



Climate Smart Communities – Capital Region Custom Service Strategy for Schenectady January 2013

IN-PERSON CONSULTATION DATE: January 28, 2013

COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Gary McCarthy
Carl Olsen – Commissioner of General Services/Neighborhood Revitalization
John Coluccio – Signal Superintendent
Steve Strichman – Planner

CSC REGIONAL COORDINATOR SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT:

Todd Fabozzi, CDRPC
Angela Vincent, VHB

CLIMATE PROTECTION PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED DURING IN-PERSON CONSULTATION

- Education campaigns for water conservation and recycling
- Capacity issues at the wastewater treatment plant
- Electric vehicle charging stations (they applied for funding to install)

CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOMMENDATION

Develop and implement an education campaign to encourage water conservation that reaches all sectors of the population in Schenectady.

CLIMATE PROTECTION ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED

Water conservation programs are not just for protection water supplies and preserving the environment – they can also be used to reduce energy costs associated with heating, pumping, cooling, and treating. Schenectady’s water system serves about 61,281 people in the City through 19,000 service connections. According to their 2008 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, the water system accounts for 29%, or 2,725 tonnes of CO₂e. The Schenectady Energy Advisory Board recommended that the City “Develop a strategy to conserve water in order to save energy, control infrastructure costs and preserve flexibility for future water supplies and needs.” An education campaign will provide examples of how households can reduce water use, which will save the City money on energy costs and reduce the associated greenhouse gas emissions from the electricity used by the water system.

PLEDGE ELEMENT TO BE ADDRESSED

Pledge Element 9: Inform and Inspire the Public

POTENTIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND FINAL DELIVERABLES

Resources:

- Case studies from other communities with water conservation programs from around the country (including Florida)
- Discussions with the City Staff and Energy Advisory Board on current programs and efforts
- Schenectady GHG Emissions Inventory Report (potential 2010 update?)

Deliverable:

Communications and marketing strategy that outlines the process for developing and implementing an Education Campaign for Water Conservation.



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TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION OF PROJECT

| TASK | WHO | TIME | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 4 | Week 5 |
| Determine what methods the City has used or is using to conserve water | Kari Hewitt (VHB) City Staff | | | | | |
| Investigate the population diversity in Schenectady | Kari Hewitt (VHB) | | | | | |
| Research case studies from other communities with water conservation education programs | Kari Hewitt (VHB) | | | | | |
| Create guide outlining the process for developing and implementing a water conservation education campaign | Kari Hewitt (VHB) | | | | | |
| Deliver final guide to City | Todd Fabozzi (CDRPC) | | | | | |

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I, GARY R. MC CARTHY, hereby acknowledge receipt of this Climate Smart
(official/staff)

Communities Custom Service Strategy (Strategy) for Schenectady. The City

is committed to working with VHB to implement this Strategy. We look forward to furthering our climate protection efforts through the Climate Smart Communities Program.

Signed: Gary R. McCarthy Date: 3/27/13

Primary Contact Person for this Project: PAUL Lafond