

Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

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

Norwalk was certified on May 21, 2025 with 580 points. Listed below is information regarding Norwalk's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Norwalk is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Norwalk was approved for in 2025 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Norwalk, 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 for All Certification Levels

10 Points

Approved Information: 1.1.1 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 1.1 EQUITY TOOL KIT: NORWALK ROUTE 1 CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN STUDY

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOL KIT - TREE MASTER PLAN.DOCX

PDF: 1.1 EQUITY TOOL KIT - WALL STREET.PDF

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT - NORWALK INDUSTRIAL WATERFRONT STUDY .DOCX

PDF: INDUSTRIAL WATERFRONT ANNOUNCEMENT

PDF: INDUSTRIAL WATERFRONT ANNOUNCEMENT SPANISH

Documentation Details: 1.1 Equity Tool Kit: Norwalk Route 1 Corridor Master Plan Study (4/7/2025)

Partners: 1.1 Equity Tool Kit: Norwalk Route 1 Corridor Master Plan Study: Norwalk city staff served as the lead entity for the planning team which consisted of Jim Travers (Director, Transportation, Mobility and Parking), Garrett Bolella (Assistant Director, Transportation, Mobility and Parking), and Michael Ahillen (Project Manager, FHI Studio). The project team includes the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG), the City of Norwalk, and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT). FHI Studio is the prime consultant.

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites



Approved Information: 2.1.1 (15 points) 2.1.3 (10 points) 2.1.4 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: 2.1.1.BROWNFIELDSINVENTORY.XLSX

IMAGE: 2.1.2 MAP OF EXISTING AND POTENTIAL BROWNFIELDS SITES.JPG

PDF: 2.1.2. BROWNFIELDS IN SONO.PDF

PDF: 2.1.2.SUPPORTING DOCUMENT OF BROWNFIELDS IN NORWALK PDF

PDF: 2.1.4. PRIORITY SITE - MANRESA ISLAND, LAND USE ANALYSIS REPORT.PDF

PDF: 2.1.3 - DEEP GRANT APPLICATION - SOUTH NORWALK BROWNFIELD CLEANUP - 4-12-23

PDF: 2.1.4 - PHASE II BROWNFIELD SITE ASSESSMENT

Documentation Details: Attached is a list of the documented brownfields in Norwalk. This list is also included in the recently adopted Plan of Conservation and Development in detail.

https://tomorrow.norwalkct.org/wp-content/uploads/Norwalk-Citywide-Plan.pdf (Page 142 details about Norwalk's brownfields in the POCD.) Link for 2.1..3 Webster St Lot:

https://www.norwalkredevelopmentagency.org/rda-awarded-2m-brownfield-remediation-grant-for-webster-block-redevelopment 2.1.1. Rolling Action Credit, Create a brownfield inventory for Norwalk. 2.1.2. Rolling Credit, Maps created of brownfields for Norwalk 2.1.3. New Action Credit, DEEP Grant for SOuth Norwalk Brownfield Cleanup - 4/12/2023 2.1.4. Rollling Action Credit - Manressa Island - Document is in use for current development planning 2.1.4. New Action Credit, Phase II Brownfield Site Assessment - South Norwalk

Partners: CT DEEP's brownfields inventory Norwalk Redevelopment Agency

Additional Information: The brownfields inventory and Manresa site analysis are still used and relevant in 2024. A new owner has recently purchased the Manresa property and the analysis has been useful to determine the best uses of the property. The analysis has also been shared with the consulting firm hired to create a strategic harbor plan for the city. 3/18/2025: 2.1.1 and 2.1.2: These documents are still relevant for project planning purposes listed above, and for new development project proposals with private developers.

2.2 Implement Sustainable Purchasing



Approved Information: 2.2.3 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: <u>PURCHASING POLICY</u>
WORD: <u>2.2.2 WORKSHEET</u>

Documentation Details: 2.2.2: Purchasing policy includes four environmental impact areas and one policy addressing local purchasing

Partners: None

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services

25 Points

Approved Information: 2.3.1a (15 points) 2.3.2 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 2.3.2 WORKSHEET

IMAGE: 2.3.1 LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY
IMAGE: 2.3.2 BUY LOCAL - CHAMBER

PDF: 2.3.1. & 2.3.2. VISIT NORWALK WEBSITE.PDF

Documentation Details: Current Visit Norwalk Website (home to the buy local campaign): https://www.visitnorwalk.org/ 2.3.1.a. Rolling Credit. Inventory of local retail options & map. Tourism Map and https://www.visitnorwalk.org/ Business listing under Neighborhoods tab https://web.greaternorwalkchamber.com/search Member directory. We also have a business resources directory: https://www.norwalkct.gov/businessdirectoryii.aspx 2.3.2. Rolling Credit. "buy local campaign" known as "Visit Norwalk" helps promote local business.

