



Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable CT Certification Report of Goshen, a Sustainable CT bronze certified applicant.

We are submitting a completed application for August 2022 review towards Bronze Certification.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Goshen is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Goshen 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 Goshen, 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

10 Points

Approved Information: 1.1 Optimize for Equity (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [EQUITY TOOLKIT.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.2 SUMMARY OF PROCESS FOR 1.1.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: Attached is the completed Equity Toolkit and the summary of the work conducted for 8.2 Provide Effective Community Communication, our linked Action.

Partners: 1.1 (Optimize for Equity): The Goshen First Selectman took part throughout the process. In addition, representatives of the following town commissions, committees and non-profit organizations provided input: Library Board of Directors, Friends of the Library, Board of Directors for Recreation Dept., American Legion, Historical Society, Volunteer Fire Department, Garden Club, Lake Weed Committee, Planning & Zoning Commission, Inlands & Wetlands Commission, Water Pollution Authority, Goshen Land Trust, Community Care and Hospice, Farmers' Market, Goshen Agricultural Council, Housing Trust, Goshen Business Circle, Economic Development Commission, Goshen Good Neighbors, Center School PTO, Goshen Fair, Goshen Recycling & Trash Comm, and the Goshen Running Club.

Additional Information: As a small town, Goshen has less resources to support communication between town government and its residents. This has always been a struggle. A great deal of work is accomplished with a few full time and some part time employees who all wear many hats. We understand the importance and urgency of this action's goal of: "Build and strengthen municipal processes to be more inclusive, cohesive, and representative of all community members, now and in the future. These system-wide, structural changes are an important step in creating open and equitable communities." and we have welcomed the opportunity to work to improve on this. There is irony in using a vehicle to identify a town's need and determining the need is to improve the vehicle. While there are many areas we hope to work on to make Goshen a more welcome, healthier town, we have determined that first we must improve the ways we communicate with residents and increase the ways that residents can respond to the town. Our work has begun on this via Category 8.2 Provide Effective Community Communications.

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services

10 Points

Approved Information: 2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [2.3 BUSINESS DIRECTORY.PDF](#)

PDF: [GBC WEBSITE SCREENSHOTS AND LINKS.PDF](#)

PDF: [GOSHEN BUSINESS CIRCLE RACK CARD.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: The Goshen Business Circle, with over 95 members, is an organization that works closely with the town Economic Development Commission to promote local entrepreneurs, products, and service providers. The government appointed EDC shares members with the GBC and both work to improve the business environment in town. The Business Directory was compiled from the members of the GBC and each are featured on the GBC website (#1). Residents can access it from our town website as the "Business Directory" from the home page and on the Economic Development Commission page. The Goshen Business Circle has a Goshen Business Locator map that color codes type of businesses and links to each business's website/Facebook page, per their preference. Since many businesses in our small town are run out of homes and are services that are rendered at the place of service, only businesses who meet with customers or clients at their addresses are on the business map. Screenshots and links to the directory and map for both the directory and map are in the second document. The Goshen Business Circle members, town hall, and post office display (#3) the GBC's 8.5 x 3.5 flyer that directs residents to their website, which also a community event calendar.

Partners: The Goshen Economic Development Commission supported the Goshen Business Circle to create the directory and map for Goshen businesses.

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.1 Provide Watershed Education

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.1.1 Watershed Education (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [3.1.1 WATERSHED EDUCATION BACKGROUND](#)

WORD: [3.1.1 WATERSHED EDUCATION FIVE SENTENCES](#)

PDF: [3.1.1 SCIENCE MEETING](#)

PDF: [3.1.1 NEAR REPORT](#)

IMAGE: [3.1.1 SIGNAGE](#)

PDF: [3.1.1 VOLUNTEER EMAIL](#)

Documentation Details: Background for Tyler Lake should be read first followed by the Five Sentences. Supporting documents include: Announcement for the Science meeting, the Aquatic Report used in the meeting with residents, example of signage for lake residents, and an email to residents.

Partners: We work with Federal, state and local governments and with people in the watershed's community. We work closely with NEAR - Northeast Aquatic Research is a professional limnological research and lake management company whose mission is to provide objective scientific evaluation of lake condition for long term management. They work closely with DEEP to recommend lake management for health of lake and residents.

