



Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable CT Certification Report of Essex, a Sustainable CT silver certified applicant.

Essex was certified on October 31, 2022 with 450 points. Listed below is information regarding Essex's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Essex is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Essex was approved for in 2022 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Essex, and Sustainable CT makes no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the submission, beyond that an individual reviewer approved at least some elements of the action for certification. Further, standards for actions below may have changed, and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Finally, approved actions here may include some documents and descriptions in support of action elements that were not approved, in addition to elements that were approved. In preparing your own application, please rely only on the action write-ups for the current certification year to guide your submission. Please contact info@sustainablect.org with specific questions.

1. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts

1.1 Optimize for Equity – REQUIRED

30 Points

Approved Information: 1.1 Optimize for Equity - 3 equity toolkits submitted for 30 points for the following actions: 3.12.2: Pollinator Pathway garden in Essex brought to low income residents of Essex Place/Court (6/22/20)) (10 points) 9.3.1: Recycle additional material and Compost Organics (10 points). (4/2020) 8.2.1: Provide Effective Community Communications (10 points) (6/2021).

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [ESSEXPOLLINATORSATESSEXCOURT1.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [ESSEXPOLLINATORSATESSEXCOURT2.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [ESSEXPOLLINATORSATESSEXCOURT3.JPG](#)

WORD: [3.12.2 TO 1.1 - POLLINATORPATHWAYTOLOWINCOMEELDERS.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [ESSEXPOLLINATORSATESSEXCOURT4.JPG](#)

PDF: [9.3.1 TO 1.1ESSEXEVENTS-FOODSCRAPS.PDF](#)

PDF: [TOWNCOMMUNICATIONS-8.2.1TO1.1FINAL.PDF](#)

PDF: [FOODSCRAPS9.3.1TO1.1-FINAL.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.2.1. TO 1.1EFFECTIVECOMMUNITYCOMMUNICATIONS.PDF](#)

Partners: 3.21.1: Partners: Essex Historical Society, Essex Land Trust, Essex Garden Club, River Council of Governments. 9.3.1: Partners: Town of Essex, 8.2.1:Partners: Town of Essex Social Services.

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.2 Implement Sustainable Purchasing

5 Points

Approved Information: 2.2.1 Attend a Sustainable Procurement Training (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [SE - 2.2.1.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: Susan Abbot attended these training webinars on 1/30/2022.

Partners: none

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services

15 Points

Approved Information: 2.3.1 a and b: Develop and meaningfully distribute a user-friendly inventory of local business options. (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [2.3.1 B INVENTORY OF ESSEX FARMS AND FARM MARKETS](#)

PDF: [2.31A INVENTORY OF ESSEX RETAIL.PDF](#)

Partners: None

Additional Information: None

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.1 Provide Watershed Education

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.1.1a Sponsor or host a program to educate residents and business owners in your community about the value of watersheds and the importance of protecting and restoring them. (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [SOURCE TO SEA CLEAN UP.DOCX](#)

WORD: [3.1 ADDENDUM.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=az_YX1loxJA&t=10s (8/17/2021) (Sustainable Essex Environmental Discussion event on the Source to Sea Clean Up)

Partners: 3.1.1/3.1.2 Connecticut River Conservancy 3.1.1/3.1.2 Essex Land Trust

3.9 Manage Woodlands and Urban Forests

15 Points

Approved Information: 3.9.1 Establish a Forest Advisory Committee (5 points) 3.9.2 Complete a Forest Advisory Committee Activity (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [ESSEX ACTIVE TREE INVENTORY - ORIGINAL](#)

PDF: [ESSEX FOREST LAND COVER](#)

EXCEL: [TREE INVENTORY PLANTED THROUGH 2015](#)

WORD: [ESSEX TREES APPROVED FOR PLANTING](#)

PDF: [ESSEX LAND TRUST BULLETIN - 2018](#)

PDF: [ESSEX HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN](#)

PDF: [ESSEX TREE COMMITTEE OVERVIEW](#)

WORD: [3.9 COVERLETTER - ATTACH 1.DOCX](#)

WORD: [ESSEX TREE COMMITTEE - 2022 UPDATES.DOCX](#)

WORD: [MANAGING WOODLANDS AND FORESTS 2020- ES.DOCX](#)

WORD: [CONSERVATION COMMISSION - MANAGING WOODLANDS AND FORESTS -2020.DOCX](#)

