



Living in our Global City

Election Manifesto

D66 Rotterdam 2022-2026

D66
rotterdam

Introduction: Living in the global city

D66 is a progressive political party. We have been part of the governing coalition in the city council since 2010. We are positive, we think up solutions, we dare to do things and we work hard. We believe people should be free to live their own lives, and we take care of people when they need help: Laat iedereen vrij, maar niemand vallen.

And much has already been done:

- The city centre of Rotterdam has become more beautiful and therefore more tourists come here.
- There are great things happening in Rotterdam for everyone.
- A lot is organised. Last year, for example, there was the Eurovision Song Contest.

But we must do more, because not everything is going well. We have to find solutions to the climate problem and the housing shortage. We must therefore use the space in the city more intelligently and differently. Because Rotterdammers want to live, and they also want to walk, play sports, drink coffee and go to the doctor.

There is also a lot of poverty. It is not right that the chance of a good life is determined by where you are born. Everyone should have the same opportunities and be able to earn enough money. COVID-19 makes everything even more difficult. We have to make sure that this becomes a nice and fun city again.

This election programme contains our plans for Rotterdam. What do we find important?

1. Positive: We believe in every Rotterdammer

D66 believes that people are strong and can achieve a lot. D66 wants to help people do things themselves. We also want to help entrepreneurs. We believe that every Rotterdammer is free to do things their own way. There are always people who break the rules, but we believe that most people are good. That is being positive.

2. Green: Thinking about the future

Our decisions are important for the future.

- Rotterdam must be greener.
- The air must be cleaner.
- We need better houses.
- We want fewer cars in the city centre.
- The port must be cleaner.
- We should throw away less and reuse more.

3. Social: Everyone is equal

There is still a lot of poverty in Rotterdam and many people have debts. It is difficult for these people to find a house they can afford. We also want to help these Rotterdammers and especially the Rotterdam children. It's not right that the chance of a good life is determined by where you are born. Everyone should have the same opportunities.

4. Safe: Safe and free

Not everyone feels safe in Rotterdam. People feel safe when they live in a nice neighbourhood. We want neighbours to meet and get to know each other. People are different, but we are all human beings. There will be consequences if people break the rules, and we want to make sure they don't do it again, but we don't want rules that make other people less free.

5. Reliable: A trusted government

A trusted government is a government that helps in an honest way. D66 wants to keep listening to the people. We find it important that Rotterdammers think along and help. We like to listen to the ideas of others. Rules and laws are important, but D66 always wants to listen to the people.



Allow everybody to be free,
but don't allow for anyone to get left behind.

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1. Climate

The climate is important. We must be clear about what we want to do in Rotterdam. What do we want?

- A CO2-neutral city by 2040.
- Less waste. We want to do this by sharing, renting, reusing and repairing things.
- Cleaner and healthier air.
- More greenery in the city and protection from heat, drought and flooding.

New energy

We must start using energy that we can generate ourselves, for example with solar panels and wind turbines. But we also need to use less energy.

- We support energy efficiency projects of residents and companies.
- We support sustainable ideas throughout the city.
- We do not rule-out any technology, including nuclear energy.

More sustainable buildings

Buildings use a lot of energy. We want to ensure that everyone can live in a good, warm home and not pay too much for energy.

Therefore, we want to give people good information and help to make their homes more sustainable. We are also working on a system that provides heat to residents so that we no longer need gas to heat our homes.

- We want to make about 20,000 houses more sustainable in the coming years.
- We give clear information about how the municipality thinks about energy.
- Rotterdam helps to make neighbourhoods sustainable and gas-free.
- Rotterdam wants to sell the municipal heating corporation (Warmtebedrijf Rotterdam).

More sustainable (air)port

The Port of Rotterdam must be climate neutral by 2040. Climate neutral means that something has no bad effect on nature.

- All coal-fired power stations must close. This is better for the climate and for people.
- Ships moored in the Rotterdam port have to pay money. D66 wants clean ships to pay less and polluting ships to pay more.
- Ships that are lying idle use their generators to generate power. That is bad for the environment and for people. D66 thinks that by 2030, these ships should use energy from the land.
- Rotterdam must invest in green and blue hydrogen. This is important for a sustainable port, but also for the rest of the Netherlands and Europe.
- D66 wants The Hague Airport near Rotterdam to be used for less holiday flights.

