

Introductions

- Welcome from Co-Chairs
 - Commissioner Katie Dykes, CT DEEP
 - Dr. Mark Mitchell
- Remembering Yolanda L. Stinson



Roll Call

Commissioner Katie Dykes	MPhil, JD, Commissioner of Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Dr. Mark Mitchell	MD, MPH, Emeritus Professor
Terry Adams	Stamford Board of Representatives
Dr. Albert Bailey Jr.	Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church, Hartford
Leticia Colon de Mejias	Windsor, Energy Efficiency Solutions and Green Eco Warriors
Adrienne Farrar Houel	Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises, Inc., Bridgeport

Roll Call

Xochitl Garcia	New Haven
Brandon McGee	Deputy Commissioner, Department of Housing
Yaw Darko	CT Land Conservation Council
Theresa Hopkins-Staten	President Eversource Energy Foundation, VP Corporate Citizenship and Equity
Robert Hotaling	Deputy Commissioner, CT Department Economic and Community Development
Karen Kitsis	Deputy Commissioner, CT Department of Transportation

Roll Call

Sharon Lewis	Executive Director, CT Coalition for Environmental Justice (CCEJ)
Lori Mathieu	Public Health Branch Chief, CT Department of Public Health for Commissioner Manisha Juthani
Cierra Patrick	Economic Development Manager, City of Groton
Alex Rodriguez	Environmental Justice Specialist, Save the Sound
Maisa Tisdale	The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community, Bridgeport

Ground Rules

- 1. Listen respectfully, without interrupting
- 2. Listen actively and with an ear to understanding others' views
- 3. Only have one conversation at a time
- 4. Be mindful to give others and opportunity to speak
- 5. Focus on the task at hand rather than the position

- 6. Avoid off-topic conversations
- 7. Criticize ideas, not individuals
- 8. Commit to learning, not debating
- 9. Avoid blame, speculation, and inflammatory language
- 10. Avoid assumptions about any member of the workgroup

Agenda Overview

01.

Subcommittee Updates

02.

Legislative & Regulatory Updates

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Presentation

04.

Announcements

05.

Public Comment Period



Subcommittee Updates

Water Subcommittee Updates

Members: Cierra Patrick (Chair), Sharon Lewis, Maisa L. Tisdale, Mark Mitchell

DEEP Staff: Graham Stevens, Bureau Chief, Water Protection & Land Use **Update**: Identified goals and topics for future meetings (Stormwater management, coastal development best practices, flood control and planning policy, Green Infrastructure, Reservoirs and Clean Drinking Water)

Goals:

- Advance the knowledge and expertise among members of Connecticut's communities on water-related topics to improve environmental outcomes and benefits for communities.
- Enhance community engagement and collaboration with CT municipalities and CT DEEP
- Increase access to information

Upcoming: Planning subcommittee meeting for January 2024 about <u>community-based watershed planning</u> and <u>Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)</u>

IWPM 2.0

Water Quality Action Plans for Restoration and Protection

Water Quality Unit Recommendations

Sto

Stormwater and Non-Point Source

- Continue focus on Stormwater
- Improve communication through an interactive dashboard and web mapping application
- Include an evaluation process to set WQ based TSS loads

Environmental Justice

- Use new CT EJ tool to help identify EJ areas for plan development
- Planning to incorporate outreach to Tribal
 Partners
- Work with DEEP EJ Office and other EJ partners

Swimming and Shellfishing



- Continue bacteria plan development (emphasis on EJ areas)
- Eventually complete bacteria TMDLs for all waters in the state

Nutrients

 Continue Lake and Embayment TMDL Development (see map for details)





Fish and Wildlife Health

- ALUS impairments for plan development
- Evaluate data to identify potential stressors

Climate Change

- Continue to add language in WQAP
- Communicate the impacts of a changing climate
- Continue to evaluate Climate Change scenarios for modeling efforts



Save the date- January 10th, 2024

CEEJAC Water Subcommitee Discussion on <u>Integrated</u>

<u>Water Planning Management 2</u>

Integrated Water Planning Management is a process that defines CT's Water Quality priorities over a 10-year period.

Join us to learn more about Water Quality Action Planning and how to engage with DEEP on the Integrated Water Planning Management 2 to benefit your community.