Partners: The City works with the Chamber of Commerce to help promote, organize and staff events

Additional Information: https://www.norwalkct.org/1881/Small-Business-Main-Street-Program https://norwalknow.org https://discovernorwalk.com/ https://www.norwalkct.org/businessdirectoryii.aspx https://www.visitnorwalk.org/

2.4 Provide Resources and Supports to Local Businesses

15 Points

Approved Information: 2.4.2 (5 points) 2.4.6 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 2.4.2 STOREFRONT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

PDF: 2.4.2 SMALL BUSINESS AND MAIN STREET PROGRAM

WORD: 2.4.1 WORKSHEET

IMAGE: 2.4.2 NORWALK BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

PDF: 2.4.3 2023 HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA VENDORS

PDF: 2.4.3 2024 HALLOWEEN NIGHTFAIR VENDORS - STANDARD
PDF: 2.4.3 2024 HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA VENDORS - STANDARD

IMAGE: 2.4.6 NORWALK FOR BUSINESS

Documentation Details: 2.4.1 New Action Credit. The City of Norwalk Hosts quarterly Roundtables. February 12, 2025 (Tourism Promotion and how to CT Visit) November 13, 2024 (Creative Industry Mixer) October 11, 2023 (Walkbridge Project) 2.4.2. Rolling Credit. Created Small Business and Main Street Programs. Implemented 1/1/2021 by Sabrina Church (Director of Business Development & Tourism), 4/2025: This is an ongoing program. 2.4.2 - Business Development Center - 3 Belden Avenue - We have full time staff that are seated in the Business Development Center. We also have our Director of Business Development and Tourism present at the Center on a rotating schedule weekly. - We host workshops and one on one technical assistance through the business development center 2.4.3. New Action Credit. Three community events that include business participation- Halloween Night Fair - October 28, 2023 & October 29, 2023 Holiday Extravaganza - November 25, 2023 Halloween Night Fair - October 26, 2024 Holiday Extravaganza -December 7, 2024 2.4.6 (20 points): Our Economic and Business Development department provides a monthly business newsletter, free business promotion through the Visit Norwalk website (https://www.visitnorwalk.org/), and offers free support for helping businesses find financing, real estate, and other start-up requirements through the "Norwalk for Business" website (https://norwalkforbusiness.org/). One on one business consulting: https://norwalkforbusiness.org/support-for-your-business/technicalsupport/

Partners: None

Additional Information: In addition to the marketing and tourism promotion of South Norwalk, the City has a new Chief of Business and Economic Development. The Business and Economic Development Department has created a Small Business & Main Street Program that has a storefront improvement program, public art initiative and compacting trash bins that will all improve the area visually. These programs were developed recently by Sabrina Church who is the Director of Business Development and Tourism in Norwalk. Also attached are the advertisements for roundtables that were done with local business owners. Here is the link to the Small Business & Main Street program: https://www.norwalkct.org/1881/Small-Business-Main-Street-Program"

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.1 Provide Watershed Education

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.1.2 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.1.2 2023 FAIRFIELD COUNTY RIVER REPORT

Documentation Details: 3-19-2025 Update: Attached 2023 Fairfield County River Report: "Funding for the research presented here was generously provided by the City of Bridgeport, City of Norwalk, City of Stamford, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Elizabeth Raymond Ambler Trust, Jeniam Foundation, Long Island Sound Futures Fund, Long Island Sound Study, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, New Canaan Community Foundation, Norwalk Mayor's Water Quality Committee, Norwalk River Watershed Association, Town of Fairfield, Town of New Canaan (Conservation Commission), Town of Ridgefield, Town of Stratford, Town of Westport, Town of Wilton, Upwell Coffee, and Westport Shellfish Commission. Additional support was provided by the generosity of individual donors. We thank our funders for their continued support, without which this work would not be possible!" The program is current and active. The reports provided are used monthly during Shellfish Commission and Harbor Management Commission Meetings. ------ The attached 2022 Fairfield County River Report was done by Harbor Watch which is a research and education program located in Westport. The report was funded in part by the City of Norwalk and monitored bacteria levels in 16 river watersheds, including Farm Creek, Silvermine River, Norwalk River and Saugatuck River. As part of the Harbor Watch study and ultimately the drafting of the Fairfield County River Report, the public is involved throughout the process including the collecting, sampling and monitoring of the rivers. As stated in the report, 60 high school and college students were trained as part of the 2022 report, making it an excellent opportunity for public involvement in environmental protection and as an educational opportunity for young adults (and the entire public!) The program is current and active. The reports provided are used monthly during Shellfish Commission and Harbor Management Commission Meetings. 3.1.2. Rolling Credit, Citizen Science

Partners: Harbor Watch, Earthplace Inc., Westport, CT 06880

3.2 Create a Watershed Management Plan

30 Points

Approved Information: 3.2.1 (10 points) 3.2.2 (10 points) 3.2.3 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: FIVEMILERIVER FINAL WBP.PDF
PDF: NORWALK WBP CHP5-7.PDF

PDF: SAUGATUCK RIVER WMP FINAL.PDF
PDF: NORWALK DRAINAGE MANUAL 2017.PDF

PDF: NORWALK-WBP-CHP1-4 - MAP SUBWATERSHED AND HEADWATERS.PDF

PDF: CONTINUED NORWALK WBP CHP1-4.PDF

PDF: SAUGATUCK RIVER WATERSHED BASED PLAN - SOIL TYPES.PDF

PDF: 3.2.1 WATER RESOURCES INVENTORY MAP.PDF
PDF: OVERVIEW OF 3.2 ITEMS DOCUMENT UPDATED.PDF

PDF: 3.2.3_WORKSHEET.PDF

WORD: OLD 3.2 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.DOCX

Documentation Details: Narrative for this action is found in the Word document "Overview of 3.2 items document updated". Links to full documents: East Norwalk TOD: https://tomorrow.norwalkct.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/20200615_18500_ENW-TOD-Report_DRAFT_compressed.pdf DPW Drainage Manual: https://www.norwalkct.org/DocumentCenter/View/11484/Final-Drainage-Manual---4-27-2017?bidId= Norwalk Watershed Plans: https://www.norwalkct.org/1267/Norwalk-River-Watershed 3.2.1. Rolling Credit. Watershed Management Plan Inventory. No updates needed as of 4/1/25 (policy still current and relevant). 3.2.2. Rolling Credit. Regulation Review and Alignment with Watershed Protection Goals. No updates needed as of 4/1/25 (policy still current and relevant). 3.2.3. Rolling Credit. Action Plan. No updates needed as of 4/1/25 (policy still current and relevant).

