AGENDA

NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASK FORCE

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28th, 2024, 5:15 PM

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, August 28th, 2024 at 5:15 PM on Zoom (see link at end of agenda) to discuss the following items:

- 1. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting (7/24). A majority of the CETF (6 of 11 members) constitutes a quorum.
- 2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff:
 - a. Community Change Grant
 - i. The grant application was submitted August 11th! The EPA technical assistance provider said that typically applicants hear back from EPA with a decision in 2-3 weeks (i.e. August 25th-September 1st).

b. I Heart My Home

i. Outreach & canvassing campaign continues with our Youth @ Work intern Lulu (returning champion) and the mailer that was sent in early July. Enrollment jumped due to the mailer from 227 participants (122 income-eligible) having enrolled and received I Heart My Home consultations to 294 participants (162 income eligible) enrolled and received consultations. 40 participants (21 income-eligible) have received energy assessments in that time, and 2 more participants (0 income-eligible) have assessments scheduled. Some participants are part of multi-families, bringing the total number of units receiving consultations to 443 (273 income-eligible units). Numbers as of 8/23.

- 1. We are still looking for another part-time canvasser! Please help us spread the word of this great, \$22/hr opportunity.
- c. EPA Government-to-Government Environmental Justice Grant: We are processing subawards for Junta, NHS, Community Action Agency of New Haven, and Yale School of medicine. We have submitted a data quality assurance plan to EPA for approval.
- d. USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant: we have designed graphics for Bigbelly containers and are working on ordering 4 units. We have identified a food scrap hauler and are processing subaward agreements for Haven's Harvest and Center for Ecotechnology.
- e. EPA <u>Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program</u> Implementation Grants. We have executed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Parking and Housing Authorities, defining roles and responsibilities. We have begun award negotiations with EPA and have brought on a technical consultant using \$13,500 in funds approved by the CETF.
- f. Shellfish shell recycling program: no update.
- g. Solar installations: no update.
- h. Styrofoam enforcement: OCS reached out to the New Haven Health Department to begin issuing verbal warnings to businesses in violation of the Styrofoam ordinance.
- i. Housing Authority: No update.
- j. Electric leaf blower and grass trimmer: Parks has continued utilizing the blower and trimmer in limited applications at Lighthouse Point Park. Deputy Director Stephen Hladun expressed interest in the idea of purchasing smaller batteries for the unit.
- k. Purchase of bicycles for school-based bicycle education program:
 Bicycles and helmets have been purchased and delivered. New
 Haven Public School physical education teachers will be trained on
 Monday August 26th on how provide bicycle education to students.

3. Discussion Items:

- a. Last year's activities focused on funding for energy efficiency services to residents through \$35,000 funding for I Heart My Home, with remaining funds utilized for continuing to support Climate Justice Schools, the Clean Cooktops induction countertop stove campaign, and the electric leaf blower and trimmer for the Parks Department.
- b. The CETF recently allocated funding for bicycle education, Climate Justice Schools, and technical assistance for the geothermal project. Depending on actual expenditures, there may be funding remaining to commit to these activities or new activities.
- c. What additional policy priorities does the CETF want to focus on this year?
 - i. Reviewing the 2021 greenhouse gas inventory (summary slides attached), transportation-related emissions are a quarter of the City's emissions. CETF had previously made a skeleton of a plan to reduce transportation-related emissions (attached), including mode shift, micromobility, EV charging standards for new construction, and goals for curbside and DC fast charging infrastructure. OCS also has some regional background research from work last year with NREL. Is there interest in resuming part or all of this work?

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