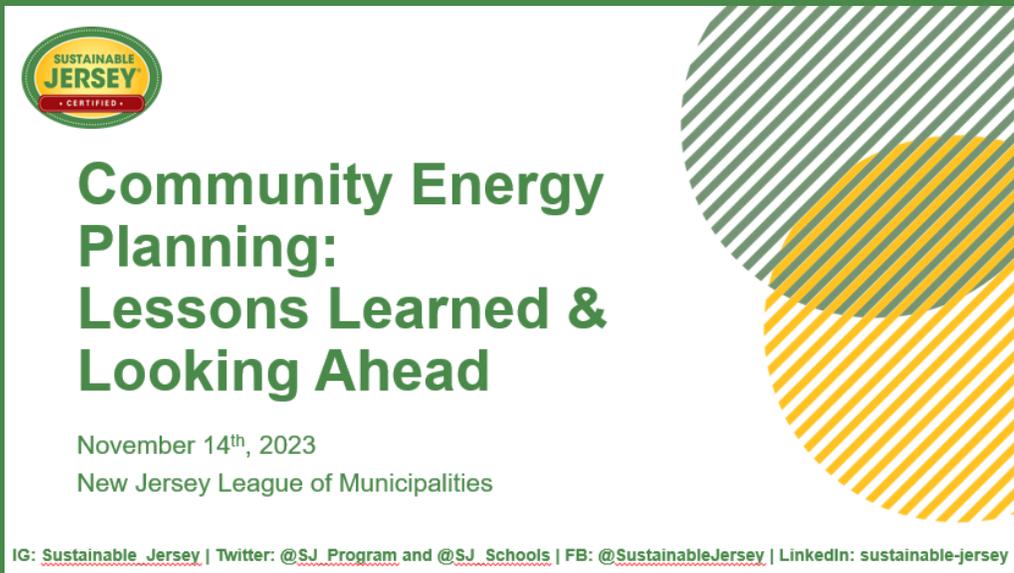


## Continuing Education Units | CEU's

To verify your attendance at this session **Scan in** at the **BEGINNING** and **Scan out** at the **END**

For your **PRINTED CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE**, follow the directions found in the “CEU Procedures” section of the printed Conference Program Book



Other questions, please consult the *League Staff at the Information Booth on Level 2*



# Community Energy Planning: Lessons Learned & Looking Ahead

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

New Jersey League of Municipalities





# Today's Speakers

**Mayor Judy M. Ward**  
City of Pleasantville

**Michael Muscillo**  
Borough Administrator  
Highlands Borough

**Christian Callegari**  
Chief of Staff  
City of Paterson

**Brandee Sullivan**  
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

**Nancy Quirk**  
Senior Program Manager  
Sustainable Jersey





# Goals for Today's Panel

- Best Practices for Community Energy Planning
- Effective CEP team building
- Stakeholder engagement for CEP
- Strategies for CEP initiative selection





# Introducing Sustainable Jersey

- **Certification program** for municipalities and schools in New Jersey
- **Tools, resources, and guidance** to help municipalities and schools become more sustainable
- **Grants and funding** for municipalities and schools
- **Regional Hubs**

**91%**

OF NJ POPULATION  
LIVES IN A  
**REGISTERED  
OR CERTIFIED  
COMMUNITY**



**83%**

OF MUNICIPALITIES  
**PARTICIPATING**

**67%**

of NJ public school districts  
registered with Sustainable  
Jersey for Schools

# SJ Statistics

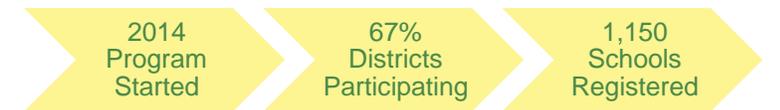
**25,569**  
Actions  
Implemented



Sustainable Jersey



Sustainable Jersey for Schools





# Municipal Energy Actions

	Energy Efficiency	Renewable Energy	Alternative Fuel Vehicles
<b>Municipal Operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Energy Efficiency for Municipal Facilities</li><li>• Energy Tracking and Management</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On-Site Geothermal</li><li>• On-Site Solar<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+10 pt storage/resilience</li><li>+ 5 pt solar thermal</li></ul></li><li>• On-Site Wind</li><li>• Buy Renewable Energy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fleet Inventory</li><li>• Purchase Alternative Fuel Vehicles</li><li>• Meet Green Fleet Targets</li></ul>
<b>Community Energy Use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Energy Assistance Outreach</li><li>• Commercial Energy Efficiency Outreach</li><li>• Residential Energy Efficiency Outreach</li><li>• Community Energy Plan / Climate Action Plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Make Your Town Solar Friendly</li><li>• Municipally Supported Community Solar</li><li>• Solar Outreach</li><li>• Renewable Government Energy Aggregation (R-GEA)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Make Your Town Electric Vehicle (EV) Friendly</li><li>• Public EV Chargers</li><li>• Electric Vehicle Outreach</li></ul>



# Why Community Energy Planning?

- Create a Sustainable Energy Community
  - Lower utility costs
  - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - Create local jobs
  - Community action & engagement
- Sustainable Jersey Actions
- New Jersey Energy Master Plan
- Community Energy Planning Grants





# What is Community Energy Planning?

## Team Building

Create working group of municipal representatives to lead CEP process (elected representatives, administration, facilities, green team)



## Community Profile and Energy Data

Compile community data to help municipality prioritize energy initiatives.  
Resource: Sustainable Jersey Data Center



## Workplan Template

Create and prioritize a list of energy initiatives, determine implementation details.  
Resource: Sustainable Jersey CEP Workplan Template



## Stakeholder Engagement

Plan stakeholder engagement process to collect community input on selection and prioritization of energy initiatives.



## Community Energy Plan Adopted by Resolution

Use Community Energy Data and Workplan to create CEP.  
Resource: Sustainable Jersey Model Community Energy Plan



# Resources for Community Energy Planning

- Sustainable Jersey Data Center
- Sustainable Energy Communities Guide
- Community Energy Plan Workplan Template
- Model Community Energy Plan

**Sustainable Jersey Data Resources**

The following resources are data files and interactive maps that Sustainable Jersey processes and prepares. **Navigate to the different data resources using the links below.**

**Municipal Data**

- Community Profile
- Aggregated Community
- Vehicle Miles Traveled
- Community-Scale
- Electric Vehicle
- Solar Installation
- Energy Efficiency
- ICEP Local Government

**Interactive Maps**

- Commercial Energy
- Energy Use
- at Island
- ter

**Sustainable Jersey Guide for Sustainable Energy Communities**

**1.1 Adopt Supportive Zoning and Regulations for EV Infrastructure**

Pass **NJDCA's Model Statewide Municipal EV Ordinance** specifying electric vehicle charging stations (EVSE) as a permitted accessory use, establishing the permitting process for charging stations, and requiring Make-Ready and EVSE parking in new multifamily developments and parking lots. Modify the model ordinance standards for safety, signage, etc. as needed.

