# Sustainable CT Local Actions. Statewide Impact.®

# 2023-2024 Action Change Summary

#### 2024 Action Revisions: Overview

- Edits made annually
- Reflect feedback from municipalities, reviewers, and staff
- Incorporate new technical support opportunities, new state policy, and sustainability best practices



### 2024 Action Revisions: Global Edits

- Consistency review and updates
  - Reviewed every action and subaction in the Sustainable CT framework
  - Four types of edits:
    - Points adjustments where points did not fit the Sustainable CT points ladder
    - Structure edits
    - Streamlining and standardizing submission requirements
      - The same types of activities (policy changes, education and outreach, inventories and plans, events, trainings, committees, etc.) now have the same submission requirements across all actions
    - General language updates, streamlining action requirements, and clarifications
  - Nearly every action affected by consistency and language edits, not major edits to action content



## 2024 Action Revisions: Timeframe for Credit

- The Timeframe for Credit designation was removed from all actions
  - Timeframe-related requirements have been integrated into the action descriptions and submission requirements
  - Action types are no longer listed in the action descriptions; they can be found in the <u>Action</u> <u>Overview Worksheet</u>
- Revised structure:
  - Removed new action and rolling credit designations
  - Included in action text if it needs to have taken place in the last three years
  - Built into the submission requirements any documentation previously needed for new action or rolling credit
  - No more timeframe for credit field in the application dashboard; any content listed here was moved by Sustainable CT staff to the Documentation Details field in December 2023
- **Previous structure:** 
  - Actions were new action credit only, or both new action credit and rolling credit
  - Every action submission page had a Timeframe for Credit box for details



#### 2024 New Actions

- Action 5.9: Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System
  - 5.9.1: Achieve a CRS class rating between 9 and 1
- Action 7.10: Support Battery Storage Solutions
  - 7.10.1: Permit battery storage systems in municipal zoning regulations
  - 7.10.2: Install a battery storage system in a municipal or Board of Education building
- Action 10.7: Improve Outdoor Access for All
  - 10.7.1: Assess an open space area in your municipality to identify possible accessibility or other improvements
  - **10.7.2:** Improve an open space parcel in your municipality



The following list of action edits includes substantive changes made to action descriptions and requirements. It does not include new language added as part of the timeframe and lookback revisions made to all actions (described on slide 4). It also does not include language updates and submission requirement standardizations made as part of the consistency review and edits (described on slide 3).

- **1.2.1:** Training cohort includes commissioners and committee members
- **1.2.2:** Changed "support" training to "host" training
- **1.3.1:** Increased points from 15 to 20; language edits
- 2.1.1 and 2.1.2: Consolidated inventory (2.1.1) and map (2.1.2) into one subaction, with map optional for additional points
- **2.1.2:** Renumbered (was previously 2.1.3)
- 2.1.3: Renumbered (was previously 2.1.4); grant submission required for action credit
- 2.1.4: Renumbered (was previously 2.1.5); clarified that only one type of environmental assessment listed is required for action credit
- **2.1.5:** Renumbered (was previously 2.1.6)



- 2.1.6: Renumbered (was previously 2.1.7); made print materials optional
- 2.1.7: Renumbered (was previously 2.1.8)
- 2.2.1: Clarified that at least one person must attend training
- 2.2.3: Increased points from 10 to 15
- **2.2.4:** Wording clarification in action description
- **2.3.1:** Clarifying language edits; removed requirement for print copies of inventory; streamlined action requirements; streamlined submission requirements; made map optional for additional 5 points
- **2.3.2:** Clarifying language edit in submission requirements
- **2.4.1:** Updated action to only require one roundtable
- 2.4.3: Increased points from 5 to 10
- 2.4.4: Streamlined submission requirements
- 2.4.6 (NEW): Other initiative supporting local business(es) in the community, not listed above
- 2.5.1: Removed requirement for roundtable events
- 3.1.1 a: Changed points from 5 or 10 to 5 only



