



Connecticut Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council (CEEJAC)

Monday, March 18, 2024, 6:00-8:00 PM

[Link to Meeting Recording](#)

Disclaimer: Please note this is not a word for word translation

CEEJAC Members:

Name	Position	Attendance
Commissioner Katie Dykes	Commissioner & CEEJAC Co-Chair	Present
Dr. Mark Mitchell	CEEJAC Co-Chair, MD, MPH, Emeritus Professor	Present
Yaw Darko	Senior Project Specialist, CT Land Conservation Council	Absent
Adrienne Farrar Houël	President, Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises, Inc., Bridgeport	Present
Alex Rodriguez	Environmental Justice Specialist, Save the Sound	Present
Terry Adams	Member, Board of Representatives, Stamford	Absent
Sharon Lewis	Executive Director, CT Coalition for Economic and Environmental Justice (CCEEJ)	Absent
Xochitl Garcia	Bilingual Environmental Justice Advisor, New Haven	Absent
Cierra Patrick	Economic Development Manager, City of Groton	Absent
Brandon McGee	Deputy Commissioner, Department of Housing	Absent
Theresa Hopkins-Staten	President, Eversource Energy Foundation, VP Corporate Citizenship and Equity	Present
Paul O. Robertson	Deputy Commissioner, CT Department Economic and Community Development	Absent

Karen Kitsis	Deputy Commissioner, CT Department of Transportation	Present
Leticia Colon de Mejias	Founder, Efficiency for All, Windsor	Absent
Lori Mathieu	Public Health Branch Chief, CT Department of Public Health Attending for Commissioner Manisha Juthani	Absent
Maisa Tisdale	President, The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community, Bridgeport	Present

1. Welcome

- Commissioner Dykes
 - Commissioner’s 20BY20 initiatives were oriented towards improving the transparency, predictability, and efficiency of DEEP’s processes, strengthening and clarifying regulatory processes. These goals were to be achieved by 2020. DEEP established another 20 goals under the Commissioner’s 20by26 initiatives to be achieved by 2026. DEEP will be asking for the public to give us input on four additional goals the agency should adopt. Receive suggestions by May 4th. For more information or to suggest goals send an email to deep.20by26@ct.gov
 - GOAL 1: Adopt Release-Based Regulations to Modernize Connecticut's Cleanup Framework
 - GOAL 2: Achieve 90% On-Time Completion Rate for Critical Permit Applications
 - GOAL 3: Reduce the "Legacy" Permit Application Backlog by 65% by 2026
 - GOAL 4: Strengthen Enforcement Resources
 - GOAL 5: Expand Compliance Assurance
 - GOAL 6: Enhanced Financial Assurance Tracking and Management
 - GOAL 7: Collaboratively Develop Regulations that Implement Recent Environmental Justice Reforms
 - GOAL 8: Effective Participation for Equity and Environmental Justice
 - GOAL 9: Enhanced Public Records Transparency
 - GOAL 10: Expand Tools for Online Resources
 - GOAL 11: Speed Up Grant and Contracting Processes by 50% for Key Grant Programs
 - GOAL 12: Expand DEEP Concierge Services to Municipalities and Small Businesses
 - GOAL 13: Strengthening Communication and Collaboration with DEEP

- GOAL 14: Permitting for Decarbonization
 - GOAL 15: Tools for Navigating Available Federal and State Funding
 - GOAL 16: DEEP Partnerships with Private Entities in State Parks
 - GOALS 17–20: Stakeholder Goals
- DEEP has a new tribal affairs liaison joining the Office of Equity and Environmental Justice.
- Stakeholder engagement process for development of SB1147 and developing out the way in which DEEP engages with stakeholders.
- Really excited about open space and watershed land acquisition (OSWA). Land subcommittee will help with accessibility of this program.
- Launched a Limited English Proficiency Policy working group and doing a lot of work to expand accessibility.
- Dr. Mitchell
 - Talk about our first cohort of CEEJAC members: Current members have been in place for two years and their term is coming to an end. We are launching recruitment efforts to fill in positions and help build out some subcommittees. Clarification: You do not have to be on CEEJAC to serve on subcommittees.