3.4 Develop an Open Space Plan

10 Points

Approved Information: 3.4.3 Develop an Open Space Plan (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [GOSHEN OPEN SPACE PLAN.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [SCREEN SHOT TOWN WEBSITE.PNG](#)

PDF: [CONSERVATION COMM 8:2022 MINUTES.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: The Goshen Conservation Commission revised the Goshen Open Space Plan in 2015 (#1) and use it as a basis for their work. They have referred to it in addressing questions sent to them from Planning and Zoning Commission and at every meeting. The minutes of their August 2022 meeting (#3) show the Commission's work for the town addressing recreational use of ponds and lakes, promotion of pollinators, and support of agriculture. The document is also a source for the Goshen Land Trust, a non-profit organization that shares two board members with the Conservation Commission and uses the Open Space Plan in its work to prioritize properties for acquisition.

Partners: 3.4.3 None

3.10 Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.10 Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [TOWN TOPICS INVASIVE PLANTS ARTICLES MARCH 2022](#)

IMAGE: [EMAIL INVITE.PNG](#)

IMAGE: [INVASIVE PLANT WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT.PNG](#)

PDF: [INVASIVE PLANT WORKSHOP JULY 30TH 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [INVASIVE PLANT WKSHP PLANT LIST-ASSIGNMENTS.PDF](#)

PDF: [INVASIVE PLANT WORKSHOP CUT & PAINT.PDF](#)

PDF: [INVASIVE-PLANT-MANAGEMENT-CALENDAR\(1\).PDF](#)

PDF: [WORKSHOP PHOTOS AND WEB LINK.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: As a rural town the identification and eradication of invasive plants is a constant concern. The town Conservation Commission and Goshen Land Trust work together frequently using the Town Topics, a newsletter mailed four times annually to all residents, to educate residents (#1) as in the articles in the Spring 2022 edition when aquatic and terrestrial species were the focus. The Goshen Land Trust's website, which is linked to the town website, provides residents with information on identification and control of invasive plants. In July the Conservation Commission, Goshen Land Trust and Sustainable Goshen Team organized an in-person Invasive Plant Workshop that was announced via an email (#2: Email Invitation to workshop) and website announcement (#3). A flyer (#4) was distributed in public areas in town and shared with Goshen Land Trust members. The presenters were members of the Conservation Commission and Land Trust. After a walking review of the town property known as Camp Cochepianee ten terrestrial and four aquatic invasive plants were identified (#5), members of the trust and commission volunteered to be presenters for each species. The workshop was attended by 20 residents (#6). Participants were given a packet with a list of the species that would be discussed along with information sheets (NOA) for each. An additional information sheet was provided (#7) giving step by step instructions for the Cut & Paint eradication method. During the 2 hour workshop participants walked the 1/4 mile trail where presenters gave demonstrations on how to recognize and then methods to control/eradicate species. Besides cut and paint demonstrations were given on cutting and removal, using a weed wrench, and pulling/hanging or removal. Tarping was discussed. A follow up email thanking participants for being a part of the workshop included a recent CIPWG powerpoint (#8) of CT's 10 most invasive plants calendar for removal as a resource. This link was added to the Sustainable Goshen website which is linked to the town. Photos of the event and screen shot of the resources are included in the final attachment (#9).

Partners: 3.10 (Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management) The Town's seasonal publication provided a platform for a non-profit (Goshen Land Trust) and town commission (Conservation) to coordinate an educational opportunity for all residents. The town Conservation Commission and Sustainable Goshen along with resources provided by the Goshen Land Trust held an Invasive Plant Workshop for all residents.

3.12 Enhance Pollinator Pathways

40 Points

Approved Information: 3.12.1 Enhance Pollinator Pathways: Education to community (5 pts) 3.12.2 Enhance Pollinator Pathways: Pollinator Gardens (15 pts) 3.12.3 Enhance Pollinator Pathways: Pollinator Resolution (20 pts)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.12.1 POLLINATOR EDUCATION POWERPOINT 6-3-22.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.3 AGENDA BOS_MINUTES_07_12_2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.3 POLLINATOR RESOLUTION.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.3 BOS_MINUTES_07_19_2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.2 GOSHEN POLLINATOR PATHWAYS MAP.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.2 HISTORY OF PP OUTREACH A FARM TOUR 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [TOWN TOPICS MAY 2021.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.2 OUTREACH FARM TOUR POSTER B.PDF](#)

