



2024 SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT



MAYORS' PERSPECTIVES: Advancing Sustainability Initiatives at the Local Level

May 3, 2024

CEU SIGN IN



QR CODE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Open the Camera app on your phone.
2. Hold your phone so that the QR code appears in view.
3. Tap the notification to open the link.
4. You **MUST** Sign in to receive CEU credits.

WIFI INFORMATION: 2 Open Networks

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

SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT



City of Paterson

Mayor Andre Sayegh



CHERRY HILL
Township

You couldn't pick a better place.

Advancing Sustainability Initiatives at the Local Level

A Snapshot of Cherry Hill

By the Numbers

- 24 Square Miles
- 76,000 Residents
- 200,000+ People Passing Through Daily
- 60+ Sites for Active and Passive Recreation
- 1,372 Acres of open space
- 28,650 Residential Units
- 1,200 commercial properties & 2,400 businesses



A Snapshot of Cherry Hill

Dynamics

- Mature Suburb
- Diverse Community with more than 70 languages spoken
- 25% of Residents have lived in their home for over 25 Years
- 99% of Residents Live Within a ½ mile of a Park
- Known for great Schools, Shopping, Dining and More
- Transportation Hub



How are we able to get things done?

Team Effort – Shout-Outs

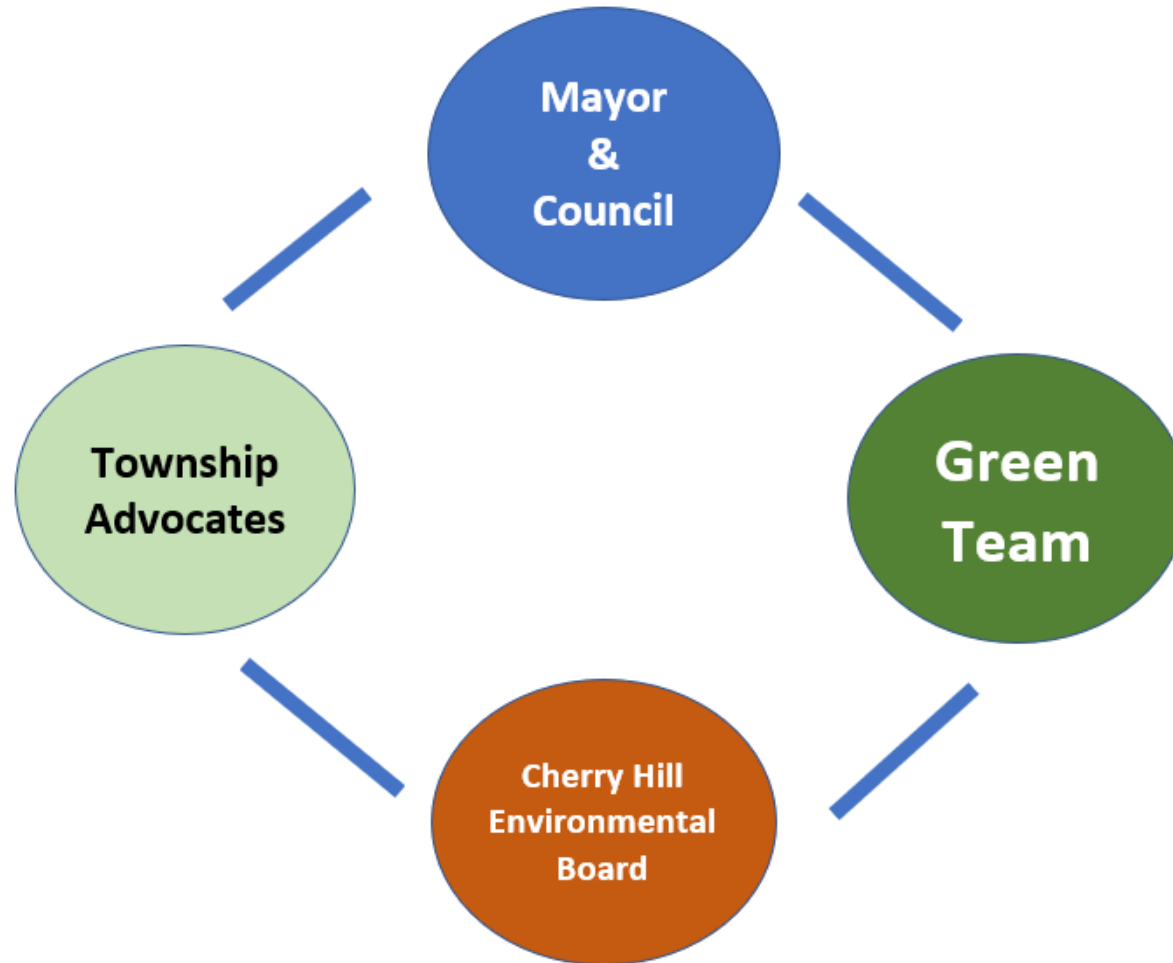
Councilmember Sangeeta Doshi

Councilmember Jennifer Apell

Operations Manager Ari Messinger



Unique Structure of the Green Team and Environmental Board



Overview of the Green Team and Environmental Board



Recent Initiatives

Green Team

- Community Energy Plan
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)
- PSE&G Energy Saver Program
- EV Fleet Conversion Strategy
- Tree Ordinance
- EV Ordinance
- Sustainability Roadmap

Cherry Hill Environmental Board

- Cherry Hill Trail Crew
- Pollinator Gardens
- Rain Barrels
- Rain Gardens
- Community Wildlife Habitat Certification
- Tree Plantings and Sapling Distribution
- Park Cleanups
- Bird Watching



Relationship with Sustainable Jersey & Other Stakeholders



Sustainable Jersey

- Partner with on Initiatives
- Use as a Sounding Board

Stakeholders

- Have Conversations with Larger Stakeholders
- Utilize Grants and Other Incentives

