



Sustainable Connecticut Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Connecticut Certification Report of Hartford, a Sustainable Connecticut silver certified applicant.

Hartford was certified on November 01, 2021 with 460 points. Listed below is information regarding Hartford's Sustainable Connecticut efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Hartford was approved for in 2021 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Hartford, 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: 7.7 Energy Campaign. This action is related to hosting an energy campaign. The original energy equity challenge was issued in late 2019 and put on hold in early 2020. Now in 2021, the City is bringing a new and revised program with the help of nonprofit partners to create a resident-informed program that spreads awareness and helps residents stabilize energy bills. Energy coaches support residents, and guide them through the application process for Home Energy Solutions - Income Eligible weatherization assistance. 8.1 Grants Workshop. In response to recurring requests for information and guidance on grants and local funding opportunities, the City hosted a grants workshop open to the community. Attendees learned about various funding opportunities including Love Your Block, Hartford Decides, Sustainable CT, and Community Development Block Grants. 8.1 Contracts Workshop. Individuals, nonprofits, and businesses have expressed ongoing interest in working with the City. To address this topic, the Office of Sustainability and Procurement held an informational workshop and Q&A session on City contracts and Hartford's Supplier Diversity program.

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT ENERGY EQUITY CHALLENGE.PDF](#)

PDF: [1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT CONTRACTS WORKSHOP.PDF](#)

PDF: [1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT GRANTS WORKSHOP.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 1.1 Equity Toolkit Energy Equity Challenge. This is the equity toolkit for the Energy Equity Challenge. 1.1 Equity Toolkit Contracts Workshop. This is the equity toolkit for the contracts workshop action. 1.1 Equity Toolkit Grants Workshop. This is the equity toolkit for the grants workshop action.

Partners: 7.7 Energy Equity Challenge. This action is led by the City's Office of Sustainability in partnership with Earth Forward Group and Neighborhood Housing Services. The Challenge is also highlighting resources from Energize CT, the City of Hartford, Operation Fuel, the CT Green Bank and more. 8.1 Grants Workshop. This was a City event with the Office of Sustainability, Central Grants Administration, Sustainable CT, Hartford Decides, and Love Your Block. 8.1 Contracts Workshop. This was a City event with the Office of Sustainability and Procurement.

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.4 Provide Resources and Supports to Local Businesses

5 Points

Approved Information: 2.4.3 Downtown Business Improvement District (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [2.4.3 HBID ANNUAL REPORT 18-19.PDF](#)

PDF: [2.4.3 COMPLETE STREETS MEETING NOTES 0221.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 2.4.3 HBID Annual Report 18-19. This is the HBID's most recent annual report. It shows measurable outcomes and lists relevant partnerships (including the City's presence on the board and status as a named partner). 4.2.3 Complete Streets Meeting Notes 0221. This shows HBID's attendance at a recent City Complete Streets working group meeting.

Partners: The City has two members on the BID's board, a City staff representative and a City Council Member. The BID also actively participates in City working groups on Complete Streets and shared mobility (scooter share)

Additional Information: 2.4.1 Business Roundtable. The City has dedicated staff in the Department of Development Services Divisions for Economic Development and Small Business & Community Development. City staff attend neighborhood business association meetings at the local level. City staff and officials are a part of regional efforts as well. Mayor Luke Bronin sits on the board of the MetroHartford Alliance, a coalition of business leaders across the Greater Hartford Region. City staff have a seat on the Hartford Chamber of Commerce, the Alliance's coalition of Hartford-based businesses. The Hartford Business Improvement District (HBID) is a 60-block non-profit 501(c)(3) special services district located in the commercial core of Hartford, Connecticut. The mission of the Hartford BID is to bring about positive and lasting change by enhancing the economic vitality and quality of life within the District. The City has two members on the BID's board, a City staff representative and a City Council Member. The BID works with the Mayor's Office, Police, Public Works, Development Services, Hartford Parking Authority as well as the more than 100 property owners and other organizations within the District to keep the downtown area clean, vibrant, and beautiful. The BID also actively participates in City working groups on Complete Streets and shared mobility (scooter share).

2.5 Promote Sustainable Workforce Development

15 Points

Approved Information: 2.5.2 Green Jobs Training (10 points) 2.5.3: Green Jobs and Internships Fair (5 points), 5/15/20

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [2.5.2 GREEN JOBS TRAINING - KNOX WEBPAGE.PDF](#)

PDF: [2.5.3 GREEN JOBS FAIR EVENT PAGE.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 2.5.2 Green Jobs Training - KNOX Webpage. This is a pdf of KNOX's Workforce Development program page. "2.5.3 Green Jobs Fair Event Page" is a screenshot of the event. Videos can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/hartfordsustainability/videos/> Part

Partners: 2.5.2 Green Jobs Training. Local nonprofit KNOX Inc. created the Green Crew Apprentices program, and they continue to implement the program. KNOX's partnership with the City of Hartford includes maintenance at the City's two golf courses, Goodwin Park Golf Course and Keney Park Golf Course, where KNOX places fully-trained members into jobs. The City has also shared the program on different platforms from its 311 Newsletter, Sustainability Newsletter, and Hartford Climate Twitter. Along with sharing the program, KNOX's programs are based at 75 Laurel St., which is a City-owned parcel. For the Youth Service Corps, the City works with managing nonprofit Our Piece of the Pie and several funders to implement the program. Local nonprofit KNOX Inc. has a number of workforce development efforts that provide green jobs training and career counseling to Hartford residents. The program description is as follows: - Members take part in life skills, GED, horticultural, and job skills trainings, ultimately serving Hartford by leading horticultural service projects, supporting community and corporate volunteer groups, maintaining green spaces and KNOX's community gardens, and planting trees to enhance the urban forest while also gaining critical field experience and receiving guidance on advancing to further educational and employment opportunities. - There are several tiers of engagement, including: 1) a partnership with Mayor Bronin's Youth Service Corps, which provides a flexible, paid opportunity for young adults to work three days a week alongside KNOX's senior staff to learn landscaping; 2) an immersive, in-house job training program (with a living stipend and one year of school and job placement counseling) for young adults to learn horticulture and life skills; and 3) Partnership with the City of Hartford's two golf courses, Goodwin Park Golf Course and Keney Park Golf Course, where fully-trained members are placed into jobs. KNOX leads and manages these efforts. Please note that the Mayor's Youth Service Corps, mentioned above, is a separate initiative that collaborates with KNOX. In response to Hartford's youth unemployment crisis, Mayor Bronin pledged to partner with the community to connect Hartford's young people to part-time, yearlong employment. Since its launch in July 2016, The Mayor's Youth Service Corps (YSC) has provided 750 Hartford youth with an opportunity to earn a paycheck while strengthening neighborhoods. YSC members receive yearlong, part-time employment with flexible scheduling. They work with a Youth Development Specialist (from Our Piece of the Pie, the nonprofit that manages the YSC) on their personal and professional goals. YSC members engage in community service-based projects designed to impact Hartford neighborhoods. Projects include free lawn care services or snow removal for Seniors & Disabled Residents. The Youth Service Corps has also worked with the City to plant trees and flowers and maintain community gardens and parks. Towards the end of the year of service, each youth will work with their YDS to create a "transition plan" for the next steps towards their future. 2.5.3 (Green Jobs Fair): The City's Office of Sustainability hosted the job fair and coordinated the logistics for the event. 10 businesses and organizations were invited to present and answer questions from attendees. Participating employers included: CDM Smith, PosiGen Solar and Energy Efficiency, Winterberry Gardens, Hartford's Department of Public Works, KNOX, Eversource, AmeriCorps, Public Allies, Habitat for Humanity, and Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner. During the pandemic, the Office of Sustainability held a two-part virtual green jobs and internships fair to connect residents and students with employers from government agencies, utilities, businesses, nonprofits, and more. Over 70 positions were available with 10 employers including local and regional entities across different fields from landscaping to engineering, solar installation and utility work. For students and recent graduates, the Office held a separate session featuring opportunities from local businesses and organizations, including Habitat for Public Allies, Americorps, Habitat for Humanity, and more. Over 70 people attended over the course of the day.

