



Board of Trustees Climate Smart Communities Update Report

October 3rd, 2023

Overview

CSC Silver Certification & CEC Achievements

Success Headlines and Highlights

- ❧ Build a Climate Smart Community (PE1)
- ❧ Decrease Energy Use (PE3)
- ❧ Climate Smart Materials Management (PE5)
- ❧ Climate Smart Land Use (PE6)
- ❧ Community Resilience to Climate Change (PE7)
- ❧ Green Innovation Economy / Inform and Inspire the Public (PE8 & PE9)

Next Actions

Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Silver Certification & Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Achievements



- ❧ **2023 Silver Re-certification:** Approved for 72 actions (out of 116) in 11 pledge elements (out of 12) that each help build a sustainable future for Hastings-on-Hudson. Currently we are one of only ten silver-certified CSC communities, and one of only two silver-level Villages in New York State.
- ❧ **449 CSC points:** the highest number of points of any municipality in New York State.
- ❧ **Among CEC Leaders:** 7,100 pts, 20 Actions completed + 4 Community Campaigns (currently Croton-on-Hudson and Bedford are ranked higher than us).

Thanks to our CSC Task Force, our Mayor, our professional and committed Village staff, our Conservation Commission, and all the citizen representatives who volunteered their time to help make this happen!

PE 1: Build a Climate Smart Community



Policy Change

- ☞ Reappointed CSC Task Force & CSC Coordinators via resolution of the Board of Trustees.

On the Ground Change

- ☞ Continued participation in national and regional climate programs (e.g. ICLEI & Climate Mayors).
- ☞ Continued partnerships with Sustainable Westchester on community campaigns (e.g. GridRewards).

Institutionalize Change

- ☞ CSC TF includes representation from other Boards & Commissions, webpage is regularly updated.

PE 3: Decrease Energy Use

Policy Change

- ✧ Reaffirmed commitment to *Green Fleet Policy* and *Green Procurement Policy*.

On the Ground Change

- ✧ Continued purchase of electric vehicles for municipal fleet.
- ✧ Implemented clean energy upgrades (signed up municipal meters for community solar).

Institutionalize Change

- ✧ Updated Fleet Inventory and continued energy benchmarking of municipal buildings.
- ✧ Provided Building Department with Energy Code Enforcement Training.

PE 5: Use Climate Smart Materials Management

Policy Change

- ✧ Continued policy of organic waste recycling in government buildings.

On the Ground Change

- ✧ Opened Take it or Leave it Shed and held several Repair Cafés.
- ✧ Improved food waste drop-off at DPW site and continued residential curbside food waste collection program through Hudson Compost Service.

Institutionalize Change

- ✧ Conducted waste reduction education campaign (on facebook), continued recycling programs in public spaces and during public events, documented efforts on Village website.

PE 6: Implement Climate Smart Land Use



Policy Change

- ☞ Documented implementation of *Complete Streets Policy* and *Master Bike Plan*.

On the Ground Change

- ☞ Improved commuters stairway, replaced sidewalks (downtown, Chemka Pool Road and Ravensdale Bridge), instituted traffic calming initiatives, added bike lanes, studied village-wide speed reduction.
- ☞ Expanded alternative fuel infrastructure (municipal EV charging) at Village Hall.

Institutionalize Change

- ☞ Safe Routes to School Committee (SRTS) continues to meet and make recommendations, SRTS website updated to document implementation efforts.

PE 7: Community Resiliency to Climate Change

Policy Change

- ☞ Adopted *Hazard Mitigation Plan* (County-led initiative).
- ☞ Reaffirmed commitment to *Shade Structure Policy*.

On the Ground Change

- ☞ Promoted Village cooling center (at JHCC).
- ☞ Implemented green infrastructure (green roof on pool building).

Institutionalize Change

- ☞ Updated Village web site with key information.

PE 8/9/10: Green Innovation Economy/ Inform and Inspire the Public

Policy Change

- ☞ Documented requirements for two community campaigns: EV and Clean Heating and Cooling campaigns and new Certificate of Completion for brownfield clean-up.

On the Ground Change

- ☞ Held green vendor fair (*Spring Thing!*), promoted “buy-local” and supported Farmers’ Market.

Institutionalize Change

- ☞ Held webinars and events to educate residents about climate change (e.g. CAP workshops) and energy reduction initiatives (e.g. community campaigns), and promoted climate actions on social media and on Village website.
- ☞ Prepared Annual Progress Report on CSC achievements (posted on Village website).

Partnerships

We have ongoing partnerships with:

- ✧ ICLEI, Sustainable Westchester & Hudson Valley Regional Council
- ✧ Climate Mayors & We Are Still In
- ✧ Electrification Coalition
- ✧ Hudson Compost Services
- ✧ Repair Café & Take it or Leave It Shed Team
- ✧ Saw Mill Waterway Advisory Board & Saw Mill River Coalition
- ✧ Climate Action Planning Institute (CAPI)



Next Steps: Ongoing and Future CSC Actions



- ✧ Government Operations GHG Inventory (with CAPI; completed)
- ✧ Municipal Climate Action Plan (with CAPI; ongoing)
- ✧ Community Climate Action Plan (almost completed)
- ✧ Climate Adaptation Plan (almost completed)
- ✧ Comprehensive Plan with Sustainability Elements (almost completed)
- ✧ Performance

Special Thanks!

CSC Task Force

- ☞ Lisa Liquori
- ☞ Beth Haddock
- ☞ John Halpin
- ☞ Susanne Forsingdal
- ☞ Kai MacMahon
- ☞ Haven Colgate
- ☞ Charlie Shipman
- ☞ Spencer Weart
- ☞ Anthony Costantini – CSC Coordinator
- ☞ Ray Hyland
- ☞ Mary Beth Murphy – CSC Coordinator
- ☞ Lauren Mathews Ide
- ☞ Kerry Price
- ☞ Trustee Mary Lambert – Board Liaison
- ☞ Eric Fleishman

- Mayor and Board of Trustees
- Village Staff
- Conservation Commission
- Zero Waste Advisory Team
- Parks & Recreation Commission
- Beautification Committee
- Pollinator Pathways Organization
- Hillside Woods Steering Committee
- Hudson Compost Services
- Hastings Repair Café