

Climate Smart Communities Certification Action Checklist Version 2.4 (Aug. 2016)

| Action # | Action Name | Possible Points | Tiered Points | Priority | Currently Reviewable |
|--|---|-----------------|---------------|----------|----------------------|
| Pledge Element 1: Pledge to be Climate Smart Community | | 31 | | | |
| 1.1 | Pass a resolution adopting the CSC Pledge | 4 | | √ | Yes |
| 1.2 | Create a community Climate Smart Community task force focused on climate mitigation and adaptation | 8 | | √ | Yes |
| 1.3 | Appoint a Climate Smart Community coordinator | 8 | | √ | Yes |
| 1.4 | Create an internal green team focused on climate mitigation and adaptation | 8 | | √ | Yes |
| 1.5 | Join a national or regional climate campaign or program | 3 | | | Yes |
| Pledge Element 2: Set goals, inventory emissions, plan for climate action | | 40 | | | |
| Establish a baseline | | 16 | | | |
| 2.1 | Develop a government operations GHG emissions inventory | 8 | | √ | Yes |
| 2.2 | Develop a community GHG emissions inventory | 8 | | √ | Yes |
| Set goals | | 8 | | | |
| 2.3 | Establish a government operations emissions reduction target | 4 | | √ | Yes |
| 2.4 | Establish a community emissions reduction target | 4 | | √ | Yes |
| Plan for climate action | | 16 | | | |
| 2.5 | Develop a government operations climate action plan | 8 | √ | √ | Yes |
| 2.6 | Develop a community climate action plan | 8 | √ | √ | Yes |
| Pledge Element 3: Decrease community energy use | | 138 | | | |
| Building and stationary equipment | | 55 | | | |
| 3.1 | Conduct energy audits of local government buildings | 8 | √ | √ | Yes |
| 3.2 | Upgrade interior lighting | 5 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.3 | Upgrade HVAC equipment | 5 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.4 | Install water-efficient fixtures | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.5 | Install a building energy management system (EMS) | 5 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.6 | Upgrade building envelope | 7 | √ | | No |
| 3.7 | Adopt a green building standard for local government buildings and facilities | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.8 | Build a new green building | 10 | √ | | No |
| 3.9 | Upgrade water or wastewater treatment facilities and infrastructure | 7 | √ | | Yes |
| Fleet and vehicle fuel | | 18 | | | |
| 3.10 | Adopt a vehicle fleet efficiency policy | 3 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.11 | Right-size the local government fleet | 3 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.12 | Replace traditional vehicles with advanced vehicles | 5 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.13 | Adopt an anti-idling policy for government vehicles | 3 | | | Yes |
| 3.14 | Implement a car-sharing program for local government staff | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| Outdoor lighting | | 17 | | | |
| 3.15 | Convert streetlights to LED | 5 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.16 | Convert traffic signals to LED | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.17 | Reduce number of outdoor lighting fixtures | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.18 | Upgrade outdoor lighting (other than streetlights and traffic signals) to more efficient and/or solar technology | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| Government solid waste | | 13 | | | |
| 3.19 | Adopt a waste management strategy for government hosted and permitted events | 2 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.20 | Provide recycling bins next to all trash receptacles in local government buildings | 3 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.21 | Provide organic waste collection and composting in local government buildings | 3 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.22 | Provide e-waste collection in local government buildings | 3 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.23 | Conduct a local government waste audit and track diversion rate over time | 2 | | | Yes |
| Financial and policy mechanisms | | 18 | | | |
| 3.24 | Adopt an environmentally preferable purchasing policy | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.25 | Establish a financing mechanism for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in government owned buildings | 5 | | | Yes |
| 3.26 | Incorporate energy efficiency and waste handling provisions in standard specifications and government contracts | 3 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.27 | Utilize a green or sustainability rating system for infrastructure improvement projects | 6 | √ | | No |
| Employee and staff behavior | | 8 | | | |
| 3.28 | Subsidize and incentivize employee alternative commuting | 3 | √ | | Yes |
| 3.29 | Engage employees through a green pledge or competition | 2 | | | Yes |

