

AGENDA
NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASK FORCE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, September 24th, 2025, 5:15 PM

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, September 24th, 2025 at 5:15 PM on Zoom (see link at end of agenda) to discuss the following items:

1. Approval of minutes from the previous meetings (7/23 and 8/27). A majority of the CETF (6 of 11 members) constitutes a quorum.
2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff:
 - a. Community Change Grant: This grant has been terminated by the EPA. The City is challenging this termination and the Government-to-Government termination. The case is the fourth circuit court of the appeals, with its next hearing scheduled for 9:30am on 10/23.
 - b. EPA Government-to-Government Environmental Justice Grant: This grant has been terminated by the EPA.
 - c. USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant: OCS has resumed school food waste diversion and is using USDA funds to support 4 schools that were previously funded through a ReFed grant.
 - d. EPA [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program](#): Progress continues on the initial schematic design for the geothermal ground loop, with site visits to the Union Square development site and Union Station facility. Test geothermal boreholes are expected to be drilled in October.
 - e. Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA): No update.
 - f. Shellfish shell recycling program: No update.

- g. Solar installations: Final electrical work is being done on the two solar parking canopies. Initial work has begun on the landfill project.
- h. Styrofoam enforcement: No update.
- i. Housing Authority: No update.
- j. Electric leaf blower and grass trimmer: No update.

3. Discussion Items:

- a. With Community Change Grant funds, the City was able to purchase 50 additional bicycles for New Haven Public Schools. New Haven Public Schools are requesting funding from the CETF to pay a part-time bicycle technician for the upcoming school year and for bike helmets and hairnets. The funding requests are as follows:
 - i. \$6,000 for a bicycle technician
 - ii. Up to \$1,500 for bike helmets/hair nets for 50 bikes
 - iii. NHPS has purchased and outfitted a new container.
 - iv. At the last meeting, Doug Hausladen, Linda Reeder, Jeremy Schulick, and Melissa Kops were supportive of this proposal.
- b. At its June meeting, Task Force members expressed interest in using funds this year for community education and engagement and at creating a plan of actions that need to be funded, including energy labeling. Are there specific areas for community education and engagement that the Task Force should be focused on? How would the Task for like to move forward with the energy labeling initiative?
- c. Further discussion of Jeremy's draft letter.



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