



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

IN-PERSON CONSULTATION DATE: November 8, 2012

COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Erik Deyoe, P.E., Commissioner of Public Works
Rob Leslie, AICP, Deputy Town Planner, Economic Development and Planning

CSC REGIONAL COORDINATOR SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT:

Todd Fabozzi, CDRPC
Angela Vincent, VHB

CLIMATE PROTECTION PRIORITIES

1. Develop a program/guide to encourage green building and development in general – this would be a follow up to the initiative in the existing Comprehensive Plan
2. Sketch-level criteria for vulnerability assessments for projects in Town
3. Setting GHG Reduction Targets
4. Developing a Climate Action Plan

CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOMMENDATION

Develop a program to encourage green development in Town.

CLIMATE PROTECTION ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED

The Town has taken several major steps towards planning for, and implementing, climate protection and sustainability initiatives in the community. In the 2005 Comprehensive Plan, the Town identified the following initiative: **Encourage the use of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards.** Similarly, the Draft Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) recommends: **Develop incentives for new buildings to meet LEED ratings.** It is recognized that LEED certified buildings require resources (evaluation and certification costs) that building projects may not be able to support. However, to address the Comprehensive Plan and LWRP recommendations, the initiatives could be expanded to identify LEED building and LEED Neighborhood Development practices, and other sustainability development techniques (“green development) as guidelines in the Town’s lands use tools.

PLEDGE ELEMENT TO BE ADDRESSED

Pledge Element 6: Promote Climate Protection Through Community Land Use Tools

POTENTIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND FINAL DELIVERABLES

Resources:

- LEED and other green certification programs (for buildings and beyond)
- Bethlehem Economic Development and Planning Department and the Building Department
- State and national model sustainable development codes
- American Planning Association



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Deliverables:

Language for the recommended green development initiative to address the Comprehensive Plan and Draft LWRP recommendations. This initiative would also include a plan for implementing the initiative – for example: example code updates, which Town staff and committees are involved in implementing the initiative, and recommended steps to working with developers at the time of development applications.

TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION OF STRATEGY

TASK	WHO	COMPLETED BY
Research existing green building codes	Katie Kudzma (VHB) NYSERDA's Building Program Manager	January 2013
Meeting with ED & Planning and the Building Department on existing practices and procedures	Kari Hewitt (VHB) Katie Kudzma (VHB) Town Stakeholders	Third week in January 2013
Create recommended language for the initiative and supporting implementation plan	Kari Hewitt (VHB)	February 8, 2013
Town reviews language and supporting plan and provides comments	Town ED & Planning and Building Department	February 22, 2013
Deliver final program language and plan for implementation	Todd Fabozzi (CDRPC)	March 1, 2013

TOWN COMMITMENT

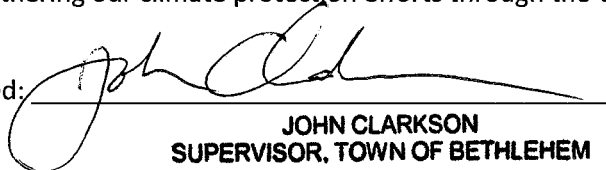
I, Supervisor John Clarkson, hereby acknowledge receipt of this Climate Smart
(elected/appointed official)

Communities Custom Service Strategy (Strategy) for Bethlehem. The Town 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:


JOHN CLARKSON
SUPERVISOR, TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Date:

1/16/13

Town Liaison for this Strategy: Robert Leslie, AICP – rleslie@townofbethlehem.org