



CONNECTICUT CLEAN CITIES COLLABORATIVE



SIPRAC
March 12, 2026



Clean Cities

Our Mission

Clean Cities Coalitions, are designated by the U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office. Seventy-five coalitions around the country foster the economic, environmental, and energy security of the United States by working locally to advance affordable, domestic transportation fuels, energy efficient mobility systems, and other fuel-saving technologies and practices.

Connecticut Coalitions

Capitol Clean Cities of Connecticut – Craig Peters

Clean Transportation Coalition - Western Connecticut – Daphne Dixon

Clean Transportation Communities - Southern Connecticut – Paul Wessel

Clean Transportation Coalition - Western Connecticut

The Challenge:

EV ZONING REGULATIONS ADOPTION

Context

Public EV charging has existed for over a decade, yet many jurisdictions still lack clear EV zoning regulations.

Key Issue

Adoption of EV zoning regulations depends not only on technical knowledge but also on organizational behavior, leadership dynamics, and risk perception.

Research Project to Identify Unseen Barriers

- Why staff hesitate
- Why commissions delay action
- How leadership influences regulatory adoption



Core Questions

Research Focus

How do gaps in EV knowledge, experience, and leadership willingness affect zoning staff and commissions' ability to adopt EV regulations?

If EV zoning regulations are tied to safety, why do decision-makers hesitate, and how can this barrier be overcome?

Underlying Insight

Decision-making in local government is shaped by confidence, culture, and perceived consequences—not just technical facts.



Organizational Psychology Framework

Key Influences on EV Zoning Regulations Adoption

- **Knowledge & Competence**
- **Risk Perception**
- **Leadership Behavior**
- **Organizational Culture**
- **Change Resistance**
- **Decision-making -uncertainty**

Core Idea

Local government organizations behave like any workplace system: people act based on norms, confidence, and perceived outcomes.

BARRIERS TO ADOPTION



Knowledge & Experience Gaps

- Limited exposure to EV charging technology
- Uncertainty about safety standards and codes
- Reliance on assumptions rather than evidence

Risk Perception

- New technology heightens perceived risk
- Ambiguity leads to inaction
- Liability concerns amplify hesitation

Leadership Hesitation

- Political risk and public scrutiny
- Lack of precedent
- Diffusion of responsibility

Overcoming Barriers By Identifying Them and Having Discussions



Strategies for Progress

1. Increase Familiarity

Site visits, demonstrations, and training workshops

2. Build Competence

Technical guidance and model zoning language

3. Reduce Uncertainty

Case studies and safety data from other jurisdictions

4. Activate Leadership

Clear policy direction, collaboration, and shared risk

Key Takeaway

Bridging knowledge and confidence gaps, **open conversations**, and reframing risk can accelerate EV zoning regulation adoption and support sustainable urban development.

Capitol Clean Cities of Connecticut

Clean Transportation Communities of Southern Connecticut



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CLEAN TRANSPORTATION
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THANK YOU!