Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Certification Action Checklist - Version 4.0 (Nov. 27, 2020)

Please note: the information below is only an overview and it might not be the most current description of the CSC certification actions. For full details and the most current information, please visit this website: **https://climatesmart.ny.gov**

CEC: These actions are related to the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities (CEC) High Impact Actions.

Under Review: These italicized actions are currently unavailable; they are being revised by the CSC interagency team.

CSC Grants: These actions may be fundable under the certification category of the CSC Grant Program. For details see this webpage: **http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html#CSC**

Action Name (version 3)	Legacy Action #	Legacy Name (version 2)	Points	Type/Status
PE1: Build a climate-smart community.				
PE1 Action: CSC Task Force	1.2	Create a community Climate Smart Community task force focused on climate mitigation and adaptation	20	Mandatory
PE1 Action: CSC Coordinator	1.3	Appoint a Climate Smart Community coordinator	10	Mandatory
PE1 Action: National/Regional Climate Program	1.5	Join a national or regional climate campaign or program	3	
PE1 Action: Partnerships with Other Entities	10.3	Cooperate with neighboring communities and partner agencies	3	
PE2: Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.				
PE2 Action: Government Operations GHG Inventory	2.1	Develop a government operations GHG emissions inventory	16	Priority, CSC Grants
PE2 Action: Community GHG Inventory	2.2	Develop a community GHG emissions inventory	16	Priority, CSC Grants
PE2 Action: Government Operations Climate Action Plan	2.5	Develop a government operations climate action plan	12 - 16	Priority, CSC Grants
PE2 Action: Community Climate Action Plan	2.6	Develop a community climate action plan	16	Priority, CSC Grants
PE3: Decrease energy use.				
PE3 Action: Government Building Energy Audits	3.1	Conduct energy audits of local government buildings	8 - 16	Priority
PE3 Action: Interior Lighting Upgrades	3.2	Upgrade interior lighting	1 - 5	
PE3 Action: HVAC Upgrades	3.3	Upgrade HVAC equipment	1 - 5	
PE3 Action: Water-efficient Fixtures	3.4	Install water-efficient fixtures	1 - 4	
PE3 Action: Building Energy Management System	3.5	Install a building energy management system (EMS)	1 - 5	
PE3 Action: Energy Benchmarking for Government Buildings	3.32	Adopt an energy benchmarking requirement for government-owned buildings	2 - 5	CEC
PE3 Action: Clean Energy Upgrades	NA	NA (This is a new action, version 3.)	10	CEC
PE3 Action: Green Building Standard for Government Buildings	3.7	Adopt a green building standard for local government buildings and facilities	2 - 4	
PE3 Action: Green Building Certification	3.8	Build a new green building	15	
PE3 Action: Fleet Inventory	NA	NA (This is a new action, version 3.)	4	CSC Grants
PE3 Action: Fleet Efficiency Policy	3.10	Adopt a vehicle fleet efficiency policy	2 - 3	CSC Grants
PE3 Action: Fleet Rightsizing	3.11	Right-size the local government fleet	1 - 3	
PE3 Action: Advanced Vehicles	3.12	Replace traditional vehicles with advanced vehicles	2 - 10	CEC
PE3 Action: LED Street Lights	3.15	Convert streetlights to LED	5 - 10	CEC
PE3 Action: LED Traffic Signals	3.16	Convert traffic signals to LED	1 - 4	
PE3 Action: Outdoor Lighting Reduction	3.17	Reduce number of outdoor lighting fixtures	1 - 4	
PE3 Action: Outdoor Lighting Upgrades	3.18	Upgrade outdoor lighting (other than streetlights and traffic signals) to more efficient and/or solar technology	1 - 4	
PE3 Action: Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy	3.24	Adopt an environmentally preferable purchasing policy	1 - 4	
PE3 Action: Financing Mechanism for Government Energy Projects	3.25	Establish a financing mechanism for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in government owned buildings	5	
PE3 Action: Waste & Energy Provisions in Government Contracts	3.26	Incorporate energy efficiency and waste handling provisions in standard specifications and government contracts	1 - 3	
PE3 Action: Incentives for Employee Carpooling & Transit	3.28	Subsidize and incentivize employee alternative commuting	1 - 3	
PE3 Action: Energy Code Enforcement Training	NA	NA (This is a new action, version 3.)	5	CEC
PE4: Shift to clean, renewable energy.				
PE4 Action: Green Power Procurement Policy	4.1	Adopt a green power purchase policy to ensure increasing local government energy supplies come from renewables	2 - 4	
PE4 Action: Renewable Energy Feasibility Studies	4.3	Conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy installations	3 - 5	
PE4 Action: Renewable Energy Credits	4.4	Purchase renewable energy credits (RECs)	2 - 7	Revised

