

## MINUTES

### NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASKFORCE

#### REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 5:15 PM

Members Present: Alder Adam Marchand, Alder Carmen Rodriguez, Ginger Chapman, Kai Addae, Melissa Kops, Doug Hausladen

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 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 two meetings (5/22 and 4/24). A majority of the CETF (6 of 10 members) constitutes a quorum. ***Minutes Approved.***
2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff:
  - a. Community Change Grant
    - i. Working groups are having their next convening on the evening of June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Canal Dock Boathouse from 6-8 PM. They will be presenting on their proposals for the grant. Join us! Let OCS know that you're coming, if you're not already involved.
    - ii. ***Background:*** The City and six community-based orgs are collaborating on a proposal for the [EPA Climate and Environmental Justice Community Change grant program](#), aimed at funding community-driven solutions to climate change and air pollution. This is a competitive grant program with funding level of up to \$20 million.
      1. The City of New Haven Office of Climate and Sustainability will serve as the Lead Partner, and Greater Dwight Development Corporation will be the required Statutory Partner. Joined by St. Luke's Development Corporation, the Newhallville Community Services Development Corporation, Community Action Agency of

New Haven, Neighborhood Housing Services, Junta for Progressive Action, and Beulah Land Development Corporation.

2. This is open-ended by design, but proposals must fit into one of eight Climate Pollution Reduction strategies and four Air Pollution Reduction strategies (see [page 3 of this link](#)).
  - iii. The timeline for the grant has been truncated on the advice of the EPA. We are now aiming for a July 15<sup>th</sup> submission.
  - iv. [Additional Updates planned, will be finalized after June 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting]
- b. I Heart My Home
- i. Outreach & canvassing campaign has picked up steam with the addition of our Yale PPSF fellow Arinze Agu, our two Youth @ Work interns Lulu (returning champion) and Leslie, and our new part-time canvasser Sayantan Ghoshray. Since canvassing began, 149 participants (76 income-eligible) have enrolled and received I Heart My Home consultations. 32 participants (20 income-eligible) have received energy assessments in that time, and 12 more participants (3 income-eligible) have assessments scheduled. Some participants are part of multi-families, bringing the total number of units receiving consultations to 213 (108 income-eligible units). Numbers as of 6/21.
    1. We are still looking for another part-time canvasser! Please help us spread the word of this great, \$22/hr opportunity.
    - ii. We will be sending out a letter from the Mayor endorsing I Heart My Home at some point in the next month! This letter will be sent to nearly 7,000 owner-occupied, 1-4 family homes in the City's disadvantaged communities (as defined by [CJEST](#)).
- c. Healthy Homes, Clean Cooktops project is complete, and the students' report has been shared with OCS. We will provide a

summary of their findings at this meeting. We've also received the purifiers and replacement filters that CETF paid for, and will be delivering them to the six participants over this week and next week.

- d. EPA [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program](#) – Implementation Grants. Application submitted of 4/1! We ended up applying for \$9.5 million in funding for a networked geothermal system serving Union Station and the 1,000-unit Housing Authority development planned for across the street. The Board of Alders approved this application. The EPA has indicated that they expect to notify applicants of selections in July.
  - i. Because the City submitted the application in partnership with the Housing Authority and Parking Authority, we are required to submit a Memorandum of Agreement that details the involvement of the Housing Authority. We are working with them on that now.
- e. Shellfish shell recycling program: We received an update from Tim Macklin at Collective Oyster Recycling & Restoration (CORR). Collecting from Shell & Bones, Fair Haven Oyster Co, Cast Iron Chef, and Atelier Florian, CORR has collected over 6,425 pounds / 3.2 tons since they started recycling shells in New Haven (on 7/31/23)!
- a. EPA Government-to-Government grant. OCS is continuing final budget negotiations with EPA. We have received approval for a sole-source contract with Yale's Pollitt Lab for air quality monitoring, so now legal is reviewing the partnership documents. Progress!
- b. Solar installations. An application for development permit for the landfill project has been submitted to City Plan and will be heard at the next meeting on June 26. Geotechnical work has been completed for the parking canopies.
- c. Styrofoam enforcement: No update for this month.
- d. Housing Authority: Has not yet completed their inventory of the mechanical systems in their portfolio buildings.
- e. Electric leaf blower and grass trimmer: Parks has been utilizing the blower and trimmer in limited applications at Lighthouse Point Park.

**3. Discussion Items:**

a. **Proposed Motion:** *The Climate Emergency Taskforce authorizes using up to \$30,000 from its 2025 fiscal year budget to purchase bicycles for a bicycle education program serving New Haven students. The program plans to partner with New Haven Public Schools to serve 10 NHPS schools during the school year and with New Haven Coalition Coalition for Active Transportation to serve more students over the summer. **Motion Approved.***

- i. The estimate of \$ below would support 10 schools' participation in the full 5-class curriculum. Each class can support up to 50 students, meaning that up to 500 students can participate across the 10 schools.
- ii. OCS met with Joel LaChance, Erik Patchkofsky (Physical Education, Health, and Athletics Director), Doug Hausladen, and members of the New Haven Coalition for Active Transportation (NCAT) to go over what we're proposing and gather feedback. We have revised the budget below according to that discussion.
  - 1. *Revisions:* NHPS Physical Education program plans to cover the moving the storage container from school to school, bike assembly and delivery costs are included in the cost up to \$15,000 listed below, and doubled the number of helmets according to NCAT on advice that a range of helmet sizes should be provided.
  - 2. The City would retain ownership of the bicycles and would sign MOUs with NHPS for maintenance and use during the school year and with NCAT for maintenance and use during the summer when school is out of session.

Item	Number of Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost (Not to Exceed)
Bicycles (including assembly, delivery)	50	\$ 300	\$ 15,000

Helmets	100	\$ 30	\$ 3,000
Hair Nets/Caps	100	\$ 5	\$ 500
Storage Container and Outfitting of Container for Bicycles	1		\$ 4,750
Cost of Technician	5 classes per school, 10 schools = 50	\$ 150	\$ 7,500
			\$ 30,750

Zoom URL:

<https://newhavenct.zoom.us/j/81636568989?pwd=J8ulc3aZ5FsJLg6fSdR3jUkBB1IOWR.1&from=addon>

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