



Creating a Community Energy Plan: Resources and Technical Assistance

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Presenters (in speaking order)

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Agenda

- Sustainable Jersey background
- NJBPU Community Energy Plan Grant Program
- Community Energy Plan process
 - Sustainable Jersey Data Center
 - Workplan Template
 - Sustainable Energy Communities Guide
 - Model Plans
 - Technical Assistance for Overburdened Municipalities
- Community Energy Plan Grant application



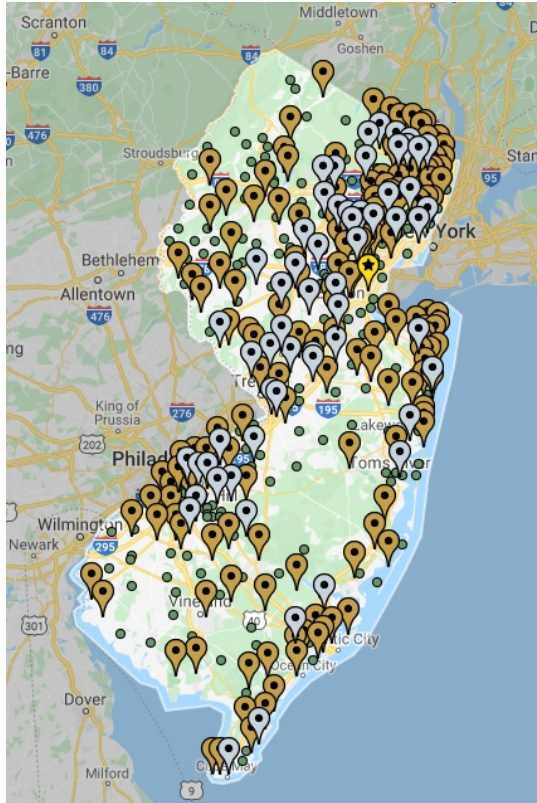
What is Sustainable Jersey?

- **Certification program** for municipalities and schools
- **Tools, resources, and guidance** to help municipalities and schools become more sustainable
- **Grants and funding** for municipalities and schools
- **Regional Hubs**

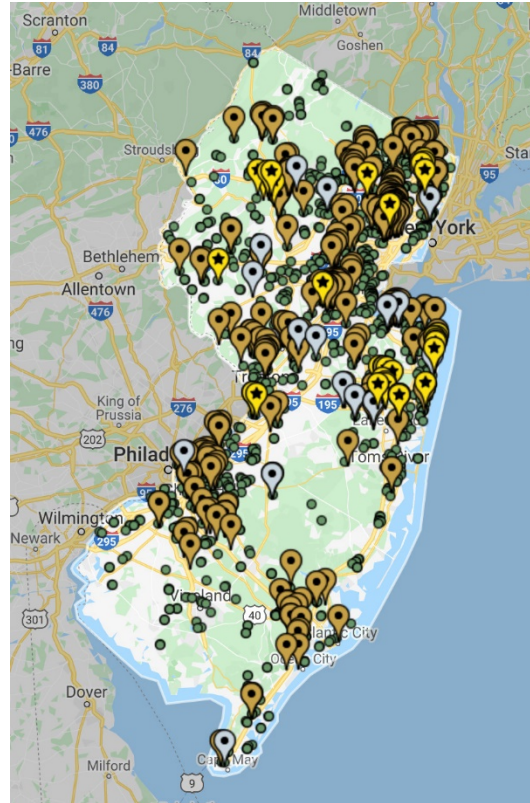




Program Participants



Municipal Program



Schools Program

Municipal Program

- 460 (81%) registered
- 214 Certified
 - 147 Bronze
 - 67 Silver

Schools Program

- 374 (54%) school districts
- 1025 schools registered
- 335 schools certified
 - 292 Bronze
 - 43 Silver



Municipal Energy Actions

	Energy Efficiency	Renewable Energy	Alternative Fuel Vehicles
Municipal Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Efficiency for Municipal Facilities • Energy Tracking and Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-Site Geothermal System • On-Site Solar System +10 pt storage/resilience + 5 pt solar thermal • On-Site Wind System • Buy Renewable Energy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fleet Inventory • Purchase Alternative Fuel Vehicles • Meet Green Fleet Targets
Community Energy Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Assistance Outreach • Commercial Energy Efficiency Outreach • Residential Energy Efficiency Outreach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make Your Town Solar Friendly • Municipally Supported Community Solar • Community-Led Solar Initiatives • Renewable Government Energy Aggregation (R-GEA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make Your Town Electric Vehicle (EV) Friendly • Public EV Chargers • Electric Vehicle Outreach



Gold Star in Energy

Municipal Operations

Municipal Buildings

- Energy efficiency
- Operations / equipment
- Green building policy

Municipal Fleet

- Fleet electrification
- Operational efficiency

GHG reductions

- 3.6% annually
- 10.8% over 3 years

Community Actions (two from each category)

Energy Efficiency

- Energy Assistance Outreach
- Commercial Energy Efficiency Outreach
- Residential Energy Efficiency Outreach

