



Sustainable Jersey Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey Certification Report of Trenton City, a Sustainable Jersey silver certified applicant.

Trenton City was certified on December 09, 2022 with 385 points. Listed below is information regarding Trenton City's Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Trenton City was approved for in 2022 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

Brownfields

Brownfields Inventory & Prioritization

15 Points

Program Summary: Trenton's Brownfields Program celebrates its 27th year in existence and is one of the most accomplished and sustainable municipal brownfields programs in the United States. The Program has obtained over \$30 million in grants, and received seven prestigious, national Phoenix Awards for brownfields redevelopment. We are proud to adapt our program's metrics and data to the format established by Sustainable Jersey. The City created, maintained

and updated the Brownfields Inventory using the following resources: • The existing Brownfields Program’s inventory, as well as other city inventories. The other city inventories contained sites that are owned and managed by the city, as well as additional sites; • Environmental database reports prepared for brownfields sites for assessment purposes; • NJDEP’s Data Miner (this resource was culled from over 2,000 entries to less than 150 known contaminated sites in Trenton. Some of these sites are not in need of redevelopment). The data from the Data Miner was imported into a spreadsheet, culled of sites not known to be contaminated, not in need of redevelopment and not located in Trenton, for submittal. Priority sites from Data Miner were included in the Brownfields Inventory and Brownfield Priorities list. The City of Trenton created a Brownfields Priority list using the following variables: • Human and/or ecological hazard (combined weight = 5) • Development potential (3) • Blight reduction potential (3) • Ownership (1) The sites on the Inventory were mapped in GIS using block and lot. New uploads for 2022 are: 1) revised inventory and prioritization processes; 2) revised brownfields inventory; and 3) revised prioritization list. Sites that are remediated and redeveloped, in most cases, are removed from the inventory and prioritization lists. Prioritization scoring may change as a result of ongoing project progress, changes in developer interest, and other variables.

PDF: [BROWNFIELDS INVENTORY & PRIORITIZATION DATAMINER DATA](#)

PDF: [2205BFDESCRIPIMPLEMENTATION\(UPLOADINV-1\).PDF](#)

PDF: [2205BFINVENTORY\(UPLI-2\).PDF](#)

PDF: [BROWNFIELDS INVENTORY & PRIORITIZATION MAP](#)

PDF: [2205BFPRIORITIZATIONLIST\(UPLI-3\).PDF](#)

Brownfields Reuse Planning

15 Points

Program Summary: The City’s Brownfields Program works with the City’s Division of Planning and other units of government to support the reuse of brownfields sites. Brownfields reuse planning tools include: • Using New Jersey’s Redevelopment Law to establish 42 Redevelopment Areas. Each area includes development standards, design standards and other development parameters. These areas are all considered “in need of redevelopment” and each redevelopment area is established by Ordinance by the City Council with substantial public outreach and input. Eight of the 13 designated “priority” brownfields sites are located within established Redevelopment Areas; • Establishing two “Brownfield Development Areas” (BDAs) within the City. The BDAs allow for area-wide planning activities and elevate the prioritization of State Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Funds for investigation and cleanup. Six of the thirteen priority brownfields sites are located in BDAs: five in the Assunpink Greenway BDA; and one in the Magic Marker BDA. • Three of the 13 priority sites are located in established Historic Districts and require preservation as part of redevelopment. Only two of the thirteen priority brownfields sites are not located within the above-referenced planning areas. These two sites will utilize site-specific planning tools (for example, the Vacant and Abandoned Properties Act). Brownfields is also included as an element in the City’s new Master Plan, designated as “Trenton 250” (see <http://trenton250.org/>). With respect to Sustainable Jersey compliance for Brownfields Reuse Planning, the following actions were taken: • Designate the top 13 prioritized sites for additional information, review and marketing; • Tabulate and upload data in accordance with SJ recommendations, including: stakeholders; site description, zoning, redevelopment designations, development status, accessibility to public and other transportation, reuse options, etc; • Upload Ordinances designating Redevelopment Areas and the City’s Master Plan. • Upload information regarding the City’s two BDA’s (data sheets and reports) Throughout the process used to determine the reuses of brownfields in Trenton--city council discussions and resolutions, Trenton250 public meetings, Master Plan discussions--the public has been closely involved and had opportunities to provide input and offer recommendations at regularly scheduled and

specially called meetings. UPDATE: The City of Trenton BEST Advisory Committee (Better Environmental Solutions for Trenton) adopted a Brownfields Program Action Plan in June 2014 (see upload). The Action Plan serves as a blueprint for action to maintain a successful, sustainable Brownfields Program, by setting forth program components and associated metrics. Also, please note the Brownfields Inventory & Prioritization does not expire until July 2016 (and so this is not a resubmittal and the 6.5 years does not apply. In any event, the Enterprise Ave Redevelopment Plan is dated June 2009, within the timeframe). The City of Trenton is not relying upon a Brownfields Element for this submission. Rather, we are relying upon the submission of redevelopment plans (which do not expire), ordinances (also still valid), and the June 2014 BEST Action Plan. Nevertheless, to give you a sense of the active ongoing planning that is taking place around Trenton's Brownfields Program, the draft Trenton 250 Brownfields Element has been attached.

