



Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable CT Certification Report of Vernon, a Sustainable CT gold certified applicant.

Vernon was certified on May 21, 2025 with 980 points. Listed below is information regarding Vernon's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Vernon is:

Name:	SHAUN GATELY
Title/Position:	DIRECTOR / DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Vernon 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 Vernon, 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

40 Points

Approved Information: 1.1.1 (30 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT FOR ACTION 6.5.3 COMPLETING A WALK AUDIT \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT FOR ACTION 10.7.2 IMPROVE OUTDOOR ACCESS \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [EQUITY TOOLKIT ACTION 13.1- CONNECTION BEATS ADDICTION.PDF](#)

PDF: [1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT FOR ACTION 3.9.3 IMPLEMENT 2 BEST PRACTICES FOR URBAN FORESTS \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [EQUITY TOOLKIT- 10.5.2.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: See toolkit for description details. --- 1.1 Equity Toolkit for Action 10.5.2 Increasing financial accessibility of Vernon's Farmers Market (10 points) 1.1 Equity Toolkit for Action 6.5.3 Completing a Walk Audit (10 points) 1.1 Equity Toolkit for Action 13.1 Connection Beats Addiction (10 points) 1.1 Equity Toolkit for Action 10.7.2 Improve Outdoor Access (10 points) 1.1 Equity Toolkit for Action 3.9.3 Implement 2 best practices for urban forests (10 points)

Partners: 1.1- 10.5.2: Equity Toolkit 10.5.2 MarketLink was able to award Vernon a grant to be able to purchase the equipment to provide SNAP. 1.1- 6.5.3- None 1.1- 13.1- Hvcc contract for services, Vernon ROCKS Coalition, local prevention council 1.1 - 10.7.2- CT Age Well Collaborative leads the Daring Dialogue discussion 1.1- 3.9.3 CT DEEP were helpful in the process of creating resources

Additional Information: N/A

1.2 Participate in Equity Training – REQUIRED for Gold Certification

5 Points

Approved Information: 1.2.2 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [1.2.1_SUSTAINABLE CT COVER SHEETS.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 1.2.1 Equity Training (10 points)

Partners: 1.2.1 Equity Training (10 points): None

Additional Information: No

1.3 Develop and Adopt a Statement on Equity – REQUIRED for Gold Certification

20 Points

Approved Information: 1.3.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [1.3.1DEVELOP AND ADOPT A STATEMENT ON EQUITY \(20 POINTS\)](#)

Partners: 1.3.1 (equity statement) None

Additional Information: N/A

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites

20 Points

Approved Information: 2.1.3 (10 points) 2.1.4 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [2.1.1 BROWNFIELD INVENTORY WITH MAP \(15 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [2.1.3 PREPARE AND SUBMIT A GRANT PROPOSAL FOR SITE ASSESSMENT OR CLEAN-UP. \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [2.1.4 CONDUCT ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS FOR ONE OR MORE PRIORITY SITES \(10 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All documents are simplified, marked appropriately and contain highlighted key words or phrases to direct reviewers attention to specific requirements. --- 2.1.1. Brownfield Inventory updated on 12/12/2024 by Shaun Gately, Director of Economic Development with updated Map 2.1.3 Grant proposal and award - Attached is a copy of the grant submission and the awarded letter 06/14/2024. 2.1.4 Conduct additional analysis for one or more priority sites (10 points) ESA (pg 3-774) RAP 2021 (pg 774-807) RAP 2023 (813-856) Final Analysis (851)

Partners: PARTNERS: 2.1.1 (Brownfield Inventory & Map): None 2.1.3 (Grant Proposal): None 2.1.4 GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc completed the testing

Additional Information: N/A

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services

30 Points

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

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [2.3.2 - DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT AND MAINTAIN AN ONGOING "BUY LOCAL" CAMPAIGN. \(10 POINTS\).](#)

PDF: [2.3.1A,B BUSINESS INVENTORY AND DESIGNATIONS](#)

EXCEL: [2.3.1 BUSINESS INVENTORY](#)

Documentation Details: All details and supporting documents can be found in the file unless otherwise stated. --- 2.3.1a,b Business Inventory and Designations (20 points) (10 points for 2.3.1a, 10 points for 2.3.1b) 2.3.2 - Develop, implement and maintain an ongoing "buy local" campaign. (10 points).

Partners: 2.3- The Town of Vernon continues to partner with local business organizations (Rockville Downtown Association, Tolland County Chamber of Commerce, etc..) to promote local businesses and advertise our buy local efforts.

