

NYS Energy Research and Development Authority – Cleaner, Greener Communities Program, Phase II Implementation Grants

Funding Available: Up to \$30 million

NYSERDA will begin reviewing applications for Category 1 starting July 1, 2013 and until 4:00 PM Eastern Time on September 30, 2014, until funds are exhausted, or until the solicitation is revised by NYSERDA, whichever comes first. Proposals for Category 2 and Category 3 are due by 4:00pm Eastern Time on August 12, 2013.

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INTRODUCTION

The [Cleaner, Greener Communities \(CGC\) Program](#) was announced by Governor Cuomo in his 2011 State of the State address as a competitive grant program to encourage communities to develop and implement regional sustainable growth strategies. The CGC Program builds on the [Climate Smart Communities Program](#), which was established in 2009 by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) as a network of local governments across New York that have committed, by voluntarily adopting the Climate Smart Communities Pledge, to reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and to prepare for unavoidable changes in climate. The CGC Program provides enhanced support for development and implementation of regional sustainability plans to help ensure that the State's ongoing and substantial investments in infrastructure help to move communities and New York as a whole toward a more environmentally sustainable future. The primary goal of the program is to encourage communities to create public-private partnerships and develop regional sustainable growth strategies in such areas as, emission control, energy efficiency, renewable energy, low-carbon transportation, and other carbon reductions. [Phase I of CGC](#) provided funding to the 10 Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) regions in New York State (NYS) for the development of Regional Sustainability Plans. Phase II of CGC offers grant funding for projects that support the goals of each region's respective sustainability planning effort. This solicitation, PON 2721 is the first in a series of funding rounds to support these projects. Subsequent rounds are expected to launch in the years 2014 and 2015. A total of \$90 million in potential funding awards will be available over the three-year life of the program.

CGC is funded with proceeds from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), the purpose of which is to lower GHG emissions in the Northeast. Through [Phase II of CGC](#), NYSEDA is offering competitive grants for the implementation of innovative community-based projects that reduce current greenhouse gas emissions, create more resilient, sustainable communities, and position New York State to prepare for a cleaner future. Projects will stimulate environmentally sustainable economic growth consistent with the Phase I Regional Sustainability Plans and REDC Strategic Plans. By integrating smart growth principles into all aspects of project execution, these innovative and exemplary projects will be holistic in nature, exhibit positive large-scale impacts, and contribute to an improved quality of life in New York. Projects selected under Phase II of CGC will not only save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; they will also make NYS a better place to live, work, and do business.

DESCRIPTION

As outlined below, the majority of Phase II CGC funding is set aside for large-scale, high-impact, and exemplary sustainability projects (Category 3) that will have both an immediate and long-lasting influence on greenhouse gas emissions reductions and climate resiliency. However, NYSEDA recognizes the significant need for funding related to local planning and zoning (Categories 1 and 2) and has set aside a portion of Phase II CGC funding to support these efforts. NYSEDA believes that planning and zoning efforts are critical with respect to preparing communities for long-term sustainability and ensuring permanent and continually decreasing greenhouse gas emissions in NYS. This solicitation will fund projects and activities that promote smart growth and sustainable development. Smart growth promotes land use practices such as compact growth, transit-oriented and mixed-use development, pedestrian and bicycle friendly practices, complete streets, and protection of critical land, water, and natural resources. Sustainable development strives to enhance environmental, economic, and social

well-being without degrading current or future natural, economic, and social resources. Applicants that do **not** pay into the System Benefits Charge (SBC) are **eligible** to participate in this solicitation.

FUNDING CATEGORIES

Category 1 (Open-Enrollment): Up to \$1 million available for communities to adopt streamlined permitting and other ordinances for photovoltaic systems and electric vehicle charging stations, with awards of up to \$10,000 per project. NYSERDA will begin reviewing applications for Category 1 starting July 1, 2013 and until 4:00 PM Eastern Time on September 30, 2014, until funds are exhausted, or until the solicitation is revised by NYSERDA, whichever comes first.

Category 2 (Competitive): Up to \$4 million available for communities to create or revise comprehensive plans, including updating zoning ordinances and addressing sustainability and resiliency, with awards of up to \$400,000 per project. Proposals for Category 2 are due by 4:00pm Eastern Time on August 12, 2013.