Partners: The City of Norwalk provides financial and personnel support to the Norwalk River Watershed Initiative (NRWI) and personnel support the Saugatuck River Watershed Partnership (SRWP) and the Five Mile River Watershed Action Group (Action Group). The NRWI is a collaborative partnership between the seven watershed municipalities, regional, state and federal government stakeholders, non-profit groups, and interested individuals with the goal of improving conditions throughout the watershed utilizing public outreach & education and implementation of action items. The NRWI has had a watershed Action Plan in place since 1998 and the City continues to be an active and financially supportive member. The Saugatuck Watershed Partnership was led by The Nature Conservancy, which brought together a large group of watershed stakeholders to identify key resources in need of protection and specific actions to curb negative impacts on those resources. The Five Mile River Group, currently not active, was a partnership between the City of Norwalk and a watershed neighborhood group. When active, the group pushed monthly public outreach and education to all neighborhood residents. Collaboration and participation with all of these partners has allowed the City to work together in many ways to ensure our watershed resources are considered during large-scale and small-scale decision making by the City and its citizens.

Additional Information: The multiple maps submitted for 3.2.1 show multiple aspects of the Saugatuck River Watershed, Five Mile River Watershed and Norwalk River Watershed in Norwalk, including headwaters, aquifers, land use and land cover, soil type and sub-watershed. For regulation review, the watershed management plans had a big impact on the adoption of the 2017 Norwalk Drainage Manual which is administered by the Department of Public Works. In the attached 3.2.2 Regulation Review, excerpts are taken from the Drainage Manual that show that the goals and objectives of the policy are a result of the watershed management plans that are in place today. Plans that are soon to be adopted by Norwalk like the East Norwalk TOD plan also place an emphasis on decreasing the amount of impervious surface in the city, which can help to prevent pollutants from running off into the Norwalk River and even the Saugatuck River Watershed. Actions listed in the Saugatuck River Watershed Plan include water quality monitoring, reducing impervious surfaces, restoring riparian buffers and land protection. Throughout 2025 Norwalk has used the watershed management plan inventory and watershed management action plan. We have reviewed the inventory, plan, and our regulations for continuing relevance and the information is still current and relevant.

3.5 Create a Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory



Approved Information: 3.5.1 (10 points) 3.5.2 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.5.1 BASE MAP.PDF

PDF: 3.5.1. WATER RESOURCE: COASTAL RESOURCE MAP.PDF

PDF: 3.5.1. FLOOD HAZARD MAP.PDF

PDF: 3.5.1. OFFICIAL IWW MAP 2010.PDF

PDF: 3.5.1. REGULATED AREAS MAP.PDF

PDF: 3.5.1. NORWALK WATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATIONS CT DEEP MAP.PDF

PDF: 3.5.1. SOIL DRAINAGE CLASS MAP.PDF

PDF: 3.5.2. NRI INTEGRATION.PDF
PDF: 3.5.1. 8 AERIAL PHOTO.PDF

Documentation Details: The narrative for this action is detailed in the Word document "NRI Narrative& maps". The maps referenced in the Appendix of the narrative are attached. 3.5.1. Rolling Credit. Natural Resource Inventory. 2020 - no updates needed, supporting documents still relevant as of 4/7/2025 3.5.2. Rolling Credit. Use of NRI in Municipal Planning. 2020 - no updates needed, supporting documents still relevant as of 4/7/2025

Partners: 3.5.1 Natural Resource Inventory. (none) 3.5.2 Use of NRI in Municipal Planning. (none)

Additional Information: Throughout 2024 Norwalk has used both the NRW Inventory and integrated it into our planning practices. We have reviewed the Inventory for continuing relevance and the information is still current and relevant.

3.6 Manage for Drought and Municipal Water Use

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.6.3 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: EMERGENCY DROUGHT ANNOUNCEMENT

Documentation Details: 3.6.2 example of recent drought "news flash" with relevant links to resources and state drought plans https://www.norwalkct.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2513 3.6.3 link to current water emergency ordinance: https://ecode360.com/27049953

Partners: None

3.8 Implement Low Impact Development

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.8.1a (5 points) 3.8.2b (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.8.2A. IMPLEMENTLOWIMPACTDEVELOPMENT_STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND LID POCD.PDF