2.6 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

10 Points

Approved Information: 2.6.2 C-PACE Outreach (5 points), 8/11/20 2.6.3 CT Green Bank C-PACE Website Excerpt (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [ACTION 2.6.2 C-PACE EVENT SCREENSHOT](#)

PDF: [2.6.3 C-PACE PROJECT.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: "1.6.2 C-PACE Event Screenshot" is a screenshot of the event's participating municipal partners is attached. The recording can also be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zHA-rtPbdc> "2.6.3 C-PACE Project" is an announcement from the CT Green Bank website detailing the successful C-PACE financing of a Hartford-based project.

Partners: Action 2.6.2: CT Green Bank, the City of Hartford, East Windsor, Windsor Locks, Bloomfield, and Enfield organized this event. 2.6.3. The CT Green Bank has an agreement with the City to engage in the C-PACE program.

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.1 Provide Watershed Education

10 Points

Approved Information: 3.1.1a: Waterwise, an Educational Blog (5 points) 3.1.1a: Water Pollution Book Distribution and Storytelling (5 points) 3.1.1a allows up to 10 points for two activities.

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.1.1A WATERWISE BLOG.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.1.1A WATER BLOG POSTS - PART 2.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: "3.1.1a Waterwise Blog " is a compilation of Waterwise blog posts. "3.1.1a Water Blog Posts - Part 2" is a compilation of ongoing water blog posts. "3.1.1a Virtual Storytelling" is documented with a recording of the storytelling session with author Leticia Colon de Mejias, available at <https://www.facebook.com/hartfordsustainability/videos/2893703380723763/>

Partners: 3.1.1a: The Office developed and implemented the work, which was funded through separate grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Long Island Sound Futures Fund and the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. The Office also worked with nonprofit Green Eco Warriors, Mary Hooker Magnet School, Annie Fisher Magnet School, and the Department of Families, Children, Youth & Recreation's Early Learning Centers.

Additional Information: The Office of Sustainability completed this work thanks to the support of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Long Island Sound Futures Fund and the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Please note that the views contained in this submission are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Government or the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and its funding sources. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Government, or the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation or its funding sources. 3.1.1a Waterwise Blog. The City's Office of Sustainability started a blog with information on water pollution in the Connecticut River and greater Long Island Sound watersheds. Featured topics include: the Connecticut River's designation as the first and only National Blueway; opportunities to experience the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound; stormwater pollution; and local waterways. The target audience was intended for both residents and visitors. Although the Waterwise blog compilation ended in May 2020, the Office continues to share water-based content, such as water monitoring and river/ocean cleanups. 3.1.1a Water Pollution Book Distribution and Storytelling. The City's Office of Sustainability worked with local nonprofit Green Eco Warriors and CT DEEP to bring educational books and activities to young children and K-3 students. The Office procured hundreds of books (in both English and Spanish) on different topics, such as the dangers of plastic pollution and how plastic can travel through our watershed and reach the ocean. These books were provided to children at local schools and early learning centers. The Office also hosted a virtual storytelling hour with author, entrepreneur and activist Leticia Colon De Mejias. The storytelling hour included a Q&A with the author where she spoke more about how children can engage with environmental activism.

3.8 Implement Low Impact Development

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.8.3(c) Implement an LID Program that incentivizes homeowners (5 points).

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.8.3 2019 RTR TABLING POSTER.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [3.8.3 YOUTH SERVICE CORPS MEMBERS AT DISTRIBUTION EVENT](#)

Documentation Details: 3.8.3 2019 Rtr Tabling Poster. This is an informational poster that was used to educate residents at events. 3.8.3 Youth Service Corps Members at Distribution Event. This is a photo of YSC members helping at a 2019 rain barrel distribution event.

Partners: 3.8.3(c) The City led this effort, but also closely worked in partnership with groups such as Keney Park Sustainability Project, Our Piece of the Pie, the Hartford Youth Service Corps, the Metropolitan District, and many more.

Additional Information: Program Description: Established in 2018, with a second phase in 2019 and additional distributions in 2021, the "Retain the Rain" program encourages low-impact development practices on private property, specifically free, grant-funded rain barrels and downspout disconnection materials. The Retain the Rain flyer (with the program description included) has been attached. The City's Office of Sustainability presented the program at various NRZs, events, and meetings and distributed the rain barrels and downspout materials to residents and community members throughout 2018 - 2021. Award Announcement: See page 5 of the funder's 2018 grant slate at <https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/lisff/Documents/2018grantslate.pdf> 2019 Website: <https://www.hartfordct.gov/retaintherain> Metrics: Over 400 rain barrels have been distributed to date.

3.9 Manage Woodlands and Urban Forests

15 Points

Approved Information: 3.9.1 Tree Advisory Commission (5 points) 3.9.2 Forestry Activities (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.9.1 TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION AGENDA 0321.PDF](#)

WORD: [3.9.1 TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: 3.9.1 Tree Advisory Commission Agenda 0321. This is the March 2021 agenda. 3.9.1 Tree Advisory Commission Membership. This lists the current membership. 3.9.2 Tree Canopy Action Plan. This document is too large to upload. Please find the document at www.hartfordct.gov/sustainability (Look for plans under section 2). The tree assessment begins on page 128, and the goals are summarized on pages 15 and 21.

Partners: The Tree Advisory Commission is a City commission, but is led by resident and community volunteers.

Additional Information: Many forestry activities have occurred in the past three years from Arbor Day tree tags, tree lectures, planting events, videos, and trees for residents. The Tree Advisory Commission and City are deeply committed to continuing and increasing forestry actions. Hartford is also proud to be a Tree City USA (an Arbor Day Foundation designation) for the 26th year. The Hartford Tree Advisory Commission was established by municipal ordinance. The membership list and most recent agenda are attached. The Tree Advisory Commission and the City (through the Department of Public Works and the Office of Sustainability) have collaborated on a number of activities over the years. However, more recently, the City's grant-funded Tree Canopy Action Plan was a joint effort among many stakeholders, including the Office of Sustainability (project administration), Department of Public Works (forestry operations input/technical expertise), and Tree Advisory Commission (community engagement and feedback). The plan, presented to City Council committee in February 2021, included an assessment of public tree cover (classifying trees by size, species, and site location), tree planting and maintenance goals, and much more.

3.10 Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.10.2 Removal of Invasive Species (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [3.10.2 PICTURE OF MULTIPLE PARTICIPANTS AT WORK](#)

IMAGE: [3.10.2 PICTURE OF CLEAN-UP MATERIALS USED \(KAYAK, GARBAGE BAGS, GLOVES\)](#)

IMAGE: [3.10.2 PICTURE OF INVASIVE WATER CHESTNUT IN GOODWIN POND](#)

Documentation Details: 3.10.2 Please find the Sustainable CT Community Match Fund page for this project at: <https://ioby.org/project/protect-your-rivers> 3.10.2 Picture of multiple participants at work. 3.10.2 Picture of clean-up materials used. 3.10.2 Picture of Invasive Water Chestnut in Goodwin Pond.

Partners: 3.10.2 Removal of Invasive Species, CT River Conservancy implemented the activities. The City's Public Works staff coordinated with the Conservancy, whose activities took place on municipal property (city parks/ponds). Note: CT River Conservancy (CRC) offered these services to other towns as well. However, CRC works directly with each town; the City of Hartford only interacted with CRC, not the other towns, during this project.

