

**AGENDA**  
**NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASKFORCE**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2023, 5:15 PM**

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:15 PM to on Zoom (see link at end of agenda) to discuss the following items:

1. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting
2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff
  - a. Buckeye Terminal: Permit Applications at 140 Forbes Ave and 280 Waterfront St.
    - i. Buckeye Energy Holdings LLC (“Buckeye”) owns oil tanks at 140 Forbes Ave and 280 Waterfront St. The Title V permits for these two facilities are up for renewal (as they are every 5 years), and Buckeye must complete a public participation process as a component of both permit applications.
    - ii. Waterfront: Public Informational Hearing last Tuesday (9/12).
    - iii. Forbes: Meeting to discuss Community Environmental Benefit Agreement on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM (the day before this meeting). Let OCS know if you would like to be there!
  - b. Working on agreements with solar developer Greenskies to install new solar arrays on landfill, City and school buildings
    - i. OCS staff is working with City departments and Greenskies Clean Energy to complete agreements for solar arrays on 2 school parking lot canopies (each 200kW AC), the Q House (125kW AC), 200 Wintergreen (NHPD facility) (77 kW DC), and the top of the landfill (750 kW AC).
  - c. Re-launching our I Heart My Home canvassing campaign!
    - i. We’ll be canvassing neighborhoods (with a focus on those with high shares of 2-4 family, owner-occupied homes) a couple evenings (5-7 pm or so) per week for the next few months, please join us! Sign up here:  
<https://forms.gle/sdQZAH1CzjShDfu19>
  - d. City & Urban Resources Initiative (URI) awarded US Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Grants totaling \$3 million.
    - i. City Department of Parks & Public Works awarded \$362,000 to develop an urban forest master plan and a citywide canopy assessment.
    - ii. URI awarded \$2,640,847 for stump removal, tree pit expansion, new tree pit creation, and the planting of 2500 additional trees in environmental justice communities over five years.
    - iii. Goal of increasing tree canopy, reducing urban heat island effect, and providing green jobs to 60 residents
  - e. Upcoming event: What’s In, What’s Out Workshop on October 23<sup>rd</sup> (the Monday before our next meeting) at 6 PM in the Downtown Branch Library Community Program Room, or on Zoom by registration (Register at [bit.ly/WIWOnhv](http://bit.ly/WIWOnhv) and please share!)

- i. In this hybrid virtual/in-person workshop, sustainable materials management expert Sherrill Baldwin from the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection will provide an overview of acceptable materials in CT's mixed recycling program and answer questions about recycling and trash.
  - f. Materials reclamation facility sites for the Cedar Hill Yards site near the line with North Haven.
    - i. CPC received a proposal to regrade the Cedar Hill Yards site with the import of +25,000 CY of fill material. The action is meant to prepare the site for a materials reclamation facility, including an incinerator. It also borders wetlands.
    - ii. On Tuesday's CPC meeting, the proposal was tabled without a definite date for a return to discussion.
  - g. Shellfish recycling: *"We work with the CT Bureau of Aquaculture on getting the shell back in the water for restoration projects. David Carey is the Director and oversees and permits all restoration work. They are looking to do some large-scale projects starting next year. We should be meeting with them in October to start planning for next year's projects."*
    - i. OCS has shared information with Town Green District and
- 3. Funding the Climate Justice Schools program directly through New Haven Climate Movement (NHCM) for Fiscal year 2023-2024:
  - a. The Taskforce voted to move forward with the proposal on a provisional basis, given that Steve can confirm the City procurement process doesn't prove to be an obstacle and that the NHCM provides a detailed budget.
  - b. Steve discussed funding 3 schools (rather than 4) with New Haven Climate Movement, which would put the total budget below \$10,000 and will work with procurement to draft an MOU.
- 4. Discussion Items: (Max's suggestions)
  - a. Linda shared a link to a [Union of Concerned Scientists report on diesel emissions in Connecticut](#), which are especially high in New Haven given the interstate corridors. Most of these emissions come from medium and heavy duty vehicles. The [legislature authorized DEEP to adopt California's emissions standards](#) for medium and heavy duty vehicles. Professor [Douglass Brugge at UCONN](#) has studied air quality impacts of highways.
    - i. Can Engineering provide an update on potential air quality monitoring systems the City can deploy to monitoring NOx, VOCs, PM2.5, etc?
  - b. Carryover from last meeting: [HUD Green Resilient and Retrofit Program](#) (Thank you to Ginger Chapman)
    - i. Goal is to decrease energy consumption by 25% and GHG emissions by 50%. Funding available for property owners to add resilience & efficiency measures to recapitalization projects already in progress (\$140 million [Elements Awards](#)), for properties in earlier stages to be designed to highest standards of efficiency (\$400 million [Leading Edge Awards](#)), and for recapitalization investments in efficiency, carbon reduction, and resilience (\$1.47 billion [Comprehensive Awards](#)).

- c. Public campaign: At our last meeting we talked about using some of the remaining CETF funding for a public climate campaign.
  - i. Latha shared links to this educational campaign illustrating benefits of building electrification and the harms of gas in buildings:  
<https://www.sierraclub.org/san-francisco-bay/blog/2021/08/building-electrification-heat-pump-water-heaters-illustration-vrinda> and  
<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/alumni/reunion/art-exhibit/2022/vrinda-manqlik.html>
  - ii. What would a campaign look like for New Haven? Who would be involved?
  - iii. What message would we be amplifying? Could we organize a visual or storytelling campaign or contest to promote the Inflation Reduction Act home [electrification rebates](#), which will be available next year?

Zoom URL: <https://newhavenct.zoom.us/j/87476255985?pwd=UVIMS1NxOFVGNkxSQ3Bnd2ZiVWtrdz09>

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