

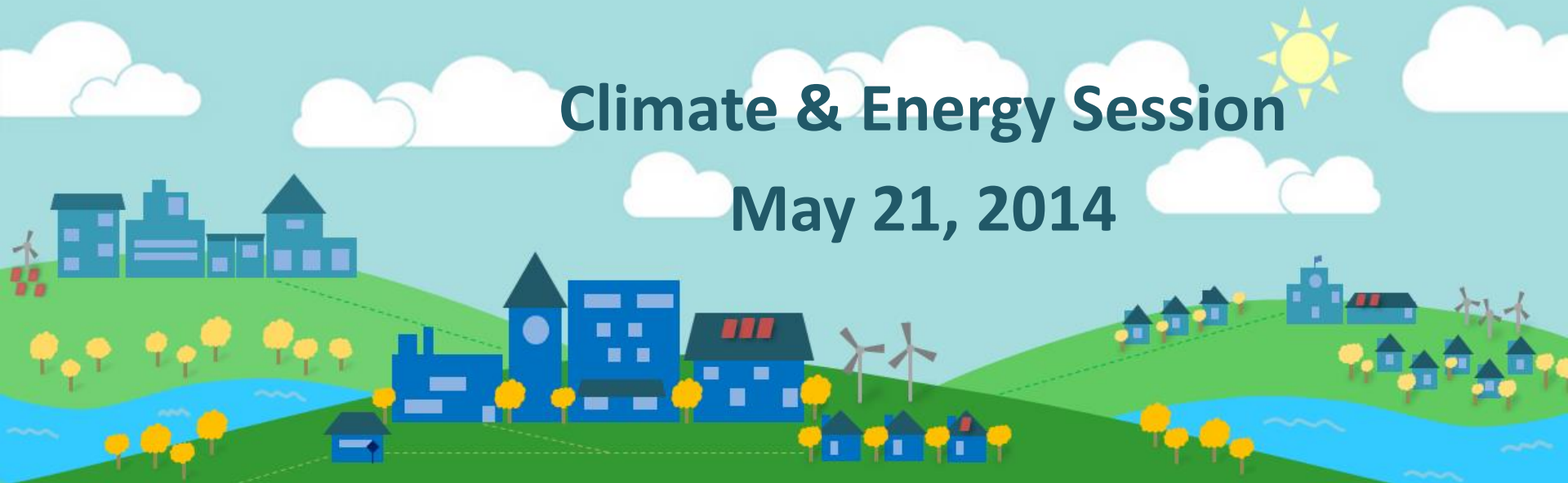


**CDRPC**

# **Local Government Planning & Zoning Workshop**

**Climate & Energy Session**

**May 21, 2014**



2008: **nyszerda**  
Energy. Innovation. Solutions.



Funded by:

**RGGI Inc.**



# CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES

NYS to reduce GHG Emissions by 80% from 1990 levels by the year 2050.



# CLIMATE SMART GOALS

Climate Smart  
Communities in NYS:

**130**

have adopted the CSC  
Pledge Elements.

- ✓ Reduce GHG Emissions
- ✓ Reduce Costs of Municipal Operations
- ✓ Reduce Impacts of Climate Change





# CSC 10 Pledge Elements

- #1 Pledge to Combat Climate Change by Becoming a CSC**
- #2 Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, & Move to Action**
- #3 Decrease Energy Demand for Local Government Operations**
- #4 Encourage Renewable Energy for Local Government Operations**
- #5 Realize Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate Smart Solid Waste Management Practices**
- #6 Promote Climate Protection Through Community Land Use Tools**
- #7 Plan for Adaptation to Unavoidable Climate Change**
- #8 Support a Green Innovation Economy**
- #9 Inform and Inspire the Public**
- #10 Commit to an Evolving Process**