PDF: [2205BFREUSEPLANNINGUPL1DESCRIPTION.PDF](#)

PDF: [2205BFREUSEPLANNINGUPL2PRIORITYLIST.PDF](#)

PDF: [2205BFREUSEPLANNINGUPL3AWBFAPABBREVIATEDFINAL.PDF](#)

PDF: [2205UPLOAD4REUSEPLANNINGENVLELEMENT.PDF](#)

Brownfields Marketing

10 Points

Program Summary: Narrative Summary The City's Brownfields Program is celebrating its 27th year working to assess, investigate, remediate, market and redevelop brownfields sites in the City of Trenton. During that time period, the City has redeveloped over 50 brownfields sites as reported in the "Metrics" section, and Brownfields Inventory, of the City's Brownfields Action Plan (http://www.trentonnj.org/Documents/BEST_Action_Plan_6-20-14.pdf). As part of the Brownfields Program's mission, we have regularly marketed sites for redevelopment and revitalization. Efforts to market brownfields sites over time have included: • Participation in local, state and National brownfields marketing and deal flow events such as: NJ League of Municipalities; other events sponsored by NJDEP, NJEDA and other state organizations; the National Brownfields Conference; the National Brownfields Association; and the U.S. Economic Development Administration; • Development of site-specific marketing materials; • Issuance of Developer RFPs for sites in redevelopment areas. This year's submittal for brownfields marketing illustrates recent marketing activities: 1) flyer for December 2021 property auction where several dozen city-owned properties were auctioned including at least three brownfield sites (two former gas stations and one former warehouse); and February 2022 Developer RFP for Roebling Block 2, a high priority brownfield (proposals are in review).

PDF: [2205BFMARKETINGUPL3DEC21AUCTIONFLYER.PDF](#)

PDF: [TRENTONBROWNFIELDS_MARKETING_CHECKLIST.PDF](#)

PDF: [2202BFMARKEINGUPL2RFPROEBLINGBLOCK2.PDF](#)

Brownfields Assessment & Investigation

30 Points

Program Summary: The City of Trenton's Brownfields Program regularly obtains state and federal grants to assess, investigate and remediate city-owned brownfields sites. This year's submittal for Sustainable Jersey includes information from two brownfields sites with the

expectation of receiving the maximum (30) points: • Pattern Machine & Foundry site: Combined SI/RI Report (15 points total) and related project documents (CID, LSRP documents, contract resolution); and • Powerhouse site: Combined SI/RI Report (15 points total) and related project documents (CID, LSRP documents, contract resolution). The Pattern Machine & Foundry site will receive an RAO based on prior remedial actions and was recently sold at auction for redevelopment, with the expectation of future residential development. The Powerhouse site is also close to the issuance of an RAO and this site is part of the ongoing Assunpink Greenway development project. Reuse planning for the Powerhouse building is ongoing. Additional preliminary assessment and investigative work at other sites can be provided if additional information is needed for maximum points.

PDF: [BA&IUPLOAD1FREIGHTYARDSDOCSCIDLSRPRESO.PDF](#)

PDF: [BA&IUPLOAD2FREIGHTYARDSSIRIREPORT.PDF](#)

PDF: [BA&IUPLOAD3PM&FCIDLSRPDOCSRESO.PDF](#)

PDF: [BA&IUPLOAD4PM&FSIRIREPORT.PDF](#)

Community Partnership & Outreach

Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required

Program Summary: The City of Trenton formally established its Green Team in October 2011 with a resolution from City Council (see SJ Trenton Green Team Resolution 2011). Meetings are held monthly with community participation and collaboration since May of 2011. As of May 2022, meetings are held jointly with the Trenton Green Infrastructure Partners, a municipal action team (see attachment) organized around implementation of green infrastructure projects designed to help with the City of Trenton's stormwater discharge compliance. Green Team and Green Infrastructure Partners share common members and goals, so it was natural to align their work. A current list of Green Team members is included (Green Team Membership 22).

PDF: [MUNICIPAL ACTION TEAM DESCRIPTION](#)

EXCEL: [GREEN TEAM MEMBERSHIP 22.XLSX](#)

PDF: [SJ TRENTON GREEN TEAM RESOLUTION 2011](#)

WORD: [2018 GREEN TEAM SUMMARY](#)

PDF: [TRENTON GREEN TEAM REAFFIRMATION LETTER SCANNED.PDF](#)

WORD: [2021-2022 GREEN TEAM ACTIVITIES.DOCX](#)

Community Education & Outreach

15 Points

Program Summary: Mercer County and the City of Trenton established a Complete Count Committee to promote response to the 2020 Census. The committee helped to recruit census workers, provided curriculum to educate students on how the Census works, and helped the Trenton Census Office to count homeless members of the community. Activities included news

conferences, a promotional video, Assistance Center Banners, development of a logo by students, artwork, billboards, and numerous other community events. The Trenton250 Website was developed to provide the community with information on the ongoing work on the Trenton250 Master Plan. The What's New section is regularly updated to provide information on planning efforts, events, and other relevant topics to the community. <http://www.trenton250.org>. In addition, the City has set up websites to provide more in-depth information on two of the most important current planning efforts that it is undertaking: the Land Development Ordinance update and the Resilient NJ. Both of these planning efforts will make a substantial impact on the sustainability and resilience of the City. <https://trenton250ldupdate.com/>; <https://brsinc.com/resilient-nj-trenton/>.