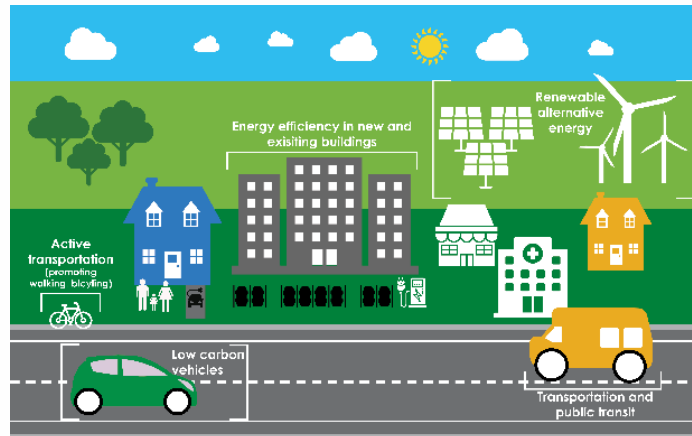
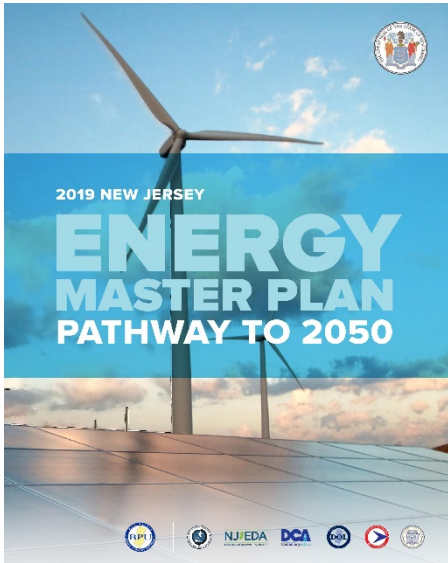
Renewable Energy

- Make Your Town Solar Friendly
- Municipally Supported Community Solar
- Community-Led Solar Initiatives

Transportation

- Make Your Town Electric Vehicle Friendly
- Public Electric Vehicle Chargers
- Electric Vehicle Outreach

<https://www.sustainablejersey.com/actions/gold-star-standards/>



Community Energy Plans



Community Energy Plan Grant Program



Community Energy Plan Grant

- Community-level action is essential to meet the Energy Master Plan goal of 100% clean energy by 2050. This program provides communities the opportunity to align local actions with EMP's goals.
- The Community Energy Plan Grant (CEPG) Program supports municipal action on climate change, with specific focus on energy resilience, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.
- The CEPG Program was redesigned to better prioritize low- and moderate-income and overburdened communities.
- All New Jersey municipalities are eligible for \$10,000, with overburdened municipalities eligible for larger grants and enhanced support.

Grant Requirements

Once funds are received, grantees must complete the following:

1. Based on the strategies identified in the application, the municipality must work to conduct an in-depth analysis of the EMP-based strategies for incorporation into its Plan
2. Conduct a public meeting to engage the community in the creation of the Plan
3. Finalize the Plan through formal adoption by the municipal governing body and submit a copy of the completed Plan to the Board
4. Reporting requirements for the grant are dependent on the amount awarded:
 - a) \$10,000 grant: submit one expenditure report at the end of the eighteen (18) month grant term
 - b) \$25,000 grant: submit both quarterly reports and a final report at the end of the eighteen (18) month grant term

Overburdened Municipalities

Overburdened Municipalities are eligible for additional support:

- Larger grant award of \$25,000 for community energy planning
- Outreach to identified Overburdened Municipalities to let them know about this grant opportunity
- Technical assistance to develop and submit applications for the CEP Grant
- Technical assistance in the creation of the Plan once the grant is awarded

Overburdened Municipalities

Municipality	County	Municipality	County
Asbury Park City	Monmouth	Millville City	Cumberland
Atlantic City	Atlantic	New Brunswick City	Middlesex
Bridgeton City	Cumberland	Newark City	Essex
Buena Boro	Atlantic	North Wildwood City	Cape May
Camden City	Camden	Passaic City	Passaic
Cape May Point Boro	Cape May	Paterson City	Passaic
Chesilhurst Boro	Camden	Paulsboro Boro	Gloucester
City of Orange Twp	Essex	Penns Grove Boro	Salem
Clementon Boro	Camden	Perth Amboy City	Middlesex
Commercial Twp	Cumberland	Phillipsburg Town	Warren
East Newark Boro	Hudson	Plainfield City	Union
East Orange City	Essex	Pleasantville City	Atlantic
Egg Harbor City	Atlantic	Prospect Park Boro	Passaic
Elizabeth City	Union	Salem City	Salem
Fairfield Twp	Cumberland	Seaside Heights Boro	Ocean
Flemington Boro	Hunterdon	Trenton City	Mercer
Freehold Boro	Monmouth	Union City	Hudson
Harrison Town	Hudson	Victory Gardens Boro	Morris
Hi-nella Boro	Camden	Vineland City	Cumberland
Irvington Twp	Essex	West New York Town	Hudson
Lakewood Twp	Ocean	Wildwood City	Cape May
Lindenwold Boro	Camden	Woodbine Boro	Cape May
Long Branch City	Monmouth	Woodlynne Boro	Camden
Maurice River Twp	Cumberland	Wrightstown Boro	Burlington



What's in a Community Energy Plan?