Helpful links:

IWPM Phase 2 Factsheet
IWPM Phase 1 Updates Factsheet
IWPM Phase 1 Webpage
CT Integrated Water Quality Report



Integrated Water Planning Management



- Remediation
- Permitting
- Non-point Source **Programs**
- **Watershed Based Plans**

Implementation

Prioritizing Waters for Action Plan Development Restoration and Protection Clean Water Act 303 (d)

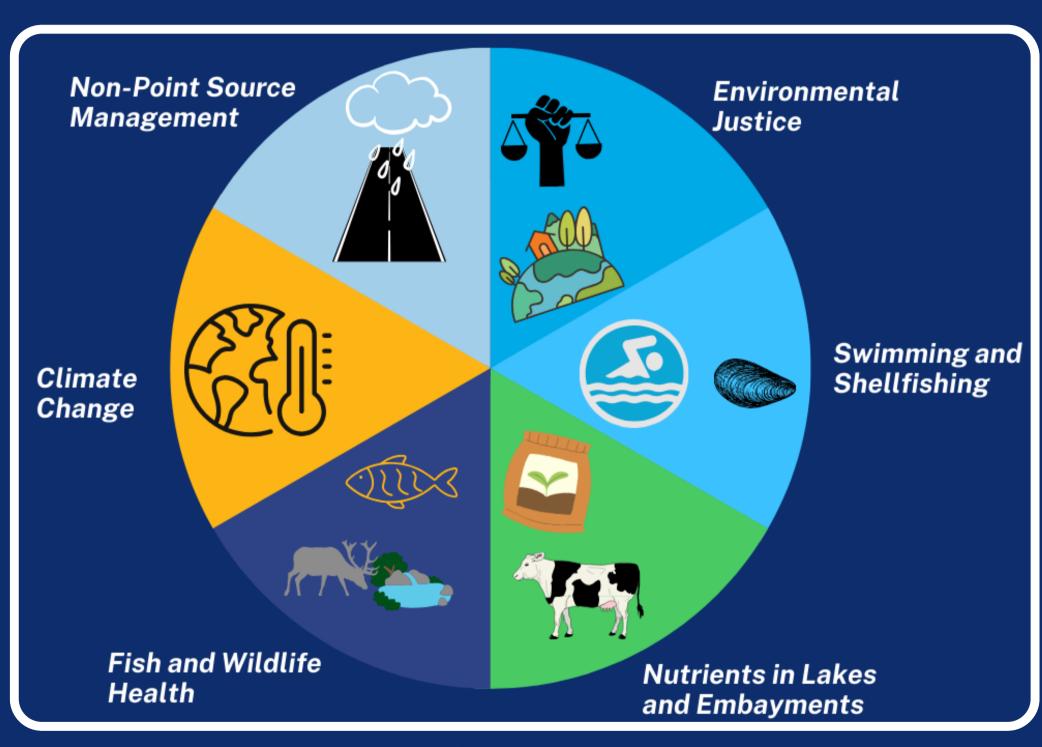


CT DEEP is Requesting Feedback!



What Water Quality Topics and Locations are important to EJ Communities?

- WQ priority topic suggestions
 - What should we focus on?
 - (i.e, swimming, shellfishing, nutrients, toxicity)
- Waterbody and watershed specific suggestions
 - Where should we focus efforts?
- Collaboration
 - Are you working on restoring or protecting surface water quality in CT?
 - CT DEEP is looking for active entities to partner with!



IWPM 2.0

Water Quality Action Plans for Restoration and Protection

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Register via Zoom 9-10:30 a.m. and 6-7:30p.m.

Visit the IWPM 2 Webpage for details!

Helpful links:

IWPM Phase 2 Factsheet
IWPM Phase 1 Updates Factsheet
IWPM Phase 1 Webpage
CT Integrated Water Quality Report

Contact:

Rebecca Jascot
Water Quality Program
Water Planning and
Management Division
WPLR

Waste Subcommittee Updates

Members: Sharon Lewis (cochair); Adrienne Farrar Houël (co-chair); Rev. Dr. Albert Bailey Jr., Mark Mitchell

DEEP Staff: TBD

Update: Subcommittee Meeting (Oct 17) – CT's Solid Waste Management System and MIRA Dissolution Authority

Main Charge:

- Understand existing waste systems and technologies
- Identify community concerns regarding adaptation of waste solutions
- Provide recommendations on priorities to consider regarding waste solutions

Upcoming: Planning subcommittee meeting for February 2024 about <u>Food Waste Diversion</u> and <u>MIRA Dissolution Authority</u>

Air & Transportation Subcommittee Updates

Members: Alex Rodriguez (Chair), Jay Stange, Robbie Goodrich, Aziz Dekhan, Daphne Dixon, Terry Adams, Mark Mitchell, Sharon Lewis, Xochitl Ahtziri, and Ryan Boggio, Sharmin Akter

DEEP Staff: Paul Farrell, Planning & Standards Director; Pete Babich, Planning & Standards Division Asst. Director; Jacob Felton, Enforcement Division Director; Jaimeson Sinclair, Engineering Director

Update:

- Subcommittee Meeting at Windsor Air Monitoring Lab (10/30/23) – Purple Air Monitors, GMAP Vehicle
- Recruited new subcommittee members

Goal: Identify programs and policies to implement an equity lens

Upcoming: Planning subcommittee meeting for January 2024 about <u>Clean Air and Truck Emission Standards</u>