Category 3 (Competitive): Up to \$25 million for large-scale sustainability projects contributing to community resiliency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, with awards ranging from \$1 million to \$5 million per project. Proposals for Category 3 are due by 4:00pm Eastern Time on August 12, 2013.

CATEGORY 1: STREAMLINED PERMITTING

Funding Available: Up to \$1 million

Eligible Applicants

Entities having jurisdiction for permitting, land use planning, and zoning are eligible applicants. The applicant, if successful, will have a contractual obligation to NYSERDA and will act as the main point of contact for NYSERDA for all project-related matters.

Project Eligibility

All Category 1 applicants must demonstrate that they have adopted a streamlined permitting process for installing PV systems and/or Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) stations or zoning and parking ordinances that specifically accommodate EVSE. Applicants may apply for awards for adopting one or both of the streamlined permitting processes outlined below. Total award amounts for Category 1 will be capped at \$5,000 per applicant for applicants representing a population of up to 30,000 residents and \$10,000 per applicant for applicants representing a population larger than 30,000 residents. Applications will be accepted pending NYSERDA approval of the following documentation demonstrating streamlined permitting process elements. Applications must be submitted after all work has been completed with all relevant documentation attached.

Streamlined EVSE Permitting Process or Zoning/Parking Ordinances:

Funding will be awarded in the amount of \$2,500 per project for applicants representing a population of up to 30,000 residents and \$5,000 per project for applicants representing a population larger than 30,000 residents. To be eligible for funding, applicants must demonstrate that the Program Participation Requirements outlined below have been met. For more information, please reference the "Creating EV-Ready Towns and Cities: A Guide to

Planning and Policy Tools” document, which can be found at the following location:
<http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/guidance>.

Program Participation Requirements (Must do either 1a or 1b AND either 2a or 2b):

1. For both (1a) and (1b), jurisdictions should also demonstrate that fees for EVSE installations are in line with other similar procedures in the jurisdiction and incorporate a step into the permitting process by which the building owner must notify the local electric utility of the EVSE installation.
 - a. Existing Minor Work Processes: Several jurisdictions have chosen to label residential EVSE as “minor work”, classifying it on the same level as a large electrical appliance. This implies that the EVSE installation will be straightforward, without much custom work or electrical service upgrades. Labeling it as minor work can lower the cost of the permit and the time required to execute the process. Some jurisdictions have a simplified residential EVSE permit form that can be used if specific conditions are met (e.g., installation is in a private garage, electrical service to the house is at least 200 amps, and EVSE does not exceed 200 amps). Applicants must demonstrate that they have updated their permitting process to define EVSE installations as “minor work” and that the permitting process for EVSE installations now consists of a simplified application process and permitting fees consistent with similar “minor work.”

OR

- b. Permitting Template: Where the existing permitting procedures do not properly facilitate EVSE installations, municipalities can use a separate permit specific to EVSE. Having such a permit suggests a jurisdiction has researched the EVSE installation process in general. Applicants must demonstrate that they have adopted a permitting procedure based on the model permitting template created by The Alternative Fuels Data Center at the U.S. Department of Energy, which can be found at: http://www.afdc.energy.gov/pdfs/EV_charging_template.pdf. Applicants must also require installers to complete an EVSE load calculation worksheet.

AND

2.
 - a. Zoning: Municipalities can ease the way for further installation of EVSE by clarifying zoning ordinances. Applicants must submit documentation of zoning ordinance amendments that define “electric vehicle charging station” and what type of electric vehicle charging is permissible in each zoning category or define “electric vehicle charging” as an accessory use for appropriate zoning categories.

OR

- b. Parking: Municipalities can encourage drivers to use EVs through their parking ordinances by providing discounted or free parking to EV drivers and barring cars that are not charging from parking in designated EVSE-adjacent parking spaces. Applicants must submit documentation of parking ordinance amendments that eliminate hourly parking fees at public lots for EVs (only

eligible if there are hourly fees for parking in the municipality) and bar cars that are not charging from parking in designated EVSE-adjacent parking spaces.