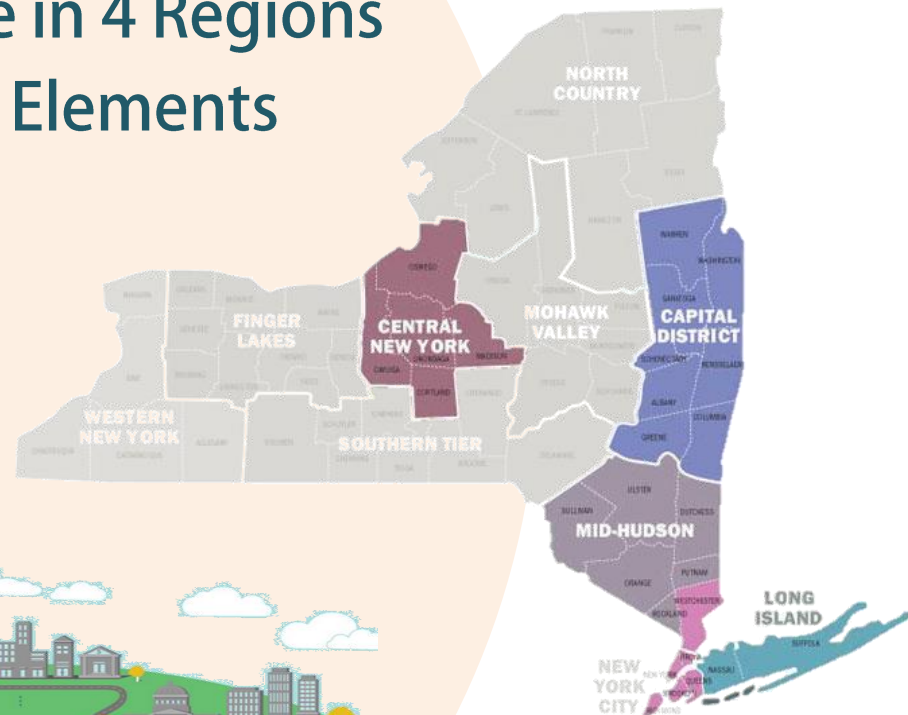


# NYS Climate Smart Communities

## CSC Regional Coordinators

*(2012 — 2015)*

- Provide Technical Assistance in 4 Regions
- Take action under 10 Pledge Elements
- Share CSC Best Practices





# CSC 10 Pledge Elements

**#1** Adopt the Climate Smart Communities Pledge

**#2** Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, & Move to Action

“

You can't manage what  
you don't measure.”





# CSC 10 Pledge Elements

**#3** Decrease Energy Demand for Local Govt. Operations

**#4** Encourage Renewable Energy Local Govt. Operations

Upgrade Streetlights & Traffic Signals to LED Lamps

Conduct Energy Audits of Municipal Buildings

Install Wind, Solar or Geothermal Energy Systems





# CSC 10 Pledge Elements

**#5** Realize Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate Smart Solid Waste Management Practices

**#6** Promote Climate Protection with Community Land Use Tools

**Adopt a Comprehensive Plan for Sustainability**

**Provide Public Recycling Bins**

**Adopt a Complete Streets Policy**

**Increase Use of Public Transit**

**Promote Smart Growth Development**







# CSC 10 Pledge Elements

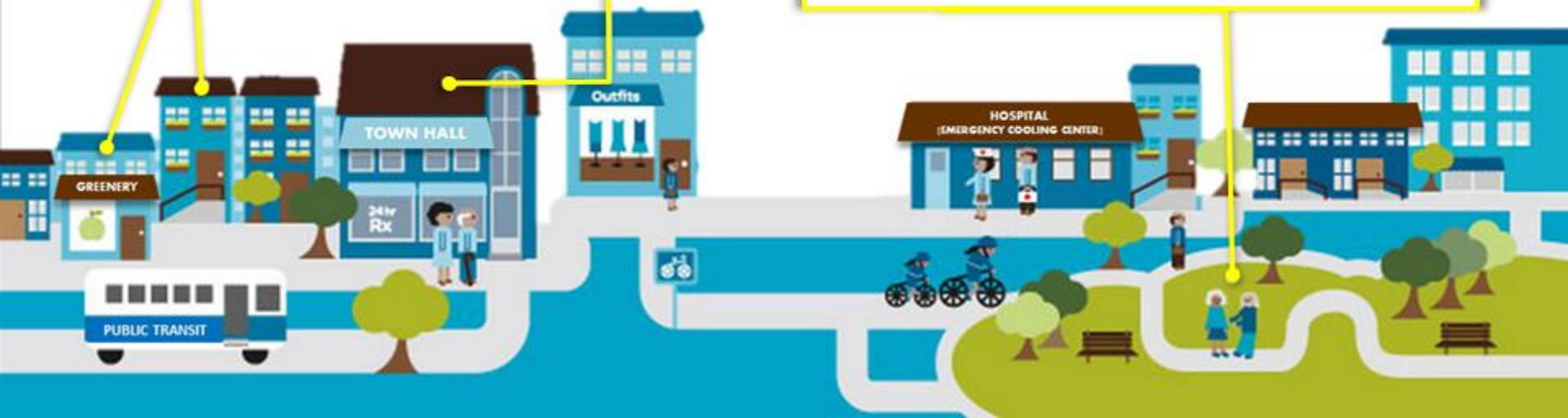
**#7** Plan for Adaptation to Unavoidable Climate Change

