Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable CT Certification Report of Stamford, a Sustainable CT silver certified applicant.

Stamford was certified on October 03, 2018 with 535 points. Listed below is information regarding Stamford's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Stamford is:

Name:	ELEANOR BLOMSTROM
Title/Position:	ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR / FACILITIES AND SUSTAINABILITY
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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Stamford was approved for in 2018 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Stamford, and Sustainable CT makes no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the submission, beyond that an individual reviewer approved at least some elements of the action for certification. Further, standards for actions below may have changed, and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Finally, approved actions here may include some documents and descriptions in support of action elements that were not approved, in addition to elements that were approved. In preparing your own application, please rely only on the action write-ups for the current certification year to guide your submission. Please contact info@sustainablect.org with specific questions.

1. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts

1.1 Optimize for Equity – REQUIRED for All Certification Levels

40 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: EQUITY_BROWNFIELDS.PDF
PDF: EQUITY_CULTURE AND ARTS.PDF
PDF: EQUITY_HOUSING.PDF
PDF: EQUITY_INNOVATION.PDF

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites

5 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: BROWNFIELD RESOLUTION.PDF
PDF: 1.1.2 BROWNFIELDS MAP.PDF
EXCEL: STAMFORD BROWNFIELDS SUMMARY AND LINK TO MAP.XLSX

Additional Information: Designated contact is Thomas Madden, tmadden@stamfordct.gov

2.2 Implement Sustainable Purchasing

5 Points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: VENDOR.JPG
EXCEL: COS ACTIVE CONTRACTS.XLS

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services

30 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 1. DINING AND SHOPPING TARGET SECTORS (20 POINTS).PDF
PDF: 2. BUY LOCAL - MADE IN STAMFORD.PDF
PDF: 2. BUY LOCAL - WINTER RESTAURANT WEEK (10 POINTS).PDF
PDF: PARTNERSHIP_DSSD.PDF

2.4 Provide Resources and Supports to Local Businesses

25 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 1.CREATION OF SMALL BUSINESS PORTAL (5 POINTS).PDF
PDF: 2.DISASTER TOOLKIT_1 (5 POINTS).PDF
PDF: 2.DISASTER TOOLKIT_2.PDF
PDF: 5. BUSINESS EVENT 1 - 1 MILLION CUPS (5 POINTS).PDF
PDF: 5. BUSINESS EVENT 2 - 1 MILLION CUPS.PDF
PDF: 5. BUSINESS EVENT 3 - 1 MILLION CUPS.PDF
PDF: PARTNERSHIP_DSSD.PDF
PDF: PARTNERSHIP_FERGUSON.PDF
PDF: 3. BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE - VETERANS PARK PROJECT (5 POINTS).PDF
PDF: INNOVATE_STAMFORD_STRATEGIC_PLAN.PDF
PDF: IS RESOLUTION.PDF

Additional Information: 1. & 2. Both disseminated as a part of the Small Business Portal and maintained by John Varamo of Economic Development https://www.stamfordct.gov/economic-development/news/city-of-stamford-create-small-business-portal-to-help-business-start-up-in https://www.stamfordct.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/stamford-launches-business-portal-to-help-small-businesses-get-started-and https://www.stamfordadvocate.com/business/article/Murphy-hears-from-startups-on-state-business-9171194.php 3. Every month the business stakeholders surrounding Veterans Park in downtown Stamford convene with city officials and the Downtown Special Services District to discuss the implications of this park renovation for the citizens and the business community. Key business stakeholders: SL Green, First County Bank, Stamford Town Center, etc. 4. See Downtown Special Services District partnership letter (5 points) 5. Program of the Ferguson Library, One Million Cups, hosts a meeting between entrepreneurs and the community once a month. Based on the notion that entrepreneurs discover solutions and engage with their communities over a million cups of coffee. This is a free program designed to educate, engage and inspire. 6. The Innovation District was formed along with the program Innovate Stamford to provide resources and support to local businesses.

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.1 Provide Watershed Education

5 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: SCIENCE STARS EDUCATION PROGRAM
PDF: MILL RIVER PARK EDUCATION PROGRAMS
PDF: STAMFORD MUSEUM AND NATURE CENTER EDUCATION PROGRAMS
PDF: PARTNERSHIP_MILL RIVER PARK.PDF

Additional Information: 2. Mill River Park Collaborative, Soundwater and Stamford Museum and Nature Center are all city funded nonprofits who have multiple environmental education programs focused on water quality and aquatic life (5 points). Two of the three also run all of their programming on city property.