Land Subcommittee Updates

Members: Yaw Darko (Chair), Sharon Lewis, Alex Rodriguez, Terry Adams, Gustavo Requeno Santos, Leticia Colon de Mejias, Anna Pickett, Heather Dionne, Reginald Saint Fortcolin, Kathy Czepiel, Mark Mitchell

DEEP Staff: Danica Doroski, Ph.D, Urban Forester; Lindsey Suhr, Director Land Acquisition and Management

Update:

- Subcommittee Meetings (10/13/23 and 12/1/23) provided recommendations for Urban Forestry upcoming RFP, working on recommendations for Urban Green and Community Garden Grant Program
- Recruited new subcommittee members

Main Charge:

- Identify a public participation process that includes community stakeholders in the development of grant funding programs.
- Identify strategies for conserving and revitalizing/remediating land in urban environments.
- Identify opportunities to reduce barriers to accessing open space beyond urban parks.

Upcoming: Planning subcommittee meetings for 2024

Energy and Technology Subcommittee Updates

Members: Sharon Lewis (cochair); Dr. Rev. Albert Bailey (co-chair); Leticia Colon de Mejias (co-chair); Adrienne Farrar Houël, Jayson Velazquez, Adrian Huq, Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Mark Mitchell

DEEP Staff: Joe DeNicola, Acting Deputy Commissioner of Energy; Ashley Benitez-Ou, Office of Climate Planning

Update:

- First Subcommittee Meeting (11/1/23) defining energy justice, Weatherization Assistance Program and Residential Energy Preparation Services
- Identifying goals and recruiting new subcommittee members

Main Charge:

- Identify and address barriers to energy justice.
- Identify the problems and provide a recommendation to make sure communities can access programs and funding.

Upcoming: TBD



Legislative & Regulatory Updates



Annie Decker
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Environmental Equity Policy (1993)

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-20a (2009)

Expanded Requirements



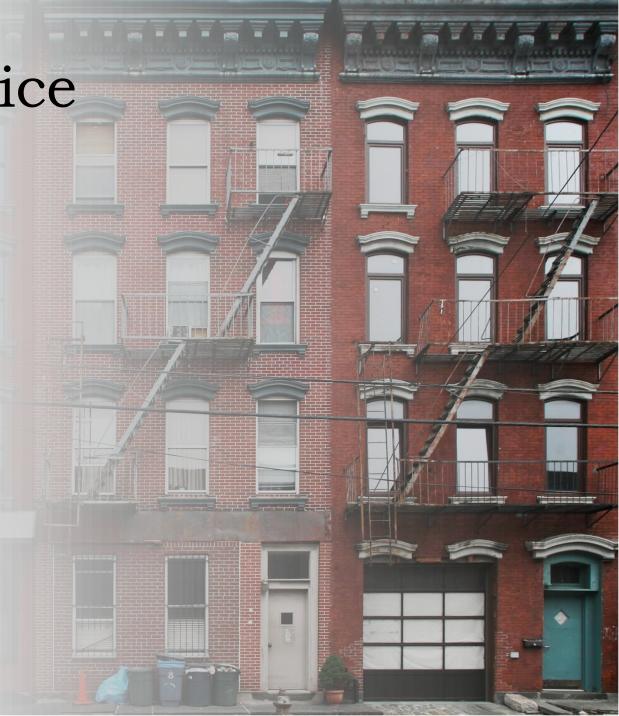


Environmental
Justice and the
Permitting Process

Environmental Justice Communities

1. census block groups, for which 30% or more of the population consists of low-income persons who are not institutionalized and have an income below 200% of the federal poverty level

2. distressed municipalities





Public Participation Plan Community
Environmental
Benefit
Agreement
[CEBA]

Cumulative Impact Assessment







New Effective October 1, 2023

Public Act 23-202



Minor modifications

exempt from public participation

Streamlined public participation



Mailed notice to residents within ½ mile for new facilities

Posting on **electronic media**

Accept written comments & questions



Video record informal public meeting

Submit report and video within 30 days for new facilities



CEBAs to DEEP/Siting
Council before notice
of tentative
determination

Resident involvement in CEBA negotiation

Connection between impacts caused by Affecting Facility and negotiated benefits

New Guidance Document

Purpose – lays out the law's requirements and highlights what is new in 2023

New in 2023

- Minor permit modifications are exempt from the public participation process.
- When there are multiple permit applications for one Affecting Facility, only one Public Participation Plan ["EJ Plan"] is required.
- If a Community Environmental Benefit Agreement ["CEBA"] is required, it must be filed with DEEP or the CT Siting Council before a tentative determination will be issued.
- When a CEBA is required, the chief elected official or town manager must select a resident of the Environmental Justice Community who would be affected to participate in the negotiations.
- The negotiated mitigation agreed to in the CEBA must have a connection to the impacts caused by the Affecting Facility and be proportional to such impacts.
- There are additional notice requirements for the public participation process:
 - ☐ Posting on electronic media
 - ☐ Mailing notice to residents within ½ mile for new facilities
 - ☐ The newspaper notice must state how to review project documents

