



2024 SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT



COMMUNITY DESIGN FOR ALL AGES! DROP-IN COACHING SESSION

May 3, 2024

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WIFI INFORMATION: 2 Open Networks

1. **sustainablenj**: Ballroom, GS3, Nonprofit Exhibit area
2. **Bell_Works_Conf_Center**: Bell Theatre & Conference



Sustainable Jersey Action: Community Design for All Ages





Community Design for All Ages Action



Actions

Sustainable Jersey actions are designed with flexibility to meet the varying needs of all municipalities. Actions are organized within action categories. Each action description below outlines steps for completion, certification points, resources, and municipal spotlights. Review the requirements to earn Bronze or Silver certification [here](#). Many actions have variable points, which means there are several ways to complete the action based on the work done. Access your municipality's application for certification through the [Municipal Dashboard](#).

Important Note: Due to changes in Chrome, some documents in Sustainable Jersey actions may not download after clicking on the link. The documents can still be downloaded in Chrome by **right clicking** on the link and selecting to **open it in a new tab or window**.

Search Actions

Type in a word(s) to identify all actions with that word(s) in the title

Mandatory Priority

- ↑ BACK TO TOP EXPAND ALL COLLAPSE ALL
- Health & Wellness
- Innovative Projects
- Land Use & Transportation**
- Local Economies
- Natural Resources
- Operations & Maintenance

- ↑ BACK TO TOP EXPAND ALL COLLAPSE ALL
- Land Use & Transportation**
 - Sustainable Land Use Pledge
 - 10 Points
 - Priority for all certification levels
 - Build-Out Analysis
 - 10 Points
 - Bicycle and Pedestrian Audits
 - 5 Points
 - THIS ACTION HAS VARIABLE POINTS: 5, 10
 - Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Improvement Projects
 - 10 Points
 - THIS ACTION HAS VARIABLE POINTS: 10, 15, 20, 25 • THIS ACTION COUNTS TOWARDS A GOLD STAR
 - Bicycle and or Pedestrian Plan
 - 10 Points
 - THIS ACTION COUNTS TOWARDS A GOLD STAR
 - Community Design for All Ages
 - 5 Points
 - THIS ACTION HAS VARIABLE POINTS: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 • THIS ACTION COUNTS TOWARDS A GOLD STAR
 - Complete and Green Streets for All Policy

5 to 25 Points





Community Design for All Ages Action



5 to 25 Points



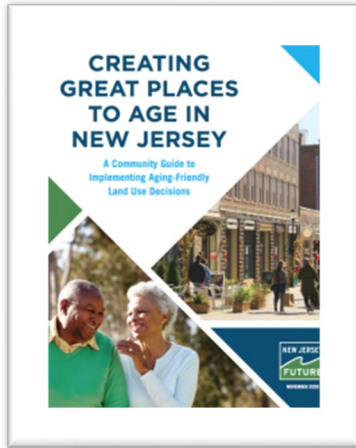
Key Resource

- [Creating Great Places to Age in New Jersey – New Jersey Future](#)





Inside the Guide



STEP 3

INDICATORS OF HOUSING

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:	WHAT TO LOOK AT:
<p>Subdivision regulations that permit compact development and allow for smaller minimum frontage requirements and a mix of lot sizes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subdivision standards are the rules and regulations that guide the subdivision of land parcels. Large minimum lot sizes discourage a mix of uses, and large minimum frontage requirements lead to larger lots. Both contribute to sprawling land use patterns. Cluster or cottage zoning is one way to ensure compact development patterns while adding environmental benefits from increased open spaces. <p>Sustainable Jersey has described implementation of a studying ordinance, which leaves lands such as open spaces, public spaces, or environmentally sensitive areas undeveloped by grouping residential development together.</p>	<p>The municipal zoning ordinance will dictate rules regarding subdivisions, inclusionary zoning, universal design, or permitted housing types and arrangements. You can find local ordinances (also called codes) at General Code's online code library, MuniCode or the New Jersey State Library database. To search for examples outside New Jersey, use a broader search engine, like the Code360 Library.</p>
<p>Inclusionary housing policies that require a fixed percentage of affordable housing to be included as part of new residential development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusionary zoning requires that a certain proportion of housing units of a development or redevelopment project be priced below market rate, while the remainder of the project may be priced at market rates. A CityPlan primer describes the basics of inclusionary zoning. 	<p>The municipal zoning ordinance will dictate rules regarding subdivisions, inclusionary zoning, universal design, or permitted housing types and arrangements. You can find local ordinances (also called codes) at General Code's online code library, MuniCode or the New Jersey State Library database. To search for examples outside New Jersey, use a broader search engine, like the Code360 Library.</p>
<p>Universal design policies and programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universal design is the concept of designing all products and the built environment to be aesthetic and usable to the greatest extent possible by everyone, regardless of their age, ability, or status in life. It provides even surfaces, passages wide enough for wheelchairs, and appropriately designed bathrooms and kitchens. Aside from local ordinances, also look for any policies or programs in the town that promote universal design principles. 	<p>Expanding housing options by permitting ADUs benefits residents of all ages and is a key mechanism for municipalities to improve aging households through land use. Living in an ADU can be a means for older adults to downsize to affordable home with less maintenance requirements. If permitted to rent out a secondary ADU unit, older adults can associate with costs or maintenance associated with the main home, enabling them to continue living in their homes as long as they wish. Their incomes may be decreasing.</p> <p>Despite their benefits, ADUs are not typically a permitted use in municipal zoning ordinances—they are illegal towns. But some municipalities are beginning to recognize that accessory dwelling units are an effective way to increase their housing stock. For example, Proton changed its zoning regulations to allow ADUs in all residential and subsequently passed an ordinance to remove the lower occupancy requirement. Several other towns in the state adopted ADU regulations as part of their fair share housing obligations, but ADUs can also be appealing to those who meet the income requirements to qualify for the affordable housing program.</p> <p>It is possible to address potential impacts that ADUs may have to a neighborhood of single-family homes by conditions in the zoning ordinance. A 2020 Regional Plan Association report, "So Many High-Tech", provides fresh insight the potential benefits of ADUs and any concerns about increased density resulting from their implementation. It suggests there is no reason to believe that ADUs have a negative impact on property values. One more benefit of ADU resulting increase in density can make it easier to sustain and invest in local infrastructure and community services.</p>

