

# Sustainability Performance Plan

FY 2022

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



# Sustainability Performance Plan

Executive Order 1 (EO 1) calls on 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.

The goals of EO 1 include:

- 45% reduction in GHG emissions below 2001 levels,
- 10% reduction in water consumption from a FY20 baseline, and
- 25% reduction in waste disposal from a FY20 baseline.

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.

This report includes details on sustainability initiatives and participation in the GreenerGovCT initiative in FY22.

## Agency Details

**Agency:** Connecticut State Department of Education

**Senior Sustainability Officer:** Keith Norton, Chief Strategic Planning Officer

**Date Submitted:** 2/27/2023

## GreenerGov CT Participation Overview

### 1. How has your agency worked towards the sustainability goals of EO 1 in FY22?

The Connecticut State Department of Education, as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, no longer has authority over Connecticut's Technical High Schools. The Connecticut Technical Education and Career System is now a stand-alone agency, and as such, is now required to create sustainability goals and objectives independent of CSDE.

The Department is now a single location agency operating at 450 Columbus Boulevard in Hartford, as a tenant of the Department of Administrative Services. In this capacity, we strive to contribute toward the successful achievement of the overall goals of EO 1 in a much reduced fashion than when we had responsibility for over 21 locations. However, we are still dedicated to the key facets of the Executive Order, and continued these efforts during FY 2022.

Such efforts were successfully participating DAS sponsored programs, and encouraging our workforce to adopt similar plans at home, particularly since most are now teleworking.

### 2. List key agency staff involved in EO 1 in FY22.

Kathy Demsey, Chief Financial Officer

## Sustainability Projects

- 3. How many projects has your agency implemented that had a positive impact on sustainability in FY22? Include projects relating to infrastructure improvements as well as behavioral change that took place in owned, leased, or occupied space and were either in progress or completed in FY22.**

As a tenant in a state-owned building, CSDE actively encouraged agency employees to take advantage of DAS sponsored activities in the attainment of the goals set forth in EO 1. Programs such as recycling and composting were promoted and encouraged. Electricity usage and water consumption reduction were also priorities. With certainty, teleworking contributed were helpful in attaining these goals, the metrics of which could be supplied by DAS. However, as noted above, we have also encouraged teleworking employees to adopt similar measures at home.

- 4. Provide a summary of the sustainability projects completed in FY22 at your agency. For each project include:**
- a. Project summary**
  - b. Project location**
  - c. Project status**
  - d. Project benefits**
  - e. Projected savings (in dollars and the appropriate unit of measurement if known)**

Please refer to CTECS for a report on the success of FY22 goals and initiatives contained in our last report.

## Future Plans

- 5. What planned sustainability initiatives beyond FY22 does your agency have relating to GHG reduction, water use reduction, and waste reduction?**

We will continue with current plans and programs which seek to encourage employees to compost and recycle, as well as conserve electricity and water. In addition, teleworking has reduced automobile emissions and conserved gasoline supplies, as well as increased (through necessity) efforts to create a truly “paperless” agency, all of which undoubtedly help in the attainment of the goals of Executive Order 1.