3.2 Create a Watershed Management Plan

20 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

Additional Information: 1. Watershed Management and Infrastructure Program (10 points) 3. Action Plan (10 Points) https://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/water/watershed_management/wm_plans/mill_ripp_draftwsplan.pdf

3.3 Engage in Watershed Protection and Restoration

30 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: MILL RIVER PARK RESTORATION PROJECT
PDF: AQUIFER PROTECTION AREA
PDF: WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM.PDF

3.4 Develop an Open Space Plan

15 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: OPEN SPACE PLAN (MASTER PLAN) (P. 165-170)
PDF: OPEN SPACE MAP (PUBLIC PARKS AND GOLF COURSES)
PDF: STAMFORDCT_ACREAGESUMMARY_20130808.PDF
PDF: STAMFORDCT_CONSERVATIONEASEMENTSINSFHA__8.5X11_20130808.PDF
PDF: STAMFORDCT_OPENSPACEPARCELSINSFHA__8.5X14_20130808.PDF
PDF: STAMFORD OPEN SPACE 2007.PDF
PDF: SHFAAREACALC_11X17_20171011_V2.PDF

Additional Information: Supplement: Additional documents attached. Open Space Inventory by category. Stamford has also established and attached a prioritized Special Flood Hazard Area.

3.7 Provide Education on Responsible Water Usage

5 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: WATER CONSERVATION INFORMATION
PDF: CITY HOSTS IRRIGATION REGULATIONS CONFERENCE

Additional Information: In the late Fall of 2016, Stamford had to pipe in 4 million gallons of water per day from Bridgeport due to the lowest aquifer levels in 35 years. In order to avoid situations like this, Stamford has focused a lot on water conservation education. Part of the outreach strategy includes the attached website which provides real-time updates on our water status, tips for saving water, and a method to report water violations. Also attached is the workshop conducted by the Mayor of Stamford, Aquarion, and Smart Water Company to discuss the history, status, and anticipated future state of water in Stamford, and most importantly, what improvements can be made.

3.8 Implement Low Impact Development

30 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (P. 6, 12)
PDF: MS4 PERMIT ANNUAL REPORT (P. 10)
PDF: MASTER PLAN (P. 185)

Additional Information: Educational Projects (15 points) 1. LID Encouragement/Incentive - See 9-36 in zoning regulations providing the option of green roofs as one way to meet requirements for parking structures (5 points) https://www.stamfordct.gov/sites/stamfordct/files/uploads/zoning_regulations_2017.2_0.pdf See public engagement and involvement section (p. 10-14) https://www.stamfordct.gov/sites/stamfordct/files/uploads/20171006_2016_-_2017_annual_ms4_stormwater_report_w_appendix.pdf 2. Educational information via website (5 points) https://www.stamfordct.gov/node/127886/faq Distributed pamphlet - https://www.stamfordct.gov/sites/stamfordct/files/file/file/preventing_storwater_pollution.pdf See public engagement and involvement section (p. 10-14) https://www.stamfordct.gov/sites/stamfordct/files/uploads/20171006_2016_-_2017_annual_ms4_stormwater_report_w_appendix.pdf 3. Host Educational Event (5 points) See public engagement and involvement section (p. 10-14) https://www.stamfordct.gov/sites/stamfordct/files/uploads/20171006_2016_-_2017_annual_ms4_stormwater_report_w_appendix.pdf Planning Regulation and Policy (20 points) 1. Master Plan Supplemental - Master plan approval (10 points) https://www.stamfordct.gov/sites/stamfordct/files/minutes/minutes-file/pb_12_16_14_draft_minutes.pdf 2. Regulations supporting LID - See 9-36 as one example in zoning regulations providing the option of green roofs as one way to meet requirements for parking structures (10 points) https://www.stamfordct.gov/sites/stamfordct/files/uploads/zoning_regulations_2017.2_0.pdf Implementation Projects (10 points) 1. Scalzi Park Improvement Project - including rain garden and storm drainage improvements in Phase 2, completed 2013 (5 points) https://www.stamfordct.gov/engineering-department/pages/scalzi-park-improvements https://www.stamfordadvocate.com/news/article/Scalzi-Park-gets-its-shine-back-4643677.php 1. LID Mianus River Park Project completed in 2015 (5 points) http://www.onenaturellc.com/low-impact-development/ https://www.stamfordct.gov/sites/stamfordct/files/uploads/2015_annual_report.pdf (page 72) Additional - Rogers International - http://www.tskp.com/project.aspx/city-of-stamford/rogers-international-environmental-magnet-school Mill River Park - https://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/water/watershed_management/wm_plans/mill_ripp_draftwsplan.pdf List of LID Projects in Stamford - https://www.stamfordct.gov/sites/stamfordct/files/uploads/20160928_2015-16_annual_ms4_stormwater_report_final_package_reduced.pdf (p. 229)