Additional Information: The Town of Vernon continues to support the Rockville Downtown Association efforts under the American Express's Shop Small/ shop Local Campaign, and the extended Small Business Saturday and Shop Small for the Holidays. The target audiences are the residents of Vernon and Tolland County as a whole. The outreach consists of in person visits to local retailers, distributing marketing material, social media outreach, and promoting the efforts on various websites.

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.1 Provide Watershed Education

15 Points

Approved Information: 3.1.1a (5 points) 3.1.1c (5 points) 3.1.2 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.1.1A,C WATERSHED EDUCATION \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [3.1.2 COMMUNITY BASED RESEARCH \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Please see document for details and supporting information. --- Section 3.1: Provide Watershed Education - 3.1.1a Rolling Credit. Citizen and Business Owner Education. 2024. - 3.1.1c Rolling Credit. Watershed health pledge. - 3.1.2 RBV Citizen Science Project (5 points)

Partners: 3.1.1a,c (none) 3.1.2 Vernon Conservation Commission

Additional Information: N/A

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: [3.2.3 ACTION PLAN \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [TANKERHOOPEN RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN](#)

PDF: [BOLTON LAKES AND WATERSHED-BASED MANAGEMENT PLAN](#)

PDF: [3.2.2 REGULATION REVIEW AND ALIGNMENT WITH WATERSHED PROTECTION GOALS \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [3.2.1 WATERSHED INVENTORY \(10 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets are in the PDF files unless otherwise stated. --- 3.2.1 Watershed Inventory (10 points) 3.2.2 Regulation Review and Alignment with Watershed Protection Goals (10 points) 3.2.3 Priority Actions Plan (10 points). Worksheet 3.2.3 for Tankerhoosen and Bolton Lakes Management Plan. Plans provided through link and hard copy (separately).

Partners: The town partnered with Fuss & O'Neill to create a watershed management plan for the Tankerhoosen River, and the Town of Bolton, Coventry, and Tolland, along with representatives of the Friends of Bolton Lakes and the Bolton Lakes Watershed Conservation Alliance, comprised a steering committee that collaborated to complete the Bolton Lakes and Watershed-based Management Plan (BLWMP).

Additional Information: N/A

3.4 Develop an Open Space Plan

50 Points

Approved Information: 3.4.1 (10 points) 3.4.2 (5 points) 3.4.3 (10 points) 3.4.4a (15 points) 3.4.4b (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.4.3 DEVELOP AN OPEN SPACE PLAN \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [3.4.1 COMPLETE AN OPEN SPACE INVENTORY \(10 POINTS\)](#)

EXCEL: [3.4.1 OPEN SPACE INVENTORY](#)

PDF: [3.4.2 PRIORITIZE RESOURCES FOR PROTECTION \(5 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [3.4.4 INCREASE OPEN SPACE IN YOUR COMMUNITY \(25 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets attached in the file.
----- 3.4.1 Complete an Open Space Inventory (10 points) See inventory attached separate. 3.4.2 Prioritize resources for protection (5 points) 3.4.3 Develop an Open Space Plan (10 points) 3.4.4 Increase open space in your community (25 points) 3.4.4a page 2-12 3.4.4b page 12-17 ---

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

3.5 Create a Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory

20 Points

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

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.5.1 CREATE NRW INVENTORY, \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [3.5.2 INTEGRATE NRW \(10 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets can be found in the PDF file unless otherwise stated. --- 3.5.1. Rolling Credit. Create NRW Inventory (10 points) 2012 POCD (page 2-14) NRW Inventory (page 15-16) 2021 POCD Goals (page 17) 3.5.2 Integrate NRW (10 points) The zoning regulations specifically refer to natural resources in sections 4.24.1; 4.24.4.1.6; 4.25.1; 4.25.4.1.6; 19.1; 19.1.1; 19.3; 20.2.3; and section 22.2.13

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

3.6 Manage for Drought and Municipal Water Use

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.6.1 (10 points) 3.6.2 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.6.1 REDUCE MUNICIPAL WATER \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [3.6.2 DEVELOP A DROUGHT COMMUNICATIONS PLAN \(10 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets are in the PDF file unless stated otherwise. --- 3.6.1 Reduce municipal water (10 points) - Contract with WaterSense 2024 3.6.2 Develop a drought communications plan (10 points)

Partners: The town of Vernon has established a formal policy with Water Sense to purchase water-saving/conservation products.

