

Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable CT Certification Report of Torrington, a Sustainable CT bronze certified applicant.

Torrington was certified on October 31, 2022 with 225 points. Listed below is information regarding Torrington's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Torrington was approved for in 2022 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Torrington, 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

10 Points

Approved Information: 1.1 - Optimize for Equity (Optimized for Item 11.1.3 - Design and Implement an Affordable Housing Plan)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: EQUITY TOOLKIT.PDF

PDF: HOUSING AFFORDABILITY PLAN JULY 2022.PDF
PDF: HOUSING PLAN COMMITTEE MINUTES.PDF

PDF: MARCH 9 INFO SESSION.PDF

PDF: HARTFORD HEALTH CARE-CHH COMM HEALTH NEEDS ASSMT.PDF

PDF: REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSMT.PDF

Documentation Details: 1.1 - "Equity Toolkit" - Narrative on equity actions taken through the toolkit guidance in developing the Torrington Housing Affordability Plan 1.1 - "Housing Affordability Plan July 2022" - Final draft of the Torrington Housing Affordability Plan 1.1 - "Housing Plan Committee Minutes" - Minutes of the monthly Torrington Affordable Housing Plan Steering Committee, September 2021 through April 2022 1.1 - "March 9 Info Session" - Slideshow presented for the March 9, 2022 public outreach session, held remotely of ZOOM meeting platform 1.1 - "Hartford Health Care-CHH Comm Health Needs Assmt" - The 2021 published 2021 Hartford Health Care-Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Community Health Needs Assessment used as a source for the Housing Affordability Plan 1.1 - "Regional Housing Needs Assmt" - The Regional Housing Needs Report developed by the Northwest Hills Council of Governments and published April 2021

Partners: 1.1 - Northwest Hills Council of Governments: planning staff from the City of Torrington and NHCOG worked cooperatively, particularly at the start of the planning efforts in developing the plan. the Regional Housing Needs Assessment used as a source in drafting the plan. 1.1 - Center for Housing Opportunity, Litchfield County: The director of LC-CHO worked closely with the Steering Committee and City planning staff on drafting and finalizing the plan, as well as coordinated monthly meeting and public outreach with City staff.

Additional Information: The Torrington Housing Affordabilty Plan is in final draft state, and is scheduled for adoption by the Torrington City Council on September 6, 2022.

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites

45 Points

Approved Information: 2.1.1: Brownfield Inventory (15 points), updated 2021 2.1.2: Map of Brownfields (5 points), updated 2021 2.1.5: Phase II/III Site Assessment (10 points), updated 2021 2.1.6: Community Planning Events for Redevelopment of Brownfields (5 points), 4 Public Forums from 3/2/17 - 9/4/18 2.1.7: Promoting Sites for Redevelopment (10 points), bid open from 3/25/2019 - 4/26/2019

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 2.1.7 ADVERTISING BROWNFIELD SITES TO DEVELOPERS

PDF: 2.1.8 BROWNFIELD SITE REMEDIATION

EXCEL: 2.1.1 BROWNFIELD INVENTORY SPREADSHEET
PDF: 2.1.5 PHASE II/PHASE III SITE ASSESSMENT

PDF: 2.1.2 TORRINGTON BROWNFIELD MAP

WORD: 2.1.6 ENGAGING THE PUBLIC, PUBLIC FORUM DATES

PDF: 2.1.6 ENGAGING THE PUBLIC

Documentation Details: Document "2.1.6 Engaging the Public" contains a PDF of the discussion topic at the public forum for brownfield redevelopment hosted on 9/4/2018. Document "2.1.6 Engaging the Public, Public Forum Dates" contains a word document with a hyperlink which details the dates and topics of public forums held from 2017-2018. Document "2.1.7 Advertising Brownfield Sites to Developers" contains a link to the site where developers could place bids to redevelop a Torrington Brownfield site. Document "2.1.1 Brownfield Inventory Spreadsheet" contains an excel spreadsheet of 14 Brownfield sites in the city of Torrington presented in the provided Sustainable CT format. Document "2.1.2 Torrington Brownfield Map" contains a GIS map of Torrington Brownfield sites, both assessed and unassessed. Document "2.1.8 Brownfield Site Remediation" contains an approved proposal for a Brownfield site remediation located at 100 Franklin Street. Document "2.1.5 Phase II/III Site Assessment" contains the results and findings of the 100 Franklin Street site assessment.

