

Sustainability Performance Plan

FY 2023

*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 FY23.

Agency Details

Agency: Department of Economic and Community Development

Senior Sustainability Officer: Kyle Abercrombie

Date Submitted: 1/3/2024

GreenerGov CT Participation Overview

1. How has your agency worked towards the sustainability goals of EO 1 in FY23?

DECD convened a Sustainability Working Group, which met quarterly in 2023. DECD is located in 450 Columbus Blvd, so the Working Group discussed ways to reduce emissions, water consumption, and waste disposal, including:

- Adding signage in the bathroom to recommend paper towels go in the compost bin, and to encourage use of the hand dryer.
- Recommending staff shut off their equipment when they leave for the day.
- Sustainability initiatives at our museums, such as ensuring there are recycling bins, adding a drinking fountain with bottle fill, switching to LED lighting, and other water maintenance.
- Encouraging water bottle usage among staff.
- Encouraging public transportation and carpooling.

The Working Group is seeking guidance from DEEP regarding other best practices and plans to share this information agency-wide.

2. List key agency staff involved in EO 1 in FY23.

Smita Shrestha
Morgan Bengel
Mark Burno
Lindy Gold
Robert Damroth
Kyle Abercrombie

Sustainability Projects

- 3. How many projects has your agency implemented that had a positive impact on sustainability in FY23? 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 FY23.**

DECD did not implement any projects in FY 23.

- 4. Provide a summary of the sustainability projects completed in FY23 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)**

N/A

Future Plans

- 5. What planned sustainability initiatives beyond FY23 does your agency have relating to GHG reduction, water use reduction, and waste reduction?**

DECD's Sustainability Working Group plans to seek guidance from DEEP on the latest strategies for GHG reduction, water use reduction, and waste reduction, and implement those strategies going forward.