Additional Information: N/A

3.9 Manage Woodlands and Urban Forests

15 Points

Approved Information: 3.9.3 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.9.3 URBAN FOREST/ WOODLANDS BEST PRACTICES \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets are within the PDF file unless otherwise stated. ----- 3.9.3 Urban Forest/ Woodlands Best Practices (15 points)

Partners: 3.9.3 Urban Forest/ Woodlands Best Practices (15 points) - N/A

Additional Information: None

3.10 Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management

50 Points

Approved Information: 3.10.1 (25 points) 3.10.2 (15 points) 3.10.3 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.10.1A,B,C PROMOTE INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT \(25 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [3.10.2 MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT OF INVASIVE SPECIES \(15 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [3.10.3 EDUCATE RESIDENTS ON INVASIVE SPECIES \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets can be found in the PDF file unless otherwise stated. --- 3.10.1a,b,c Promote Invasive Species Management (25 points) 3.10.2 Municipal Management of Invasive Species (15 points) 3.10.3.a - Rolling Credit. Post invasive species education resources. (educational material still current and relevant on our web page). 3.10.3.b - New Credit Action. Town of Vernon has also sponsored educational training about aquatic invasive species (AIS) completed 07/17/2021.

Partners: Various Town departments and commissions have worked on these actions 3.10.3b Rose Hiskes from CT Ag Experiment Station educated municipal staff. 3.10.2 Northeast Aquatic Research, Solitude Management LLC, Experiment Station in Windsor, and CT Invasive Plant Working Group all help with municipal management of invasive species. 3.10.3 Educate Residents on Invasive Species (5 points) Conservation Commission retains information on invasive species.

Additional Information: N/A

3.11 Implement Green Grounds and Maintenance Program

30 Points

Approved Information: 3.11.1 (10 points) 3.11.2a (5 points) 3.11.2b (5 points) 3.11.2d (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.11.1 VERNON GROUNDS \(10\) POINTS](#)

EXCEL: [3.11.1 GROUNDS INVENTORY](#)

PDF: [3.11.2 BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Please, see overview for descriptions. --- 3.11.1 Vernon Grounds (10points) 3.11.1 Grounds Inventory (attached separate) 3.11.2 Best Management Practices (15 points) 3.11.2a Copy of IPM Plan (5 points) 3.11.2.b Copy of Irrigation BMP (5 points) Updated 10/2024 3.11.2d Native Planting and Pruning Policy (5 points) Updated 2024

Partners: None.

Additional Information: N/A

3.12 Enhance Pollinator Pathways

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.12.1 (5 points) 3.12.2 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.12.2 POLLINATOR GARDENS \(15 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [3.12.1 POLLINATOR EDUCATION \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets are in the PDF file unless otherwise stated. --- 3.12.1 Pollinator Education (5 points) 3.12.2 Pollinator Gardens (15 points)

Partners: 3.12.1 Conservation Commission donated there time. 3.12.2 The Friends of Valley Falls helps maintain the gardens

Additional Information: N/A

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Inventory Tourism and Cultural Assets

5 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.2 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [4.1.2 UPDATE YOUR PROFILE ON CTVISIT \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets are within the PDF file unless otherwise stated. ----- 4.1.2 Update Your Profile on CTVisit (5 points) - link

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: The Town of Vernon maintains and periodically updates a municipal profile on CTVisit.com. Recently updated the text and photos.

4.2 Support Arts and Creative Culture

30 Points

Approved Information: 4.2.1 (10 points) 4.2.5 (5 points) 4.2.10 (5 points) 4.2.13 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [4.2.10 SUPPORT ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OFFERED AT THE LOCAL LIBRARIES \(5 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [4.2.1 ESTABLISH A POET LAUREATE \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [4.2.5 CREATION OF THE CULTURAL DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD \(5 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [4.2.13 OTHER INITIATIVE SUPPORTING ARTS AND CREATIVE CULTURE IN YOUR MUNICIPALITY OR REGION \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [4.2.8 ESTABLISH AN ARTS OR CULTURAL DISTRICT. \(10 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets can be found in the file unless otherwise stated. -- 4.2.1 Establish a Poet Laureate. created April 2019. Appointment of Poet Laureate November 2024. 4.2.5 Creation of the Cultural District Advisory Board (5 points) 4.2.8 Establish an Arts District. Resolution 4.2.10 Support arts and cultural activities offered at the local library. Posts from 2024/2025. 4.2.13 Other initiative supporting arts and creative culture in your municipality or region.(10 points)