PDF: [TRENTON COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE.PDF](#)

WORD: [COMMUNITY_EDUCATION_ONLINE_OR_PRINT_INITIATIVE_CHECKLIST_CENSUS.DOC](#)

WORD: [COMMUNITY_EDUCATION_ONLINE_OR_PRINT_INITIATIVE_CHECKLIST_TRENTON250_WEBSITE.DOC](#)

Green Fair

10 Points

Program Summary: The Trenton Green Team worked with the Mercer County Sustainability Coalition to develop the weeklong Greening Together environmental celebration in 2021. The Trenton Green Team organized a virtual forum on transportation that included the panelists and moderator listed below. Green Team members participated in the MCSC planning committee meetings and helped promote the larger celebration. A Green Team member came up with "Greening Together" as the name for the newly branded county green fair.

WORD: [TRENTON GREEN TEAM - GREEN FAIR QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT](#)

PDF: [TRENTON TALKS TRANSPORTATION FLYER](#)

PDF: [GREENING TOGETHER 2022 FLYER](#)

Energy

Energy Efficiency for Municipal Facilities

5 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: With the assistance of an EDF Climate Corps Fellow, the City of Trenton has now completed energy audit on 42 Municipal Buildings. Only five buildings remain unaudited; these were not completed for a variety of logistical reasons. The City is in the process of applying for audits for four of those remaining buildings. The fifth is already undergoing renovations and the auditing company determined that an audit would not be worthwhile. See the attachment for Trenton City - Scope, for explanations. The City has started work, with the assistance of Sustainable Jersey staff, of writing an RFP for an ESCO. The City hopes to release the RFP by the end of the year. *Revising on 8/28 to submit for only 5 points. We should qualify for 10 points in November, but would like to secure the 5 points and priority action approval now.

PDF: [TRENTON, CITY OF - MGKTREN_112518.PDF](#)

PDF: [CITY OF TRENTON \(MGKTRN2\)_102521.PDF](#)

PDF: [TRENTON, CITY OF - SCOPE.PDF](#)

Electric Vehicle Community Outreach

10 Points

Program Summary: The Trenton E-Mobility Pilot is an electric vehicle solution that will work to improve low-income residents' mobility in the City of Trenton and increase access to jobs, healthcare, and new opportunities. In addition to expanding low-cost transportation options for low-income communities, the program will work to decrease dependence on private-vehicle ownership in order to reduce greenhouse gases and air pollution. The project is a collaboration between Isles Inc. and the City of Trenton. The initial phase of the project will consist of an electric vehicle carshare program where residents are able to rent vehicles for a designated time period. After a performance evaluation is conducted by a recruited research partner, the program will transition to administering a rideshare service. Costs will be subsidized for low-income residents. The City of Trenton is burdened with a 27% poverty rate and approximately 30% of households are car-free. Additionally, 21% of residents have reported carpooling as their main mode of travel to work. Community Outreach Isles has conducted resident surveys to assess the city's transportation needs and determine the viability of the program. Out of 95 surveys, 81% of people reported interest in using a carshare if available; 93% believed an electric car and/or ridesharing program would be beneficial to them and their commute; and 96% stated that the program would be beneficial to Trenton residents overall. Additionally, community stakeholders have expressed transportation as one of their main challenges for extending critical services to residents. In order to truly understand the needs of residents and community stakeholders, Isles has developed an in-depth feedback process to assess the current system in order to implement a more targeted and responsible program development strategy. It includes: Community Partnership Agreements: partnerships between Isles and community stakeholders that offer social, health, and financial services with the goal of extending these services to more people and creating a guaranteed baseline of usage of the program. Community Listening sessions - open to residents and stakeholders to gather insight on transportation needs, recruit local leaders, and determine the best method for collaboration Surveys - ongoing to understand residents' transportation needs Ambassador recruitment - trusted community members will be recruited to spread word about the program Stakeholder Advisory Committee - community members that will oversee the development of the program

PDF: [TRENTON E-MOBILITY PILOT](#)

WORD: [EV OUTREACH TASK REPORT](#)

PDF: [TRENTON DAILY E-MOBILITY ARTICLE](#)

PDF: [SOCIAL MEDIA - JAN 21 LISTENING SESSION](#)

PDF: [SOCIAL MEDIA - MAY 26 LISTENING SESSION](#)

Food

Community Food Pantry/Bank & Soup Kitchen

10 Points

Program Summary: The Trenton Food Stakeholders (TFS) were convened by Trenton Health Team (THT) in February 2019 to drive collaboration towards addressing food system issues facing our region and to build on the good work of previous similar efforts. TFS is co-facilitated by Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Mercer County. More than 50 organizations participate in TFS, including the City of Trenton's Department of Health and Human Services, Rider University, Hunger Free NJ, a local family farm, a small regional food distributor, Mercer Street Friends (the food bank for Mercer County), food pantries, and organizations that provide regular and emergency food services for different populations, such as HomeFront, the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, and the YMCA. In July of 2020, Trenton Health Team (THT) launched the Trenton Area Free Food Resources tool in conjunction with the City of Trenton's Summer Meals program. The link to the current tool can be found here <https://trentonhealthteam.github.io/food/>. About 150 people access the tool each month. In June 2022 there were 160 users and in July 2022 there were 109. This tool includes an online directory and initiative map of free food resources in the greater Trenton area. The directory lists meals sites, food pantries, and meal distribution sites serving children, families, seniors and adults. Features include: Alphabetical listing of Summer Meals sites, and other food distribution sites Display as interactive Map (Click "Show/Hide Map") to search for sites near a specific address or by location Searchable directory and map allows user to view information by program (for example, Summer Meals), day of the week, time of day, eligibility requirements and food option, such as grab & go meal or pantry items Google Calendar enables user to search options by day and download information to personal calendars for reminders/notifications Event tags identify one-time opportunities, such as farm markets and special distributions A new tool will be launching in September with some updated features including the ability to better track user analytics. <https://www.njhc.org/trenton-area-free-food-resources/>

