



Warren County Climate Smart Task Force

warrencountyny.gov/climate



Meeting Details:

Monday, February 3, 2020

1pm-3pm

Warren County Board of Supervisors – Committee Room

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Grant Application
3. Revised Work Plan/Project Working Groups
4. Additional Actions to Undertake & Future Funding Applications
5. Next Meeting
6. Roundtable Discussion
7. Public Comments



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Meeting Notes

Present:

<i>Chris Belden, AICP</i>	<i>Assistant County Planner/Climate Smart Coordinator</i>	<i>Warren County Planning</i>
<i>Beth Gilles</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>LCLGRP</i>
<i>Ed Doughney, PE</i>	<i>Senior Civil Engineer</i>	<i>Warren County DPW</i>
<i>Claudia Braymer</i>	<i>County Supervisor, Glens Falls Ward 3</i>	<i>Board of Supervisors</i>
<i>Andrea Hogan</i>	<i>Supervisor, Town of Johnsbury</i>	<i>Board of Supervisors</i>
<i>Tammie DeLorenzo</i>	<i>Assistant to County Administrator</i>	<i>Warren County Administrator</i>
<i>Amy Drexel, AEM</i>	<i>Emergency Services Coordinator</i>	<i>WC Office of Emergency Services</i>
<i>Sara Frankenfeld</i>	<i>GIS Administrator</i>	<i>Warren County Planning</i>
<i>Amanda Beck</i>	<i>Junior Planner</i>	<i>Warren County Planning</i>
<i>Peter McDevitt</i>	<i>County Supervisor, Glens Falls Ward 2</i>	<i>Board of Supervisors</i>
<i>Scott Royael</i>	<i>Sustainability Coordinator</i>	<i>SUNY Adirondack</i>
<i>Jack Mance, AICP</i>	<i>Senior Transportation Planner</i>	<i>A/GFTC</i>
<i>Jim Lieberum, CPESC</i>	<i>District Manager/Hazard Mitigation Coordinator</i>	<i>WC Soil & Water Conservation District</i>
<i>J'nelle Oxford</i>	<i>Public Health Program Coordinator</i>	<i>Warren County Public Health</i>
<i>Kevin Hajos, PE</i>	<i>Superintendent of Public Works</i>	<i>Warren County DPW</i>
<i>Jeff Flagg</i>	<i>Climate Smart Coordinator</i>	<i>Glens Falls Climate Smart Task Force</i>
<i>Tara Donadio</i>	<i>Sustainability Planner</i>	<i>CDRPC</i>

*Task Force members *italicized*

Meeting began at 10:00AM

Introductions

Chris Belden began the meeting by asking those in attendance to introduce themselves.

Chris began a presentation to the update the group.

2020 Census

Chris started the presentation with a discussion about the upcoming 2020 Census. While the Census may not be directly related to issues relative to climate change, indirectly, through the provision of accurate statistics and funding we are all affected.

Chris encouraged members to mention the upcoming Census at any future meetings. Chris offered that Sara or himself to be available to speak at any meetings or provide information to share.

Sara Frankenfeld indicated that the US Census Bureau estimates that a 1% undercount in Warren County (approximately 650 individuals) would amount to a loss of nearly \$20,000,000 in federal aid, over the next 10 years.

Supervisor Hogan indicated that the Town of Johnsbury is working hard to get the word out about the census.

Chris stated that more information about the County's efforts can be found at www.warrencountyny.gov/census2020. Sara indicated that we are establishing social media platforms for the 2020 census. Please follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/warrencountyplanning) and Instagram (www.instagram.com/warrencountyplanning).



Additionally, the US Census Bureau is in need of enumerators. Please spread the word that there is still time to apply. Apply at www.2020census.gov/jobs.

Climate Smart Communities Program

Chris gave a quick refresher on what the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Program is, why it's important, and how it can benefit Warren County.

Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Program is managed by NYSDEC and incentivizes local governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG's) and adapt their infrastructure and operations to the changing climate.

The program offers 50% matching grants for Certification Actions (up to \$100,000) and Implementation Actions (up to \$2,000,000).

Communities that complete the requisite number of actions can receive a certification status of Bronze, Silver, or Gold. Currently, Warren County is a Registered Climate Smart Community – however, if Warren County is successful in completing some or all of the actions identified later in the presentation we have a good chance of becoming Certified Bronze within the next few years. Receiving certification status not only demonstrates that the community is advancing measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change, but it also improves scores on grant applications.

Climate Smart Task Force

The Warren County Climate Smart Task Force was established in August 2019 and held its first meeting on October 10, 2019. Meeting notes can be found online at warrencountyny.gov/climate.

Chris welcomed new CSTF members, Jack Mance and Dan Barusch.