PDF: [TOWN TOPICS MAY 2021.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12 POLLINATOR OVERVIEW.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.2 FARM TOUR BROCHURE.PDF](#)

PDF: [TOWN TOPICS MARCH 2022.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 3.12 Pollinator Overview Document (#10) for 3.12.1, 3.12.2 and 3.12.3 Combined information and pictures with notes for each supporting document in the pdf. 3.12.1 Pollinator Education pdf presented at Community Conversation. Town Topics - a Goshen wide distributed magazine May 2021, Winter 2021 and March 2022 articles educate residents for benefits of pollinators and pollinator friendly gardens and provides updates on the Monarch Sanctuary 3.12.2 Documents #8, #10 and #11 are from the Goshen Farm Tour 2022. A map of the current and proposed pollinator gardens in Goshen (#5), a Pollinator Garden Overview (#10), an introduction to the Goshen Monarch Sanctuary and new Pollinator gardens (#8), and Educational outreach flyer (#11) from the Farm Tour 2022. 3.12.3 Pollinator Pathways signed Resolution (#3) and the minutes to the two Board of Selectmen meetings (#2 and #4) when the resolution was discussed, amended and approved.

Partners: 3.12.1, 3.12.2, 3.12.3: Many people and organizations have worked to recognize Goshen's potential as a Pollinator Pathway. The Goshen Agricultural Society provided the land for the Monarch Sanctuary and first pollinator garden. The Goshen Conservation Commission worked with the Goshen Community Garden to coordinate an exhibition Pollinator Garden at the Town Hall. The Goshen Congregational Church sponsored the Community Green Garden where the first pollinator garden and Monarch Sanctuary are located. And Sustainable Goshen Team helped promote the work, with the Goshen Public Library by distributing Pollinator Garden seeds to residents at the Goshen Wellness Day, Goshen Climate Crisis presentation at Goshen Center School and the Goshen Farm Tour 2022. In addition the following organizations offered support, information, or volunteer hours: Goshen Land Trust, Litchfield Land Trust -(John Markelton), Xerxes Society, Northwest Conservation District (Karen Nelson) and Monarch Watch members.

Additional Information: Goshen Board of Selectman have signed the Pollinator Pathways Resolution which will be followed by the municipal groups in town for the future and a plan to work with residents and the town to extend the pathway from Litchfield in the south to Norfolk in the north.

3.13 Promote Dark Skies

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.13 Promote Dark Skies (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [LIGHTS OUT, GOSHEN FLYER](#)

PDF: [TOWN TOPICS PUBLICATION.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [LIGHTS OUT WEBSITE.PNG](#)

PDF: [PUBLIC LIBRARY.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [UNION SAVINGS BANK BULLETIN BOARD.JPG](#)

PDF: [TOWN HALL COMMUNITY TABLE.PDF](#)

PDF: [POST OFFICE COMMUNITY BOARD.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: We introduced our "Lights Out, Goshen!" initiative with a flyer (#1) on June 3rd at our Community Conversation followed by publishing it in the summer town wide newsletter (#2), on the town website via a link to the Sustainable Goshen website (#3), and posted in public areas frequented by residents: public library (#4), local bank (#5), town hall community table (#6) and Goshen Post Office Community Board (#7).

Partners: 3.13 (Promote Dark Skies): None

Additional Information: As a small town with limited ability to disperse information (residents have to opt-in to receive emails and there is no true 'downtown' site for communication) we have relied on locations most frequented by residents. Our plan is to continue to support residents and businesses in Goshen installing new or updating lighting that respects our wildlife and our neighbors.

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Map Tourism and Cultural Assets

5 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.2 Map Tourism and Cultural Assets (5 Points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [4.1.2 CT VISIT WEBLINK AND SCREEN SHOT.PDF](#)

PDF: [GOSHEN BUSINESS CIRCLE EVENTS CAL.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: The CT Visit website has been recently updated to exhibit many of the events and places worth a stop in Goshen (document #1). In addition, the Goshen Business Circle, which works closely with the town's Economic Development Commission, maintains an Event Calendar linked to the town website, but is usually accessed as its own entity. Screen shots and web links are included in both PDFs.

Partners: The CT Visit web page was updated in 2022 by the Town of Goshen's newly appointed Tourism Representative, Mady Flynn. The Goshen Business Circle's Event Calendar works to include all entities in Goshen to populate their web site.

