

Advisory Commission on the Environment

July 11th, 2018



Discussion on ACOTE Priorities


Sticky Note Session



Resident Priorities

- Monitor and report on progress related to Climate Action Plan Goals
- Attend to Hartford's role providing wildlife habitat
- Assist in linking the efforts of commissions and other entities with environmental/health-related missions
- Convene/Sponsor Annual Citizens Community Education Event to highlight work, priorities, issues, etc.
- Active collaboration with churches and NGOs to implement Climate Action Plan
- Clean Parks for families and children
- Collect, analyze, and disseminate information and data regarding the environment, public health, energy use, etc. that can inform the work of other commissions and entities
- Improve coordination across commissions and other city groups
- Reverse gentrification
- Implement the Climate Action Plan
- Encourage the development of businesses and organizations with positive environmental missions and practices
- Monthly newsletter for residents regarding Hartford's environment... Informational newsletter
- Community environmental education
- Supporting community environmental organizing
- Issue: Many homeowners are not attending NRZ meetings. Develop strategies to motivate attendance
- Coordinate with other (e.g. Sustainability, public health, natural resources, public safety) related commissions
- Engage faith communities in the overall, interwoven issues. Help people connect the dots (Urban Alliance, IREJN, Know Your Neighbor, CREA)
- Formal climate change adoption strategy

Water

- Making sure bodies of water aren't being contaminated (runoff, sewage) -> storm drains
 - Educate the public that our water is one of the cleanest in the nation (MDC)
 - Incorporate Park River in Water/Clean up environmental plan
 - Partner with autobody shops to promote compliance with local and state regulations
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Transportation

- Limebike/EV charging stations at Fastrak/Hartford Line
- Support the passage of state law that allows the sale of electric vehicles in this state (EV dealers) (Tesla)
- Electric School Buses (use VW funds)
- Tailpipe emissions
- Deeply sustainable transportation system and behaviors
- More bike friendly roadways
- Getting electric school buses
- Enforce law, no idling at parks – Turn cars off

Waste

- Recycling bins for apartment buildings
- Recycling
- Partner with PRAC on City Litter Campaign
- Pursue use of wood waste for uses higher than chips or firewood
- MIRA environmental justice process – make sure residents have a voice
- Increase recycling rates in multi-dwelling unit buildings
- Extra produce to go to soup kitchens, churches, etc.
- No plastic bags, less trash dumping
- Arrest illegal dumpers to decrease litter, vectors, and potential toxic exposures
- Appropriate use of wood waste
- Everyone that can compost – composting; compost goes to community gardens

Food

- Food sharing – Restaurants to the homeless population and shelters
- More greenhouses in empty lots with food going to local grocery stores in food desert areas
- More grocery stores
- Community gardens- hundreds of them
- Starting gardens around Hartford North End
- Work with local businesses to provide food for homeless
- Urban farms supply food for school children
- Local, organic, GMO/GE free produce going to local schools, grocery stores, restaurants, markets
- Less trucking in food, lower carbon footprint
- Change health policies that disallow an organization from donating excess food to shelters


Energy

- Renewable energy – residential, commercial, institutional, governmental
- Community shared solar projects for renters and people who cannot use solar panels on their homes
- More solar/alternative energies
- Shared solar
- More push for renewable energy and energy efficiency, especially for the LMI communities
- Green economy and job pipeline for residents; clean energy
- Carbon tax (statewide/regional)
- Energy efficiency – residential, commercial, institutional, governmental

Potential Partnerships



Resident Priorities

- CHISPA
 - Hispanic Health Council
 - Hartford Housing Authority
 - Tenant Associations
 - UConn
 - Trinity
 - UHart
 - Capital Community College,
 - HPL (Hartford Public Library)
 - Senior Centers
 - NRZs (Neighborhood Revitalization Zones)
 - City CMS
 - House of Worship
 - CCEJ (CT Coalition of Environmental Justice)
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Water

- MDC
- Riverfront Recapture
- CWA (Clean Water Action)
- Park River Watershed
- Save the Sound
- CT Fund for the Environment
- CT River Alliance
- CT River Conservancy
- Boater Associations
- Niagara bottling company

Landscape

- Provide incentives to plant more trees on private property to support the action plan
- More park cleanups, more awareness around local cleanups (i.e. if you're a Hartford resident, KNOX will plant you a tree, bush, shrub for free)
- Monthly Park Clean Up..
- Monthly park clean-ups
- 1 million more trees
- Careful not to dump trash on street during DEEP Pick up
- Better use of abandoned lots
- Incorporate Hartford Youth Service Corps in assistance for parks maintenance
- Plant more trees throughout city

Transportation

- Transport Hartford Academy
- BiCi Co.
- Chispa
- CT LCV (CT League of Conservation Voters)
- Bike Walk CT
- East Coast Greenway Alliance
- CREC (Capital Region Education Council)
- HPS (Hartford Public Schools)

Waste

- KPSP
- Blue Earth Compost
- KNOX
- HOH
DPW
- MIRA (Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority)
- Foodshare
- Farm Energy
- CREC (Capital region Education Council)
- HPS (Hartford Public Schools)
- Commercial haulers
- CT recycling

Food

- CFI
- Trifecta
- FPAC
- KNOX

Landscape

- PRAC (Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission)
- KNOX
- Tree Advisory Commission
- DPW
- Riverfront Recapture
- MDC
- Friends of Parks Groups

Energy

- HPS (Hartford Public Schools)
 - CWA (Clean Water Action)
 - Posigen
 - CGB (CT Green Bank)
 - Eversource
 - Solar Panel
 - NGOs
 - Sierra Club
 - CT Energy Task Force
 - EID (Energy Improvement District)
 - Office of Sustainability
 - Goodwin College
 - CT Energy Lead
 - USGBC CT (CT Chapter US Green Building Council)
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