

Climate Smart CSC and Clean Energy CEC Task Force

July 6, 2026 6:00-6:40P

Via Teams: Amy Davidsen, Councilperson Carano Nordenström

Absent: Heather Herrington, Gretchen Stevens, Councilperson Nico Hernandez

Next regular monthly meeting is August 3 at 6:00 PM.

Grants WIP (Outside CSC and CEC Programs)

*Adding section here for 8/3 meeting based on request from Supervisor DMD. Anticipating CEC will launch by EO month.

The Understory Regional Resilience Grant (JCN)

Currently scoping and reviewing [RFP](#) – Applications Due November 18, Awards Announced Late January, Will plan to seek TB approval at August meeting

Awarded Grants

*Adding detailed summary for 8/3 of all awarded grants based on request from Supervisor DMD and YE financial reporting.

\$10k Highway Garage Balance Solar Installation (JCN, AD)

JCN requested EO 2026 extension from NYSERDA 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. TB first reallocated this \$10k grant to electric landscaping equipment for the highway department. But NYSERDA's Allison Khachadourian confirmed extension and asked for confirmation of date 12/31/26. TB confirmed reallocation to electric landscaping despite an existing and unutilized \$5k grant for electric landscaping equipment (2024) already allocated. If the Town spent closer to \$5k on electric landscaping equipment, then we would not need to reassign Tom Carty's original solar grant. A grant was already awarded for this purpose.

- Total billings as recorded for reassigned \$10,000 Landscaping Equipment grant was vouchered at \$2,259.95 on 9/24/25. An estimate totaling \$6,928.87 for electrical landscaping equipment from United Ag and Turf was dated 3/30/2026. JCN has requested clarification for actual and planned spend for compliance and submission to grant program.
- JCN to provide draft RFP for Highway Garage Solar to CSC CEC and Town Board to understand ideal scope and estimate for grant planning purposes.

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

Tree was planted over sewer line and should be moved according to Hamlet Committee notes. NH to update.

PE3 Environmentally Friendly Purchasing Policy (JCN, GS, NH)

Waiting for update in writing from GS.

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

Initial citizen advisory committee selected via resolution to help select consultant.

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

- JCN and AD to provide draft RFP for CSC CEC and TB review.

\$5k NYSERDA 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 NYSERDA 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.

Bank of Greene County announced \$500 in a HECDC grant award to CSC

Applicable to Energy Studies of the Sewer District or Highway Garage

Clean Energy Communities

CEC Campaigns

Program is currently closed. Originally told that the program would be updated and launched around April 2026 when we would receive new guidance. As of 7/17/2026, program is still not live although preliminary public announcements regarding 2026 3.0 have been made. 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.

Town Website Update (GS)

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

Climate Smart Communities

CSC Silver Track

- Assigning new committee members to projects for 2026
- Waiting on CEC priorities
- There are now two application cycles rather than three - one in January and one in May.
- Haley 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.
- Next steps to recalculate Silver for 2026 given missing high point projects.

Co-Sponsor Repair Café at Roeliff Jansen Library on October 3, 2026

- Added to TB agenda for approval

Open Space Plan (NH, GS)

- Needs to be adopted before December 2026. If not, we will likely miss Silver in 2026.
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Berkshire Connector (NH, GS)

- Cancelled via Tate Coleman. Losing these points, we will likely miss Silver in 2026.

GHG Emission Inventory (AD)

AD says Hillsdale GHG should focus on transportation based on metrics. Top down metrics. Opportunities for decentralized solar. AD to prepare final with Haley prior to August TB meeting.

Events

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

- Regional Climate Solutions Summit September 18

Columbia County Climate Smart Task Force Climate Summit (JCN)

Event focuses on how to get things done at a local level. AD submitted as potential expert speaker. Planned for early 2027 TBA at Columbia-Greene Community College.

Other

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_ZFD945rD5ylDnamLjX2r6SAI6V_Wm5M/view?usp=sharing