I. Introduction

II. Community Profile

- I. Demographics
- II. Existing Infrastructure

III. Energy Related Data

- I. Aggregated Utility Energy Usage
- II. NJCEP Local Government Energy Efficiency Projects

IV. Work Plan (Implementation Timeline)

Strategy 1: Transportation

Strategy 2: Renewable Energy and Distributed Energy Resources

Strategy 3: Energy Efficiency and Conservation

Strategy 4: Buildings

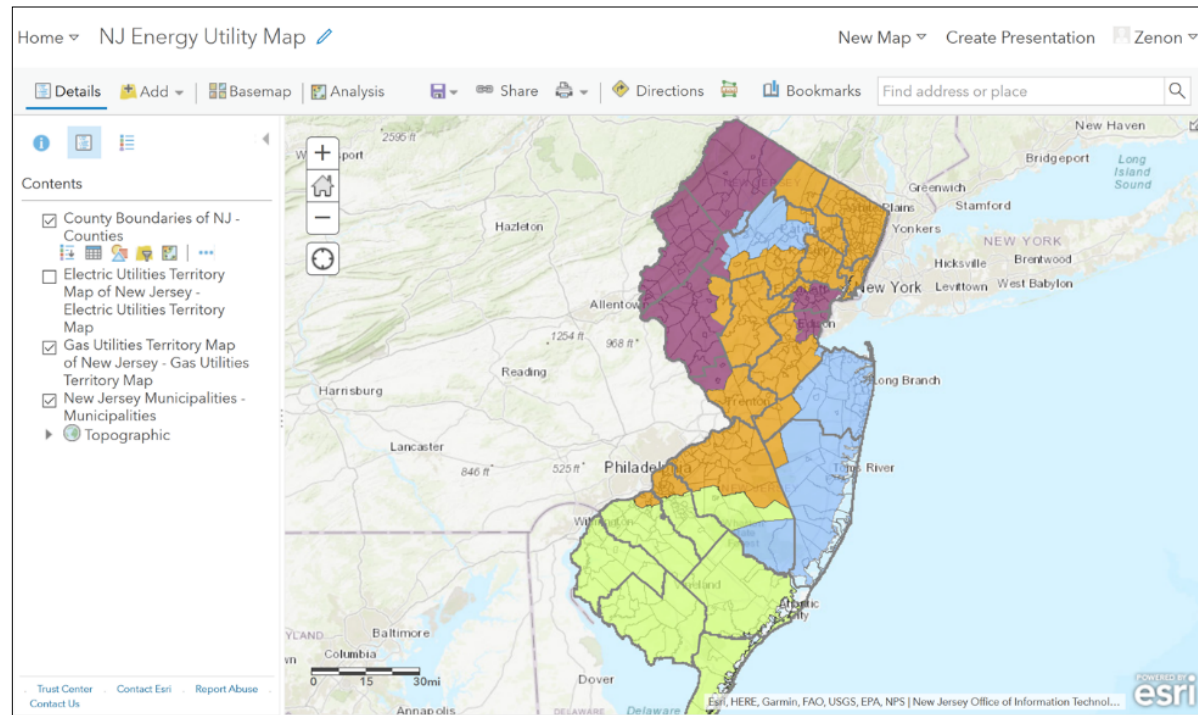
Strategy 6: Community Energy Planning and Action with an Emphasis on Supporting Participation by Low- and Moderate-Income and Environmental Justice Communities

Strategy 7: Clean Energy Innovation Economy



Sustainable Jersey Data Center

- Community Profile Data
- Utility Energy Data by Municipality
- NJCEP Data
- More on the way!



www.sustainablejersey.com/resources/data-center

2019 Community Profile Data by Municipality

* Further explanation on Notes and Sources Sheet

Municipality		County	<75% Occupied *	Population	% White	% Black	% Asian, Pacific Island	% Hispanic or	Households	Median Household Income	Low and Moderate Income	NJ DCA 2020 MRI Rank	Total Housing Units	% Occupied housing	% Owner-occupied	% Renter-occupied	2010 or later	2000 to 2009	1990 to 1999
391	Pequannock township	Morris		15,191	95%	0%	3%	9%	6,171	\$105,316		384	6,519	95	80	20	130	1,492	598
392	Perth Amboy city	Middlesex		51,678	79%	8%	1%	78%	15,980	\$52,563	Yes	19	16,960	94	29	71	553	2,178	1,088
393	Phillipsburg town	Warren		14,344	78%	10%	2%	14%	5,746	\$54,459	Yes	32	6,720	86	55	45	8	57	292
394	Pilesgrove township	Salem		4,011	92%	5%	3%	2%	1,619	\$102,703		310	1,695	96	80	20	98	252	176
395	Pine Beach borough	Ocean		2,278	95%	2%	0%	11%	871	\$92,772		327	955	91	92	8	42	79	68
396	Pine Hill borough	Camden		10,442	61%	30%	2%	8%	4,429	\$56,058	Yes	78	4,789	93	60	40	120	260	717
397	Pine Valley borough	Camden	Yes	5	100%	0%	0%	0%	3	-		11	10	30	100	0	0	0	0
398	Piscataway township	Middlesex		56,884	35%	20%	37%	14%	16,160	\$99,925		281	17,114	94	68	33	871	1,003	2,317
399	Pitman borough	Gloucester		8,805	92%	3%	1%	3%	3,366	\$75,909		167	3,733	90	72	28	9	37	126
400	Pittsgrove township	Salem		8,898	89%	7%	1%	4%	3,393	\$75,260		186	3,679	92	93	7	77	352	532
401	Plainfield city	Union		50,362	25%	41%	1%	46%	15,701	\$56,339	Yes	30	17,066	92	44	56	212	592	527
402	Plainsboro township	Middlesex		23,028	31%	6%	59%	3%	9,251	\$113,131		451	10,439	89	50	51	183	1,023	2,247
403	Pleasantville city	Atlantic		20,301	37%	40%	2%	47%	6,774	\$40,991	Yes	14	7,690	88	45	55	375	656	624
404	Plumsted township	Ocean		8,513	96%	2%	1%	9%	3,272	\$94,049		306	3,316	99	87	13	18	565	749
405	Pohatcong township	Warren		3,208	96%	1%	0%	6%	1,308	\$83,115		239	1,439	91	84	16	19	11	58
406	Point Pleasant Beach borough	Ocean	Yes	4,537	96%	0%	1%	6%	1,875	\$103,940		348	2,929	64	73	27	285	139	228
407	Point Pleasant borough	Ocean		18,598	97%	0%	0%	9%	7,349	\$98,401		402	8,361	88	80	20	143	594	665
408	Pompton Lakes borough	Passaic		11,029	86%	2%	6%	20%	4,004	\$102,371		274	4,127	97	74	26	10	195	244
409	Port Republic city	Atlantic		1,121	97%	1%	1%	0%	413	\$112,917		272	437	95	94	6	9	68	64
410	Princeton	Mercer		31,000	73%	6%	17%	7%	9,959	\$137,672		462	11,009	91	60	40	704	751	1,063
411	Prospect Park borough	Passaic		5,865	62%	23%	1%	53%	1,633	\$48,497	Yes	22	1,807	90	43	57	0	19	47
412	Quinton township	Salem		2,278	81%	16%	0%	6%	940	\$64,500	Yes	130	1,089	86	86	14	26	86	124
413	Rahway city	Union		29,543	51%	29%	5%	32%	11,304	\$78,946		177	12,175	93	60	40	743	1,485	403
414	Ramsey borough	Bergen		14,940	91%	0%	8%	5%	5,524	\$147,875		525	5,825	95	87	13	97	191	453