Partners: Essex Land Trust Essex Conservation Commission Essex Tree Warden

Additional Information: Objective: Develop clear policies and goals for the trees and forests in your municipality, and develop plans that will lead to effective implementation of these policies. Points requested: 10 1.Establish a Forestry Advisory Committee (FAC). An existing forestry commission or similar entity may serve as the FAC, but should consider broadening representation to include the stated list. · The Sustainable Essex Committee proposes that the existing Tree Committee for the Town of Essex be considered to be equivalent to a FAC. The mission of the Essex Tree Committee (ETC) is to inventory, preserve and replace street trees in Essex. It has been in existence since 1990. Members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen and the committee reports to the town selectman. Committee members include local business owners and other volunteers. Members of the Tree Committee (FAC): Ken Bombaci, Nancy Hudson, Susan Malan, John Molly, Augie Pampel (tree warden), Mark Pratt, Judy Saunders. Most recent

meeting 9/18.18 (meets bi-monthly). · Additionally, in Essex there are two more organizations (Essex Conservation Commission and the Essex Land Trust) whose work broadens the scope of the work done by the Essex Tree Committee and addresses the objectives necessary for completion of action 2.9. · Conservation Commission: Its mission is to manage three Town-owned preserves with the purpose of protecting native plants and wildlife. The Conservation Commission works with the Essex Land Trust and the town and other land use commissions to make recommendations on the status of conservation and development. Members: Adreinne Forrest, Richard Helmecki, Jeffrey Lovelace, Kathleen Tucker (chair), Frank Hall, Mark Reeves, James O'Brien, Roger Field. Last meeting 12/13/2018. Meets twice a month. · Essex Land Trust. The mission of the Essex Land Trust is to acquire, preserve and enhance our community's open spaces and natural resources to protect the environment and the small town character of the villages of Essex, Ivorytown, and Centerbrook. Members: Nancy Rambeau (president), Bob Nussbaum, Goody LeLash, Mike Carlucci, Joel Anik, Chester Arnold, Jim Denham, Cynthia Field, Geoff Furtney, Paul Greenberg, Tom Rutherford, Judy Saunders, Barbara Sarranonio. Last meeting 12/2019 (monthly). 2. The FAC must complete one or more activities from the following list: · Assess the tree cover within the municipality. - (see attached document that includes the map assessing the town's tree cover - produced by River COG using satellite imagery from CLEAR and/or LANDSAT.) Also, see two attached spreadsheets with inventory of trees in Essex with their type and location. · Establish general categories to describe trees in sites where your governing body and tree warden have direct responsibility. - For the "town" trees, please see two attached spreadsheets that document the 1,736 inventoried trees in Essex (including type of tree and location). · Assemble and review existing municipal policies regarding trees and forests within the municipality. Determine whether your community needs to develop additional policies... - Municipal policies (FAC) regarding trees within the municipality are to remove and dead or damaged trees from the town's streets or parks and replace them with a new tree (same type that was removed or suitable native alternative). The mission statement of the Essex Tree Committee is to "inventory, preserve, and replace the trees of Essex". Essex is a small town and the resources of the Tree Committee are sufficient for it to achieve its goals. · Establish a tree planting program based on the specific goals the FAC stated. - As described above, the Essex Tree Committee's tree planting program is to remove dead or dying trees in the town's streets and parks and replace them with suitable native trees. · Sponsor or host a forestry and woodlands education campaign. - Through the combined efforts of The Essex Land Trust and the Essex Historical Society many forestry and woodlands educational activities take place throughout the year (see attached Essex Land Trust "Woods and Waters" bulletin (published three times a year), Essex Historical Society bulletin). - The mission of the Essex Land Trust is to "preserve and enhance our community's open space and natural resources for the benefit of future generations". Essex Land Trust manages 650 acres of woodlands. It has developed trails and trail maps, addressed invasive species, and cleared damaged trees. In 2017/2018 it held 22 educational events for the community including lectures on invasive plants, geologic history of the CT River, monarch butterflies and their habitat. For 2019, educational events include "Amphibian habitat in CT: Is there enough for populations to persist?" and a collaborative effort with the Essex Historical Society "Follow the Falls", educates the public about the natural and economic history of the Falls River and how important the Essex Land Trust preserves are to maintaining this rich natural history. This story is available to read online through the Essex Historical Society website (essexhistory.org), through a printed booklet (available online), and special event programs. Lastly, members of the Essex Tree Committee, the Essex Land Trust, and the Essex Conservation Commission informally work together to ensure there is a holistic approach to planning the management and preservation of the Town's woodlands and forests. Attachments: 1) Cover letter pertaining to action 2.9 description of the Town of Essex's activities in this area. 2) approved trees for planting in Essex 3) xcel spreadsheet of inventory of Essex street trees 4) xcel spreadsheet of street trees planted in Essex 5) map of Essex forested land cover 6) Essex Tree Committee 7) Essex Land Trust 8) Essex Historical Society

3.10 Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.10.3 - Educate Residents on Invasive Species (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [3.10.3.B.DOCX](#)

WORD: [3.10 SEED PRESENTATION WITH CRC - MORE NOTES.DOCX](#)

WORD: [3.10.3.B -INVASIVE SPECIES LINKS ON SUSTAINABLE ESSEX WEBSITE.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: 3.10.3.b - <https://youtube.com/watch?v=7z6FeOEN8pc&feature=share> (SEED event - education about invasive species (and other work the CRC is doing). 6/22/2021 (minutes 26-37).