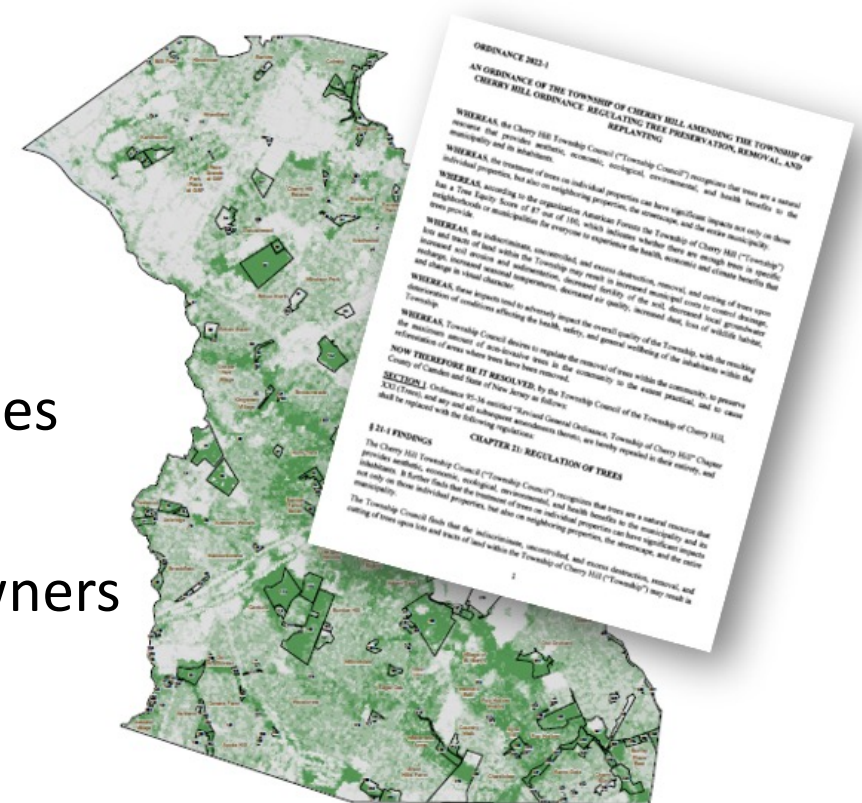


Recent Accomplishments

Tree Ordinance

Protecting our Trees

- Strong Restrictions on the Removal of Healthy Trees
- Establishment of a Tree Fund
- Making Vendors Liabile as well as the Property Owners



Preserving Open Space

Purchase of Holly Ravine Farm

- Preserving the 23 Acre Property

Transformation of the Kingston Swim Club

- Multi-Use Park for Residents of All Ages
- Active and Passive Uses while Maximizing Greenery

Preservation of Springdale Farm

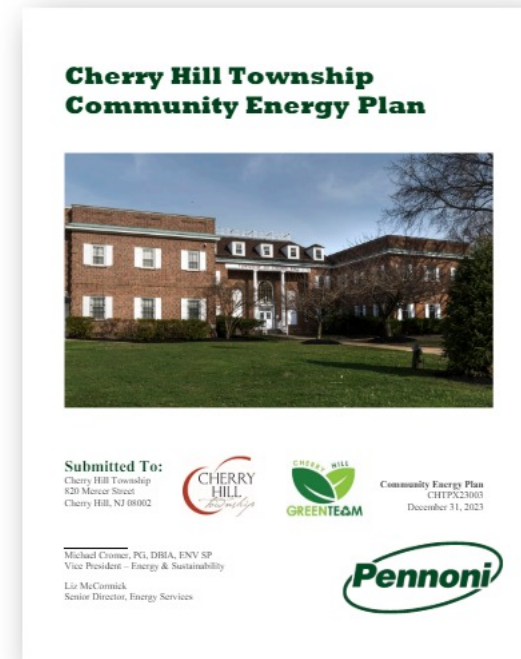
- Last Active Farm



Community Energy Plan

Planning for a Sustainable Energy Plan

- Provide a Blue Print for Energy Reduction
 - Promotion of Energy Efficiency
 - Reducing Transportation Emissions
 - Supporting Renewable Energy
- Collaboration with the BPU and Sustainable Jersey



Items We Are Working Through

Challenges and Opportunities

- Integrating EVs into our Municipal Fleet
- Substantial Tree Planting Initiative
- Energy Gold Certification



Contact Information

Mayor David Fleisher

DFleisher@chnj.gov

856-488-7878

Ari Messinger – Operations Manager

AMessinger@chnj.gov

856-432-8760



Mayor's Perspectives: *Bogota*

Mayor Daniele Fede
Borough of Bogota

Accomplishments

- Bogota Mayor
- Experience in Sustainable Practices
- Charter Member Green Team 2014
- Charter Member Environmental Commission 1996
- Recertified Bronze 3X
- 4 Community Forestry Plans Approved

Successes

- Plastic Bag Bailer – Several Towns
- EPS Densifier and Regional Collection
- Tree Hazard Inventory in Park
- Mentored other towns on certification and collaborated on projects

Annual Shred Day



EPS Densifier



Densifier



Community Garden – USDA Grant



Challenges

- Smoke Tree Parks
- No Mow May
- Administration/DPW Buy In



Red Bank Sustainability A Mayor's View

2023 - 2024

About Red Bank

- 2.2 square miles
- Population 12,900 with many seniors and under 18s
- Popular destination:
 - Home to the Count Basie and Two River Theatres
 - Thriving retail, restaurants and arts district
 - Parks
- Racially and economically diverse community
- Welcoming and inclusive

Who is in Red Bank

An aerial photograph of a long bridge spanning a wide river at dusk. The bridge has multiple lanes and is illuminated with streetlights. In the background, a town with various buildings and houses is visible along the riverbank. The sky is a deep blue, and the water reflects the lights from the bridge and the town.