**Measures of Success**

- "Reasonable Standards" language modified and finalized
- Ordinance passed
- Make-Ready and EV charging parking minimums posted to municipal

**Overall 2015 GHG Emissions MT CO<sub>2</sub>e (By Sector and Energy Type)**

Sector and Energy Type	Percentage
Residential Electricity	17.74%
Commercial Electricity	9.39%
Industrial Electricity	0.23%
Street Lighting Electricity	0.47%
Residential Natural Gas	23.63%
Commercial Natural Gas	1.27%
Industrial Natural Gas	5.74%
Street Lighting Natural Gas	0.47%
Other Heating Fuels	0.47%
On-Road Vehicles	41.54%

[www.sustainablejersey.com/resources/](http://www.sustainablejersey.com/resources/)

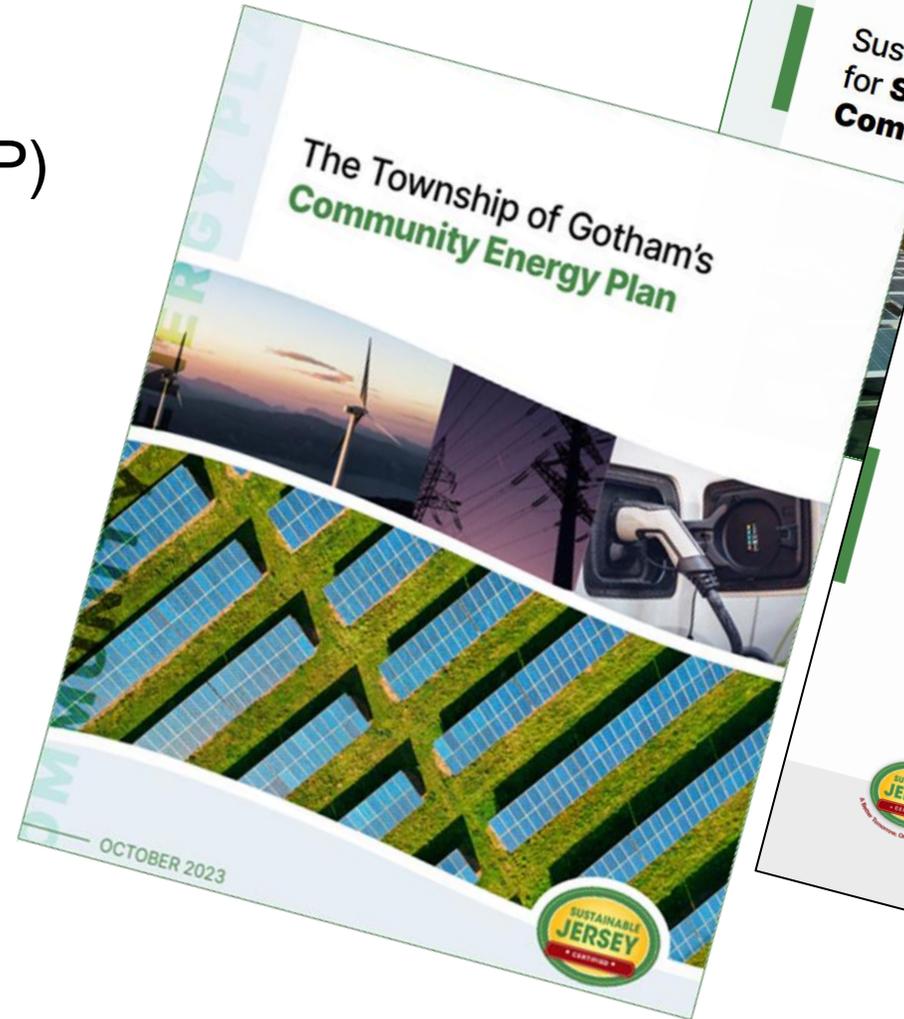


# Community Energy Plan Action

- 10 points: Community Energy Plan (CEP)

OR

- 15 points: Climate Action Plan (CAP)
- Encourages planning that is
  - Energy-focused
  - Focused on high-impact initiatives
  - Strategic about community engagement
  - Easily implemented
- Must use Workplan Template
- CAP requires additional elements





# Lessons Learned...

Community energy planning is a detailed and thorough process!

## Best Practices

- Plan provides buy-in for community
- Planning process helps prioritize municipal sustainability initiatives
- Timeline is critical

## Common Challenges

- Meaningful stakeholder engagement
- Initiative selection
- Identifying funding sources for implementation



# And Looking Ahead...



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
Board of Public Utilities  
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Post Office Box 350  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350  
[www.nj.gov/bpu](http://www.nj.gov/bpu)

AGENDA FOR BOARD MEETING  
The meeting will be held on  
Friday, November 17, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

F. Docket No. QO23090714 – In the Matter of New Jersey Clean Energy Program Fiscal Year 2024 Community Energy Plan Grant Program; and

Docket No. QO23100729 – In the Matter of New Jersey Clean Energy Program Fiscal Year 2024 Community Energy Plan Implementation Grant Program.

*The Board will consider the opening of the Community Energy Plan Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2024. The Board will also consider the establishment of the Community Energy Plan Implementation Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2024.*

# Sustainable Jersey Technical Assistance

## COMPLETE STREETS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Municipalities within the NJTPA region are eligible to apply to receive free technical services to advance a complete street initiative. Register for this webinar on **December 5 from noon to 1:00pm** to learn how 24 New Jersey communities have used this program to address their local issues and how to identify and apply for a project in your community.



## LEARN MORE

For more information and to apply for technical assistance visit:

<https://bit.ly/SJgrants>

## SUSTAINABLE JERSEY ENERGY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- **Energy Technical Assistance includes:**
  - Identify and apply for NJCEP and/or utility incentives for facility upgrades
- Establish energy tracking system for facility energy use

### Energy TA funded by:

- NJ Board of Public Utilities
- Investor-owned utilities:
  - Elizabethtown Gas
  - New Jersey Natural Gas
  - PSE&G
  - South Jersey Gas

# Sustainable Jersey Underwriters and Sponsors

## Program Underwriters



## Corporate Sponsors





# SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANTS PROGRAM



**PSEG**  
*Foundation*

## New Funding Cycle Announced!

- \$200,000 in grants are available to New Jersey municipalities participating in the Sustainable Jersey program
- \$2k, \$10k and \$20k grants for sustainability projects and green team support