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Inventory Tourism and Cultural Assets

15 Points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 3.1.3 TOURISM MAP URL.DOCX
WORD: 3.1.4 MAP UPDATE PLAN.DOCX
WORD: 3.1.2 ASSET INFORMATION.DOCX
PDF: 3.1.5 CTVISIT PROFILE UPDATES.PDF
EXCEL: 3.1.2 ASSETS.XLSX

Additional Information: John Varamo is the contact who will update this profile and interactive map: jvaramo@stamfordct.gov

4.2 Support Arts and Creative Culture

25 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.2.2 ARTS & CULTURE ONLINE NEWS & MARKETING.PDF
PDF: 3.2.2 ARTWALK MARKETING.PDF
IMAGE: 3.2.2 SEWARD JOHNSON SCULPTURE MAP.PNG
PDF: 3.2.3 CAPP GRANT OVERVIEW.PDF
PDF: 3.2.3 2016-18 CAPP AWARDS.PDF
PDF: 3.2.4 1 PERCENT FOR ART CITY ORDINANCE.PDF
PDF: 3.2.5 CONFIRMATION LETTER.PDF
PDF: 3.2.5 ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION CITY ORDINANCE.PDF
PDF: 3.2.5 ARTICLE ESTABLISHING ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION.PDF
PDF: 3.2.8 ARTS DISTRICT SIGNAGE.PDF
PDF: 3.2.11 LOW INCOME YOUTH MUSIC GRANT.PDF
PDF: 3.2.12 MAYORS YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.PDF

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices

10 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: FAIRGATE FARM _ THE VITA HEALTH & WELLNESS DISTRICT IN STAMFORD.PDF

Additional Information: 9. The Vita Health District is a collaborative group led by the City of Stamford the local housing authority and Stamford Health. A major project of the District was the development of a community garden in Stamford's West Side. No partnership letter is needed because the City is one of the three organizations (one of the two others is the housing authority, which is also a city entity) leading this effort (10 points)

5.4 Assess Climate Vulnerability

15 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: CLIMATE VULNERABILITY.PDF
PDF: STAMFORDHAZMITPL.PDF
PDF: SPECIAL HAZARD FLOOR AREA MAP
PDF: HMP-2016-WESTCOG-SOUTH-PLAN.PDF

Additional Information: 1. See attached reports supporting the climate vulnerability assessment work completed (10 points) Stamford specific Hazard Mitigation Plan https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/Marine/crr/library/Documents/Final%20Stamford%20Hazards%20and%20Community%20Resilience%20Workshop%
3. See the below report (especially page 8) for assessment of primary impacts (#1) on vulnerable communities. This is also addressed in some of the other attached documents (5 points). https://westcog.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/HMP-2016-WestCOG-South-Plan.pdf

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.1 Implement Complete Streets

40 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: COMPLETE STREETS.PDF
PDF: COMPLETE STREETS EXECUTED.PDF
WORD: COMPLETE STREETS SUPPLEMENT.DOCX.DOCX

6.2 Promote Effective Parking Management

15 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: PARKING PROGRAM.PDF
PDF: NEW PARKING METERS.PDF
PDF: STM1523_DESIGNINTENT (1).PDF

Additional Information: Non-regulatory strategy. Wayfinding study was conducted (attached). First piece implemented: https://photos.app.goo.gl/yiJUV9C6RMhtUxwg7

6.3 Encourage Smart Commuting

10 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: CTRIDES_-_PARTNER_LIST_090617.PDF

Additional Information: Municipalities that have achieved "Partner" status for the CTrides program include Bridgeport, Danbury, Farmington, Greenwich, Meriden, New Britain, New Haven, Stamford, Waterbury and Windsor.