Workplan Template

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<https://www.sustainablejersey.com/resources/publications/energy-guidebooks/#c4479>

1.6 Install Public EV Charging Infrastructure

IMPACT:



DIFFICULTY:



CHECK IF DOING:



Install electric vehicle charging infrastructure, including chargers, signage, and safety and accessibility features, for public use.



Measures of Success

- First public EV charging station installed
- 2 public EV charging stations per 10,000 residents



Resources

- Sustainable Jersey's [Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure](#) action
- NJDEP's [It Pay\\$ to Plug In](#) grant program
- Sustainable Jersey's [Alternative Fuel Vehicle Procurement Guide](#)
- DVRPC's [Electric Vehicle Resource Kit for Municipalities](#)



Potential Stakeholders

- Electric utility
- [Transportation Management Association](#)
- Car dealerships
- Car share providers

✕ **Comments/Rationale for NOT including this Initiative:**

2.6 Install On-Site Municipal Renewable Generation

IMPACT:



DIFFICULTY:



CHECK IF DOING:



Host a solar, wind, or geothermal project on municipal property to generate renewable energy for municipal facilities. Such projects can be leased from a developer or purchased and owned outright.



Measures of Success

- Contract with a developer to buy or lease a renewable installation on municipal property
- Implement outreach to illustrate benefits of renewable energy to the community using the municipal project



Resources

- Sustainable Jersey's [Municipal On-Site Solar System](#); [Municipal Wind Energy System](#); and [Municipal Geothermal Energy System](#) actions
- American Cities Climate Challenge [On-site Solar Procurement Guidance](#)
- NJCEP's [Renewable Energy webpage](#)



Potential Stakeholders

- Renewable energy developer(s)
- Local media
- Public school district

✗ Comments/Rationale for NOT including this Initiative:

The Township does not own any property with sufficient sun exposure and electricity demand to warrant an onsite solar array.

4.4 Conduct Outreach Targeting New Construction in the Community

IMPACT:



DIFFICULTY:



CHECK IF DOING:



Reach out to developers to encourage participation in NJCEP's New Construction Energy Efficiency incentive programs.



Measures of Success

- Information on NJCEP's [New Construction Energy Efficiency](#) incentive programs distributed via multiple mediums
- Major new development utilizes NJCEP program(s)



Resources

- NJCEP's [New Construction Energy Efficiency](#) website





Potential Stakeholders

- Builders trade associations (e.g., U.S. Green Building Council)
- Building architects and developers
- Financial institutions

✕ *Comments/Rationale for NOT including this Initiative:*

6.5 Conduct Energy Efficiency Outreach to Community-Serving Institutions

IMPACT: 

DIFFICULTY: 

CHECK IF DOING:

Reach out to limited-capacity entities that serve low- and moderate-income communities to encourage participation in state and utility energy efficiency programs. Outreach strategies include messaging indirect benefits of energy efficiency to organizational mission and segmenting outreach to different types of organization with different needs.



Measures of Success

- Hold an event specifically targeting community-serving institutions for energy efficiency programs
 - In UEZ or Opportunity Zone, if they exist in municipality
- 5% of eligible entities participate in a state/utility energy efficiency program



Resources

- [NJ gas and electric utilities' commercial energy efficiency program websites](#)
- Sustainable Jersey's Energy Assistance Outreach action
- ACEEE's [Extending the Benefits of Nonresidential Energy Efficiency to Low-Income Communities](#)



Potential Stakeholders

- Affordable housing owners/managers (public & private)
- Health clinics
- Faith-based organizations
- Community foundations
- Local business associations
- Food banks and homeless shelters

✗ **Comments/Rationale for NOT including this Initiative:**

Municipality: _____

EMP Strategy: _____

Initiative: _____

Initiative lead: _____

Initiative start date: _____

Priority for muni: _____

Anticipated initiative length: _____

Anticipated funding sources: _____

Departments involved:

Obstacles/Barriers:

Community notes (include current status, overall plan, etc.):