Partners: Connecticut River Conservancy

Additional Information: None

3.12 Enhance Pollinator Pathways

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.12.1: Provide education to residents to improve pollinator habitat. (5 points) 3.12.2: Create a pollinator garden (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [VALLEYCOURIERPOLLINATORPATHWAYARTICLE.DOCX](#)

PDF: [ESSEXEVENTSESSEXPOLLINATORSVC.PDF](#)

WORD: [WILDFLOWER SEED PACK-2.DOC](#)

IMAGE: [POLLINATORPATHSEEDPACKETFRONT.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [SEEDPACKETBACK.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [POLLINATORPATHWAYGARDENBEFORE.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [POLLINATORPATHWAYGARDENINPROGRESS.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [POLLINATORPATHWAYGARDENINPROGRESS2.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [POLLINATORPATHWAYGARDENINJUNE.JPEG](#)

[3.12.1: POLLINATOR PATHWAY OUTREACH: SIGNAGE OUTSIDE THE HISTORIC PRATT HOUSE IN ESSEX \(PP GARDEN IS ON THE PROPERTY\)](#)

WORD: [VALLEYCOURIERARTICLEPOLLINATORGARDENJUNE24,202.DOCX](#)

WORD: [3.12POLLINATOR-PATHWAYGARDEN.DOCX](#)

WORD: [3.12.1:POLLINATOR PATHWAY OUTREACH.DOCX](#)

WORD: [POLLINATOR PATHWAY POSTER.DOCX](#)

WORD: [3.21.2: POLLINATOR PATHWAY GARDEN OBJECTIVE](#)

Documentation Details: The submitted document to be read first is 3.21.2: Pollinator Pathway Garden objective which describes the project.

Partners: Essex Garden Club Essex Historical Society Essex Land Trust River Council of Governments

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Map Tourism and Cultural Assets

5 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.2 Update Your Profile on CTVisit (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [4.1.2UPDATE CTVISIT PAGE FOR ESSEX](#)

Partners: 4.1.2 Management of the profile information for CTVisit is the responsibility of Alyson Finnegan from the Town of Essex (see contact information below). She updates seasonal pictures and checks links at least quarterly. Alyson Finnegan, Administrative Assistant First Selectman's Office, Essex, CT 06426 860-767-4340 EXT 145

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.1 Integrate Sustainability into Plan of Conservation and Development

30 Points

Approved Information: 5.1.1a and b - Include at least four Hazard Mitigation Plan goals into your most recent Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), 30 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [5.1.1A ESSEX POCD](#)

PDF: [5.1.1A-ESSEX-HAZUS-NHMP-2021.PDF](#)

PDF: [5.1.1A-RIVERCOG_RPOCD.-2021.PDF](#)

PDF: [5.1.1A - 2022 EVACUATION REGISTRY FOR CITIZENS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS 0.PDF](#)

PDF: [SUSTAINABLECTMEMOESSEXPLANNING-POCD.PDF](#)

WORD: [15632049895011.DOCX](#)

WORD: [5.1.1A -WORKSHEET 1.DOCX](#)

WORD: [5.1.B WORKSHEET 2.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: See "5.1.1b Sustainability Concepts Integrated in POCD" for concepts outlined in the template that Sustainable CT provided. 5.1.1a- Essex-Hazus-NHMP 2021 - Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan 2021. Essex, pg.6 & 7. (Natural Hazard Areas on Future Use Land Map - 20212). 5.5.1a-RiverCOG_RPOCD 2021 - Regional Plan of Conservation and Development, 2021. 5.5.1.a - emergency evacuation program for persons with special needs. 2022

Partners: CT River COG

Additional Information: SustainableCT Memo from land use states how the town's POCD (2015-2024) is currently relevant. Since it was uploaded in 2019, there have been no changes to Essex's POCD.

5.4 Assess Climate Vulnerability

35 Points

Approved Information: 5.4.1.a Perform a Climate Vulnerability Assessment. (10 points), updated 2/1/2022
5.4.1.b Identify how secondary impacts of climate change are likely to effect your community (5 points) updated. 1/22/2022
5.4.1.c Demonstrate that special consideration has been given to vulnerable communities. (10 points) 2/22/2022
5.4.2 - Community Resilience Workshop with the Nature Conservancy. (10 points) 2/1/2022

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [5.4.1- LCRVCOG_FLOOD RESILIENCE STUDY_ESSEX](#)

WORD: [5.4.1-OVERVIEW OF ESSEX REVISED 10-3-19.DOCX](#)

PDF: [5.4.1/5.4.2 - NATURE CONSERVANCY COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING WORKSHOP SUMMARY OF FINDINGS REPORT - FINAL - SEPTEMBER 2019.PDF](#)

