



# Climate Smart Communities – Capital Region Custom Service Strategy for Cairo August 2013

**IN-PERSON CONSULTATION DATE:** July 24, 2013

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ted Banta – Town Supervisor  
Doug Ostrander – Deputy Town Supervisor  
Ray Suttmeier – Town Board Member  
Dan Joyce – Town Board Member  
Tony Puorro – Town Board Member  
Ewald Schwarzenegger – Volunteer  
Janet Schwarzenegger - Volunteer

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

Todd Fabozzi, CDRPC  
Angela Vincent, VHB

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**CLIMATE PROTECTION PRIORITIES**

1. Investigate PACE financing, particularly as it relates to Main Street revitalization efforts
2. Install a solar farm on the old quarry to power all Town facilities
3. Updating the zoning ordinance to incentivize density
4. Using energy management software to track energy use from Town buildings

**CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOMMENDATION**

Investigate the financing options for installing a solar farm at a former quarry off of state route 145. These options could include: leasing, remote net metering, and a power purchase agreement (PPA).

**CLIMATE PROTECTION ISSUE TO BE ADDRESSED**

Installing renewable energy systems, such as solar power systems, is an important way for local governments to reduce the use of fossil fuels and resulting greenhouse gas emissions, as well as decrease municipal energy costs. There are a variety of financing structures available to communities to install solar power systems on municipal property. The best option for financing the system will depend on the resources and priorities of the municipality in the short and long term. This strategy will uncover the intricacies of several financing possibilities to help the Town decide which option will work the best.

**PLEDGE ELEMENT TO BE ADDRESSED**

*Pledge Element 4: Encourage Renewable Energy for Local Government Operations*

**POTENTIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND FINAL DELIVERABLES**

**Resources:**

- The Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency (DSIRE)
- NYS Public Services Commission (regarding net metering)
- Central Hudson (for data)
- Economic Development Growth Extension (EDGE) Program



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**Deliverable:**

Summary of financing options to fund the installation of a solar farm on Town-owned land, including a description of each option, basic process for securing the financing, and the pros and cons of each financing possibility.

**TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION OF STRATEGY**

TASK	WHO	TIME					
		Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Schedule a call with Town representatives to determine what has been accomplished to-date	Kari Hewitt, VHB and Town reps						
Obtain data on energy use from Central Hudson for all Town facilities	Kari Hewitt, VHB						
Research various financing options, including PPA, leasing and remote net metering.	Marianne Iarossi, VHB						
Compile research into summary of options for Cairo	Kari Hewitt, VHB						
Deliver summary to Town	Todd Fabozzi (CDRPC)						

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby acknowledge receipt of this Climate Smart  
(elected official/staff)  
Communities Custom Service Strategy (Strategy) for Cairo. The Town  
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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Contact Person for this Project:** \_\_\_\_\_