**#8** Support a Green Innovation Economy

Create Buy Local Campaigns or Promote Farmers' Markets

Develop Climate Adaptation Plans

Implement Low Impact Development





# CSC 10 Pledge Elements

- #9 Inform and Inspire the Public
- #10 Commit to an Evolving Process





# NYS CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES

## Creating a Climate Action Plan





# Climate Action Steps



- Create a Climate Task Force
- Conduct a GHG Emissions Inventory
- Set GHG Reduction Goals
- **Develop a Climate Action Plan**
- Measure Progress





# CAP Overview

Completing a CAP is an important part of the Climate Smart Communities Program as described in *Pledge Element 2: Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, Plan for Climate Action*.

## *Agenda:*

- What is a Climate Action Plan?
- Why is a Climate Action Plan Important?
- Steps for Developing a Climate Action Plan
- Next Steps





# What is a Climate Action Plan?

- Planning document outlining a collection of mitigation strategies for reducing GHG emissions
- Defines GHG reduction goals and how to achieve them
- Identifies related environmental benefits
- Stand-alone plan or integrated into other plans
- Can include strategies for adaptation
- CAP vs Sustainability Plan





# Why is a CAP important?

- Serves as a guide for taking effective action to mitigate climate change
- Framework to set specific GHG emissions reduction goals and identify combinations of initiatives to achieve those goals
- Facilitates coordination across local government departments and community stakeholders
- Structure for tracking progress





# Step by Step







# Step 1: Determine Leadership & Framework

- Who is responsible for development of the plan?
- Scope of Plan — Municipal operations, community scale, or both?
- Purpose of plan, audience, timeline
- Create an Advisory Committee
- How will it be organized? Focus areas?



Energy



Transportation



Waste & Recycling



Water & Land Use

Source: Town of Bedford Climate Action Plan





## Step 2: Develop Communication and Engagement Strategy

- Engage local government officials and staff
- Invite local and regional stakeholders
- Create a stakeholder group
- Leverage volunteers
- Collect community input





# \*Tips for Community Engagement\*

- Create a website to get input, provide resources and tools, and report news updates and progress over time.
- Reach out to the local media to attend and report on key events and findings
- Distribute posters and flyers that direct citizens to the website and to events
- Run a listserv to keep interested citizens informed via email
- Conduct online surveys or polls to identify the biggest priorities for the community
- Put suggestion boxes in high traffic, public locations to solicit input from citizens that are not active on the Internet or email
- Meet in person with any important community groups that have not been represented in the process
- Create a page on Facebook, Twitter, or other social media outlets
- Use MindMixer, Crowdbrite, or other online community engagement platforms.
- Go to them! Table at local festivals and other well-attended events



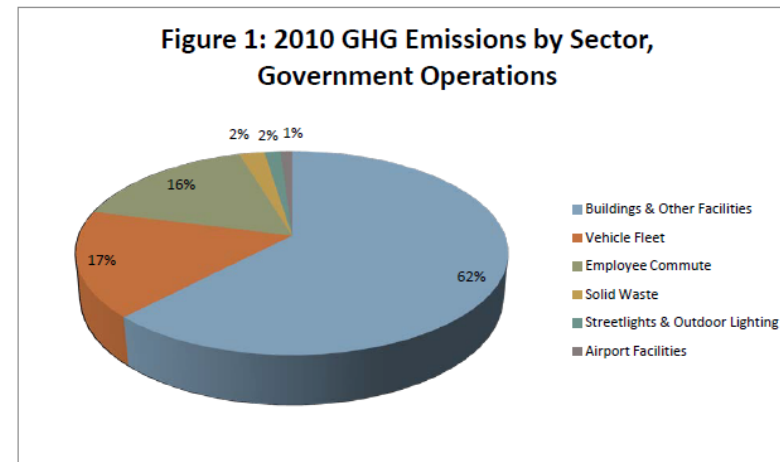


## Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

- Benchmark for setting an emissions reduction target
- Track progress over time
- Quantify the GHG reduction potential of proposed initiatives