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices

10 Points

Approved Information: 5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [RIGHT TO FARM ORDINANCE](#)

PDF: [GOSHEN AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL AGENDA 4-4-22](#)

PDF: [GOSHEN AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL MINUTES 12/10/2019](#)

PDF: [PLANNING & ZONING MINUTES 3-22-2022](#)

Documentation Details: In 2012 the Town of Goshen adopted a Right to Farm Ordinance that continues to provide guidance for the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Town Planner and the Goshen Agricultural Council (a town commission) to work together promoting agriculture as an economic and cultural focus of Goshen. The documents include the Right to Farm Ordinance, minutes for a Goshen Agricultural Council in December 2019 (due to the pandemic the group did not meet in 2020-2021) illustrating their work to promote farms in Goshen as well as supporting agricultural land purchase/use in the town. In February 2022 a new property owner brought a request for a permit to the Planning and Zoning Commission (Minutes 3-22-22) for a farm store. The minutes show a referral to the Goshen Agricultural Council, which called for a special meeting/public hearing held on April 4, 2022 (Agricultural Council Agenda 4-4-2022).

Partners: 5.3 The Goshen Agricultural Council works with the Planning and Zoning Commission, Economic Development Committee, Board of Selectmen and Town Planner as well as state agencies, such as the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Connecticut Farmland Trust to expand farming opportunities in the town.

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

15 Points

Approved Information: 6.5.6 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies: Provide shared mobility services (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [BOS MINUTES 7:21:15 P2.PDF](#)

PDF: [FINANCE MINUTES 4:22:15 P6.PDF](#)

PDF: [BOS MINUTES 3:29:16 P2.PDF](#)

PDF: [SUMMARY OF GOSHEN RIDE DATA 7:19-22.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [GCCH LTR.JPEG](#)

Documentation Details: 6.5.6 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies: Provide shared mobility services #1: On second paragraph of page 2 the minutes for the July 21, 2015 Board of Selectmen's meeting explains the grant award for the town of Cornwall and Goshen to purchase a "handicap van". #2: On April 27, 2015 the Goshen Board of Finance explains the purchase arrangement of a 12 passenger van on Page 6. #3: March 29, 2016 Board of Selectmen minutes documents the Board of Finance approval of payment of \$7000 for Goshen's portion of the van. The fourth document (#4) shows current data of use. The van is available for hire by seniors and those with handicaps preventing them from self-transport for use to go to medical appointments, shopping or other transportation needs. The data shows use of the van by Goshen residents from July 2019 to June 2022. In addition, the Goshen Community Care and Hospice continuously provides rides for residents without transportation by volunteers using their personal vehicles and to monthly lunch and recreational outings using the 12 passenger town van. As a small town of only 3150 residents (2020 census) with no public transportation, the work to obtain a grant collaborating with a neighboring town in order to provide residents who need help and then insuring that financing continued to be directed for maintenance and use shows Goshen's dedication to our residents. The 'summary of Goshen ride data' document illustrates that the van continues to be a source of support to residents who need it - even during the height of the pandemic when many seniors and adults with disabilities avoided leaving their homes.

Partners: 6.5.6 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies: Provide shared mobility services: The town of Goshen purchased and continues to maintain the van with the Town of Cornwall. A partnership with Geer Village Senior Community provides for a 24 hour call service to enable all residents of both towns to have easy access.

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.1 Benchmark and Track Energy Use

5 Points

Approved Information: 7.1.1 Benchmark and Track Energy Use (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

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

Documentation Details: Attached is an overview of our work to generate Goshen's benchmark data on Portfolio Manager. It includes the basis of the data and a screenshot of the Receipt for Data Response Submission email sent to Sustainable CT.

Partners: 7.1 (Benchmark and Track Energy Use): Data was compiled by the First Selectman and employees at the Town Hall. The Portfolio was built with the expert assistance of Amy Thompson, PhD and intern Andre Jin of the UCONN Smartbuildings CT Program.

Additional Information: Now that Goshen's town energy data is entered into the EPA's Portfolio Manager the town has information needed to make decisions about energy projects, fulfill grant opportunities, and continue work on Sustainable CT certification actions in the future.