PDF: [FLYER](#)

PDF: [PRESS RELEASE](#)

Community Gardens

15 Points

Program Summary: Isles currently supports more than 70 community and school gardens across the city of Trenton by providing technical and organizational assistance to residents and other community-based organizations. These gardens produce well over 20,000 pounds of food each year, as reported by a University of Pennsylvania study. After many years working across multiple administrations, Isles and the City of Trenton developed and passed a Community Gardening ordinance that codifies the process for the creation and management of community gardens (see attached ordinance). Municipal support is provided by The City of Trenton for gardens on their property in the form of water access, including water service and permits to utilize fire hydrants for watering gardens. The City also provides woodchips, mulch, and allows drop-off of compostable materials from gardens for recycling. Isles also works with the City to help gardeners secure permission to garden on public property. Gardening opportunities are promoted by the City in a number of ways. They post flyers on bulletin boards in City Hall, and have flyers available in the Recreation and Housing & Economic Development departments. The Real Estate department also refers people interested in developing gardens on vacant lots to Isles and Trenton Water Works refers residents seeking fire hydrant permits to Isles as well. Isles promotes organic and sustainable gardening practices for all gardens that we support, and offers workshops on organic management of pests & diseases, composting, and water conservation. Isles also facilitates donation of excess produce from community and school gardens that it supports along with produce from their own production gardens. There are also coordinated efforts with community partners to improve food access and promote gleaning as a way to support

emergency food providers. We are requesting 20 points for this action.

PDF: [COMMUNITY GARDENING ORDINANCE - TRENTON](#)

PDF: [MOUNT CARMEL GUILD DONATION LETTER](#)

PDF: [ISLES GARDENING CALENDAR 2022](#)

PDF: [ISLES GARDENING CALENDAR 2022 SPANISH](#)

WORD: [TRENTON - COMMUNITY GARDENS QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT](#)

Health & Wellness

Local Health Assessment & Action Plan

25 Points

Program Summary: In June 2019, Trenton Health Team (THT) published the Trenton Community Health Needs and Assets Assessment (CHNAA). The 2019 CHNAA discusses both challenges and strengths identified by Trenton residents and community organizations, providing a “community diagnosis” or status report of residents’ health and well-being. This assessment was undertaken on behalf of the entire Trenton community, as a unified and collaborative effort led and coordinated by THT. In January 2021, the City of Trenton Planning Board voted to adopt the Trenton Community Health and Wellness Plan as an element of the Trenton250 Master Plan. Trenton is the first municipality in the State of New Jersey to adopt a health element as part of its master plan. The Community Health and Wellness Plan is intended to provide a policy framework and action agenda for: expanding access to and the uptake of healthy foods; increasing opportunities and pursuit of physical activity; improving health literacy and access to healthcare services; and addressing unhealthy housing conditions in the City. The Element also highlights the relationship between health and other Trenton250 Master Plan elements. It is anticipated that implementation of the strategies described in the Community Health and Wellness Plan, as well as the other Trenton250 Master Plan elements, will lead to material changes in Trenton’s economic, social, and physical environment over time, which will improve the health and wellness of Trenton residents. The Community Health and Wellness Plan was prepared by the Rutgers Center for Green Building & the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey in partnership with the City of Trenton Division of Planning. Updates to the plan were made by the Trenton Health Team. There was also significant public outreach conducted as part of the plan and the suggestions of community members were an essential part of the final product.

PDF: [TRENTON 250 HEALTH AND WELLNESS PLAN](#)

PDF: [2019 CHNAA](#)

PDF: [TRENTON CHNAA SURVEY FLYER.PDF](#)

PDF: [TRENTON CHNAA FORUM FLYER.PDF](#)

Safe Routes to School

10 Points

Program Summary: In September 2019 Trenton held its first Ciclovía and GMTMA’s SRTS

educators ran a bike rodeo for children throughout the full day, and provided bikes and helmets to the children. Later in September 2019 GMTMA joined Greenwood Avenue YMCA to hold another bike rodeo for families and students and provided over 90 helmets to children. In October 2019 GMTMA held another Bike Rodeo for families at the Trenton Farmers Market and provided bikes and helmets for those kids who needed them. In December 2019 GMTMA attended a community meeting at the East Trenton Collaborative to gather residents comments about the There have been multiple other demonstration projects, including : - August 2019 near Martin Luther King School and Rivera Community Middle School along Brunswick Avenue - Sep 2021 at East Lafayette and South Broad Streets to narrow the travel lanes and accentuate the pedestrian crosswalks In September 2021 the City of Trenton published its Complete Streets Design Handbook that provides specific and general recommendations towards establishing a safe and connected network throughout the city in all modes of travel. This spring (2022) GMTMA visited P.J. Hill Elementary School to award one of its students the SRTS Bookmark Design prize, and in presenting to the winner gave a walk & bike safety talk to an assembly of the school's 4th grade. Most recently in the spring of 2022 Trenton Public Schools began to implement a reorganization of the district's schools into (13) Kindergarten through 3rd grade schools, (6) 4th through 6th grade schools, and (3) 7th through 8th grade schools. This has generated a major redesign of the district's catchment areas, and one of the aims is to get schools closer to where students live. A Safe Routes to School coordinator has been appointed and he is working closely with Greater Mercer TMA to develop recommended walking routes and creating Walking School Buses for all 19 Kindergarten through 6th grade schools.