Other baseline data and indicators

Assess past and existing efforts





## Step 4: Identify Goals and Targets

- **Goals should:**
  - Represent what the community wants to achieve
  - Be overarching guidance for reducing GHG emissions or other sustainability efforts
  - Often align with those of neighboring communities and/or regional efforts
- **Goal vs. Target**
- **Emissions Reduction and Other Relevant Targets**





## Step 5: Identify Potential Initiatives

- Initiatives identify how a community can achieve its goals
  - Research best practices and what other similar communities have done (similar in size, location, government structure, or other characteristic)
  - Brainstorm additional initiatives — especially with stakeholders/public
- SMART — Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely





# SMART

Specific – “who, what, where, how”

Measurable – can be tracked over time for progress

Attainable – financially, politically, logistically feasible

Relevant – related to specific goals and/or vision of the plan

Timely – specific timeframe attached to it





## Step 6: Quantify Potential Impact of Initiatives

- Estimate GHG reduction from specific initiatives
  - Helps prioritize initiatives to include in plan or to implement first
  - Helps to determine what combination of initiatives can allow
  - Reduction impact within a sector and across entire inventory
- Identify other impacts — VMT reduction, energy savings, cost savings, waste diversion
- Not all initiatives can be directly quantified and sometimes depends on availability of baseline/tracking data







## Resources for Quantification

- California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures
- Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant Air (CAPPA)
- CCAP Transportation Guidebook and Emissions Calculator
- Local Energy Efficiency Policy Calculator (LEEP — C)
- US EPA Local Government Climate and Energy Strategy Series
- The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)





## Step 7: Prioritize Initiatives

- **Common Evaluation Criteria:**
  - Implementation Feasibility
  - Funding Feasibility
  - GHG Reduction Potential
  - Energy reduction potential
  - Co-Benefits (across multiple focus areas)
  - Potential for Job Creation
  - Cost
  - Public Health Benefits
- **Use SMART when identifying initiatives to help evaluate/prioritize initiatives**





# Step 8: Develop Implementation Plan

## Using SMART and/or the prioritization process, develop a plan for implementing the initiatives

Table 2-1: Objective 1: Reduce Energy Consumption in City Government Operations

Initiative	Summary	Implementer	Cost*	Potential Funding Source
<b>Adopt a green fleet policy</b>	Adopt a policy that increases use of alternative/electric vehicles in City fleet	Public Works - Fleet Mgmt. Div.	\$	Virginia Clean Cities Coalition; U.S. Department of Energy
<b>Enter into a performance contract for all City buildings</b>	Hire a contractor to bear the upfront capital costs of efficiency improvements	Public Works - Facilities Mgmt. Div.; Procurement Services	\$\$	General Fund
<b>Adopt an energy efficiency procurement policy</b>	Ensure purchases are made with energy efficiency in mind	Procurement Services; Sustainability Office	\$	General Fund
<b>Adopt an energy efficiency policy or O&amp;M standards for all City buildings</b>	Create policy that promotes standards and guidelines for increased efficiency and reduced energy consumption in City buildings	Public Works - Facilities Mgmt. Div.	\$	General Fund





