



Department of
Environmental
Conservation



Climate Smart
Communities

CSC Certification Portal & Program Updates

This webinar will start shortly.

Dazzle Ekblad
DEC Office of Climate Change
May 10, 2018

Welcome!

Connect to the audio with your phone:

- 1) Go to the “***Event Info***” tab for call-in details, and
- 2) Enter ***your unique attendee ID*** when prompted.



File Edit Share View Communicate Participant Event Help

Quick Start **Event Info**

CSC Certification: New Tools and

Host: Dazzle Ekblad

Audio connection: US Toll Free: 1-844-633-8697
Local: 1-518-549-0500

Access code: 648 929 913

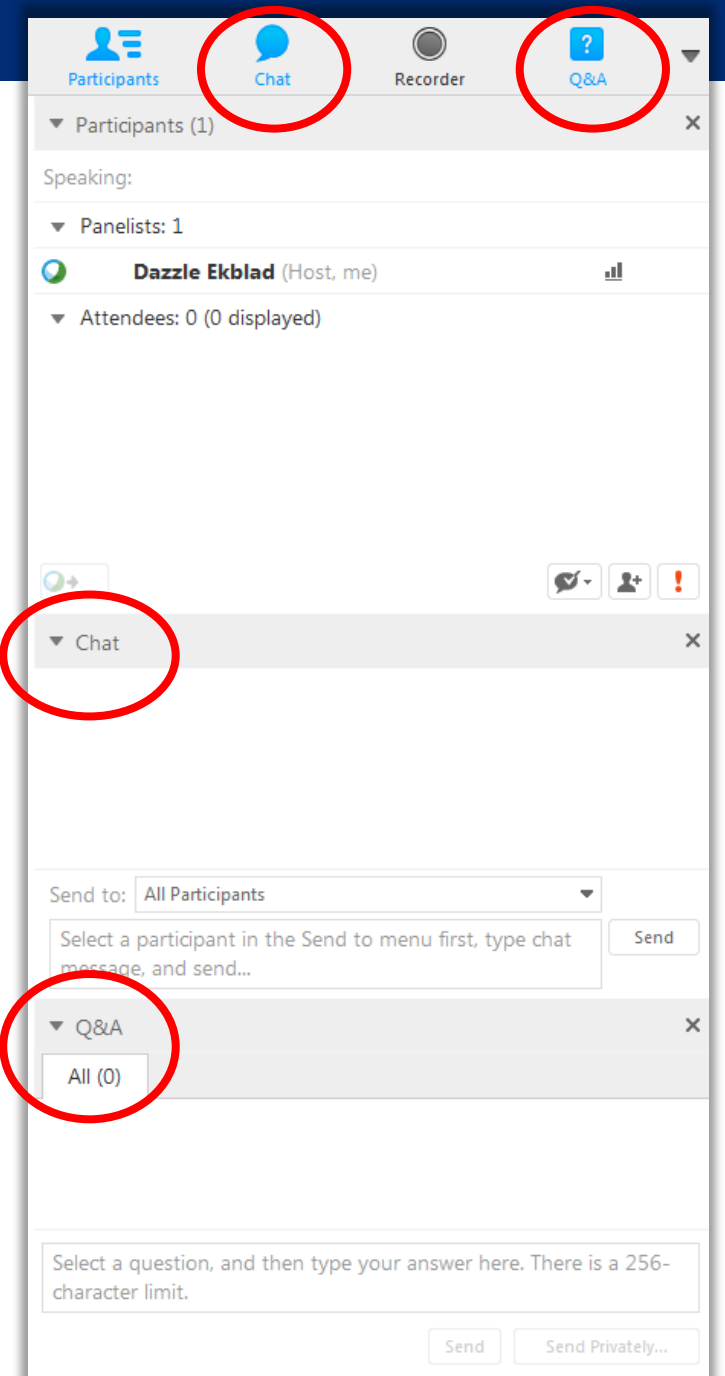
Attendee ID: 35

Problems or technical questions?

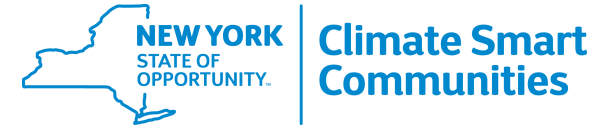
Use WebEx Chat

Content questions for speakers?