PDF: [TRENTON- SRTS RECOGNITION GOLD 2022.PDF](#)

Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Public Places

10 Points

Program Summary: UPDATE: The City of Trenton Department of Health has adopted an ordinance "to prohibit smoking in parks and recreation areas owned or otherwise possessed by the City of Trenton." See attached ordinance. The ordinance was approved by Trenton City Council at second reading on July 16, 2015. The ordinance was a collective effort on the part of the City of Trenton Department of Health, Trenton Green Team, New Jersey Prevention Network, Mercer Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction, and Hunterdon and Mercer County Regional Chronic Disease Coalition. Several of these partners testified in favor of the ordinance at the public meetings considering the ordinance. The ordinance specifies that the Trenton Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for enforcing the ordinance (the same department that spearheaded passage of the ordinance). No other Departments are involved in the enforcement process. All Departments were provided with a copy of the Ordinance and the Director of Health and Human Services has hosted a staff meeting to go over the enforcement policy, the procedures to be followed, and the education process for the public. These procedures will closely follow the enforcement strategies in place at the State Department of Health for the Smoke Free Air Act. As evident in the ordinance, signage is a requirement on all public property informing of the prohibition of smoking on the grounds. 108 signs were delivered in September 2015 (see attached image) and the New Jersey Prevention Network has ordered the Trenton ordinance stickers that will go at the bottom of the signs. Tobacco Free for a Health New Jersey has provided these signs to post on public property at no cost. There has been significant media coverage of this ordinance, including a supportive editorial in the Trenton Times and media stories in both the Trenton Times and Trentonian. Media coverage has been uploaded. Notice of the adoption of the ordinance also was posted on social media (see attached).

WORD: [SMOKE-FREE AND TOBACCO-FREE PUBLIC PLACES SUPPORT EMAIL](#)

WORD: [FAQ](#)

PDF: [SMOKE-FREE AND TOBACCO-FREE PUBLIC PLACES ADOPTED ORDINANCE 7.16.15](#)

PDF: [SMOKE-FREE MEDIA](#)

PDF: [SMOKE-FREE SIGNAGE_SOCIAL MEDIA_TOBACCO RESOURCE GUIDE](#)

PDF: [SMOKE-FREE AND TOBACCO-FREE PUBLIC PLACES ENFORCEMENT](#)

Innovative Projects

Innovative Community Project 1

10 Points

Program Summary: A \$1.3M Choice Neighborhoods Planning Initiative Grant was provided by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Trenton Housing Authority to fund the creation of a transformation plan for Donnelly Homes, the largest public housing development in Trenton, and the surrounding neighborhood. The North Trenton / Battle Monument Choice Neighborhood Plan addressed three core goals: replacing distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing responsive to the surrounding neighborhood's needs; improving income, health and youth education outcomes of households living in the target neighborhood; and creating the ideal conditions for public and private reinvestment in a distressed neighborhood. The CHOICE Plan seeks to establish a vibrant, mixed use neighborhood in the North Trenton / Battle Monument neighborhood. The CHOICE Plan includes a substantial number of sustainability measures, including green buildings, complete streets, green infrastructure, parks improvements, and public safety measures to improve walkability. The Plan is designed to meet the requirements of LEED-ND certification. The design and installation of a complete street on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard is one of the early action activities currently being implemented as part of this plan and will serve as a pilot for the new Trenton Complete Streets Design Handbook. The North Trenton / Battle Monument Choice Neighborhood Plan was accepted by HUD in December of 2021 and was adopted as an element of the Trenton250 Master Plan in June of 2022.

PDF: [NORTH-TRENTON-BATTLE-MONUMENT_FINAL-PLAN_SM.PDF](#)

PDF: [TRENTON-CHOICE-ACTION-ACTIVITY-PLAN_DRAFT.PDF](#)

Innovative Community Project 2

10 Points

Program Summary: The project's mission was to reclaim a vacant and overgrown city block within downtown Trenton, which had been fenced off and inaccessible due to the dangerous state of the culvert lid which had collapsed and continued to deteriorate. The historic site, the location of the second Battle of Trenton, was transformed by removing over 400 linear feet of double box culvert, restoring and enhancing the natural stream habitat, stabilizing new stream banks, and providing new open space and a vibrant downtown park. The project successfully created habitat for seasonal fish migrations at an important location on the creek near the confluence with the Delaware River, as well as native plantings that provide significant pollinator habitat. This long-term project (almost 15 years of planning, design, construction specification and implementation) needed a significant effort to see through to completion and had its share of obstacles to overcome (funding needs, litigation, contractor issues, and more). However, we are now realizing

the positive impacts that made all of the efforts worthwhile, including: o Expanding the existing Mill Hill Park, the first significant new open space in downtown Trenton in decades; o Creating space to celebrate and educate about Trenton’s amazing history, especially through the preservation of the site of the Second Battle of Trenton (also known as “the Battle of the Assunpink”); o Providing additional recreational, reflective and gathering space; o Restoring a long-closed portion of the Assunpink Creek by creating a new open stream corridor near the confluence of the Delaware River; o Providing an improved habitat for seasonal migratory (anadromous) fish species and other wildlife; o Increasing the potential for economic activity and business expansion in the adjacent downtown area; and o Providing a media and landscape for future public art and educational displays.