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

4.4 Provide an Arts and Culture Program for Youth

20 Points

Approved Information: 4.4.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [4.4.1A,B,C,D_SUSTAINABLE CT COVER SHEETS.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: See description in the overview. --- 4.4.1 Provide an Arts and Culture Program for Youth (20 points) 4.4.1a The inventory was reviewed and updated 06/2022 by Michelle Hill (Youth Director). Page 2-14 4.4.1b Stakeholder Meeting and Recommendations (created 3/29/2022). Page 15 4.4.1c Create educational program (created 4/24/19). Discussion to improve and expand it (03/29/2022). Email from program coordinator - page 16 Press release about program - page 17 MyVernonCT Poetry Winners Announcement -page 19 Photos from contestant reading night - page 20 Poem book printed as result of program "Wordfalls"- page 26 4.4.1 Budget 2021-2022 (updated for 2024-2025 fiscal year)

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

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: [5.1.1A,B INTEGRATE SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES INTO LAND USE PLANNING. \(25 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: The page numbers can be found on both Worksheet Worksheet 1 & 2 for the actions we are seeking credit for. All details and supporting documents can be found in the file. NOTE: The pages that have been mentioned in Worksheet 1 and 2 have been pulled from the POCD and attached below. They are also available in the full POCD which is linked below. The bold page numbers in Worksheet 1 and 2 are reference to the POCD and italic page numbers reference this document. --- 5.1.1.a Rolling Credit. Inclusion of Hazard Mitigation Plan goals into the POCD. The POCD was revised in November of 2021. (5 points) 5.1.1.b Rolling Credit. Inclusion of three Sustainable concepts into the POCD,. The POCD was revised in November of 2021 (20 points points for concepts 1, 2,4).

Partners: None

Additional Information: N/A

5.2 Adapt Permitting Process to Promote Sustainable Development

10 Points

Approved Information: 5.2.3b (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [5.2.3A,B - ESTABLISH OR AMEND YOUR MUNICIPAL POLICY FOR PRE-APPLICATION REVIEW.](#)

Documentation Details: Screenshot of where the Land Use Process and Procedures is on Planning Department website pg 2 Land Use Process and Procedures/ Development Review Manual pg 3

Partners: 5.2.3a,b (none)

5.5 Inventory and Assess Historic Resources

20 Points

Approved Information: 5.5.1 (10 points) 5.5.3 (5 points) 5.5.4 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [5.5.4 ACHIEVE "CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT" STATUS. \(5 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [5.5.1 IDENTIFY MULTIPLE PRIORITY HISTORIC ASSETS \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [5.5.3 EDUCATE HISTORIC PROPERTIES OWNERS \(5 POINTS\) 2/08/2025](#)

Documentation Details: Full description is in the Overview for specific pages and documents. --- 5.5.1. Inventory of Historic Resources (10 points) 5.5.3. Education and Outreach (5 points) 5.5.4. "Certified Local Government." (5 points)

Partners: 5.5.1 (Inventory) Vernon's Historical Intern 5.5.3 (Education) Vernon's Local Historic Properties Commission and The Historic Society held the workshop 5.5.4 None

Additional Information: N/A

5.6 Streamline Solar Permitting for Small Solar Installations

20 Points

Approved Information: 5.6.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [5.6.1 SUSTAINABLE CT COVER SHEETS. - REVISED .PDF](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets are included in the PDF file unless otherwise stated. ----- 5.6.1 Streamline Solar Permitting for Small Solar Installations (20 points)

Partners: 5.6.1 Streamline Solar Permitting for Small Solar Installations (20 points) Energy Response Solutions LLC provided solar training to the building department. 5.6.1a page 2 5.6.1b page 3 5.6.1c page 4 5.6.1d page 5-6 5.6.1e page 7 5.6.1f page 8 and link

Additional Information: None

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.1 Implement Complete Streets

20 Points

Approved Information: 6.1.2 (5 points) 6.1.6 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [6.1.6 IMPLEMENT COMPLETE STREETS PROJECTS \(15 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [6.1.2 ATTEND A COMPLETE STREETS TRAINING \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Find all overviews and supporting documents in files. --- 6.1.2. Participate in Complete Streets Training. 10/30/2024 6.1.6 Implement Complete Street- please find all completed Worksheets (8) and photos in the file and labeled with project number

Partners: 6.1.1 None 6.1.6 Complete Street Spot Project #6 on Union Street (Route 74). The state required a permit for the work done but all scope, specifications, physical work, and financial responsibility were on the Town of Vernon.

Additional Information: N/A

6.3 Encourage Smart Commuting

10 Points

Approved Information: 6.3.1 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [6.3.1 ENCOURAGE SMART COMMUTING \(10 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details and supporting documents (including the completed worksheet) can be found in the file.