Additional Information: 3.10.1a In 2016, the City of Hartford Planning & Zoning Commission revised its regulations. For the preceding two years, the Commission consulted with a wide range of groups, including the Tree Advisory Commission and the City Forester, to ensure that an entirely new chapter on trees demonstrated best municipal management practices. The types of trees now allowed (which exclude invasive species and plan for drought conditions) are at 6.4.2. In addition, invasive species are prohibited, and native landscaping is required wherever possible. These new provisions were not found in the prior zoning regulations. In 2020 and 2021, the Tree Advisory Commission, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Development Services, and the Office of Sustainability began the process of updating the tree species list found in the zoning code. After utilizing knowledge gained from a 2019 inventory and 2020 planning period, the group wrapped up their draft updates to the Tree Species List. This was a Community Match Fund project led by the Connecticut River Conservancy. In the summer of 2020 (once per week from June 30 – mid August 2020), the Connecticut River Conservancy removed invasive water chestnut from Hartford's Goodwin Park pond. Volunteers and staff in canoes hand-pulled invasive water chestnut plants, helping improve water quality and the health of the ecosystem. Hartford's Department of Public Works discussed and coordinated with the CT River Conservancy on the project, which took place on City property (Goodwin Park Pond). Overall, there were 84 hours of work and 779 cubic feet of water chestnut removed. This project was a part of the SCT Community Match Fund's first phase on the ioby platform. [Note: this action can be moved to 8.4 if the reviewer thinks that is appropriate.] The City also worked on reducing water chestnuts in Goodwin Park Pond (Fall 2020).

3.13 Promote Dark Skies

15 Points

Approved Information: 3.13.3 Dark Sky Regulations (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.13.3 ZONING CODE - DARK SKY.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 3.13.3 Zoning Code - Dark Sky, This is an excerpt of the zoning code, with 6.15.1a describing the intent and the design standards in 6.15.2.

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: Hartford's dark sky zoning regulations were included in the City's submission to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy's (ACEEE) City Scorecard. Hartford was ranked 23rd of 100 cities nationwide and received the recognition as the "Most Improved City" despite being the smallest city in the top 25. Although this work is outside of the timeframe of credit, please note that there has been light pollution work completed separately as part of Urban Bird Treaty efforts. The nonprofit Park Watershed has also continued to be a strong proponent of decreasing light pollution and supporting local ecosystems. In the Site Lighting section of the Zoning Regulations states that its intent is to "reduce light pollution, light trespass, glare and offensive light sources; and provide an environmentally sensitive nighttime environment that includes the ability to view the stars against a dark sky so that people can see the Milky Way Galaxy." This intent is reflected in the regulations in several ways: 1) Maximum Light Levels: 0.1 footcandles in residential areas and 0.2 footcandles in other areas. 2) Light Direction: "all exterior light sources shall be directed downward and the illumination confined to necessary or useful areas." 3) Prohibition of incandescent and halogen lamps for outdoor lighting. 4) Prohibition of Light Trespass: "Lighting shall be so designed to prohibit any direct illumination of any adjacent property and so as to not impinge upon any adjoining residential premises, or light trespass, to the greatest extent possible... The amount of light trespass shall be limited to a maximum of 25 footcandles at a distance of 25." 5) Glow: Glow, the result of "the combination of all light reflected from what is being illuminated and escaped into the night sky, should be minimized."

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Map Tourism and Cultural Assets

5 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.2 CTVisit Profile (5 points). The City's profile is here: <http://www.ctvisit.com/listings/city-hartford>

Documentation Details: No uploads required. 4.1.2 CTVisit Profile. The City's profile is here: <http://www.ctvisit.com/listings/city-hartford>

Partners: Not Applicable

4.2 Support Arts and Creative Culture

25 Points

Approved Information: 10 points for 3 sub-actions, and 15 additional points for the extra sub-actions. 4.2.1 Poet Laureate. The City has established the role of a poet laureate through ordinance. In 2020, 4.2.2. Arts and Culture Outreach. 4.2.4 Percent for the Arts. 4.2.5 Commission on Cultural Affairs. 4.2.6 Artist Appointments. 4.2.7 Streamline Permitting. 4.2.10.1

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [4.2.1 AND 4.2.6 POET LAUREATE AND ARTIST ORDINANCE.DOCX](#)

PDF: [4.2.4 HPL FY2020 ANNUAL REPORT.PDF](#)

WORD: [4.2.4 PERCENT FOR THE ARTS ORDINANCE.DOCX](#)

WORD: [4.2.5 COMMISSION ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS ORDINANCE.DOCX](#)

PDF: [4.2.10.1 HARTFORD CLIMATE NEWSLETTER 0321.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.2.10.1 EXCERPT ONEHARTFORD NEWSLETTER 020821.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.2.10.1 EXCERPT ONEHARTFORD NEWSLETTER 020121.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 4.2.1 and 4.2.6 Poet Laureate and Artist Ordinance. Establishment of a Poet Laureate role is in section c. Establishment of Flow Artist is section i, and Earth Artist is section h. The Poet Laureate was appointed in 2020; see article here: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/for-first-ever-poet-laureate-hartford-taps-resident-and-norwich-community-college-professor/ar-BB1bmWnO>. The Flow Artist position was open for applications in February 2021; the posting is here: <https://www.hartfordarts.org/about/ca-honorary-positions/>. 4.2.2. Arts and Culture Outreach. In addition to marketing outreach through the city newsletters and twitter (see 4.2.10.1 below), Hartford arts and culture events and activities are shared through other platforms such as the Commission on Cultural Affairs (CoCA) Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/cocahartford/>) and the Department of Families, Children, Youth, & Recreation (DFCYR) My Rec Page (<https://hartfordct.myrec.com/info/activities/default.aspx?type=activities>). 4.2.4 Percent for the Arts Ordinance. This is the ordinance establishing a Percent for the Arts program. 4.2.4 HPL FY2020 Annual Report. The City funds and supports arts programming through the Library and its Hartford History Center and Artwalk as well as through the Department of Families, Children, Youth & Recreation. 2020 arts activities were varied from virtual art tours to weekly arts and crafts classes. 4.2.5 Commission on Cultural Affairs Ordinance. The City of Hartford Commission on Cultural Affairs was established by ordinance, which is attached. The commission remains active on social media at: <https://www.facebook.com/cocahartford/>. They also have a website: <https://www.hartfordarts.org/>. 4.2.7 Streamline Permitting. There is no upload, please find the link to the special permits process and application, here: <https://www.hartfordct.gov/Government/Departments/DDS/DDS-Services/Special-Events-Permit>.

Partners: Within the City, the different entities include the Hartford Public Library, Commission on Cultural Affairs, Office of Community Engagement, Department of Development Services, and more.

Additional Information: 10 points for 3 sub-actions, and 15 additional points for the extra sub-actions. 4.2.1 Poet Laureate. The City has established the role of a poet laureate through ordinance. In 2020, Frederick Douglas Knowles II was appointed as the City's first Poet Laureate. 4.2.2. Arts and Culture Outreach. In addition to marketing outreach through the city newsletters and twitter (see 4.2.10.1 below), Hartford arts and culture events and activities are shared through other platforms such as the Commission on Cultural Affairs (CoCA) Facebook Page and the Department of Families, Children, Youth, & Recreation (DFCYR) My Rec Page. For examples, in 2020, the CoCA page shared information on a Black Lives Matter Mural event in Hartford; in 2021, the DFCYR shared various programming including grab and go arts kits and accompanying classes. 4.2.4 Percent for the Arts. The City established a Percent for the Arts program through ordinance - see municipal code Chapter 36 on page 1 of the uploaded Percent of the Arts document. The City supports arts programming through the Library and its Hartford History Center and Artwalk as well as through the Department of Families, Children, Youth & Recreation. 4.2.5 Commission on Cultural Affairs. The City of Hartford Commission on Cultural Affairs was established by ordinance, which is attached. CoCA's mission is its belief that the city's public art and cultural activities are visible expressions of civic pride, and it aims to contribute to the quality of life of Hartford residents as they experience their community. The commission remains active on social media at: <https://www.facebook.com/cocahartford/>. 4.2.6 Artist Appointments. Through ordinance, the City established the honorary positions of Flow Artist and an Earth Artist, who can receive honorariums of \$1000 per year over the three-year term. These positions are relatively new; the Commission on Cultural Affairs was soliciting applications until very recently in February 2021. 4.2.7 Streamline Permitting. In 2016, the events permitting system was overhauled through a series of meetings with the Department of Development Services, the Planning & Zoning Commission, the Department of Public Works, the Health Department, the Fire Department, and the Police Department. The result was a streamlined application and application process that alerted applicants to the requirements and obligations for each anticipated event. In addition, a special events coordinator was appointed. In 2020, the City reviewed its existing permitting process and transformed its online service request process. The new e-form, the coordinator's contact information, and the process details are available at: <https://www.hartfordct.gov/Government/Departments/DDS/DDS-Services/Special-Events-Permit>. The Special Events Coordinator remains active, attending public meetings such as the Parks and Recreation Commission. 4.2.10.1 Support Library Events. The Hartford Public Library's cultural programming is quite extensive, and the City of Hartford regularly promotes various events and programs through different newsletters and social media. For recent examples, OneHartford and Hartford Climate newsletters in 2021 have shared

events like the HPL Owls webinar and HPL poetry event. @HartfordClimate and @Hartford311, two City Twitter accounts, also retweet and share HPL events. For a full list of running programs and exhibits can be found here: <https://www.hplct.org/classes-seminars-exhibits>.