6.4 Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment

5 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: STAMFORD, CT 06901 - ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING STATIONS MAP.PDF
PDF: EV CHARGING.PDF

Additional Information: Update: Board of Reps Agenda attached with reference to EV Charging. 702 stations within 30 miles. Government Center is municipal property.

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

15 Points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: BIKE TO WORK DAY.JPG
PDF: WALK TO WORK DAY.PDF
PDF: STAMFORD BUS & SHUTTLE STUDY_FINAL REPORT.PDF
IMAGE: TROLLEY.PNG
IMAGE: PURPLE BUS.PNG

Additional Information: http://tooledesign.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=7723fa82dd7d482f8d8545b1d16c4a3c Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan involved multiple surveys, focus groups, and research around mobility.

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.9 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

10 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: C-PACE RESOLUTION
PDF: C-PACE PROJECT 1
PDF: C-PACE PROJECT 2
EXCEL: C-PACE PROJECTS - STAMFORD, CT.XLSX
PDF: STAMFORD CPACE AGREEMENT EXECUTED.PDF
PDF: 2. C-PACE EDUCATION - CHANGE MAKERS AWARDS (5 POINTS).PDF
PDF: PARTNERSHIP_BCFC.PDF

Additional Information: 1. See C-PACE agreement document (5 points) 2. See Stamford 2030's Change Makers Awards event, sponsored by the Connecticut Green Bank, which focused on highlighting and educating local building owners on best practices. A special segment focused on a C-PACE project in partnership with the CT Green Bank (5 points). 3. See C-PACE projects (5 points)

7.1 Benchmark and Track Energy Use

10 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 1.-2. PORTFOLIO MANAGER CITY BUILDINGS AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (5 POINTS + 5 POINTS).PDF

Additional Information:

7.3 Achieve High Energy Performance for Individual Buildings

5 Points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: LEED.PNG

7.5 Develop a Municipal Energy Plan

10 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: SUSTAINABILITY_AMENDMENT_FINAL_12_23_2010.PDF
IMAGE: 2030 DISTRICT.PNG
IMAGE: 2030 DISTRICT EXPLAINED.PNG
PDF: ENERGY SOLUTIONS LETTER MAYOR MARTIN 10 2016 (1).PDF
PDF: PARTNERSHIP_BCFC.PDF

Additional Information: 1. The City of Stamford adopted the 2030 District energy goal and joined the Climate Mayors - https://www.thehour.com/stamford/article/Stamford-6th-city-to-join-energy-reduction-8095679.php https://www.stamfordct.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/mayor-martin-joins-climate-mayors - Energy use reduction pledge 2. For residential, the Mayor mailed every household in partnership with Eversource to encourage energy audits.

7.7 Implement a Community Energy Campaign

10 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: ENERGY SOLUTIONS LETTER MAYOR MARTIN 10 2016.PDF
WORD: PRESS RELEASE BULB SWAP 4 23 16.DOCX
PDF: PARTNERSHIP_BCFC.PDF
PDF: COMMERCIAL EFFICIENCY CAMPAIGN (10 POINTS).PDF
PDF: COMMERCIAL EFFICIENCY CAMPAIGN 2.PDF
PDF: COMMERCIAL EFFICIENCY CAMPAIGN 3.PDF

Additional Information: 1. The Stamford 2030 District, initiative of The Business Council of Fairfield County, is an outreach campaign for commercial and multifamily property owners. This program focuses on energy/water benchmarking, audits and available efficiency incentives for commercial/multifamily building owners in Stamford. District members are required to provide energy and water data through Energy Star Portfolio Manager. All 2030 Districts are required to have municipal support and leadership, so the City of Stamford is a member of the District, Advisory Board and provides in-kind services and support to make the District possible. Annual financial sponsors include Eversource, CT Green Bank, Steven Winter Associates, among others. The 2030 District energy goal is to reduce emissions across existing buildings in the commercial/multifamily sectors in Stamford by 50% by the year 2030 (10 points). 2. Review 2015 and 2016 Annual Reports of the Stamford 2030 District which includes events, projects and progress toward this energy goal. Stamford 2030 provides support for building owners as they track their energy data in Portfolio Manager, access utility programs and incentives, and share best practices with other local owners. Stamford 2030 has made a special point to engage with building owners who support disadvantaged populations including Charter Oak Communities, New Neighborhoods, Jonathan Rose Companies and The Ferguson Library. 3. Refer to the 2015 to 2016 Annual Reports to learn about this campaign. The program has sponsored and co-sponsored educational events 4-8 times per year for members, continues to participate in small grant-funded demonstration projects, and hosts an annual awards event each year to recognize outstanding projects. 12 million square feet in Stamford have committed to these goals, 10 million of which have begun benchmarking their energy usage. The District has been underway since October 2014 and engages hundreds of building owners, property managers, tenants, government officials and professional service providers each year. Additional Info: Residential Bulb Swap - The City worked with Eversource in 2016 on promoting energy audits by sending letters to every residence in Stamford; we did an LED bulb swap event with Eversource in 2016, which was the most successful one they ever had.