2. Subcommittee Updates

- Water
 - Updates
 - Met in Jan 2024 to support IWPM (Integrated Water Planning Management) 2.0
 - Provided feedback on their proposed approach to identify priority areas in rural and urban EJ communities in CT.
 - Hoping to build on IWPM w.0 and support restoration plans between community organizations, residents, and municipalities.
 - Brought on new subcommittee members.
 - Upcoming Meetings
 - Coordination meeting with subcommittee meeting on March 20, 2024 at 2pm.
 - April 23, 2024 at 5:30pm (public meeting) – Presenting on the urban waters initiative which is a federal funding joint initiative with New Haven and Save the Found.
- Waste
 - Following recent events
 - MIRA Dissolution Authority and former site of MIRA plant in Hartford.
 - Concerns related to AB ECCO Park, a proposed waste incineration plant in North Haven.

- Exploring
 - Plastic disposal and recycling in CT
 - Understanding EJ implications of proposed waste management technology
 - Food waste
 - Air and Transportation
 - Update
 - Met in Jan 2024 to discuss:
 - History of EJ organizing around Clean Air and Clean Transportation in CT. Dr. Mitchell helped lead this meeting. Discussed how residents can be effective in advocacy work. To Alex Rodriguez's knowledge the regulations have been pulled and have taken a different course.
 - Learned about proposed emission standards in CT through clean cars and clean trucks regulations.
 - Discussed how residents can be engaged in advocacy work.
 - Upcoming Meetings
 - TBD – in-person meeting to discuss state incentive programs (CHEAPR and CHEAPR+) to purchase EV cars and eBikes. Demonstration of these vehicles and conversations with owners of these vehicles. The CHEAPR+ rebates program is for low-income folks and for new and used electric vehicles.
 - Land
 - Update
 - Met with OPM's Office of Sustainable Growth and about state's draft Conservation and Development plan for 2025-2030.
 - State's plan for land and water resource conservation and development
 - Launching an integrated vision seeking to guide more collaboration and cross communication within state agencies and communities.
 - Subcommittee provided feedback on centering environmental justice within the tension between conservation and development.
 - Upcoming Meetings
 - April 4, 2024 at 1pm until 3pm. Will talk about Open space and watershed Land Acquisition (OSWA) – EJ considerations within the application and evaluation criteria.
3. DEEP Updates
- EJ Office Hours

- Occurs every third Wednesday of the month from 12-1pm on Zoom:
<https://ctdeep.zoom.us/j/88627382456>
- Proposal: PowerUp New England

Benjamin North, *Research Analyst, Bureau of Energy & Technology Policy (CT DEEP)*

Claire Sickinger, *Associate Research Analyst, Bureau of Energy & Technology Policy (CT DEEP)*

Josh Walters, *Staff Attorney (CT DEEP)*

- Federal funding opportunity through the Grid Resilience and innovation partnership (GRIP) Program.
 - \$10.5 billion grant program in total through the U.S. Department of Energy to enhance our energy grid against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change.
 - This program will help communities access affordable, reliable, and clean electricity. A key point of emphasis from DOE is to provide a well-developed plan for how projects are engaged with and will provide benefits to local disadvantaged and environmental justice communities affected by the project.
 - Current funding cycle: \$1.8 billion will go to applicants from across the country with applications due April 17th. PowerUp New England is the name of the application Connecticut is a part of along with other six New England states. The PowerUp New England effort could result in \$1 billion of public and private investment towards advancing New England's energy grid towards a clean energy future.
 - The projects under the PowerUp New England effort have not yet been funded but would like to begin the stakeholder engagement process if they do receive the funding. As such they welcome input from CEEJAC to help ensure beneficial impacts and engagement with local communities.
- What is PowerUp New England?
 - Four sub-projects:
 - Point of Interconnection (POI) for Offshore Wind Energy which will be based in Massachusetts.
 - Point of Interconnection (POI) for Offshore Wind Energy in Connecticut.
 - Energy Storage System which will be based in Maine.
 - Energy Storage System which will be based in Connecticut.
- Montville Point of Interconnection (POI) Project Details