4.3 Develop a Creative Placemaking Plan

15 Points

Approved Information: 4.3.1 Creative Placemaking Plans (10 points) 4.3.2 Plan of Conservation Development (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [4.3.1 PLACEMAKING PLAN WORKSHEET 1.DOCX](#)

PDF: [4.3.1 IQUILT PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.3.1 IQUILT PLAN - 10 YEAR UPDATE.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.3.1 IQUILT POCKET BOOK.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.3.2 PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT 2035.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.3.1 HARTFORD400 PLAN EXCERPT.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 4.3.1 iQuilt Plan. This is the complete downtown iQuilt plan. Partners are listed on page 2. https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e7a62ada7efa22f5f978c97/t/5f9c7c2234595a507c9450fc/1604090932144/iQuilt-Overview_web.pdf 4.3.1 iQuilt Pocket Book. This is a pocket guide of the plan. https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e7a62ada7efa22f5f978c97/t/5f9c75bfb436406663f6d4f/1604089291039/iQ2-Pocket-Guide-Pages_WebRes.pdf 4.3.1 iQuilt Plan - 10 year update. This summarizes a decade of progress and implementation of the iQuilt Plan. The City's presence is integrated throughout the report from specific projects at parks to more broad support of local institutions. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e7a62ada7efa22f5f978c97/t/5f32b1aaafb3772cc550ba57/1597157816430/Downtown-Hartford-10-Years-v12f-low+%281%29.pdf> 4.3.1 Hartford400 Plan. This plan directly aligns with the local plan of conservation and development. For example on page 15, the five goals—simplified as Green, Grow, Live, Move, and Play—structure the proposed initial framework for Hartford 400 and the Hartford City Plan. The background and history are also emulate each other. Full plan at <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:f5bf80b9-3447-4854-b8dd-db124a843dfd> 4.3.1 Placemaking Plan Worksheet. This is a completed worksheet with plan references. 4.3.2 Plan of Conservation Development 2035. This is the City's newly adopted ten-year plan, which directly aligns with the broader, regional Hartford 400 initiative (Page 67). Full plan at <https://secureservercdn.net/198.71.233.179/3vb.fld.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/ApprovedPOCD.pdf>

Partners: 4.3.1 iQuilt Plan. The effort to develop and implement this work is led by the nonprofit, the iQuilt Partnership. However, the City was a key partner in developing the plan (see page 2 of the plan), and continues to support progress on the iQuilt initiative, particularly with improvements in the right of way (new placemaking signage and installation of facilities like bike racks). Numerous agencies and organizations also participated in the development of the plan. 4.3.1 Hartford400 Plan. The iQuilt Partnership helps convene the Hartford400 efforts, and the City is a key named partner in the effort (see page 3). Numerous agencies and organizations also participated in the development of the plan. Any future implementation of the plan will require use of both city and state land. 4.3.2 Plan of Conservation Development 2035 was developed by the Planning and Zoning Commission, who also held working groups with stakeholder organizations to assist. iQuilt was one of the institutional partners.

Additional Information: In 2008, the first inklings of the iQuilt Plan began to take shape. The intent was to recognize, promote, and uplift the cultural institutions and historic features that shape Hartford's urban landscape. Supported by two NEA Creative Placemaking grants, the coalition (which would eventually result in the creation of the iQuilt Partnership nonprofit) came together to create the iQuilt Plan, which not only inventories existing assets, but also is an innovative "urban design strategy for walkability and creative placemaking." The City was a major partner in this effort, and would go on to support the iQuilt Partnership across a broad range of related projects, detailed in the ten-year plan released in 2019. Along with the iQuilt Plan for downtown Hartford, the Hartford400 plan is a shared vision intended to celebrate and transform the identity of the Hartford region. The City of Hartford, along with other partners such as the iQuilt Partnership, CT Department of Transportation, the Town of East Hartford, and many more, came together to create the plan, which is a comprehensive reimagining of the Connecticut Valley and its Capital City. Like the City's new Plan of Conservation Development, the plan is intended to span the next 15 years, with a culmination of efforts in 2035, the 400th anniversary of Hartford's founding. The City's newly adopted ten-year plan directly aligns with the broader, regional Hartford 400 initiative (Page 67). This is in part because the City Plan coincides both in timing and intent with Hartford 400. The five goals—simplified as Green, Grow, Live, Move, and Play—structure the proposed initial framework for both the Hartford 400 and the Hartford City Plan. In addition, the City's plan also takes previous plans into account, including the original iQuilt Plan and the iQuilt Partnership was a key institutional stakeholder (Pages 43 and 72).

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices

5 Points

Approved Information: 5.3.1 Land Use Regulations (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [5.3.1 ZONING CODE EXCERPT.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 5.3.1. Zoning Code Excerpt. This document contains the relevant sections of the zoning code. See Zoning Regulations 3.3.3 – community gardens (A), honey beekeeping (B), urban farming (F); 3.7.2 farmers’ markets; 4.20.5 accessory urban agricultural structures; 4.20.6 accessory renewable energy structures.

Partners: Not Applicable

Additional Information: The zoning code embraces community gardens, honey bee keeping, farmers’ markets, and urban farming (including henhouses and composting). Urban agricultural sites are not precluded from installing renewable energy structures. For a few examples, KNOX Inc., a horticultural (and urban agricultural) nonprofit, has solar panels on site along with seasonal farmers’ markets. Keney Park Sustainability Project, an environmental stewardship (and urban agricultural) nonprofit, has henhouses, beehives, and composting on site. These structures are in addition to the urban farming taking places in greenhouses.

5.5 Inventory and Assess Historic Resources

5 Points

Approved Information: 5.5.4 Certified Local Government (5 points) Hartford is a Certified Local Government through the National Park Service program and recognized by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [5.5.4. CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2020 NOFO.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 5.5.4. Certified Local Government 2020 NOFO. According to the 2020 NOFO issued by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Hartford is one of the current CLGs certified by NPS.

Partners: Not Applicable

5.6 Streamline Solar Permitting for Small Solar Installations

10 Points

Approved Information: 5.6.2 SolSmart Designation (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [5.6.2 SOLSMART PROFILE.PDF](#)

PDF: [5.6.2 SOLSMART REVIEW SUMMARY.PDF](#)

PDF: [5.6.2 SOLSMART VALIDATION SUMMARY.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 5.6.2 SolSmart Profile. This is the SolSmart infographic profile for the city. 5.6.2 SolSmart Review Summary. This is the application with initial review comments. 5.6.2 SolSmart Validation Summary. This shows the points that were approved and relevant comments.

Partners: Not Applicable

Additional Information: The City reviewed zoning requirements, identified restrictions that intentionally or unintentionally prohibited solar PV development, and made changes that would ultimately reduce the turn-around time for the application to no more than 3 days. Hartford earned federal recognition as an inaugural SolSmart Gold city, with special recognition for "Planning & Zoning."

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.1 Implement Complete Streets

25 Points

Approved Information: 6.1.1 Complete Streets Team (5 points) The City of Hartford's Complete Streets Working Group meets on a monthly basis. They implement and share updates on ongoing projects, traffic safety, community engagement and more. 6.1.5 Bronze Bicycle Friendly Community (10 points) 6.1.6 Transportation Projects (10 points) There were a number of projects related to making streets safer and slower. This includes the first bike boulevard in the city (and the state) on Hampton Street. There were also a tactical urbanism traffic calming project on Russ Street, and a pilot project on Flatbush Avenue. More details and photos (where available) are in Worksheet 2.