- Jack Mance is the Senior Transportation Planner for the Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation County (A/GFTC). Jack also serves on the New York State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organization (NYSAMPO) Climate Change Working Group (www.nysmpos.org/climatechange-working-group) where he served as chair of that working group and authored a white paper on Climate Change Adaptation Strategies.
- Dan Barusch serves as the Director of Planning and Zoning for the Town/Village of Lake George. Dan also serves as the Climate Smart Coordinator for the same. The Town has completed a number of actions, including the recently complete Climate Action Plan.

Chris informed the group that Emma Lamy was no longer with the County DPW. Chris welcomed Ed Doughney, Senior Civil Engineer with DPW, who will represent Warren County DPW on the Task Force.

Grant Application

Chris discussed the status of the grant application submitted in 2019. Warren County had submitted an application that included 6 actions that Warren County would undertake, but unfortunately the application was not awarded.

Chris mentioned that Warren County was not alone in losing out in funding through the CSC Grant Program. For Certification Projects (category Warren County applied through), there were no awards made in the entire Capital Region Regional Economic Development Council (CR REDC). The CR REDC includes 8 counties (Greene, Columbia, Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Saratoga, Washington, and Warren County). A total of 15 awards were granted, statewide, totaling \$970,000. For Implementation Projects, there were 3 awards made in the CR REDC, including one award to the Town of Chester to develop a cooling center. There were 24 awards made statewide, totaling \$11,506,000.

Moving Forward

Chris stated that with or without funding from the State, the work of addressing climate change remained too important to stop advancing projects and policies.

Chris provided the group with a sample of the projections suggested by the ClimAID report for our region (Region 5 – Saratoga), by the 2050's. The report suggests that by the 2050's our region will be experiencing increasing temperatures, precipitation, numbers of heatwaves, warmer winters, and more extreme rainfall events. Chris stressed that these factors will contribute to stresses on our infrastructure, public health, and safety.

Chris proposed that the Task Force consider 4 elements to an overarching climate vision and agenda.

1. Reduce energy use and emissions of GHG's;
2. Save taxpayer dollars;
3. Improve operations and infrastructure; and
4. Increase quality of life.

Revised Work Plan/Project Working Groups

Chris indicated that the remainder of the presentation was centered on actions that the County has completed, are working on, and policies/projects to consider as we go forward.

[Note: Based on the discussion at the meeting on February 3, 2020 some of the actions have been rearranged]

The following pages include the project tasks, estimated completion, point value associated with action, partners involved, and discussion at the Task Force meeting.

Chris mentioned that he envisioned Warren County becoming certified Bronze by the end of 2021 or beginning of 2020. To become Certified Bronze, a community must complete a minimum of 120 certification action points.

Certification Actions - Completed				
Action	Partner(s) Involved	Description	Points	Task Force Discussion
Establish a Climate Smart Task Force	Planning	Climate Smart Task Force has been appointed.	20	N/A
Appoint Climate Smart Coordinator	Planning	Climate Smart Coordinator has been appointed.	10	N/A
Energy Code Enforcement Training (Building Dept.)	Fire Prevention & Building Codes, County Administrator	Warren County Fire Prevention & Building Codes staff completed energy code enforcement training. *Clean Energy Communities – High Impact Item	5	N/A
Adoption of Unified Solar Permit	Fire Prevention & Building Codes, County Administrator	Warren County Fire Prevention & Building Codes has adopted a Unified Solar Permit. *Clean Energy Communities – High Impact Item	5	N/A
Alternative Fuel Infrastructure	Fire Prevention & Building Codes, County Administrator, Department of Public Works	Installed 5 charging stations at the Warren County Municipal Center Complex. *Clean Energy Communities – High Impact Item	12	Supervisor Braymer indicated that charging stations are free to use for County employees.
Building Energy Efficiency Financing Program (C-PACE)	County Administrator	Resolution 296 of 2019 : Local Law to establish a sustainable energy program (Open C-PACE). Resolution 337 of 2019 : Authorizes agreement with Energy Improvement Corporation to participate in Energy NY Open C-PACE Financing Program. *Clean Energy Communities – High Impact Item	7	Tammie DeLorenzo has been responsible for submitting documentation related to the Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Program. Chris asked Tammie if this program was established. Tammie indicated that the County has signed an agreement with the Energy Improvement Corporation. Claudia added that the C-PACE Financing Program is to assist with commercial energy efficiency upgrades.
Create Local Climate Action Website	Planning, Information Technology	Warren County maintains a webpage on actions, meetings, and other information. Visit www.warrencountyny.gov/climate/	3	N/A
Bike & Pedestrian Plan for Warren County (2014)	Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council	A/GFTC completed a bike and pedestrian plan for Warren County in 2014. A/GFTC plans to update these plans over the next 2 years. A/GFTC Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (2014)	3	Chris indicated that A/GFTC will be updating this plan in 2020 and 2021.