Next steps: (specific and tangible):

EMP Strategy:

1: Transportation

Initiative:

Install Public EV Charging Infrastructure

Initiative lead:

Township Administrator

Initiative start date:

3/2022

Priority for muni:

Medium

Anticipated initiative length:

6 months

Anticipated funding sources:

It Pay\$ to Plug In, capital budget

Departments involved:

- Administration
- Department of Public Works
- Finance department
- Mayor's office
- Procurement officer

Obstacles/Barriers:

- Upfront cost may require multiple sources of outside funding
- Research required for siting to analyze full cost of installation and impact on electric bill demand charges

Community notes (include current status, overall plan, etc.):

- No existing public EV charging stations
- Plan to start with one Level 2 charger in central location with nominal charging cost to maximize use
- Once existing charger sees significant use (~20% utilization), will consider adding additional ports to that location
- Plan to add a second public EV charging station ~two years after installation of the first one

Next steps: (specific and tangible):

1. Township Administrator sets up meeting with all departments involved to discuss siting of charging station.
2. Grant writer applies for It Pay\$ to Plug In Program and two other programs that could help fund the project.
3. DPW determines what aspects of installation will be completed in-house and which aspects require hiring a contractor.
4. Finance department finalizes analysis of costs and consult with Township Administrator to determine site selection.
5. Procurement officer finalizes purchase of EVSE, construction begins.

EMP Strategy:

7:Clean Energy Innovation

Initiative:

7.3 Develop Local Microgrid

Initiative lead:

Chief Innovation Officer

Initiative start date:

5/2022

Priority for muni:

Low

Anticipated initiative length:

5 years

Anticipated funding sources:

Sustainable Jersey Gardinier Grant

Departments involved:

- Procurement office
- Administration
- Department of Public Works

Obstacles/Barriers:

- High upfront cost
- Technology not widely known/understood

Community notes (include current status, overall plan, etc.):

- No past effort has been made to create a microgrid
- Feasibility studies required to determine exact location
- Potential locations include municipal complex area and downtown business district

Next steps: (specific and tangible):

1. Grant writer will apply for Sustainable Jersey Gardinier Grant to complete microgrid feasibility study.
2. Procurement office will hire consultant to complete the feasibility study.
3. Department of Public Works will facilitate the feasibility study.
4. Business administrator will use feasibility study results to reach out to potential microgrid partners and form a microgrid project team to determine next steps.



Sustainable Jersey Guide for **Sustainable Energy Communities**



municipal community solar policies counts towards completing the [Municipally Supported Community Solar](#) action.

For those LMI/EJ residents who do have space with solar potential, municipalities can promote opportunities for affordable solar installation. Solar offers that have low upfront costs, low credit requirements, and long lease/billing timeframes are ideal for low- and moderate-income residents that lack capital to outright purchase and install PV solar. Municipalities can include these preferences in the RFP process for establishing the contractor partner of a *Solarize* campaign ([Section 2.3](#)). Alternatively, municipalities might hold educational programming about residential solar, hosting representatives from NJBPU, Sustainable Jersey, and/or the utilities.

6.4 Shared Mobility Programs

Shared transportation networks of cars, bikes, and even electric scooters are rapidly expanding into cities and towns across the country. Because many low- and moderate-income families cannot afford their own private

and/or partnering directly with companies to launch a public-private program. Municipalities can encourage or require shared mobility programs to provide low-income membership options and docking stations or charging points in neighborhoods with LMI households or poor environmental quality. Municipalities may partner with neighboring municipalities to create a regional shared transportation network (e.g., [Citi Bike](#)).

6.4.2 Shared Electric Automobiles (Carsharing)

Carsharing is a self-service car rental system in which users rent cars for shorter periods of time than traditional car rentals, often by the hour. An all-electric carsharing fleet accessible to LMI/EJ communities can improve local air quality and provide affordable transportation. Municipalities can partner to launch a public-private electric carsharing program with docking sites in LMI/EJ neighborhoods. For important considerations for electric vehicle carsharing, such as minimizing insurance costs and optimal siting, see the Greenlining Institute's white paper [Electric Carsharing in Underserved Communities](#).

6.4.3 Electric Ride-Hailing

With the advent of ride-hailing smartphone apps, ride-hailing has become a convenient and widespread method of transportation. Because ride-hailing drivers generally put many miles on their vehicles, electric ride-hailing vehicles can mitigate a significant amount of GHG emissions

Municipalities can seek partnerships with companies in the ride-hailing industry to transition local ride-hailing vehicles to electric. To attract electric ride-hailing drivers, municipalities can offer public EV charging stations ([Section 1.2](#)) and specially-designated



Sustainable Energy Communities Guide

Case Study: Collingswood Small Business Loan Program

Technology Highlight: Solar Thermal

Solar thermal systems harness sunlight to heat water, replacing conventional water heaters powered by natural gas or electricity. They are more cost-effective than electric water heating and less emissions-intensive than natural gas water heating. Solar water heating is even more efficient than photovoltaic solar, making it well suited for buildings with small roofs and significant hot water demand, such as multistory multifamily buildings (MassCEC, "Residential").

Highlighting these benefits, municipalities can promote solar thermal with a dedicated outreach effort or as part of a broader energy efficiency or renewable energy campaign.



Manchester, N.J. 2016. Sustainable Jersey Certification Report. sj-site-legacy-migrate.s3.amazonaws.com/m151913011.zip

Case Study: Collingswood Small Business Loan Program

While promoting energy efficiency to local businesses, Sustainable Collingswood found that, even with the incentives available from New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, local businesses did not have the necessary capital funds to implement energy efficiency upgrades. In response, the group convinced the Borough to set up a loan fund in 2018 to help businesses interested in making retrofits.