WORD: [PHOENIXAPPREVISEDVERSION.DOCX](#)

PDF: [MEETING MINUTES - LOWER ASSUNPINK COMMUNITY OUTREACH PLANNING MEETING \(2014-02-11\).PDF](#)

PDF: [PRESS RELEASE 9-19-17.PDF](#)

PDF: [FINAL_30% PLANS_ASSUNPINK URBAN PARK_2018-02-09.PDF](#)

PDF: [TRANSFERLETTERTOTRENTON.PDF](#)

Innovative Community Project 3

10 Points

Program Summary: In the process of completing it's Community Health and Wellness Plan, the City of Trenton identified air quality and respiratory health as an issue that required additional study before we could provide recommendations. We applied for assistance from DVRPC to help us with that study. DVRPC helped us to convene a team, do public engagement, study critical data such as traffic volumes, truck traffic, tree coverage, and emission points, and make recommendations. The attached report from DVRPC documents this process. As part of this process, we established a partnership with the NJ DEP and faculty at Rider University and The College of New Jersey to install purple air monitors at key sites throughout the city. Members of the public can view the measurements 24-hours a day from this webpage: <https://map.purpleair.com>. These monitors will remain up for at least another year, at which point our team will evaluate the findings and see if we can make additional recommendations.

PDF: [TRENTONAQ&H_SEPT22V2.PDF](#)

Land Use & Transportation

Bicycle & Pedestrian Audits

10 Points

Program Summary: In the past five years, there have been a variety of efforts to capture existing conditions as well as opportunities for improvement to streets throughout the City that were led by different partners, but in collaboration with the City. Attached below are bicycle/pedestrian and safety audits that focus on different neighborhoods and roadways that I'll list here. In May 2018, the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center prepared an existing conditions report detailing the status of complete streets in Trenton for the Trenton Health Team.

This has served as a reference point to identify project needs in the City. In February 2020, the Greater Mercer Transportation Management Association developed a State Route 129 Pedestrian Road Safety Audit in collaboration with the City and NJDOT which involved a walking audit attended by numerous partners and members of the Green Team. This audit resulted in the start of plans to make Rt 129 safer for everyone traveling the corridor which is critical since Route 129 has one of the most dangerous intersections in the country. In December 2020, the Trenton Health Team and Tri-State Transportation Campaign conducted a pedestrian audit in the Trenton Historic Development Collaborative neighborhood. This information was used to plan interventions in the neighborhood. In June 2022, the East Trenton Collaborative alongside East Trenton residents developed a traffic safety audit that detailed existing conditions as well as recommendations. This is being used as an advocacy tool to have the City address the needs of the residents.

PDF: [SRR129_APPENDIX_FINAL.PDF](#)

PDF: [SR129_PRSA_FINAL_REPORT.PDF](#)

WORD: [TSCOC EAST TRENTON TRAFFIC SAFETY AUDIT.DOCX](#)

PDF: [TRENTON-COMPLETE-STREETS_FINAL-DRAFT_SM.PDF](#)

EXCEL: [THDC WALK AUDIT .XLSX](#)

Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Improvement Projects

30 Points

Program Summary: In 2018, Trenton cut the ribbon on a dedicated bicycle facility that's come to be known as the Wellness Loop in the Battle Monument neighborhood. These dedicated lanes connected to the regional trail network, the bike network, and also created a circuit that residents could use for exercise. Since 2019, the City of Trenton in collaboration with members of the Complete Streets Steering Committee, the Green Team, and other community members has held an annual Ciclovía, or open streets demonstration project in the month of September. The event's inspiration comes from Bogotá, Colombia as well as communities all around NJ, NYC, and Philadelphia. September is always chosen because of its link to PARKing Day and Car-Free Day. The main purpose of the event has been to bring the community together around reimagining the streets for people rather than cars and more recently has transformed into an event called Open Streets & Open Studies to make the event even bigger and better with the partnership of Artworks Trenton. The event has also done multiple creative crosswalks since its inception.

WORD: [PROJECT_SUBMISSION_WORKSHEET_CICLOVIA.DOCX](#)

WORD: [PROJECT_SUBMISSION_WORKSHEET_WELLNESSLOOP.DOCX](#)

Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Plan

10 Points

Program Summary: Bike and Pedestrian Plan Narrative The City of Trenton partnered with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission to complete a bicycle and pedestrian plan for downtown Trenton. The first stakeholder meeting was conducted on February 11, 2014 at Trenton City Hall. A follow-up meeting was conducted on September 3, 2014 at Trenton City Hall. At this meeting, planners from DVRPC presented draft recommendations for review and feedback. Trenton Cycling Revolution convened a larger community meeting for residents and members of the larger bike/pedestrian community on Monday, September 29, 2014. The draft

recommendations were presented and additional feedback was provided to DVRPC planners. Additional feedback was provided by members of the community via email throughout October. On April 17, 2015 a final draft of the Downtown Trenton Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was circulated with a deadline for all comments to be submitted by May 1, 2015. The draft plan includes a review of existing demographics, land use, and transportation conditions; recommendations for on-street bicycle infrastructure, trails, intersections and other; and a guideline for implementation, including complementary policies, strategies, and funding programs. DVRPC has an internal proofing process before final publication of the plan, hence the 'draft' label of the plan attached below. The draft plan was adopted by the Planning Board on June 25, 2015; the Planning Board agenda is attached below. On July 9, 2015, the Planning Board adopted a resolution memorializing the adoption of the plan (uploaded below). In the next year, Trenton will be working on completing a Vision Zero Action Plan as well as creating a City-wide bike/ped plan.