Partners: 2.1.1 (Brownfield Inventory): UCONN School of Engineering assisted in the creation of Torrington's Brownfield Inventory. 2.1.2 (Torrington Brownfield Map): UCONN School of Engineering assisted in the creation of the Torrington Brownfield Map. 2.1.5 (Phase II/Phase III Site Assessment): GZA GeoEnvironmental, INC. conducted the site assessment. 2.1.6 (Engaging the Public): BL Companies of Meriden consulted with the city to assist with the BAR grant and creation of the public engagement document provided. 2.1.7 (Brownfield Site Marketing): None 2.1.8 (Site Remediation): Pennrose

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.8 Implement Low Impact Development

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.8.2A: LID Included in Subdivision Regulations (5 points), revised 10/22/2011 3.8.2A: LID Included in Zoning Regulations (5 points), revised 06/19/2019 3.8.2A: LID Included in Inland Wetlands Regulations (5 points), amended 12/16/2011 3.8.3A: LID Permeable Paver Lot (5 Points), uploaded 12/30/21

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.8.2A SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS.PDF
PDF: 3.8.2A INLAND WETLAND REGULATIONS.PDF

PDF: 3.8.2A ZONING REGULATIONS SECTION 5.PDF

PDF: 3.8.1 2010 POCD CHAPTER 4.PDF
PDF: 3.8.1 2010 POCD CHAPTER 11.PDF
PDF: 3.8.1 2010 POCD CHAPTER 13.PDF

WORD: 3.8.3A PERMEABLE PAVER LOT SITE DESCRIPTION

IMAGE: 3.8.3A: PERMEABLE PAVER LOT SITE PHOTO, LOT

IMAGE: 3.8.3A: PERMEABLE PAVER LOT SITE PHOTO, SIGNAGE

IMAGE: 3.8.3A: PERMEABLE PAVER LOT SITE PHOTO, BRICK

PDF: 3.8.1 EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Documentation Details: "3.8.1 Educational Materials" provides an example of the information provided on the City's website "3.8.1 2010 POCD Chapter 4.pdf" - See pages 2 and 8 for inclusion of LID in the city's POCD Natural Resources Section. "3.8.1 2010 POCD Chapter 11.pdf" - See page 4 for inclusion of LID in the city's POCD Utilities Section. "3.8.1 2010 POCD Chapter 13.pdf" - See pages 4 and 8 for inclusion of LID in the city's POCD Sustainability Section. "3.8.2 Subdivision Regulations.pdf" - See pages 16 and 23 for the inclusion of LID in Subdivision Regulations. "3.8.2 Inland Wetland Regulations.pdf" - See Section 7.5.F (page 13), 7.5.L (page 14), and 7.6.G (page 14) for inclusion of LID in Inland Wetland Regulations. "3.8.2 Zoning Regulations Section 5.pdf" - See 5.6.G, 5.11.5 A-6, 5.13.1 E, 5.13.2 Q, and 5.13.2 R for inclusion of LID in Zoning Regulations. "3.8.2 Zoning Regulations Section 7.pdf" - See 7.4.1 A and 7.4.1 B for inclusion of LID in Zoning Regulations. "3.8.3A: Permeable Paver Lot Site Description" Provides a site description of the low-impact development permeable paver project that has been implemented "3.8.3A: Permeable Paver Lot Site Photos" Provides three photographs of a LID permeable paver lot that has been implemented. The photos include a view of the lot, permanent signage, as well as a close-up of an individual permeable paver brick that was used to build the lot.

Partners: 3.8.3A (Grant for LID Paver Lot): Northwest Conservation District

Additional Information: Due to the fact that the regulations are still in use and that the POCD is in the process of being updated, the regulations and POCD should be considered, despite being from before 2012.