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PE4 Action: Geothermal Installation	4.5	Install a geothermal heat pump or other geothermal technology at a new or existing public facility	9 - 20	
PE4 Action: Solar Energy Installation	4.6	Install solar hot water and/or solar photovoltaic technology on public property	9 - 20	
PE4 Action: Power Purchase Agreement for Renewables	4.7	Serve as a host site for a renewable energy installation and enter into a long-term service contract or power purchase agreement (PPA)	9 - 20	
PE4 Action: Wind Energy Installation	4.8	Install a wind system on public property	9 - 20	
PE4 Action: Wood Pellet Installation	4.9	Install a wood pellet heating system on public property	6 - 17	
PE5: Use climate-smart materials management.				
PE5 Action: Organics Management Plan	NA	NA (This is a new action, version 3.)	2 - 16	CSC Grants
PE5 Action: Government Solid Waste Audit	3.23	Conduct a local government waste audit and track diversion rate over time	2	
PE5 Action: Recycling Bins in Government Buildings	3.20	Provide recycling bins next to all trash receptacles in local government buildings	3	
PE5 Action: Organic Waste Program for Government Buildings	3.21	Provide organic waste collection and composting in local government buildings	1 - 3	
PE5 Action: WasteWise Program	5.3	Participate in the EPA WasteWise program	1 - 2	
PE5 Action: Construction & Demolition Waste Policy	5.5	Adopt a construction and demolition waste reduction program or policy	2 - 6	CSC Grants
PE5 Action: Resource Recovery Center	5.6	Set up and manage a resource recovery center to encourage reuse of gently used or new materials that have been discarded	6	
PE5 Action: Recycling Program for Public Places & Events	5.9	Provide recycling bins in public places and events	1 - 3	
PE5 Action: Waste Reduction Education Campaign	5.13	Create an educational campaign to encourage recycling, composting and waste reduction	2	
PE5 Action: Community Repair	NA	NA (This is a new action, version 3.)	4	New
PE5 Action: Compost Bins for Residents	5.10	Provide compost bins to residents (for sale or free)	2	
PE5 Action: Residential Organic Waste Program	5.11	Create an organics or yard waste collection program	2 - 22	
PE6: Implement climate-smart land use.				
PE6 Action: Comprehensive Plan with Sustainability Elements	6.1	Develop and adopt a comprehensive plan with sustainability elements	3 - 21	Priority, CSC Grants
NA	6.2	Incorporate smart growth principles into land-use policies and regulations	1 - 8	v2 available until July 2, 2021
PE6 Action: Unified Solar Permit	6.3	Adopt a renewable energy ordinance	5	CEC
NA	6.4	Establish green building codes	1 - 6	v2 available until July 2, 2021
PE6 Action: Resource-efficient Site Design	*6.5*	*Create resource-efficient site design guidelines (non-reviewable)*		*Under Review*
PE6 Action: Incentives for Renewable Energy & Efficiency Projects	*6.6*	*Incentivize renewable energy and energy efficiency projects*		*Under Review*
NA	6.7	Adopt land-use policies that support or incentivize farmers' markets, community gardens and urban and rural agriculture	1 - 4	v2 available until July 2, 2021
PE6 Action: GreenLITES	3.27	Utilize a green or sustainability rating system for infrastructure improvement projects	6 - 15	
NA	6.8	Adopt green parking lot standards	1 - 4	v2 available until July 2, 2021
PE6 Action: Complete Streets Policy	6.9	Adopt a complete streets policy	4	Priority, CSC Grants
PE6 Action: Planning & Infrastructure for Bicycling & Walking	6.10	Implement strategies that support bicycling and walking	2 - 15	CSC Grants (Bike/ped plan only)
PE6 Action: Alternative-fuel Infrastructure	6.11	Install electric-vehicle infrastructure	4 - 18	Priority, CEC