PDF: [5.4.1-RIVERCOG_PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT.PDF](#)

PDF: [5.4.1-UCONN- SEA LEVEL RISE IN CT.PDF](#)

WORD: [5.4.1 UNIQUE ASPECTS OF ESSEX EFFECTING CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [5.4.1 WORKSHEET1.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [5.4.1BWORKSHEET2.JPG](#)

Documentation Details: See worksheet

Partners: Essex worked with the Nature Conservancy on a Community Resiliency Building workshop on August 14th, 2019. The RiverCOG prepared the Flood Resilience Study. RiverCOG 2022 Plan of Conservation and Development Essex's partnership with the Lower CT River COG for the study includes: - Municipal Representative. Each town in the region appoints a representative to the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments. - Funding. The Town subscribes for these services as a member of the Regional Council of Government. - Education and Outreach. The region conducted three workshops throughout the process of the study.

Additional Information: It looks like this action has a possible 35 points (not 25). I was not able to get into the submitted document "overview of essex revised" to change the numbers but the titles are clear.

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.1 Implement Complete Streets

15 Points

Approved Information: 6.1.6 Implement Complete Streets Projects - Centerbrook STEAP Sidewalk Improvement Project (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [6.1.6 COMPLETE STREETS AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY PROJECTS-OLD.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [6.1.6 - 2022 COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY GRANT PROJECT](#)

PDF: [6.1.6 COMPLETE STREETS AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY PROJECT - NEW \(1\).PDF](#)

PDF: [6.1.6 ESSEX STREETS SPOT IMPROVEMENTS 2019-2022.PDF](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET \(2\)IVORYTON CENTER 2019.DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2 COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY PROJECT RAILROAD 2019 \(4\).DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2- CHAMPLAIN SQUARE - 2019.DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2 CENTERBROOK STEAP GRANT 2019-2022.DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2 - 158 MAIN STREET IVORYTON \(6\).DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2 - ROAD RESURFACING\(7\).DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2 - CROSSWALK RESTRIPIING - 2019.DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2 - ROAD REPAVING 2019.DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET \(2\) COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY 2020\(2\).DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 \(2\) WORKSHEET RESTRIPIING 2020.DOCX](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 \(2\) WORKSHEET PROSPECT TO NORTH MAIN.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: See "6.1.6_Complete Streets and Community Connectivity" for all documentation requirements

Partners: Partners included the town selectmen and the town planner, the Ivoryton Alliance and the Essex Park and Recreation Department and the Director of Public Works.

Additional Information: Was unable to access old files to edit.

6.4 Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment

5 Points

Approved Information: 6.4.1 Sponsor or host a ZEV promotional or educational events with a third party (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [6.4.4 - SUPPORTZEROEV.DOCX](#)

PDF: [6.4.5 - EVSELETTER.PDF](#)

PDF: [6.4.5 - EVSE2.PDF](#)

PDF: [6.4.5 EVPOSTER3.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [ESSEX EVENTS MAGAZINE - VOLUME 24, QUARTER 4 2020. SUSTAINABLE ESSEX COMMITTEE EV PROJECT.](#)

IMAGE: [ESSEX EVENTS MAGAZINE, VOLUME 24 QUARTER 2020 - ESSEX FOUNDATION GRANT FOR EV CHARGING STATION](#)

PDF: [PATRONICITY FUNDRAISING CAMPAING - TOWN OF ESSEX FIRST ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION](#)

PDF: [VALLEY COURIER 12/22/2020 "ESSEX WELCOMES A NEW ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION"](#)

WORD: [6.4.2 -ELECTRIFICATION OF MUNICIPAL FLEET TRAINING](#)

PDF: [6.4.1 - EV EDUCATIONAL EVENT SEED RESOURCE SHEET 2021 EVENT 6 - 9-29-2021.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 6.4.1 SEED event about owning electric vehicles with the Center for Sustainable Energy which administers the CHEAPR incentive program. 6.4.1 - YouTube seed event on owning an electric vehicle. copy and paste the following URL into a new tab to watch video. -> <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=eiUjoCO6NYU&t=3115s>

Partners: 6.4 - EVSE LLC - Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment 6.4 - Town of Essex Public Works Department 6.4 - Bonner Electric (installation of equipement) 6.4 - Town of Essex official - Maria Lucarelli 6.4.1 - Center for Sustainable Energy

Additional Information: Please note that the attachment 6.4.1 EV SEED event resource sheet is just to show what we offered as additional materials at the time of the event. None of should be necessary to get points for 6.4.1. For some reason the links don't work. But, I included the link to the YouTube event in "document details". In addressing the comments made below, under "submission information" I included the date the EV charging station was installed.

