7.9 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

5 – 40 Points

Action Updates

This action was last updated in 2024. The previous version of this action is available for comparison. Edits are highlighted in yellow.

This action was relocated from Category 2, Thriving Local Economies, to Category 7, Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations, for the **2023 certification cycle**.

Objective

Empower your community's commercial property owners to reduce energy consumption by making clean energy improvements such as energy-efficient boilers, upgraded insulation, new windows, or solar installations, with affordable, long-term financing from Commercial Property Assessment Clean Energy (C-PACE), a program of Connecticut Green Bank.

Complementary Action:

- Benchmark Energy and Water Use for Multifamily Housing

What to Do

The more you do, the more points you earn.

1. Pass a municipal resolution to opt-in to C-PACE, sign a legal agreement with C-PACE, and post a link to information about C-PACE on your municipality's website. After passing your C-PACE resolution, ongoing events and education initiatives qualify for points (see below). ***Your municipality can earn points for a C-PACE resolution passed at any point in the past.*** **(20 points)**

   Submit: A certified copy of your municipality's legal agreement with C-PACE. Please also submit a screenshot of a link to https://www.ctgreenbank.com/c-pace on your municipality's website. This subaction is included in the Sustainable CT Climate Leader Designation.

2. Encourage local building owners to access C-PACE financing. **(5 points or 10 points)**

   - Organize at least one educational event, or conduct educational outreach to individual property owners. Events or outreach must have occurred in the last three years. **(5 points)**

   Submit: Depending on the specific strategy or combination of strategies you chose, submit a list of the education event(s) and the date(s) of the event(s); or any other documentation that verifies your municipality's efforts to encourage local building owners to access C-PACE financing, and the outcomes of your outreach (e.g. level of response/participation, referrals to C-PACE program)

   OR

   - In coordination with CT Green Bank, identify properties and property owners ideal for green energy projects, and reach out for participation in C-PACE. Reach out to info@sustainablect.org to get connected to the CT Green Bank. **(10 points)**

All elements must be completed to receive credit

a. Have a combination of your Economic Development Coordinator/members of the Economic Development Commission, Town Assessor, Town Manager, Planner, or similar attend a program overview call with the CT Green Bank to identify properties for projects.

b. Develop list of identified properties in coordination with CT Green Bank.

c. Conduct outreach and engagement to identified property owners for C-PACE program participation. Leverage program materials and staff expertise at the Green bank to more successfully drive program interest and participation.

Submit: The date of the training/call and the name and title of who attended. A letter from the CT Green Bank stating a property list has been developed. A summary of the outreach strategies employed to engage property owners about CT Green Bank projects and opportunities. The property list must have been created and outreach conducted in the last three years.

3. Earn credit for C-PACE projects approved by the Green Bank for commercial and industrial buildings undertaking clean energy improvements on their property. Municipalities with fewer than 5 projects may earn 5 points, and those with 5 or more projects may earn 10 points. **(5 or 10 points)**

   Submit: A list of projects (by building) approved for and closed on C-PACE financing. The list may be obtained by contacting the Green Bank (reach out to info@sustainablect.org to get connected to the CT Green Bank), or any other list of relevant projects (by building) provided by the town. Projects must have been completed in the last three years. This subaction is included in the Sustainable CT Climate Leader Designation.

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

Your municipality's legislative body, legal counsel, and community stakeholders, such as business owners, nonprofit leaders and multifamily property owners, should collaborate with the Connecticut Green Bank.

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
- Sustainable CT Community Match Fund
- State Funding Readiness Project

- C-PACE Financing
- More About C-PACE Financing

Resources

Toolkits, Calculators, Guidance Documents

- C-PACE Resources for Municipalities, providing a Sample Municipal Resolution, Sample C-PACE Agreement, Program Guidelines and FAQs for Municipalities
- Promote C-PACE in Your Community

- The Community|EnergyVision Action Guide

Organizations and Relevant Programs

- C-PACE
- Connecticut Green Bank

Benefits

Your community's commercial property owners reduce energy consumption by making clean energy improvements in local residential and industrial buildings, resulting in positive environmental impacts, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and improved community health and economic well-being.

CT Success Stories

- Guilford - Oct 2022 Certification
- Montville - Jun 2023 Certification
- Winchester - Jun 2023 Certification
- New Haven - Sep 2023 Certification
- Barkhamsted - May 2024 Certification
- Colchester - May 2024 Certification
- Canaan (Falls Village) - Oct 2024 Certification
- Litchfield - Oct 2024 Certification
- Monroe - Oct 2024 Certification
- West Hartford - Oct 2024 Certification