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [6.1.1 AND 6.1.3 COMPLETE STREETS PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [6.1.1 COMPLETE STREETS MEETING NOTES 0221.PDF](#)

WORD: [6.1.3 COMPLETE STREETS ORDINANCE.DOC](#)

WORD: [6.1.3 COMPLETE STREETS WORKSHEET 1.DOCX](#)

PDF: [6.1.5 BRONZE BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY REPORT CARD.PDF](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 COMPLETE STREETS WORKSHEET 2.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: 6.1.1 Complete Streets Meeting Notes 0220. Meeting minutes from February 2021; includes participant list. 6.1.1 and 6.1.3 Complete Streets Plan. The Complete Streets ordinance charges the City with creating a Complete Streets Plan. This policy has been developed further in the plan using the input from various departments including Public Works, Police, Sustainability and has been adopted by the Planning & Zoning Commission and presented to City Council. The list of represented organizations is on page 2 of the plan. 6.1.3 Complete Streets Ordinance. Copy of the ordinance. 6.1.3 Complete Streets Worksheet 1. Completed worksheet. 6.1.5 Bronze Bicycle Friendly Community Report Card. The League of American Bicyclists Report Card for Hartford. 6.1.6 Complete Streets Worksheet 2. Completed worksheet.

Partners: 6.1 Complete Streets. The City convenes and facilitates the Complete Streets group, which includes representatives from Development Services, Health and Human Services, Office of Sustainability, Police, Public Works, City Council, City Residents, City Planning and Zoning Commission, Hartford Parking Authority, Capitol Region Council of Governments, Travelers, iQuilt, Hartford Business Improvement District, Center for Latino Progress: Transport Hartford and BiCi Co., East Coast Greenway Alliance, Bike Walk CT, Watch for Me CT, Consulting Firms: CDM Smith FHI Fuss & O'Neill.

Additional Information: In addition to these efforts, the City engages the public in a number of streetscape projects. Reimagining Main Street is one such initiative. It is a comprehensive visioning process for reinventing Main Street from State House Square to the South Green Area (approximately 4,000 linear feet). It is intended to engage the community in creating a vision and then a conceptual design plan to improve Main Street. This planning effort will envision how Main Street can be transformed into a complete street by providing pedestrian and bicycle amenities that currently do not exist, enhanced transit access, streetscape amenities, create linkages to adjacent major destinations, and address traffic operations and safety issues that puts the human experience front and center.

6.2 Promote Effective Parking Management

35 Points

Approved Information: 6.2a Non-Regulatory Actions (15 points) 6.2b Parking Actions (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [6.2B ZONING CODE PARKING REGULATIONS.PDF](#)

PDF: [6.2B HARTFORD DOWNTOWN PARKING.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 6.2b Zoning Code Parking Regulations. This is an excerpt of the City's current zoning code, last amended June 5, 2020. The parking regulations make up section 7. 6.2b Hartford Downtown Parking. This is an announcement about HPA's new parking zones.

Partners: Not Applicable

Additional Information: Hartford Parking Authority collaborates with a number of stakeholders to implement safe, effective street design. For example, HPA worked with the Department of Public Works and the local neighborhood group to add striping for parking, space for handicap parking, and parking meters at Capitol Avenue. These measures immediately changed the nature of the street, helping organize the roadway and allowing formal parking for customers at local businesses. These updates can show how collaborative parking policy and infrastructure can help shape our public spaces and economic corridors. Regulatory Actions - Rolling Credit. The City's Planning and Zoning Commission has implemented regulatory parking management strategies through Chapter 7 of the zoning code. The current zoning code includes the removal of parking minimums and the addition of parking maximums for cars. Separately, the City also instead imposes minimum requirements for sustainable transportation alternatives such as required bicycle parking and required EV charging station minimums (which provide EV parking and charging). These regulations apply citywide. Non-regulatory Actions - New Credit. Hartford Parking Authority issued dynamic pricing around the State Courthouse, which involves three separate City streets. In addition to this measure, HPA also implemented a Downtown Central Zone, increasing the price of parking from \$1 to \$2 per hour. In a small, but dense downtown area where over 8,000 commuters enter every weekday, the goals of the policy were to promote on-street parking availability for business and reduce traffic congestion. Since the implementation of these zones, parking spaces became more readily available downtown. There was also less double parking and congestion and higher parking turnover. This supports both the downtown merchant base and helps meet the City's needs for parking spaces and revenues.

6.3 Encourage Smart Commuting

10 Points

Approved Information: 6.3.1 Silver Status - 2021 CTrides Transportation Leaders Program (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [6.3.1 CTRIDES SILVER STATUS.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 6.3.1. CTrides Silver Status. An email from CTrides staff indicating Hartford's silver status.

Partners: Not Applicable

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

35 Points

Approved Information: 6.5.3 Walk Audit (10 points) 6.5.4 Bike Plan (10 points) 6.5.6 Scooter Share (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [6.5.3 BIKE PLAN WORKSHEET 2.DOCX](#)

PDF: [6.5.3 WALK AUDIT TRAINING WORKSHOP.PDF](#)

PDF: [6.5.4 BIKE PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [6.5.6 SCOOTER SHARE CRCOG AGREEMENT.PDF](#)

PDF: [6.5.6 SCOOTER SHARE WEBSITE.PDF](#)

WORD: [6.5.4 BIKE PLAN WORKSHEET 2.DOCX](#)

PDF: [6.5.3 WASHINGTON STREET WALK AUDIT.PDF](#)

WORD: [6.5.3 WALK AUDIT WORKSHEET 1.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: 6.5.3 Washington St Walk Audit. This is a report from the Washington St. Walk Audit. 6.5.3 Walk Audit Training Workshop. This is the event page for the training workshop. 6.5.3 Walk Audit Worksheet 1. This is the completed workshop for the audit. 6.5.4 Bike Plan. This plan was adopted by City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission. See Worksheet 2 for references. 6.5.4 Bike Plan Worksheet 2. This worksheet lists references. 6.5.6 Scooter Share CRCOG Agreement. This is CRCOG's agreement for the Superpedestrian's scooter share. 6.5.6 Scooter Share Website. This is the Hartford website for scooter share.

Partners: 6.5.3 Transport Hartford Academy at the Center for Latino Progress led the walk audit. Staff from the City of Hartford Planning Division and Hartford Parking Authority participated in the Washington Street audit and the walk audit training. 6.5.4 The Bike Plan was drafted by the City and its consultant, but the Complete Streets group also provided a significant amount of input on development of the plan.

Additional Information: The City's Energy Improvement District is also supportive of mode shift, encouraging a reduction of transportation emissions and increased mode shift in its updated Comprehensive Plan. Transport Hartford Academy at the Center for Latino Progress has hosted over a dozen walk audits in Hartford. The City typically participates with staff time, having representatives from the Planning Division, and at times, the Hartford Parking Authority and Department of Public Works. Please see the audit report and worksheet 1 for more information. The City's adopted Bike Plan is a comprehensive implementation strategy that identifies best practices, creates a new framework for site selection for bike facilities, and includes priority ranking and estimated pricing for dozens of proposed bike projects. After a bikeshare pilot in 2018, the City decided to partner with the regional Council of Governments to create a more seamless, large-scale shared mobility system. The Capitol Region Council of Governments issued a Request for Proposals (RFP), in which 19 towns and cities agreed to participate in. As of November 2019, CRCOG selected Zagster to provide docked bikeshare. Zagster was then acquired by Super Pedestrian, who focuses on scooter share program. With these developments, the CRCOG and the City are in contract with Superpedestrian, whose scooter system is called "LINK." LINK is launching this spring in 2021.

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.3 Achieve High Energy Performance for Individual Buildings

5 Points

Approved Information: 7.3.2 LEED (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [7.3.2 LEED MARY HOOKER SCHOOL.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 7.3.2 LEED Mary Hooker School. This is the LEED profile from the USGBC website.