- The developer is Eversource Energy and the project size consists of switching station with 2400MW of transmission capacity. The technology involved is as follows: A new 345 kV switching station in eastern Connecticut to create a new distinct point of interconnection (POI) to enable significant injections of offshore wind (OSW) energy into New England.
 - This project has a direct emissions reduction and resilience benefits in ej communities, tribal nations, and DACs in surrounding areas and New England as a whole.
 - Potential grid benefits and community impacts are as follows:
 - Project will enable delivery of 2,400 MW of offshore wind energy.
 - This project has a direct emissions reduction and resilience benefits in environmental justice communities, tribal nations and DACs in surrounding areas and New England as a whole.
 - The project enables more diversified energy generation in New England, can enhance grid reliability for the region, and can reduce demand for fossil resources.
 - Enabling the flow of offshore wind (OSW) energy into New England is critical to meeting state and regional clean energy and decarbonization goals.
- Potential Community engagement efforts and plans
 - Public information sessions in key locations
 - Focus groups and community advisory councils which would be made up of stakeholders that are compensated for their time to determine how the project will impact the community and identify community-specific strategies to inform the Community Benefits Plan with measurable goals.
 - Benefit agreement with the town of Montville where the project will be located.
 - Eversource has initiated outreach to and is soliciting support from Montville, New London, East Lyme and Waterford; UConn; the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council; CT Business and Industry Association; CT Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative; CT Conference of Municipalities; Chamber of Commerce in Eastern CT; the CT Workforce Investment Board; the Northeast Clean Energy Council and the Southeastern CT Enterprise Region.
- The next project that is part of this application is the New Haven Energy Storage project
 - The site location is PSEG Harbor Generating Station (fossil fuel power plant) which will be located in an EJ community. The technology involved is four-

hour, front-of-the-meter Battery Energy Storage System ((BESS) equipped with grid-forming inverters. The project's size is 125 MW.

- Potential benefits and community impacts are as follows:
 - Reduce use of fossil fuels at existing power generation facility which is surrounded by an EJ community.
 - The project seeking to enhance distribution system reliability for the local community.
 - Also incorporates innovative grid forming inverter technology which can increase regional grid reliability.
 - Energy burden reduction educational programs in the local community.
 - Working groups and community advisory councils to determine how the project will impact the community and identify community-specific strategies to inform the Community Benefits Plan with measurable goals.
 - Elevate expects to work with the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council to award contracts to organizations owned by individuals that are part of historically disadvantaged groups.
- Seek out feedback from CEEJAC to enhance community engagement and local impacts. To provide additional feedback on these projects and your thoughts on local community engagement email Claire.Sickinger@ct.gov and Benjamin.North@ct.gov
- If approved applicants will be notified of selection in late Summer or Fall 2024.
- Multi-State Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Competition Multi-State Heat Pump Coalition Application
Hank Webster, Senior Policy Advisor, Bureau of Energy & Technology Policy (CT DEEP)
 - Low-income and disadvantage community (LIDAC) Benefits and Opportunities
 - Delivery of Benefits:
 - Advisory Council for LIDAC Regional and/or State-level Program
 - Enable Braiding of Funds
 - Additional Incentives for Contractors to Deliver Benefits to LIDAC
 - Tracking metrics (installations, engagement, coordination)
 - Workforce Development Opportunities
 - Design workshops specifically for Weatherization Assistance Program and LIDAC Service Providers.

- Grow key business and workforce training partnerships with LIDAC communities by creating/strengthening relationships with distributors, manufacturers, and implementers through this program.
- Still working on the multi-state framework to be best position to compete. Some of the specifics are still being nailed down since the application is still being worked on.
- Dr. Mitchel recommended that Hank have some sort of plan to identify EJ barriers with the help of CEEJAC members. About a quarter of the funding is just for innovative solutions to tackle those barriers but that may grow.
- The application is due on April 1st. Will work from April through July on negotiating agreement with the other states who are collaborating on the application.
- If people have comments or suggestions email Hank Webster:
Hank.Webster@ct.gov

4. Funding Opportunities

- EPA Community Change Grants

Kristi Rea, Branch Manager, Office of Regional Assistance and Integrated Strategies, EPA Region 1

D'Shyla Hodge, Environmental Protection Specialist, EPA Region 1

Keyana White, Environmental Protection Specialist, EPA Region 1

- EPA received \$3 billion through the Inflation Reduction Act (IIRA) to fund environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities. \$2.8 billion for grants including \$2 billion for the community Change Grants (CCG) Program. \$200 million for technical assistance related to the grants. Grants cannot exceed three years (no extensions). All grants must be award by September 30, 20226.
- Goals developed with input from stakeholders and a 60 day public comment period. The goals are as follows:
 - Fund community-driven pollution and climate resiliency solutions
 - Invest in strong cross-sectoral collaborations with partners working with and for communities.
 - Unlock access to more significant resources.
 - Deliver technical assistance and capacity-building support.
 - Strengthen communities' decision-making power.
- Multiple tracks
 - Track 1: Community driven investments for change which will be implemented with strong collaboration. Approx. 1.96 billion

in funding available. Approx. 150 awards available. \$10M to \$20 M each per award amount.