### Informational Webinar

1-2:30pm on  
Thursday,  
**December 7,  
2023**

### Application Deadline

By 11:59pm  
on Friday,  
**February 9,  
2024**

### Award Notifications

By **late April  
2024** with an  
event in **late  
May 2024**

### Performance Period

**10k/20k Grants:**  
18 months  
**2k Grants:**  
12 months

Learn More & Apply



# Sustainable Jersey Sessions - New Jersey League of Municipalities

## **GET BETTER BUY-IN WITH EQUITABLE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

Tuesday, 11/14, 2:00pm – 3:15pm, Room 420

## **COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING: LESSONS LEARNED & LOOKING AHEAD**

Tuesday, 11/14, 3:45pm – 5:00pm, Room 421

## **SUSTAINABLE JERSEY PROGRAM UPDATE**

Wednesday, 11/15, 9:00am – 10:15am, Room 420

## **WHAT'S NEW IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY OUTREACH CAMPAIGNS**

Wednesday, 11/15, 10:45am – 12:00pm, Room 421

## **INVESTING IN ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION: TEST IDEAS, FIND FUNDING**

Wednesday, 11/15, 2:00pm – 3:15pm, Room 420

## **THINK OUTSIDE THE BIN: NON-MANDATED RECYCLING INITIATIVES**

Wednesday, 11/15, 2:00pm – 3:15pm, Room 421

## **POWER SURGE: SPARKING SUCCESS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

Wednesday, 11/15, 3:45pm – 5:00pm, Room 421

## **PLANNING FOR LOCAL RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Thursday, 11/16 9:00am – 10:15am, Room 420

## **TREE STEWARDSHIP IMPROVES COMMUNITY RESILIENCE**

Thursday, 11/16 10:45am – 12:00pm, Room 421

## **STORMWATER MANAGEMENT: MAP, MONITOR AND MAINTAIN**

Thursday, 11/16 2:00pm – 3:15pm, Room 420

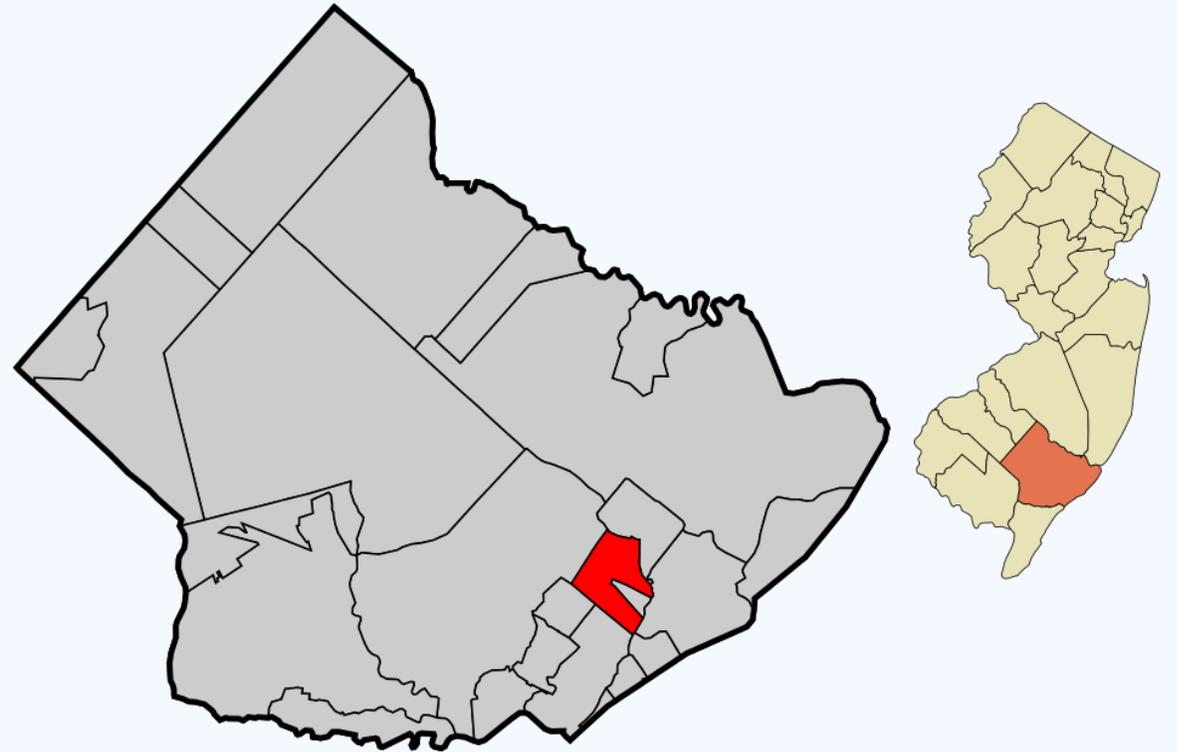
# Community Energy Planning: A Mayor's Role



Mayor Judy Ward

# Pleasantville, New Jersey

- Atlantic County, New Jersey
- Suburban coastal community
- Demographics:
  - 7.3 sq. miles
  - 20,226 residents, 6,634 households
- Sustainable Jersey Bronze Certified in 2022
- Began Community Energy Planning in July 2022



Administration and Green Team review CEPG process.

- Guide for Sustainable Communities (initiatives)
- Community Energy Workplan Template
- Data Collection from Sustainable Jersey data center

# Pleasantville's Community Energy Planning Timeline

Rutala Associates joined Pleasantville CEP team as their consultant, began to develop plan.

Final Draft Plan complete.

**July 2022**

**March 2023**

**October 2023**



**Fall/Winter 2022**

**Summer 2023**

Selected initiatives as priorities for Pleasantville for the next 4 years (2023-2027)

Multiple drafts of plan completed and sent for review by Sustainable Jersey



# Pleasantville's Selected Initiatives

## **Strategy 1: Reduce Energy Consumption and Emissions from the Transportation Sector**

- 1.1: Adopt Supportive Zoning and Regulations for EV Infrastructure
- 1.2: Train First Responders on EVs and EVSE
- 1.6: Install Public EV Charging Infrastructure

## **Strategy 2: Accelerate Deployment of Renewable Energy and Distributed Energy Resources**

- 2.1: Adopt Supportive Zoning and Permitting for Solar
- 2.4: Train First Responders on Solar
- 2.11: Support Community Solar Campaign as Project Ambassador
- 2.12: Support Community Solar as Outreach Coordinator

## **Strategy 3: Maximize Energy Efficiency and Conservation and Reduce Peak Demand**

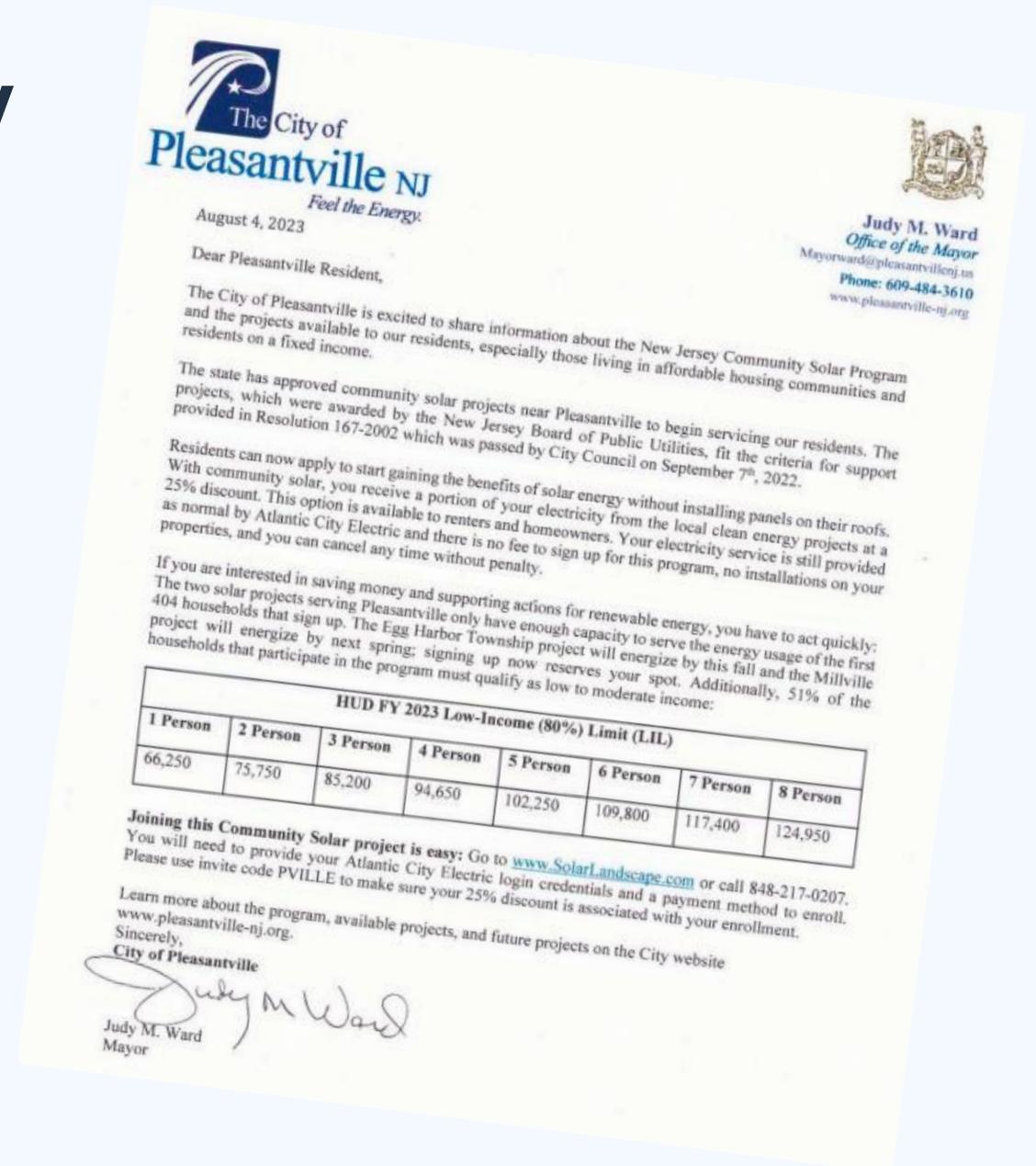
- 3.1: Upgrade Energy Efficiency for Municipal Facilities