PDF: 3.8.2B. LID ZONING REGS .PDF

PDF: 3.8.1A. LID CONSERVATION PAGE.PDF

PDF: 3.8.2B_WORKSHEET.PDF
IMAGE: 3.8.1A LID EDUCATION

Documentation Details: 3.8.1a. 2025 Conservation page of Norwalk's city website with links to low impact development opportunities https://www.norwalkct.gov/l145/Low-Impact-Development 3.8.2a. POCD sections detailing stormwater management and low impact development goals and actions 3.8.2b. 2024 Zoning regulations encouraging low impact development as an incentive - pg. 37 (Article 50, 118-504, section E (2)(d)). I know that the POCD is quite a large document, but I believe that entire section (Chapter 8, Part III) does an excellent job at showing how much importance was given to low impact development and pollution reduction in the 2019-2029 POCD. https://tomorrow.norwalkct.org/wp-content/uploads/Norwalk-Citywide-Plan.pdf 3.8.1.Education Projects. 3.8.1a. Rolling Credit. Distribute educational materials on LID practices on town website. (2025) https://www.norwalkct.gov/l145/Low-Impact-Development 3.8.2. Planning, Regulation and Policy 3.8.2a. Rolling Credit. Include and encourage stormwater management and LID in POCD (2019) 3.8.2b. Rolling Credit. Encourage LID in town regulations (2019)

Partners: 3.8.1.Education Projects: None 3.8.1a Distribute educational materials on LID practices on town website. https://www.norwalkct.gov/1145/Low-Impact-Development 3.8.2 Planning, Regulation and Policy 3.8.2a Include and encourage stormwater management and LID in POCD 3.8.2b Encourage LID in town regulations - link to zoning regulations here:

https://www.norwalkct.gov/DocumentCenter/View/32460/Norwalk-Zoning-Regulations Effective 2 19 24

Additional Information: Section 118-504E.2.d "Green Infrastructure" Norwalk is encouraging future projects to include low impact development which is a common theme in the 2019-2029 POCD. Attached are the relevant sections of the POCD as well as the business section of the zoning regulations which contains green infrastructure incentives for development such as green roofs, rain gardens, solar panels, etc. These regulations were updated as recently as June 2019. The city is also in the process of developing a transit-oriented development zone along East Avenue, near the East Norwalk Train Station, which will include more green and low impact development incentives. We hope to include that accomplishment in our next submission to Sustainable CT as we work towards our goal of sustainability. Low impact development is encouraged on Norwalk's Conservation Department page as well, which includes how households can implement ideas like rain barrels, rain gardens and permeable pavement to increase the amount of natural infiltration of precipitation and reduce runoff. Alexis Cherichetti is our Senior Environmental Officer and has done a tremendous job of informing residents of easily implementable conservation techniques. In 2025 these regulations are still relevant and used by Norwalk as evidenced in our current zoning regulations and up-to-date webpage.

3.9 Manage Woodlands and Urban Forests

50 Points

Approved Information: 3.9.1 (5 points) 3.9.2a (10 points) 3.9.2b (10 points) 3.9.2d (10 points) 3.9.3 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.9.2. TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN.PDF

PDF: UPDATED - TREE ORDINANCE - APPROVED BY COMMON COUNCIL.PDF

PDF: 3.9.3 BEST PRACTICES EXAMPLE

PDF: PROOF OF ACTION -TREE ORDINANCE - COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES OCTOBER 26 2021.PDF

PDF: 3.9.2C -NORWALK, CT PUBLIC TREE SAMPLE INVENTORY SUMMARY SEPT2023 (1)

PDF: 3.9.1 TREE COMMISSION AGENDA NOVEMBER 26 2024

IMAGE: 3.9.1 TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION 4-2025

WORD: 3.9.2.A. WORKSHEET I CANOPY ASSESSMENT - COMPLETE

WORD: 3.9.2.B. WORKSHEET 2 TREE POLICY - COMPLETE

Documentation Details: Norwalk Tree Alliance NEW webpage: https://norwalktreealliance.com/ Norwalk Tree Advisory Committee page: https://www.norwalkct.org/1068/Tree-Advisory Update: Supporting documents have been uploaded including NEW tree ordinance, city staff tree summit meeting to better coordination between departments, and a recent agenda of the Tree Advisory Committee showing updates to the tree planting program is underway. 3.9.1. Rolling credit. Established a Forestry Advisory Committee (FAC) 3.9.2. Rolling credit. Forestry Advisory Committee accomplished tasks: a. Canopy Cover Assessment - Worksheet Attached b. Policy Review - Worksheet attached c. Tree Inventory - (Sample attached) d. New: 2025 Master Tree Management Plan: https://www.norwalkct.gov/3649/Tree-Master-Plan 3.9.3 Best Practices - Worksheet attached

Partners: Norwalk Tree Alliance: https://www.thenorwalktreealliance.com/ The Norwalk Tree Alliance is not a committee appointed by the Mayor but works directly with the City as volunteers to promote healthy trees in Norwalk.

Additional Information: Update: The City of Norwalk has updated the Tree Ordinance and plans to start updating supporting documents mentioned below. The City also held a Tree Submit Planning Meeting to support these on going efforts. Department of Public Works Tree Summit Planning Meeting held 5/21/2021 where important stakeholders (city officials, non-profits, common council members, TAC) within the city gathered to discuss the management of trees and the future of trees within Norwalk. The goal was to establish understanding of tree management within each stakeholder and create better communication of tree management through out the city. Throughout 2024 Norwalk has reviewed the Tree Management plan for continuing relevance and the information is still current and relevant. (3.9.2d)

3.10 Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.10.3a (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: 3.10.3.A INVASIVE SPECIES.JPG

Documentation Details: 3.10.3.a link to webpage: https://www.norwalkct.gov/571/Plants-Local-Land-Care

Partners: None

3.13 Promote Dark Skies

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.13.3 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.13.3 ZONING REGULATIONS LIGHTING STANDARDS.PDF

Partners: 3.13.3: None

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Inventory Tourism and Cultural Assets