- Track 2: Meaningful engagement for equitable governance. Funding available is approx.. \$40 million. Approx. 20 awards total. Award amount is \$1M-3M each.
- Technical Assistance is available:
 - First option: Community Change Technical Assistance (CCTA)
 - Broad-based pre-award and post-award TA
 - Can submit a technical assistance request through the EPA website or emailing EJ_TechAssist@epa.gov Can also call 1(800)540-8123 to make a TA request or ask questions.
 - Second option: Community Change Equitable Resilience Technical Assistance (CCER_TA)
 - Submit an online TA request form.
 - More limited and tailored TA focusing on disaster-prone areas.
 - Third option: Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs)
 - Threshold eligibility criteria
 - Applicants must meet all criteria which is on their website. Examples of the criteria includes the following:
 - Comply with content and submission requirements
 - Must meet eligibility and statutory partnership requirements in Section III.A
 - Meet threshold criteria in Section III.D, including that the projects will benefit disadvantaged communities.
 - Projects must be completed within three years.
 - Applications to conduct scientific research, assessments, removal, or remediation of Superfund sites, or community relocation and ineligible.
 - Statutory partnerships
 - Applicants must either be a partnership of two community-based nonprofits organizations (CBOs) or a partnership between a CBO and a federally recognized Tribe, local government or institution of higher education.

- Partnerships must be documented and meet certain legal requirements (see Appendix B), Additional information and partnership can be found in Section III of the NOFO.
 - While the CBO does not have to be the lead applicant, all statutory partnership must include a CBO.
- Collaborating Entities: Other entities can involve projects as collaborating entities. Collaborating entities may include entities that legally could be Statutory Partners (CBOs, Federally-recognized Tribes, local governments, and institutions of higher education) and entities that cannot legally be Statutory partners (e.g. states and territorial governments).
- How it works? The lead applicant and statutory partners will form a statutory partnership. All applicants have to demonstrate that their project will benefit a disadvantaged community. This will result in the collaborative which connects EPA with the Lead Applicant and the Statutory partner and collaborating entities.
- Disadvantaged Communities: Applicants must demonstrate that the projects in their application will benefit a disadvantaged community. EPA is defining disadvantaged community as one that meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - A geographically-defined community identified as a disadvantage on the EPA IRA Disadvantaged Communities Map.
 - A Disadvantaged Unincorporated Community (DUC) OR a farmworker community.
 - More information can be found in Appendix A of the NOFO.
- Target investment areas
 - \$50 M – Disadvantage unincorporated communities
 - \$150 M – tribes in Alaska
 - \$300 M – tribal communities (lower 48 states + HI)
 - \$100M – Southern Border Communities
 - \$50 M – U.S - Territories
 - Track I investment area amounts are approximate and may be adjusted based on the quantity and quality of applications/received.

- Overview of Track I and Track II
 - Track I seeks to foster collaboration and address specific environmental justice challenges. Projects under this track should ensure generations of future enjoyment and growth as well by meeting the following objectives:
 - Increase community resilience
 - Reduce local pollution/improve public health
 - Center meaningful community engagement
 - Build community strength
 - Each priority populations
 - Maximize integration across projects.
 - Track II: Meaningful engagement for equitable governance
 - Objectives: To build capacity of communities to evaluate and redress environmental and climate injustices
 - To give disadvantaged communities a meaningful voice in government decision-making process.
 - Project examples include educational and training programs and environmental advisory boards (EABs)
 - Application submission, evaluation, and selection process
 - Uses rolling application process. Enough time to request a debrief with EPA and resubmit. Application packages will be accepted until November 21, 2024 at 11:59pm EST (Eastern Time) through grants.gov
 - Selection process
 - Track I
 - Application reviewed for threshold eligibility
 - Written evaluation
 - Oral presentations
 - Final considerations
 - Track II
 - Applications reviewed for threshold eligibility
 - Written evaluation
 - Final consideration
 - Key points
 - Check for eligibility
 - Understand the requirements for different tracks
 - Triple check your application