Circular economy

The Netherlands must use far fewer raw materials that are taken out of the earth. Those raw materials are running out. We must make things in such a way that there is no waste. D66 wants to make sure that the municipality actually does this. What does D66 want?

- Every owner or manager of a building must make a list of what is in the building.
- Companies should have to pay more for their waste. The money should be used to turn waste into something useful, then we would need to burn less waste.

2. Living

It is difficult for many people to find a good, affordable house. What does D66 want?

- That there will be rules to make houses and neighbourhoods better.
- That you can only buy a house if you are going to live in it yourself.
- That there will be fines for people who charge too much rent or abuse tenants.
- Right now, you can only rent certain houses if you earn enough. This is called the 'income requirement'. We want this requirement to be removed from the law in Rotterdam.
- People should move more quickly from social housing to more expensive housing if they can. That way, other people who need it can move into social housing.

Building in the city

We need to build many more houses in Rotterdam. We want those houses in the city as much as possible so that the greenery around the city will remain. What does D66 want?

- Especially homes for first-time buyers and people on ordinary incomes and we also want enough social housing.
- Many more student rooms.
- We must build smartly. Empty offices should become homes.

Nature and greenery

Nature is good for people and animals. Therefore, there should be more nature in the city. What does D66 want?

- Even more green in the city.
- We want many more different kinds of animals and plants in Rotterdam.
- Allotments take up a lot of space. We want more people to have access to this space.

Waste

Rotterdam must be cleaner. There must be less rubbish on the streets. Rotterdam must collect waste more cleverly and easily. People have to handle their waste better. What does D66 want?

- More money for a cleaner Rotterdam. More rubbish trucks, no full street-containers and less waste on the streets.
- Tidying up in the neighbourhood. People who leave rubbish on the streets and next to containers should be fined.
- We want to reward people in the neighbourhood if they help to keep a container clean.

3. Social Domain

Education

We want all children in the Netherlands to have equal opportunities. Education must be good at every school. Students should have a healthy and enjoyable time as students. There must be good work for them when they have finished studying. Everyone should be able to continue studying so that they have more opportunities. What does D66 want?

- Healthy food at school for all Rotterdam children. Less unhealthy food in the vicinity of schools.
- Equal opportunities for all. High-school reception classes ('Brugklassen') where everyone is in the same class for the first two years.
- More teachers.
- A quiet place where children can study and get help with their homework.
- Everyone should be able to read and write. We want every child to be able to attend day-care four days a week free of charge. Then they will not have a language deficiency at primary school.
- 1,000 MBO internships in the municipality.

Healthcare and welfare

Everyone should receive good and appropriate care. We want everyone to be able to look after themselves for as long as possible. But some people can't and need help. We must help each other. What does D66 want?

- Youth care must improve so that young people do not get into crime.
- Young people must get help faster if they need it. For this we need to change the system.
- The various care providers must consult each other better, as well as the people who need help and their families and surroundings
- Free accommodation for migrant workers who have no home. We want to make sure that these people go back to their own country in time.
- More general practitioners surgeries, for example.

Poverty and debt

There is still a lot of poverty in Rotterdam and many people are in debt. Many people do not know how to get good help.

We have already done a lot to reduce poverty and debt. But it is still not good enough. Children who grow up in poverty get fewer opportunities in life. As a result, they sometimes end up in poverty again later on. We call this hereditary poverty and we don't want that.

We want to help people pay their debts. Sometimes the municipality can take over the debts or make arrangements with the creditors. The municipality also wants to help solve the problems related to the debts, the causes or the consequences of the debts.

Work and income

Work is more than making money. When you work, you learn something, feel good and get to know other people. We want as many people as possible to work and participate in society. We also want to help people who have not worked for a long time. What does D66 want?

- Rotterdammers have more money left over if they are on welfare and working.
- To help people get a basic, minimum wage job.
- Supervision of temporary employment agencies working with migrant workers.
- Space for social entrepreneurs.