Fortunate to have a community of folks working in various fields of sustainability

- Active Green Team & EC
- Supportive council members
- Receptive employees in borough hall



Media in Red Bank



Patch

Hyper local news on most town happenings

- Red Bank Green ('a town square for an unsquare town')
- Tap Into Red Bank
- Red Bank Patch
- Social Media (facebook, Instagram, etc)
- This community reads & becomes involved

Porchfest

- 100+ Musicians
- Benefiting HabCore
- Bike to porches
- Partnerships
 - Ez Ride
 - Community groups

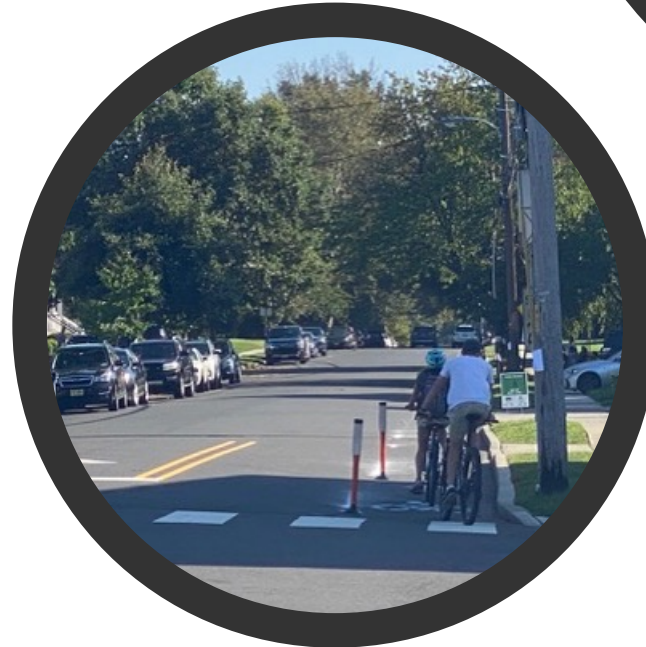


Making your bike



Porchfest Pop-Up Bike Lanes

- Bike to porch music stops across Red Bank
- Partnerships:
 - EZ Ride
 - Green Team
 - Red Bank Police



Plastic Film Recycling



- Pilot project with SC Johnson
 - Buckets, promotional material
- Worked with the EC-GreenTeam & the Borough
- Over 500 residents participate
- 5000 lbs collected so far, diverted from landfill for repurposing into pellets

Plastic Film Recycling Program Announcement for the Borough of Red Bank

Beginning Wednesday, November 3, the Borough of Red Bank will accept plastic bags, plastic film, and plastic wrap as a part of its residential curbside recycling program. This will be a one-year pilot program. On the first Wednesday of every month, Red Bank residents can recycle clean and dry plastic bags, plastic storage bags such as Ziploc® brand bags, dry cleaning bags, and other flexible plastic film by using the Plastic Film recycling bin.

Plastic Film labeled recycling bins are available for free pick-up at:

Red Bank Public Works Office
25 Chestnut Street, Red Bank, NJ
733.336.3773

Here's How to Participate

1. Put clean and dry plastic bags and plastic film in a plastic bag.
2. When it is about the size of a soccer ball, tie the top of the outer bag in a knot.
3. Put your bag of bags in your residential plastic film recycling bin.
4. Place your annotated plastic film recycling bin at the curbside for pick-up.