## **Strategy 6: Support Community Energy Planning and Action with an Emphasis on Encouraging and Supporting Participation by Low- and Moderate-Income and Environmental Justice Communities**

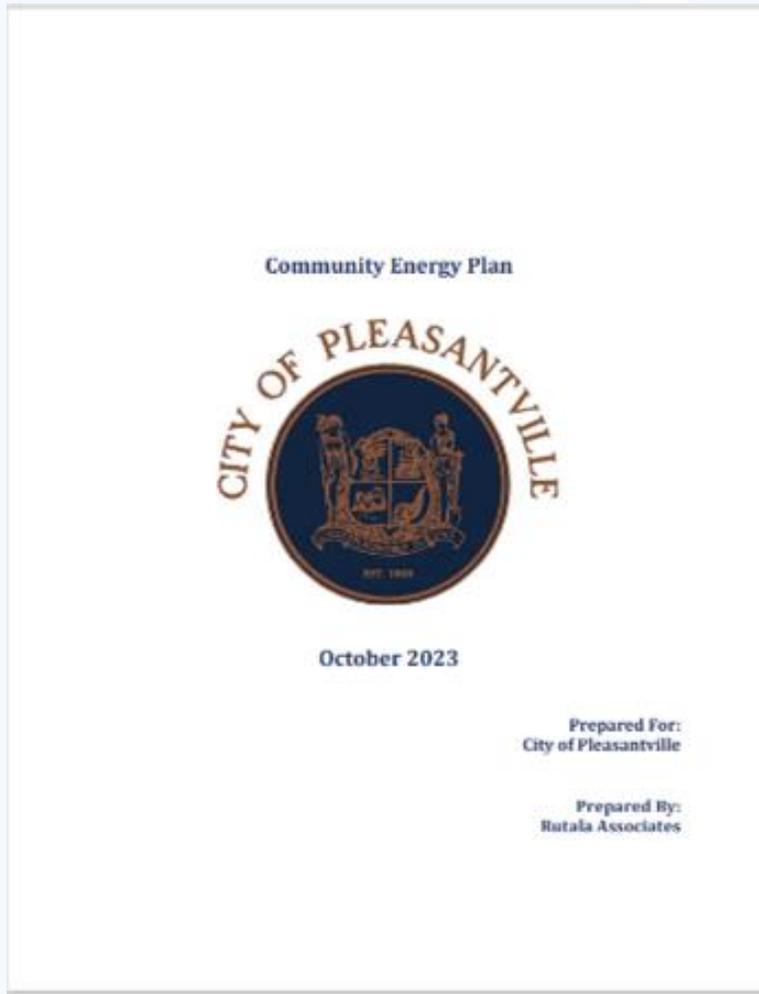
- 6.2: Conduct Energy Efficiency Outreach to Low- and Moderate-Income Residents
- 6.4: Support Low- and Moderate-Income Community Solar Subscriptions

# Mayor's Role in Community Energy Planning

- Resolutions, ordinances, and city council approvals and signatures
- Mayor's Role: Letter to Residents
  - Initiative 6.2: Conduct Energy Efficiency Outreach to Low- and Moderate-Income Residents
  - Sent letter Aug 4th, 2023 with information on New Jersey Community Solar Program



# Mayor's Impact: Why Community Energy Planning



- Mayor's influence in planning process provides..
  - Visibility & support
  - Trusted communication with community
  - Navigation of resource guidance
- Help meet local and state goals
  - Build community confidence
  - Advocate for community needs
  - Achieving local energy emission reduction
  - Supporting New Jersey's Clean Energy Goal

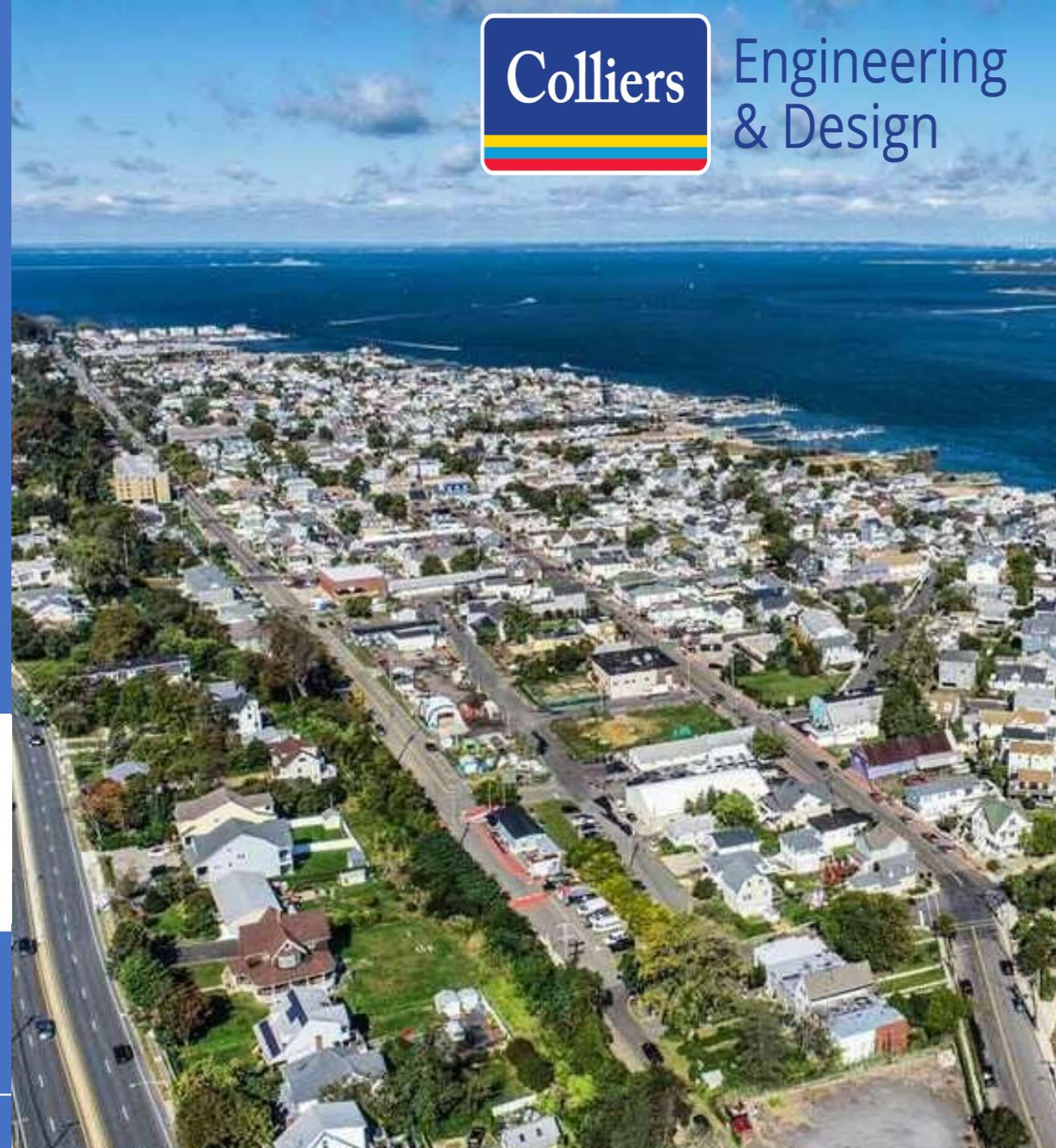


Engineering  
& Design

# Highlands Community Energy Plan

Highlands Borough

Michael Muscillo  
Borough Administrator  
NJLM Presentation



# What is a Community Energy Plan?

- The State of NJ has created the NJ Energy Master Plan as a way to address climate change and guide the reduction of greenhouse gases.
- Municipalities are encouraged to create their own plans, aligning with the state's goals and focus areas, with projects that are relevant and specific to each town.
- The Community Energy Plan is supported by Sustainable Jersey and the NJ BPU
- As with the NJ Energy Master Plan, municipal Community Energy Plans are a tool to prioritize initiatives toward energy efficiency and resilience, the reduction of transportation emissions, and to support renewable energy.
- Community Energy Plans look 3 to 5 years into the future, targeting community needs and taking advantage of community opportunities.