STEP 3

INDICATORS OF HOUSING

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:	WHAT TO LOOK AT:
<p>Accessory apartments as a permitted use in the zoning ordinance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An accessory apartment, also called an accessory dwelling unit, is a separate independent dwelling unit installed as part of a single-family home property. For older residents, they may provide a means of acquiring income or assistance with home maintenance or daily tasks. They can also increase the availability of smaller, more affordable units in a community, or allow for people to move in with relatives as they age. AARP provides examples and case studies for how they can be built or implemented. AARP also published a 2019 How to Stay Close to Design and Development of ADUs. The type of ADU, "tiny homes" are typically less than 300 square feet and are becoming recognized as an option for decreasing building footprints or maintenance associated with traditional housing. 	<p>The municipal zoning ordinance will dictate rules regarding subdivisions, inclusionary zoning, universal design, or permitted housing types and arrangements. You can find local ordinances (also called codes) at General Code's online code library, MuniCode or the New Jersey State Library database. To search for examples outside New Jersey, use a broader search engine, like the Code360 Library.</p>
<p>ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS</p> <p>An accessory dwelling unit (ADU) is a separate, secondary dwelling unit installed on the property of a single-family home. Homeowners have a wide range of options to create an ADU on their properties, including as a detached unit, a garage conversion or addition, or as an extension or renovation of the primary house. In all cases, an ADU functions as an independent dwelling unit with its own kitchen, living space, bathroom, bathroom, and separate entrance. The ADU can, therefore, be used as a rental unit, or it can be occupied by a member of the household wishing to live independently from the main family, yet still wanting to maintain a household connection.</p>	<p>The municipal zoning ordinance will dictate rules regarding subdivisions, inclusionary zoning, universal design, or permitted housing types and arrangements. You can find local ordinances (also called codes) at General Code's online code library, MuniCode or the New Jersey State Library database. To search for examples outside New Jersey, use a broader search engine, like the Code360 Library.</p>

Public Spaces / Amenities

Mixed-Use Center

Housing Options

Transportation / Mobility

STEP 3

INDICATORS OF TRANSPORTATION

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:	WHAT TO LOOK AT:
<p>The presence and condition of sidewalks and high visible crosswalks that connect people with area destinations, and that adequately accommodate people of all mobility abilities.</p>	<p>Municipal land use boards review development plans based on consistency with local ordinances and the master plan. Check that your town has an ordinance requiring sidewalks and street improvements as part of development applications. Your town may post a link to ordinances on their website. You can also find local ordinances (also called codes) at General Code's online code library or the NJ State Library database. In response to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the National Association of City Transportation Officials developed a guide to demonstrate ways to open streets for pedestrian access and to assist local businesses, which can inspire ideas for long-term street activation. Also see its Urban Street Design Guide for street and intersection design elements and guidelines. Encourage your town to adopt a complete and green streets policy and ordinance.</p>
<p>Sufficient traffic light timing that favors pedestrians of various abilities, including transit pedestrian signals.</p>	<p>Perform a site visit to document sidewalks, crosswalk, and pedestrian conditions throughout the community and particularly in the town center. Check to see if your town has completed a walkability study. Reach out to organizations that may be able to help you get a study done in your community. The North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) conducts "Walkable Community" workshops in communities within that service region. Sustainable Jersey provides guidance and resources for conducting a bicycle and pedestrian audit in your community. Pop-up demonstrations and tactical urbanism help towns test out implementation strategies and can give you a sense of how to assess your town's pedestrian environment. The AARP Pop-Up Planning Tool Kit offers inspirational project ideas.</p>
<p>Safe pedestrian spaces in the median or on corners of larger or dangerous street crossings.</p>	<p>Parking requirements dictate the amount of parking that must be provided with new development. In center areas, too much parking can have a negative impact on walkability, and requiring it can be a deterrent for mixed-use development since it is a cost without a return on investment. Requirements should also take into consideration available transit options, both bus and rail, which might allow for a reduction for elimination of parking requirements. New Jersey's Incidental Site Improvement Standards (ISIS) set a standard minimum parking requirement for residential development. Sustainable Jersey offers guidance for effective parking management.</p>
<p>Sufficient on-street parking in the central business district that also serves as a buffer between pedestrians and moving traffic, enables convenient access to destinations and can allow for activities such as outdoor dining on sidewalks.</p>	<p>Parking lot design is critical to walkability in a downtown or center area. Parking areas should be designed to get people—in addition to cars—in and out safely and should be made aesthetically appealing. Examining parking in the downtown during a site visit, if your town has a parking authority, review the parking plans and policies enforced by the authority.</p>