Use WebEx Q&A



Agenda



- 1) DEC CSC Funding Announcements
- 2) Overview of CSC
- 3) Relationship to NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities
- 4) Updates to CSC Certification program
- 5) Tour of New Online Portal
- 6) Q & A



CSC Funding Announcements

DEC Municipal ZEV Rebates

- Deadline is **May 31, 2018** for local gov'ts only
- **VEHICLES:** purchases & leases of eligible zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) - no match
 - **Join NYS Aggregate Purchase: email pamela.hadadhurst@dec.ny.gov before July 16, 2018**
 - Stackable w/ [NYSERDA's Drive Clean Rebates](#)
 - Up to \$2k for plug-in hybrids or battery-powered cars
- **CHARGING STATIONS:** eligible infrastructure for charging/fueling ZEVs - 20% match



NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY

Department of
Environmental
Conservation

2018 CSC Grants

- Application deadline: before 4 PM on July 27, 2018
- Apply online through the **Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)** at <https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/index.cfm>
- \$8.2 million for **Implementation**: climate change adaptation and non-energy (e.g., food waste & transportation) mitigation projects
- \$550,000 for **CSC Certification**: planning, inventory, and assessments (smaller projects)

For More Info about 2018 CSC Grants

- Webpage & RFA <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html>
- DEC webinar: **Friday, June 8, 2018 at 10:30 AM**
- Contact DEC at cscgrants@dec.ny.gov (new!)
- CFA workshops: go to your region's REDC webpage
 - <https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/resources?keywords=workshop>

Overview of Climate Smart Communities Program



Climate Smart Communities



State Support for Local Climate Action

Assistance for each community to define its own best strategies for:

- Reducing emissions & cutting costs of energy use
- Building resiliency in the face of climate change

One of the few programs where local gov'ts can find:

- Free technical support on clean energy and climate change



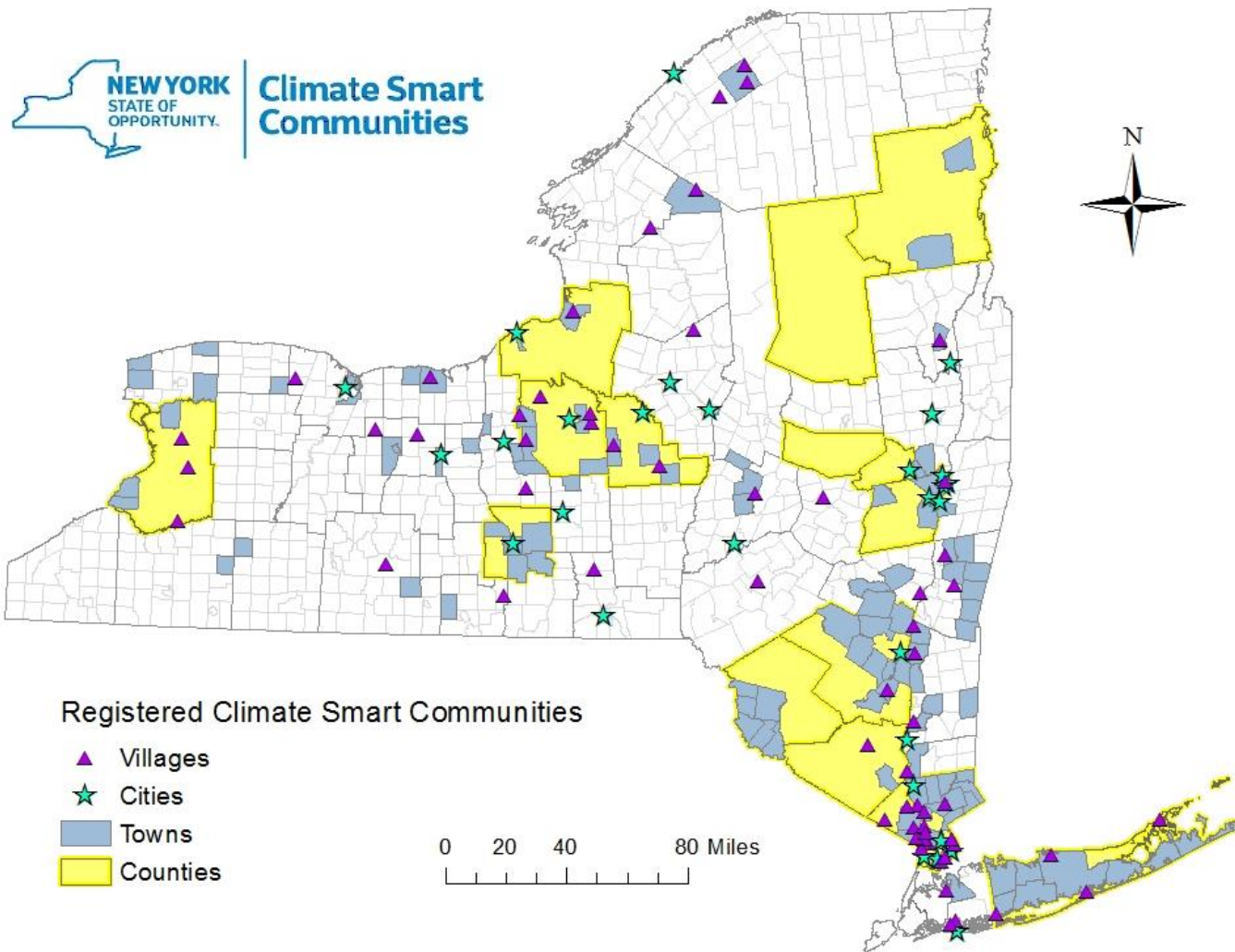
Department of
Environmental
Conservation

What are the benefits of CSC?