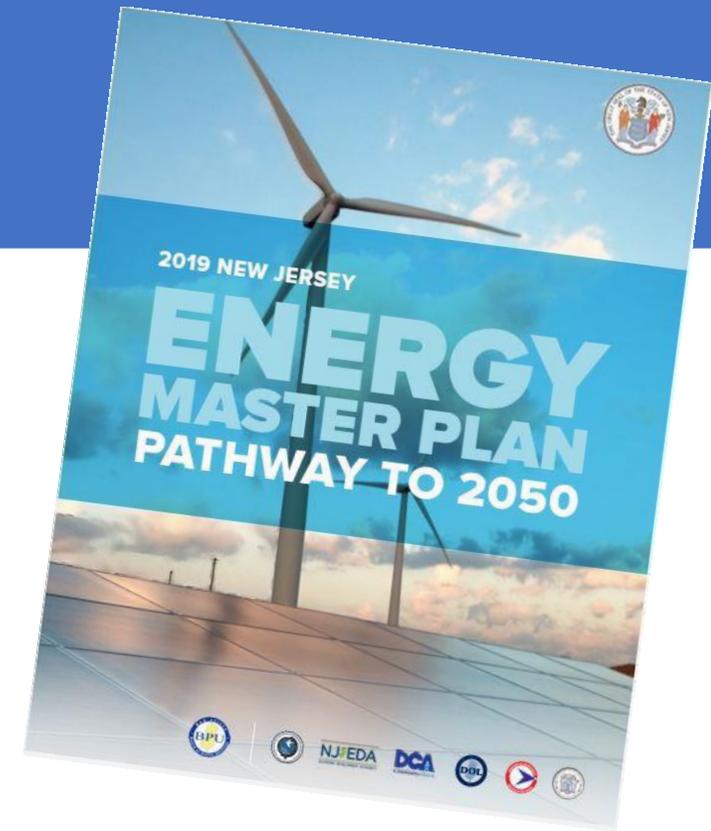
# Background Work

- The idea of a Community Energy Plan was first explored at a public hearing in February 2022, with discussion around the need to broaden clean-energy opportunities in and for the borough. At a hearing the next month, March 2022, the Borough Council voted to pursue a Clean Energy Grant.
- At a third public hearing in September 2022, it was announced that the grant had been awarded and authorization to execute the grant was approved.
- A Planning Team of 9 community members and municipal representatives was convened, with meetings held in January and February of 2023. Discussed was the purpose of the project and selection of initiatives relevant to the borough.

# 2019 NJ Energy Master Plan

Sets forth key strategies which guide municipalities

1. Transportation – reduce energy consumption and emissions, EV adoption
2. Renewable Energy and Distributed Energy Resources – solar, offshore wind, etc.
3. Energy Efficiency and conservation – improve energy efficiency / reduce peak demand
4. Reduction of Energy Consumption in Buildings – green buildings, zero carbon homes
5. Support of Participation by Underserved Communities – N/A for Highlands
6. Clean Energy Innovation Economy – support job development in clean energy sector



# Planning Team's Work

- Considered 38 initiatives set forth by the state, narrowing down the list to our top choices based on the realities of Highlands:
  - Projects that can happen in 3-5 years
  - Realistically affordable and implementable
  - Would have an impact on the community
  - Relevant based on the demographics, geography, and unique characteristics of Highlands

Community Energy Plan Application Checklist

Community Energy Plan Initiatives	Mark if interested
<b>Strategy 1: Reduce Energy Consumption and Emissions from the Transportation Sector</b>	
<b>1.1 Adopt Supportive Zoning and Regulations for EV Charging Infrastructure</b> Pass NJDCA's model ordinance specifying EV charging infrastructure as a permitted accessory use	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>1.2 Train First Responders on EVs and EV Charging Infrastructure</b> Require training on EVs and EV charging infrastructure for local first responders	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>1.3 Train Non-Emergency Staff on EVs and EV Charging Infrastructure</b> Initiate training on EVs and EV charging infrastructure for municipal code officials, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>1.4 Purchase Alternative Fuel Vehicles</b> Strategically replace gasoline/diesel municipal vehicles with EVs or other alternative fuel vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>1.5 Improve Municipal Fleet Efficiency</b> Replace older municipal vehicles with more efficient versions, downsize fleet, improve driver efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>1.6 Install Public EV Charging Infrastructure</b> Install public EV charging infrastructure with appropriate signage and safety/accessibility features	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>1.7 Encourage Non-Municipal Fleets to Improve Efficiency</b> Encourage fleet operators to improve fleet efficiency via electrification, downsizing, driver training	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>1.8 Encourage Workplace EV Charging Infrastructure</b> Encourage local businesses to install EV charging infrastructure; offer incentive such as "ribbon cutting"	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other:</b>	
<b>Strategy 2: Accelerate Deployment of Renewable Energy and Distributed Energy Resources</b>	
<b>2.1 Adopt Supportive Zoning and Permitting for Private Solar</b> Provide reasonable permitting standards and procedure for solar developers	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2.2 Post Solar Permitting Checklist</b> Provide permitting checklist for solar developers on municipal website	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2.3 Adopt Zoning and Permitting for Community Solar</b> Allow large-scale solar in some zoning districts; help community solar developers with permitting	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2.4 Train First Responders on Solar</b> Require training on solar for local first responders	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2.5 Train Non-Emergency Staff on Solar</b> Initiate training on solar for non-emergency municipal staff such as inspectors	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2.6 Install On-site Municipal Renewable Generation</b> Host solar, wind, or geothermal project on municipal property	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2.7 Buy Renewable Electricity for Municipal Facilities</b> Sign contract with third-party supplier to supply municipal facilities with renewable electricity	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2.8 Offer a Solar Employee Benefit Program</b> Offer solar installation discount to municipal employees	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Initiative 1.1 – Adopt Supportive Zoning and Regulations for EV Infrastructure

- Collaborative effort with borough code enforcement, legal department, planning
- Will address growing EV ownership
- Low-cost to execute

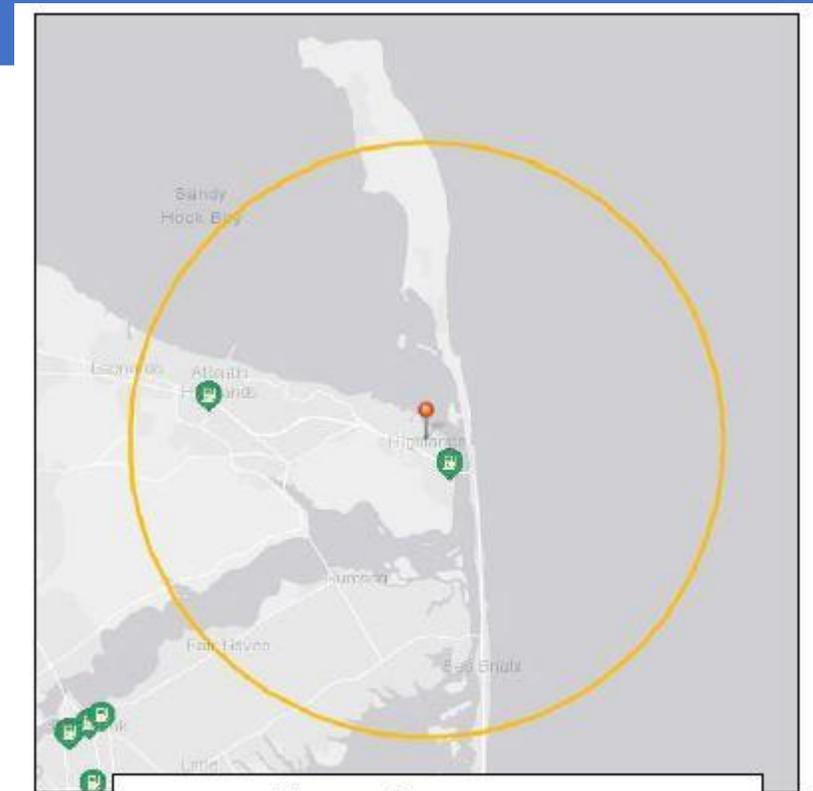
<b>Vehicles and Electric Vehicles in Highlands</b>			
<b>Year Updated</b>	<b>Estimated Total Passenger Vehicles</b>	<b># of EVs</b>	<b>% Electric</b>
2015	3,394	17	.5%
2019	3,519	35	1%