PDF: [DOWNTOWN TRENTON BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN-DRAFT](#)

WORD: [TRENTON PLANNING BOARD 11JUNE2015 AGENDA](#)

PDF: [BICYCLE AND OR PEDESTRIAN PLAN DOCUMENTATION](#)

Complete & Green Streets for All Policy

10 Points

Program Summary: In 2012, City Council approved a complete streets policy, which called for designated bike lanes, wheelchair-accessible ramps, crosswalks on busy streets, and more. Trenton's Complete Streets policy was ranked among the Top 10 in the nation that year by the National Complete Streets Coalition. In September of 2021, the City of Trenton, in partnership with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, completed work on the Trenton Complete Streets Design Handbook. This handbook provides recommendations for building complete streets in Trenton based on existing and desired roadway features. It sets forth best practices by categorizing every street in Trenton and describing and illustrating possible improvements for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and motorists for each street type. The first pilot for the implementation of the Complete Streets Design Handbook will be on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard as an early action implementation of the North Trenton/Battle Monument Choice Neighborhoods Plan. (See page 7 of the CHOICE Neighborhoods Action Plan). An RFP is set to be released for this pilot in the coming weeks. More recently in 2022, City has also completed work on an ordinance establishing and implementing a Complete and Green Streets Policy for the City. This ordinance will mandate the use of the Design handbook on all infrastructure projects in the public right of way, and it will establish a Safe Streets for All Committee to support implementation and monitor projects as well as serve as a Task Force that will prioritize projects using the Vision Zero Action Plan that is currently in development in partnership with DVRPC. This ordinance has been vetted and received support by the Trenton Planning Board. It is passed its first reading in front of the City Council and is set to be voted on Thursday, September 1st for second reading and adoption.

PDF: [TRENTON COMPLETE STREETS POLICY](#)

PDF: [2022-4-13 EXECUTED COMPLETE AND GREEN STREETS REPORT.PDF](#)

WORD: [ORDINANCE 05-11-2022-COMPLETE-AND-GREEN-STREETS_FINAL.DOCX](#)

PDF: [FINAL_TRENTONCOMPLETESTREETSDESIGNHANDBOOK.PDF](#)

PDF: [TRENTON-CHOICE-ACTION-ACTIVITY-PLAN_DRAFT.PDF](#)

Green Infrastructure Implementation

10 Points

Program Summary: In the spring of 2018, two water catchment systems were installed in partnership with Rutgers Water Resources and Isles, Inc. as part of a NJ DEP 319H grant. These projects were some of the first of many green infrastructure projects to be done in conjunction with the Municipal Action Team/Green Team work. A 1500 gallon tank was installed adjacent to Isles Institute to collect water for the Tucker Street demonstration garden on City of Trenton property. This catchment system provides a significantly larger roof area to collect water than the existing 12x12 shade structure roof within the garden that supplies a 300 gallon tank. A second water catchment system was installed at Rivera Community Middle School to provide water for the new school garden. The 500 gallon tank features the option to use an old-fashioned hand pump to deliver water. The students were present during the installation, and learned about the principles of water catchment and storage from the contractor. Both installations were done with support and permission of the City of Trenton and the Trenton Board of Education.

WORD: [GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION *NEW* DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [RAINWATER CATCHMENT SYSTEMS DESIGN QUOTE](#)

IMAGE: [SCHOOL WATER CATCHMENT INSTALLATION PIC](#)

IMAGE: [COMMUNITY GARDENS WATER CATCHMENT COMPLETED](#)

PDF: [RAIN GARDEN PICS & DESIGN](#)

Local Economies

Buy Local Campaign

10 Points

Program Summary: Trenton runs what MercerMe.com calls the Best Shop Local Program in New Jersey. Trenton businesses like the Program because while it does do general unquantifiable promotional work (as recommended by Sustainable Jersey) it also does specific quantifiable projects that brings customers directly to businesses to spend money. Promotional work includes

- An aggressive social media campaign including Trenton Businesses in the News, Shop Trenton, a business-centric YouTube Channel, I Love Downtown Trenton, and the Trenton EcDev Journal
- The Community Shop Trenton Video contest (where contestants created and promoted videos featuring their favorite businesses—creating 11 videos, featuring 26 Trenton businesses, and getting 18,000 views).
- An aggressive local media service that alerts 16 different local media venues about new business openings and other news
- Working with the State and the County to send business promotional materials directly to their workers.

Projects that show direct business benefits include

- the Trenton Eat Local Club (that promotes eating in Trenton businesses AND hosts a monthly meet-up at a different Trenton restaurant)
- the Travel the World Without Leaving Trenton contest that had dozens of people posting food shots from the 18 countries represented in Trenton businesses—highlighting Trenton’s authentic and diverse restaurants
- the creation of a Trenton Christmas catalogue highlighting the unique and treasured gifts available in Trenton stores

WORD: [BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN LINKS.DOCX](#)