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| 3.30 | Incorporate green principles, commitments or requirements into staff training | 3 | | | Yes |
| Energy and GHG management policies and systems | | 9 | | | |
| 3.31 | Implement an energy or GHG management system | 5 | | | Yes |
| 3.32 | Adopt an energy benchmarking requirement for government-owned buildings | 4 | v | | Yes |
| Pledge Element 4: Increase community use of renewable energy | | 62 | | | |
| Policies, planning, and financing | | 20 | | | |
| 4.1 | Adopt a green power purchase policy to ensure increasing local government energy supplies come from renewables | 4 | v | | Yes |
| 4.2 | Require that new construction of local government buildings is "PV-Ready" | 4 | | | No |
| 4.3 | Conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy installations | 5 | v | | Yes |
| 4.4 | Purchase renewable energy credits (RECs) | 7 | v | | Yes |
| Increase use of renewables | | 42 | | | |
| 4.5 | Install a geothermal heat pump or other geothermal technology at a new or existing public facility | 9 | | | Yes |
| 4.6 | Install solar hot water and/or solar photovoltaic technology on public property | 9 | | | Yes |
| 4.7 | Serve as a host site for a renewable energy installation and enter into a long-term service contract or power purchase agreement (PPA) | 9 | | | Yes |
| 4.8 | Install a wind system on public property | 9 | | | Yes |
| 4.9 | Install a wood pellet heating system on public property | 6 | | | Yes |
| Pledge Element 5: Realize benefits of recycling and other climate-smart solid waste management practices | | 51 | | | |
| Waste diversion policies and plans | | 6 | | | |
| 5.1 | Adopt a zero waste initiative policy | 3 | | | Yes |
| 5.2 | Discourage the use of disposable bags | 3 | v | | No |
| Implement waste diversion strategies | | 45 | | | |
| 5.3 | Participate in the EPA WasteWise program | 2 | v | | Yes |
| 5.4 | Implement a pay-as-you-throw or similar unit pricing program | 6 | v | | Yes |
| 5.5 | Adopt a construction and demolition waste reduction program or policy | 3 | v | | Yes |
| 5.6 | Set up and manage a resource recovery center to encourage reuse of gently used or new materials that have been discarded | 3 | | | Yes |
| 5.7 | Offer recycling to residents | 8 | v | | Yes |
| 5.8 | Offer recycling to commercial entities (or require that they recycle) | 8 | v | | Yes |
| 5.9 | Provide recycling bins in public places and events | 3 | v | | Yes |
| 5.10 | Provide compost bins to residents (for sale or free) | 2 | | | Yes |
| 5.11 | Create an organics or yard waste collection program | 6 | v | | Yes |
| 5.12 | Host household hazardous waste collection days | 2 | | | Yes |
| 5.13 | Create an educational campaign to encourage recycling, composting and waste reduction | 2 | | | Yes |
| Pledge Element 6: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through use of climate-smart land-use tools | | 109 | | | |
| Planning | | 9 | | | |
| 6.1 | Develop and adopt a comprehensive plan with sustainability elements | 9 | v | | No |
| Land use and building codes | | 31 | | | |
| 6.2 | Incorporate smart growth principles into land-use policies and regulations | 8 | v | | No |
| 6.3 | Adopt a renewable energy ordinance | 4 | v | | Yes |
| 6.4 | Establish green building codes | 6 | | | Yes |
| 6.5 | Create resource-efficient site design guidelines | 4 | | | No |
| 6.6 | Incentivize renewable energy and energy efficiency projects | 5 | | | Yes |
| 6.7 | Adopt land-use policies that support or incentivize farmers' markets, community gardens and urban and rural agriculture | 4 | v | | Yes |
| Resource-efficient transportation | | 52 | | | |
| 6.8 | Adopt green parking lot standards | 4 | v | | Yes |
| 6.9 | Adopt a complete streets policy | 4 | | | No |
| 6.10 | Implement strategies that support bicycling and walking | 10 | v | | Yes |
| 6.11 | Install electric-vehicle infrastructure | 8 | v | | Yes |
| 6.12 | Implement strategies that increase public transit ridership and alternative transport modes | 10 | v | | Yes |
| 6.13 | Implement a Safe Routes to School program | 3 | | | Yes |
| 6.14 | Implement traffic calming measures | 5 | v | | No |