- **3.1.1 b:** Increased points from 5 to 15
- 3.1.2: Structure edits
- 3.2.3: Structure edits
- **3.3.1:** Clarifying language edits
- 3.3.2: Increased points from 15 to 20; clarification added
- **3.4.4 a:** Increased points from 10 to 15 (previously 3.4.4 b)
- **3.4.4 b:** Establish an open space acquisition fund (previously 3.4.4 d)
- **3.5.1**: Structure edits moving text from action description to linked appendix
- **3.5.2:** Clarifying language edits
- **3.6.1:** Split parts a and b into two separate subactions (3.6.1 and 3.6.2); increased points from 10 to 15
- **3.6.2:** New subaction previously included in 3.6.1; 10 points
- **3.6.3:** Increased points from 10 to 20
- 3.7.1: Structure edit consolidated parts a and b; increased from 5 points to 10 points per campaign, with a
  maximum of 30 points; new worksheet to reflect revised structure



- 3.8.1 c: Credit for relevant commissioners attending training
- **3.8.2 a:** Streamlined action description
- **3.8.2 c:** Increased points from 15 to 20; removed requirement to distribute policy to municipal departments
- 3.8.3 b: Increased points from 5 to 15
- **3.10.1:** Changed from all elements required for credit to each element earning credit and points on its own; total points available now 25 (previously capped at 10)
- **3.10.1 a:** Added approved plant species list to submission requirements; 10 points
- **3.10.1 b:** 10 points
- 3.10.1 c: 5 points
- **3.10.2:** Increased points from 5 to 15; structure edits
- 3.11.2 d: Increased points from 5 to 10; only focused on native plants policy
- 3.11.2 e (NEW): New subaction split out from previous 3.11.2 d; 5 points



- **3.13.2**: Language edits to clarify this is an action focused on municipal processes and procedures, not a policy or ordinance
- **3.13.3:** Increased points from 15 to 20
- **3.14.1 a:** Submission requirements edited to allow training certificate provided by T2 Center
- 3.14.3: Added new possible option for sustainable snow management operations; increased points cap from 30 to 40
- **4.1.1 a:** Made map optional for an additional 5 points; edited worksheet to reflect action changes; combined previous 4.1.1 b (online public resource) into 4.1.1 a
- **4.1.1 b:** Relettered (previously 4.1.1 d); clarified that this step requires the completion of 4.1.1 a; removed requirement to submit contact information of person responsible for updating the public online resource
- 4.1.1 e: Removed
- **4.1.2:** Added Instagram to list of possible social media platforms
- **4.2.10:** Consolidate into one part, rather than parts a and b
- 4.2.11 c: Relettered (previously 4.2.11 d)
- 4.2.12 (NEW): Created from previous 4.2.11 c



- **4.2.13:** Renumbered (previously 4.2.12)
- 5.1.1: Clarified that submission must be the current POCD
- **5.2.2:** Increased points from 5 to 20
- 5.2.3: Structure edits to create parts a and b; increase from 5 points to 10 points for each part 5.2.3 a and 5.2.3 b
- 5.2.4: Removed and consolidated into new 5.2.3 b
- **5.3.2:** Points changed to 10 per strategy, up to 20 max points; structure edits to consolidate 5.3.2 a and 5.3.2 b into one
- **5.3.5:** Clarified requirements for how to document if an open space acquisition fund is also used to preserve or acquire farmland
- **5.4.1:** Structure edits eliminating standalone 5.4.1 c and incorporating it into 5.4.1 a and 5.4.1 b; worksheet edits to reflect action changes; changed max points to 15
- **5.5.1:** Change from tiered points to 10 points
- 5.5.2: Language edits



- **5.6.1 f:** PV installation subaction removed; replaced with **new** subaction for a solar language page on the municipal website
- **5.7.1**: Increased points from 5 to 15
- **5.7.2:** Increased points from 10 to 15
- **6.2.1:** Removed action requirement to present the parking needs assessment at a public meeting; removed the requirement to distribute parking needs assessment to relevant municipal department
- **6.2.2:** Structure edits better distinguishing parts 6.2.2 a and 6.2.2 b; clarification note added about the difference between regulatory and non-regulatory strategies
- **6.4.5:** Submission requirements updated to require both a photo of the new charging station and proof of purchase
- **6.6.1 a:** Submission requirements updated require the provided worksheet
- 6.6.1 b: Language edits to clarify the action requires a policy for fleet improvement
- **6.6.2:** Increased points from 5 to 15; updated action description to include examples of fleet improvement strategies