New Cumulative Impact Assessment Regulations

"Identification and measurement of the relative impact of environmental and public health stressors across communities"

"Tools for stakeholder industries and sectors to use that take account of any such environmental or public health stressors, including tools to help inform decisions about potential locations for proposed affecting

facilities that comply with this section "

"Standards for denying or placing conditions on permits"

"The commissioner shall consult with **stakeholder industries** and **sectors** when developing the regulations pursuant to this section." Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-20a(f)

Opportunities for Involvement



LISTENING

INFORMATIONAL AND LISTENING SESSIONS (EARLY AND MID 2024)



STAKEHOLDERS

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS: REGULATORY CONCEPTS (LATE 2024 AND BEYOND)



LANGUAGE

PRESENTATION OF DRAFT LANGUAGE



COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD



HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING

Clean Cars & Trucks Regulations

-Dr. Mark Mitchell

- Advance Clean Cars II/Advance Clean Trucks Rule not voted on
- Key to reducing asthma/air pollution
- Need EJ strategy/EJ transportation group/Air & Transportation Subcommittee
- BPRC important to process

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG)

 Rebecca French, Director of Climate Planning, CT DEEP and Representatives from COGs (Speakers TBD)



CPRG REQUIRES 3 DELIVERABLES OVER 4 YEARS



Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP)

- Due March 1, 2024
- Near-term, implementationready, priority greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction measures
- Prerequisite for implementation grant



Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP)

- Due in 2025 (later for tribes and territories)
- All sectors / significant GHG sources and sinks
- Near- and long-term GHG emission reduction goals and strategies

Due - Fall 2025



- Due in 2027 (N/A for tribes or territories)
- Updated analyses and plans
- Progress and next steps for key metrics

IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS – DUE APRIL 1, 2024

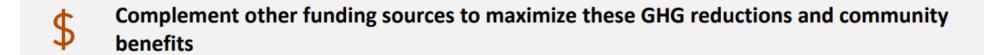
CPRG Implementation Grants Program Objectives



Implement ambitious measures that will achieve significant cumulative greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions by 2030 and beyond



Achieve substantial community benefits (such as reduction of criteria and hazardous air pollutants), particularly in low-income and disadvantaged communities





Pursue innovative policies and programs that are replicable and can be "scaled up" across multiple jurisdictions

BENEFITS ANALYSIS: LOW-INCOME AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES (LIDAC)

Planning Grants

PCAP: A **preliminary analysis** of benefits for LIDAC anticipated to result from the GHG reduction measure(s).

CCAP: Evaluate the extent to which any GHG reduction measures in the CCAP will deliver co-pollutant emissions reductions and other benefits to LIDAC.

Implementation Grants

Community Benefits (25 possible points)

- ✓ Discuss and quantify, where possible, direct and indirect benefits and potential disbenefits to LIDAC.
- ✓ Describe any anticipated negative impacts to LIDAC and concrete strategies for mitigating those risks.
- ✓ Identify a plan and process for continuing to assess, quantify, and report benefits and avoided disbenefits to these communities, including co-pollutant impacts (e.g., hazardous air pollutant emission reductions), throughout the grant period.

PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC MEETING AND SURVEY

Public Meeting

- December 18, 6-8pm
- Live Spanish translation available

Request for Information

- Survey
- List of implementation-ready GHG reduction measures
- Overview of implementation grants and its evaluation criteria
- Review of Connecticut's sources of GHG emissions

Survey

DEEP will seek feedback on:

- How the state's implementation-ready measures to reduce GHG emissions will benefit communities in Connecticut through direct or indirect benefits, especially for LIDAC.
- Any potential negative impacts of these measures and how we can work to reduce or avoid them.

LIDAC Advisory Working Group

Meeting Winter 2024 to advise on grant development

LOW-INCOME AND DISADVANTAGE COMMUNITIES (LIDAC)

EPA defines LIDAC as any community that meets at least one of the following characteristics:

- ✓ Any census tract that is included as disadvantaged in the <u>Climate and</u> <u>Economic Justice Screening Tool</u> (CEJST)
- ✓ Any census block group that is at or above the 90th percentile for any of <u>EJScreen's</u> Supplemental Indexes when compared to the nation or relevant state; or,
- ✓ Any geographic area within tribal lands as included in EJScreen and federally recognized tribes.









Connecticut Regional Climate Action Plans



EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (CPRG)









Agenda

1) Overview of Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (CPRG)

2) LIDAC Engagement

3) Progress Update & Next Steps

1. Overview - CPRG program

CPRG - Two Phases

The first phase is planning.

- Three deliverables:
 - Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP);
 - 2. Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP);
 - 3. Status Reporting
- We need stakeholders input to develop robust, realistic plans!

The second phase is implementation.