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

5 Points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: BIKE TO WORK DAY.JPG
IMAGE: EARTH DAY.PNG
WORD: SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS SUPPLEMENT.DOCX

Additional Information: Supplement document details questions 1-3 for Bike to Work Day, Walk to Work Day, and Earth Day.

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.3 Recycle Additional Materials

40 Points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: RECYCLING A.PNG
IMAGE: RECYCLING B.PNG
IMAGE: RECYCLING C.PNG

Additional Information: Stamford has a "single stream" recycling program with the slogan "One Bin, All In." As of January of this year, Stamford's recycling rate was up to 32%. In this system, all paper, plastics, and metals that are recyclable are placed in a single container for collection. At the Katrina Mygatt Recycling Center, residents can also recycle appliances, clothing, cooking oil, electronics, fluorescent bulbs, motor oil, and propane tanks, and yard waste, which are not required. There is a "Take it or Leave It" building managed by volunteers where people can either drop things off on a table or look around and take whatever they like for free. There is also a book swap there. Items include furniture, movies, electronics, knickknacks, toys, sports equipment and more (no clothing). In addition, Stamford hosts an annual hazardous waste recycling event for participating communities. Here is the link to the recycling website: https://www.stamfordct.gov/recycling-and-sanitation And here is the link specifically to the composting page: https://www.stamfordct.gov/recycling-and-sanitation/pages/composting

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.3 Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces

15 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: DATAHAVEN_FAIRFIELDCOUNTY_WELLBEING.PDF
IMAGE: SMOKING PROGRAM.PNG
PDF: STAMFORD EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK.PDF
PDF: STAMFORD SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES.PDF

Additional Information: Page 36 of Wellbeing Index Page 56 of School Board Policy Page 30 of Employee Handbook

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

50 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: AFFORDABLE HOUSING.PDF
PDF: AFFORDABLE HOUSING STUDY.PDF
PDF: 2012 APPEALS LIST.PDF

Additional Information: Supplement: As requested, please find attached the 2012 DOH Affordable Housing Appeals List Original: Over 16% affordable housing. A 0.8% increase.

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

20 Points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: INNOVATE_STAMFORD_STRATEGIC_PLAN.PDF
PDF: IS RESOLUTION.PDF
PDF: PARTNERSHIP_FERGUSON.PDF

Additional Information: In 2017, Innovate Stamford formed and was catalyzed with a $2 million grant from CTNext, a state-funded subsidiary of the quasi-public venture capital firm Connecticut Innovations. The grant designates Stamford as an "Innovation Place", a hub for innovation, entrepreneurship and business growth. This is part of a statewide effort to build a more robust community of entrepreneurs and accelerate startup growth by providing access to talent, space, industry expertise, services, skill development and capital. Stamford's Innovation District integrates places, institutions and people who have historically been unconnected into a cohesive hub for innovation. These include emerging live-work-play-learn neighborhoods in the South End and downtown; economic, cultural and educational anchor institutions such as UConn-Stamford and The Ferguson Library; early stage entrepreneurs and leaders of their global customers; and public spaces such as parks, plazas and other pedestrian destinations (Innovate Stamford, 2018) The city is contracted with The Ferguson Library through a Memorandum of Understanding. Through this, the City leads several of Innovate Stamford's projects including installation of GIG WiFI, the pursuit of Autonomous Vehicles, Wayfinding study and installation, Branding and Marketing, and the revitalization of Veterans Park. Lastly, the city matches grant dollars 1:1 for these projects from its capital budget.