

Climate Smart CSC and Clean Energy CEC Task Force

April 6, 2026 6:00-7:00P

In-Attendance: Amy Davidsen, Gretchen Stevens, Councilperson Hernandez

Via Phone: Councilperson Carano Nordenström

Absent: Heather Herrington

Highway Garage Balance Solar Installation (JCN, AD)

JCN requested EO 2026 extension from NYSEDA 12/2025 TBD. Can repurpose \$5k Tree Planting and \$5k Electric Landscaping Equipment for larger scale solar project on Highway Garage roof to save on installation premiums. Waiting for this year's grant award to possibly combine. TB first reallocated this \$10k grant to electric landscaping equipment for the highway department. But NYSEDA's Allison Khachadourian confirmed extension and asked for confirmation of date 12/31/26. JCN to confirm with DMD and TB next week.

County Tree Planting Initiative for Earth Day, Riverkeeper Sweep (JCN, GS, AD, NH)

NH to update. Tree being delivered before Earth Day. NH to meet with BZ and DMD to look at locations in Hamlet Park. NH to plant and address deer protection.

PE3 Environmentally Friendly Purchasing Policy (JCN, NH?)

GS to list alternatives for next month's meeting.

\$111,060 Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant Awarded (JCN, GS)

Next Steps. DOS to discuss contract and budget in meeting on 4/8.

\$100k NYSEDA Designation Grant Fast Charger (JCN, AD)

JCN to follow up with Councilperson Ziegler regarding CPL's scoping project for Hamlet Park. Unsure if CPL will produce draft RFP. Updates from 4/6 to discuss. Town of Ghent has significant issue with billings from NYSEG, discontinued new Fast Charging services. Tracking updates through TD, DMD.

DMD proposed interim contract with Lynkwell [Livingston Energy], our original contact and received approval from Board. JCN and AD not comfortable providing feedback without transparency and direct engagement.

\$5k NYSEDA Grant for Native Trees at Hamlet Park (Traffic Calming) (JCN, +GS)

\$5k Award received by the Town in 2024. This may be reallocated to this year's award for Highway Garage solar. TB TBD.

\$5k NYSEDA Grant for Electric Landscaping Equipment (JCN)

\$5k Award received by the Town in 2024. This may be reallocated to this year's award for Highway Garage solar. TB TBD.

CEC Campaigns

- Program is currently closed. Will be updated and launched around April 2026 when we will receive new guidance. We should continue to maintain campaign programs but accelerate activities once we have guidance. Also the Town still earns credits for Campaigns through CSC.
- New NYSERDA Grant Project Manager Alison Khachadourian.

Community Solar (JCN, AD)

JCN to follow up with Brad Tito and DMD for Town-wide mailer when campaigns open. Will continue to post in newsletter. CEC 2026 announced this month.

Clean Heating and Cooling (HH)

HH to stay in touch with installers and continue to document installations. CEC 2026 announced this month.

Electric Vehicles (AD)

AD to continue to document. CEC 2026 announced this month.

CSC Silver Track

- Assigning new committee members to projects for 2026
- There are now two application cycles rather than three - one in January and one in May.
- Haley/Tara can help with all PE2 Priority actions related to GHG Inventories and Climate Action Plans at no cost to the municipality.
- All Committee members to research their assigned tasks and report before next meeting.

Biodegradable Products Institute Representation (JCN)

We will follow up with this organization's private grant program in coordination with the CSC Actions. JCN to follow up for contact.

Town Website Update (GS)

GS to review. CSC's can also make their own websites.

Resiliency Hudson Valley Events via Melissa Everett and Barbara Todd of Sustainable Hudson Valley (JCN)

- Transportation at a Crossroads April 24
- Circular Economy Summit May 15
- Regional Climate Solutions Summit September 18
- Pitched Summer Event at Roe Jan Park

Bard and Sustainable Hudson Valley: Solar, Batteries, the Grid and Your Electric Bill
4/16 @ 6:00P via zoom If you would like to join you can register
at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/m8edV-UITeCfL2hYXVHv1w>

Solid State EV Chargers

<https://electrek.co/2026/03/18/solid-state-ev-batteries-with-800-miles-range-become-reality/>

Annual Columbia County Climate Smart Task Force Progress Report 2025 (JCN)
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_ZFD945rD5yIDnamLJX2r6SAI6V_Wm5M/view?usp=sharing

Bank of Greene County announced \$500 in a HECDG grant award to CSC
Applicable to Energy Studies of the Sewer District or Highway Garage

Sexual Harassment and Workplace Violence Training
NYMIR Live Webinar 4/23 at 9-11:00, You must register with links individually to be included. Otherwise, login to your Neogov to take the trainings online before the end of the month.

GHG Emissions Inventory (JCN, AD)
JCN to circulate first draft tomorrow morning EOW. Should target adoption at TB May meeting. AD says Hillsdale GHG should focus on transportation based on metrics.

PCA Local Champs/CSC Spring Meeting
Wednesday April 9 at 9:00 AM

Pace University Capital Region Land Use Leadership Alliances Training Program - Clean Energy
April 27, April 28 and April 29, 2026 | 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
The Hideaway at Saratoga Lake, 35 Gracemoore Road, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Berkshire Connector - PILOT Program (NH)
NH to meet with management for details. Program does not utilize/prioritize Low Emission Vehicles. NH to meet with Tate Coleman.

Relevant updates outside meeting -

Renewable Energy Siting for Comprehensive Planning (AD, GS)
AD, GS to update re: Meeting w. Eva Hoskin. Documentation to be added to TB file for Comp Planning inputs.

CC Climate Smart Earth Day Film Fest (JCN)
See emails forwarded from CC Climate Smart and Kelly at Arthur's Point Farm. The event is this Sunday April 19th, starting 12:00 Noon at the CLC office on Main Street Chatham. Moving to the Crandell Theatre across the street at 1:00 PM. Both Gretchen and Amy were referred as panelists and have been recommended for event in Autumn 2026. <https://climatesmart.columbiacountyny.com/earthday#h.bp4txnuci4li>

Riverkeeper Sweep and Adopt-A-Highway Rt-22 (JCC)

Weather looking good for this Saturday, 4/18. Meet at Roeliff Jansen Park parking lot 8-9:00 AM. Hillsdale Democrats have scheduled Rt-23 for 4/25.