

State of Connecticut

FY 2020

# Sustainability Performance Plan

**CT Green Bank**

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Approved by Bryan Garcia

President and CEO



**greenergovCT**

*A Lead by Example Initiative*

*This report was written in compliance with section 5 of Executive Order 1.*

# EO 1 Background

On April 24, 2019, Governor Lamont launched the GreenerGov CT initiative by signing Executive Order 1 (EO 1) which directs Executive Branch agencies to advance environmental leadership and cost savings for taxpayers by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other sustainability objectives in energy use in buildings and vehicles, water use, and waste disposal.

EO 1 calls on agencies to recommit to and expand the state's Lead by Example (LBE) program to reduce the operating costs and environmental impacts of state government facilities and operations. EO 1 builds on the foundation of the state's LBE program by setting new sustainability goals, listed below, for Executive Branch agencies and invoking deeper levels of commitment and participation.

## **GHG**

45% reduction in  
GHG emissions  
below 2001 levels

## **WATER**

10% reduction in  
water consumption  
from a FY20 baseline

## **WASTE**

25% reduction in  
waste disposal from a  
FY20 baseline

Since the GreenerGov CT initiative was launched, significant progress has been made towards laying the groundwork for expanded LBE initiatives in the future: governance structures were established, baseline data was collected, and financing and project strategies were developed. Additionally, agencies reported completing or making progress on 120+ sustainability projects in FY19 in the first annual agency Sustainability Performance Plans. Sustainability Performance Plans are plans drafted each year by Senior Sustainability Officers to detail agency progress and necessary goals, actions, and responsible parties to achieve the targets set in EO 1.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought significant changes to the operations of state agencies as agencies responded to the crisis. The impact of the pandemic on the sustainability goals of EO 1 is not yet known, but some effects will be documented in the FY20 Sustainability Performance Plans and the GreenerGov CT Progress Report.

# CTGB and EO 1

## CTGB's mission

The mission of the Connecticut Green Bank is to confront climate change and provide all of society a healthier and more prosperous future by increasing and accelerating the flow of private capital into markets that energize the green economy. The Comprehensive Plan of the Green Bank can be found here: [https://www.ctgreenbank.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Comprehensive-Plan\\_FY-2020-and-Beyond\\_Final\\_012521.pdf](https://www.ctgreenbank.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Comprehensive-Plan_FY-2020-and-Beyond_Final_012521.pdf)

## CTGB's FY20 participation overview

The Green Bank continued to be an eager participant in the initiative by sending staff to participate in many of the working groups including the Renewables, Energy Efficiency, Transportation, Public Engagement, and the Sustainability in Leased Spaces working groups. Additionally, the Green Bank is an active part of the Green Gov CT Project Finance working group and is eager to provide access to capital (including using its bonding capabilities) to finance projects resulting from the initiative. While many of these groups work slowed in FY 20, the Green Bank made considerable progress toward getting the first round of state solar projects closed. In 2020, the Green Bank readied its inaugural offer of Green Liberty Bonds to Connecticut residents allowing them to directly support and invest in projects that are part of our Green Energy future.

## CTGB staff involvement in EO 1

**Brian Farnen**, General Counsel & Chief Legal Officer

- Project Finance

**Bert Hunter**, EVP & Chief Investment Officer

- Project Finance

**Mackey Dykes**, VP & Officer

- Project Finance, Renewables, and Energy Efficiency

**Eric Shrago**, Managing Director of Operations

- Sustainability in Leased Spaces and SSO

**Matt Macunas**, Associate Director & Legislative Liaison

- Transportation

**Robert Schmitt**, Marketing Manager

- Public Engagement

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## Sustainability Projects

including projects relating to infrastructure improvements or behavioral change that took place in owned, leased, or occupied space and were either in progress or completed in FY20

# Sustainability Projects

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**Location:** Stamford  
**Project Type:** Structural - GHG - Building energy efficiency  
**Description:** The Green Bank sought out new real estate for our Stamford office that aligned with our values. We identified space and as of 6/30, were working with the landlord to develop energy efficiency (and potentially solar) projects that reduce the building's carbon foot print.  
**Status:** In progress in FY 2020  
**Benefits Summary:** TBD

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**Location:** Hartford  
**Project Type:** Structural - GHG - Building energy efficiency  
**Description:** The Green Bank identified new office space for our headquarters that aligns with the agency's mission. As of 6/30, we were working with the building owners to identify ways to cut the energy use in the building.  
**Status:** In progress in FY 2020  
**Benefits Summary:** We are working on a road map for the building that will eventually retro fit most systems and significantly cut the carbon footprint.