- \$4.6 billion available nation-wide to implement projects identified in the PCAPs.
- Grants to range anywhere between \$2-500 million

<u>Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG)</u>



• Created under the Inflation Reduction Act; administered by EPA.

- CPRGs support planning efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
 - 1. Encourage intergovernmental collaboration to create pathways to reduce pollution
 - 2. Provide flexible planning/funding resources
 - 3. Drive transformative & scalable decarbonization efforts

Four Planning Grants in CT:

1. State of CT



2. Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk MSA



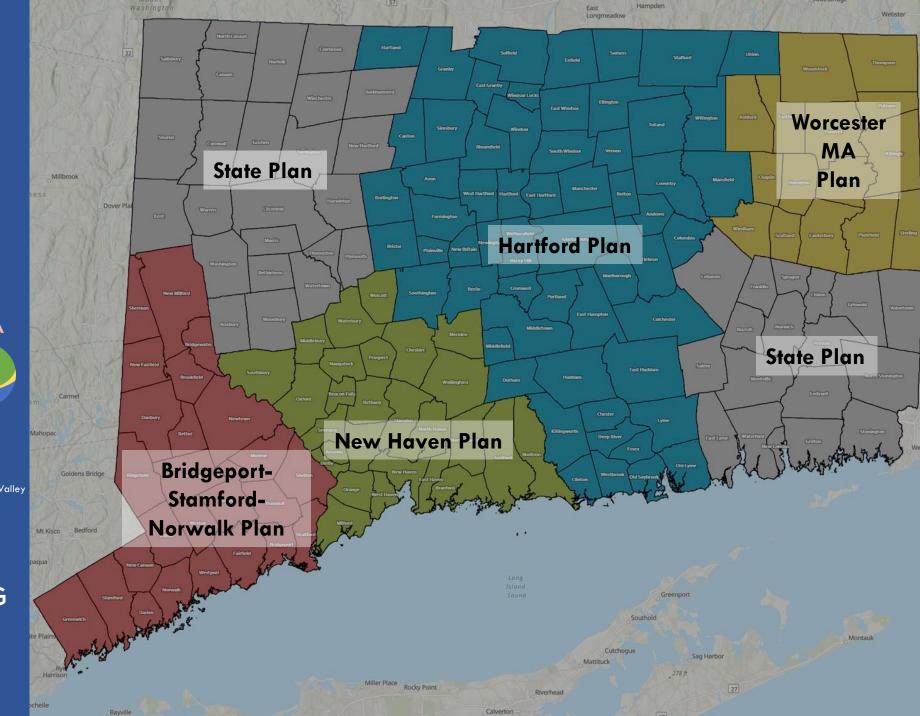
3. Hartford MSA



4. New Haven MSA



South Central Region
Council of Governments



Planning
Grant
Timeline

Start!