Certification Actions - Completed				
Action	Partner(s) Involved	Description	Points	Task Force Discussion
Watershed Assessments for 100% of County	Lake Champlain- Lake George Regional Planning	Warren County is part of 2 watersheds, Lake Champlain and Upper Hudson River. The LCLGRP has completed assessments of each. Lake Champlain Non-Point Source Pollution Subwatershed Assessment and Management Plan (2018) Upper Hudson River Watershed Revitalization Plan (Draft 2020)	6	Beth Gilles indicated that Warren County is made up of 2 watersheds. The Lake Champlain Watershed (approximately 25% of Warren County), which includes Lake George. The Upper Hudson River Watershed (approximately 75% of Warren County), includes the remainder of the County. The Lake Champlain Watershed assessment was completed in 2018. The Upper Hudson River Watershed assessment is currently in draft format and will be finalized by the end of March 2020.
Climate Vulnerability Assessment & Adaptation Strategies	Soil & Water Conservation District, Office of Emergency Services	Warren County contracted with Tetra Tech to assist with the development of the Warren County Hazard Mitigation Plan , which was completed in 2016. The Plan identifies vulnerabilities from climate-related threats, among others, and provides general and specific recommendations to address those issues.	24	<i>[This action was originally included under Work Plan: Plans & Reports]</i> Chris indicated that the existing Warren County Hazard Mitigation Plan seemed to address these tasks. Chris asked Tara Donadio if this could be submitted under these tasks, to reduce redundant planning efforts. Tara replied in the affirmative and stated that it would be reviewed and approved by NYSDEC. Dan Barusch stated that the Town of Lake George had submitted the plan and its annex for these tasks and they have received certification points for it. Jim Lieberum, who also serves as the Warren County Hazard Mitigation Coordinator, told the group that an application had been made to FEMA to update the plan in 2021. Jim explained that the current plan is consistent with the current requirements for these types of plans, which were made after Superstorm Sandy.
Total			95 Points	

Certification Actions – In-Progress					
Action	Partner(s) Involved	Description	Estimated Completion	Points	Task Force Discussion
Government Building Energy Audits	Planning, Purchasing, Buildings & Grounds, DPW	Level-2 Comprehensive Energy Audits of Municipal Center and DPW Main Office. Funding will be sought from NYSERDA FlexTech Program	Release RFP in March 2020; Complete by Fall 2020	8	Chris stated that Supervisor McDevitt brought the issue of performing energy audits on the Municipal Center at the last Task Force Meeting. Since that time, Chris has worked with the Board of Supervisors, Building & Grounds, DPW, and Purchasing to develop a RFP for energy auditing services. We have also expanded the scope to include the DPW Main Office in Warrensburg. We expect to have the RFP released in March and have the audit complete by Fall. The County anticipates receiving a 50% matching grant from NYSERDA.
Energy Benchmarking for Government Buildings	Planning	Collect, report, share energy data for County-owned buildings (over 1,000 square feet)	Ongoing; Report to be released by September 1 st	4	Chris indicated that the County Board of Supervisors has adopted an Energy Benchmarking Policy for Government Buildings over 1,000 square feet. This will be managed by the Planning Department. Chris mentioned that he has not completed entering information. But expects to have it completed by Spring 2020.
Brownfield Clean-Up & Redevelopment	Board of Supervisors	Demolition/site remediation of “Mullen’s Property” Bay Road Queensbury	Summer 2020	2	<i>[At the time of the meeting]</i> Chris explained that the Warren County Board of Supervisors – Real Property and Environmental Concerns Committee had approved a resolution to begin foreclosure proceedings and award a bid to demolish the building and remediate the site. <i>[Update]</i> The Board of Supervisors did not approve the resolution, mentioned above.
Total				14 points	