Partners: 3.6.1 (encourage smart commuting) we worked it CTRides to get the information out and enroll in the Emergency Rides Program.

Additional Information: N/A

6.4 Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment

15 Points

Approved Information: 6.4.1 (5 points) 6.4.4 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [6.4.1 HOST A ZERO EV EDUCATIONAL EVENT \(5 POINTS\) 2024](#)

PDF: [6.4.4 CONDUCT A ZEV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESSMENT \(10 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Find all details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets in the PDF file unless otherwise stated. --- 6.4.1.New Credit Action. Hosted 2 educational events about zero EV with a EV present. Completed fall 2024. 6.4.4 New Credit Action. Conduct a ZEV charging infrastructure assessment (10 points)

Partners: 6.4.1 Host a zero EV educational event (5 points) 2024. We partnered with Suburban Subaru, who provided the car and the information. 6.4.4 Conduct a ZEV charging infrastructure assessment (10 points) - None

Additional Information: N/A

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

20 Points

Approved Information: 6.5.1 (5 points) 6.5.2 (5 points) 6.5.3 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [6.5.2 CONDUCT A BICYCLE EDUCATION PROGRAM \(5 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [6.5.3 COMMUNITY WALK AUDIT \(10\)](#)

PDF: [RED ROUTE FINAL DATA](#)

PDF: [6.5.1 EDUCATION ON ALT ROUTES \(5 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [FINAL GREEN ROUTE DATA](#)

PDF: [FINAL BLUE ROUTE DATA REPORT](#)

Documentation Details: All details and supporting documents can be found in the files unless stated otherwise. _____ 6.5.1 Education on Alt Routes (5 points) 6.5.2 New Credit Action. Conduct a bicycle education program. 11/2024. 6.5.3 Community Walk Audit (10) Completed 6.5.3 Worksheet page 2-3 Walk Audit Report page 4-20 Walk Audit Training page 21-34 Red Route final data - attached separately Final Green Route Data- attached separately Final Blue Route Data Report- attached separately

Partners: 6.5.1 Education on Alt Routes (5 points) - Parks and Rec Department presented info, Vernon Greenways Volunteers have information on their website 6.5.2 Partners: Recycled Rides Project (donated bikes), Pedal Power (lent bikes, helmets, time), Vernon Police Department (time and resources)

Additional Information: N/A

6.6 Manage Municipal Fleets

35 Points

Approved Information: 6.6.1 (20 points) 6.6.2 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [6.6.1 A,B MANAGE MUNICIPAL FLEETS, \(20 POINTS\)](#)

EXCEL: [6.6.1A,B FLEET INVENTORY](#)

PDF: [6.6.2 IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details and supporting documents are within each file. --- 6.6.1a. Rolling Credit Action. Inventory updated in 2025 by Eric Jensen (Fleet Manager). 6.6.1b. Rolling Credit Action. Original Municipal Fleet Improvement Strategy, updated and approved by Fleet Manager 6.6.2 Implementation Strategy and documentation

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.1 Benchmark and Track Energy Use

5 Points

Approved Information: 7.1.2 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [7.1.2 DATA REQUEST:SUSTAINABLE CT 2025 SUBMISSION FOR ACTION 7.1.2 \(5 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [7.11 & 7.12 COVERSHEET](#)

EXCEL: [7.1.1 DATA REQUEST:SUSTAINABLE CT 2025 SUBMISSION FOR ACTION 7.1.1 \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Please see the overview for details. --- 7.1.1 New Action Credit. Generate a report through the SCT Portfolio Manager Data. 4/2/2025 7.1.2 New Credit Action. Generate a report through the SCT Portfolio Manager Data. 4/01/2022

Partners: None

Additional Information: The reports were created and submitted through Portfolio Manager Energy Star.

7.6 Install Efficient Exterior Lighting

25 Points

Approved Information: 7.6.1 (10 points) 7.6.2 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [7.6.1_SUSTAINABLE CT COVER SHEET.PDF](#)

PDF: [7.6.2- TOWN OF VERNON CONVERTED PARK LIGHTS TO LED \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All descriptions and supporting documents are found in the file. --- 7.6.1. Rolling Credit Action. Copy of streetlight inventory and assessment. Contract For: Preparation of Technical Street Energy Audit- page 3 Contract For: Town Wide Street Light Maintenance Services- page 48 Contract For: Turn Key LED Street Light Project - page 64 Town of Vernon Street Light Inventory - page 73 7.6.2 New Action Credit - Town of Vernon converted Park lights to LED (15 points)

Partners: 7.6.1 The town of Vernon partnered with Tanko Streetlights Inc. where they audited the towns street light energy, released a Streetlight LED Retrofit, Management and Maintenance Services to assist with the purchase, selection, field demonstrations and installation of appropriate LED fixtures and related equipment, coordination with utility staff, application for available rebates/ incentives, and ongoing streetlight maintenance.