STEP 1

THE GUIDE TO IMPLEMENTING AGING-FRIENDLY LAND USE

STEP 1: GET ORGANIZED

The first step in building an aging-friendly community initiative is to get organized and informed. A 2016 study of nine aging-friendly community initiatives in northern New Jersey points out that the initial planning phase serves two interrelated goals: "better understanding of aging in the community and greater engagement of the principles identified in these resources that are most closely aligned with the needs and goals in your community. Name your group and project initiative and prepare to build municipal support and cooperation to conduct an aging-friendly land use assessment and develop an implementation strategy."

26 Creating Great Places to Age in New Jersey

A Community Guide to Implementing Aging-Friendly Land Use Decisions

5 to 25 Points



- ▶ Conduct an age-friendly land use assessment
- ▶ Gather data about the age-friendliness of the community
- ▶ Engage community members
- ▶ Develop an age-friendly implementation plan
- ▶ Implement actions in the plan

Community Design for All Ages Action

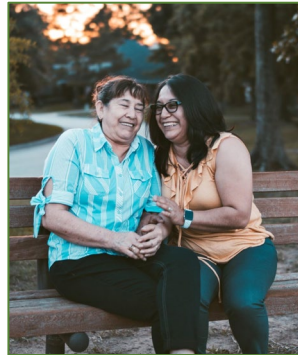
5 to 25 Points



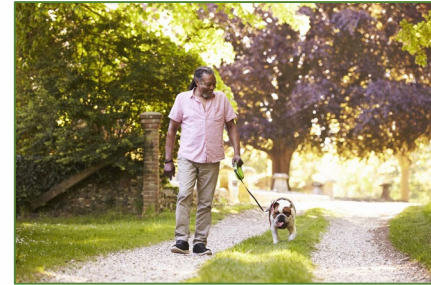
Cost & Maintenance



Safety & Welfare



Social Connection



Physical & Mental Wellbeing



Housing Options



Independence & Mobility



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UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

□ EARNING YOUR DIGITAL SCHOOLS STAR: TIPS FOR SUCCESS WEBINAR

This webinar offers an overview of the Digital Schools program, insights and examples of ways to improve digital school action submissions and earn points to attain Digital Schools Star recognition. The informational webinar will be held on **Wednesday, May 8, 2024, 3:30pm-4:30pm.**

Register: bit.ly/4dhdj91

□ 2024 MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION CYCLE

The next deadline to apply for certification is **Friday, May 10, 2024.** The final application deadline is **Wednesday, July 31, 2024.** View the full cycle timeline on the 2024 Certification Cycle page.

Learn More: bit.ly/SJ2024CertCycle

□ NJBPU'S COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING GRANTS

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is offering a new round of Community Energy Plan Grants for all New Jersey municipalities.

Application Deadline: **Friday, May 24, 2024**

Learn More: bit.ly/3WcmAt7

□ TRI-COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY GENERAL MEETINGS

This Sustainable Jersey Regional Hub will host virtual meetings on a variety of sustainability topics throughout the year. The next meeting is **Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 7:00pm-8:00pm.**

Learn More: bit.ly/Tri-CountySustainability

□ 2024 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

Atlantic City Electric is contributing \$35,000 to support municipal environmental stewardship and resiliency projects within its service territory. Join us for an informational webinar on **Monday, May 13 from 1:00pm-2:00pm** to learn more about the program and how to use the online application portal.

Application Deadline: Thursday, June 27, 2024

Learn More: bit.ly/SustainableCommunitiesGrantProgram

□ 2024 SCHOOL CERTIFICATION CYCLE

The final deadline to apply for certification and Digital Schools Star Recognition is **Thursday, June 13, 2024.** View the full cycle timeline on the 2024 Certification Cycle page.

Learn More: bit.ly/SJS2024CertCycle

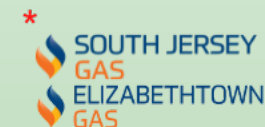
□ HOW TO ADOPT OR UPDATE A COMPLETE AND GREEN STREETS POLICY WEBINAR

Save the date! Join a one-hour walkthrough on how to create your own model municipal Complete and Green Streets Policy, brought to you by the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University, Sustainable Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, on **Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 12:00pm-1:00pm.** Registration information coming soon. Follow-up Open House Q&A for attendees to be held virtually on **Wednesday, October 30, 2024 from 3:00pm-5:00pm.**

PROGRAM UNDERWRITERS



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