

AGENDA
NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASKFORCE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 27TH, 2023, 5:15 PM

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, July 27th, 2023 at 5:15 PM to on Zoom (see link at end of agenda) to discuss the following items:

1. New membership
 - a. Doug Hausladen, Ginger Chapman, and Lee Osorio have officially been added to the CETF!
 - b. If you have anyone else in mind, please let us know.
2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff
 - a. [E-Bike CHEAPR Rebate](#)
 - i. DEEP receive 1,200 applications in the first few hours. The application period was closed after 10 days. DEEP has not disclosed how many applications were received or when vouchers will be awarded.
 - ii. 22 [bicycle shops participating](#) in the program. 42 [eligible bicycles](#).
 - iii. OCS staff visited environmental justice neighborhood management teams ahead of the program launch and during the application window.
 - b. Working on applications to state incentive program to install new solar arrays on landfill, City and school buildings
 - i. OCS staff is working with Finance, Engineering, and Greenskies Clean Energy on submissions for the landfill, 2 (or potentially 5) school parking lots, the Q House, and 200 Wintergreen (NHPD facility)
 1. Deadline for solar submissions in the state's Nonresidential Renewable Energy Solutions program is August 1st.
 - c. Outreach campaign for I Heart My Home with 2 Youth @ Work interns is underway
 - i. The Climate Taskforce used its remaining budget to fund I Heart My Home energy counseling for New Haven households.
 - ii. Max, Steve, James and Mlbebinge (the two Youth @ Work interns), and Amelia (Yale President's Public Service Fellow) have canvassed Newhallville and Amity, with a focus on homeowners and owner-occupied 2-4 families in Newhallville.
 - iii. In the first two weeks, we have canvassed 1066 addresses and enrolled 28 households on the doors.
 - d. Green STEP high school energy efficiency and green construction program concluding this week
 - i. Roughly 100 students enrolled, and just under half are from New Haven
 - ii. Students receiving introductory classes and certifications on LEED design, healthy homes, building science performance and analysis, blower door tests, and healthy homes
 - e. Grants

- i. OCS assisted the City's small contractor development program and Earth Forward Group in submitting an application in partnership with New Haven Regional Contractors' Alliance, JUNTA, and Emerge to the Department of Energy's Buildings Upgrade prize program.
 - 1. The grant would fund small contractor training in building performance assessment, heat pump sizing and installation, health and safety barriers to energy efficiency, and building envelope improvements. The grant would also fund community engagement and education regarding energy efficiency and electrification benefits and rebates in the Fair Haven neighborhood. With these two approaches, the project aims to create a replicable model building evaluation and energy efficiency/electrification improvements.
 - ii. The Recycling Education and Outreach grant (in partnership with the Health Department) and Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling grant (in partnership with West Haven) have been moved to the Merit Review process of the EPA review.
 - f. Shellfish recycling: under development
 - i. OCS is partnering with [Collective Oyster Recycling & Restoration](#) (CORR) to rescue shellfish shells (oyster, clam, etc.) from local restaurants to be reused for the restoration of oyster reefs. Outreach to restaurants has begun.
 - 1. CORR has lease a site in East Haven
 - 2. Shell and Bones plans to participate. Il Gabbiano is interested in participating.
3. Discussion Items:
 - a. Incentivizing energy efficiency and electrification through rebates
 - i. Some cities and towns have used federal funding from the American Rescue Plan to provide rebates for energy efficiency and electrification as a form of economic assistance. South Portland, Maine's [Electrify Everything](#) rebate program is one good example, offering rebates of \$1,200 for an air source heat pump, \$400 for a hot water heat pump, and \$100 for an air sealing energy assessment. Do we think this would be an effective strategy for New Haven? Should rebates be open to all or income-based? Or both open to all and increased for low- and moderate-income households? What would meaningful incentive levels be for heat pumps, water heaters, and insulation?
 - b. Linda shared a link to a [Union of Concerned Scientists report on diesel emissions in Connecticut](#), which are especially high in New Haven given the interstate corridors. Most of these emissions come from medium and heavy duty vehicles. The [legislature authorized DEEP to adopt California's emissions standards](#) for medium and heavy duty vehicles. Professor [Douglass Brugge at UCONN](#) has studied air quality impacts of highways.
 - i. What funding opportunities or partners could we engage to study or address this issue? Is there interest in addressing this through the Taskforce budget this year (e.g. through a vehicle purchase or funding charging station installations to power future vehicles)?

- c. Continuation of discussion of energy grading as a strategy for increasing participation in energy efficiency with renters and landlords.
 - i. Steve and Melissa met with DEEP about this idea. If an energy label was made available publicly and landlords were allowed to revise it, there was concern about landlords making revisions that couldn't be verified. DEEP is updating their agreement with Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships and may try to pilot some form of energy labeling, which we could participate in.

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