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**Location:** Hartford  
**Project Type:** Structural - Renewable energy  
**Description:** On the campus of the Green Bank's new headquarters, we are partnering with the landlord to develop a solar array that will hopefully provide power to the tenants in the CT non-profit center at reduced rates and to the residents of the co-located apartment complex.  
**Status:** In progress in FY 2020  
**Benefits Summary:** the solar array will lower costs for residents and tenants, and hopefully the Green Bank.

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**Location:** Across the state  
**Project Type:** Structural - Renewable energy  
**Description:** The Green Bank continued its support of the first round of state located solar projects and the power purchase agreements associated with them. The first round of these projects closed in FY21.  
**Status:** In progress in FY 2020  
**Benefits Summary:** Reduced carbon footprint and cost savings for state agencies.

# Sustainability Projects cont.

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**Location:** Branford, Manchester, Portland, Woodbridge, Mansfield  
**Project Type:** Structural - Renewable energy  
**Description:** The Green Bank supported the following solar developments that helped reduce costs for their municipalities:

Project	Town	Capacity (kW)
Sliney Elementary School	Branford	67.23
Tisko Elementary School	Branford	127.2
Water and Sewer Building	Manchester	210.6
Bennet Academy	Manchester	280
Verplanck Elementary School	Manchester	330.48
High School	Manchester	1336
Public Works Building	Manchester	67.23
Highland Park School	Manchester	134.87
Regional Academy	Manchester	134.87
Martin Elementary School	Manchester	134.87
Waddell Elementary School	Manchester	116
Brownstone Intermediate School	Portland	67.2
Fire Dept	Woodbridge	67.23
Public Works	Woodbridge	66.83
Town Garage	Mansfield	95.2
Town Hall	Mansfield	127

**Status:** In progress in FY 2020

**Benefits Summary:** Reduced energy costs for the municipalities

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**Location:** Multiple  
**Project Type:** Structural - Combination  
**Description:** The Green Bank made a grant to Sustainable CT's matching fund allowing the organization to support the Community Match Fund, Sustainability Fellows Program, and the nonprofit organization.

**Status:** In progress in FY 2020

**Benefits Summary:** Municipalities varied sustainability projects are enabled through matching funds granted by Sustainable CT.

# Future Planning

## GHG Reduction (energy/fleet related)

### Status of FY19 Plans

- ✓ **Progress has been made.**
  - Progress has stalled.
  - Plans have been completed.
  - Stated plans no longer a priority.

### Planned FY21 Projects

The Green Bank is still working on making its own buildings more efficient and providing financing to others to do the same. We are continuing to support state energy efficiency and solar projects.

## Water Use Reduction

### Status of FY19 Plans

- ✓ **Progress has been made.**
  - Progress has stalled.
  - Plans have been completed.
  - Stated plans no longer a priority.

### Planned FY21 Projects

Now that we have identified new office space, we will seek to have efficient water reducing fixtures in the spaces.

## Waste Reduction

### Status of FY19 Plans

- ✓ **Progress has been made.**
  - Progress has stalled.
  - Plans have been completed.
  - Stated plans no longer a priority.

### Planned FY21 Projects

The Green Bank continues to reduce paper (and the pandemic has forced us to do more electronically). We continue to optimize workflows to support this and reduce paper (and waste). We are looking into composting services for our new offices.

# COVID-19 Impacts

Impact of COVID-19 on agency's ability to make progress on the goals of EO 1 in FY20

We continued to make progress, but at a slightly slower rate than we would have liked.

COVID-19 changes that have led to a positive sustainability outcome that will continue after the pandemic

- Strategically evaluating building footprint needed for agency work
- Reassessing agency fleet
- ✓ **Holding virtual meetings as a more regular practice**
- ✓ **Increased telework as a regular practice**
- No changes to report

# Resources Needed

Barriers encountered while making EO 1 progress in FY20

- Funding
- Staffing
- Technical expertise
- ✓ **No barriers encountered**
- Other

Additional details on barriers

The ability to align landlord and tenant is always a challenge but we have continued to make progress this year.

Specific type of support or resources needed to make progress on future sustainability projects

The Green Bank will continue to facilitate projects for the rest of the state as long as there is a pipeline of projects. The Green Bank would greatly benefit from a more direct relationship with landlords of agencies than what currently exists.