20 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.1 (15 points) 4.1.2 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 4.1.1A_WORKSHEET (1)

PDF: 4.1.1A NORWALK TOURISM MAP_10-9-24_REV31

IMAGE: 4.1.2 CTVISIT PROFILE

Documentation Details: 4.1a (10 Points): Tourism and Cultural Asset Inventory: Worksheet attached: Visit Norwalk has a web-based list and maps to connect people with local attractions: https://www.visitnorwalk.org/things-to-do/attractions/ https://www.visitnorwalk.org/things-to-do/recreation/4.1.1b (5 points) - Map Attached 4.1.2 (5 points) - https://ctvisit.com/listings/city-norwalk Most recent post - Earth Day 3/4/2025

Partners: None

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5	Dynam	ic and	l Resilient	Dianning

5.1 Integrate Sustainability into Plan of Conservation and Development

25 Points

Approved Information: 5.1.1a (5 points) 5.1.1b (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: OLD 5.1 INTEGRATE SUSTAINABILITY INTO POCD AND ZONING.PDF

PDF: OLD WORKSHEET 5.1B.PDF

PDF: OLD ACTION_5.1_WORKSHEET_A.DOCX.PDF

PDF: 5.1.1A. WORKSHEET_1.PDF
PDF: 5.1.B. WORKSHEET_2.PDF

PDF: 5.1.1A. POCD SUSTAINABILITY CONCEPTS.PDF

PDF: 5.1.A FUTURE LAND USE MAP.PDF

Documentation Details: The following documents list how each of the sustainability concepts were integrated into the Norwalk 2019-2029 POCD. The POCD heavily focused on both smart growth and sustainable land development through preserving existing environmental resources. 4-2025: The Norwalk Route 1 Corridor project was selected project to implement the Equity Toolkit for section 1.1 - The Norwalk Route 1 Corridor Master Plan will be an amendment to the POCD and act as the guiding document for development in West Norwalk. Norwalk's POCD: https://tomorrow.norwalkct.org/wp-content/uploads/Norwalk-Citywide-Plan.pdf 5.1.a. Rolling Credit. Hazard Mitigation Plan Goals in the POCD. 2019 5.1.b. Rolling Credit. POCD Sustainability Concepts. 2019

Partners: The Route 1 Corridor project team includes the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG), the City of Norwalk, and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT). FHI Studio is the prime consultant. Stantec, consultant for the POCD

Additional Information: Here is the link to the Norwalk POCD since it is too large to attach: https://tomorrow.norwalkct.org/wp-content/uploads/Norwalk-Citywide-Plan.pdf Page numbers for each of the concepts are included in worksheet 4.1b Link to the East Norwalk TOD Plan: https://tomorrow.norwalkct.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/20200615_18500_ENW-TOD-Report_DRAFT_compressed.pdf Norwalk has reviewed the plan for continuing relevance and the information is still current and relevant as of 2024.

5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices

20 Points

Approved Information: 5.3.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 5.3.1 ZONING REGULATIONS FARMING.PDF

Documentation Details: To support agriculture uses, our regulations allowing farming without requiring a zoning permit. Farms, truck gardens, and nurseries are permitted land uses, provided all produce is cultivated on the premises and there are no more than two beehives per quarter acre, with seasonal farm stands up to 400 square feet allowed.

Partners: 5.3.1: None

5.8 Promote Cool Roofs

20 Points

Approved Information: 5.8.3 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 5.8.3.A SUSTAINABLE ROOF REQUIREMENT

Partners: 5.8.3.a: None

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.1 Implement Complete Streets

35 Points

Approved Information: 6.1.3 (20 points) 6.1.6 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 6.1.3_WORKSHEET-COMPLETE

WORD: <u>6.1.6_WORKSHEET - 1 ROWAYTON AVENUE_COMPLETE</u> **EXCEL:** <u>6.1.2_COMPLETE STREETS TRAINING 03-12-25 ATTENDEES</u>

WORD: <u>6.1.6_WORKSHEET - 2 NRVT BRIDGE</u>
WORD: <u>6.5.3_WORKSHEET_COMPLETE</u>

PDF: 6.1.3 COMPLETE STREETS ORDINANCE - 2024-11-12

Documentation Details: NEW 2025: 6.1.1 (5 points): Build a Complete Streets Team - Attrached 6.1.2 (5 points): Have at least one municipal elected official and/or staff member and/or members of relevant commissions participate in a Complete Streets training. - Attached 6.1.3 (20 points): By municipal resolution or ordinance, adopt a Complete Streets policy - Worksheet attached 6.1.4 (10 points): Inventory and review planning and design documents. 6.1.5 (10 Points): Bicycle Friendly Report Card - Report Card attached to the subsequent link: https://bikeleague.org/wp-

content/uploads/2024/02/BFC_Fall_2023_ReportCard_HM_Norwalk_CT.pdf 6.1.6 (5 points): two projects worksheets are attached

Partners: None

6.2 Promote Effective Parking Management

20 Points

Approved Information: 6.2.2b (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 6.2.2.B PARKING.PDF

PDF: 6.2.2B EVTZ PARKING REGULATIONS - RELEVANT CONTINED PARTICIPATION ON ACTION

PDF: 6.2.2B IMPLEMENTED PROJECT 1 CEMETERY STREET - APPROVED RESOLUTION FOR SPECIAL PERMIT 3.22.23.

