

Clean Energy Communities Program



A Program of New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)

Clean Energy Communities Program

Local governments in NYS can use the CEC program to implement clean energy actions, save energy costs, create jobs, and improve the environment. In addition to providing tools, resources, and technical assistance, the program recognizes and rewards leadership for the completion of clean energy projects.

Who Can Apply

- Elected officials or employees of local governments across NYS

How it Works

Communities that complete **four out of 10 High Impact Actions** and meet all other eligibility requirements are:

- 2 after August 2016
- Currently up until September 2019
- Designated by NYS as a Clean Energy Community
- Eligible to apply for grants to fund additional clean energy projects

At no cost to the local government, Clean Energy Communities Coordinators are available to help local leaders to:

- Develop and prioritize clean energy goals
- Access guidance resources such as templates for legislation, procurement, and contracts
- Take advantage of available funding and technical assistance opportunities

High Impact Actions

- **Benchmarking** - Adopt a policy to report the energy use of buildings (based on size of municipality and size of building)
- **Clean Energy Upgrades** - Achieve 10% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from buildings (timing)
- **LED Street Lights** - Convert cobra style street lights to energy efficient LED technology
- **Clean Fleets** - Install electric vehicle charging stations or deploy alternative fuel vehicles

High Impact Actions

- **Solarize** - Undertake a local solarize campaign to increase the number of solar rooftops
- **Unified Solar Permit** - Streamline the approvals process for solar
- **Energy Code Enforcement Training** - Train compliance officers in energy code best practices

High Impact Actions

- **Climate Smart Communities Certification** - Get certified by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- **Community Choice Aggregation** - Put energy supply choices in your community's hands
- **Energize New York Finance** - Offer energy upgrade financing to businesses and non-profits (property owners can pay back the cost of clean energy upgrades through special charge on their property tax bill)

Funding Levels Genesee-Finger Lakes Region

Municipality Population	Tier 1 Awards Number of Awards in each ED Region	Amount	Tier 2 Awards Number of Awards in each ED Region and	Amount
Large (40,000+)	2	\$250,000	2	\$150,000
Small/Medium (0-39,999)	4	\$100,000	10	\$50,000

Clean Energy Community Related Sessions

- 10:00-12:00 – Considerations for Municipal Solar Projects
- 1:00-2:45 – LED Street Lighting for Municipalities
- 2:00-5:00 – Planning and Zoning for Solar PV
- 4:00-5:00 – Community Choice Aggregation

Information and Assistance

- General information and application - <http://nyserda.ny.gov/cec>
- Genesee-Finger Lakes Region Clean Energy Communities Coordinator – Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
- Information, questions, and assistance – www.gflrpc.org, dave.zorn@gflrpc.org, 585-454-0190 x14