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

5 Points

Approved Information: 6.5.1 Promote Public Transportation (5 points), updated 7/9/19

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [6.5.1 PROMOTE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION](#)

PDF: [6.5.4 OVERVIEW ESSEX](#)

PDF: [6.5.1 FLYER ESSEX](#)

PDF: [6.5.4 WORKSHEET.PDF](#)

PDF: [6.5.4 - LETTER FROM ESSEX ZONING AND LAND USE.PDF](#)

[BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN | LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS.HTML](#)

Documentation Details: See "6.5.1 Promote Public Transportation" for an overview of outreach and see "5.5.1 Flyer" for the flyer distributed on page 1. The Senior Transportation Guide on page 2-3 was recently created on 7/10/19 and distributed to the First Selectmen/Selectwoman, Directors of Estuary Transit, and Middletown Area Transit at the RiverCOG/MPO (Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments and Lower Connecticut River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization) meeting on 7/24/19 for review with plans to distribute the brochure soon. See "6.5.4 Overview_Essex" for where required components are referred to. Due to their size, we were unable to upload and submit the transportation studies referred to under 6.5.4. Please see "6.5.4 Overview_Essex" for links or see here: Essexct.gov/planning (links to transportation study)

Partners: Estuary Transit started the XtraMile program River Coucil of Governments

Additional Information: The attachments that are not renumbered - was unable to gain access to the document to renumber. For 6.5.4 - since I was unable to edit the already attached documents, I couldn't change the link that wasn't working for the town of Essex Transportation study - to see the study go to : www.Essexct.gov/planning and click on transportation study links on the left. 6.5.4 letter from Essex office of zoning and land use regarding the continued relevance of the Essex Transportation study.

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.9 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

5 Points

Approved Information: 2.6.2 Encourage local building owners to access C-PACE financing by organizing an educational event (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [C-PACE EVENT AD.PDF](#)

PDF: [ESSEX CPACE MUNI AGREEMENT FULLY EXECUTED \(1\).PDF](#)

WORD: [INTO TO C-PACE EVENT AND NICHOLAS ZUBA.DOCX](#)

PDF: [CROSS ISLAND PROVISIONS CLOSES ON C-PACE FINANCING FOR SOLAR PV _ CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK.PDF](#)

PDF: [CPACE LECTURE OUTCOME- 2022.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: None.

Partners: We partnered with the CT Green Bank for this presentation and notified clean energy task forces in nearby towns of the event by email, inviting them to attend and bring any interested parties

Additional Information: None

7.1 Benchmark and Track Energy Use

5 Points

Approved Information: 7.1.1 Track Energy Use in Municipal and Board of Education Buildings (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [7.1 BENCHMARK AND TRACK ENERGY USE.XLSX](#)

EXCEL: [DATA REQUEST _ SUSTAINABLE CT 2022 SUBMISSION FOR ACTION 7.1.XLSX](#)

Documentation Details: Amy Thompson, from the University of CT submitted the request on behalf of Sustainable Essex

Partners: Eversource

Additional Information: We are continuing to work on 7.2 and 7.3

7.2 Reduce Energy Use Across All Municipal Buildings

20 Points

Approved Information: 7.2.1 Reduce Energy Use Across All Municipal Buildings (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [7.2 CALCULATION FOR ENERGY REDUCTION.XLSX](#)

Documentation Details: Calculation for Energy Use Intensity Reduction (rolling credit) The Town of Essex operates on a fiscal year ending June 30th and we've been tracking energy on the fiscal year too. The full year of data ended June 30, 2021. During the height of the COVID period, the Elementary School was the only building that went remote, operating at less than 50% of full occupancy in the months spanning from the end of February 2020 through November 2020. Since the COVID period spanned both FY 2020 and FY 2021 we have chosen to take the Elementary School out of the calculation for energy use intensity. Comparing FY 2021 to FY 2017 we achieved a reduction of 423,923 kWh or 23 %. We are requesting 20 points for this action.

Partners: Partners were the Green Bank, Town Public Works and Town administration and AEGIS Solar, who all helped with the gathering of solar data. Ann Thompson also assisted us.

7.3 Achieve High Energy Performance for Individual Buildings

10 Points

Approved Information: 7.3.1 Achieve an Energy Efficiency or High Performance Target in Buildings (10 points) Updated 8/18/22

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [PORTFOLIO MAN REQUEST.XLSX](#)

EXCEL: [SUSTAINABLE CT 2022 SUBMISSION FOR ACTION 7.3.1.XLSX](#)

IMAGE: [IMAGE OF CONFIRMATION OF ENERGY STAR AUDIT MEETING.PNG](#)

PDF: [ESSEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.PDF](#)

PDF: [ESSEX TOWN HALL LP SIGNED.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: See Town Hall Energy Star score of 87. See Elementary School Star Score of 96. Image of confirmation of Energy Star audit meeting: Energy Star auditor will be coming to Essex Elementary and Essex Town Hall on 8/19/2022. It is unknown how long it will take after this visit to get the Energy Star certification documents.

