

Executive Order 21-3: Implement Actions that Reduce Carbon Emissions and Adapt to the Climate Crisis

January 4, 2022

Attendees:

- *Webinar is being recorded and chat is public record.*
- *Please stay on mute to avoid disruptions.*
- *If we stop the presentation for any reason, please rejoin using your registration link.*
- ***Questions** can be entered in the chat throughout presentation. We will select questions from the chat at the end to answer or follow up after the presentation.*



Climate, Buildings and Infrastructure



1. Comprehensive Energy Strategy – Achieving GHG Reductions Consistent with the GWSA

Directs DEEP, in the next Comprehensive Energy Strategy, to provide more affordable heating/cooling, identify strategies to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from residential and commercial buildings, and improve resilience of energy sector.

GC3: 7a, 9, 9c

Relevant Agencies: DEEP



2. Energy efficient and climate resilient building codes

Directs DAS Building Inspector to:

- Maintain an up-to-date code, including preparing the most recent 2021 codes to the Codes and Standards Committee for adoption by October 1, 2022.
- Make GHG reductions core consideration for codes
- Consider CT sea level rise scenario of 1 foot 8 inches by 2050 and climate impacts for codes
- Solicit testimony from resilience experts
- Consider Insurance Institute of Business & Home Safety FORTIFIED Standards
- Train code officials on mitigation and climate resilience and continue recruitment of members with expertise in these areas
- Work with DEEP to adopt High Performance Building Standards

Relevant Agencies: DEEP, DAS, DOI

3. Strengthening interim targets for GreenerGov CT Lead By Example

- By 2024, all executive branch agency facilities, to the extent practicable shall implement an organics and food waste diversion program
- By 2030, all electricity purchased and generated by the executive branch will be 100% zero carbon
- By 2030, all newly-leased light duty State vehicles shall be zero emission vehicles

GC3: 9,18,15

Relevant Agencies: DEEP, DAS, OPM



3. Strengthening interim targets for GreenerGov CT Lead By Example

- By 2023 DEEP and DAS shall develop a plan to retrofit *existing* fossil fuel-based heating and cooling systems at state buildings to be operated without carbon emitting fuels.
- By 2023, DEEP and DAS shall develop a plan and a budget to achieve zero-GHG emissions for all *new* construction and major renovations funded by the state or in facilities owned/operated by the Executive Branch.



3. Strengthening interim targets for GreenerGov CT Lead By Example

- By 2023, the state shall divest 1% of all Executive Branch building square footage and an additional 2% by 2028
- State shall deploy 10,000 kWDC of new solar capacity annually for next 10 years on state property
- State committed to reducing executive branch building GHG emissions by at least 1% annually



4. Appliance Standards.

Directs DEEP to promulgate regulations to promote energy conservation and efficiency, provided that the subject appliances remain cost-effective for consumers who purchase and use them.



5. Resilient state buildings

Directs DAS to ensure state buildings are capable of withstanding wind and flood risks and to consider use of Insurance Institute of Business & Home Safety's FORTIFIED standards to meet this goal.



6. Solar arrays on DAS and DOT state properties

Directs DOT and DAS to identify opportunities to deploy solar on their properties and rights-of-way.



Clean Transportation



7. Statewide battery electric bus fleets by 2035.

Directs DOT to cease purchasing or providing state funding to third parties for the purchase of diesel buses by the end of 2023 and create an implementation plan which identifies any barriers to full bus fleet electrification.

Relevant Agencies: DOT

GC3: 18,22a



8. 2030 vehicle miles traveled reduction target

Directs DOT to set a 2030 VMT reduction target and develop a plan of investments to influence the reductions.

Relevant Agencies: DOT



Community Climate Resilience



9. Connecticut Community Climate Resilience Program

Directs DEEP to establish a Connecticut Community Climate Resilience program for plans and project development.

- Uses funding from the microgrid and resilience grant program for plans and project development
- Targets 40% of resources at municipalities where vulnerable populations reside
- Funds will be available for nature-based solutions
- Projects to be integrated into plans to ensure eligible for implementation through existing and new funding programs, in consultation with partners

Relevant Agencies: DEEP

GC3: 55a, 55b



10. Community resilience engagement and technical assistance.

Directs DEEP to work with its partners including the University of Connecticut to help municipalities and Councils of Government implement climate resilience actions, including establishing stormwater authorities and municipal climate resilience boards enabled under Governor's bill AAC Climate Change Adaptation signed into law as P.A.21-115.



11. State Vulnerability Assessment of state government assets and operations and climate resilience project pipeline.

Directs OPM, DEEP, and DAS through the interagency Steering Committee on State Sustainability in consultation with DESPP to assess the vulnerability of State government assets and operations to the impacts of climate change and create a list of priority assets and infrastructure for climate resilience projects for each agency.

Relevant Agencies: DEEP, DAS, DOT, DESPP, OPM

GC3: 50,55b



12. Resilient stormwater and drainage systems

Directs DEEP to update the design criteria for stormwater management systems and DOT to identify culverts that need to be repaired or replaced to guide application for competitive grant funding for this work.