# Initiative 1.2 – Train First Responders on EVs and EVSE

- Collaborative effort with first aid squad, police, and fire departments
- Low-cost to execute
- At 6-month mark, participation will be evaluated and recommendations made for future training

# Initiative 1.6 – Install Public EV Charging Infrastructure

- Collaborative effort with DPW, finance, borough administrator, governing body, mayor's office
- Underway at 171 Bay Avenue
- Will address growing need - EV ownership is on the rise, but few public charging spaces exist locally (two at Bhar's).



**Map 1. Public EV Charging Stations in Highlands Area**  
Source: NJDEP. Public EV Charging Locator Map

# Initiative 2.1 – Adopt Supportive Zoning and Permitting for Solar

- Collaborative effort with borough code enforcement, legal department, planning
- Borough does not currently regulate solar energy systems
- Can be written to allow for building-integrated, roof mounted, canopy, and/or ground-mounted solar
- Excellent fit for shore community
- Low-cost to execute



# Initiative 2.4 – Train First Responders on Solar

- Collaborative effort with first aid squad, police, and fire departments
- Can be done with the EV training, as a two-part effort
- Low-cost to execute
- At 6-month mark, participation will be evaluated and recommendations made for future training

# Initiative 3.1 – Upgrade Energy Efficiency for Municipal Facilities

- **DPW effort with Green Team**
- **Consider programs to help the borough become more "green," in line with existing priorities.**
- **The Green Team will look into technical assistance through Sustainable Jersey to determine next steps for improving energy efficiency in municipal facilities.**

# Initiative 4.1 – Construct new municipal buildings as Model Green Buildings

- **DPW effort with Green Team**
- **Project to repurpose the Police Department trailers into a permanent raised structure should keep green building components in mind.**
- **Green initiatives including Energy Star will be considered. This is a mid- to long-term project.**
- **Highlands is looking to start using green products in cleaning and janitorial services, switch to LED lights in all municipal buildings, etc.**

# Next Steps

- Adoption of Plan
- Implementation of Plan

# Paterson: Community Energy Planning

Christian Callegari  
Chief of Staff  
City of Paterson

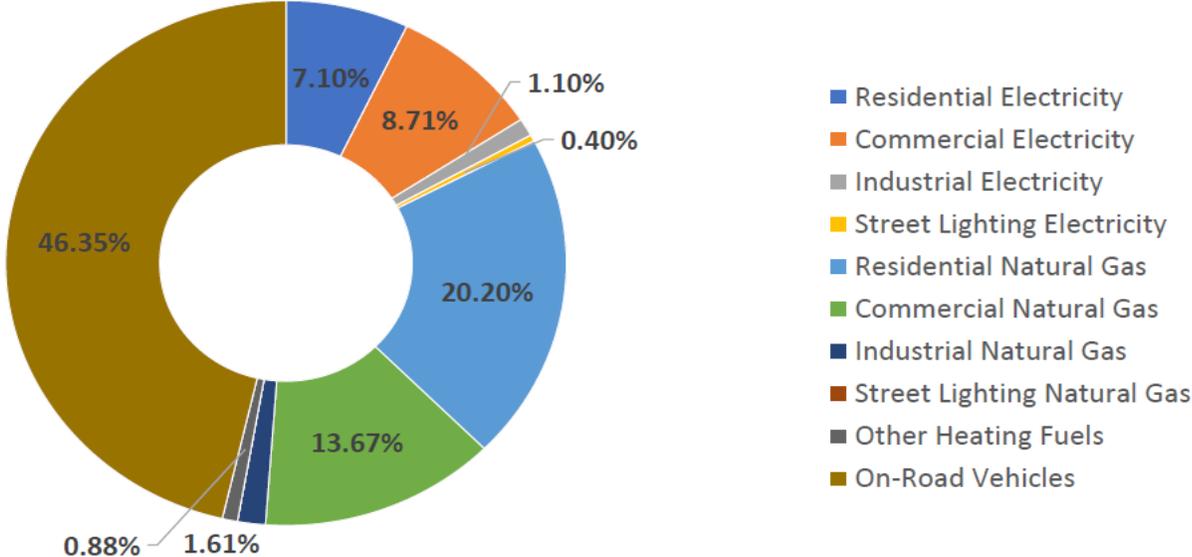
# Paterson, NJBPU & Sustainable Jersey

- ▶ June 08, 2022 - Paterson is awarded \$25,000 from NJBPU
- ▶ Paterson then partnered with Sustainable Jersey to:
  - ▶ Map out existing data
  - ▶ Collect more data
  - ▶ Begin the community energy planning process

# Paterson's Data

## GHG Emissions

2020 Community-Scale Energy-Related GHG Emissions  
by Sector and Energy Type (MT CO2e)

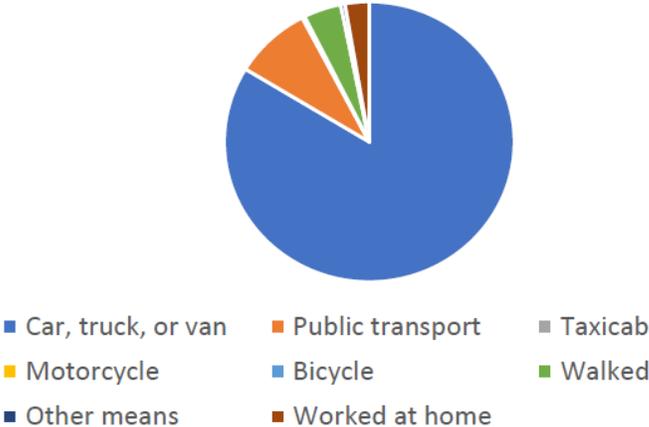


Overall GHG Emissions by Subsector  
Source: Sustainable Jersey. Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Data

# Paterson's Data

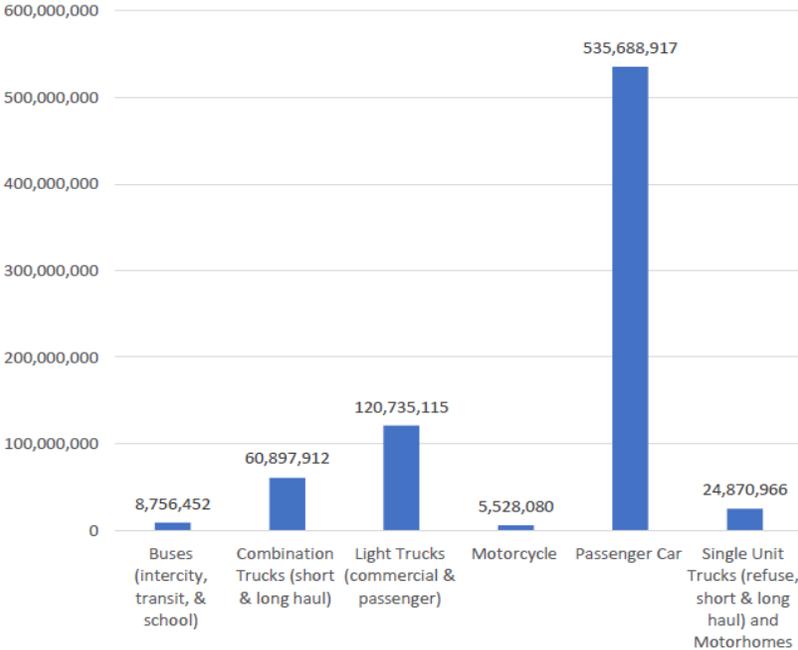
## Transportation

Means of Transportation to Work



**Means of Transportation to Work 2020**  
 Source: Sustainable Jersey. Community Profile Data by Municipality  
 Original Source: 2020 American Communities Survey

Vehicle Miles Traveled by Vehicle Type



**Vehicle Miles Traveled for 2019**  
 Source: Sustainable Jersey. Vehicle Miles Travelled  
 Original Source: NJTPA

# Community Energy Plan: Further Data Collection

- ▶ Shared Mobility Study
  - ▶ EV car shares
  - ▶ Shuttle services
  - ▶ Shared ride hailing
- ▶ Public EV Charging Station Study
  - ▶ Location, location, location!