3.13 Promote Dark Skies

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.13.1 Dark Skies Public Education (5 Points) 3.13.3 Dark Sky Compliance (15 Points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.13.3. DARK SKY COMPLIANCE ZONING REGULATIONS
PDF: 3.13.1. DARK SKIES PUBLIC EDUCATION BROCHURE

Documentation Details: 3.13.1. "Dark Skies Public Education Brochure" Is a PDF version of a brochure to educate the community on the effects of lighting and the benefits of dark sky compliance. Physical copies are available at City Hall in the land-use office. 3.13.3. Dark Sky Compliance, the relevant zoning regulations about dark sky compliance can be found on pages 47-49 of document "3.13.3. Dark Sky Compliance Zoning Regulations"

Partners: 3.13.1 (Dark Skies Public Education): None 3.13.3 (Dark Sky Compliance): None

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Map Tourism and Cultural Assets

5 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.2: CTVisit Webpage (5 Points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 4.1.2. CITY OF TORRINGTON CTVISIT WEBPAGE URL

Documentation Details: 4.1.2. "City of Torrington CTVisit Webpage URL" contains a word document with a hyperlink to an updated CTVisit webpage for the City of Torrington.

Partners: 4.1.2 (CTVisit Webpage): None

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.7 Plan for Long-Term Recovery

15 Points

Approved Information: 5.7.1 - Identify a Long-Term Recovery Manager and establish a long-term recovery committee. (5 points) 5.7.2 - Complete a project on the work plan of the Long Term Recovery Committee. (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: ARPA STRATEGIC_PLAN_2-17-22_0.PDF

PDF: TORRINGTON - ACTION 5.7 - PLAN FOR LONG-TERM RECOVERY - MEMO FROM ASSISTANT CITY PLANNER.PDF

Documentation Details: Attached is a memo from Rista Malanca, Torrington Economic Development Director to the Torrington City Council detailing a strategic plan and budget for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA funding). Torrington's Long Term Recovery Committee was heavily involved in the formation of the ARPA plan. Details on the Committee members (5.7.1.a, 5.7.1.b) and involvement (5.7.2) is outlined in the memo on page 3.

Partners: City of Torrington, DEMHS Region 5, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital (Hartford Health Care), Torrington Area Health District, Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce, Torrington Development Corporation, Northwest Community Foundation, FitTogether, Torrington Rotary, Friendly Hand Food Bank, New Opportunities, Inc. All of the above participated in regular meetings to develop the ARPA strategic plan throughout the 2021 calendar year in cooperation with the Long Term Recovery Committee.

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.6 Manage Municipal Fleets

25 Points

Approved Information: 6.6.1 Manage Municipal Fleets (20 points) 6.6.2 2. Select at least one strategy from your municipal fleet improvement policy or program and describe specifically how you have implemented it (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: VEHICLE REPLACEMENT ADVISORY BOARD.PDF

PDF: VEHICLE REPLACEMENT POLICY.PDF

PDF: VEHICLE INVENTORY.PDF

PDF: EMIL CASTRO EV TRAINING CERTS.PDF
PDF: EMIL CASTRO CITY FLEET EMAIL.PDF

Documentation Details: 6.6.1.a - "Vehicle Inventory" is a spreadsheet that lists all vehicles by department. Included information is the year, description (make/model, etc), life expectancy and budgeting information. 6.6.1.b - "Vehicle Replacement Advisory Board" describes the role of the board established by the City to make purchase, retention and management recommendations for the City fleet 6.6.1.b - "Vehicle Replacement Policy" is the written policy to guide the recommendation decisions of the Vehicle Replacement Advisory Board and the Fleet Manager 6.6.1.b - "Emil Castro EV Training Certs" are copies of certifications obtained by the City Fleet Manager in governmental operations and in the changing Electric Vehicle landscape 6.6.2 - "Emil Castro City Fleet Email" in an email from the City Fleet Manager to the City Planner describing aspects of the implementation of the Fleet Management plan.