Certification Actions – Work Plan: Policies					
Action	Partner(s) Involved	Description	Estimated Completion	Points	Task Force Discussion
Complete Streets Policy	Planning, DPW, County Administrator, Public Health, A/GFTC	A Complete Streets Policy would require that the Warren County DPW consider complete street design features (such as sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks) to encourage active forms of transportation and reduce air pollution.	End of 2020	4	<p>Chris indicated that Resolution 388 of 2011 opposed State Complete Street legislation on the basis that the proposal did not adequately address the lack of available property for such improvements or identify sources of funding to make these improvements.</p> <p>Chris stated that NYS did pass the legislation in 2011. The existing legislation, while requiring that complete street design be considered, does provide highway departments with exemptions from the law.</p> <p>Chris added that in Warren County, the Towns of Lake Luzerne, Lake George, Warrensburg, and Johnsbury have all adopted complete street policy resolutions. The Town of Warrensburg has added this language to its Subdivision Regulations.</p> <p>Chris added that this policy, among the other proposed policies this Task Force considers, should include reasonable exemption provisions.</p> <p>Ed Doughney indicated that he thought it would be possible, so long as it was drafted appropriately.</p>
Shade Structures in Public Spaces	Planning, DPW, County Administrator, Public Health	Policy would require that shade structures (including trees) to be required when developing new public properties, such as parks, or when upgrades are made to those facilities.	End of 2020	4	<p>Chris discussed the policy proposal.</p> <p>Chris mentioned given the projections for higher heat events, this policy could go a long way in improving public health and comfort.</p>
Adopt policy that supports/incentivizes farmers markets, community gardens, urban agriculture or	Planning, Soil & Water Conservation District, Cornell Cooperative	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2020	4	<p>Chris stated that while Warren County does not regulate land-use (zoning), the County could pass policies that would support the farmers markets, community gardens, urban agriculture, and rural agriculture.</p>

Certification Actions – Work Plan: Policies					
Action	Partner(s) Involved	Description	Estimated Completion	Points	Task Force Discussion
rural agriculture*	Ext, SUNY Adirondack, Public Health				
Develop Financing Mechanism for Future Government Energy Efficiency or Renewable Energy Project	County Administrator, DPW	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2020	5	Chris stated that this policy would seek to create a reserve fund or something similar, wherein the County would set aside cost savings made from energy efficiency upgrades. These savings could then be used for future upgrades or installation of clean energy.
Partnerships with Other Entities	Glens Falls, Queensbury, Lake George, Chester	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2020	3	Chris indicated that Warren County can receive certification points for collaborating with other organizations, such as other Climate Smart Communities or regional sustainability groups.
Adopt Natural Resource Inventory through a Local Law	Planning, County Administrator	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2021	2	Chris stated that he would discuss what a Natural Resource Inventory is later in the meeting. However, adoption of the Natural Resource Inventory, as local law, would require the County Board of Supervisors to consider the information in that inventory. The intention would not be to create an impediment to future decision making but provide guidance.
Total				22	
				Points	

Certification Actions – Work Plan: Plans & Reports					
Action	Partner(s) Involved	Description	Estimated Completion	Points	Task Force Discussion
Social Media	Planning	*See Task Force Discussion	Mid-2020	3	Chris stated that we are seeking to establish a social media page for the Climate Smart Program. Amy Drexel provided Chris with a copy of their social media use policy. Chris also indicated that Warren County has considered creating a single social media page – so we may just end up using that page. Chris asked Tara Donadio if that would be sufficient to receive credit. Tara indicated that it would.
Annual Progress Report	Planning	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2020	4	Chris stated that it was his intention to develop an annual report later this year.
Fleet Inventory	Planning		End of 2020	4	Chris indicated that this project was included in the funding application that was not awarded. However, the Planning Department is continuing with this project as it will provide Warren County with a better understanding of vehicle performance, etc.
Natural Resource Inventory (GIS)	GIS, Soil & Water Conservation District, Planning, LCLGRP	*See Task Force Discussion	Mid-2021	8	Chris shared that he envisions the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) being developed on a GIS platform. The Soil and Water Conservation District will assist in providing data descriptions to help the public understand what the information provided means. This tool will allow local land-use boards and the public to encourage more sustainable land use.
Renewable Energy Feasibility Study (Airport)	DPW	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2020	3	Chris stated that Warren County is seeking permission from the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) to install solar panels near the airport. Chris asked Kevin Hajos if a solar energy feasibility study had been completed yet. Kevin indicated that the area Warren County is considering is approximately 60 acres. The County first need the FAA to change the proposed area to a non-aviation land area. The County is looking to lease the site to a solar company and generate around \$100,000/year in revenue.