Materials Accepted in Your "Plastic Film" Bin

- Bread bags
- Grocery bags
- Dry cleaning bags
- Produce bags
- Plastic newspaper wrapping
- Food storage bags (including Ziploc®)
- Plastic wraps (around multi-packs of dish towels, paper towels, napkins, etc.)
- Bubble wrap (air-filled plastic approved)
- Plastic lining from vented boxes
- Plastic shipping envelopes (remove labeling)

Not Accepted Materials

- Multi-layer film (chip bags, pet food bags, etc.)
- Airtight cans
- Waxed paper containers
- Polystyrene or foam containers
- Paper towels and napkins
- Paper plates and cardboard
- Diapers
- Flammable products
- Biodegradable or compostable bags
- Pre-washed salad mix bags
- Candy wrappers

➔ See flip side for plastic film curbside collection calendar ➔

Made possible through a partnership with SC Johnson

Skip The Stuff

- In partnership with Clean Water Action
- Take out/Deliver orders the following are by request only
 - Plastic Utensils
 - Condiment packets
 - Napkins
- Educational promotion via EC/GT



Mayor's Wellness Campaign



- Part of a statewide initiative to foster healthier lifestyles and improved wellness.
- Mayor leads programs to promote health & wellness
- 1st Fair held Nov 2023
- Covid and Flu vaccines
 - Information on various health programs
- 2nd event is May 2024 – Ride with the mayor
 - Partnership with The Heartwarming Center
 - Wally Tunison – instrumental to creating the Henry Hudson Trail
- Awarded Up and Coming Healthy Town by the Quality Institute of NJ

Environmental Commission / Green Team

- Very active
- Annual GreenFair with the Middle School
- Sustainable Red Bank Series
- Skip the Stuff ordinance
- Help with teen groups
 - Seal Team (Clean Ocean Action)
 - Dreamers club (Town clean ups)



Red Bank Seed Library

- Sponsored by the Red Bank Public Library
- Plant propagation station
- Seed Library
- Seeds and plants donated by residents

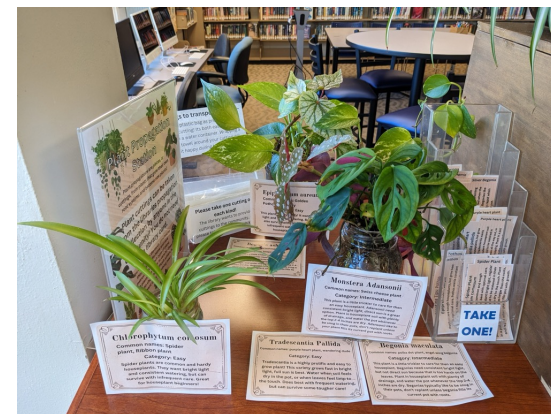


Plant Propagation Station

Plant propagations are pieces, or cuttings, from plants that grow their own root systems and become new plants!

Plant cuttings can be taken from the library's propagation collection by anyone in the community! You do not need a library card.