Support Local Businesses

10 Points

Program Summary: Business promotion activities: - Working with local employers (manufacturers, municipal) to distribute promotional materials from Trenton businesses to their over 1000 employees so they can find and patronize local businesses. - Ran a summer program which encouraged and supported 20 local community groups (civic associations, churches, political campaigns, etc) in coming to downtown restaurants. Provided street programming (music, guided tours and scavenger hunts) in coordination with these afternoons. Restaurants said they had their best Saturdays since they opened because of this promotion. - Provided financial support to Taste Trenton, a privately-run event connecting participants with 25 local restaurants in a weeklong celebration of food. Business development activities - Managed Emergency Loan Fund in response to the pandemic, lending out 2% loans that didn't start repayment for 2 years from closing. - Managed Job Creation Loan fund, 3% interest loans that can be partially forgiven if they have Trenton residents on staff in the middle of the loan cycle. - Managed building improvement grants that could pay 50% of a project up to a grant of \$20,000 for work on facades, plumbing, electric, commercial roofing, etc. - Municipal staff sat on the board of the Trenton Downtown Association, supporting their work in the downtown business district. - Municipal staff sat on the community leadership committee for Isle's management of state NPP funding, supporting their work in the downtown business district. - Shared business resources with incoming and existing businesses—grants, loans, technical assistance, tax credits, promotional assistance from federal, state, municipal and other sources.

WORD: [APRIL 16.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [EL CAT.JPG](#)

WORD: [SUPPORT_LOCAL_BUSINESSES_QUALITATIVE_ASSESSMENT.DOCX](#)

PDF: [FINAL BUSINESS JOB CREATION LOAN DESCRIPTION - 10-25-20.PDF](#)

WORD: [MONTHLY PROGRAM REPORT 17.DOCX](#)

WORD: [RESOURCES.DOCX](#)

Natural Resources

Natural Resource Inventory

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: In February 2015, the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) published the City of Trenton Natural Resource Inventory (NRI). The NRI was funded through the Environmental work program of DVRPC. DVRPC worked closely with The City of Trenton Division of Planning and Green Team for contributions to the document. The purpose of the NRI is to identify and describe the natural resources of Trenton, as these resources are fundamental to the City's character. The completion of the NRI occurred at an opportune time for Trenton. The City is presently updating the Master Plan, known as Trenton250. The NRI provides a basis for the development of methods and steps to preserve, conserve, and utilize those resources. The City plans to use the information provided in the NRI as the baseline data

informing the update of the Land Use and Circulation, Environment, Health and Food Systems, Economic Development, Housing and Education elements of the Trenton250 Master Plan. The Planning Board approved a resolution incorporating the NRI into the City's Master Plan at its meeting on May 28, 2015. Update: The Planning Board adopted a resolution memorializing adoption of the NRI at its meeting on June 11, 2015 (see uploaded resolution). Updated NRI Review Policy: The NRI has been adopted as part of the Master Plan, therefore the City of Trenton is required to review and update it every ten years as per Municipal Land Use Law requirements. The City and the Green Team is actively seeking to create an Environmental Commission in Trenton which typically updates the NRI. Until the Commission is created, the City of Trenton Division of Planning staff will be the responsible entity for periodically reviewing the NRI to ensure it is still up-to-date. It is anticipated that this will occur at least once every five years. Furthermore, the City is presently updating our master plan, which may propose a shorter time period for review of the document. The new master plan, entitled Trenton250, is scheduled for completion by the end of 2016.

PDF: [CITY OF TRENTON NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY](#)

PDF: [NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY RESOLUTION 6.11.15](#)

Community Forestry Management Plan & NJUCF Accreditation

20 Points

Program Summary: Through the Trenton Green Team, the City worked to update its Community Forestry Management Plan in 2021 with assistance from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC). The Green Team dedicated a significant portion of monthly meetings to engage community partners and residents in providing feedback for a robust plan. A planning team also did site visits to different corridors in the City to better understand the condition of Trenton's urban forest. Trenton is accredited through the NJUCF program. We are requesting 20 points for this action.

PDF: [TRENTON CFMP 2022](#)

PDF: [TRENTON CITY COMMUNITY FORESTRY ACCREDITATION REPORT 2021.PDF](#)

Tree Planting Programs

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Trenton has been expanding its tree planting efforts in recent years, through the use of both contract and volunteer plantings. Since January 2019, approximately 171 trees have been planted on city property. The NJ Tree Foundation has held two volunteer projects, in Cadwalader Park and at the Martin Luther King Jr School on Brunswick Ave. These projects engaged 45 volunteers for a total of 135 volunteer hours, valued at \$4,026.33. The remainder of projects have been planted either through contractors or city staff. The city has been able to secure a number of grants from various sources, and can provide a match where needed. The city is currently in the process of applying for the Natural Climate Solutions grant from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection which, if awarded, will allow the planting of approximately 1,000 trees along several Trenton streets and in Cadwalader and Mill Hill parks.

PDF: [TRENTON TREES REPORT.PDF](#)

PDF: [TRENTON BEFORE & AFTERS.PDF](#)

Public Information & Engagement

Online Municipal Public Service Systems

15 Points

Program Summary: We have updated our checklist with all of the links for 2022. The notification system that Trenton has in place covers all of the notification types for the bonus points.

WORD: [ONLINE_MUNICIPAL_PUBLIC_SERVICE_SYSTEMS_CHECKLIST_2022.DOC](#)

Waste Management

Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The City of Trenton maintains a prescription drug drop off the the Trenton Police Station. The US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) is responsible for taking the drugs away and disposing them. Trenton Police also participate in DEA led events to collect prescription drugs. The location of the prescription drug disposal box is posted on the City's website at <https://www.trentonnj.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=812>

IMAGE: [DRUG DROP OFF BOX.PNG](#)

PDF: [MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE LETTER.PDF](#)

PDF: [PROTOCOLS DEA NTBI #22 APRIL 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [VAPING DISPOSAL FLYER DEA NTBI#22.PDF](#)