenfall will take steps to transform the Hemweg power plant into a fossil-free energy hub.

The municipality is also playing its part. All 200 scooters in the municipal fleet are electric, and this will be extended to all 435 cars and delivery vans this year. The replacement of 150,000 fittings in the city with LED lighting is underway, and by 2030 a municipal swimming pool, a sports complex and 11 municipal offices will have been made natural gas-free.

### In partnership with the city

Amsterdam wants the transition from fossil fuels to sustainable energy to be a fair transition. The key principle is that the living expenses of low- or middle-income households should not rise as a result of the energy transition. The municipality also wants to support everyone who is keen to start working on sustainability, with measures including collective purchasing schemes for solar panels, advice for owner-occupier associations, and subsidies for sustainable initiatives. Residents can also visit the New Amsterdam Climate online platform for information and advice.

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### Note for the press / not for publication

For more information, please contact Joric Kerstens, spokesperson for alderperson Marieke van Doorninck, tel. +31 (0)6 2259 4400.