Additional Information: After the Sandy Hook massacre, space conditioning was added to the Elementary School to enable the school to keep windows closed for safety's sake. Space conditioning was increased from 10% of total square footage to 90%. Despite the increase in space conditioning the school achieved an Energy Star of 85.

7.4 Increase Use of Renewable Energy in Municipal Buildings

10 Points

Approved Information: 7.4: Increase Use of Renewable Energy in Municipal Buildings (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [DATA REQUEST _SUSTAINABLE CT 2022 SUBMISSION FOR ACTION 7.4.XLSX](#)

EXCEL: [DATA REQUEST 2022.XLSX](#)

Documentation Details: We are submitting for 10 points for Town of Essex. According to the attached file generated in Energy Star Portfolio Manager. Energy generated by Essex Elementary's solar panels and the Hazardous Waste building reduced the town's energy use by 10%.

Partners: The Town of Essex was assisted by the Connecticut Green Bank and Aegis Solar Energy

Additional Information: The solar generation for the Hazardous Waste building is estimated because the display window on the electric meter has become unreadable over time. The installer, Aegis Solar Energy, opened up the meter and gave us a reading. To estimate the average monthly solar generation, we divided the meter reading by the total number of months the meter had been in place.

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 Hold a sustainability event (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [8.1 ESSEX TOY SWAP WORKSHEET.XLSX](#)

IMAGE: [8.1.1-TOYSWAP FLYER.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [8.1.1-TOYSWAP2-PHOTO.JPEG](#)

PDF: [8.1SEED1.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.1SEED2.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [8.1 WORKSHEET- HOLD A SUSTAINABILITY EVEN - SEED.JPG](#)

PDF: [8.1SEED3.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.1.1 EARTH DAY CELEBRATION FLYER.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.1.1 EARTH DAY CELEBRATION.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [8.1.1 SEED MUNICIAPL SUPPORT \(1\).PNG](#)

IMAGE: [8.1.1 SEED MUNICIPAL SUPPORT \(2\).PNG](#)

IMAGE: [8.1.1 SEED MUNICIAPL SUPPORT \(3\).PNG](#)

IMAGE: [8.1.1 SEED MUNICIPAL SUPPORT \(4\).PNG](#)

Documentation Details: PDF 8.1 SEED3 the lectures on 9/29/2021, 10/4/2021, and 10/14/2021 took place, but because our colleague Mike Long passed away before he posted the link on our site, we have not access to the copies at this time. 8.1.b SEED - needs to be added to the worksheet. Municipal support provided includes publication on the town of essex website through the link to the sustainable essex webpage (sustainableessex.com). Essexct.gov . Go to committees (sustainable essex) links you to the webpage with information about all the SEED events. 8.1.1 . Need to support Earth Day Worksheet - Municipapl support includes town sending municipal staff to the event.

Partners: Toy Swap - Partnered with the Parent Teacher Association at the Essex Elementary School. Helped work at the event, collect toys. Also partnered with the Essex Elementary School who permitted us to use space on their campus for the event. Sustainable Essex Environmental Discussions - Essex Library

Additional Information: Worksheet for the seed event has to be redone - computer malfunction so had to hand write it. The first 5 SEED lectures were on the specific sustainability topic of reducing waste. The Toy Swap sustainability topic was on reducing waste and reusing toys instead of throwing them away.

8.2 Provide Effective Community Communications

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.2.1 Provide Effective Community Communications (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [TOWNCOMMUNICATIONS-EQUITY-8.2.1TO1.1FINAL.PDF](#)

EXCEL: [TOWN OF ESSEX ACTION 8.2.1 COMMUNICATIONS INVENTORY.XLSX](#)

PDF: [8.2.1. TO 1.1EFFECTIVECOMMUNITYCOMMUNICATIONS.PDF](#)

WORD: [TOWN OF ESSEX ACTION 8.2.2 COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY.DOCX](#)

WORD: [8.2.1A WORKSHEET-COMPLETE\(1\).DOCX](#)

WORD: [TOWN OF ESSEX ACTION 8.2.3 PROOF OF IMPLEMENTATION.DOCX](#)

PDF: [8.1.1 PROVIDE EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS-UPDATE FOR 2022.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: None

Partners: In compiling the town website inventory we spoke to town employees Betsy D'Amico and Alyson Finnegan who assist with the management and coordination of municipal communications A local photographer and past Sustainable Essex member Ed McCaffrey provided most of the wonderful photographs.

Additional Information: None

8.5 Engage in a Sustainable CT Mentorship with Other Municipalities

5 Points

Approved Information: 8.5.2 Earth Day Celebration (5 points) 4/30/2022.