Collingswood invested \$50,000 in the revolving loan fund in cooperation with certified SBA microloan provider Cooperative Business Assistance Corporation. Businesses can borrow funds to help fill the gap in funding, then pay back the loan over time partially or entirely with their energy savings. The program has been widely advertised through email, snail mail, and presentations at events for local business leaders.



Collingswood, N.J. 2019. Sustainable Jersey Certification Report. sj-site-persistent-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/fileadmin/cicbase/documents/2019/11/22/15744527119472.pdf

<https://www.sustainablejersey.com/resources/publications/energy-guidebooks/#c4478>

FIGURE 14. Technology Highlight: Solar Thermal



Appendix: EMP/SJ Actions Crosswalk

Section of New Jersey's Energy Master Plan	Local Gov't	Community Actions	Municipal Operations	Other Actions
2.1.9 Stakeholder engagement to explore rules to limit CO2 emissions from electric generating units				
2.2 Develop 7500 MW Offshore Wind Energy Generation by 2035				
2.3 Maximize Local (On-site or Remotely-Sited) Solar Development and Distributed Energy Resources by 2050				
2.3.1 Continue to grow community solar	✓	Community-Led Solar		
2.3.2 Transition to a successor solar incentive program		(Community-Led Solar (Community Solar) (MYTSF)		
2.3.3 Maximize solar rooftop and community solar development in urban/LMI communities	✓	Community-Led Solar Community Solar		Environmental Justice in Planning/Zoning
2.3.4 Develop programs to increase the deployment of solar thermal tech	✓	Community-Led Solar MYTSF		
2.3.5 Mandate non-wires solutions on state-funded projects	✓	(All Gold actions)		
2.3.6 Develop mechanisms for achieving 600 MW of energy storage by 2021, 2000 MW by 2030	✓		On-site Solar On-site Wind	
2.3.7 Maximize the use of source separated organic waste for energy production and encourage anaerobic digestion	✓			Food Waste
Strategy 3: Maximize Energy Efficiency and Conservation and Reduce Peak Demand				



GREAT PLAINS
INSTITUTE

City of Red Wing Climate Action Work Plan 2020 - 2025

<http://www.red-wing.org/1022/Climate-Action-Work-Plan>



FIVE-YEAR WORK PLAN

The following work plan is intended to get Red Wing started on a series of initiatives that will enable the city to begin to make community-wide emissions reductions over the next five years. There are five strategies to reduce emissions across building energy use, transportation, and waste. Each strategy has at least two initiatives for the city to implement in this time frame, as well as target emissions reductions and co-benefits. There is an additional strategy for city operations. This strategy supports both internal emissions reductions as well as sharing resources and communicating progress externally. Implementing this work plan is aimed at reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions 9% over the next five years. When combined with the impact of Xcel Energy's changing electricity grid mix and ongoing code enforcement for new construction, the reduction totals 21%.

Strategy I: Increase Building Efficiency

Building energy use is responsible for 66% of total community-wide emissions in Red Wing. Commercial and industrial buildings account for 63% of building energy emissions. These emissions can be decreased through a combination of energy efficiency, fuel switching, and renewable energy initiatives.

Initiative 1: Adopt a Commercial Building Benchmarking and Transparency Policy

Description: Building energy benchmarking and transparency policies help building owners and operators track and manage building energy consumption. These policies focus on buildings of certain use types and those that are over a specified size threshold. The Efficient Building Collaborative (EBC) offers support to adopt and implement a mandatory or voluntary policy. The city should utilize no-cost technical assistance from the EBC to adopt and implement a policy that targets commercial buildings 15,000 ft² and larger.

Lead: Community Development / Sustainability Commission

Timeline: Fall 2020 — on-going

Actions:

1. Participate in the Efficient Building Collaborative, a program offered by Hennepin County and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency that supports Minnesota cities with the development of a building energy benchmarking program. The EBC walks the city through 1) creating a policy framework, 2) developing a stakeholder engagement plan, and 3) implementing an operations plan to run the benchmarking program.
2. Adopt a building energy benchmarking policy that supports the largest commercial users with tracking energy use and working to meet the city's efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions goals.
3. Implement the energy benchmarking policy beginning in June of 2021.



-6.8%

JOBS

MONEY SAVED

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

**REDUCED ENERGY
BURDEN**



Initiative 2: Expand the Green Wing Building Energy Challenge for businesses

Description: Under the Partners in Energy Green Wing Energy Action Plan, Red Wing implemented a building challenge to increase participation in energy efficiency and renewable energy programs among small- and mid-size businesses. The city should expand and incorporate the Green Wing Building Energy Challenge into the implementation of the Building Benchmarking program. The city should provide resources, incentives, and recognition to buildings that achieve energy savings that help to meet the community energy and climate goals. Under this expansion, the city should encourage fuel switching (i.e., electrify natural gas appliances) to move toward decarbonizing space and water heating.

Lead: Community Development / Sustainability Commission

Timeline: September 2021 — on-going

Actions:

1. As part of the building energy benchmarking program, compile resources for businesses to take advantage of energy efficiency and renewable energy financial incentives and financing opportunities.
2. Establish an annual recognition program to encourage more businesses to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions through efficiency, fuel switching, and renewable energy.
3. Track and share successes via the city's climate resource page, newsletters, social media, and other communication channels.