Partners: Not Applicable

Additional Information: Hartford's Mary Hooker School is certified LEED Platinum, as shown on the USGBC website (<https://www.usgbc.org/projects/mary-m-hooker-enviro-science-magnet>), and the profile is uploaded here. The Environmental Sciences Magnet School at Mary Hooker has a building and campus that provide many different ecosystems and labs, which allow students to directly experience and explore different environmental topics. The building also continues to perform well relative to its counterparts. The City benchmarks its largest facilities (including schools), and in 2019, Mary Hooker School ranked in the top 10 in terms of lower energy use in Btu per square foot.

7.6 Install Efficient Exterior Lighting

15 Points

Approved Information: 7.6.2b. Convert Municipal Street/Exterior Lighting In 2017, the City of Hartford received a \$5 million grant from CT DEEP to retrofit its streetlights to LED. Given the scale of the project, the work took several years, with the streetlight portion of the project completed by 2020. Lighting in parking lots and parks was upgraded as a result of this grant.

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [7.6.2B COUNCIL - STREETLIGHT RETROFIT APPROVAL- 032717.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [7.6.2B STREETLIGHT MAP.PNG](#)

PDF: [7.6.2B POCD EXCERPT.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 7.6.2b Council - Streetlight Retrofit Approval- 032717. This document shows that the City accepted a CT DEEP grant to fund this project. 7.6.2b. Streetlight Map. The City inventories all streetlights (including those owned by utilities) on the map found here: <https://gis1.hartford.gov/publicworks/streetlights/>. This map shows ownership, style, and LED details where available. Uploaded is a screenshot showing an example of a City-owned LED streetlight. 7.6.2b. POCD Excerpt. Adopted in 2020, the City's 10-year plan highlights various green successes in Hartford, including the completion of the streetlight retrofit.

Partners: 7.6.2 This project was grant-funded by CT DEEP.

7.7 Implement a Community Energy Campaign

10 Points

Approved Information: 7.7 Community Energy Campaign (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [7.7.1 ENERGY EQUITY CHALLENGE - GROUP 1 BROCHURE.PDF](#)

PDF: [7.7.1 ENERGY EQUITY CHALLENGE – GROUP 2 BROCHURE.PDF](#)

PDF: [7.7.1 HOME ENERGY SOLUTIONS BROCHURE.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 7.7.1 Energy Equity Challenge – Group 1 Brochure. This is a brochure intended for renters, homeowners and landlord 7.7.1 Energy Equity Challenge – Group 2 Brochure. This is a brochure intended for multifamily and commercial property owners. 7.7.1 Home Energy Solutions - Brochure. This is the brochure that was included in the mail insert to property owners.

Partners: 7.7.1. This effort included the partnership of a number of stakeholders including other City departments, ENERGY STAR, Community Renewal Team, Operation Fuel, CT Green Bank, Energize CT, UI/SCG/CNG, and Eversource.

Additional Information: Note: The Energy Equity Challenge was first started in Fall 2019, before being paused in Spring 2020. The second iteration of the Challenge began in 2021, and will have additional branding under the Love Hartford, Energize Hartford campaign. Please find information on both versions below. Also, note that there was an equity toolkit completed for this action, and the toolkit may be found under 1.1. 7.7.1a Audience and Goal 2019: The City recognizes the high energy burden that its residents experience, and has testified on a number of state bills in an effort to support energy-related reforms. In Hartford, thousands of households have a high to extremely high energy burden. In an effort to help residents reduce costs with energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy installations, the Office of Sustainability sought to bring awareness about the suite of resources available to the community. Specifically, the program is intended for two different groups. Group 1 is comprised of renters, homeowners and landlords. Group 2 is comprised of multifamily and commercial property owners. Several of the programs also reduce barriers for low- to moderate- income residents, with free or discounted offerings. 2021: Hartford residents are challenged with high utility rates, older (and often more inefficient) housing stock, and crippling energy burdens. To support our residents during a time of exceptional need, our programming will promote a variety of energy initiatives to improve resident access to resources that stabilize utility bills, make homes more comfortable, address health and safety barriers, and improve home values. The program will also directly help residents navigate the registration process for the highlighted free and cost-effective energy-related resources. 7.7.1b Program Design 2019: The campaign was intended to spread awareness on the numerous programs available to the community from Energize CT to C-PACE, Solar for All, the Housing Preservation Loan Fund, and more. The City convened the program administrators for these programs (see partners comment below), and together, strategized the outreach efforts. The specific activities included: 1) Distributing printed program brochures in a mail insert (uploaded); 2) Developing new materials for a consolidated summary of programs (uploaded); 3) Going out to community meetings to spread awareness on the campaign; 4) Sharing the campaign on social media and creating a webpage (archived at <https://www.hartfordct.gov/Government/Departments/Mayors-Office/Mayor-Initiatives/Sustainability/energyequitychallenge>) 5) Hosting stakeholder meetings to design, review, and approve content and program design. 2021: Like the previous version, the campaign is intended to increase awareness on the energy programs available to residents. However, this iteration goes further by providing direct support services for residents. Often times the registration process can be challenging for residents. In order to address this issue, the City is working with external partners to help participants confirm their eligibility and navigate the registration process. Actions taken include: 1) Collecting feedback from the community through in-person outreach at events like farmers markets (<https://cityofhartford.teamwork.com/p/forms/6ZLLEk4FdRkLGZV5zMqe>); 2) Presenting at community meetings; 3) Implementing preliminary intake/registration; 4) Convening stakeholder meetings to design materials and program design. 7.7.1c Implementation. 2019: In November 2019, Mayor Luke Bronin issued the Energy Equity Challenge for all Hartford residents and local property owners. The goal was to reduce energy use, support neighborhoods, and ensure that all residents, including renters, take advantage of free resources to improve properties. The Office of Sustainability presented the program to a number of neighborhoods groups and distributed the brochures both digitally and physically. The working group of stakeholders met monthly during the active months of the campaign to report on updates and progress. Other details include: 1) Period of the program: November 2019 - March 2020; 2) Resident/Community groups reached: SODO, SW/BTR, Energy Improvement District, mailings to property owners; 3) Lessons Learned: As this was an information campaign, actual program participation numbers did not go through the City. Moreover, due to privacy concerns, there were limitations on what could be shared from the external program partners. For future iterations, the City needs a way to track impact and participation. 2021: The campaign goes beyond the 2019 iteration by providing residents with direct assistance during the registration process. Moreover, there are specific metrics and goals for the program: 1) Reach 500 residents; and 2) Ensure that at least 10% of these households are weatherized, with 25 or more deeper retrofits. Partners EFG and NHS are assisting on the effort. Other details include: 1) Period of the program: July 2021 - June 2022; 2) Resident/Community groups reached: North End Farmers Market, West End Farmers Market, Frog Hollow NRZ; 3) Metrics. Partner organization NHS will be collecting active participation numbers. However, as this second phase is still relatively new, more time is needed before participation numbers are shared.

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: [8.1.1 EVENT TEMPLATE-.XLSX](#)

Documentation Details: 8.1.1 Event Template. This template lists the 10+ events that are being submitted for credit. There are also equity toolkits associated with this action. Please see action 1.1 for more details. Many of our event recordings are also found online at: facebook.com/hartfordsustainability.

Partners: 8.1.1 There were numerous partners for this action as a whole. Please refer to the last column in the attached template for the complete list of partners. For a brief preview, the City has worked with Sustainable CT, CT Green Bank, CT Roundtable for Climate and Jobs, Sierra Club, and more.

8.4 Support Community Match Fund (CMF) Project and Civic Engagement

5 Points

Approved Information: 8.4 Community Match Fund Project (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [8.4 CMF TEMPLATE - COLT PARK.XLSX](#)

IMAGE: [8.4 COLT ENTRANCE - BEFORE.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [8.4 COLT ENTRANCE - CLOSE UP.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [8.4 COLT PROJECT - WETHERSFIELD AVE ENTRANCE.JPG](#)

Documentation Details: 8.4 CMF Template - Colt Park: This is the required template for this action. The entry describes the conversation that we had with the Colt Park Project leader in 2020. 8.4 Colt Entrance - Before: This is an image of the project before implementation. 8.4 Colt Entrance - Close Up: This is an image of the project after implementation. 8.4 Colt Project - Wethersfield ave entrance: This is an image from the street entrance.

