

Climate Smart Communities Overview

Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, New York

January 17, 2020

What is Climate Smart Communities (CSC)?

- ❖ A NY State-wide program that helps local governments take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate
- Registered communities make a commitment to act by passing the CSC pledge
- ❖ Certified communities are the foremost leaders in the state; they go beyond the CSC pledge by completing and documenting a suite of actions (Pledge Elements) that mitigate and adapt to climate change at the local level

Why Become a CSC Certified Community?

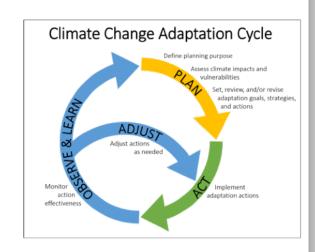
- Opportunity to apply for grants only available for CSC certified communities
- Save taxpayer dollars (more funding available for higher certification levels)
- Advance community goals for health and safety and quality of life
- Promote Village economic vitality and energy independence
- Free guidance and technical assistance
- Potential to receive rebates for electric vehicles



What Does a CSC Community Look Like?

Characteristics of a well-adapted community

- Comprehensive climate-change-informed planning process
- Mainstreaming climate considerations into existing decision making process
- GHG reduction policies
- Neighborhood-scale capacity-building efforts
- Creative use of existing regulatory powers
- Systematic monitoring and evaluation process



The 10 Required CSC Pledge Element Categories

- 1. Build a Climate Smart Community
- 2. Inventory emissions, set goals and plan for climate action
- 3. Decrease energy use
- 4. Shift to clean renewable energy
- 5. Use climate-smart materials management
- 6. Implement climate-smart land use

- 7. Enhance community resilience to climate change
- 8. Support a green innovation economy
- 9. Inform and educate the public
- 10. Engage in an evolving process of climate action
- 11. Innovation
- 12. Performance

ICLEI* Tools to Facilitate CSC Certification





Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool



Vulnerability Assessment Tool



*International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives

CSC Hastings-on-Hudson Certification Timeline

- ❖ June 3rd, 2010: Hastings becomes one of the first villages or towns to pledge to become a Climate Smart Community
- September 3rd, 2019: Resolution passed for formation of the Hastings CSC Task Force
- ❖ January 10th, 2020: Application submitted for Bronze Certification
- July 3rd, 2020: Planned application submission for Silver Certification

Bronze Certification



Certification Criteria

	Bronze	Silver
Mandatory Actions	2	2
Priority Actions	3	6
Points	120	300
Pledge Elements	4	7

HoH Bronze Submission (Pending Review)



- Mandatory
 - Establish a CSC Task Force
 - Appoint a CSC Coordinator
- Priority Actions
 - Community GHG Inventory
 - o Government Building Energy Audits
 - Alternative-fuel Infrastructure
 - Complete Streets Policy
 - Green Building Standard for Government Buildings

^{*}All action documentation is available for public viewing after an action is approved.

Complete List Bronze Initiatives

CSC Task Force Comprehensive Plan with Sustainability Elements* **Community Choice Aggregation** Community GHG Inventory* Government Building Energy Audits* **Climate Smart Community Coordinator LED Streetlights** Residential Organic Waste Program* **Develop a Local Forestry or Tree Planting Project or Program Preserve Natural Areas Through Zoning or Other Regulations Incorporate Smart Growth Principles into Land-use Policies and** Regulations

Complete Streets Policy

Brownfield Clean-up & Redevelopment Alternative-fuel Infrastructure Green Building Standard for Government Buildings Unified Solar Permit Solarize, Clean Heating & Cooling, or Solar for All **Campaign CSC Resolution Energy Benchmarking for Government Buildings Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy Fleet Inventory Renewable Energy Feasibility Studies**

^{*} One of the actions garnering the most points

Bronze Initiatives, cont.

Conservation of Natural Habitats*

National/Regional Climate Program

Partnerships with Other Entities

LED Traffic Signals

Recycling Bins in Government Buildings

Recycling Program for Public Places & Events

Organic Waste Program for Government Buildings

Planning & Infrastructure for Bicycling & Walking

Safe Route To School Program

Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates

Farmers' Markets

Climate-related Public Events

Social Media

New Innovative Actions

Construction & Demolition Waste Policy

Waste Reduction Education Campaign

Compost Bins for Residents

Buy Local/Buy Green Campaign

WasteWise Program

Adopt and Enforce an Anti-Idling Ordinance

Restoration of Floodplains & Riparian Buffers

Completed 43 Actions for a Total of 249 Points

Bronze Actions Garnering the Most Points

- 1. Government Building Energy Audit (16 points)
- 2. Alternative Fuel Infrastructure (6 points)
- 3. Fleet Inventory (4 points)
- 4. Safe Routes to School Program (3 points)
- 5. LED Traffic Signals (3 points)

Silver Certification

Silver Submission Draft Plan (17 Actions)

Government Operations GHG Inventory*		
Green Building Standard for Gov Buildings		
Energy Code Enforcement Training		
Interior Lighting Upgrades		
Advanced Vehicles		
HVAC Upgrades		
Government Solid Waste Audit		
Resource Recovery Center		
Planning & Infrastructure for Bicycling & Walking		
Natural Resources Inventory*		
Shade Structures Policy		
Green Procurement Policy		

Heat Emergency Plan Climate Vulnerability Assessment* Green Vendor Fairs Local Climate Action Website **Energy Reduction Campaign** Climate Change Education & Engagement* **New Innovative Actions** Innovative Approaches to Existing CSC Actions Adopt an Anti-Idling Ordinance Adopt the New York Stretch Energy Code Adopt the Open C-Pace law

*Priority Items

Total: 100-138 points