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NA	6.12	Implement strategies that increase public transit ridership and alternative transport modes	1 - 10	v2 available until July 2, 2021
NA	6.13	Implement a Safe Routes to School program	3	v2 available until July 2, 2021
PE6 Action: Traffic Calming	6.14	Implement traffic calming measures	3 - 10	Revised
NA	6.15	Adopt and enforce an anti-idling ordinance	1 - 3	v2 available until July 2, 2021
PE6 Action: Natural Resources Inventory	6.17	Develop a natural resource inventory	8 - 10	Priority, CSC Grants
NA	6.18	Develop a local forestry or tree planting project or program	1 - 10	v2 available until July 2, 2021
NA	6.19	Preserve natural areas through zoning or other regulations	2 - 6	v2 available until July 2, 2021
PE7: Enhance community resilience to climate change.				
PE7 Action: Climate Vulnerability Assessment	7.1	Conduct a vulnerability assessment	4 - 16	Priority, CSC Grants
PE7 Action: Evaluate Policies for Climate Resilience	7.3	Review existing community plans and projects to identify climate adaptation strategies and policies or projects that may decrease vulnerability (v3: Climate Smart Resiliency Planning)	6	Priority, CSC Grants, Revised name
PE7 Action: Climate Adaptation Plan	7.2 & 7.4	7.2 Develop a climate resilience vision and goals (v3: Climate Resilience Vision) and 7.4 Develop climate adaptation strategies (v3: Climate Adaptation Strategies)	3 - 11	Priority, CSC Grants, Revised to combine vision and strategies
PE7 Action: Hazard Mitigation Plan	7.6	Update the multi-hazard mitigation plan to address changing conditions and identify specific strategies to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards	3	Revised
PE7 Action: Heat Emergency Plan	7.7	Develop and implement a heat emergency plan	6	CSC Grants, Revised
PE7 Action: Shade Structures Policy	7.8	Require shade structures and features in public spaces	4	
PE7 Action: Cooling Centers	7.9	Open new or expand existing cooling centers	1 - 9	Revised
PE7 Action: Conserve Natural Areas	7.13	Conserve natural areas for species migration and ecosystem resilience (v3: Conservation of Natural Habitats)	1 - 21	Revised
PE7 Action: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan	7.10	Create or update a watershed assessment to identify flooding and water quality priorities (v3: Watershed Assessment)	2 - 5	Revised (split into 2; one for flooding, one for water quality)
PE7 Action: Design Flood Elevation & Flood Maps	7.20	Require consideration of sea-level rise in planning coastal development	2 - 14	Revised
PE7 Action: Freeboard Policies	7.19	Extend areas in which the two-foot freeboard requirement applies	4 - 19	Revised
PE7 Action: Green Infrastructure	7.16	Use green infrastructure to manage stormwater in developed areas	1 - 14	Revised
PE7 Action: Culverts & Dams	7.21	Right-size bridges and culverts, and remove unnecessary and hazardous dams	2 - 24	Revised
PE7 Action: Riparian Buffers	7.12	Conserve, revegetate and reconnect floodplains and buffers in riparian areas (v3: Restoration of Floodplain & Riparian Buffers)	2 - 14	Revised
PE7 Action: Strategic Relocation	7.14	Facilitate a strategic relocation of uses that are not water dependent from flood prone areas	4 - 11	Revised
PE7 Action: Nature-based Shorelines	7.18	Use natural, nature-based or ecologically enhanced shoreline protection	2 - 12	Revised
PE7 Action: National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System	7.15	Promote community flood prevention strategies through the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System	3 - 9	
PE7 Action: Watershed Plan for Water Quality	NA	NA (This is a new action, version 3.)	4 - 8	New
PE7 Action: Source Water Protection	7.25	Implement a source water protection program	6 - 10	Revised
PE7 Action: Water Conservation & Reuse	7.23	Implement a water conservation and reuse program	2 - 6	Revised