Sports

Sport is healthy. We want everyone to be able to play sports. Rotterdam needs more places where anyone can play sports.

4. The Vibrant City

Art and culture

Art and culture are important for the city, but also for the people. Art is good for your development and for meeting people. We value our Rotterdam artists. Because of the corona crisis, they desperately need our support. What does D66 want?

- Space for artists and cultural activities when new houses are built.
- Space and money for art when government buildings are built, rebuilt or bought.
- Good information about subsidies for (new) artists.
- All children, whether rich or poor, must have access to cultural education.

Hospitality

There are many new and fun places to go out. D66 thinks this is very important. The hospitality industry has had a hard time because of Corona and it is not easy to find a good venue. We want to help the catering industry. What does D66 want?

- Fair permits for entrepreneurs with good ideas, and more variety.
- Thanks to D66, a trial has been conducted with the 'Event scratch card' in various districts. D66 wants to introduce this scratch card structurally throughout the city.
- D66 has ensured that entrepreneurs can submit their ideas to the municipality. The ten best initiatives are allowed to choose when to open and close.

Tourism

More and more tourists are coming to Rotterdam. As a result, there are also more hotels, events, transport and attractions. This is good for the city and the economy, but it also means more crowds. We are doing our best to ensure that the city remains a nice place for everyone.

We learn from other cities and make smart choices about tourism. Tourism is good for employment and enterprise. We want Rotterdam to be known as a unique, green and sustainable city.

Events

Events enable people to meet each other and enjoy culture. D66 wants to help. D66 wants more locations and more individual solutions. There should also be a city events bureau where organisers can ask questions and get help.

Entrepreneurs

Rotterdam has a lot of talent and good entrepreneurs. We want to keep this talent and these entrepreneurs in Rotterdam. This is important for Rotterdam and our economy.

This is why we want less strict rules, good accessibility and a nice city. Rotterdam is very popular because of its port and two universities. We want to keep it that way and we ask companies and entrepreneurs to help us with our sustainable plans.

We want to cooperate with the wider region. That is good for everyone.

Shopping Streets

Shopping streets have become places where we meet. We not only want shops, but also greenery, restaurants, a library or a place for children to play. We want everyone to be able to get to the shops quickly and easily, but in a sustainable way.

We ask shopkeepers and other people to think with us. What can we do with empty shops? D66 wants money for the problem of empty shops. Not just for the centre, but for all shopping areas in the city.

We want an inner city with little traffic, good parking places at the edges of shopping areas and good public transport to the city centre and other shopping areas. That way, the city remains accessible, and it is also pleasant for shopkeepers and their customers.

5. Living together

Safety

Safety is the basis of an open and free society. Therefore, we invest in prevention and enforcement in the neighbourhood. We want Rotterdammers take responsible for safety. Additional measures should ensure that we feel free and not restrict our freedom. What does D66 want?

- Involving people actively in neighbourhood safety.
- Police more dispersed and targeted.
- Fighting organised crime. We want to stop the trafficking and smuggling of drugs. To this end, we want to cooperate better with organisations in the region.
- We don't want homes to be used by criminal organisations for human trafficking or as drug labs, for example. That is why we make agreements with estate agents and local businesses.
- We do not accept street harassment of women and LGBT+ people.
- We provide Rotterdammers with information about online fraud and whatsapp fraud. We hold regular training sessions for this purpose.

Drug Policy

There are far fewer coffeeshops in Rotterdam than there used to be, but more cannabis is being used. By closing coffeeshops, more street trading and nuisance has been created. We find it important that Rotterdammers have the freedom to use soft drugs in a safe way.

Human rights, discrimination, emancipation and diversity

Every Rotterdammer has the right to feel free and to be themselves. We must act together against discrimination and racism. Everyone counts and we should all get equal opportunities. Local government and the business community must set a good example. What does D66 want?

- Next year marks the 150th anniversary of the end of slavery. We want Rotterdam to commemorate this, for example at Keti Koti. Everyone is welcome to think along.

