

Village of Delhi Climate Smart Communities Task Force

Friday, October 20, 2023 meeting

Attendees: Kristina Zill (coordinator), Sofia Pappas (Southern Tier 8 Regional Board representative), Candice Kuwahara, Katherine Mario, Jeff Gearhart, Janet Tweed, Christina Viafore, Melissa Gundogan

The meeting was opened at 3:00 pm

Sofia Pappas provided handouts of the NYS Climate Smart Communities (CSC) program, CSC Action List version 4.2 with Delhi Village action status, estimated points, and notes noted, and PE7 Action: Climate Adaptation Plan.

CSC Task Force Goals:

- Achieve Bronze Status (or higher)
- Review Action List for additional programs already in place for the Village and which to work on (all members)
- Work on policy and education actions to support larger actions (all members)
- Increase web presence and public information bursts (thank you, Candice Kuwahara and Jeff Gearhart)

Climate Adaptation Plan discussion highlights:

- Recommendation for Delhi Village to work on the Climate Adaptation Plan with the Southern Tier 8 regional board representatives- Ashley Seyfried, sustainability coordinator, and Sofia Pappas, assistant.
- Delhi Village has a comprehensive plan with the Delhi Town:
chrome-<https://villageofdelhi.com/sites/default/files/documents/Adopted%20Delhi%20Comprehensive%20Plan%202012.pdf>
- Part of that plan was a Flood Mitigation Plan. This will be obtained and shared with the group when available.
- Delaware County likely has a Hazard Mitigation Plan, but it was not found on their website. This will be obtained and shared with the group if received.
- Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District did create a Delaware County Action Plan:
<https://www.co.delaware.ny.us/departments/h2o/dcap.htm> &
<https://www.co.delaware.ny.us/departments/h2o/docs/dcap.pdf>
- Participation for Delhi Village departments- public works, police, and code enforcement, as well as county departments may be needed to complete the Climate Adaptation Plan.

Kristina Zill reviewed the Village's work done with NYSEERDA's Clean Energy Communities (CEC) initiatives and actions and the crosswalk for CSC action items. Emphasis on completing actions that may expire soon: Unified Solar Permit (on the Village website, and board meeting minutes for resolution to be provided by Village Clerk), internship program, additional crosswalk actions and initiatives.

Kristina Zill identified additional supporting programs for climate-smart and/or clean energy projects: BuildReady for brownfield site reclamation for solar arrays, ChargeReady for site work to install elective vehicle charging stations, and solar on covered vehicle parking spots.

Kristina Zill provided a handout on CEC Community Choice Aggregation to purchase clean power in bulk for their community with fixed-rate electricity prices. Previous Village initiative with MEGA was recently discontinued but new providers can be identified.

Amy Warner reported on the study and suggested a pilot program to begin public transportation in Delaware County and the need for the Delaware County Board of Supervisors to approve implementation.

The next meeting is set for Friday, November 17, 2023, at 3 pm at Delhi Village Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by Janet Tweed, Delhi Village Trustee.