Partners: 6.6.1 - None 6.6.2 - None

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.9 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

5 Points

Approved Information: 2.6.1: Participate in C-Pace (5 Points) 2.6.3: C-Pace Participation Projects (5 Points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 2.6.1. C-PACE RESOLUTION

PDF: 2.6.3. C-PACE PARTICIPATION PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
PDF: 2.6.3. C-PACE PARTICIPATION PROPERTY DESCRIPTION PT. 2

Documentation Details: 2.6.1. "C-Pace Resolution" provides documentation that the City of Torrington has opted into the C-Pace program with the Green Bank. 2.6.3. "C-Pace Participation Property Description" provides documented property descriptions of participating C-Pace properties.

Partners: 2.6.1 (C-Pace Resolution): None 2.6.3 (C-Pace Property Description): None

7.6 Install Efficient Exterior Lighting

10 Points

Approved Information: 7.6.1 Streetlight Inventory and Lighting Needs Assessment (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: CITY OF TORRINGTON 2022 QUERY.XLSX

PDF: 1-STREET INDEX FOR MAP GRID.PDF

PDF: 2-STREETLIGHT MAP COVER AND INDEX SHEET.PDF
PDF: PHASE 4 STREET LIGHT LED REPLACEMENT_0001.PDF

PDF: TORRINGTON ACTION 7.6 - LIGHTING NEEDS ASSESSMENT .PDF

Documentation Details: 7.6.1 & 7.6.2.b - "City of Torrington 2022 Query" is a excel spreadsheet inventory listing of all city-owned streetlights with those that have been converted to LED noted. 7.6.1 - "Street Index for Map Grid" and "Streetlight Map Cover and Index Sheet" are used together to index and map City-Owned streetlights. 7.6.1 & 7.6.2.b - "Phase 4 Street Light LED Replacement" - is a document outlining an upcoming "Phase 4" of the City street light replacement program

Partners: 7.6.1 - None 7.6.2.b - None

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 Hold a sustainability event (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: FRANKLIN PLAZA MARKET PLACE FACEBOOK PAGE.PDF

PDF: SUSTAINABILITY EVENT TEMPLATE.PDF

Documentation Details: 8.1.1 - "Franklin Plaza Market Place Facebook Page" describes the latest and upcoming events and vendors at the marketplace 8.1.1 - "Sustainability Event Template" is a general description of the property and event details. These details are further described in the "additional information" section.

Partners: 8.1.1 - Hold a Sustainability Event: Local Business owners operate the Market Place with guidance from various City Department

Additional Information: Franklin Plaza Market Place is organized by local business owners in cooperation with the City Economic Development Department, Parks and Recreation Department and City Planning Department. It is held on the newly (2021) opened Franklin Plaza on the banks of the Naugatuck River in downtown Torrington. The design of the Plaza received a Placemaking Planning award from the CT Chapter of the American Planning Association in 2021. The market place is run each Thursday from 4-7 and is home to an array of local craft vendors, artists, musicians and food vendors. The average Marketplace Event typically attracts around 50-75 people. Photographs of the marketplace and upcoming events can me found at their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/franklinplazamarketplace The City has observed that through these consistent Thursday events, there is genuine interest in the use of Franklin Plaza for events. The City should develop a strategy for marketing and working cooperatively to hold more events in the Plaza as a focal point of Torrington's Downtown.

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.3 Recycle Additional Materials

10 Points

Approved Information: 9.3.1 Textiles, (10 pts)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: TORRINGTON - ACTION 9.3 - AGREEMENT FOR COLLECTION OF SOFT RECYCLABLES.PDF

PDF: TORRINGTON - ACTION 9.3 - MAILER1_7X5_TORR_PROOF.PDF

PDF: TORRINGTON - ACTION 9.3 - SIMPLE RECYCLING PRESS RELEASE 5.30.18.PDF

PDF: TORRINGTON - ACTION 9.3 - SIMPLE RECYCLING WEBPAGE.PDF

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.3 Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces

20 Points

Approved Information: 10.3.3 Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces; Adopt One or More Policies to Reduce Tobacco Use in the Municipality (10 points) 10.3.4 Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces; Implement or Maintain a Strategic Campaign to Prevent Excessive Idling of Motor Vehicles (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: SMOKING ORDINANCE.PDF

PDF: EMIL CASTRO CITY FLEET EMAIL.PDF

Documentation Details: 10.3.3 - "Smoking Ordinance" shows the City of Torrington's recently adopted ordinance prohibiting smoking on any City property. Also attached is the vote sheet for the City Council in passing the ordinance on May 2, 2022. 10.3.4 - "Emil Castro City Fleet Email" is an email from the City of Torrington Fleet Manager that described the monitoring effort for City vehicles to prevent excess idling.

