

# Elizabeth T. Babcock

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/elbabcock/>

Nationally recognized visionary leader. Strategic innovator. Proven success driving organizational progress on climate action. Equity and justice focused values. Eighteen years of upward movement, expertise and influence with experience that includes management of employees, contractors and consultants. Extensive experience managing multi-million-dollar budgets, federal grants and philanthropic relationships. Reputation for advancing transformational change and delivering community benefits.

## Summary of Qualifications and Skills

- Proven success developing, prioritizing and delivering climate action strategies.
- Expertise in climate science and solutions.
- Established relationships across sectors and communities.
- Expertise in local government decision-making process, policy and dynamics.
- Expertise in energy, buildings, water, transportation, and resilience.
- Expertise in justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.
- Reputation as a credible and dynamic leader in state and national sustainability networks.
- 12 years state/federal policy engagement.
- Project and program management.
- Outstanding public speaking and writing skills.
- 10 years' experience in facilitation, collaboration and diplomacy with track record of cultivating strong and lasting partnerships.
- Leadership through empowering others to succeed.
- Mentorship of staff and management expertise
- Synthesize information from disparate sources and apply to big picture outcomes.
- Black Belt Certification from PEAK Academy

## Recent Professional Experience

### **Executive Director, Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency City and County of Denver | October 2023 - present**

Serve as an appointee of the Mayor. Responsible for advancing organization and community-wide decarbonization goals, environmental justice, and resilience while catalyzing state and national progress. In this role I develop and execute strategy.

- Lead the Office and the City on climate, sustainability and resiliency strategy
- Provide strategic guidance to the Mayor
- Manage a ~\$60M annual budget
- Engage with business, philanthropic, nonprofit, community and government representatives to forge partnerships and coalitions to advance our collective goals

### **Deputy Director, Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency City and County of Denver | November 2021 – October 2023**

Responsible for advancing organization and community-wide decarbonization goals, environmental justice, and resilience while catalyzing state and national progress.

- Served as a strategic advisor on climate action, sustainability and resiliency for the Office and the City while leading organizational growth and development
- Managed five direct reports, with a total team of 35, overseeing green jobs, building decarbonization, electrified mobility, renewable energy, and adaptation and resilience
- Managed a ~\$40M annual budget

- Served as the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion team coordinator, working closely with Denver's Office of Social Equity and Innovation
- Represented the Office to internal and external stakeholders for major initiatives, such as Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act implementation
- Oversaw state advocacy efforts at the Public Utilities Commission, the Air Quality Control Commission, and the Colorado Department of Transportation
- Served as the liaison to the Bloomberg American Cities Climate Challenge; achieved completion of all action items, including passage of the Energize Denver building performance ordinance with no opposition and unanimous Council vote

## **Education**

Advanced Leadership Training Program: Regional Institute for Health & Environmental Leadership, May 2013

Master of Arts: The University of Chicago, June 2004

Bachelor of Arts with highest honors: The University of Florida, May 2001

## **Leadership**

Climate Mayors

Denver liaison | Mayoral leadership on climate | August 2019 – present.

U.S. Department of Energy

Expert advisor | Advancing an Equitable Clean Energy Transition Solutions Guide | April 2023

Urban Sustainability Directors Network

U.S. Federal Issues Committee | City engagement in federal policy | 2019 – 2021.

High Impact Practices Committee | City engagement in state policy | 2018 – 2019.

Speaker, Annual Conference | Building decarbonization | October 2019.

Climate Action Task Force

Lead facilitator | Elevating Denver's climate leadership | January 2020 – July 2020.

## **Select Presentations and Panels**

Panelist, U.S. DOE Secretary special guest, Latinos and Clean Energy, March 2024

Panelist, Climate Leadership Conference, May 2023

Panelist and special U.S. DOE roundtable guest, Inaugural Cities Summit of the Americas, April 2023

Panelist, Rise of the E-Bike webinar, September 2022

Panelist, Preparing the Workforce for a Clean Energy Economy, April 2021

Panelist, The Future of Denver Transit, October 2020

## **Past Professional Experience**

**Climate Action Manager, Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency**

**City and County of Denver | Denver, Colorado | July 2020 - October 2021**

Facilitated the Climate Action Task Force with City Council and Mayor's office staff, leading to the creation of the Climate Protection Fund, a \$40M annual revenue source for climate action with a 50% equity, race and social justice mandate. Grew team from 10 to over 25.

**Manager, Air, Water and Climate, Department of Public Health and Environment  
City and County of Denver | Denver, Colorado | July 2014 – June 2020**

Led the development of the winning proposal for the Bloomberg American Cities Climate Challenge. Co-author for winning Bloomberg Mayors Challenge \$2M grant competition with the Love My Air program focused on air monitoring and education in underserved schools. Led development of air quality, water quality, climate mitigation, and green fleets programs and policy. Created Denver's first heat vulnerability index. Managed the City Energy Project, a national project to improve the efficiency of buildings.