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

10 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 Hold a sustainability event (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [SG JUNE 3RD INVITE.PDF](#)

PDF: [JUNE 3 SLIDES FINAL.PPTX.PDF](#)

PDF: [ATTENDANCE FOR 6:3:22.PDF](#)

PDF: [TABLE SIGN.PDF](#)

PDF: [WORD CLOUD.PDF](#)

PDF: [GOSHEN WOULD BE EVEN BETTER....PDF](#)

PDF: [EXAMPLE EXIT TICKET.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [PHOTO OF WELLNESS EVENT .PNG](#)

IMAGE: [SUSTAINABLE GOSHEN TENT AT FARM TOUR.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [PHOTO OF POLLINATOR SEED GIVE-AWAYS AT FARM TOUR.PNG](#)

PDF: [WORKSHEET FOR EVENT 1.PDF](#)

PDF: [WORKSHEET FOR EVENT 2.PDF](#)

PDF: [POLLINATOR SEED PACKETS.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: Goshen Sustainable Team held its first Sustainable Event on June 3, 2022. The invitation to the event (#1) was emailed and hand delivered to those on the list of residents/groups identified by the Sustainable Goshen Team that would provide a substantive cross section of all residents. #2 is the slide show that was used to introduce Sustainability CT, the five presented projects, and the instructions/questions for table discussions and work. #3 is the sign in used that evening. #4 is the sign placed at each table. Participants were randomly assigned a group to work with in order to encourage new ideas. #5 is the Word Cloud generated from all table responses to the question: "what do you love about Goshen?" and #7 is the culmination of table response for the prompt "Goshen would be even better if..." All participants completed an exit ticket (#7) allowing the the opportunity to suggest people we had not included and ideas they wanted to insert or amplify. A second group of Sustainability Events began on April 2nd at the Goshen Health and Wellness day (#8), repeated on April 27th at the Center School/Public Library Earth Day and ended at the Goshen Farm Tour August 6th and 7th (#9-10) where members of the Sustainable Goshen Team met with residents and tourists to talk about the importance of sustainable practices, explaining Sustainable CT, sharing information on the need for Dark Skies with distribution of Lights Out, Goshen! flyers and distributing Pollinator Garden seed packets (#11). Worksheets for both events are included as documents #12 and #13, respectively.

Partners: 8.1 (Sustainability events) Sustainable CT helped facilitate the Community Conversation, Goshen Board of Selectmen helped promote and presented at this event, Members from the following attended the June 3rd event: Public Library, Friends of the Library, Parks and Recreation, American Legion, Historical Society, Volunteer Fire Dept, Garden Club, Lake Weed Comm, Planning & Zoning, Inlands & Wetlands, Water Pollution Auth., Goshen Land Trust, Community Care and Hospice, Farmers' Market, Goshen Ag Council, Housing Trust, Goshen Business Circle, Economic Development Comm., Goshen Good Neighbors, Center School PTO, Goshen Fair, Goshen Recycling & Trash Comm., and the Goshen Running Club. The second event: promoting Sustainability as a team booth/table at Goshen Health and Wellness Event which was sponsored by the Goshen Community Care and Hospice and the Goshen Congregational Church. The Earth Day event was sponsored by the Goshen Public Library and Goshen Center School. The annual Farm Tour is sponsored by the Goshen Agricultural Council, a council of the Town of Goshen.

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.3 Recycle Additional Materials

20 Points

Approved Information: 9.3 Non-mandated material recycled (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [GOSHEN - 9.3 RECYCLE ADDITIONAL MATERIALS- PLASTIC FILMBAGS.PDF](#)

PDF: [GOSHEN - 9.3 RECYCLE ADDITIONAL MATERIALS- TEXTILES SUBMISSION.PDF](#)

PDF: [GOSHEN - 9.3.C RECYCLING PRESENTATION.PDF](#)

PDF: [GOSHEN - RECYCLING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT_FY22.PDF](#)

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [TOWN TOPICS GOSHEN GREEN GARDEN ANNOUNCEMENTS.PDF](#)

PDF: [2021 PHOTOS.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: The Goshen Green Garden started in 2014 as a project of the Goshen Church of Christ Congregational. Since then it has evolved into a Goshen wide and town supported community garden. The Goshen Town Topics is a Board of Selectmen publication mailed to every resident four times a year. Announcements for garden lots available, produce that has been donated to local seniors and soup kitchens/homeless shelters in nearby Torrington, and supported by the Goshen Agricultural Society. Included in the document are articles for the garden from Summer 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, and Fall 2020. Photos included are of the garden community plot, produce ready for senior pick up/delivery, and produce ready to be delivered to the soup kitchen.

