

Southern Tier Regional Sustainability Plan

The Southern Tier Sustainability Plan's goals and targets are categorized by the following focus areas:

- Transportation
- Waste Management
- Land Use
- Energy
- Governance
- Agriculture and Forestry
- Water Management
- Economic Development
- Climate Change Adaptation

More detailed descriptions of each goal, target and indicator can be found in the regional sustainability plan and the indicator document—locations of those descriptions within both documents are listed within each focus area below.

Transportation (pages 97 – 107 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Create a regional multi-modal transportation system that offers real transportation choice, reduced costs and impacts, and improved health. (Page 103 of Sustainability Plan)
- Reduce fossil fuel consumption and GHG emissions from transportation by reducing vehicle miles traveled, increasing efficiency, improving system operations, and transitioning to less carbon intensive fuels and power sources. (Page 103 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Increase total percentage of workers commuting via walking, biking, transit, and carpooling. (Page 103 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 2A)
 - Long Term (20 year): Increase non-SOV mode share to 28%.
 - Short Term (5 year): Increase non-SOV mode share to 21%.
- Reduce estimated annual gasoline sales, aggregated by county. (Page 103 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 2D)
 - Long Term (20 year): Decrease regional gas sales by 40%.
 - Short Term (5 year): Decrease regional gas sales by 2.5%.

Waste Management (pages 168 – 175 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Promote innovative waste reduction and management strategies that reduce the amount of material disposed of at landfills. (Page 173 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Reduce Per capita waste disposal rate (lbs. per capita/day). (Page 173 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 4A)
 - Long Term (20 year): 50% reduction from baseline (i.e., 2 lbs. MSW/capita/day).
 - Short Term (5 year): 12.5% reduction from baseline (2010) (i.e., 3.5 lbs. MSW/capita/day).

Land Use (pages 108 – 119 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Strengthen and revitalize existing cities, villages and hamlets. (Page 114 of Sustainability Plan)
- Support development of housing that is energy and location efficient and offers choices to reflect changing demographics. (Page 114 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Increase proportion of Southern Tier residents who live in existing cities and villages. (Page 114 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 3C)
 - Long Term (20 year): 45% (7% increase over 20 years).
 - Short Term (5 year): 40% (2% increase over 5 years).
- Increase percentage of housing units located within cities and villages that are affordable to low-to-moderate-income households. (Page 114 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 3D)
 - Long Term (20 year): 42%
 - Short Term (5 year): 38%

Energy (pages 76 – 96 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Reduce building energy use. (Page 89 of Sustainability Plan)
- Develop, produce and deploy local renewable energy sources and advanced technologies across the Southern Tier. (Page 89 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Reduce on-site building natural gas and electricity consumption per end use (residential, commercial, and industrial). (Page 90 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 1C)
 - Long-Term (20 years):
 - - 40% in residential & commercial sectors; - 30% in the industrial sector.
 - Short-Term (5 years):
 - - 10% in residential & commercial sectors; - 7.5% in the industrial sector.

Governance (pages 176 – 183 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Increase collaboration among regional agencies, institutions, and local governments. (Page 179 of Sustainability Plan)
- Increase fiscal efficiency and effectiveness in local government through energy and waste reduction, coordinated investments, and integrated planning. (Page 179 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Increase number of Climate Smart Communities within region and number of certified Climate Smart Communities. (Page 179 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 8A)
 - Long Term (20 year): 100% of counties and 50 percent of municipalities.
 - Short Term (5 year): 25% of counties and 12.5 percent of municipalities.

Agriculture and Forestry (pages 132 – 144 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Promote best management of fields, forests and farmland to keep working lands in production, protect natural resources and increase carbon sequestration. (Page 140 of Sustainability Plan)
- Preserve and connect natural resources, open spaces and access to waterways, to protect regional environment, ecology, habitat and scenic areas and support outdoor recreation. (Page 140 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Increase acres of agricultural land enrolled in Agricultural Environmental Management Program (AEM) and Acres of Certified, Managed Forestland. (Page 141 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 3H)
 - Long Term (20 year): 100,000 added acres enrolled in these programs.
 - Short Term (5 year): 25,000 added acres enrolled in these programs.
- Increase acres protected through NYSDEC and other public, non-profit and private protected lands. (Page 141 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 3I)
 - Long Term (20 year): 30,000 added acres protected.
 - Short Term (5 year): 7,500 added acres protected.

Water Management (pages 157 – 167 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Efficiently manage and upgrade existing water, sewer and other utility infrastructure to support compact development and reduce energy use. (Page 164 of Sustainability Plan)
- Improve and protect water quality and quantity. (Page 164 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Reduce total Number of Impaired Waters. (Page 164 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 5B)
 - Long Term (20 year): 66 percent reduction (3 water bodies).
 - Short Term (5 year): 11 percent reduction (8 water bodies).

Economic Development (pages 120 – 131 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Create and retain more good-paying jobs by building on the Southern Tier's regional strengths, including advanced energy and transportation technologies, globally competitive industry and workforce development and technology transfer partnerships with educational institutions. (Page 126 of Sustainability Plan)
- Support farming and related businesses to reinvigorate the rural economy, enhance residents' incomes and standards of living, and promote local food and agriculture. (Page 126 of Sustainability Plan)
- Support tourism industry development with coordinated marketing, preservation and enhancement of historical, cultural, educational and natural resources and events. (Page 126 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Increase average wages in region over time, by county. (Page 126 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 6G)
 - Long Term (20 year): 100 percent of national average.
 - Short Term (5 year): 90 percent of national average.
- Increase cash receipts from farm sales (Page 126 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 6E)
 - Long Term (20 year): \$497 million (2009 dollars).
 - Short Term (5 year): \$417 million (2009 dollars).

Climate Change Adaptation (pages 145 – 156 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Identify and plan for the economic, environmental and social impacts of climate change. (Page 152 of Sustainability Plan)
- Minimize flood losses by preserving and enhancing floodplains and wetlands, and by limiting development in flood-prone areas. (Page 152 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- The degree to which climate change and adaptation is discussed within the required Hazard Mitigation Plans. (Page 153 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 7C)
 - Long Term (20 year):
 - Tier One: 8 of 8 (100%).
 - Tier Two: 8 of 8 (100%).
 - Tier Three: 6 of 8 (75%).
 - Short Term (5 year):
 - Tier One: 8 of 8 (100%).
 - Tier Two: 4 of 8 (50%).
 - Tier Three: 1 of 8 (12.5%).
- Increase participation in the Community Rating System (CRS) program of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). (Page 153 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 7B)
 - Long Term (20 year): Increase CRS participation to:
 - 100% of municipalities with more than 100 NFIP policies.
 - 50% percent of those with 50-100 NFIP policies.
 - Short Term (5 year): Increase CRS participation to:
 - 30% of municipalities with more than 100 NFIP policies.
 - 15% of municipalities with 50-100 NFIP policies.