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [8.5.2 EARTH DAY CELEBRATION -APRIL 30, 2022 COMMUNITY EVENT FLYER.PDF](#)

WORD: [8.5.2 EARTH DAY CELEBRATION 4/30/2022.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE - HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE TABLE.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE - SEWING TABLE.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE RIVER COG TABLE.JPEG](#)

WORD: [8.5.2_WORKSHEET_2\(REPAIR CAFE\).DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE - SEWING TABLE.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE - KNIFE SHARPENING TABLE.JPEG](#)

WORD: [REPAIR CAFÉ APRIL 30TH 2022 SUMMARY.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE - COMPUTER REPAIR.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE \(SUSTAINABLE ESSEX TABLE\).JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE - MISCELLANEOUS ITEM REPAIR.JPEG](#)

WORD: [REPAIR CAFÉ APRIL 30TH 2022 SUMMARY.DOCX](#)

WORD: [REPAIR CAFÉ APRIL 30TH 2022 SUMMARY.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE - LIBRARY OF THINGS.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [REPAIR CAFE.JPEG](#)

Documentation Details: All of the documents above refer to the Earth Day event which included the Repair Cafe. 8/16/2022

Partners: 8.5.2 Earth Day - Sustainable Deep River, Sustainable Chester

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.1 Report Materials Management Data and Reduce Waste

25 Points

Approved Information: 9.1.1 Review Materials Management Data (5 Points) 9.1.2 Reduce Residential Solid Waste Disposed by at least 10% (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [9.1.C PROOF OF PUBLISHING.DOCX](#)

WORD: [9.2 WORKSHEET 3.DOCX](#)

EXCEL: [9.1.B WORKSHEET 1 2021 VS 2019.XLSX](#)

EXCEL: [9.2 WASTE REDUCTION CHART 21 VS 18.XLSX](#)

EXCEL: [9.2 WORKSHEET 2 2021 V 2018 .XLSX](#)

WORD: [9.1A CONTACTS](#)

Documentation Details: 9.1c MSW _Capita FY 2018-2021.xlsx - four years worth of MSW data was published on the Essex Town website - link to Sustainable Essex committee <https://www.essexct.gov/sustainable-essex-committee>. (click on diverting waste from the landfill and also on the Town of Essex Facebook Page

Partners: None

9.3 Recycle Additional Materials

40 Points

Approved Information: 9.3 Recycle non-mandated materials (40 points) Textile Recycling (10 Points) Paint Recycling (10 points) Mattress Recycling (10 points) Electronics Recycling (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [9.3.1_OVERVIEW_ESSEX](#)

PDF: [9.3.1MUNICIPAL ANNUAL RECYCLING REPORT.PDF](#)

PDF: [9.3.1 TRANSFER STATION BROCHURE REVISED MARCH 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [9.3.1_BAY STATE TEXTILES CONTRACT 4-1-19_ESSEX](#)

PDF: [9.3.1 TAKE2 CONTRACT 7-7-14_ESSEX](#)

PDF: [9.3.1 MUNICIPAL ANNUAL RECYCLING REPORT- 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [9.3.1_PAINTCARE AGREEMENT_ESSEX](#)

PDF: [9.3.1 WILLIMANTIC WASTE PAPER AGREEMENT 2018_ESSEX](#)

PDF: [PAINTCARE INC 2013 CONTRACT1.PDF](#)

PDF: [9.3.1 COMPOST ORGANICS 2021.PDF](#)

WORD: [PAINT CONTRACT - CURRENT VERIFICATION.DOCX](#)

PDF: [MATTRESS_TOWN OF ESSEX.PDF](#)

PDF: [MATTRESS - VERIFICATION OF CURRENT RENEWAL.PDF](#)

PDF: [TAKE 2_2014_PAGE 11.PDF](#)

PDF: [TAKE 2 - VERIFICATION OF CURRENT RENEWING CONTRACT.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: See "9.3.1_Overview_Essex" first. Included are 1) a description of the Recycling Services provided at the Essex Recycling Center in "9.3.1_Transfer Station Brochure_Essex", 2) a summary of those additional materials that are recycled, 3) copies of contracts for each of the additional materials, 4) press releases or screenshot of Essex website, and 4) photos of the collection areas or bins for the additional materials.

Partners: The recycling services above are contracted to: Bay State Textiles, Take2, Paintcare, Willimantic Waste Paper, and Blue Earth Compost.

Additional Information: The Municipal Annual Recycling Report for Essex was submitted 2/11/2022. I wasn't able to change the numbers in the submitted files that I didn't submit originally 3/14/2022/

9.4 Reduce and Compost Organic Waste

10 Points

Approved Information: 9.4.2 implement a food scrap recovery campaign (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [9.4.2 FOOD SCRAP RECOVERY CAMPAIGN.DOCX](#)

PDF: [9.4.2 ESSEX EVENTS MAGAZINE, SUSTAINABLE ESSEX QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

WORD: [SPENCER'S CORNER.DOCX](#)

WORD: [FLYER AND SOCIAL MEDIA POST.DOCX](#)

PDF: [HTTPS://PATCH.COM/CONNECTICUT/ESSEX-CHESTER-DEEPRIVER/EP/2263794](https://patch.com/connecticut/essex-chester-deepriver/ep/2263794)

PDF: [9.4.2 - HEALTH DIRECTOR LETTER SUSTAINABLE ESSEX - MARCH 22 2022.PDF](#)

Partners: 9.4.2 Blue Earth Compost

Additional Information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GaAnHrr6-IU&t=81s> - youtube video of Sustainable Essex Environmental Discussion Event with Blue Earth Compost. * upcoming - food scrap recovery project at low income housing project (The lofts at Spencer's Corner) in progress - to hopefully begin later this year.