Model Community Energy Plan

Initiative 1.1: Adopt Supportive Zoning and Regulations for EV Infrastructure

Description: Pass NJDCA’s Model Statewide Municipal EV Ordinance specifying electric vehicle charging stations (EVSE) as a permitted accessory use, establishing the permitting process for charging stations, and requiring Make-Ready and EVSE parking in new multifamily developments and parking lots. Modify the model ordinance standards for safety, signage, etc. as needed.

Lead	Timeline	Funding
Municipal attorney	December 2023 – March 2024	N/A

Current status: The Model Statewide Municipal EV Ordinance is already in effect due to state law, but the policies in the ordinance are not integrated into Gotham’s municipal code.

Next steps:

1. Municipal attorney adds local information to Model Statewide Municipal EV Ordinance template and makes changes to the “Reasonable Standards” section, if needed.
2. Municipal attorney presents ordinance to Town Council for review and approval.
3. Municipal attorney coordinates changing municipal land-use code to reflect ordinance as adopted by Town Council.
4. Communications office posts permitting application and inspection processes on the municipal website.

Measures of success:

- Ordinance passed
- Ordinance guidelines added to municipal code



Technical Assistance

- **Overburdened Municipalities eligible for assistance on**
 - Every piece of application
 - Checklist
 - Budget
 - Resolution
 - Community Energy Plan development
 - Workplan Template
 - Energy efficiency for municipal facilities
 - Energy tracking and management
 - Assess opportunities for upgrades
 - Efficiency in new construction



Application Requirements

Appendix B: Required Attachments Checklist

Note: Additional attachments not reflected here may be required and are identified throughout this application form.

Required Attachments for all Applications	Attached?
Completed Community Energy Plan Application Checklist (Appendix D)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Preliminary Project Budget (Appendix E)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Proof of Public Meeting and Municipal Resolution in support of grant application (Appendix F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<https://njcleanenergy.com/cep>

Deadline: March 18, 2022

Community Energy Plan Initiatives	Mark if interested
Strategy 1: Reduce Energy Consumption and Emissions from the Transportation Sector	
1.1 Adopt Supportive Zoning and Regulations for EV Charging Infrastructure Pass NJDCA's model ordinance specifying EV charging infrastructure as a permitted accessory use	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Train First Responders on EVs and EV Charging Infrastructure Require training on EVs and EV charging infrastructure for local first responders	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Train Non-Emergency Staff on EVs and EV Charging Infrastructure Initiate training on EVs and EV charging infrastructure for municipal code officials, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4 Purchase Alternative Fuel Vehicles Strategically replace gasoline/diesel municipal vehicles with EVs or other alternative fuel vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.5 Improve Municipal Fleet Efficiency Replace older municipal vehicles with more efficient versions, downsize fleet, improve driver efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.6 Install Public EV Charging Infrastructure Install public EV charging infrastructure with appropriate signage and safety/accessibility features	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.7 Encourage Non-Municipal Fleets to Improve Efficiency Encourage fleet operators to improve fleet efficiency via electrification, downsizing, driver training	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.8 Encourage Workplace EV Charging Infrastructure Encourage local businesses to install EV charging infrastructure; offer incentive such as "ribbon cutting"	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	
Strategy 2: Accelerate Deployment of Renewable Energy and Distributed Energy Resources	
2.1 Adopt Supportive Zoning and Permitting for Private Solar Provide reasonable permitting standards and procedure for solar developers	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2 Post Solar Permitting Checklist Provide permitting checklist for solar developers on municipal website	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.3 Adopt Zoning and Permitting for Community Solar Allow large-scale solar in some zoning districts; help community solar developers with permitting	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Train First Responders on Solar Require training on solar for local first responders	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.5 Train Non-Emergency Staff on Solar Initiate training on solar for non-emergency municipal staff such as inspectors	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.6 Install On-site Municipal Renewable Generation Host solar, wind, or geothermal project on municipal property	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.7 Buy Renewable Electricity for Municipal Facilities Sign contract with third-party supplier to supply municipal facilities with renewable electricity	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.8 Offer a Solar Employee Benefit Program Offer solar installation discount to municipal employees	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.9 Institute a Community-wide Solar Purchasing Program Offer and promote solar installation discount to residents and/or businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.10 Implement Renewable Government Energy Aggregation (R-GEA) Procure third-party electricity supply for residents with high renewable content	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.11 Support Community Solar as Project Ambassador Connect community solar developers with community stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.12 Support Community Solar as Outreach Coordinator Educate the community about community solar	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.13 Host a Community Solar Project on Municipal Property Lease municipal rooftop, parking lot, landfill, etc. for installation of community solar project	<input type="checkbox"/>