PCAP
Due

CCAP
Due

Status Report Due

August 2023

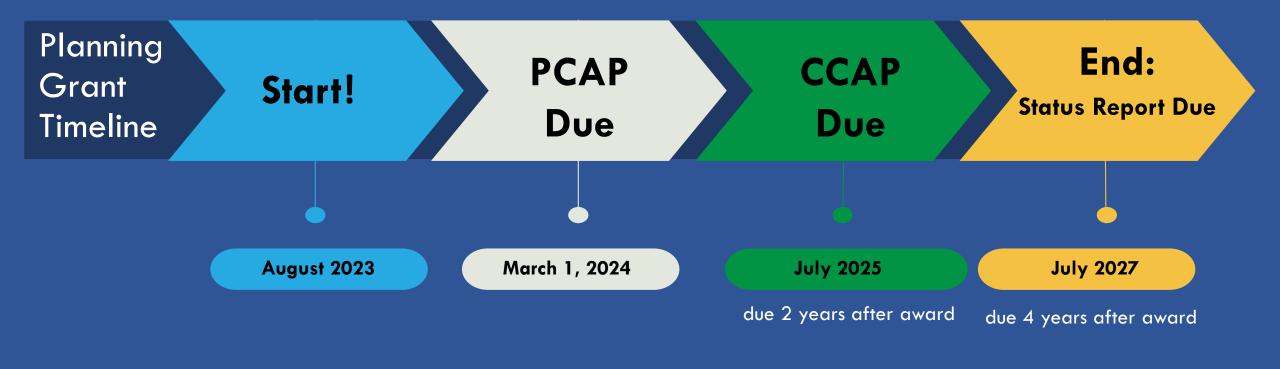
March 1, 2024

July 2025

July 2027

due 2 years after award

due 4 years after award





Implementation Grants

\$4.3 billion for states, local governments, tribes & territories

Intended to build on CPRG planning grants

Application <u>must</u> be for projects identified in a PCAP

CPRG Implementation Grant Objectives



Implement ambitious measures to reduce GHG emissions by 2030 & beyond



Achieve substantial benefits in low-income and disadvantaged communities

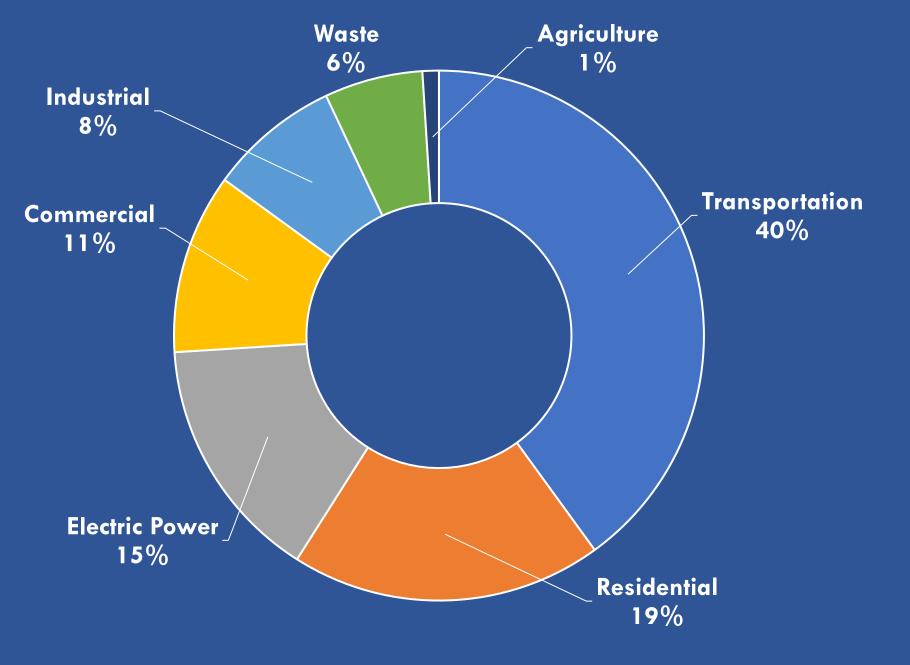


Complement other funding sources



Pursue innovative policies/programs that are replicable & scalable across multiple jurisdictions

Connecticut
GHG
emissions by
sector



Types of GHG Reduction Measures Funded

 New standalone measure (\$ solely through CPRG)

 Already implemented measure (use CPRG \$ to expand)

New measure in need of added \$
 (partially funded measure)

Convert Fleets to EVs **EV** Charging Infrastructure Improve Public Transit Reduce VMT Distributed Energy Generation Incentives for Renewable Energy Diverting Waste from Landfills Incentives for Energy Efficient Appliances **Energy Efficient Industrial Processes** Incentives for low-embodied-carbon materials Streamlined Permitting **Building Performance Standards** Enhancing Carbon Sequestration...

Eligible Applicants

• Lead organizations for Planning Grants

Municipalities

Coalitions of >1 applicant (or applicant/subaward)

"EPA will <u>not</u> award implementation grants for the same measure in the same location"

Important Caveats

Adaptation activities are <u>not</u> eligible.

Emission reductions through 2050 must be quantified.

- CT will be competing against states & cities across country.
 - EPA will only award 30 to 115 actual grants.

Meaningful engagement with low-income communities & measurable benefits a high priority

Implementation Funding Tiers

Tier	Grant Ranges (million)	Funds Targeted (billion)	Anticipated # of grants	
Α	\$200 - \$500	\$2	4-10	
В	\$100 - \$199.9	\$1.3	6-13	
С	\$50 - \$99.9	\$0.6	6-12	
D	\$10 - \$49.9	\$0.3	6-30	
E	\$2 - \$9.9	\$0.1	10-50	
	TOTAL	\$4.3 billion	30-115	

Scoring Criteria

Evaluation Criteria Summary			
Overall Summary & Approach			
Impact of GHG Reduction Measures			
Environmental Results – Outputs, Outcomes, & Performance Measures			
Low-Income & Disadvantaged Communities			
Job Quality			
Programmatic Capability & Past Performance			
Budget			
TOTAL	250		

2. LIDAC Engagement

What Does A PCAP Require?

Near-term, implementation ready, priority greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction measures

LIDAC Cost
Benefit Analysis
is <u>required</u> for
the PCAP!

Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) deliverables						
GHG Inventory	Required					
GHG Emissions Projections	Not Required					
GHG Reduction Targets	Not Required					
Quantified GHG Reduction Measures	Required (priority measures only)					
Benefits Analysis	Encouraged					
Low-Income/Disadvantaged Communities Benefit Analysis	Required					
Review of Authority to Implement	Required					
Intersection with Other Funding Availability	Encouraged					
Workforce Planning Analysis	Encouraged					

Expanded View of LIDAC Communities

EJ Screen + CEJST

CEJST

> 65th Percentile for Low Income + > 90th Percentile in any of the following:

Legacy Pollution

Proximity to: Superfund,
 Defense, Hazardous Waste,
 and RMP sites

Workforce Development

 Low Income, Linguistic Isolation, Poverty, Unemployment

Transportation

- Traffic Proximity, Diesel PM, Transport Barriers

Housing

Underinvestment, Housing
 Cost, Lack of Green
 Space, Lead Paint

Health

- Asthma, Diabetes, Heart Disease, Life Expectancy

Wastewater

 Underground storage tanks and wastewater discharge

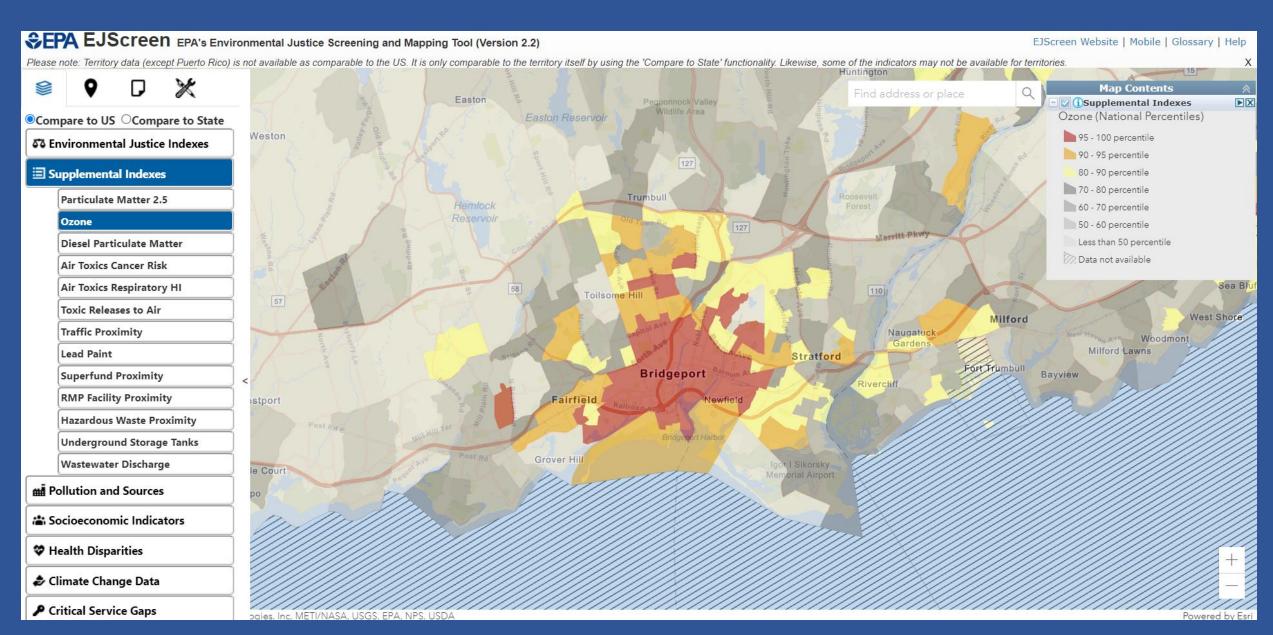
Energy

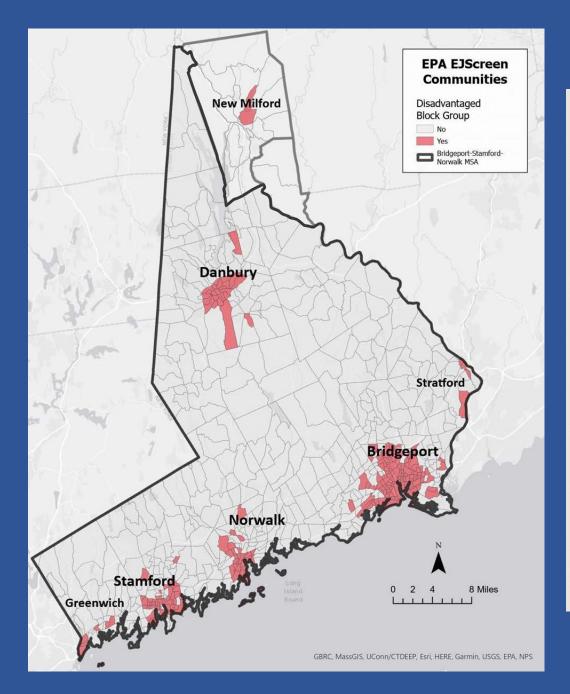
- Energy Cost + PM 2.5

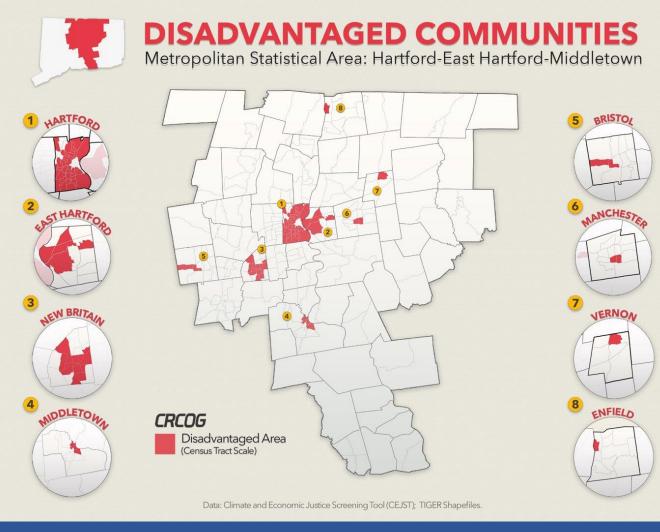
Climate Change

- Risk/Loss Estimates

EJ Screen







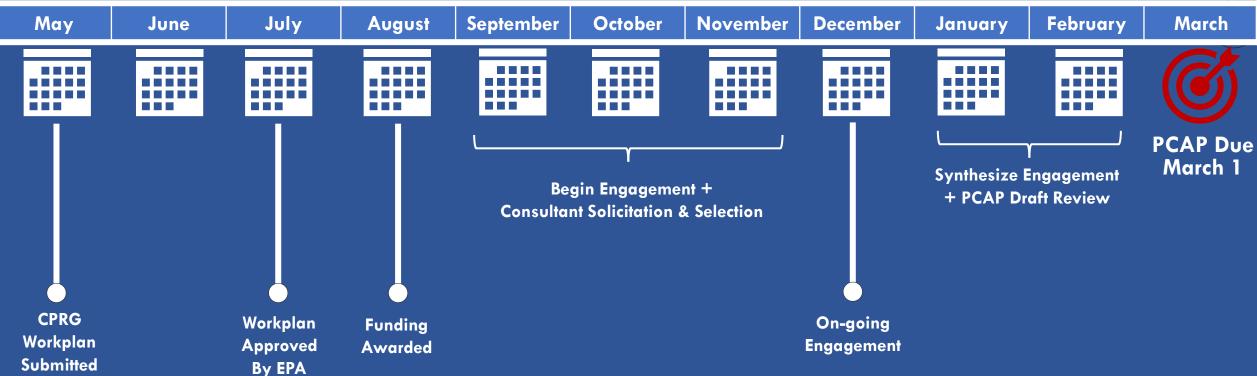
LIDAC Cost-Benefit Analysis

- Goal of 40% of grant benefits to flow to LIDAC Communities
- Direct Benefits:
- -Reduced Air Pollution, Lower Heating Costs
- Indirect Benefits:
- Reduced Noise Pollution, Traffic Reduction
- Disbenefits:
- -Poorly Located EV Charging

3. Progress Update & Next Steps

PCAP Timeline





Parallel Process

PCAP development & Implementation Application

	November	December	January	February	March	April
PCAP	Ongoing engagement Plan development & analysis		PCAP Draft Review & Public Comment	Finalize PCAPs	PCAP Due March 1	-