Action Name (version 3)	Legacy Action #	Legacy Name (version 2)	Points	Type/Status
PE7 Action: Water-smart Landscaping	7.24	Encourage xeriscaping	1 - 9	Revised
PE7 Action: Early Warning Systems and Evacuation Plans	*7.22*	*Develop or enhance early warning systems and community evacuation plans*		*Under Review*
PE8: Support a green innovation economy.				
PE8 Action: Green Jobs Training	8.1	Create a green jobs training program	3	
PE8 Action: Green Vendor Fairs	8.2	Hold green vendor fairs	2	
PE8 Action: Green Economic Development Plans	8.3	Include green industries in economic development plans	4	
PE8 Action: Farmers' Markets	8.6	Create and promote local farmers' markets	3	
PE8 Action: Buy Local/Buy Green Campaign	8.7	Create a "buy local/buy green" campaign	2	
PE8 Action: Brownfield Clean-up & Redevelopment	8.8	Redevelop a brownfield site	1 - 18	
PE8 Action: Incentives for Green Businesses	8.9	Establish incentives for green industry or businesses to locate in community	4	
PE8 Action: Energy Benchmarking for Privately Owned Buildings	8.11	Adopt energy benchmarking requirements for privately owned buildings	4 - 10	CEC
PE 8 Action: Financing Program for Building Energy Efficiency	8.12	Establish a residential energy efficiency financing program	2 - 7	CEC
PE8 Action: Community Choice Aggregation	NA	NA (This is a new action, version 3.)	15 - 21	CEC
PE8 Action: Solarize, Clean Heating & Cooling, or Solar for All Campaign	NA	NA (This is a new action, version 3.)	5	CEC
PE9: Inform and inspire the public.				
PE9 Action: Climate Change Education & Engagement	9.1	Create a climate change education, outreach, and engagement program, focusing on mitigation and adaptation	4 - 8	Priority
PE9 Action: Energy Reduction Campaign	9.2	Create and support an energy reduction campaign or challenge	5	
PE9 Action: Climate-related Public Events	9.3	Host climate-related educational seminars, workshops, conferences, or fairs	3	
PE9 Action: Local Climate Action Website	9.4	Maintain a website on local climate protection efforts	3	
PE9 Action: Social Media	9.5	Use social media to inform the community about the progress of local government's efforts	3	
PE10: Engage in an evolving process of climate action.				
PE10 Action: GHG Tracking System	3.31	Implement an energy or GHG management system	5	
PE10 Action: Annual Progress Report	10.1	Report on progress annually	4	
PE10 Action: Updates to Strategies & Plans	10.2	Update strategies and plan(s)	4	
Innovation				
Innovation: New Innovative Actions	11.1	Implement a new innovative action	3 - 18	
Innovation: Innovative Approaches to Existing CSC Actions	11.2	Implement an action using an innovative approach	5 - 10	
Performance				
Performance: Reduce GHGs from Government Facilities	12.1	Reduce GHG emissions from government owned facilities	15 - 45	
Performance: Reduce GHGs from Government Vehicles	12.2	Reduce GHG emissions from government owned vehicles	15 - 45	
Performance: Reduce Solid Waste from Government Operations	12.4	Reduce waste volume from local government operations	3 - 10	