- 7.1: Added note that municipalities should allow at least six weeks if working with technical assistance partner on data benchmarking
- 7.2: Added note that municipalities should allow at least six weeks if working with technical assistance partner on data benchmarking
- 7.3: Added clarification note on the timeframe and lookback for ENERGY STAR Building Certification and LEED Certification
- 7.4: Added note that municipalities should allow at least six weeks if working with technical assistance partner on data benchmarking
- 7.4.1 b: Removed text about limited building operations as a result of COVID-19
- 7.4.2 (NEW): Participate in a solar energy installation
- 7.6.2: Removed subaction about replacing street lights; renumbered previous 7.6.3 and increased points from 10 to 15
- 7.7: Reduced number of required events from 5 to 3; added new worksheet for submission
- **7.9.1:** Increased points from 5 to 20; changed lookback period to allow credit for a C-PACE resolution adopted at any point in the past



- **7.9.2:** Clarified that at least one education event is required for credit
- 8.1.1: Increased points cap from 15 to 20; updated points tiers for number of events
- 8.3.1: Revised to require at least one hour of training at a regularly or specially scheduled land use commission; changed from 15 to 5 points
- 8.3.2: Changed from 15 to 10 points; revised to require training for at least three members of Inland Wetlands Commission (rather than at least half of membership)
- 8.4: New clarification note instructing municipalities to submit their CMF projects under the action(s) advised by Sustainable CT staff
- **8.6:** Added clarification that the aligning action must be an implementation projects type action; added note that municipalities must submit under 8.6 and the aligning action for credit
- 8.7.1: Revised worksheet
- 9.2.2: Increased points from 5 to 10
- 9.3.1: New worksheet added
- 9.4.1: Language edits to focus action on food waste prevention outreach and education



- **10.2.1**: Added relevant commissions to list of municipal representatives eligible to earn points for attending training
- **10.2.2:** Decreased points from 20 to 10; language edits
- **10.3.3:** Increased points from 15 to 20
- **10.5.2:** Revised action description to require that at least one farmers' market accept SNAP or FMNP payment methods; submission requirements updated to require documentation of FMNP or SNAP payment acceptance
- 10.6.2: Updated worksheet
- 11.1.1: Decreased points from 10 to 5
- **11.1.2:** Structure edits to split action into parts 11.1.2 a and 11.1.2 b
- **11.1.3:** Clarification note about points and timeframe revised; added example strategy of promoting ADUs; added new worksheet to submission requirement
- 11.1.4: Removed
- **11.2.1:** Decreased points from 10 to 5
- **11.2.2:** Language edits to clarify which years of Affordable Housing Appeals List data may be used
- 11.2.3: Language edits to clarify that funding must be for the creation of new affordable housing



- **11.3.2:** Removed subaction for promoting ADUs; renumbered previous 11.3.2
- **11.3.3:** Renumbered (previously 11.3.4)
- **12.1.1 a:** Removed requirements that homelessness liaison meet with Sustainability Team and CAN on a designated basis
- **12.1.1 b:** Allow any listed municipal representative to attend training for points; added relevant commissioners to list of eligible training attendees; changed tiered points to 10 points for attending three trainings
- 12.1.2: Decreased points from 10 to 5
- **12.1.3:** Removed; language consolidated into very similar subaction 12.2.2
- **12.2.1:** Increased points from 10 to 20
- **12.2.2:** Language edits to incorporate content from removed subaction 12.1.3; action description edited to require posting a link to 211 only and a suggested list of other content; structure edits
- **12.2.3:** Revised to only require a community conversation or forum in the last three years (rather than at least one annually); moved list of suggested participants to a linked appendix
- **12.3.1:** Added "other relevant staff" to list of people who can compile data
- 12.4.2: Increased points from 5 to 15; clarified that strategies may be focused on locations to safely access strategies may be focused on locations to safely access strategies.