



Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment

Action Updates

This action has been revised for the **current certification cycle**. Edits are highlighted in yellow. (Last updated 2023)

Objective

Transition your fleet and create infrastructure for Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs) that municipal employees, residents, students, businesses, and travelers may use.

Complementary Action:

- [Manage Municipal Fleets](#)

What to Do

The more you do, the more points you earn.

1. Sponsor or host a ZEV promotional event or education workshop with a community partner or third-party. For example, host a vehicle showcase day or educational session on the costs and benefits of ZEV ownership, etc. **(5 points)**

Potential Speaker/Event Ideas: The CHEAPR Administrator, The Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE), in efforts to promote the new CHEAPR Relaunch, is available to give presentations as part of an event to interested audiences. CSE could also suggest other speakers as well to be part of an event. Please email cheapr@energycenter.org of your interest

Submit: The title, date, and short description of the event or workshop.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit. This action falls under the action type "Events, Meetings, Trainings" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

2. Have at least one municipal elected official and/or staff member and/or member of a relevant commission participate in a training related to electrification of municipal vehicles. Topics may include but are not limited to electric school buses, zoning to support electric vehicles, hydrogen buses, and electric transit buses and shuttles. Having residents participate in such trainings may also fulfill the requirements of this Action, if the municipality describes in the "partners" section of its submission how the information learned will be shared with and applied by the municipal government. **(5 points)**

Note: Activities that are used to earn points toward this Action may not be used to earn points toward any other Sustainable CT Action (i.e., "double-counting").

Submit: The names and contact information of the individuals who attended the training; the name of the training, date(s) it occurred, and the organization that provided the training; and a description in the "partners" field of your submission, if residents participated in the program, to describe how the information learned will be shared with and applied by the municipal government.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit. This action falls under the action type "Events, Meetings, Trainings" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

3. Replace municipal fleet vehicles to reduce emissions. **(Up to ~~20~~ 40 points)**
 - o Medium and Heavy Duty (MHD) Vehicles (vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of over 10,000 pounds, such as large pickup trucks, large vans, delivery and box trucks, school buses, transit buses, and long-haul tractor trailers):
 - i. Replace at least 40% of MHD fleet with zero emission vehicles. **(10 points)**

- ii. Replace at least 70% of MHD fleet with zero emission vehicles. **(15 points)**
- iii. Replace 100% of MHD fleet with zero emission vehicles. **(20 points)**
- o Light-Duty Vehicles (vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 8,500 pounds or less, such as passenger cars, sport utility vehicles, and pickup trucks):
 - i. Replace at least 40% of light-duty fleet with zero emission vehicles. **(10 points)**
 - ii. Replace at least 70% of light-duty fleet with zero emission vehicles. **(15 points)**
 - iii. Replace 100% of light-duty fleet with zero emission vehicles. **(20 points)**

Note: Connecticut school bus fleets are mandated to transition to 100% zero emission vehicles by 2030 in environmental justice communities and by 2040 in all communities statewide.

Zero emission school buses can earn points for a municipality whether they are municipally owned or owned by a vendor contracted by the municipality. For municipalities served by shared, regional district buses, the number used to calculate the percent of buses replaced can be the number of buses serving the municipality; those same buses can serve and be counted by multiple municipalities.

Submit: For each category of vehicles, please submit the total number of vehicles, number of zero emission vehicles, and purchase receipts (or alternative documentation) for new vehicles.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit. This action falls under the action type "Data Tracking/Benchmarking and Meeting Performance Metrics" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

4. Conduct an assessment of where ZEV charging infrastructure is needed in your community (public and private). Identify the areas within your town that have the appropriate characteristics to host charging and if not the exact properties, then the approximate neighborhoods. Characteristics that support this assessment include traffic throughput and/or whether a critical mass of destination parking exists, as well as proximity of municipal property where a town has purview over whether or not charging will at some point be installed. The assessment should ideally also include proximity to neighborhoods and commercial districts that have varying demographic characteristics and housing types. The assessment should take electric grid interconnection into account including potential upgrade needs and the feasibility of chargers participating in vehicle-to-grid services. **(10 ~~5~~ points)**

Submit: A copy of the assessment.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit and rolling credit. This action falls under the action type "Websites, Maps, Inventories, Checklists, Assessments, Plans, Ordinances, Policies, Regulations and Resolutions" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

5. Install ~~Host at least one~~ electric vehicle charging stations (Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment) for public use in at least one location. If the electric vehicle charging station is not sited on municipal property, include an explanation of why an alternative location was selected and demonstrate proof of purchase by the municipality. **(~~5~~ points)**
 - o Install electric vehicle charging stations in 1-2 locations = **5 points**
 - o Install electric vehicle charging stations in 3-5 locations = **10 points**
 - o Install electric vehicle charging stations in 6 or more locations = **15 points**

Submit: The address of the municipal property where the station is installed and either a photo of the charging station and/or a receipt of purchase. If the electric vehicle charging station is not sited on municipal property, include an explanation of why an alternative location was selected and demonstrate proof of purchase by the municipality.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit. This action falls under the action type "Implementation Projects" (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. For additional information, please see the Partners Guidance Document.

Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators

Staff from the planning, purchasing, building departments and a representative from your energy commission could be helpful in implementing this action.

Why This Matters

Roughly 40% of Connecticut's greenhouse gas emissions can be attributed to the transportation sector, which runs primarily on fossil fuels. At the state level, Connecticut is committed to supporting ZEV deployment, and the Connecticut Departments of Transportation and Energy and Environmental Protection have partnered to create [EVConnecticut](#), a one-stop shop for all things ZEV. Connecticut has also signed on to the [International ZEV Alliance](#) to accelerate ZEV uptake in the state. ZEVs include pure battery electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles.

Benefits

Transitioning to zero-emission vehicles and their supporting infrastructure allows your municipality and residents to take charge of your transportation footprint, while also providing many other benefits:

When you drive a ZEV, you produce far less air pollution than a traditional car or truck, creating healthier places to live, work and play.

ZEVs are often cheaper to drive and maintain, and ZEVs offer a lower-cost opportunity than traditional vehicles. For instance a gallon of gas is more expensive than an [equivalent electric 'gallon.'](#) ZEVs don't require routine oil changes, which further reduces operating costs. There are other financial perks to driving a ZEV: in CT ZEV owners can register their ZEVs for only \$38 for a two-year registration, while conventional gas vehicle owners pay \$80!

For a complete list of funding opportunities, implementation resources, and success stories specific to this action, please visit the full Action write-up on the [Sustainable CT Actions webpage](#).