Sustainable Old Lyme Team

2020-2021 Annual Review

Presented to the Board of Selectmen

November 15, 2021

Old Lyme, Greenwich, Westport, Glastonbury, Guilford, Old Saybrook, Simsbury, Middletown, Milford, Bristol, Coventry, Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Mansfield, New Britain, New Haven, New Milford, Portland, South Windsor, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windham

12 Categories of Best Practices

1. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts

2. Thriving Local Economies

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure & Operations

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communications, and Education

9. Strategic Materials Management

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

11. Healthy, Efficient, and Diverse Housing

12. NEW: Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

Optimize for Equity

Build and strengthen municipal processes to be more inclusive, cohesive, and representative of all community members, now and in the future. These system-wide, structural changes are an important step in creating open and equitable communities.

Current Initiatives Contributing to Silver Certification

- Planning Commission: 2020 Plan of Conservation & Development

- Open Space Commission: 2020 Open Space Plan

- Affordable Housing Committee (now Commission): 2021 Findings & Recommendations

- Selectman's Office & Emergency Management: Communications Strategy

- Selectman's Office: Participation in Arts District Partnership and overall support of arts and cultural programming

- Economic Development Commission: 2019 SWOT Analysis Workshops

- Historic District Commission: Approval of the Witness Stones Plaques

- Community Connectivity Grant Committee: Complete Streets (sidewalks, bicycle lanes, crosswalks) in Sound View and its Gateway

- Town Historic Resource Asset Inventory

- Town-Funded Region 18: Clean Energy by 2030 Commitment

- Facilities Department: Efficient Exterior Lighting at Senior Center

- Town Hall FOIA Training for Commissioners and Board Members

- Town Hall No Smoking Policy at Town Outdoor Facilities

New Initiatives that helped us Achieve Silver

▶ 2021 *Pollinate Old Lyme!*: Town-wide Education on native plantings and invasive species that affect pollinators, highlight of Town properties with pollinator landscapes

▶ 2021 Lymes Creative Arts (with Equity Component): With Town of Lyme and LYSB, summer arts programming for middle and high school students

▶ 2020 Walk Audit of Lyme Street (with Equity Component): Understand how well our older residents can enjoy walking on Lyme Street (re: sidewalks, benches, etc)

▶ 2021 Solid Waste Reporting: Determine and then Share on Town Website the Residential Solid Waste ("trash") Old Lyme residents throw away *per person annually*. (Data for FY2021: 891 Pounds per Person)

Success Stories Across Old Lyme Town Government

1. Optimizing for Equity with EDC SWOT Workshops, Sustainable Old Lyme Walk Audit & Lymes Creative Arts

2. Develop an Open Space Plan

3. Enhance Pollinator Pathways

4. Map Tourism & Cultural Assets

5. Support Arts & Creative Culture

6. Integrate Sustainability into the Plan of Conservation & Development

7. Inventory and Assess Historic Resources

8. Implement Complete Streets

9. Provide Effective Community Communications

10. Collaborate with other Municipalities (Town of Lyme)

11. Report Materials Management Data to Reduce Waste

12. Innovative Programs: R18 Carbon Free Pledge & Witness Stones

Next Steps/Requests

▶ 2022 Initiative to Begin Reducing Residential Waste by 10% through Recycling, Composting, and More

　　▶ **Reactive the Solid Waste & Recycling Committee**

▶ 2020 Walkability Survey Outcome: Residents Wish to See Increased Focus on Town Walkability

　　▶ **Parks & Recreation or other Board to Oversee Subcommittee to Study and Promote Walkability**

▶ Build on Success, Maintain Silver Certification (3 Year Renewal) or Exceed Silver

　　▶ **Maintain New Programs in Place (Pollinator Pathways, Lymes Creative Arts, etc)**

　　▶ **Look to BOS to Encourage Boards, Commissions, & Staff to Pursue Sustainable CT's Best Practices (will need to include Assessing Homelessness plus Health & Well Being)**

Big Thanks!

Resolution Supporting Participation
In the Sustainable CT Municipal Certification Program

WHEREAS, Sustainable CT is a comprehensive, statewide, action-oriented voluntary certification program, built by and for municipalities, with the vision that: *Sustainable CT communities strive to be thriving, resilient, collaborative, and forward-looking. They build community and local economy. They equitably promote the health and well-being of current and future residents. And they respect the finite capacity of the natural environment.*

WHEREAS, Sustainable CT is designed to boost local economies, help municipal operations become more efficient, reduce operating costs, and provide grants and additional support to municipalities.

WHEREAS, the Town of Old Lyme embraces an ongoing process of working toward greater sustainability, selecting which actions it chooses to pursue from the voluntary menu of actions provided by Sustainable CT.

RESOLVED, by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Old Lyme that we do hereby authorize the First Selectman to serve as Old Lyme's Sustainable CT contact person for the Sustainable CT Municipal Certification process and authorize her to complete Municipal Registration on behalf of the Town of Old Lyme.

RESOLVED, that to focus attention and effort within Old Lyme on matters of sustainability, and in order to promote the Board of Selectmen's local initiatives and actions toward Sustainable CT Municipal Certification, the Board of Selectmen establishes an advisory Sustainability Team.

RESOLVED, that the first meeting of the Sustainability Team must be held within 90 days of passing this resolution and that the Sustainability Team shall meet as frequently as needed, but no less than quarterly.

RESOLVED, that the Sustainability Team shall report annually to the Board of Selectmen on the progress of its activities toward Sustainable CT certification, with reports and presentations made publicly available.

I, **Vicki Urbowicz**, the **Town Clerk** of the **Town of Old Lyme**, do hereby certify this to be a true copy of the resolution duly adopted at the Board of Selectmen Meeting on February 5, 2018.

Charge of Solid Waste & Recycling Committee

The charge of the committee is to provide the Board of Selectmen with policy recommendations in regards to Solid Waste and Recycling for the community.
At a minimum this will include:

• Review annually, and update as needed, the Solid Waste Ordinance, Chapter 139 of the Town of Old Lyme Ordinances

• Investigate other means of waste management/waste reduction other than PAYT (pay as you throw) bag system

• Review any current contract for waste removal in order to be prepared with recommendations for the expiration of the current contract

• Work with the current trash/recycling provider to collect data on waste and recycling amounts, fluctuations, collection schedules, and challenges

• Review data annually and issue report to BOS and BOF

• Work with regional efforts on Hazardous Waste Collection, and other regional waste/recycling opportunities

• Develop and disseminate information for residents to encourage recycling and educate them on regulations

• Provide information and educational forums with the view to improving waste management understanding/procedures and policies.

• Recommendations for monitoring misuse of collection receptacles and enforcement policies

• Review policy/system at transfer station on Four Mile River Rd., with Public Works Superintendent and Manager of Transfer Station, as needed

• Submit annual budget request to Board of Selectmen

The committee must meet all FOI requirements with respect to the posting of agendas and minutes. This charge may be amended as necessary by the Board of Selectmen.