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| 6.15 | Adopt and enforce an anti-idling ordinance | 3 | √ | | Yes |
| 6.16 | Implement transportation technology solutions | 5 | √ | | No |
| Natural Resource and Open Space Preservation | | 17 | | | |
| 6.17 | Develop a natural resource inventory | 5 | | | Yes |
| 6.18 | Develop a local forestry or tree planting project or program | 6 | √ | | Yes |
| 6.19 | Preserve natural areas through zoning or other regulations | 6 | | | Yes |
| Pledge Element 7: Enhance community resilience and prepare for the effects of climate change | | 116 | | | |
| Establishing a baseline | | 8 | | | |
| 7.1 | Conduct a vulnerability assessment | 8 | √ | √ | Yes |
| Goals | | 2 | | | |
| 7.2 | Develop a climate resilience vision and associated goals | 2 | | | Yes |
| Planning and policy | | 15 | | | |
| 7.3 | Review existing community plans and projects to identify climate adaptation strategies and policies or projects that may decrease vulnerability | 4 | √ | √ | Yes |
| 7.4 | Develop climate adaptation strategies | 5 | √ | | Yes |
| 7.5 | Incorporate climate resiliency vision, goals, and strategies into local plans and projects | 3 | | | Yes |
| 7.6 | Update the multi-hazard mitigation plan to address changing conditions and identify specific strategies to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards | 3 | | | Yes |
| Strategies to address extreme heat | | 10 | | | |
| 7.7 | Develop and implement a heat emergency plan | 4 | | | No |
| 7.8 | Require shade structures and features in public spaces | 4 | | | Yes |
| 7.9 | Open new or expand existing cooling centers | 2 | | | No |
| Strategies to address flooding | | 67 | | | |
| 7.10 | Create or update a watershed assessment to identify flooding and water quality priorities | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| 7.11 | Adopt a floodplain management and protection ordinance to reduce vulnerability to flooding and erosion | 3 | | | Yes |
| 7.12 | Conserve, revegetate and reconnect floodplains and buffers in riparian areas | 7 | √ | | Yes |
| 7.13 | Conserve natural areas for species migration and ecosystem resilience | 7 | √ | | Yes |
| 7.14 | Facilitate a strategic relocation of uses that are not water dependent from flood prone areas | 5 | √ | | Yes |
| 7.15 | Promote community flood prevention strategies through the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System | 3 | | | Yes |
| 7.16 | Use green infrastructure to manage stormwater in developed areas | 7 | √ | | Yes |
| 7.17 | Conserve wetlands and forests to manage stormwater, recharge groundwater and mitigate flooding | 8 | √ | | Yes |
| 7.18 | Use natural, nature-based or ecologically enhanced shoreline protection | 8 | √ | | Yes |
| 7.19 | Extend areas in which the two-foot freeboard requirement applies | 3 | | | Yes |
| 7.20 | Require consideration of sea-level rise in planning coastal development | 3 | | | Yes |
| 7.21 | Right-size bridges and culverts, and remove unnecessary and hazardous dams | 5 | √ | | No |
| 7.22 | Develop or enhance early warning systems and community evacuation plans | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| Strategies to address drought | | 14 | | | |
| 7.23 | Implement a water conservation and reuse program | 6 | | | Yes |
| 7.24 | Encourage xeriscaping | 2 | √ | | Yes |
| 7.25 | Implement a source water protection program | 6 | √ | | Yes |
| Pledge Element 8: Support a development of a green innovation economy | | 56 | | | |
| Training and Education | | 5 | | | |
| 8.1 | Create a green jobs training program | 3 | | | Yes |
| 8.2 | Hold green vendor fairs | 2 | | | Yes |
| Planning and Leadership | | 9 | | | |
| 8.3 | Include green industries in economic development plans | 4 | | | Yes |
| 8.4 | Incorporate sustainability requirements in local government funded programs or projects | 5 | | | No |
| Local Business Engagement and Support | | 9 | | | |
| 8.5 | Adopt a green procurement policy that emphasizes local sourcing | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| 8.6 | Create and promote local farmers' markets | 3 | | | Yes |
| 8.7 | Create a "buy local/buy green" campaign | 2 | | | Yes |

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| Siting and Incentivizing Green Business/Industry | | 21 | | | |
| 8.8 | Redevelop a brownfield site | 10 | √ | | Yes |
| 8.9 | Establish incentives for green industry or businesses to locate in community | 4 | | | Yes |
| 8.10 | Support alternative transportation fuel supply infrastructure | 7 | √ | | Yes |
| Creating Demand for Green Jobs | | 12 | | | |
| 8.11 | Adopt energy benchmarking requirements for privately owned buildings | 5 | √ | | Yes |
| 8.12 | Establish a residential energy efficiency financing program | 7 | √ | | Yes |
| Pledge Element 9: Inform and inspire the public | | 18 | | | |
| 9.1 | Create a climate change education, outreach, and engagement program, focusing on mitigation and adaptation | 4 | √ | | Yes |
| 9.2 | Create and support an energy reduction campaign or challenge | 5 | | | Yes |
| 9.3 | Host climate-related educational seminars, workshops, conferences, or fairs | 3 | | | Yes |
| 9.4 | Maintain a website on local climate protection efforts | 3 | √ | | Yes |
| 9.5 | Use social media to inform the community about the progress of local government's efforts | 3 | | | Yes |
| Pledge Element 10: Commit to an evolving process of climate action | | 11 | | | |
| 10.1 | Report on progress annually | 4 | | | Yes |
| 10.2 | Update strategies and plan(s) | 4 | | | Yes |
| 10.3 | Cooperate with neighboring communities and partner agencies | 3 | | | Yes |
| Innovation | | 15 | | | |
| 11.1 | Implement a new innovative action | 10 | √ | | Yes |
| 11.2 | Implement an action using an innovative approach | 5 | | | Yes |
| Performance Bonus | | 230 | | | |
| 12.1 | Reduce GHG emissions from government owned facilities | 40 | √ | | Yes |
| 12.2 | Reduce GHG emissions from government owned vehicles | 15 | √ | | Yes |
| 12.3 | Increase use of renewables for local government operations | 40 | √ | | Yes |
| 12.4 | Reduce waste volume from local government operations | 15 | √ | | Yes |
| 12.5 | Reduce community-wide waste volume | 20 | √ | | Yes |
| 12.6 | Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation | 50 | √ | | Yes |
| 12.7 | Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings | 50 | √ | | Yes |
| TOTAL | | 877 | | | |