Partners: 10.3.3 - None 10.3.4 - None

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.1 Implement an Affordable Housing Plan

10 Points

Approved Information: 11.1.1 - Create a Housing Committee with Diverse Membership (10 Points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: PARTNERSHIP FOR STRONG COMMUNITIES 2020 HOUSING PROFILE, TORRINGTON

PDF: STATE OF CT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING - AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN GRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

PROGRAM GRANT AWARD NOTICE

PDF: TORRINGTON HOUSING DATA ANALYSIS - OCTOBER 2021 (NHCOG)

PDF: HOUSING AFFORDABILITY PLAN JULY 2022.PDF

PDF: HOUSING PLAN COMMITTEE MINUTES.PDF

PDF: MARCH 9 INFO SESSION.PDF

IMAGE: SURVEY FLYER ENGLISH.PNG

Documentation Details: 11.1.1 - "Housing Affordability Plan July 2022" - the final draft of Torrington's Housing Affordability Plan. See page 3 for the committee members and backgrounds. See page 6-7 for a summary of the community engagement process. 11.1.2 - "Partnership for Strong Communities 2020 Housing Profile, Torrington" - the most recent Torrington Partnership for Strong Communities housing data profile. Profile used and discussed along with census data as resources in drafting the Affordable Housing Plan. 11.1.3 - "State of CT Department of Housing - Affordable Housing Plan Grant Technical Assistance Program Grant Award Notice". Signed 4-23-21. Funding to retain a consulting planner to develop the City Affordable Housing Plan. See also "Housing Affordability Plan July 2022". 11.1.3 - "Housing Plan Committee Minutes" - Torrington Affordable Housing Plan Steering Committee Minutes, September 2021 through April 2022. 11.1.3 - "March 9 Info Session" - Public outreach and feedback session held remotely over ZOOM meeting platform, March 8, 2022 11.1.3 - "Survey Flyer English" - Flyer distributed around the City and through other methods for feedback on the plan and Torrington Housing in general. Summary of the survey is on page 7 of the "Housing Affordability Plan July 2022".

Partners: 11.1 Partnership with the Northwest Hills Council of Governments and the Housing Authority of the City of Torrington as part of the Housing Plan Steering Committee.

Additional Information: Torrington Housing Affordability Plan is in final draft form and is scheduled for adoption at the September 6, 2022 Torrington City Council meeting.

11.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

10 Points

Approved Information: 11.2.1: CT Affordable Housing Appeals List (10 points), published 2018

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 8.2.1 2018 AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST.PDF

Documentation Details: Document "8.2.1 2018 Affordable Housing Appeals List.pdf" is the most recent list published by the CT Department of Housing. Torrington is in the list of exempt communities with an affordable housing percentage of 10.66%.

12. Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

12.2 Increase Public Awareness and Support for Efforts to End Homelessness

5 Points

Approved Information: 12.2.2 Increase Public Awareness and Support for Efforts to End Homelessness (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: FAMILY RESOURCES-HOMLESSNESS.PDF

PDF: MAYOR CARBONE FACEBOOK POST - HOMELESSNESS.PDF

Documentation Details: 12.2.2 - "Family Resources" page from the City of Torrington website. The page includes links to all area entities dealing with homelessness issues (FISH, The Gathering Place, New Opportunities). 12.2.2 - "Mayor Carbone Facebook Post - Homelessness". Link and heading provided on the official Facebook page of Torrington Mayor Elinor Carbone. Link directs to the "Family Resources" page on the City website.

Partners: 12.2.2 - None