Partners: 10.4 The Goshen Green Garden is managed by volunteers. Originally they were primarily from the Goshen Church of Christ, however in the last two years the Town of Goshen has supported the garden via the Town's Farmers' Market and Parks and Recreation Department. All town residents can adopt a lot at the garden and four community gardens grown vegetables and fruit to be distributed to seniors and food banks (Friendly Hands, FISH (Friends in Service of Humanity), and the Community Soup Kitchen.

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.1 Implement an Affordable Housing Plan

35 Points

Approved Information: 11.1.2: Design and Implement an Affordable Housing Plan: Worksheet 2 (10 points)
11.1.3: Design and Implement an Affordable Housing Plan: Worksheet 3 (25 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [AHP COMM 12-17-20 & PP.PDF](#)

PDF: [11.1.1 AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMM. .PDF](#)

PDF: [AHP COMM MINUTES 4-13-21.PDF](#)

PDF: [11.1 WORKSHEET1 GOSHEN HOUSING DATA PROFILE.PDF](#)

PDF: [POPULATION AGE.PDF](#)

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

PDF: [11.1.3 WORKSHEET 3.PDF](#)

PDF: [HOUSING PLAN 2022-2027.PDF](#)

PDF: [BOS MINUTES 10-5-21 AHP ADOPTION.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [AH PLAN WEB LINK.PNG](#)

Documentation Details: 11.1.1 The Goshen Affordable Housing Committee (#1 members are listed and their titles/sector) had its first meeting on December 17, 2020 (#2 Minutes and Powerpoint). A representative of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments provided demographic and housing data for the committee and acted as facilitator at their two Public Forums and throughout its nine months of meetings. Meetings were open to the public via Zoom in in-person when state covid restrictions allowed. The Affordable Housing Committee April 13th minutes detail discussion of the committee preparing for its first forum anticipating questions and reviewing data to be discussed (#3). 11.1.2 The Housing Data Profile (#4) and Population Age data (#5) were analyzed in Worksheet 2 (#6). This data was shared and was the basis for the work of the Affordable Housing Committee. 11.2.3 The Goshen Affordable Housing Plan (#8) was completed September 2021 after a second Public Forum August 2, 2021 was conducted via Zoom for public input. Worksheet 3 (#7) breaks down the plan. At the Goshen Board of Selectmen's meeting on October 5, 2021 (#9) the plan was adopted and referred to the Planning & Zoning Commission. The plan is available in hard copy at the town hall, was emailed to all residents and is currently available as a download from the town website (#10).

Partners: 11.1 (Design and Implement an Affordable Housing Plan) The Goshen Affordable Housing Committee and Board of Selectmen worked closely with the Northwest Hills Council of Governments throughout the process of writing the Affordable Housing Plan.

Additional Information: The Goshen Housing Trust, a 501(c)3 organization incorporated in 2011 to address the unmet needs for affordable housing. Currently the Trust is renovating a small apartment complex in Goshen to provide affordable housing for residents. While the town has adopted an Affordable Housing Plan there is more work to be done to provide diverse attainable in Goshen.

12. Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

12.3 Collect and Share Homelessness Data

5 Points

Approved Information: 12.3 Collect and Share Homelessness Data (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [12.1 NWHCOG REPORT.PDF](#)

PDF: [EMAIL TO BOS .PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 12.3 Collect and Share Homelessness Data: The NWHCOG report (#1) on Homelessness was generated by our area (Northwest Hills Council of Governments) Rural Healthcare Resource Coordinator. After meeting with him and reviewing his report we shared the findings with the town Board of Selectmen (#2) and initiated ways to improve educating residents and state resources that are available. As Mr. Ghio explains, there are no residents of Goshen who have identified as homeless via the 211 network. Anecdotally we know that residents who are food insecure or lack transportation have many town resources to help them. Home insecure residents, because our town is so small (pop. 3150) have a high likelihood of being offered assistance via the many non-profits, church or by a neighbor. We explain this further in 12.4.

Partners: 12.3 Collect and Share Homelessness: The Rural Healthcare Resource Coordinator of our 21-town Northwest Hills Council of Governments prepared a report for our town.