Certification Actions – Work Plan: Plans & Reports					
Action	Partner(s) Involved	Description	Estimated Completion	Points	Task Force Discussion
Heat Emergency Plan	Office of Emergency Services	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2020	6	<p>Amy Drexel indicated that her office is preparing to develop Hazardous Weather Annexes, one of which would include high heat events. The purpose of the report is to provide response actions to hazardous weather incidents in the County.</p> <p>Discussion ensued and it was agreed that once completed, we should submit the Hazardous Weather Annex as the Heat Emergency Plan.</p> <p>Chris stated that at the last Emergency Preparedness/Response Committee, Dan Durkee indicated that Warren County is no longer using the Access & Functional Needs Database. Chris asked Amy Drexel if she could speak to that.</p> <p>Amy indicated that the Access and Functional Needs Database was developed around 10 years ago, in association with Public Health, Emergency Services, and Office for the Aging. The AFN Database was developed in an effort to ensure that emergency responders were aware of those who may have greater needs during disasters. However, the system is not doing what it is supposed to do – as some people are reluctant to be added to the list and maintenance of the system is difficult. Attempts are being made to collaborate with National Grid, as the power company maintains an inventory of those with access and functional needs.</p>
Climate Smart Resiliency Vision & Plan	Planning, DPW, Office of Emergency Services, LCLGRP, A/GFTC,	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2020	9	<p>Chris stated that this action would require a review of the County’s plans, policies, and projects – to determine where Warren County could improve resiliency to climate change.</p>

Certification Actions – Work Plan: Plans & Reports					
Action	Partner(s) Involved	Description	Estimated Completion	Points	Task Force Discussion
	Public Health, County Administrator				
Government Operations GHG Inventory	Planning, DPW, County Administrator	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2021	16	Chris indicated that it would seem prudent to develop a Government Operations Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory. We are already taking steps to complete Building Energy Benchmarking and a Fleet Inventory, both of which are necessary in developing the GHG Inventory. This action would only be applicable to GHG emissions from municipal sources, not the larger community. This information could be used as a baseline in GHG reduction efforts. Regarding a Community GHG Inventory, Jeff Flagg stated that he saw that as an opportunity for a partnership between Warren County and the other municipalities.
Government Operations Climate Action Plan	Planning	*See Task Force Discussion	End of 2021	16	Chris indicated that a Government Operations Climate Action Plan is another item the group should consider. Dan Barusch indicated that Lake George just recently completed their Climate Action Plan (CAP). Dan stated that a CAP acts as a Comprehensive Plan relative to climate change. Dan indicated that Climate Action Associates developed their GHG Inventory and CAP.
Total				69 Points	

Additional Actions to Undertake & Future Funding Applications

In the grant debriefing Chris had with NYSDEC, the State indicated that they anticipated a similar allocation and a similar RFA for the next CFA round – due out in May 2020.

Chris indicated that since then he has had conversations with Jim Lieberum and his staff about the potential of submitting a submitting a Climate Smart Implementation grant to replace/improve culverts in Warren County. The purpose of which is to adapt local infrastructure to climate change.

Dan Barusch stated that the DEC is very specific about the types of implementation projects they will fund. Chris read the 2019 Request for Applications (RFA) and the RFA states for *Adaptation Implementation Projects* that “such projects include, but are not limited to:…Replacing or right-sizing flow barriers, including but not limited to, right-sizing bridges or culverts, or improving flow barriers…based on assessment of project future conditions.”

Chris asked anyone with ideas for the upcoming CFA to let him know. *[A list of criteria for eligible projects can be found on the following pages]*

Next Meeting

It was determined that the next meeting would be held in May 2020 – once the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Funding Opportunities were made public (typically on May 1st).

Roundtable Discussion

Supervisor Braymer asked that the Hazard Mitigation Plan be added to the website.

With respect to Hazard Mitigation Plan, Jim Lieberum spoke about the need to show progress on the plan.

Jeff Flagg spoke about the success the City of Glens Falls has had in procuring an electric vehicle.

Public Comments

No public comments were made.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Christopher R. Belden, AICP

Eligible Projects: Climate Smart Communities

According to 2019 Request for Applications

Adaptation Implementation Projects

Eligible adaptation project types include any project designed to provide a meaningful reduction of risk to residents, infrastructure, and/or natural resources from hazards projected to become more severe or frequent as a result of climate change. Such projects include, but are not limited to the following:

- Increasing or preserving natural resilience, such as construction of living shorelines and other nature-based landscape features to decrease vulnerability to the effects of climate change and to improve or facilitate conservation, management, and/or restoration of natural floodplain areas and/or wetland systems.
- Flood-risk reduction, including, but not limited to, strategic relocation or retrofit of climate vulnerable critical municipal facilities or infrastructure to reduce future climate-change induced risks to those facilities.
- Replacing or right-sizing flow barriers, including, but not limited to, right-sizing bridges or culverts, or improving flow barriers to facilitate emergency response or protection of population centers, critical facilities, infrastructure, and/or natural resources, based on assessment of projected future conditions.
- Extreme-heat preparation, including, but not limited to, establishment of cooling centers, construction of permanent shade structures, and implementation of other cooling features or programs.
- Emergency preparedness, including, but not limited to, establishment of emergency warning systems or implementation of emergency preparedness and/or response programs (excluding radio communications).
- Enrollment in and completion of activities that are part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Community Rating System (CRS) program.