- Continuous education and training in the Police-force.
- We want to work together with restaurant and bar owners, security-guards, the police, 'Radar' and youth organisations to combat discrimination in nightlife.
- We want no discrimination in the housing market.
- Diversity in a board is good. We want to pay attention to that when we hire people.
- Public buildings and spaces, such as parks and squares, should be accessible and safe for people with disabilities.

New in Rotterdam

We must help people who have fled from conflict. It is important that they learn Dutch quickly and get to know people. Then they will soon feel at home. We want to help the new Dutch citizens with this. Municipalities could decide more themselves in this respect. This would allow us to invest more in the combination of language and participation. We want Rotterdam to think along with us about the reception of new Dutch citizens.

6. Mobility

Pedestrians, cyclists, cars and shared transport

When it comes to mobility, safety, sustainability and accessibility are very important to us. There is not much space and there are more and more people in the city. That is why we focus mainly on cycling, public transport, shared transport (the sharing of vehicles) and walking. The car will be a guest in the city. We want to organise the city in such a way that everyone can reach all important facilities within fifteen minutes by foot or bicycle.

Public transportation

We want the people of Rotterdam to use public transport more often. Therefore we invest in new connections and better use of existing connections.

D66 wants a metro and bicycle tunnel at the new tunnel between Feyenoord and Kralingen. The metro can transport the most people in the future. The bicycle connection shows that Rotterdam opts for clean and green. This solution also takes up less space than a car connection.

We want to build a new metro station at Waalhaven-Zuid with a large car park. Slinge station could be made more attractive. By building houses and limiting car traffic, the area around Zuidwijk and Pendrecht will become a nicer area.

Traffic safety and nuisance

We want to pay much more attention to traffic safety. And we want to do something about traffic nuisance. There are fewer accidents and it is nicer in the city when people are not driving so fast. That's why we want a maximum speed of 30 kilometres per hour, just like in other big cities.

Research shows that there are fewer accidents with scooters when they drive on the road. As a result, there are also fewer accidents with cyclists. We want to introduce this measure in Rotterdam.

Because we are ordering more and more online, there is more nuisance from delivery vans. We want to solve this by designating areas where these vans can park while the packages are being delivered.

7. City Council

We want to work with 39 district councils. This will give each neighbourhood and its residents more influence. We think it is important that as many Rotterdammers as possible can participate in discussions and decisions about their own neighbourhood.

We believe that the city administration

- must have confidence in the Rotterdammer.
- make the laws simpler.
- should pay more attention to the people affected by a law.

We want clear governance and clear policies.

Participation

The city council must listen to the ideas of its residents. The city council must listen to all residents, including young people, women and Rotterdammers who were not born in the Netherlands. Ideas from residents are sometimes better than ideas thought up by politicians.

We want every district to have its own budget with which the residents can make their own neighbourhood greener, more social or healthier.

Digitisation, privacy and media

Many people find the website of the municipality of Rotterdam confusing, which is why we want to create an app with which residents can arrange everything themselves. Of course, privacy is important and we are also thinking of people who are less digitally literate.

We are creating one app that residents can use to report things and look up information. The app is easy to use, also for people who don't read Dutch very well. If you don't want to use the app, you can also call the municipality, use the website or drop by a service-desk.

Journalists of local media look at what local politics and public administration do. We want journalists to be able to do their work

safely at all times. We also want everyone to have access to the news in the (local) media. Together with libraries, we are looking at giving people free access to the media.

Finance

Rotterdam is doing very well financially and we are proud of that. We are doing our best to keep it that way. Many things are determined by law. We want to invest the most money in the climate, the housing market, culture and the social domain. What does D66 want?

- Nationally, it is being investigated how much extra money municipalities need for youth care. When this research is finished, we will do our best to get extra money for Rotterdam.
- We want to make street parking more expensive. We also want a second parking permit to become more expensive. We want paid parking within the entire ring road (the highways A4, A20, A16, A15).
- We want to increase the tourist-tax you pay to stay in Rotterdam from 6.5% to 7.0%.
- Everyone with the state pension (AOW) can now travel for free on public transport in Rotterdam. We want this to apply only to people with a low pension. We want to reinvest the money saved so that children up to 12 years old from families with a lower income can travel on public transport for free.

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