Partners: The project lead was from the Friends of Colt Park, a local group that helps care for and create programming in Hartford's historic Colt Park. They completed the implementation of the project, which was installed on City park property.

Additional Information: This was an approved SCT CMF project. The project page is available at: https://www.patronicity.com/project/colt_park_tree_plan It was originally intended to be a master tree plan for the park. However, as funding was limited, the project was changed to a tree planting effort. The trees were planted at the park entrance in spring of 2021.

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.4 Develop a Food Waste Prevention Campaign or Food Scraps Recovery Campaign or Program

10 Points

Approved Information: 9.4.2: Choose one or more target sectors in which to implement a food scraps recovery campaign or food waste prevention (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [9.4.2 COMPOSTING VIDEO SCREENSHOT.PNG](#)

IMAGE: [9.4.2 NEIGHBORHOOD COMPOSTING PROJECT - LYB.PNG](#)

Documentation Details: 9.4.2 Composting Video Screenshot. This is a still image of the City composting How-To-Video 9.4.2 Neighborhood Composting Project - LYB. This is an image of the composting project that was awarded funding through the City's small grants program in Year 3 (2021).

Partners: 9.4.2. Keney Park Sustainability Project and guest Sam King assisted and spoke in the educational video. 9.4.2. The Town of West Hartford worked with commissioners from the Hartford Advisory Commission on Food Policy to host a Hartford-West Hartford area composter sale in April 2021.

Additional Information: Our community's food waste prevention efforts included instructional composting content and the distribution of compost bins to residents in 2019. In 2020 as well as February 2021, Hartford Health and Human Services staff communicated with the Office of Sustainability on composting, the importance of composter maintenance, and the reporting of rodent issues. An additional piece of documentation is a composting video that the Office of Sustainability funded and worked on in partnership with the Keney Park Sustainability Project. https://www.facebook.com/663557830742476/videos/3445084155520169/?__so__=watchlist&__rv__=video_home_www_playlist_video_list. A dedicated commissioner from the Hartford Advisory Commission on Food Policy, with the partnership of local organizations and West Hartford, also led the effort on hosting Hartford-area composter sales, the second of which was in April 2021 (previous website at <https://thehartfordcompostersale.company.site/>). As part of Hartford's ongoing efforts in food waste prevention, the City's plan for future actions include continuing organic waste grant application efforts (submitted with local partners in 2020 and 2021, awaiting response in 2021), supporting a neighborhood composting project through the City small grants program (to be implemented in 2021-2022), and anticipating additional distributions of composters and information to residents in late 2021. Dates are to be determined, but materials and/or funding have already been allocated for the composters and neighborhood project this year, indicating the City's commitment to those projects.

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.1 Encourage Healthy and Sustainable Food Networks

10 Points

Approved Information: 10.1.1 Food Policy Commission. Established by municipal ordinance in 1991, the Hartford Advisory Commission on

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.1.1 FOOD POLICY COMMISSION AGENDA 0321.PDF](#)

PDF: [10.1.1 FOOD POLICY COMMISSION MINUTES 1120.PDF](#)

WORD: [10.1.1 FOOD POLICY COMMISSION ORDINANCE.DOCX](#)

WORD: [10.1.1 HACFP MEETING DATES](#)

Documentation Details: 10.1.1 Food Policy Commission Agenda. This is a copy of an agenda from March 2021. The list of current commissioners is included here. 10.1.1 Food Policy Commission Minutes. This is a copy of minutes from the November 2020 meeting. 10.1.1 Food Policy Commission Ordinance. This is an excerpt of the municipal code establishing the commission. The ordinance describes the goals and principles of the commission. 10.1.1 HACFP Meeting Dates. This is a list of the dates that HACFP has met from 2019 to 2021.

Partners: This is a City Commission. Overall, the Food Policy Commission includes participation from a variety of stakeholders from Hartford Food System and Foodshare to City Departments and individual residents.

Additional Information: Food Policy is charged with supporting food access, food quality, and nutrition-related efforts. The structure of the committee includes roles for residents, field experts, and City staff. The commission remains very active, with individual commissioners as well as representing organizations growing, distributing, and eventually, composting food.

10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.4 Community Gardens (15 points)

Documentation Details: 10.4 The documentation is provided in the form of links to KNOX's platforms or social media feeds. See below for submission information 10.4 Community Gardens (15 points) Several nonprofits and community groups operate community gardens on municipal property. Of these groups, KNOX Hartford is a local nonprofit that operates many of them (total 20 in Hartford). Garden plots can range from 300 to 625 square feet, and participants receive additional support through KNOX's free seeds, water, workshop, library, and more. Photos and a map of local community gardens can be found in the KNOX Community Gardening Brochure: <https://www.knoxhartford.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/KNOX-Garden-Brochure-4.7.20t.pdf> Information about the program is shared in an engaging manner through several different platforms: 1) Social media: <https://twitter.com/NorthHartford/status/1374034936894742533/photo/1> 2) Website: <https://www.knoxhartford.org/programs/community-gardens/> 3) Volunteer Events/Workshops: <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxInc/photos/3294020527317097> 4) Gardener Awards: <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxInc/photos/4387336547985484>

Partners: 10.4 This effort is led and managed by KNOX. The City supports these efforts by providing the use of municipal property. The City has also shared the program through different digital media (newsletters, social media posts, etc.).

Additional Information: Several nonprofits and community groups operate community gardens on municipal property. Of these groups, KNOX Hartford is a local nonprofit that operates many of them (total 20 in Hartford). Garden plots can range from 300 to 625 square feet, and participants receive additional support through KNOX's free seeds, water, workshop, library, and more. Photos and a map of local community gardens can be found in the KNOX Community Gardening Brochure: <https://www.knoxhartford.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/KNOX-Garden-Brochure-4.7.20t.pdf> Information about the program is shared in an engaging manner through several different platforms: 1) Social media: <https://twitter.com/NorthHartford/status/1374034936894742533/photo/1> 2) Website: <https://www.knoxhartford.org/programs/community-gardens/> 3) Volunteer Events/Workshops: <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxInc/photos/3294020527317097> 4) Gardener Awards: <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxInc/photos/4387336547985484>

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

60 Points

Approved Information: 11.2.1 Affordable Housing Percentages (10 points) 11.2.2 Increase Affordable Housing (40 points) 11.2.3 Fund Affordable Housing Programs (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [11.2.2 CT DOH AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST - 2016.PDF](#)

PDF: [11.2.3 HARTFORD HOUSING BUDGET.PDF](#)

PDF: [11.2.1 CT DOH AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST - 2020.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: "11.2.1 CT DOH Affordable Housing Appeals List - 2020" Uploaded here is a copy of the most recent annual CT Department of Housing Affordable Housing Appeals list, showing Hartford as an exempt municipality due to the fact that there is 39.87% affordable housing -- the highest in the state. "11.2.1 CT DOH Affordable Housing Appeals List-2020" Uploaded here is a copy of the most recent annual CT Department of Housing Affordable Housing Appeals list, showing Hartford has 38.28% affordable housing. "11.2.3 Hartford Division of Housing Budget" is an excerpt of the City's adopted FY21 budget. See the pages 2 and 8 for mentions of the Home Program Fund for affordable housing development. Other pages include information on the Division of Housing and grants that the City receives.

Partners: 11.2. Affordable housing initiatives require cooperation across all levels of government, including the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and CT Department of Housing. The City receives grant funding and administers the programs.

