6.3 Encourage Smart Commuting

10 Points **15 Points**

Action Updates

This action has been revised for the **current certification cycle**. A version of this action from the prior program year is available for comparison. Edits are highlighted in yellow. (Last updated 2020)

Objective

Inspire and incentivize area employees and residents to choose alternative commuting methods.

Complementary Actions:

- Implement Complete Streets
- Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

What to Do

1. Achieving Silver or Gold status in the CTrides Transportation Leaders Program satisfies the requirements of this Action. Alternatively, complete at least five activities from this checklist to encourage municipal employees to engage in alternative commuting strategies. **(For 10 points, achieve Silver status in the CTrides Transportation Leaders program, *or* complete 5 or more activities from the checklist. For 15 points, achieve Gold status in the CTrides Transportation Leaders Program, *or* complete 9 or more checklist activities).**

   Submit: Documentation of Silver or Gold status recognition in the CTrides Transportation Leaders Program, or submit this checklist to report steps taken and the estimated annual data on the percentage of municipal employees impacted/affected by/participating in each strategy.

   Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit and rolling credit. This action falls under the action type "Outreach, Education, Programs, Campaigns, Recognition/Designation in External Program, and Funding" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

Timeframe for Credit

Actions can either be "New" or considered for "Rolling Credit."

New Action Credit. Any action completed within the past three years (from January 1 of the year seeking certification) is eligible for potential certification points. If you are applying for recertification in your year of expiration, you may not claim New Action Credit for items that previously received credit.

Rolling Credit. For any action older than three years (from January 1 of the year seeking certification), you must demonstrate ongoing, currently relevant, and meaningful impact in your community to be considered for certification points. If you are applying for recertification in your year of expiration, you must apply for Rolling Credit for any item that previously received credit, even if it was completed within the past three years.

View the "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for detailed submission requirements.

Engaging Partners

Sustainable CT encourages regional collaboration and other forms of partnership. For every action, please complete the "Partners" box in your submission, indicating the name(s) of any municipalities and/or organizations you partnered with (if any) and a brief description of your municipality's role. If you collaborate with other municipalities, each community will receive points. For additional information, please see the "Partners Guidance Document".

Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators

Local elected officials, any municipal administrator or manager, the Sustainability Team, human resources staff, and the Environmental Commission should all be engaged and build support for and awareness of the alternative commute programs and strategies implemented by your municipality. You may also find it helpful to collaborate with other community organizers in or near your municipality.

Funding

If available, below are potential funding sources specific to this Action. For a complete listing of potential funding opportunities to assist with implementing Sustainable CT Actions, please visit the Sustainable CT Grants Portal, which is searchable by Action. Please also visit the Support for Your Town page for opportunities for technical assistance and other supports.

- Urban Act Grant Program
- Municipal Grant Program (MGP)
- 2021 Sustainable CT Community Match Fund

Resources

Toolkits, Calculators, Guidance Documents

- CTrides Commuter Resources: includes parking information, green tips, free trial rides, emergency rides home, guide to planning a commute, and a commuter cost calculator
- CTrides, Employer Services
- CTrides' webinar series on telework strategies during COVID
- Go New Haven Go Resources for Commuters
- CT Department of Transportation Travel Smart Website

Organizations and Relevant Programs

- CTrides
- BiCi Co., Center for Latino Progress
- CT Department of Transportation

Benefits

Information, encouragement, and incentives provided by local or regional organizations increase the likelihood that people will use alternative transportation options. By completing this action, you will not only counterbalance the subsidies of parking and roads that incentivize driving, but also you will reduce carbon emissions and other negative environmental impacts, and improve employee health. Promoting smart commuting also can improve economic well-being by increasing foot traffic to local businesses, increasing the likelihood of interactions with the committee, and promoting equity by supporting more cost-effective commuting.

CT Success Stories

- Greenwich - Oct 2018 Certification
- New Britain - Jun 2020 Certification
- New Britain - Oct 2020 Certification