Additional Information: N/A

7.9 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

20 Points

Approved Information: 7.9.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [7.9.1 PASS A MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION TO OPT-IN TO C-PACE \(20 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: See description in overview. --- 7.9.1 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program (20 total points): 7.9.1 Resolution, agreement, and C-PACE partial release agreement, 2021 Page 2 Certification Page 3 C-PACE Agreement Page 13 C-PACE Partial Release Agreement Page 15- screenshot of C-PACE resources on Vernon site

Partners: The town of Vernon has partnered with C-PACE which is a program to facilitate loan financing for clean energy improvements to commercial properties by utilizing a state or local assessment mechanism to provide security for repayment of the loans.

Additional Information: The Town of Vernon has participated in the C-Pace program since 2013.

7.10 Support Battery Storage Solutions

10 Points

Approved Information: 7.10.1 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [7.10.1 REVIEW ZONING REGULATIONS \(10 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details and supporting documents can be found in the file. 7.10.1 Review zoning regulations. Find memo- page 2

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

10 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [8.1 WORKSHEET \(SUPPORTING DOCUMENT\)](#)

PDF: [8.1.1A,B,C SUSTAINABLE CT COVER SHEETS.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets are within the PDF file unless otherwise stated. --- 8.1.1 Hold a Sustainability Event (10 points)

Partners: 8.1.1 Hold a Sustainability Event (10 points) Event 1: Vernon Community Network hosted event Event 2: Vernon Community Network hosted event Event 3: None Event 4: VPD and Vernon Community Network Event 5: CLiCK Inc provided the zero waste equipment Event 6: None Event 7: None

Additional Information: N/A

8.2 Provide Effective Community Communications

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.2.1 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [8.2.1A,B PROVIDE EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Please see description in overview. --- 8.2 Provide Effective Community Communications (15 points) 8.2.1a Copy of Communication Strategy Plan and Worksheet. 8.2.1b Proof of Implementation from Communication Director Dave Owens Page 82

Partners: 8.2.1a (communication strategy plan) The town of Vernon partnered with the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to conduct a listening tour to hear directly from residents about what changes they would like to see in Vernon. Vernon then subsequently received a grant from the Hartford Foundation to conduct outreach in the community and provide recommendations to improve communications with residents with the help of Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. The town of Vernon partnered with Fitzgerald & Halliay, Inc to help the Town formulate a plan to improve communication, both between the Town and residents, as well as among the various groups in Vernon.

Additional Information: N/A

8.5 Engage in a Sustainable CT Mentorship with Other Municipalities

5 Points

Approved Information: 8.5.1 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [8.5.1 MENTORSHIP WITH ELLINGTON \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: 8.5.1 Mentorship with Ellington (5 points)

Partners: 8.5.1 Mentorship with Ellington (5 points) Ellington was Vernon's mentor

Additional Information: N/A

8.6 Collaborate with Other Municipalities on Sustainability Actions – REQUIRED for Gold Certification

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.6.1 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [8.6.1 COLLABORATION WITH ELLINGTON \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets can be found in the PDF file unless otherwise stated. '----- 8.6.1 Collaboration with Ellington (15 points)

Partners: 8.6.1 Collaboration with Ellington (15 points) : HVCC was contract to provide transportation, and Ellington was the other collaborator.

Additional Information: N/A

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.1 Report Materials Management Data and Reduce Waste

5 Points

Approved Information: 9.1.1 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [9.1.1A,B,C REPORT MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DATA AND REDUCE WASTE \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: 9.1.1a,b,c PDF contains the required information including the worksheet. --- 9.1.1c
Link to Vernon Refuse Data: <https://www.vernon-ct.gov/departments-services/departments/public-works/vernon-refuse-data>

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

9.3 Recycle Additional Materials

20 Points

Approved Information: 9.3.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [9.3.1 RECYCLE ADDITIONAL MATERIALS \(30 POINTS\)](#)

WORD: [9.3.1 WORKSHEET](#)

Documentation Details: See file for overview for supporting documentation. --- 9.3.1 Recycle Additional Materials (30 points) 9.3.1 Completed Worksheet

Partners: 9.3.1 Recycle Additional Materials (30 points) Textile Recycling: Hartsprings Foundation- find contracts from the last years in the file

9.5 Promote Waste Reduction and Reuse

15 Points

Approved Information: 9.5.4 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [9.5.4 HOST OR SUPPORT INITIATIVES IN YOUR COMMUNITY THAT PROMOTE WASTE PREVENTION \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Full action details are within each document.