13. Resilient critical facilities

Directs DESPP, in consultation with DEEP, DAS, and OPM shall maintain a list of state and local critical facilities and directs all state agencies to consider this list in their capital and climate resilience planning, especially in floodplains or flood-prone areas.

Relevant Agencies: DESPP, DEEP, DAS, OPM

GC3: 50, 54a



Climate, Health, Equity & Environmental Justice



14. Community Air Quality Monitoring.

Directs DEEP to develop a community-based air quality monitoring program, in consultation with DPH.



15. Assess the Need to Adopt California Medium and Heavy-Duty (MHD) Vehicle Emissions Standards.

Directs DEEP to assess whether Connecticut needs to adopt California's standards to meeting our air quality standards and emissions reduction targets.

GC3: 16c

Relevant Agencies: DEEP



16. Climate Change and Health Program.

Directs DPH to establish an Office of Climate and Public Health (“OCPH”) to address the intersection of climate change and health equity

- Utilize the social vulnerability index (“SVI”) in climate change planning for vulnerable populations, including for use in targeting resources;
- Establish guidance, policies, and laws to reduce illness and death among Connecticut’s residents from climate-related disease and exposures with health equity as a consistent focus;
- Implement actions identified in the Public Health & Safety section of the GC3 January 2021 report

Relevant Agencies: DPH



#16 Continued:

- Develop plans to assist residents in high SVI locations for climate control in dwellings;
- Apply lessons learned from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery;
- Provide training and education;
- Convene and form partnerships



17. Connecticut Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council

- Establishes the CEEJAC within DEEP
- The CEEJAC will advise DEEP on current and historic environmental injustice, pollution reduction, energy equity, climate change mitigation and resiliency, health disparities, and racial inequity

Relevant Agencies: DEEP, DOT, DPH, DECD, DOH

GC3: 1,2,4,5b



#17 Continued

- Advisory areas include, but are not limited to:
 - Integrating environmental justice considerations into the programs, policies, and activities of DEEP
 - Providing mechanisms for Environmental Justice Communities to have a meaningful opportunity to participate in any decision to allow in such communities certain types of facilities
 - Developing a model plan for community engagement and stakeholder outreach
 - Strengthening DEEP partnerships





Climate, Jobs, and Economic Development



18. Connecticut Clean Economy Council

Establishes a Connecticut Clean Economy Council to advise the Governor on strategies and policies to strengthen the state's climate mitigation, clean energy, resilience, and sustainability programs by:

- identifying opportunities to leverage state and federal funding and maximize local economic development in clean energy, climate and sustainability;
- train the workforce in these areas; and
- support a diverse and equitable economic development and employment.

Relevant Agencies: DEEP, OPM, DECD, OWS, Office of the Governor, CT Green Bank, CT Innovations

GC3: 10,12f



19. Climate Resilient Economic Development.

Directs DECD to include climate resilience and adaptation in its considerations for Municipal Brownfields grants and new Communities Challenge with additional consideration for any projects designed under the Connecticut Community Climate Resilience program created under this EO.

Relevant Agencies: DECD

GC3: 55c



Climate and Natural and Working Lands



20. Forest Climate Resilience and Mitigation Potential.

Directs DEEP to engage with stakeholders to evaluate the feasibility, needed resources and associated programs to ensure the resilience of Connecticut's forests in the face of a changing climate and to maximize our forested lands' mitigation potential through carbon storage and sequestration.

Relevant Agencies: DEEP

GC3: 26, 28d



21. Agriculture climate resilience and mitigation potential.

Directs the Dept. of Agriculture to engage stakeholders on what is needed to ensure working lands and soils in Connecticut continue to be resilient to the impacts of climate change and to maximize their potential to sequester and store carbon in support of state's emissions reduction goals.

- The engagement will include streamlining protection of working lands, enhancing renewable energy and energy efficiency programs available to farms, and partnering with state and federal agencies to improve soil health.

GC3: 41a, 42, 44b

Relevant Agencies: DoAg



22. Climate resilience using nature-based solutions on state properties.

Directs DEEP and DAS to develop guidance for state agencies on how to:

- use nature-based solutions for flood and erosion control and stormwater management,
- integrate coastal marsh migration in state projects in coastal areas, and
- utilize low impact development and green infrastructure in new state construction and state-funded construction or redevelopment.

Directs state agencies to utilize this guidance for capital project planning and design all capital projects following this guidance.

GC3: 32a,32b,33,33a,33c,35,36b,40a

Relevant Agencies: DEEP, DAS



23. Continue Governor's Council on Climate Change.

Extends the Governor's Council on Climate Change to require a report on progress under both mitigation and adaptation and resilience planning in Sections 4 and 5 of E03 by December 31, 2022 and December 31 every year thereafter.

Relevant Agencies: DEEP, DAS, OPM, DOT, DESPP, DPH, DECD, DOH, DoAg, UConn

