

# Climate Smart Communities – Capital Region Custom Service Strategy for Albany November 2012

**IN-PERSON CONSULTATION DATE:** November 8, 2012

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Doug Melnick – Director of Planning, Department of Development and Planning  
Kate Lawrence – Planner, Department of Development and Planning

**CSC REGIONAL COORDINATOR SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Todd Fabozzi, CDRPC  
Angela Vincent, VHB

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**CLIMATE PROTECTION PRIORITIES**

1. Prioritize climate protection and sustainability actions
2. Tracking progress of climate protection actions in the Climate Action Plan
3. Update existing GHG Emissions Inventory and attend a training on how to update the inventory annually
4. Expand on existing and/or create new Green Business Certification/Challenge Program
5. Facilitate meetings with the largest energy consumers in the City
6. Meet with NYSERDA and National Grid to develop comprehensive benefits/incentive package

**CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOMMENDATION**

Develop a Green Business Challenge or Certification Program to engage the businesses in Albany in the City’s climate protection and sustainability efforts.

**CLIMATE PROTECTION ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED**

The City of Albany has made significant progress in engaging the business sector in “going green”. However, the City would like to more formally engage the commercial sector in these efforts and to boost economic development, particularly in downtown.

**PLEDGE ELEMENT TO BE ADDRESSED**

*Pledge Element 8: Support a Green Innovation Economy*

**POTENTIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND FINAL DELIVERABLES**

**Resources:**

- Existing program within the City and other Green Business Challenges and Certification Programs throughout the state and country
- Meetings with the LDC and Economic Development Department
- Discussions with Capital District Community Loan Fund
- Inventory of types of businesses in the City
- ICLEI Green Office/ Business Challenge Guidebook

**Deliverables:**

Guide to starting a Green Business Challenge or Certification Program with related marketing and outreach support materials.

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**TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION OF STRATEGY**

TASK	WHO	COMPLETED BY
Create an inventory of the types of businesses in the City	Charlie Russo (VHB)	January 11, 2013
Research similar green business challenges and certification programs in the state and U.S.	Charlie Russo (VHB)	January 18, 2013
Hold meetings with LDC, Economic Development and Capital District Community Loan Fund to determine structure and feasibility of either a challenge/certification program	Angela Vincent (VHB) Doug Melnick (City) Todd Fabozzi (CDRPC)	January (exact date TBD)
Create a Guide outlining the process to starting a Green Business Challenge/Certification program with related materials for comments from City	Charlie Russo (VHB)	End of January
City reviews Guide and materials and provides comments	City stakeholders	Early February
Deliver Guide to City	Todd Fabozzi (CDRPC)	Mid-February

**CITY COMMITMENT**

I, Mayor Gerald Jennings, hereby acknowledge receipt of this Climate Smart  
(elected/appointed official)

Communities Custom Service Strategy (Strategy) for Albany. The City is committed to working

with CDRPC and VHB to implement this Strategy. We look forward to

furthering our climate protection efforts through the Climate Smart Communities Program.

Signed:  Date: 12/21/12