Implementation Applications	ldentify a handful of viable measures per sector	Narrow down list after analysis	Identify projects & applications	Developing applications		Implementation Application Due April 1



Kyle Shiel, AICP
Principal Planner
Ksheil@crcog.org

Progress...



Kyle Shiel, AICP
Principal Planner
kshiel@crcog.org

Progress...



Lindsay Naughton
Regional Planner
Lnaughton@ctmetro.org

Michael Towle
Deputy Director
Mtowle@westcog.org

EPA Community Change Grants Program



\$2 Billion in Total Funding

- Awards of \$10 - \$20 Million each

Address 1 Climate + 1 Pollution Reduction Action

Must Partner with a Community Based Organization (CBO)

Rolling Applications: Due November 2024



Kyle Shiel, AICP
Principal Planner
Kshiel@crcog.org



Nick Dostal

Regional Planner

Ndostal@ctmetro.org















Some Questions for Discussion:

What are the <u>most viable</u> GHG reduction measures for LIDAC municipalities?

• Where are the opportunities to collaborate e.g. regionally, state-wide?

 What strategies or projects <u>yield the greatest benefits</u> for low income, disadvantaged communities?



Announcements

EPA Announces \$2 billion for Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grant Program

About: Projects must <u>benefit disadvantaged</u> <u>communities</u> that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution.

\$200 million of Inflation Reduction Act funding is dedicated to <u>providing technical assistance</u> to applicants and grant recipients.

Eligible Projects:

- reduce pollution,
- increase community climate resilience, and
- build community capacity to address
 environmental and climate justice challenges

Eligible Entities:

- A partnership between two communitybased non-profit organizations (CBOs).
- A partnership between a CBO and one of the following:
 - a Federally-Recognized Tribe,
 - a local government,
 - an institution of higher education

Accepting Rolling Applications; Deadline to apply is November 21, 2024

Link to EPA's website for more information



Public Comment Period (20 min)