Documentation Details: Rolling: 6.2.2.b Fee in lieu of parking is on page 11 and the parking exemption for downtown properties is on page 7. Additional documents proof of continued implementation of action: 6.2.2b. EVTZ parking regulations - see preamble of the zone on page 2 " Minimize land area for surface parking and establish parking requirement that support transit and provide appropriate levels of residential parking on site" 6.2.2b. implemented project - Most recent project approved in the East Norwalk Village TOD Zone - 1 Cemetery Street a mixed used development of 77 residential units with restaurant and retail spaces used parking reductions and limited paved area. (see approved resolution of the project) 2025: Norwalk continues to incorporate these policies. As Norwalk is in the process of updating the zoning regulations, parking minimums have been reduced in the downtown areas of the city which include South Norwalk and the Central Business Design District along West Avenue and Wall Street. The Planning and Zoning Department is also working on an East Norwalk Village Transit Oriented Development District (EVTZ) which will contain shared parking between adjacent properties. Norwalk has reduced minimum parking requirements from 2.0 spaces per residential unit in a multifamily dwelling to 1.3 parking spaces per unit. In the downtown areas the city has also reduced the parking minimums from 1 space/200 square feet of retail space to 1 space/1000 square feet of retail space. Also in the South Norwalk Business District and Central Business District, if the required parking cannot be physically met, a fee-in-lieu of parking can be paid to the city. The city then uses these funds to provide parking in parking garages that are strategically located in the downtown areas of Norwalk. Properties in Norwalk that are in the downtown areas and within 1000 feet of a public parking facility are also exempt from providing parking. 6.2.2.b. Rolling Credit. Promote Effective Parking Management. 2019. New EVTZ regulations effective 2022. All parking reduction regulations are current and in effect as of 2023.

Partners: None.

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

20 Points

Approved Information: 6.5.4 (10 points) 6.5.5 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 6.5.4 PEDESTRIAN PLAN.PDF

IMAGE: 6.5.4 BIKEWALK NORWALK.JPG

PDF: 6.5.5 PROMOTE PUBLIC TRANSIT AND OTHER MOBILITY OPTIONS.PDF

WORD: 6.5.4 WORKSHEET.DOCX

PDF: 6.5.4_NORWALKTMPCHAPTER11INTRODUCTIONPDF.PDF

PDF: 6.5.4 NORWALKTMPCHAPTER21PROJECTDEVELOPMENTPDF.PDF

PDF: 6.5.4_NORWALKTMPCHAPTER25RECOMMENDEDPOLICIESANDSTRATEGIESPDF.PDF

WORD: 6.5.5_WORKSHEET.DOCX

Documentation Details: Rolling: 6.5.4 (10 points) Rolling: 6.5.5 (10 points)

https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/PP_Bureau/Transportation-Studies-Share-this-pages-direct-link-with-a-friend-or-coworker-www.ctgovdotstudies/Norwalk-Transportation-Management-Plan-DOT01020336PE Norwalk Pedestrian & Bikeway Plan: https://www.norwalkct.org/DocumentCenter/View/2115/P975-NorwalkBikePed-FINAL-Improvement-Plan?bidId= Link to East Norwalk TOD: https://tomorrow.norwalkct.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/20200615_18500_ENW-TOD-Report_DRAFT_compressed.pdf 6.5.4. Rolling Credit. Norwalk Transportation Management Plan was intended to provide guidance and direction for the City and provide templates for transportation resources that are planned, designed, and constructed. The Plan was implemented in 2012 and is currently being reviewed and potentially updated. 6.5.5 Rolling Credit. The East Norwalk TOD Plan was adopted as an amendment to the 2019-2029 POCD. No updates needed (policy still current and relevant) 2025: These plans and policies are still used for ongoing planning purposes.

Partners: Transportation, Mobility, and Parking in conjunction with the Bike Walk Commission.

Additional Information: Norwalk's Transportation, Mobility and Parking Department is in charge of implementing improvements to mobility within Norwalk. Projects include sidewalk widening, bike lanes and sharrows and designing complete streets. Norwalk existing conditions encompass an array of multimodal transportation opportunities including buses, commuter rail, interstate highway, local street, multiuse trails and bicycles facilities. However, Norwalk suffers from local bottlenecking due to construction and high traffic congestion. The spill over from Interstate 95 can often intensify these issues. Norwalk has potential to resolve these issues as we head into the future by creating accessibility and link between for all modes of transportation. The Transportation, Mobility and Parking Department has implemented a Transportation Management Plan which is linked in the documentation details (the pdfs of the plan are at the bottom of the linked page). The Norwalk Bike Walk Commission has also implemented Norwalk's Pedestrian Plan. The goal of the plan is to increase the walkability in Norwalk which will lower traffic and increase pedestrian safety. The Bike Walk Commission also implemented the Norwalk Pedestrian & Bikeway Transportation Plan in 2012 (the plan is also linked due to being too large to attach). Both our community mobility needs assessment and pedestrian plan are still relevant and used by our municipality, specifically our Transportation, Mobility, and Parking Department and our Bike/Walk Commission. The documents are used as a guide and aid in decision making,

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.3 Achieve High Energy Performance for Individual Buildings

5 Points

Approved Information: 7.3.2 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 7.3 ACHIEVE HIGH ENERGY PERFORMANCE FOR INDIVIDUAL BUILDINGS.PDF

PDF: 7.3.2 NORWALK FIRE DEPT SCORECARD.PDF

Documentation Details: 7.3.2. Rolling Action Credit. Achieve High Energy Performance for Individual

Buildings. 2014.

