

## AGENDA

### NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASK FORCE

#### REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 5:15 PM

Present: Linda Reeder, Melissa Kops, Doug Hausladen, Jeremy Schulick, Cameron Kritikos, Florestine Taylor, Alder Carmen Rodriguez, Alder Adam Marchand, Virginia Chapman, Steven Winter (non-member)

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, August 28<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 meeting (7/24). A majority of the CETF (6 of 11 members) constitutes a quorum.
  - a. *Doug Hausladen moved the item. Ginger Chapman seconded. Approved unanimously except for Melissa Kops who abstained.*
2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff:
  - a. Community Change Grant
    - i. The grant application was submitted August 11<sup>th</sup>! The EPA technical assistance provider said that typically applicants hear back from EPA with a decision in 2-3 weeks (i.e. August 25<sup>th</sup>-September 1<sup>st</sup>).
  - 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 [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program](#) – 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. Ginger: How is that being done?
    1. Visited 500 restaurants
    2. 1-200 violations
    3. Carmen: Brian and Mark – long wharf vendors have been educated;
    4. Process is education, verbal warning, written warning, fines
    5. Carmen: I will follow up with Brian and Mark
- 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 26<sup>th</sup> on how provide bicycle education to students.
  - i. *Steven Winter: the Physical Education department needs to hire someone part-time to help deliver bike education*
  - ii. *Doug Hausladen: I can share some pictures of the training for the Physical Education staff. 80 teachers attended. Teachers had a 6 day curriculum, copied from Washington DC.*

### 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?

- ii. *Steven Winter: There may be funds left over due to actual spending versus the bike budget education.*
- iii. *Doug Hausladen: We should update the GHG inventory.*
- iv. *Linda Reeder: There is air quality monitoring happening – this is important. Are there ways we could support air quality monitoring?*
- v. *Steven Winter: We can ask Giovanni about that. Krystal Pollitt said 2-3 dozen would be sufficient*
- vi. *Ginger Chapman: Is the idea that we measure and then we can manage? Could we include free bus passes?*
- vii. *Florestine: Are people in the community aware of this?*
- viii. *Steven Winter: We could include state policy changes, like free fares.*
- ix. *Florestine Taylor: I've never driven and I only take transit; I'd like to be involved in this.*
- x. *Steven Winter: The taskforce could advocate for this or push for the BOA to adopt.*
- xi. *Jeremy Schulick: EV readiness zoning ordinance to prepare for electric vehicle charging stations; it's low hanging fruit and it's cheaper to build in rather than retrofit*
- xii. *Florestine Taylor: University Towers is working on EV charging*
- xiii. *Linda Reeder: State legislation requires new developments to have chargers; we need public on street charging stations.*
- xiv. *Steve Winter: on street charging requires new parking regulations; is there a role for accessible off street charging?*
- xv. *Cameron Kritikos: avoid, shift, improve – I'd be interested in having a policy priority to address Citywide zoning – minimum parking requirements, minimum lot and unit size mandates*
- xvi. *Doug Hausladen: Guiding document for the taskforce is 2018 framework; I'd like to see an update for this to meet our 2030 goal.*

- xvii. *Jeremy Schulick: The state did receive Charging and Fueling Infrastructure funding for DC charging.*
- xviii. *Linda Reeder: Is there a regional approach for land use, housing development, and transportation?*
- xix. *Doug Winter: We could put together an open streets event – shut down Olive and Grove and make the Farmington Canal complete; we could host a climate event to celebrate this milestone.*
- xx. *Florestine Taylor: focus on getting people out of cars*
- xxi. *Steven Winter: We could focus on transportation alternatives.*
- xxii. *Doug Hausladen: Mitigation strategies and living with rain storms – there is raw sewage in Temple St parking garage. We could promote water conservation during rain storms given the 10 million gallon capacity at the waste water treatment plant.*
- xxiii. *Latha Swamy: The eBike program is back*  
*([https://portal.ct.gov/deep/air/mobile-sources/cheapr/electric-bicycles?fbclid=IwAR3r\\_1dZAIz89-lsw9qycOxyJqPvNXAif8aeVFwKSwLrpPTPCuuliqN0rDU](https://portal.ct.gov/deep/air/mobile-sources/cheapr/electric-bicycles?fbclid=IwAR3r_1dZAIz89-lsw9qycOxyJqPvNXAif8aeVFwKSwLrpPTPCuuliqN0rDU))*
- xxiv. *Steven Winter: I will ask engineering about air quality monitoring.*
- xxv. *Latha Swamy: EV readiness should be approached with equity lens; the New York plan was/is a good reference.*
- xxvi. *Melissa Kops: We should focus on identifying the neighborhoods that need transportation alternatives and pushing focus to areas that need it the most.*
- xxvii. *Latha Swamy: We could also focus on messaging; using neighborhood pilots to increase interest and awareness; bringing in programs from other towns.*
- xxviii. *Steven Winter: New London's parking authority partnered with school system to put in charging stations in school parking lots.*
- xxix. *Steven Winter: We can look into transportation alternatives and EV charging at the neighborhood scale.*

*xxx. Melissa Kops: We should have air quality monitors at the schools.*

Zoom URL:

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