- Free Technical Assistance
- **Guidance & Tools:** website, decision-support tools
 - Monthly webinars, email list, workshops
 - **Certification program offers a framework for planning, a menu of actions**
- **Leadership Recognition:** state-level attention for local leaders
- **Networking:** learn with like-minded community leaders & connect w/ agencies
- **Funding:** better positioned to compete for funds; CSC grants; ZEV rebates



Where are NY's Climate Smart Communities?



- **224 Registered** (since 2009)
 - 35% of New Yorkers live in these “pledged” communities
 - Smallest: V. of Van Etten (537)
 - Largest: Suffolk Co. (1.5 M)
- **18 Certified** (since 2014)

Full list at <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/participating-communities/>

Registered vs. Certified Climate Smart Community

- **Registered** = making a commitment
 - Local gov't passes a formal municipal resolution adopting the 10-point CSC Pledge
- **Certified** = leaders who've made concrete progress (launched in 2014)
 - Accumulate points through documented actions to achieve Certified, Bronze, Silver or Gold levels
 - 1-10 points per action, 100+ total possible actions
 - Range of action types: planning, policies, outreach, implementation, etc.





Climate Smart Communities Certified



SILVER:

- 1) Ulster County
- 2) City of Kingston
- 3) Village of Dobbs Ferry

BRONZE:

- 1) Madison County
- 2) Orange County
- 3) Sullivan County
- 4) Schenectady County
- 5) Tompkins County
- 6) City of Albany
- 7) City of Geneva
- 8) City of Ithaca
- 9) City of Rochester
- 10) City of Watervliet
- 11) Town of Mamaroneck
- 12) Town of Ithaca
- 13) Town of East Hampton
- 14) Town of Cortlandt
- 15) Town of Southampton



CSC & NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Program

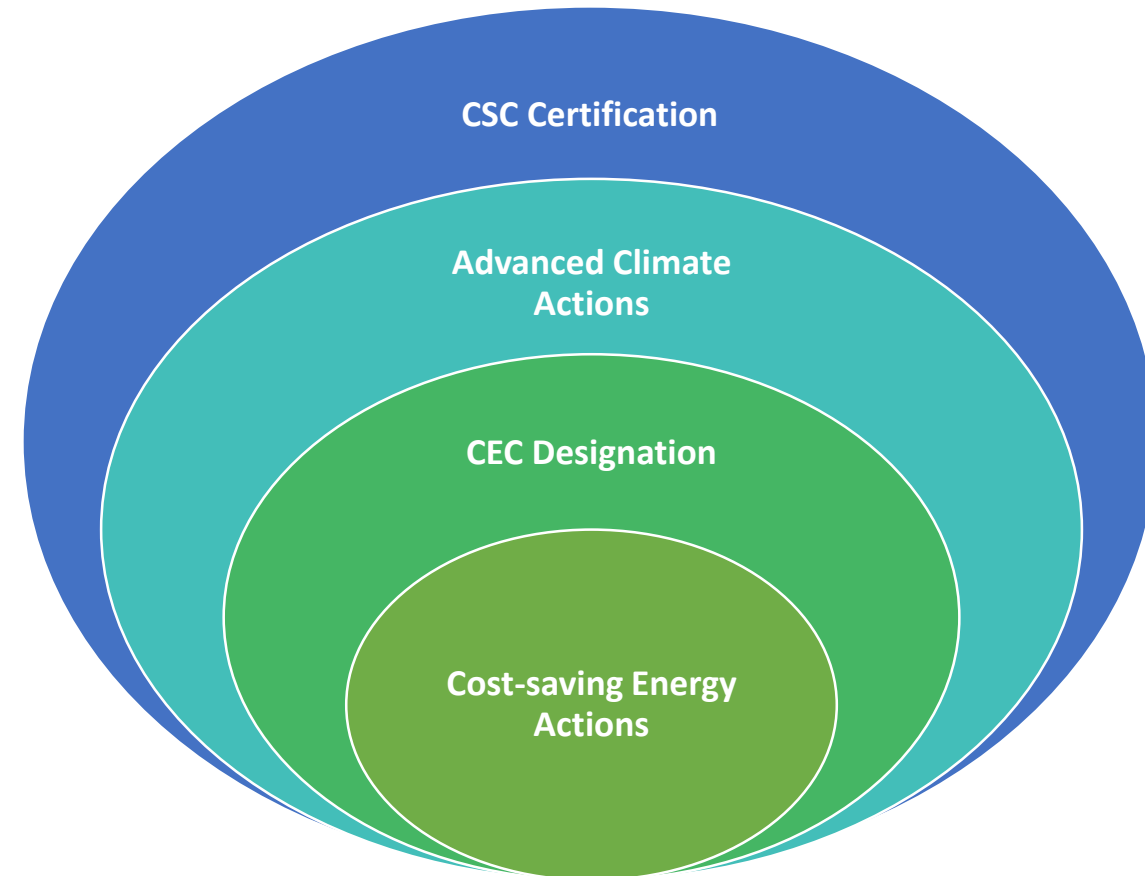
How are CSC & CEC related?