Mitigation Implementation Projects

Eligible projects in the mitigation category must provide a meaningful reduction in GHG emissions from the non-power sector. Mitigation projects shall be one of the following project types:

1. Reduction of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). Transportation is the largest source of GHG emissions in New York State. Reducing the need for single occupancy vehicle trips for daily needs will reduce GHG emissions. Reduction of VMT projects include, but are not limited to the following:
 - Construction of on-road or off-road facilities for non-motorized forms of transportation to facilitate access to daily, non-recreational transportation needs and/or commutes.
 - Implementation of transit improvements that have the potential to substantially increase ridership or access to daily needs, and/or increase commuting by mass transit.
 - Implementation of projects or programs to reduce the distance commuted in individual gas-powered vehicles, such as densification or implementation of smart-growth strategies.
2. Reduction of Organic Waste. These projects divert food waste and other organic material from landfills where it produces methane. Projects include, but are not limited to the following:

- Construction or installation of equipment to facilitate acceptance of food waste at existing anaerobic digesters at wastewater treatment facilities or existing composting facilities.
- Implementation or piloting of a food waste pick-up service for residents and/or commercial establishments, prior to delivery to an organics recycling facility.
- Implementation of food donation and food-waste collection in municipal buildings.
- Implementation of onsite composting or anaerobic digestion at municipal facilities.

For food donation programs, infrastructure for the storage and management of edible food, establishment or expansion of residential education and outreach programs concerning food donation, home composting, and other related topics please see the DEC Department of Materials Management Funding Opportunities for Food Pantries and Municipalities at <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114499.html>.

3. **Enhanced Landfill Gas Capture.** Methane leakage from landfills is a significant source of GHG emissions. Projects include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Installation of a new or more efficient landfill gas capture system that uses blowers, fans, pumps, or vacuums to induce an area of low pressure allowing for more efficient or additional landfill gas capture and directing the gas to a destruction device such as a flare, internal combustion engine, or pipeline injection for offsite use in place of a passive venting system.
 - Installation of methane leak-detection equipment and implementation of programs at landfills to improve monitoring as part of a GHG mitigation plan.
4. **Reduction of Refrigerant Use and Leakage.** Refrigeration and cooling systems contain fluorinated GHGs which are many times more powerful at trapping heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. Leakage of these refrigerants from refrigeration, air-conditioning, and ice rink equipment is a regular occurrence. Municipalities can reduce or eliminate the harm caused by refrigerants by converting to zero or low global warming potential (GWP) alternatives, instituting leak management systems and repair plans, or providing for the proper disposal of appliances in the community. Projects include, but are not limited to the following:
 - Replacement or retrofit of refrigeration equipment, chillers, or air-conditioning systems with alternative refrigerants of the lowest GWP option available. NOTE: Implementation of a leak management system will be required for a grant award to install any system using a refrigerant with a GWP greater than 700. (For reference the most common refrigerants R22, R134a, and R-410a have GWP over 1,400.) Currently, systems that run on ammonia have the lowest GWP. Lists of alternatives and their GWP can be found online on the Environmental Protection Agency website at <https://www.epa.gov/snap/substitutes-centrifugal-chillers>, among others. Applicants should contact potential vendors to determine the available options for low-GWP alternatives in different types of equipment and examine the technical documentation for the associated equipment.
 - Installation of refrigerant leakage monitoring equipment and establishment of a monitoring and repair plan.
 - Establishment of disposal programs to recover and recycle refrigerants, including those from automobiles, or properly dispose of equipment containing refrigerants.

- Adoption of codes to enable and encourage the use of alternative refrigerants or requirements for proper monitoring, repair, and disposal of refrigerants.
- Establishment of education and outreach programs for businesses within the community that will reduce GHG emissions from refrigerants.

Certification Projects

Eligible projects include completion of any of the following CSC certification actions:

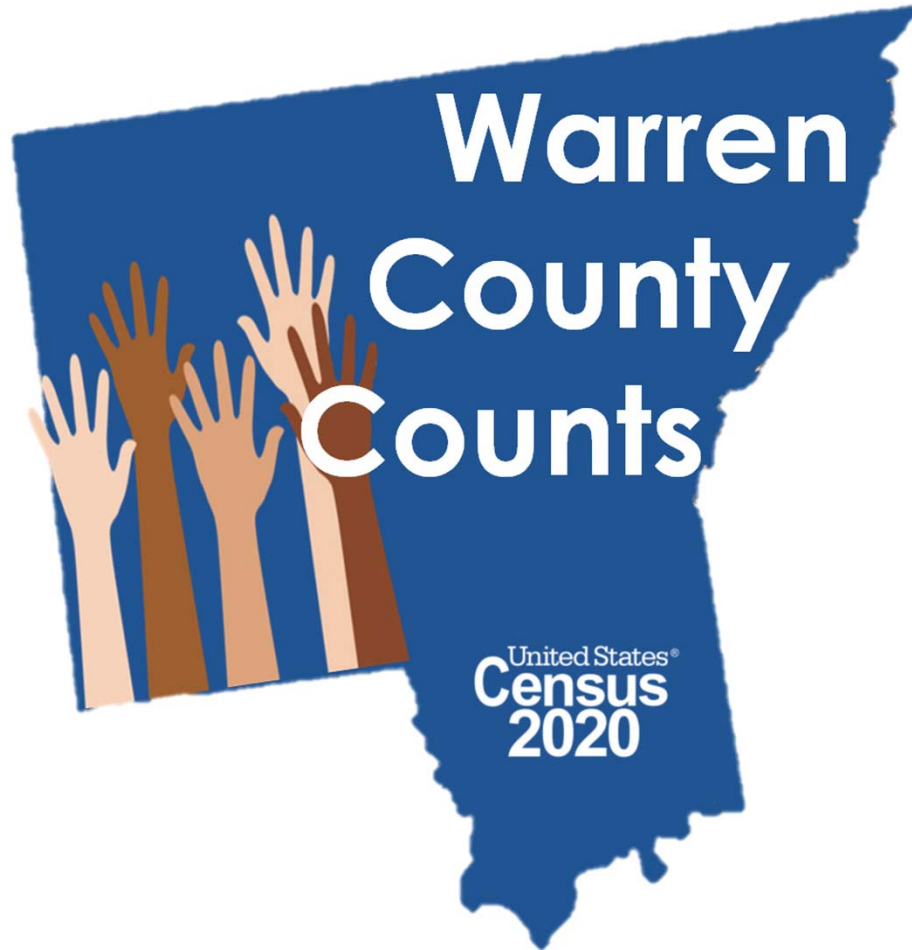
- PE2 Action: Government Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/6>
- PE2 Action: Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/7>
- PE2 Action: Government Operations Climate Action Plan <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/10>
- PE2 Action: Community Climate Action Plan <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/11>
- PE3 Action: Fleet Inventory <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/147>
- PE3 Action: Fleet Efficiency Policy <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/21>
- PE5 Action: Construction and Demolition Waste Policy <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/57>
- PE6 Action: Comprehensive Plan with Sustainability Elements <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/66>
- PE6 Action: Complete Streets Policy <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/74>
- PE6 Action: Planning and Infrastructure for Bicycling and Walking (planning only) <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/75>
- PE6 Action: Natural Resources Inventory <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/82>
- PE7 Action: Climate Vulnerability Assessment <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/85>
- PE7 Action: Climate Smart Resiliency Planning <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/87>
- PE7 Action: Climate Adaptation Strategies <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/88>
- PE7 Action: Heat Emergency Plan <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/91>

WARREN COUNTY CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE

February 3, 2020

Warren County Planning Department

Obligatory Mention of 2020 Census







- Census Enumerators Needed – Apply at 2020census.gov/jobs
- For more details, visit warrencountyny.gov/census2020

Climate Smart Communities Program: A Refresher



- NYSDEC program incentivizes local governments to reduce GHG emissions & adapt infrastructure to a changing climate
- Program offers 50% matching grants:
 - *Certification actions* (up to \$100,000)
 - *Implementation actions* (up to \$2,000,000)
- 4 Tiers of Program Certification

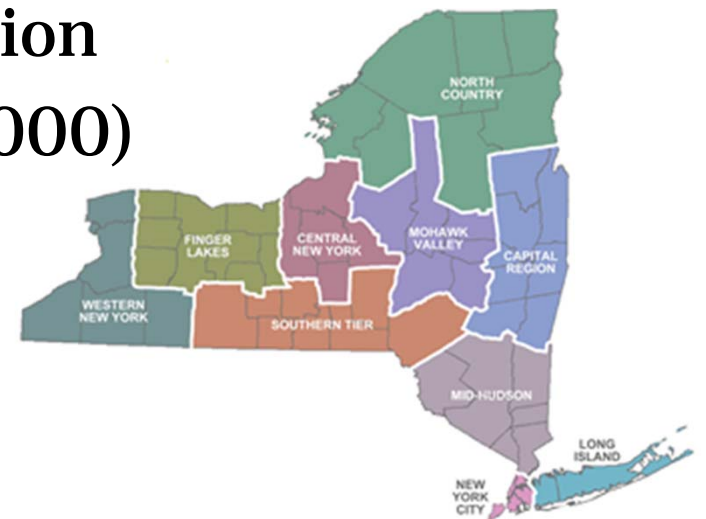
Registered CSC (Current Status)	Certified Bronze (120 Points)	Certified Silver (300 Points)	Certified Gold
			