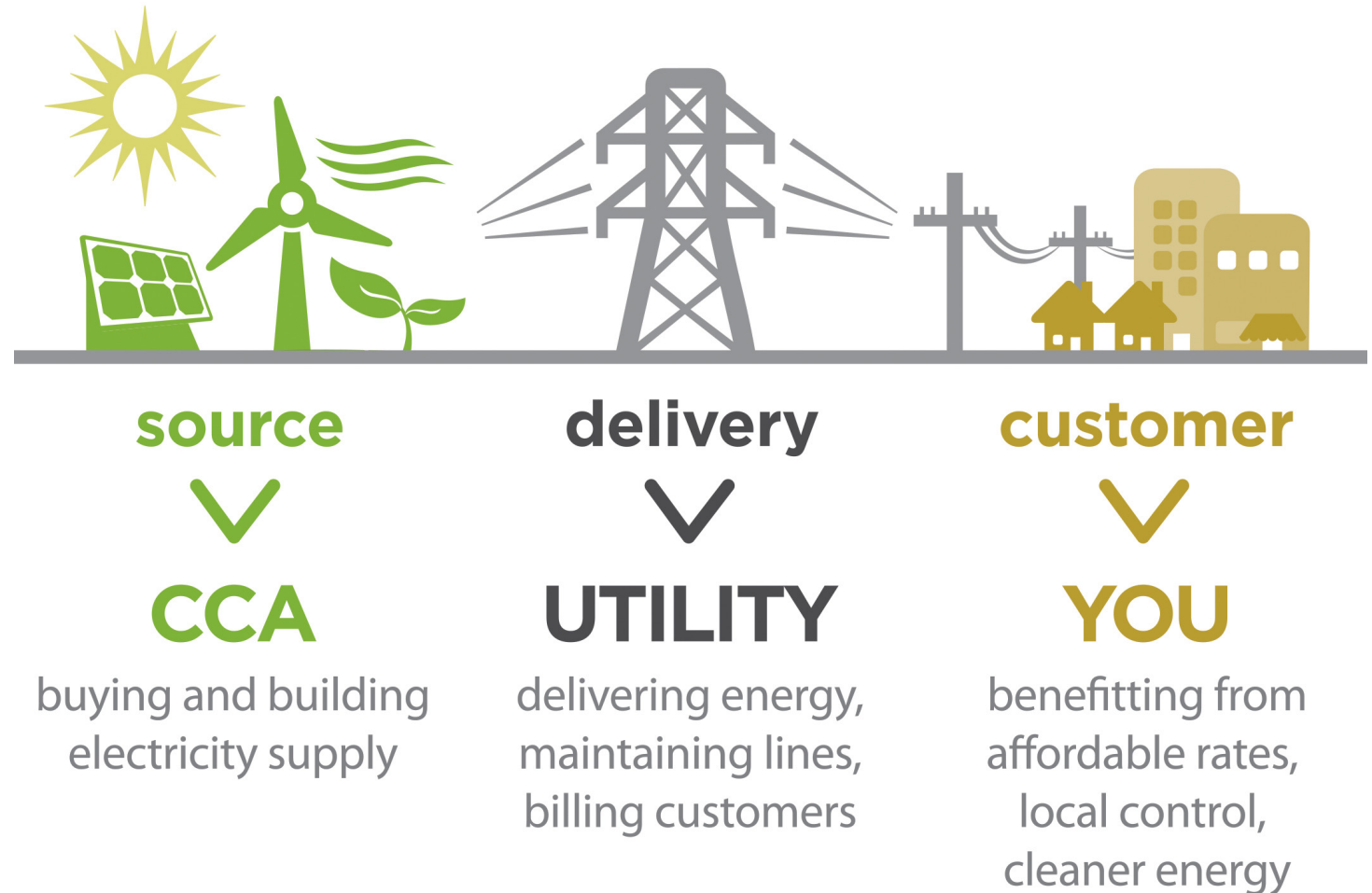
You can refer to the cards attached to the plants for the name and care instructions for each type of plant. Some plants are harder to care for than others, so check how difficult a plant is if you want to try something new!



Community Energy Aggregation

- Established via ordinance 2020-19
- Goal is 100% regionally sourced renewables by 2030
- 7 municipalities
- Red Bank is lead agent
- Not yet in place due to high bid prices

How Local Energy Aggregation Works





2024 SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



CEU SIGN OUT



QR CODE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Open the Camera app on your phone.
2. Hold your phone so that the QR code appears in view.
3. Tap the notification to open the link.
4. You **MUST** Sign out to receive CEU credits.

WIFI INFORMATION: 2 Open Networks

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

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

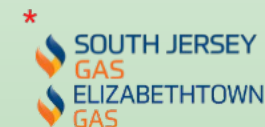
□ HOW TO ADOPT OR UPDATE A COMPLETE AND GREEN STREETS POLICY WEBINAR

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



CORPORATE SPONSORS



*Digital Schools Sponsor

SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT



Q & A

Thank You

Session slides will be available on sustainablejersey.com by 5/10.