- Stay up to date on webinars by signing for EPA EJ listserv by sending a blank email to join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov
- Questions?
 - Dr. Mitchell asked: Is there a possibility that the number of track 2 grants might increase? Kristi Rae Simoneau explained how that was simply an estimate that can change based on the applications.
 - Request for clarification on technical assistance. Response was that there are several forms of technical assistance that can be available. One from a dedicated contractor that is dedicated to all. Fill out a simple form. This is for proposal organization, writing, and helping pull things together. Additional technical assistance is also available. Can put in a request for both types of assistance.
[https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/community-change-grants-technical-assistance#:~:text=To%20request%20TA%20for%20preparing,to%20EJ TechAssist%40epa.gov](https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/community-change-grants-technical-assistance#:~:text=To%20request%20TA%20for%20preparing,to%20EJ%20TechAssist%40epa.gov). There is also an equitable resilience technical assistance grant for areas prone.
 - Maisa Tisdale asked if you could submit grants for both tracks which Kristi yes you can. Is EPA reconsidering amounts for track II? These were estimates not exact amounts. She will let headquarters know that there is interest in flexibility.
 - Is matching required? The EPA team responded with the following: This is a grant program and does not have any matching requirements for it.
 - Seeking out advice on a specific project. The EPA team responded that they want to direct people to look at different requirements depending on whether they are talking about a track I or Track II proposal and see if there's a clear fit. This is focused on a way that furthers ej work and creating systems for improving engagement and community voices in decision making and implementation projects. They mentioned how they cannot comment on specific proposals since they are in a current grant period. If interested look into the technical assistance and see whether that can

determine if that is a good fit. They have a list of the kinds of projects and strategies they are looking for and that was on slide 48. Can also look at appendix C in Funding of Opportunities as well.

- EPA Region 1 Grantmaking to Build Sustained Environmental Justice Capacity and Networks across EPA Region 1

Stacey Chacker, *Director, Policy and Practice, Health Resources in Action (HRiA)*
Faye Christoforo, *Co-Director, New England Grassroots Environment Fund*

- Health Resources in Action in collaboration with two other groups submitted an application to EPA and were selected.
- Background: EPA's EJ Thriving communities grantmaking program is providing 50M each to Grantmakers serving each region of the U.S. over three years. Goal of the program include: Support CBOs, EJ organizations, non profit organizations, and other entities representing underserved, urban, rural, indigenous, remote, and capacity constrained communities in implementing projects to address local environmental and/or public health challenges. Part of the Justice40 Initiative, launched by Exec Order in 2021m mandates that 40% of the overall benefits of certain fed investments flow to communities that have been marginalized, underserved and overburdened by pollution and climate change.
- Core Partners: HIRA, ACE, and Grassroots Fund – Counter historical disinvestment in communities on the frontlines of the climate crisis including communities of color, immigrant communities, indigenous communities, and low-income communities. \$40 million in grants over three years, comes as an effort by the Biden-Harris Administration to strip away traditional barriers communities have faced in applying for federal grants.
- Process:
 - Planning on engaging anchor organizations also known as CBOs to send and build deeper capacity for a sustainable EJ movement throughout NE and will work closely with a Governance Council to guide decisions.
 - Community Grants will support CBOs, EJ organizations, nonprofit organizations, and other entities representing underserved, urban, rural, indigenous, remote, and capacity constrained communities in implementing projects to address local environmental challenges. Grant categories as determined by EPA.
 - Phase I: Grant assessments: What is the problem? Up to one year. Up to 150,000 dollars.

