

SCDN POLICY CONNECTION:

TRACKING FEDERAL POLICY SHIFTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES



— SUSTAINABLE —
**COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**
— NETWORK —
of Southwestern Pennsylvania



Sustainable PGH

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025
12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Speaker Bios

(listed alphabetically)

April 10, 2025

Presenter:



Zealan Hoover (he/him)

External Advisor

Environmental Protection Network

Zealan Hoover served as Senior Advisor to the Administrator and Director of Implementation for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from 2021 to 2025. In that capacity, he managed the deployment of over \$100 billion in new infrastructure and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) investments to thousands of climate and environmental projects across the country, with more than 60% of that funding focused on disadvantaged communities. Hoover previously served as a policy advisor in the White House during the Obama Administration. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Presenter:



Annabelle Rosser (she/her)

**Senior Policy Analyst
Atlas Public Policy**

Annabelle Rosser is a Senior Policy Analyst at Atlas Public Policy where she contributes to original research and analysis on public investments in water and climate infrastructure. She manages products like the Water Program Portal and the Climate Program Portal, two tools that track the implementation of federal funding for water and climate infrastructure. Rosser also works closely with the Atlas team to develop new analytical tools for the environmental policy community.

Presenter:



Sawyer Sidelinger (they/them) **Program Manager and Systems Administrator** **Sustainable Pittsburgh**

Sawyer Sidelinger is Program Manager and Systems Administrator at Sustainable Pittsburgh. Before coming to Sustainable Pittsburgh, Sidelinger worked to integrate sustainable systems into contract food service at both the elementary and university level. Their passion for nutrition, wellness, and social justice, allowed them to develop impactful sustainability programs that aimed to provide a low impact, nutritionally balanced, and socially equitable meal service.

Sidelinger earned a master's degree in Sustainability and a Master of Business Administration degree from Chatham University. They also earned the LEED GA credential expanding their experience into built spaces.

Sidelinger collaborates with organizations and individuals to drive meaningful systemic change, empowering communities and working toward a sustainable future for all.

Presenter:



John Ukenye, J.D. (he/him)
Senior Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives
Sustainable Pittsburgh

John Ukenye is the Senior Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives at Sustainable Pittsburgh. Originally from Florida, Ukenye has lived in Pittsburgh for the past five years and has become fully immersed in the community. He earned two bachelor's degrees in political science and international relations, as well as a Juris Doctor from Washington University School of Law. In his previous role as the Advocacy and Policy Officer with the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, he interfaced with elected officials and governmental bodies on the local, state, and national level to advocate for the Urban League's policy priorities.