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.1 Encourage an Equitable and Just Food System

10 Points

Approved Information: 10.1.1 Form a local or regional Food Policy Council or Hunger Action Team (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [10.1.2 - COMMUNITY FOOD ASSESMENT 10 INDICATORS OF FOOD ACCESS.XLSX](#)

PDF: [FOOD POLICY COUNCIL.PDF](#)

PDF: [10.1. MEETING MINUTES.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: None

Partners: None

Additional Information: None

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.1 Implement an Affordable Housing Plan

45 Points

Approved Information: 11.1.1 - Essex Affordable Housing Town Committee (10 points) 11.1.2 - Create, expand or maintain your community's housing data profile (10 points) 11.1.3 - Affordable housing plan (25 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [11.1.1 - AFFORDABLE HOUSING TOWN COMMITTEE.DOCX](#)

PDF: [11.1.3 AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN ESSEX \(2019-2024\).PDF](#)

PDF: [11.1.1 - COMMUNITY EGAGEMENT ESSEX TOWN MEETING FLYER 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [11.1.1 AHP PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING ESSEX MARCH 17, 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [ESSEX AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN 2022.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [11.1.1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS PUBLIC COMMENT REGIONAL HOUSING PLAN.PNG](#)

WORD: [11.1.1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS AND COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY 2022 ESSEX AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [11.1 WORKSHEET 2.PDF](#)

PDF: [11.1.2 HOUSING DATA PROFILE ESSEX 2020.PDF](#)

WORD: [11.1.2 -HOUSING DATA PROFILE PRESENTED.DOCX](#)

PDF: [11.1.2 ADDENDUM TO WORKSHEET 2.PDF](#)

WORD: [ACTION11.1-WORKSHEET3.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: 11.1.1 Community Engagement Process: <https://www.rivercog.org/projects/rhp/> (Includes link to Survey Monkey for residents to include their opinions regarding housing in their area) 11.1.1 (image) links don't work because it's just a copy of the page to show there was an effort to reach out to the community for comment. 11.1 (YouTube link for recent Regional Housing Plan Presentation 6/27/2022). https://youtu.be/Vo1_96u9iWA

Partners: Essex Planning and Zoning Committee, River COG

11.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

40 Points

Approved Information: 11.2.2: Increase amount of affordable housing (40 Points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [2020-AFFORDABLE-HOUSING-APPEALS-LIST.PDF](#)

PDF: [11.2.2 2016 AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST - ESSEX](#)

Documentation Details: The baseline year 2016 percentage is highlighted on page 2 of document "11.2.2 2016 Affordable Housing Appeals List - Essex". 2016- 1.50%, 2020- 2.85 % . Growth 1.35%.

Partners: None

Additional Information: The Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH) is required to publish the Affordable Housing Appeals List once a year. This list provides the percentage of affordable units in each municipality based on Census figures for total number of housing units in the particular municipality. According to this list For 8.2.2, Essex saw a growth of 1.35 percentage points in affordable housing from 2016 to 2020. 10 points are awarded for each 0.25% growth in affordable housing units, up to 40 points, so Essex can earn 40 points.

12. Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

12.3 Collect and Share Homelessness Data

5 Points

Approved Information: 12.3.1 Collect and Share Homelessness Data (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [12.3 COLLECT AND SHARE HOMELESSNESS DATA.PDF](#)

PDF: [12.3.ESSEX AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 12.3 Regarding the Essex Affordable Housing Plan, under the statute CGS 8-30j passed in 2017, Connecticut communities are required to create and adopt an affordable housing plan by June 2022 and update it every five years. Essex submitted its preliminary plan in March 2019. A public meeting was called on March 17, 2022, to begin to finalize the plan to reflect Essex's current priorities and values. The attached Town of Essex Affordable Plan details the housing stock available in town as well as the populations who are considered "cost burdened", i.e., those who spend more than 20% of their income on housing. In Essex 1,019 households (34%) qualified for low-income housing. According to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), as of February 2022 the CPI increased 7.9% year on year, increasing the cost burden on low-income families who could potentially face homelessness in the years ahead. Please see pages 34 and 45 in the attached publication.

Partners: Connecticut Access Network Essex Town Social Services Essex Police Department

Additional Information: None