Streamlined PV Permitting Application Process:

Funding will be awarded in the amount of \$2,500 per project for applicants representing a population of up to 30,000 residents and \$5,000 per project for applicants representing a population larger than 30,000 residents. To be eligible for funding, applicants must demonstrate that all of the Program Participation Requirements outlined below have been met. For more information, please reference NYSERDA's CFA Guidance materials, which can be found at the following location: <http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/guidance>.

Program Participation Requirements:

1. Applicants located outside of Nassau County and Suffolk County (Long Island) must demonstrate that they have adopted a permitting procedure based on the NYS Standard Solar Permitting Form, which will be available here on July 1, 2013: <http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/guidance>. A webinar will be scheduled in June 2013 to gather input on the NYS Standard Solar Permitting Form. Information on the webinar will be posted to the above website as soon as it becomes available.
2. Applicants within Nassau County and Suffolk County (Long Island) must demonstrate that they have adopted a permitting procedure based on the Long Island Power Authority's "Solar Energy System Fast Track Permit Application, which will be available here on July 1, 2013: <http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/guidance>. Applicants that already received incentives from LIPA for adopting these streamlined permitting processes are not eligible to receive more funding through NYSERDA.

Ineligible Projects

Projects must meet eligibility requirements outlined in the section of this document entitled "Project Eligibility."

Application Process

Applications will be accepted through the [Consolidated Funding Application \(CFA\)](#). Applicants should contact CGC@nyserda.ny.gov for guidance.

NYSERDA will begin reviewing applications for Category 1 starting July 1, 2013 and until September 30, 2014, until funds are exhausted, or until the solicitation is revised by NYSERDA, whichever comes first. A separate CFA must be completed for each unique project. The Streamlined EVSE Permitting Process is considered a unique project as is the Streamlined PV Permitting Application Process. Applications must be submitted **after** all work has been completed with all relevant documentation attached.

Selection Criteria

Projects must meet eligibility requirements and documentation submittal requirements outlined in the sections of this document entitled "Project Eligibility."

Examples of Eligible Projects

There are no examples for this category.

CATEGORY 2: COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

Funding Available: Up to \$4 million

Eligible Applicants

Municipal (county, city, town, village, or Indian tribe or nation residing within New York State) governments in New York State with land use planning and zoning jurisdiction are considered eligible applicants. Municipalities may form partnerships and submit a joint proposal, but one entity must be identified as the lead applicant on behalf of the group or consortium. A group or consortium of municipalities may choose to designate a non-municipal entity (private, non-profit, etc) to be the lead applicant. For proposals seeking funding only for a single municipality, that municipality must be the lead applicant, but may include public, private, or non-profit contractors to support the scope of work. The lead applicant, if successful, will have a contractual obligation to NYSERDA and will act as the main point of contact for NYSERDA for all project-related matters.

Project Eligibility

Funding will be awarded in the amount of \$50,000 to \$400,000 per project pursuant to the scope and merit of the proposals received. NYSERDA may make award offers at amounts lower than those for which the applicant proposed. A minimum cost-share of 25% is required. Other New York State funding sources, including other NYSERDA funding, shall not count toward the proposer's cost-share.

All Category 2 applicants must propose a qualified planning effort. A qualified planning effort shall include creation or revision of a comprehensive plan, or portions thereof, including efforts focusing on updating zoning ordinances, addressing climate resiliency, and/or other sustainability or smart growth-related efforts. These efforts shall be intended to save energy, increase use of renewable energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce particulate matter emissions, avoid future emissions, or reduce future energy use. NYSERDA strongly recommends using the [Technical Guidance Manual for Sustainable Neighborhoods](#), created by the United States Green Building Council in partnership with the Land Use Law Center at Pace Law School, to guide planning processes and proposal development. NYSERDA also strongly recommends adoption of the [LEED® for Neighborhood Development Floating Zone](#) as part of the anticipated planning and zoning efforts.

Applications will be evaluated based on the degree to which the project supports the criteria outlined in the section of this document entitled "Selection Criteria." Applications must be submitted prior to starting NYSERDA-funded work.