Partners: 9.5.4 (library of things) None

Additional Information: N/A

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.1 Encourage an Equitable and Just Food System

5 Points

Approved Information: 10.1.1 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.1.1 VERNON FOOD COALITION \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details and supporting documents can be found in the file. --- 10.1.1 Form a local or regional Food Policy Council. Newly reformed Vernon Food Coalition. (5 points)

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

10.2 Conduct Health Impact Assessments

10 Points

Approved Information: 10.2.2 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.2.2A,B,C,D,E,F_SUSTAINABLE COVER SHEET.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: Please find HIA and supporting details, documents, and the completed worksheet in the file. --- 10.2.2. A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) was conducted in the community by the Youth Services Department. 3/29/2022.

Partners: 10.2.2 Two graduate students from UCONN helped the town to conduct a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) on the proposed Rockville Art and Cultural District and they have developed a survey to gather local data.

Additional Information: None

10.3 Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces

40 Points

Approved Information: 10.3.1 (10 points) 10.3.2 (10 points) 10.3.3 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.3.1 SUMMARY OF LOCAL \(VERNON YOUTH VOICES COUNT SURVEY\) AND REGIONAL DATA IN YOUR COMMUNITY ON TOBACCO \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [10.3.2 IMPLEMENT OR MAINTAIN A SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE REDUCTION CAMPAIGN \(10 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [10.3.3 NO SMOKING POLICY \(20 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Descriptions and all supporting documents are in the file. --- 10.3.1 Rolling Credit. Local data in your community on tobacco was updated by Michelle Hill, Youth Director, early 2025. 10.3.2 Rolling Credit. Smoking and tobacco use reduction campaigns still active (2024) 10.3.3 Rolling Credit. No Smoking Ordinance prohibiting the use of alcohol, cannabis, smoking, and vaping on town-owned and town-controlled property adopted in August 2021.

Partners: 10.3.1- B. Weyland Smith Consulting LLC produced the survey tool and analyzed the data. Vernon ROCKS created an infographic displaying some of the results. 10.3.2 Implement or maintain a smoking and tobacco use reduction campaign was completed with Vernon Rocks Coalition. 10.3.3 N/A

Additional Information: 10.3.1 Summary of local (Vernon Youth Voices Count Survey) and regional data in your community on tobacco (10 points) Completed Worksheet- page 2 Sample of YYCS - page 5 Youth Voices Count Survey Report- page 44 Vernon ROCKS Coalition disseminated graphic- page 86 10.3.2 Implement or maintain a smoking and tobacco use reduction campaign (10 points) Completed Worksheet - page 2 The Thing About Vaping brochure- page 3 10.3.3 No Smoking Policy (20 points) TOV- No Smoking- Smoke Free Environment Policy - page 1 Ordinance #316- page 4 Legal Notice of Town Council - page 7

10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.4.1 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.4.1. DEVELOP AND PROMOTE INCLUSIVE GROWING SPACES \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets are in the PDF file unless otherwise stated. --- 10.4.1. Develop and Promote inclusive spaces for residents to engage in plant cultivation.

Partners: 10.4.1 Community Gardens - The Department of Public Works runs this program. Seed Lending Program - Rockville Public Library runs this program.

Additional Information: n/a

10.5 Support Equitable Food Access and Local Farmers

45 Points

Approved Information: 10.5.1 (15 points) 10.5.2 (15 points) 10.5.3 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.5.2 INCREASING THE FINANCIAL ACCESSIBILITY OF VERNON'S FARMERS MARKET \(30 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [10.5.3 INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY OF VERNON'S FARMERS MARKET THROUGH TRANSPORTATION ACCESS \(15 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [10.5.1 HOST A FARMERS MARKET \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Please find all details and supporting documents in the file. ----- 10.5.1 Host a Farmers Market (15 points) Page 2- photos from summer 2024 markets Page 3-9 Communications between Matt Hellman (Director of Social Services), Diane Trueb (Ellington Market Manager) , and Michelle Hill (Youth Services Director) Page 10 -13 Publications and promotions about the 2024 markets Page 14 2025 Market Schedule 10.5.2 Increasing financial accessibility of Vernon's Farmers Market (SNAP + FMNP) (30 points) 10.5.3 Increasing accessibility of Vernon's Farmers Market through transportation access (15 points)

Partners: 10.5.1- none 10.5.2- none 10.5.3- HVCC provided transportation to markets, Ellington farmers market manager (Diane Trueb) collaborated with Vernon to get residents of both towns to both markets.