## Step 9: Establish Metrics

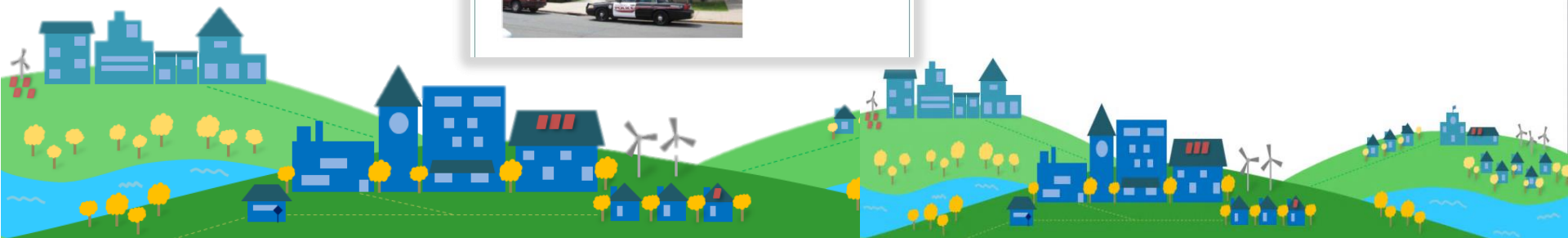
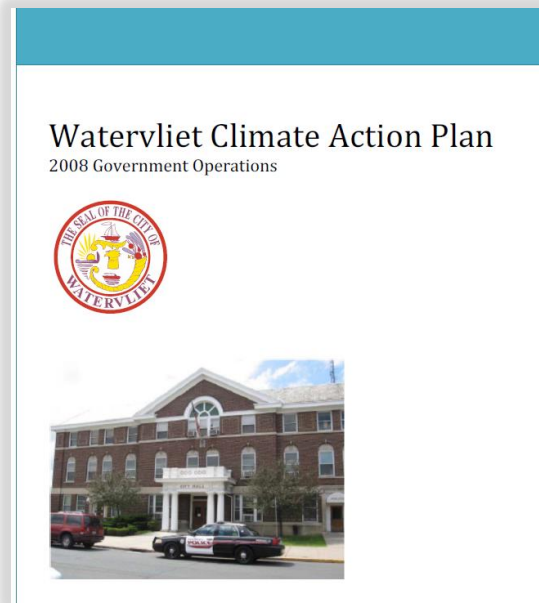
- Establish metrics, or indicators, to track and report on successes and progress
- Targets may lend themselves as metrics
  - Ex: 20% of energy from renewable sources by 2020
- Other examples:
  - Tons of solid waste, recycling rate, VMT, energy saved, number of buildings retrofitted, miles of bike lanes
- Use data that will continue to be available
- Considering a normalizing metric (per capita or per sq ft)





# Step 10: Write the Plan

- Previous steps help to pull the plan together
- Useful, interactive, electronic format
- Not just a plan on a shelf





# Step 11: Implement the Plan

- Formally adopt the plan
- Use the implementation plan developed
- Convene those identified as the lead implementers to discuss next steps
- Identify an implementation committee





# Step 12: Track and Report Progress

- Report on metrics
- Promote widely
- Numerous formats available — website, annual report, report card, etc.

## SUSTAINABLE CITY REPORT CARD



### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2010
Grade	B	B	B	B	B
Effort	C+	B+	A-	A-	A-

Goals: Nurture a diverse, stable local economy that supports the basic needs of community members / Increase sustainable business practices

Santa Monica's economy remains resilient, and experienced growth in the finance, information and health sectors. The local economy continues to be stable and diverse with no sector representing more than 25% of total economic activity. Though total wages fell 8% in 2009, back to 2006-7 levels, no one sector was disproportionately affected. The city, Chamber of Commerce, Convention and Visitors Bureau and Sustainable Works continue to collaborate on programs that support local businesses. More than 200 businesses now participate in the recently launched Buy Local Santa Monica program. To date, 51 Santa Monica businesses have been recognized for their exceptional commitment to sustainable practices through the Green Business Certification Program and 78 businesses have been recognized with Sustainable Quality Awards. An additional 158 businesses have participated in the Sustainable Works Business Greening Program. The rising cost of living and an unbalanced ratio of jobs to housing make it difficult for people to live near their workplace, exacerbating traffic and parking problems. The consistent grade reflects the continued strength of the local economy and growth in local green business, while recognizing the challenges presented by cost of living and the global recession.



### OPEN SPACE & LAND USE

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2010
Grade	B+	A-	A-	A-	A-
Effort	A	A	A	A	A

Goals: Develop and maintain a diverse open space system that supports the community and the natural environment / Create mixed-use urban villages

There are 245 acres of state beach and 26 community parks in Santa Monica's open space system. Park accessibility continues to be good with 90% of residents living within ½ mile of open space. The city's commitment to increase open space for its residents over the last decade is notable. In 2009 the LEED Gold Annenberg Community Beach House



# Next Steps

## Get started on your Plan!

### Climate Action Planning Guides:

<http://www.midhudsoncsc.org/tools.html>

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/67101.html>

[http://www.icleiusa.org/climate\\_and\\_energy/climate\\_mitigation\\_guidance/climate-mitigation-milestone-three](http://www.icleiusa.org/climate_and_energy/climate_mitigation_guidance/climate-mitigation-milestone-three)

### Climate Resiliency:

[http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration\\_pdf/csrptool.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/csrptool.pdf)







# CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES

Thank You!

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