Ineligible Projects

Projects must meet eligibility requirements outlined in the section of this document entitled "***Project Eligibility.***"

Application Process

Applications will be accepted through the [Consolidated Funding Application \(CFA\)](#). Applications are due by 4:00PM Eastern Time on August 12, 2013. It is expected that resulting awards will be announced in December 2013. A separate CFA must be completed for each unique project.

Selection Criteria

Projects will be scored and awarded on a competitive basis. No project, region, or applicant is guaranteed funding. However, no one project, region or applicant may receive more than 25% of available funding. As project proposals will be submitted through the CFA process, the REDC's will score projects based on consistency with their respective Regional Strategic Plan and the relative level of priority associated with sustainability in the region. The REDC's will assign a score of 0-20, which is 20% of the total score. NYSERDA will convene a Technical Evaluation Panel to review and rank eligible proposals for technical merit pursuant to the project selection criteria noted below and to assign the remaining 80% of the score. NYSERDA's scoring will be based on the following criteria:

1. Responsiveness to the PON (5 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated a thorough understanding of program goals?
 - To what extent does the proposer present a sound, detailed approach for accomplishing the objectives of their proposal?
 - To what extent does the proposer present a sound rationale for the proposed approach?
 - To what extent does the proposer demonstrate the ability to accomplish the tasks?
 - Is the proposal thorough, specific, and consistent with the stated objectives?

2. Cost effectiveness, Including Cost Sharing And Leveraging Of Funds (10 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will achieve cost-effective greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions, especially as compared to other project proposals submitted in response to this solicitation?
 - To what extent has the proposer provided cost-sharing or otherwise leveraged funds outside of NYSERDA? A minimum cost-share of 25% is required. The applicant cost-share and the NYSERDA share must contribute to the same project or measures within the project intended to reduce carbon emissions, promote energy efficiency, or increase use of renewable energy. All demonstrated cost-share must be confirmed by signed commitments from contributing parties. Other New York State funding sources, including other NYSERDA funding, shall not count toward the proposer's cost-share.

3. Regional Economic Development Significance (5 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will support economic development in the region?

4. Alignment with Regional Sustainability Plan's Sustainability Indicators (15 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will have a positive impact on one or more of the sustainability indicators outlined in their respective Regional Sustainability Plan, or all applicable REDC Strategic Plans if a project overlays more than one REDC region?? What is the number of sustainability indicators impacted as well as the degree to which any one indicator is positively impacted?

5. Energy Efficiency Savings And/Or Renewable Energy Deployment (10 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will achieve energy savings, renewable energy deployment, or both, if applicable depending upon the nature of the project?
6. Economic Development And Resiliency Benefits (5 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will have a positive impact on economic development and climate resiliency in New York State?
7. Adherence To Smart Growth Principles Applicable To Project Location (15 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will produce significant Smart Growth benefits to New York State?
8. Projects Located In Climate Smart Communities, Environmental Justice Areas, Brownfield Opportunity Areas, or REDC Opportunity Agenda Communities (5 Possible Points)
 - Is the project located in a CSC, an Environmental Justice area, Brownfield Opportunity Area, REDC Opportunity Agenda Area, or all?
9. Estimated Timeframe For Project (5 Possible Points)
 - To what extent will the project be completed within a timeframe that is supportive of the goals of CGC? Projects that will be completed sooner will score higher. All portions of the project being funded by CGC must be complete within 3 years.
 - To what extent will the project result in a sustained improvement in the community?
10. Letter of Support From The Municipality In Which The Project Is Located And That Has Planning Jurisdiction Over The Project (5 Possible Points)
 - Has the proposer provided a signed letter of support from the municipality (or municipalities) in which the project is located and that has planning jurisdiction over the project?

Sustainability Indicators

Anticipated benefits associated with Phase II CGC projects should be measured, to the extent feasible, with the statistics tracked by sustainability indicators outlined in every Regional Sustainability Plan. To encourage consistent quantification methodology and adherence to the goals outlined in each Regional Sustainability Plan, project proposals shall focus on sustainability indicators that were specifically targeted in the sustainability plan applicable to the region in which the project is located. Not all projects will positively influence all of the indicators outlined in their Regional Sustainability Plan, but every project application must positively influence at least one sustainability indicator in its region's sustainability plan. Project benefits should be estimated, with supporting documentation for assumptions, in the CFA application for Phase II funding. The benefits will be refined and demonstrated again in a final report prepared by each successful applicant at the conclusion of the project using the calculation methodologies outlined in the Phase I Regional Sustainability Plans.

