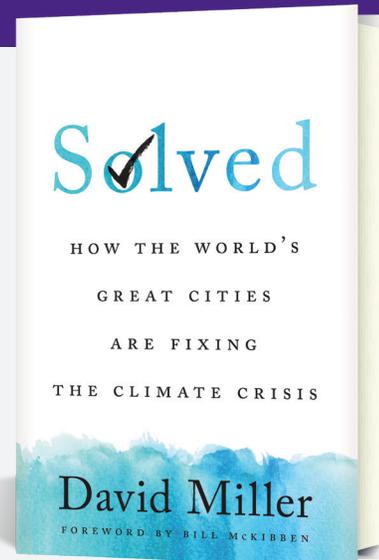


# Solved: How the World's Great Cities Are Fixing the Climate Crisis

By David Miller

*If our planet is going to survive the climate crisis, we need to act rapidly.*

Taking cues from progressive cities around the world, including Los Angeles, New York, Toronto, Oslo, Shenzhen, and Sydney, this book is a summons to every city to make small but significant changes that can drastically reduce our carbon footprint. In *Solved*, David Miller argues that cities are taking action on climate change because they can – and because they must.



ISBN: 9781487506827

\$29.95

Available as an ebook

## Discussion Guide Questions

1. Do you have hope that we can collectively solve a challenge like global climate change? Why or why not?
2. What are some of the barriers to national governments taking enough action to address the climate problem in time to meet targets outlined in the Paris Agreement?
3. Did you know about the leadership of mayors internationally before reading the book? Describe three ways in which mayors are particularly well suited to take meaningful action on climate issues.
4. Which of the initiatives described in *Solved* did you find most inspiring? What actions might you take to mobilize a similar initiative in your community?
5. What are some options for marshaling coordinated global support for the difficult actions needed to address climate change?
6. Of the four major areas in which cities create the majority of the world's greenhouse gas emissions – the generation of electricity, the heating and cooling of buildings, transportation, and solid waste – which do you think is the most challenging in terms of implementing initiatives to lower emissions? Why?
7. Why is it crucial for cities to ensure that social equity is a required element in their overall plans to achieve carbon neutrality?
8. Why is a municipally-owned electric utility a good strategy for combating emissions linked to energy generation?

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9. What is the biggest barrier to retrofitting existing buildings to being energy efficient? What are some strategies for overcoming this barrier?

10. What are some examples of modern passive design that can help new buildings achieve net zero carbon status?

11. Why have the bus rapid transit systems (BRTs) emerged as a particularly successful low-emission transportation strategy all over the world?

12. What are three infrastructure initiatives that can help to drive individual transportation choice towards more low- and no-emission options?

13. What are some of the strategies San Francisco is using to become a zero-waste municipality that can be replicated elsewhere?

14. What signs of climate change do you notice in your own city? What actions do you see your city implementing to address these issues?

15. The epilogue outlines three ways in which every reader can play an active role in helping to solve the climate crisis. In the “Use Your Actions” section, which of the initiatives will you undertake? What are some of the challenges you might encounter in doing so? How will you overcome them?