Partners: Norwalk Fire Department

Additional Information: https://www.usgbc.org/projects/norwalk-fire-headquarters

7.9 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

20 Points

Approved Information: 7.9.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: OLD MAYORS C-PACE LETTER_201505041119324621.PDF

PDF: 2.6 C-PACE.PDF

PDF: 7.9.1 NORWALK'S LEGAL AGREEMENT.PDF

IMAGE: 7.9.1. SCREENSHOT OF CPACE LINK.JPG

PDF: NORWALK CPACE AGREEMENT EXECUTED.PDF

EXCEL: 7.9.3 COMPLETED C-PACE PROJECTS- NORWALK

Documentation Details: 2.6.1. New Action Credit. Legal agreement and posting on website. 2.7.3 New Action

Credit. Recently completed C-PACE projects

Partners: CPACE, POISGEN, Sustainable CT

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

5 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: 8.1_WORKSHEET.XLSX

Partners: 8.1.1 (sustainability event): None

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.4 Compost Organic Waste

15 Points

Approved Information: 9.4.1 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 9.4 FOOD SCRAP RECYCLING GUIDE

IMAGE: NORWALK FOOD SCRAP COLLECTION

Documentation Details: 9.4.1 and 9.4.2 Rolling Credit. Continue the Food Scrap Recycling/Composting Program that took effect 7/1/2020. Link to current compost webpage: https://www.norwalkct.gov/2085/Composting (2024) (2025)

Partners: 9.4.1 and 9.4.2 (composting): None

Additional Information: Norwalk is excited to announce the implementation of the food scrap recycling program, effective July 17, 2020! Food scraps can be brought to the Norwalk Transfer Station or the Rowayton Community Center for disposal in an effort to reduce the amount of food that ends up in a landfill, which will reduce the amount of greenhouse gases emitted by food waste. Residents can purchase composting starter kits and bags from the city which they can then begin to use to collect their food scraps. By implementing this program, the city will be able to create compost and improve the environment.

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.4.1 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:PDF: FODOR FARMS AGREEMENT

Documentation Details: 10.4.1 (15 points): Develop and promote inclusive spaces and programs that provide opportunities for residents to engage in local farming, gardening, or other forms of horticulture or plant cultivation. VIDEO link: https://www.norwalkct.gov/1181/Fodor-Farm; Website link: https://www.norwalkct.gov/2111/Fodor-Farm: Sustainable gardens and a learning environment With sustainable gardening setting the environmental stage at Fodor Farm, the new facilities now provide a home for the demonstration and hosting of events to promote healthy eating. If you wander the grounds you'll find 300 working plots/gardens that can be rented for the season, an orchard, beehives, greenhouses, tool sheds, and a tree farm. Please contact rkovacs@norwalkct.gov with any plot or greenhouse seasonal rental information.

Partners: There is a Friends of Fodor Farms volunteer group to help with site maintenance

10.6 Plan and Prepare for Extreme Heat

10 Points

Approved Information: 10.6.1b (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 10.6.1B DISTRIBUTION TO MUNICIPAL DEPTS PROOF

PDF: 10.6.1B HEAT ASSESSMENT
WORD: 10.6.1B WORKSHEET
PDF: 10.6.1D HEAT PLAN

PDF: 10.6.1 - HEAT ASSESSMENT CIRCA WEBINAR 092722 - CLIMATE CHANGE HEALTH HEAT SENSORS-V3 (SEPT 27,

2022)

PDF: 10.6.1 NORWALK EXTREME HEAT--EDUCATION -QUICK OVERVIEW FROM A PUBLIC HEALTH LENS (MAY 24, 2024)

Documentation Details: Though the assessment is not yet complete, we did receive initial data from CIRCA which is attached. In lieu of sending the 24 maps and excel sheets received, we have attached the meta data provided which outlines the data collection processes and contains dates of collection and updates. The attached email was distributed to the Health Department, IT Department (GIS), and Planning and Zoning Department. 10.6.1. New Action Credit. CIRCA Heat Assessment. 5/10/2023 10.6.1D: Heat Plan

Partners: 10.6.1 (heat assessment): CIRCA

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

25 Points

Approved Information: 11.2.1 (5 points) 11.2.2 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 11.2.GROWSUSTAINABLEANDAFFORDABLEHOUSINGOPTIONS_FINALAPPEALSSUMMARY2014PDF.PDF
PDF: 11.2.GROWSUSTAINABLEANDAFFORDABLEHOUSINGOPTIONS_FINAL-APPEALS-SUMMARY-2018.PDF

PDF: WORKFORCE HOUSING REGS

PDF: 11.2.1. AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST 2021PDF

PDF: UPDATED WORKFORCE HOUSING REGULATIONS ARTICLE 101 - EFFECTIVE 5-15-21.PDF

PDF: 11.2.1 AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST 2022
PDF: 11.2.1 AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST 2023