Additional Information: *UPLOADED DOCUMENTS* · 2017 DOH Affordable Housing Appeals · 2012 DOH Affordable Housing Appeals *SUMMARY DESCRIPTION* 8.2-1 (10 points) and 2 (40 points): Total 50 points 1. Uploaded here is a copy of the most recent annual CT Department of Housing Affordable Housing Appeals list, showing Hartford as an exempt municipality due to the fact that there is 38.35% affordable housing -- the highest in the state as of 2017. This can also be found at the following link: [http://www.ct.gov/doh/lib/doh/final_appeals_summary_2017_rev_\(00000002\).pdf](http://www.ct.gov/doh/lib/doh/final_appeals_summary_2017_rev_(00000002).pdf) As the chart shows, there are 51,822 units of total housing, and 10,044 are governmentally-assisted units, 8,354 are tenant rental assistance units, and 1,477 are CHFA/USDA mortgages. This is above the 10% affordable housing threshold. 2. In 2012 (document uploaded here or at this link: http://www.ct.gov/doh/lib/doh/doh/appeals_summary_2012_amended.pdf), the baseline year within 5 years of 2017, the City of Hartford had just 37.14% affordable housing. Therefore, the percentage of affordable housing (in absolute terms) increased by 1.21%, and thus should receive 40 points as the increase was greater than four 1/4 percentage points. NOTE: This action was submitted during the pre-application period, and edits have been made to respond to reviewer feedback. 11.2.1 Affordable Housing Percentages The City is on the 2020 CT Department of Housing Affordable Housing Appeals list. Hartford has 39.87% affordable housing. 11.2.2 Increase Affordable Housing In 2020, Hartford had 39.87% affordable housing, up from 38.28% in 2016. There is a 1.59% increase, making Hartford eligible for the full 40 points for this category. 11.2.3 Fund Affordable Housing Programs Within the City's municipal budget, the Division of Housing focuses on creating an environment conducive to the development and maintenance of affordable and market rate homeownership and rental housing for current and future Hartford residents. The Division administers several loan programs funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The amount of private and other public funds leveraged for properties financed through City investment across various housing programs is \$19,198,426. This includes the City's HUD grant for the Home Program Fund, established under the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990. The purpose of the Home Program is to expand the supply of decent, affordable housing for low-income families; \$1 million was utilized in FY2019. In addition to the Division of Housing, the City has a separate agency known as the Housing Authority of the City of Hartford (HACH), whose mission is to provide safe, decent and affordable high-quality housing and homeownership choices. As a Public Housing Agency, the HACH administers the housing voucher program, development of affordable housing, and more.

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

35 Points

Approved Information: 13.1: Created a "Love Your Block" small grants program and tool-lending library (15 points); implemented innovative and inclusive participatory budgeting process (20 points).

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [13.1 LOVE YOUR BLOCK COMMUNITY GARDEN PHOTO.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [13.1 TOOL TRAILER PHOTO.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [13.1 HARTFORD DECIDES - KEEP KIDS COOL TREE PLANTING PHOTO.JPG](#)

PDF: [13.1 HARTFORD DECIDES - 2020 WINNERS.PDF](#)

PDF: [13.1 HARTFORD DECIDES - FY20 ALLOCATED BUDGET.PDF](#)

PDF: [13.1 HARTFORD DECIDES FAQ.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 13.1 Love Your Block Community Garden Photo. This photo is from the Grand Street community garden. The project allowed for growing more food in the garden as well as engaging and educating the community. 13.1 Tool Trailer Photo. This is the new tool trailer that can be reserved residents and community members. 13.1 Hartford Decides – Keep Kids Cool Tree Planting Photo. Community members, Hartford Public Schools, City, and nonprofit KNOX representatives plant the last of 125 funded trees (2019). 13.1 Hartford Decides - 2020 Winners. This lists the winners from the previous year. 13.1 Hartford Decides - FY20 Allocated Budget. This shows the budget amount for the Hartford Decides program in FY20 (\$50,000). 13.1 Hartford Decides - FAQ. This provides additional detail on the program.

Partners: 13.1 Love Your Block and Tool Trailer. This work would not have been possible without the generous support of Cities of Service / Americorps VISTAs (Love Your Block) and the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving / The Funders Network / Urban Sustainability Directors Network (trailer and tools). The City implemented Love Your Block with staff time from the Office of Community Engagement, and Hartford Decides through relevant departments (Public Works, Development Services, etc.). Importantly, this work was accomplished with the dedication and imagination of the residents, volunteers, and community stakeholders that showed their commitment to Hartford through hours of planning, coordination, and hard work. The number of partners is too numerous to list. Instead, project-specific partners are available at: <https://www.hartfordct.gov/Government/Departments/Mayors-Office/Mayor-Initiatives/LYB-Hartford> 13.1 Hartford Decides. Hartford Next, the coalition of neighborhood revitalization zones, partnered with the Hartford Public Library, the City of Hartford, Leadership Greater Hartford and the Metro Hartford Alliance came together to introduce the program. Hartford Next continues to manage the program, which the City funds and implements with staff or contractors (open bids).

Additional Information: 13.1 Love Your Block Small Grants and Tool Lending Library (20 points) WHAT: This is a new initiative that began in 2019. Love Your Block Hartford is a mini-grant program that supports residents who want to make a difference in their community by funding projects focused on combating litter, activating vacant lots, and strengthening neighborhood pride. Ideal locations are gateway areas with high visibility and high-impact. HOW: Initially funded by a Cities of Service grant, this program was administered by the City. Americorps VISTAs assisted in spreading awareness on the program. Residents were encouraged to submit their ideas, and VISTAs assisted applicants with their submissions. These applications were reviewed by panelists, and chosen projects were completed within the same calendar year. Projects often needed the use of tools (shovels, wheelbarrows, and litter pickers) and materials (like gloves and bags). Recognizing this, the City worked with the Hartford Foundation of Public Giving to create a new Adopt Your Block Trailer to remove barriers. This trailer contains a variety of tools and equipment available to residents. The tools can be requested through an online form. The requestor must complete a brief orientation and discuss their project with City Staff. If specialty equipment is requested (power tools), any volunteers using those tools must be identified and take a separate orientation with Public Works staff. For convenience, the trailer (with the tools) is delivered directly to the requested project area. The trailer was used to implement the Love Your Block projects in 2020 and cleanups in 2021. WHO: Local residents applied for neighborhood beautification, revitalization and greening small grants (\$1,000). The first year focused on resident projects in the Frog Hollow neighborhood, and the second year expanded the program citywide. WHY: This program was a resounding success, with significant impacts despite the small size of the grants. In the first year alone, over 100 pounds of trash was removed, over 90 volunteers participated, 2 murals were painted, 5 benches were customized and installed, and 1

community garden was expanded. Given the success and popularity of the program, the City chose to continue the program beyond the initial 2-year grant. In addition, the City's new tool trailer is now a lending library that will serve neighborhoods far into the future. The City also continues to add to the tool trailer; in 2021, the Office of Sustainability stocked more grant-funded tools and materials for tree planting. Ultimately, residents were empowered to reimagine their neighborhood and make those visions a reality; and with the ongoing program and trailer, neighborhood stewardship efforts will continue to grow even further. Unlike the participatory budgeting program shared below, this program is hands-on and allows residents to directly implement the projects that they create.

13.1 Participatory Budgeting (20 points)

WHAT: Hartford Decide\$ is the very first Participatory Budgeting Program in Hartford AND the first in the state of Connecticut. **HOW:** Members of the community brainstorm ideas for projects that will improve Hartford neighborhoods and/or the community at large. Residents vote on the winning proposals, which are then implemented by City Staff or specified organizations as the projects may be large scale or infrastructure-based. For example, nonprofit KNOX Inc. planted 125 trees at Hartford schools, and the City installed new lighting across multiple parks. **WHO:** Any Hartford community member, business owner, or resident 13 years of age and older may submit project ideas for Hartford Decide\$, but only Hartford residents can place a vote. The program welcomes youth participation, and any Hartford resident 13 years of age or older may vote regardless of citizenship status. **WHY:** Unlike the Love Your Block program, Hartford Decide\$ is unique in that it: a) is not grant-funded, but instead receives direct funds from the City-budgeted Capital Improvements Fund; and b) the winners are selected by a citywide resident vote, not by panelists. This is a democratic process, with City funds going to the community based the projects that residents choose directly