Climate Smart Communities Certification

- Comprehensive climate action program
- 100+ unique actions
- Improve score on CSC grant applications

Clean Energy Communities (NYSERDA)

- Focused on clean energy
- 10 high-impact actions
 - 1 of 10 is becoming a Certified CSC
- Complete 4 actions to access CEC grants



- **Earn points toward CSC Certification by doing CEC actions**
 - **Do both!**



Updates to CSC Certification Program

Programmatic Updates to Certification

- **Revised CSC pledge** to better reflect types of certification actions under each pledge element (PE)
 - Will still accept resolutions with old PEs
- **Public display of approved documentation** to show leadership & provide examples for others to follow
 - Online map & certification reports at <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/participating-communities/>

Registration & Application Processes

- [Register](#) by uploading resolution to portal, instead of by mail or email (passing pledge no longer separate a certification action)
- Set up account and apply via municipal dashboard in portal, instead of submitting via emails w/ doc
- Can apply only when have met minimum requirements; no longer awarding points on a rolling basis

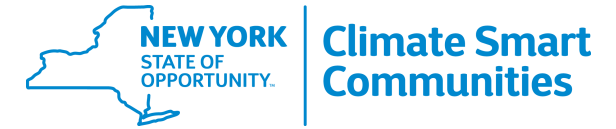
Application Cycle



- Defined review periods three times a year, instead of a rolling process: 1st Friday of each quarter (except 4th quarter)
- Clear deadlines to hear back from review team w/ feedback

Phase	Qtr 3 2018	Qtr 1 2019	Qtr 2 2019	Qtr 3 2019
Application Deadline	July 6, 2018	Jan. 11, 2019	Apr. 5, 2019	July 5, 2019
Applicant Notification	Aug. 17, 2018	Mar. 1, 2019	May 17, 2019	Aug. 16, 2019

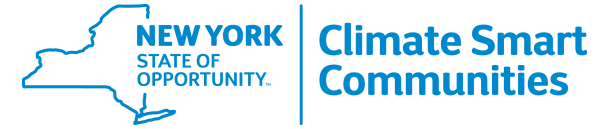
Certification Levels



- Eliminated “certified” level as basic level: more intuitive to have bronze, silver, and gold
- Recalibration: make entry level more accessible - create a bridge; select actions worth more points
- Simplified requirements related to pledge elements
- Gold level under development: align the highest level of CSC certification with NYS GHG reduction targets and climate adaptation goals



Action Updates



- **Version 1:** Pilot for six communities (2012-2013)
- **Version 2:** CSC Certification Manual issued in Apr. 2014
- **Version 3:** Current version – portal replaces manual
- “Mandatory” instead of “required priority”
- [Priority: list of 12 actions](#)
- Clearer alignment w/ NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities
- Revisions for v3 actions under PE6 and PE7 underway
- Grandfathering: case-by-case basis



“... an evolving process ...”



- Goals for portal:
 - Streamline & provide structure to the application process
 - Greater awareness of leaders & accomplishments
 - Greater participation in CSC certification
 - Ability to revise actions, add new actions, update resources
- Your feedback and ideas are welcome!
 - Plan to have more structured advisory groups & regular events to exchange ideas and improve the program



OCC Contact Info

- Office of Climate Change
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- 625 Broadway
Albany NY 12233-1030
- climatesmart@dec.ny.gov
- 518-402-8448

Webinar slides & recordings available at
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/84359.html>

CSC Funding Programs:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html>

NYS Climate Change Sci. Clearinghouse:

<https://www.nyclimatescience.org/>

Connect with DEC:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NYSDEC

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NYSDEC>

Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/nysdec