PDF: 11.1 2024-AFFORDABLE-APPEALS-LIST-FOR-ON-LINE-V2

Documentation Details: The City of Norwalk has increased the percentage of affordable units in the city from 11.83% in 2014 to 12.75% in 2018, to 13.15% in 2019 and now to the most current 13.34% in 2023. Norwalk increased its affordable housing percentage from 12.75% in 2018 to 13.34% in 2023. Norwalk revised its Workforce Housing Regulations in 2021 that requires that any construction of multifamily or mixed-use developments containing 3-9 units include workforce housing units or include an inclusionary zoning fee of \$10.00 per \$1,000 of residential construction cost to be paid into a fund to be used to construct, rehabilitate, or repair affordable housing. Construction of multifamily or mixed-use developments containing 10 or more units shall designate a minimum of 10% of all units as workforce housing units (%60 SMI). The city allows flexibility for developments to use %80 SMI and apply an inclusionary fee. This will allow the city to further expand the amount of newly constructed affordable units in Norwalk which are in high demand. Another theme in the 2019-2029 POCD is to provide diverse housing options and to encourage mixed-income developments in the city. Given the housing shortage that is nationwide, Norwalk's Planning & Zoning and Fair Housing Departments have been very proactive in providing equitable housing options for all income levels, and the city is continuing to provide affordable housing units. In addition, the city has recently formed and Ad Hoc Committee All documents attached are submitted for 11.2.1 and 11.2.2 11.2.1. Rolling Action Credit. Affordable Housing Appeals List. 2022. 11.2.2. Rolling Action Credit Increased Affordable Housing. 2019. 2025: Affordable housing Plan: https://tomorrow.norwalkct.org/wpcontent/uploads/2025/01/Norwalk-AHAP_2025-01-10.pdf

Partners: None.

Additional Information: 11.2.3: Commit dedicated funding to affordable housing development. The operating budgets are large files so in lieu of attaching, the links can be found below with relevant page information to funding affordable housing development. 2023 Fiscal Year: From page 14 of the PDF- the city will commit \$1.5MM in funding to Housing-related efforts. These efforts will include an Affordable Housing Plan, a residential façade program for owner and renter occupied homes, and a low-interest loan program to support low-income residents with housing improvements. From page 32 of the PDF- \$359,389 of the capital budget was allocated to affordable housing, and increase from \$250,000 in 2022. https://www.norwalkct.gov/DocumentCenter/View/28307/FY2023-Final-Approved-Operating-Budget-Book 2025 Fiscal Year: From page 31 of the PDF- the RDA was awarded a \$6 million Community Challenge Grant from the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development to design a TOD project at the South Norwalk ("SoNo") Train Station. After working with the community on master planning the west side of the train station, the TOD project will include affordable housing, community amenities and improved connectivity to the train station. From page 32 of the PDF- \$120,000 Affordable Housing Plan will be undertaken with anticipated completion in calendar year 2025. https://www.norwalkct.gov/DocumentCenter/View/33747/FY2025-Approved-Operating-Budget-Book

11.3 Implement Policy for Sustainable, Diverse Housing Options

20 Points

Approved Information: 11.3.3 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 11.3.3 ZONING REGULATIONS WORKFORCE HOUSING.PDF

PDF: 11.3.2 ZONING REGULATIONS BOARDING ROOMING HOUSE.PDF

Documentation Details: 11.3.2: We define boarding/rooming houses which allow 4-20 unrelated persons to live in a single household. 11.3.3. New Action Credit. 10% affordable units. Our workforce/affordable housing regulations are attached to show that we require that 10% of all housing units in developments of more than 5 units are affordable. Norwalk requires 1 WFH unit in developments with 3-9 units (greater than 10%), and 10% minimum for developments with 10 or more units. 2025: Affordable Housing Action Plan: https://tomorrow.norwalkct.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Norwalk-AHAP_2025-01-10.pdf

Partners: 11.3.2 (Unrelated persons): None 11.3.3 (10% affordable units): None

Additional Information: COnsultants: AKRF, Kevin Dwarka LLC

12. Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

12.4 Provide or Mobilize Resources to Address Homelessness

10 Points

Approved Information: 12.4.1 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 12.4.1 DRAFT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2024

PDF: 12.4.1 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2020-2024
PDF: 12.4.1 COMMON_COUNCIL_MEETING_MINUTES 4/23/23

WORD: 12.4.1_WORKSHEET 1

Documentation Details: Funding details can be found on page 3 of document 12.4.1 Proof of Municipal Funding. Beginning at the bottom of page 9 of document 12.4.1 Draft Annual Action Plan 2024 are details regarding the City's commitment to efforts to prevent and end homelessness through our partnership with Open Doors, which is also outlined in the approved document 12.4.1 Consolidated Annual Action Plan 2020-2024. The meeting minutes show unanimous approval from the common council of funds allocated from the Community Service Department to Open Doors shelter on pages 8 and 9. Article also highlights Norwalk's approval of 92,000 allocated to the Open doors shelter:

https://www.nancyonnorwalk.com/norwalk-approves-contract-with-open-doors-shelter/

Partners: 12.4.1 The Open Door Shelter 12.4.1 Norwalk Redevelopment Agency

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

15 Points

Approved Information: 13.1.1 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 13.1.1 INDUSTRIAL WATERFRONT LAND USE STUDY PUBLIC PRESENTATION

PDF: 13.1.1 PUBLIC MEETING BILINGUAL FLYER IND. WATERFRONT

PDF: 3.1.1 SONO RESLIENCE WORKSHOP FLYER

PDF: 13.1.1 SONO RESILIENCE WORKSHIP PRESENTATION

PDF: 817220203485408.PDF

PDF: 817220204006373.PDF

PDF: 817220204628614.PDF

PDF: 817220205193549 (1).PDF

Partners: 13.1.1 UCONN Climate Corps and CIRCA for Resilient SoNo