- Phase II: Grants for planning. Funding period is 1-2 years with funding amount up to \$250,000.
 - Phase III: Grants for implementation. Funding period of two years up to \$350,000.
 - They will also make a noncompetitive \$75,000 subawards severely capacity-constrained community based nonprofit organizations with limited capacity to carry out federally funded projects for assessment (with approval from EPA). This is yet to be defined.
 - Examples of Environmental Issues to address and project types include air quality/asthma, fence line air quality monitoring, small clean up projects etc.
 - Things to know: They do not have their contract yet. Anticipate launching request for proposal in the Fall and then several times through March 2026 applicants must be 501c3 and register SAM.gov. Does not allow discal agents. Technical assistance and capacity building to help during process is available. Variety of submittal options. Applicants may get feedback and resubmit unfunded proposals in next round. EPA regulations will be applicable for subawards. Grants will be cost-reimbursements (generally with monthly payment (for severely restricted, two-week turn will be optional).
 - Can't answer everybody but encouraging people to sign up for updates at ejgrantsnewengland.org The website is in Spanish and English and will determine other languages in the future.
 - The Grant Making Process
 - Participatory grantmaking: Sharing power means distributing the actions of decision-making, program creation, implementation, and impact evaluation across all process participants, truly blurring any rigid divide between designer and participant, expert and beneficiary.
 - Community roles in this process:
 - Grant program design & evaluation
 - Anchor organization in each state to provide community context
 - Governance council to serve as planning committee for the grantmaking review process
 - Grant application review & decision making
 - Open call for readers to review all applications
 - Grantmaking committee will make final decisions on where the funding goes.
- Long Island Sound Study Grant Writing Assistance Program
 Deborah Abibou, *Asst. Extension Educator, CT Sea Grant/Long Island Sound Study*
 Sarah Schechter, *Asst. Extension Educator, CT Sea Grant/Long Island Sound Study*

- LISS is a bi-state partnership formed in 1985 consisting of federal & state agencies, user groups, and concerned stakeholders dedicated to restoring & protecting LIS. The Long Island Sound Study is guided by four main themes of Clean waters and healthy watersheds, thriving habitats and abundant wildlife, sound science and inclusive management and sustainable and resilient communities.
- Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan themes
 - Ocean waters and healthy watershed
 - Thriving habitats and abundant wildlife
 - Sustainable and resilient communities
 - Sound and inclusive management
- The SRC Extension Professional Team consists of five spread across New York and Connecticut. They provide resources and guidance to help communities meet climate and other challenges in the LIS coastal watershed of CT and NY.
- Expected outcomes of their work: The work plan for the Sustainable and Resilient Communities working group is organized around five priorities, expressed as these Outcomes. The work plan also focuses on the following two overarching themes: social-ecological integration; environmental justice . Integrating considerations of society and the economy with the environment. Coordinating closely with EJ WG; integrating EJ considerations into all tasks
- Overachieving themes are social ecological integration and environmental justice along with five components they focus on.
- LIS Resilience Support Programs assist with the development of sustainability and resilience focused projects that will impact a community(s) within or partially within the Long Island Sound coastal boundary:
<https://nfwf.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=0e3a87a189e8458195217e18c36ded59>
- Track II Focus: Grant preparation and writing support. Award amount up to \$9,950 per application directly to contractor. Each application should focus on one discrete project. Matching is not required. Eligible applicants include municipalities and community groups. The application period is on a rolling basis until all the funding is allocated. Applications can be submitted on Google Forms or via mail.
- Through the Track Two Program, NYSG and CTSG will provide grant preparation and writing capacity to New York and Connecticut communities that are pursuing funding for sustainability and resilience focused projects. This program aims to help communities develop successful sustainability and resilience focused project grant proposals and for municipalities and

community organizations to develop capacity for navigating the funding landscape. *Receiving support through Track One is not a pre-qualification to receive support through Track Two.* Support: Including, but not limited to budget preparation, cost-benefit analysis, writing and narrative development, mapping, and application preparation and submission.

- Update: They implemented this year is that applicants can now submit multiple applications. Encouraged people to explore their new funding database on the LIS Resilience Resource Hub to find open and upcoming funding opportunities.
- They have a list of contractors to help applicants get started.
- LIS Resilience Planning Support Program – Offered a planning support program this year. Is currently closed but anticipating another round in the Fall. The funding would go to contractors that can help provide early-stage planning and project scoping support. They can help identify what those sustainable resilience focus projects can be. Matching is not required. Eligible applicants include municipalities and community organizations.
- This program aims to help communities assess local climate risks, conceptualize project ideas, and conduct preliminary planning efforts/steps to be well positioned to access funding to design and implement successful sustainable and resilience focused projects.
- For general inquiries email LISresilience@gmail.com or you can contact Deb Visco Abibou deb.abibou@uconn.edu (203)407-3166 or Sarah Schechter Eastern sarah.schechter@uconn.edu (860)4059215