Strategy 3: Maximize Energy Efficiency and Conservation and Reduce Peak Demand	
3.1 Upgrade Energy Efficiency in Municipal Facilities Upgrade existing municipal facilities to be more energy efficient utilizing utility/NJCEP incentives	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Residential Energy Efficiency Outreach Campaign Host workshop, send letter to residents to learn about energy efficiency opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3 Commercial Energy Efficiency Outreach Campaign Host workshop, send letter to businesses to learn about energy efficiency opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Conduct Energy Efficiency Outreach to Large Energy Users Encourage large energy users in the community to improve energy efficiency in their facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	
Strategy 4: Reduce Energy Consumption and Emissions from the Building Sector	
4.1 Construct New Municipal Buildings as Model Green Buildings Encourage/require green building practices during construction of new municipal facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.2 Encourage Benchmarking and Commissioning for Existing Buildings Encourage large building owners to track energy usage, improve efficiency of current equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3 Require Developers to Complete Green Development Checklist Require developers to submit completed Green Development Checklist with Site Plan Application	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4 Conduct Outreach Targeting New Construction in the Community Encourage developers to utilize NJCEP's New Construction Energy Efficiency incentive programs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	
Strategy 6: Support Community Energy Planning and Action with Emphasis on Encouraging and Supporting Participation by Low- and Moderate-Income/EJ Communities	
6.1 Make Community Energy Planning Inclusive Ensure LMI residents are represented in energy planning processes	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.2 Conduct Energy Efficiency Outreach to Low- and Moderate-Income Residents Offer education/outreach to encourage LMI residents to utilize energy efficiency programs	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.3 Support Shared Mobility Programs Promote shared transportation networks that benefit LMI residents	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.4 Support Low- and Moderate-Income Community Solar Subscriptions Ensure that local community solar projects reserve capacity for LMI residents	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.5 Conduct Energy Efficiency Outreach to Community-Serving Institutions Encourage community-serving institutions to utilize state and utility energy efficiency programs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	
Strategy 7: Expand the Clean Energy Innovation Economy	
7.1 Adopt Energy Storage Policies Adopt standards for permitting battery energy storage systems	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.2 Install an Energy Storage Project Install energy storage at municipal facilities; showcase project to the public	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.3 Develop Local Microgrid	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.4 Develop/Participate in a District Energy System	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	



Preliminary Budget

- Staff salaries
- Overhead
- Consultants/contractors
- Supplies and other expenses

Appendix E: Preliminary Budget

Budget for Community Energy Plan Grant

Item Number	Description	Estimated Cost	Notes
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
	Total		



CEPG Application Resolution

Note: Resolution must be submitted *with* the application, by March 18th

[Municipality]

RESOLUTION # _____

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO THE
NJ CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, a sustainable community seeks to ensure that its environmental, economic and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and

WHEREAS, [Municipality] strives to assure clean land, air and water for current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's Energy Master Plan: Pathway to 2050 ("EMP") established that community-level action is necessary to achieve the state's goal of 100% clean energy by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has created a Community Energy Plan Grant program for municipalities to develop a community energy plan to meet the goals of the state's Energy Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, [Municipality] is invested in developing a community energy plan to help the state achieve the goal of 100% clean energy by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the Community Energy Plan Grant program will help [Municipality] to plan for and invest in renewable energy and to work towards a better environment for all residents by using the state's Energy Master Plan (EMP) as a guide to develop sustainable strategies that increase clean energy production, reduce energy use, and cut emissions.

THEREFORE, the [Municipality's Governing Body] of [Municipality] has determined that [Municipality] should apply for the aforementioned Community Energy Plan Grant program; and

THEREFORE, [Municipality] will commit to providing staff support for the duration of the Community Energy Planning process, including for gathering of relevant data and for convening at least two public meetings.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that [Municipality's Governing Body] of the [Municipality], State of New Jersey, authorizes the submission of the aforementioned application to the NJBPU Community Energy Plan Grant program.

Signature

Approved Date



Summary

- All municipalities are eligible*
- Overburdened Municipalities receive additional money and direct assistance
- Application at www.njcleanenergy.com/cep
 - Deadline March 18, 2022
- Resources from Sustainable Jersey make community energy planning easy!

December 2021 Community Energy Plan Grant webinar recording:
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3156581753427858704>

*Except those that have previously received a Community Energy Plan Grant

Sustainable Jersey Supporters & Sponsors

Program Underwriters



Grants Program



Corporate Sponsors

PLATINUM

GOLD



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Upcoming Webinars

- **Sustainable Communities Partnership Program Info Session**
 - January 18, 2022, 12:00pm to 1:00pm

ELECTRIC WEBINAR

FUNDING FOR TRANSITIONING FLEETS TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Victor DeLuca
Township Councilperson
Maplewood Township

Cathleen Lewis
E-Mobility Programs Manager
NJ Board of Public Utilities

Carolina Ramos
Sustainability Coordinator
City of Jersey City

1:00 - 2:30 pm | Jan. 26, 2022

<https://bit.ly/SJEVWebinar>

www.sustainablejersey.com/nc/events



- Free assistance for a specific project related to advancing a complete streets initiative in your community
- Application due **Friday, February 11, 2022**
- <https://www.sustainablejersey.com/grants/free-complete-streets-technical-assistance-services/>



- Fund a project relating to Sustainable Jersey actions
- \$2,000, \$10,000, \$20,000
- Informational webinar recording available on SJ website
- Application due **Friday, February 11, 2022**
- <https://www.sustainablejersey.com/grants/pseg-cycle/>



SolSmart



- Points-based national certification program
- Solar planning, zoning, permitting, and outreach
- SolSmart Silver counts for Make Your Town Solar Friendly Action

Join Sustainable Jersey's SolSmart Cohort today!

To join, send email to:
info@sustainablejersey.com

For more information:
www.solsmart.org

Solar Statement to include

- Commitment to SolSmart certification
- Past solar achievement
- Solar goals
- Commitment to track solar metrics in your community



Image www.solsmart.org.



Online Solar Permitting Tool



- Developed by National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)
- Free for municipalities
- Automated plan review, code compliance check
- Online fee payment
- Can reduce permitting time by 5-10 days

www.solarapp.nrel.gov/



Image from NREL. solarapp.nrel.gov



Thank You!

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Application helpdesk: community.energy@bpu.state.nj.us