For more information on the Cleaner Greener Communities Program or to reference your region's Regional Sustainability Plan, please visit: <http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/Statewide-Initiatives/Cleaner-Greener-Communities.aspx>

Examples of Eligible Projects

There are no examples for this category.

CATEGORY 3: SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS

Funding Available: Up to \$25 million

Eligible Applicants

All public, private, and non-profit entities are eligible to apply. Entities may form partnerships and submit a joint proposal, but one entity must be identified as the lead applicant on behalf of the group or consortium. The lead applicant, if successful, will have a contractual obligation to NYSERDA and will act as the main point of contact for NYSERDA for all project-related matters.

Project Eligibility

Funding will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000 per project pursuant to the scope and merit of the proposals received. NYSERDA may make award offers at amounts lower than those for which the applicant proposed. A minimum cost-share of 25% is required. Other New York State funding sources, including other NYSERDA funding, shall not count toward the proposer's cost-share.

In order to qualify, the project, or measures within the project, for which the applicant is requesting funding must not be eligible projects or measures for other NYSERDA funding. Other NYSERDA funding is defined as funding associated with current solicitations that have been issued by NYSERDA either directly or through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA), or those that NYSERDA lists on its website as upcoming funding opportunities within the next six months. (Go to [http://www.nysesda.ny.gov/Funding Opportunities.aspx](http://www.nysesda.ny.gov/Funding_Opportunities.aspx) for a complete listing of current and future NYSERDA funding opportunities.)

Applicants can request funds supplemental to other NYSERDA funding for measures within a project that are not otherwise eligible measures for funding. Applicants that have already received other NYSERDA funding can supplement prior funds for measures within a project that were not eligible measure types under the original solicitation. Prior to application submittal, NYSERDA may assist applicants to determine if the project, in whole or in part, is eligible for consideration through other NYSERDA programs and solicitations. Projects must be able to commence within one year of contract execution. Applicants are required to submit a proposed scope of work, budget, and project timeline with their application.

NYSERDA anticipates awarding a variety of project types including, but not limited to, land use, transportation, and buildings. Please see the section of this document entitled "***Eligible Projects***" for more specific examples. All projects must be large-scale sustainability projects that support energy efficiency, renewable energy, or carbon mitigation. Applications will be evaluated based on the degree to which the project supports the criteria outlined in the section of this document entitled "***Selection Criteria.***" Applications must be submitted prior to starting NYSERDA-funded work.

Ineligible Projects

Projects must meet eligibility requirements outlined in the section of this document entitled "PROJECT ELIGIBILITY." The following project types or measures are **NOT** eligible for Category 3 funding. Please reference

<http://www.nyserdera.ny.gov/guidance> for more specific project guidelines.

- Projects, or measures within projects, that are required by law or regulations.
- Development, implementation, or funding of rebate or incentive programs.
- Projects that have an aggregate adverse effect on indoor or outdoor air quality, GHG emissions, or public health in general.
- Natural gas, electricity, or other 'fuel distribution lines' including, but not limited to, gas pipelines and electricity lines. For the purposes of this solicitation, combined heat and power systems and district energy systems are not considered 'fuel distribution lines.'
- Feasibility studies that examine new technologies or policies.
- Design and/or construction costs for residential buildings consisting of between one and four units.
- Research and Development (R&D) for products, processes, or other activities.
- Biomass heating or energy generation equipment that involves any fuel other than wood pellets. (Wood pellet biomass projects ARE eligible, but must comply with NYSERDA's CGC Biomass Heating System Program Requirements, which can be accessed at <http://www.nyserdera.ny.gov/guidance>.)
- Costs of consumables, including fuels such as gasoline, wood pellets, fuel oil, and biodiesel.
- Costs of ongoing operation and maintenance of capital projects.

Application Process

Applications will be accepted through the [Consolidated Funding Application \(CFA\)](#). Applications are due by 4:00pm Eastern Time on August 12, 2013. It is expected that resulting awards will be announced in December 2013. A separate CFA must be completed for each unique project.

