

MINUTES

NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASK FORCE

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, January 7th, 2026, 5:15 PM

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, January 7th, 2026 at 5:15 PM on Zoom (see link at end of agenda) to discuss the following items:

1. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting (11/19/2025). 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: no update.
 - b. EPA Government-to-Government Environmental Justice Grant: no update.
 - c. USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant: OCS requested a 1 year extension of the grant from USDA to provide additional time for the grant-funded food scrap diversion in the New Haven Public Schools.
 - d. EPA [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program](#): Thermal conductivity testing has been completed for the first (1/2) borehole. Complications were encountered drilling the second borehole and preparations to drill a second borehole with a new contractor are in motion.
 - e. Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA): OCS has reached out to DPW to identify which vehicles in the fleet use diesel fuel. The street sweepers appear to be below the mileage threshold for this grant.
 - f. Solar installations: Carport systems expected to be energized at the beginning of February. Progress continues on the landfill project, which is expected to be energized at the end of March.
 - g. Styrofoam enforcement: No update.

- h. Housing Authority: No update.
- i. Electric leaf blower and grass trimmer: no update

3. Discussion Items:

- a. Funding request: The Office of Climate and Sustainability is requesting \$20,000 in funding for tax advising for the geothermal project. This advice is critical for obtaining the federal clean energy incentives.
- b. Energy labeling.
- c. Department plans. OCS has met with the Parks Department and identified priority facilities for energy improvements. OCS is reviewing the City vehicle inventory for each department to determine where electric vehicles can replace ICE vehicles.



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