Additional Information: N/A

10.6 Plan and Prepare for Extreme Heat

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.6.1c (5 points) 10.6.2a (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.6.1C IDENTIFY AND DISSEMINATE EXTREME HEAT EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS TO RESIDENTS AND/OR BUSINESSES. \(5 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [10.6.2A INVENTORY-ASSESS EXISTING COOLING CENTERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY \(10 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets can be found in the file unless stated otherwise. ----- 10.6.1c Identify and disseminate extreme heat educational materials to residents and/or businesses. (5 points) 10.6.2a Inventory-Assess existing cooling centers in the municipality (10 points)

Partners: None

Additional Information: None

10.7 Improve Outdoor Access for All

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.7.2 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.7.2 IMPROVE AN OPEN SPACE PARCEL \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets are included in the PDF file unless otherwise stated. ----- 10.7.2 Improve an open space parcel (15 points)

Partners: 10.7.2 Improve an open space parcel (15 points); Parks and Rec Department handled the boardwalk and PWD did the concrete parts

Additional Information: N/A

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.1 Implement an Affordable Housing Plan

30 Points

Approved Information: 11.1.3 (30 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [11.1.3 IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES IDENTIFIED IN THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN \(30 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details and supporting documents are in the file. --- 11.1.3 Implement strategies identified in the Affordable Housing Plan (30 points) Completed Worksheet: Page 2 Vernon's Affordable Housing Plan (highlighted pages 13, 15) A copy of the magazine article (page 16.17) Screen shot/ link of the webpage are included below (page 18)

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: None

11.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

5 Points

Approved Information: 11.2.1 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [11.2.1 IDENTIFY THE CURRENT PERCENTAGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN YOUR COMMUNITY \(5POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details and supporting documents are in the files. --- 11.2.1 A copy of the most recent annual Connecticut Department of Housing Affordable Housing Appeals List (2024)

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

11.3 Implement Policy for Sustainable, Diverse Housing Options

20 Points

Approved Information: 11.3.2 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [11.3.2. ZONING REGULATION. ALLOW UNRELATED PEOPLE TO LIVE IN A SINGLE HOUSEHOLD \(20 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: All details and supporting documents can be found in the file. --- 11.3.2. Vernon's Zoning Regulation. No updates needed (regulation still current and relevant).

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

12. Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

12.1 Strengthen Municipal Workforce Capacity to Address Homelessness

15 Points

Approved Information: 12.1.1a (5 points) 12.1.1b (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [12.1 OVERVIEW.DOCX](#)

PDF: [12.1.1A,B- HOMELESS SERVICES LIAISON & TRAININGS \(15 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Please find all details and supporting documents in the file. --- 12.1.1a. Matt Hellman, Director, Vernon Social Services, is the town employee designated to serve as the liaison for homeless services in Vernon. (5 points) 12.1.1b -Participate in training addressing homelessness. (10 points)

Partners: None

Additional Information: N/A

12.2 Increase Public Awareness and Support for Efforts to End Homelessness

5 Points

Approved Information: 12.2.2 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [12.2.2 – DEVELOP AND POST INFORMATION ON YOUR MUNICIPALITY’S WEBSITE \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Please, see overview. --- 12.2.2. The Town of Vernon develop and posted information on our website regarding homelessness as well as sent a Department Head email out. 12.2.3. New Credit Action. Organized and hosted one community conversations to discuss homelessness in our community. 02/24/2022 (5 points)

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: N/A

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

20 Points

Approved Information: 13.1.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [13.1. FARM TO SCHOOL COORDINATOR \(15 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [13.1 CONNECTION BEATS ADDICTION \(15 POINTS\)](#)

PDF: [13.1 EMPOWER VERNON \(5 POINTS\)](#)

Documentation Details: Find all details, supporting documents, and completed worksheets in the PDF file unless otherwise stated. --- 13.1. Farm to School Coordinator (15 points) 13.1 Connection Beats Addiction (15 points) 13.1 Empower Vernon (5 points) Energy Improvement District Board

Partners: 13.1 Farm to School Coordinator Position - None 13.1 Connection Beats Addiction- HVCC implements many of the programs, contracted by Vernon 13.1 Empower Vernon (5 points)- Vernon's

Additional Information: None.