Selection Criteria

Projects will be scored and awarded on a competitive basis. No project, region, or applicant is guaranteed funding. However, no one project, region, or applicant may receive more than 25% of available funding. Because proposals will be submitted through the CFA process, the REDCs will score projects based on consistency with their respective Regional Strategic Plan and the relative level of priority. The REDC's will assign a score of 0-20 representing 20% of the total score. NYSERDA will convene a Technical Evaluation Panel to review and rank eligible proposals for technical merit pursuant the project selection criteria noted below and to assign the remaining 80% of the score. NYSERDA's scoring will be based on the following criteria:

1. Responsiveness to the PON (5 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated a thorough understanding of program goals?
 - To what extent does the proposer present a sound, detailed approach for accomplishing the objectives of this proposal?
 - To what extent does the proposer present a sound rationale for the proposed approach?
 - To what extent does the proposer demonstrate ability to accomplish the tasks?
 - Is the proposal thorough, specific, and consistent with the stated objectives?
2. Cost effectiveness, Including Cost Sharing And Leveraging Of Funds (10 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will achieve cost-effective GHG emissions reductions, especially as compared to other project proposals in this solicitation?

- To what extent has the proposer provided cost-sharing or otherwise leveraged funds outside of NYSERDA? A minimum cost-share of 25% is required. The applicant cost-share and the NYSERDA share must contribute to the same project or measures within the project intended to reduce carbon emissions, promote energy efficiency, or increase use of renewable energy. All demonstrated cost-share must be confirmed by signed commitments from contributing parties. Other New York State funding sources, including other NYSERDA funding, shall not count toward the proposer's cost-share.
11. Regional Economic Development Significance (5 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will support economic development in the region or all applicable regions if a project overlays more than one REDC region?
 3. Alignment with Regional Sustainability Plan's Sustainability Indicators (15 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will have a positive impact on one or more of the sustainability indicators outlined in their respective Regional Sustainability Plan, or all applicable REDC Strategic Plans if a project overlays more than one REDC region? What is the number of sustainability indicators impacted as well as the degree to which any one indicator is positively impacted?
 4. Energy Efficiency Savings And/Or Renewable Energy Deployment (10 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will achieve energy savings, renewable energy deployment, or both, if applicable depending upon the nature of the project?
 5. Economic Development And Resiliency Benefits (5 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will have a positive impact on economic development and climate resiliency in New York State?
 6. Adherence To Smart Growth Principles Applicable To Project Location (15 Possible Points)
 - To what extent has the proposer demonstrated that the project will produce significant Smart Growth benefits to New York State?
 7. Projects Located In Climate Smart Communities, Environmental Justice Areas, Brownfield Opportunity Areas, or REDC Opportunity Agenda Communities (5 Possible Points)
 - Is the project located in a Climate Smart Community, an Environmental Justice area, a Brownfield Opportunity Area, REDC Opportunity Agenda Area, or all?
 8. Estimated Timeframe For Project (5 Possible Points)
 - To what extent will the project be completed within a timeframe that is supportive of the goals of CGC? Projects that will be completed sooner will score higher. All portions of the project being funded by CGC must be complete within 3 years.
 - To what extent will the project result in a sustained improvement in the community?
 9. Letter of Support From The Municipality In Which The Project Is Located And That Has Planning Jurisdiction Over The Project (5 Possible Points)

- Has the proposer provided a signed letter of support from the municipality (or municipalities) in which the project is located and that has planning jurisdiction over the project?

Sustainability Indicators

Anticipated benefits associated with Phase II CGC projects should be measured, to the extent feasible, using statistics tracked by sustainability indicators outlined in every Regional Sustainability Plan. To encourage consistent quantification methodology and adherence to the goals outlined in each Regional Sustainability Plan, project proposals shall focus on sustainability indicators that were specifically targeted in the sustainability plan applicable to the region in which the project is located. Not all projects will positively influence all of the indicators outlined in their Regional Sustainability Plan, but every project application must positively influence at least one sustainability indicator in their region's sustainability plan. Project benefits should be estimated, with supporting documentation for assumptions, in the CFA application for Phase II funding. The benefits will be refined and demonstrated again in a final report prepared by each successful applicant at the conclusion of the project using the calculation methodologies outlined in the Phase I Regional Sustainability Plans.