Climate Smart Task Force

Name	Title	Organization
Chris Belden, AICP	Climate Smart Coordinator/Assistant County Planner	Warren County Planning Department
Sara Frankenfeld	GIS Administrator	Warren County Planning Department
Amanda Beck	Junior Planner	Warren County Planning Department
Beth Gilles	Director	Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning
Allison Gaddy, AICP	Senior Planner	Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning
Jim Lieberum, CPESC	District Manager/Hazard Mitigation Coordinator	Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District
Amy Drexel, AEM	Emergency Services Coordinator	Warren County Emergency Services
Ed Doughney, PE	Senior Civil Engineer	Warren County DPW
Dan Durkee	Senior Health Educator	Warren County Public Health
Tammie DeLorenzo	Assistant to the County Administrator	Warren County Administrator
Jack Mance, AICP	Senior Transportation Planner	Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council
Dan Barusch	Director of Planning & Zoning	Town/Village of Lake George
Scott Royael	Sustainability Coordinator	SUNY Adirondack
Claudia Braymer	County Supervisor, Glens Falls – Ward 3	Warren County Board of Supervisors
Peter McDevitt	County Supervisor, Glens Falls – Ward 2	Warren County Board of Supervisors
Andrea Hogan	Town Supervisor, Johnsbury	Warren County Board of Supervisors
Doug Beaty	At-Large Supervisor, Queensbury	Warren County Board of Supervisors

Grant Application

- ❑ Warren County was not awarded funding
- ❑ Certification Projects
 - ▣ No awards in REDC Capital Region
 - ▣ 15 Awards Statewide (\$970,000)
- ❑ Implementation Projects
 - ▣ 3 awards in REDC Capital Region
 - ▣ 24 Award Statewide (\$11,506,000)



Baseline Climate & Mean Annual Predictions (1971-2000 vs 2050's)



Temperature

Baseline | 47.6 °F

2050's | 52.1 to 53.8 °F



Precipitation

Baseline | 38.6"

2050's | 40.1" to 43.2"

Extreme Weather (Temperature)



	Baseline	2050's
Days +90 °F	10 days	27-40 days
# of Heat Waves	1 heatwave	4-6 heatwave
Duration of Heat Waves	4 days	5-6 days
Days -32 °F	155 days	104-119 days

Extreme Weather (Rainfall)



	Baseline	2050's
Days +1" Rainfall	10 days	11-12 days
Days +2" Rainfall	1 day	1-2 days

2020 County Climate Agenda



- Reduce energy use and emissions of GHG's
- Save taxpayer dollars
- Improve operations and infrastructure
- Increase quality of life

Certification Actions | Completed

Establish a Climate Smart Task Force	20
Appoint Climate Smart Coordinator	10
Energy Code Enforcement Training (Building Dept.)	5
Adoption of Unified Solar Permit	5
Alternative Fuel Infrastructure	12
Building Energy Efficiency Financing Program (C-PACE)	7
Create Local Climate Action Website	3
Bike & Pedestrian Plan for Warren County (2014)	3
Watershed Assessments for 100% of County	6
Climate Vulnerability Assessment & Adaptation Strategies	24

95 Points

Certification Actions | In-Progress

Government Building Energy Audits

Description: Level-2 Comprehensive Energy Audits of Municipal Center/DPW Main Office

Funding: NYSERDA's FlexTech Program

Completion: Release RFP in March. Complete by Fall

8

Energy Benchmarking for Government Buildings

Description: Collect, report, share energy data for County owned buildings (over 1,000 square feet)

Completion: On-going. Report released by September 1st

4

Brownfield Clean-Up & Redevelopment

Description: Demolition/Site Remediation of "Mullen's Property" Bay Road, Queensbury

Completion: Summer 2020

2

14 Points

Certification Actions | Work Plan Policies

Complete Streets Policy	4
Shade Structures in Public Spaces	4
Adopt policy that supports/incentivizes farmers markets, community gardens, urban agriculture or rural agriculture*	4
Develop Financing Mechanism for Future Government Energy Efficiency or Renewable Energy Project	5
Partnerships with Other Entities	3
Adopt Natural Resource Inventory through a Local Law	2

22 Points

Certification Actions | Work Plan Plans & Reports

Social Media	3
Annual Progress Report	4
Fleet Inventory	4
Natural Resource Inventory (GIS)	8
Renewable Energy Feasibility Study (Airport)	3
Heat Emergency Plan	6
Climate Smart Resiliency Vision & Plan	9
Government Operations GHG Inventory	16
Government Operations Climate Action Plan	16

69 Points