5. CT's Bead Challenge Process

- Kevin Pisacich – Connecticut's bead challenge process is vital because it determines the locations and community anchor institutions within each jurisdiction that are eligible for \$144 million in BEAD funding. The state will use the national broadband map as a starting point to identify the list of BEAD-eligible locations within its jurisdiction. DEEP will review and potentially modify the designation of a location as served or underserved on the National Broadband Map through the challenge process. Eligible challengers include local governments, tribal governments, nonprofits, broadband services providers. Challenge phase will be from April 1-April 30, rebuttal phase is from May 11 to June 10, and final determination phase will be from June 11 to July.
 - FCC Broadband map: <https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home>
 - IJJA BEAD Broadband program;
<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Energy/Broadband-Deployment/BEAD-Program>
- Update to Long Island Sound Study CCMP
<https://longislandsoundstudy.net/about/ccmp-revision-updates/>

6. Public Comment Period

- Mary Pelletier – When did Long Island Study want the comments by? Can DEEP and CEEJAC clarify whether there will be select priority areas and communities that will be engaged. Denise mentioned how this is changing and all CT can apply for most of the Long Island grants. Engagement meetings will occur in May 2024. Denise recommended they present to CEEJAC.
- Graham Stevens – Looking at up the watershed funding. The money they administer does not fall within the same geographic bounds. It is based on water quality nexus and relationship to plan Denise mentioned which is being updated now. DEEP is looking to ensure its money is used in its most impactful way from an EJ lens.

Registration List:

Adrienne Houel	Diane Lauricella	Adrian Huq
Theresa Hopkins-Staton	Eric Hammerling	Rebecca Jascot
Graham Stevens	Terry Adams	Lindsay Naughton
Eliza Heins	Jillian Kara	Mayra Rodriguez
aaron goode	Pallavi Mande	Abbie Winter
Sena Wazer	Sergio Carrillo	Hannah Beath
doris johnson	Hank Webster	Joy Yakie
Mark Mitchell MD	Becca Dahl	Ryan Boggio
Michael Davis	Jacquelyn Torres	Xochitl Garcia
Joel Anastasio	Paul O. Robertson	Maggie Favretti
Joseph DeNicola	Paul O. Robertson	Antoinette Quagliata
Camille Fontanella	Andrea Urbano	Renata Silberblatt
Halle Lisette Pierce	Danica Doroski	Yahshua WS
Audre Bumgardner	Emma Cimino	Mary Pelletier
susan halpern	Marc Gonzalez	Lissette Andino
Evelyn Green	Katie Dykes	IRIS HERZ KAMINSKI
Elijah El-Hajj-Bey	David Michel	Allison Pilcher
Cierra Patrick	Mary Hogue	Janet Colwell
Tom ODea	Desen Ozkan	Yousheng Mao
Paul Farrell	Chadwick Schroeder	Jaimeson Sinclair
Keyana White	Stephanie Camp	Cathy Fletcher
Karen Kitsis	Alex Rodriguez	Paul Aresta
Annie Decker	Lindsay Suhr	Claire Sickinger

Josh Walters
Kyle Chabot
J Sebik
Akiebia Hicks
Reginald St Fortcolin
Molly Johnson
Emma MacDonald
Karen Reddington-
Hughes
Erica Fearn
Melissa Telford
Peggy Diaz
Devin Brown
Clayton Ray
Molly Evak
Karen Saggese
Ana McMonigle
kathy atwiine
Jueda Shytko
Rahiem Eleazer
Samantha Buonafede
Crystal Rogers-Reed
Reggy S
Kristin Barendregt-
Ludwig

Sarah Walters
Julianna McVeigh
Ellen Frank
Laura Cahn
Katherine Bennett
sharon huttner
eric mcphoe
Denise Savageau
Annie Geitner
Jennifer Wang
Sarah Schechter
Deborah Abibou
Inventor Eddie Oquendo
Veronica Grossman
Alexis Bivens
Dave Rauch
Rele Abiade
Ben North
sharon lewis
Kristi Rea Simoneau
D'Shyla Hodge
Heather Oeschger
Sonya Carrizales
Sharmin Akter
Janet Ainsworth

Lidia Ruppert (CT DEEP)
Andrew Hoskins
Stacey Chacker
Alicea Charamut
Tenaya Taylor
Maisa Tisdale
Harrison Nantz
Robert Goodrich
Beth Bernard
Kay Lehoux
Anna Pickett
jay stange
Ian McDonald
TERRY STRINGER
lynne bonnett
Caitlin Daddona
Faye Christoforo
Kevin Pisacich
Kathy Fay
Joseph Dickerson
(He/Him) - CT DEEP
daphne dixon
Alfredo Herrera
Geraldo Reyes