For more information on the Cleaner Greener Communities Program or to reference your region's Regional Sustainability Plan, please visit: <http://www.nyserderda.ny.gov/Statewide-Initiatives/Cleaner-Greener-Communities.aspx>

Examples of Eligible Projects

The following list provides some examples of what NYSERDA considers 'eligible' project types under Category 3. This list is not exhaustive, is not a list of preferred project types, and is intended only to provide an additional level of clarity. Applications for project types included on this list are not guaranteed to receive funding and will be evaluated according to the aforementioned criteria along with every other project application. Please contact CGC@nyserderda.ny.gov with any questions.

Transportation Examples:

- Creation of a bus rapid transit corridor between one or more communities, including purchase of alternative fuel or hybrid buses, construction of updated bus stops, map and schedule development, etc.
- New sidewalks, crosswalks, and/or bicycle infrastructure to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety (e.g. pedestrian traffic signals, painted or buffered bike lanes, bike boxes, and bike-share programs).
- Projects that reduce vehicle idling and traffic congestion, including traffic signal improvements to enhance traffic flow.
- Building alternative/exclusive bike and pedestrian permeable pavement paths that connect residential areas to amenities such as houses of worship, shopping, entertainment, offices, etc.

Land Use Examples:

- Planning and construction costs of renovating an abandoned warehouse in an environmental justice community to create a mixed-use center with commercial spaces and a mix of market rate & low-income residential spaces.
- Implementing Stages 2 and 3 of a Stage 1 certified LEED-ND Project.
- Construction of local fresh food markets/corner stores within walking distance of residential areas that do not already have a grocery store.

- Planning and/or additional construction costs of building high-density or mixed-use development on a Brownfield site or infill site.
- Floodplain restoration.
- Converting an underutilized parking lot into a community garden, park, recreational space, pedestrian plaza, or other innovative use.

Buildings Examples:

- Measures that significantly improve the efficiency of water treatment or waste-water treatment facilities.
- Project design costs, and/or energy efficiency and renewable measures for zero-energy commercial buildings or zero-energy capable commercial energy buildings where the total energy consumption per square foot is expected to be reduced by 50% or more.

Other Examples:

- Costs of building and connecting an energy-efficient shared district energy system in part or all of a community.
- Large scale LED street lighting projects.
- Construction of innovative green roofs on buildings (i.e. public roof-top park, vegetable garden, etc).
- Large-scale urban forestry/tree planting project.
- Planning and construction of industrial ecosystem parks.
- Development of innovative industrial/commercial/incubator facilities that contribute to regional growth and reduce transportation emissions associated with importing goods.
- Implementation of large-scale composting, organic/food-waste, or other waste reduction program.
- Methane reduction measures in the waste industry and abating HFCs/PFCs in manufacturing processes (e.g. recovering methane at landfills and using it in industrial processes or electricity generation, repairing leaks, improving capture and recovery systems, eliminating thermal oxidation, etc.).

DISCLAIMER

Projects identified in the appendices and the content of the Cleaner Greener Communities Phase I Regional Sustainability Plans are meant to provide examples of potential ways to address the strategies identified in the reports and were submitted to the planning consortiums as part of the public outreach efforts by the consortium. These projects are in no way prioritized or guaranteed to receive funding through Phase II Implementation Funding of the Cleaner, Greener Communities Program. Projects not listed in the appendices section or content of the plans will have equal opportunity to submit an application for funding through Phase II. Regardless of being listed in the plan, a Consolidated Funding Application must be submitted in order to be considered for funding in Phase II. All projects must address the qualifications and eligibility requirements listed in this Guidance Document. NYSERDA reserves the right to issue revisions to this solicitation at any time. Any revisions will be announced and posted on NYSERDA's website at www.nyserderda.ny.gov.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For technical questions concerning this program, please contact CGC@nyserderda.ny.gov.

All CGC program resources and guidelines can be found at the following location:
<http://www.nyserderda.ny.gov/guidance>.