# Paterson's Initiatives

- ▶ 40 Electric Vehicles
  - ▶ Utilizing Uniform Construction Code funding
- ▶ Awarded Grants for EV Charging Stations
  - ▶ Reimbursements for two locations
- ▶ Pending Grants for EV Charging Stations
  - ▶ Firehouse - 350 Madison Ave.
  - ▶ Great Falls

# Paterson's Initiatives

- ▶ Partnership on private busing
- ▶ Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP)
- ▶ Green Ordinance for building construction
  - ▶ Solar panels
  - ▶ Energy Efficient HVAC

# Lessons Learned

- ▶ Community engagement
  - ▶ Environmental Commission
  - ▶ Green Team
  - ▶ Partnerships
- ▶ Data is everything!

# THANK YOU!

Contacts:

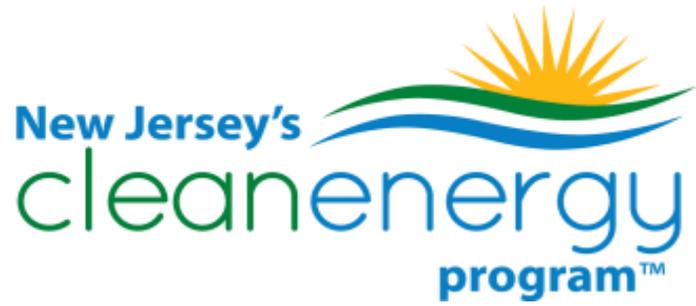
Christian Callegari

Phone: 973-908-7770

Emails: [ccallegari@patersonnj.gov](mailto:ccallegari@patersonnj.gov)

[hkader@patersonnj.gov](mailto:hkader@patersonnj.gov)

[dbravo@patersonnj.gov](mailto:dbravo@patersonnj.gov)

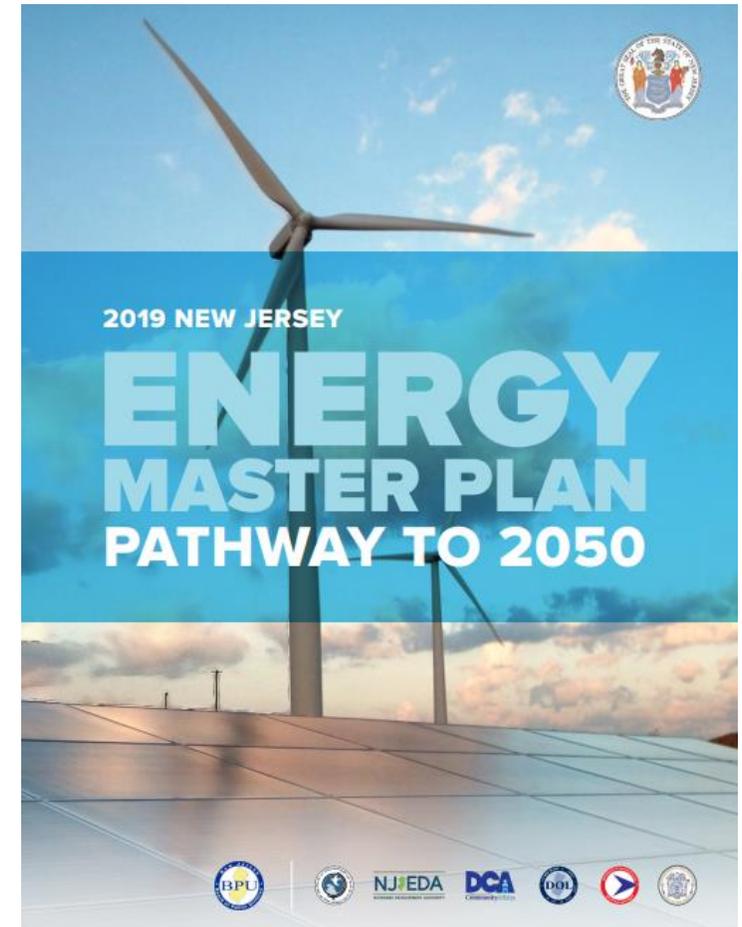


# Community Energy Plan Grant Program



# Community Energy Plan Grant (CEPG)

- The CEPG program was designed to support municipalities with developing community-level energy plans that are aligned with the strategies outlined in New Jersey's Energy Master Plan ("EMP").
- Municipalities can select initiatives from a provided checklist or propose their own initiatives that fit within EMP strategies.
- All New Jersey municipalities are eligible for \$10,000, with overburdened municipalities eligible for \$25,000 and enhanced technical assistance.



# Timeline

**March 2019**

BPU launches  
CEPG Program

**November  
2021**

Board opens  
application  
period for  
redesigned  
program

**June 2022**

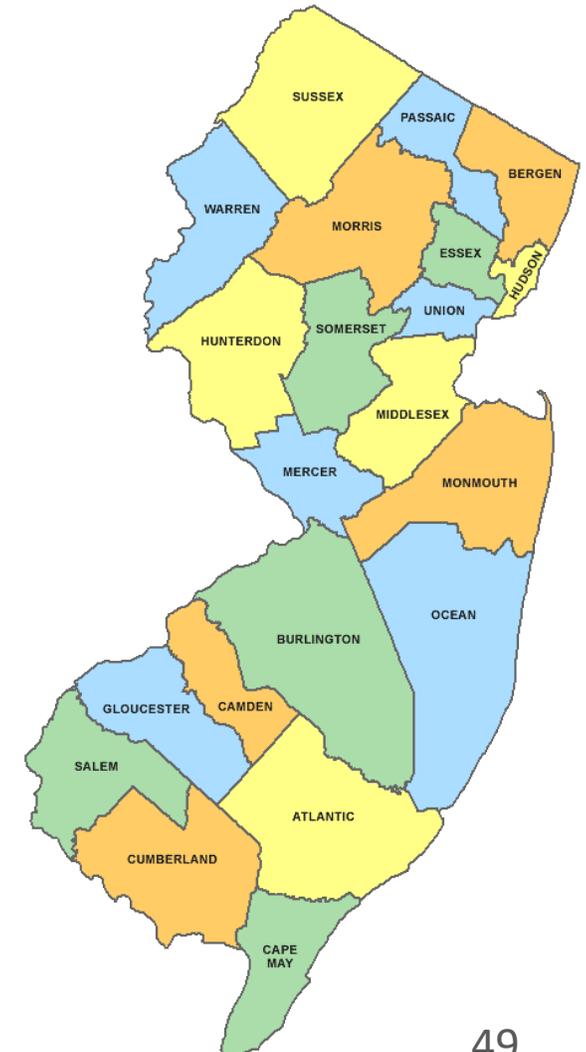
Board announces  
46 awardees for  
CEPG

**November 2023**

Board will consider  
approval of funding  
for next round of  
CEPG and for new  
implementation  
grants program

# CEPG – Recap of Second Round

- Participation from municipalities across the state
  - 20 counties represented
- CEPG awardees by county:
  - Atlantic – 3
  - Bergen – 2
  - Burlington – 2
  - Camden – 5
  - Cape May – 5
  - Cumberland – 1
  - Essex – 4
  - Gloucester – 1
  - Hudson – 4
  - Hunterdon – 1
  - Mercer – 1
  - Middlesex – 3
  - Monmouth - 3
  - Morris - 2
  - Ocean - 1
  - Passaic - 2
  - Salem - 1
  - Somerset - 1
  - Union - 3
  - Warren - 1



# Grant Requirements

## **Once funds are received, grantees must complete the following:**

1. Based on the strategies identified in the application, conduct an in-depth analysis of the EMP-based strategies for incorporation into the Plan.
2. Conduct a public meeting to engage the community in the creation of the Plan.
3. Finalize the Plan through formal adoption by the municipal governing body. Submit a copy of the completed Plan and municipal resolution to the Board.
4. Reporting requirements for the grant depend on the amount awarded:
  - a) \$10,000 grant: submit performance and expenditure report at the end of the grant term
  - b) \$25,000 grant: submit quarterly expenditure reports and a final performance and expenditure report at the end of the grant term

# Overburdened Municipalities

## **Overburdened Municipalities are eligible for additional support:**

- Larger grant award of \$25,000 for community energy planning
- Technical assistance to develop and submit applications to the CEPG Program
- Technical assistance in the creation of the Plan once the grant is awarded
  
- Criteria to determine Overburdened Municipalities based on three factors:
  - Overburdened Community population
  - Federal Poverty Level
  - Status on DCA's Municipal Revitalization Index

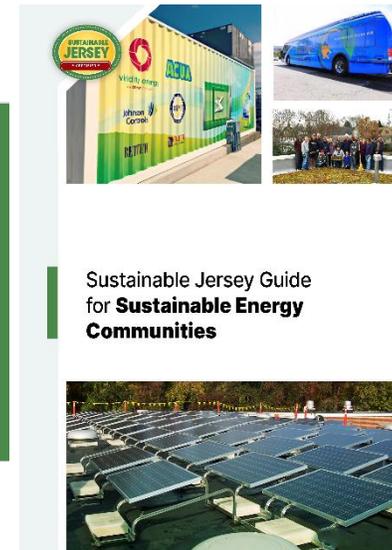
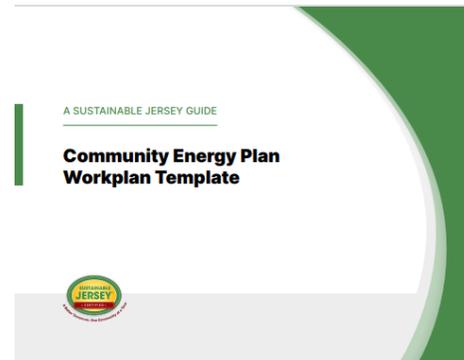
# Stakeholder Engagement

- Participation in this grant program requires at least two stakeholder sessions.
  - First session: Application phase
  - Second session: Plan development phase
- Requirement is just a minimum!
  - Municipalities are encouraged to hold more stakeholder sessions to receive continued feedback from the community.

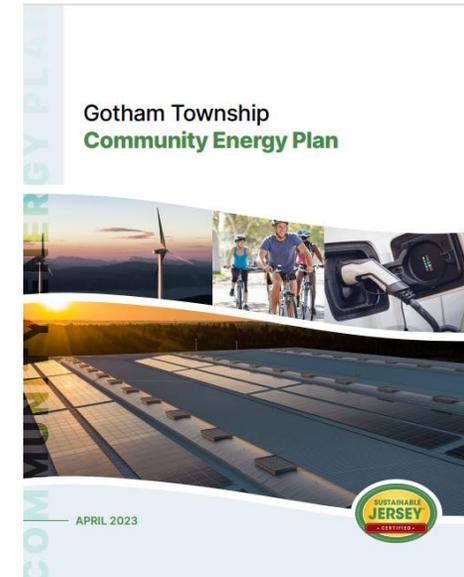
# CEPG Materials

Sustainable Jersey created materials to help municipalities develop their plans:

- [Workplan Template](#)
- [Guide for Sustainable Communities](#)
- [Model Energy Plan](#)



Sustainable Jersey Guide for **Sustainable Energy Communities**

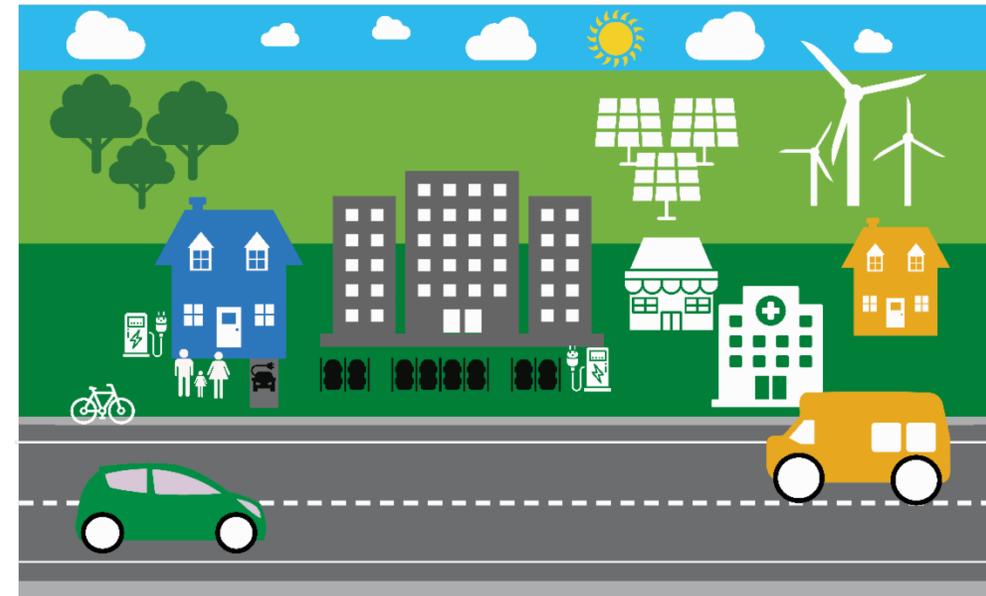


# CEPG – Third Round of Grants

- Board Staff has been working with Sustainable Jersey to continue the program.
  - Adjustments designed to create a more effective and streamlined program timeline
- Board Staff plans to present the new proposed program structure at an upcoming Board Agenda meeting.
  - Further details will be available after Board action.

# Implementation Grant

- June 2023 - The Board approved funding in the NJ Clean Energy Program General Fund for use in a project implementation program.
  - \$1,000,000 for implementation
- In addition to this funding, BPU Staff has been working with Sustainable Jersey to identify ways to leverage funding from federal sources to enhance an implementation program.
- Board Staff is preparing to propose the establishment of the implementation program at an upcoming Board Agenda Meeting.
  - Further details will be available after Board action



# Contact Information

- For questions about the CEPG program, please feel free to contact:
  - David Titus: [david.titus@bpu.nj.gov](mailto:david.titus@bpu.nj.gov)
  - CEPG mailbox: [community.energy@bpu.nj.gov](mailto:community.energy@bpu.nj.gov)



# Thank You!

**Mayor Judy M. Ward**

[mayorward@pleasantvillenj.us](mailto:mayorward@pleasantvillenj.us)

**Michael Muscillo**

[mmuscillo@highlandsborough.org](mailto:mmuscillo@highlandsborough.org)

**Christian Callegari**

[ccallegari@patersonnj.gov](mailto:ccallegari@patersonnj.gov)

**Brandee Sullivan**

[brandee.sullivan@bpu.nj.gov](mailto:brandee.sullivan@bpu.nj.gov)

**Nancy Quirk**

[quirkn@tcnj.edu](mailto:quirkn@tcnj.edu)

