

Sustainable Weston Action Plan

5 YEAR PLAN 2023-2027

Year 1 Update

02.01.2024 Presentation to the BOS



Action Plan Status

Action Area	Status	Lead/s	Notes
Recycling & Organics	Launched ▾	DPW director Larry Roberts + SWTC Nicci Wiese. Additional task Force members still to be defined.	A draft action plan is in place. All Year 1 goals have been met. Quarterly updates to be reported to the BOS.
Zero Waste Schools	Launched ▾	Superintendent Lisa Barbiero + SWTC Sarah Hutchison. Task Force members still to be defined.	A draft action plan is in place. School admin. still has to review this joint plan. Year 1 has been successful, with most goals met. A team meeting is planned in Q1 2024 to align goals and discuss joint outreach and education efforts.
Aging in Place	Launched ▾	Director of Human Services, Allison Lisbon	Director of HS is actively engaged in leading this effort.
Electric Police Fleets	Launched ▾	Police Chief Ed Henion + Live Green CT	An action plan is in place and will be led by the Police Chief and Live Green CT. 2 hybrids have been added to the budget. If approved in May, vehicles will be ordered by July. Quarterly updates to be reported to the BOS.

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Electric School Buses	Launched ▾	Superintendent Lisa Barbiero + Live Green CT	An action plan is in place and will be led by town and school administrations, and Live Green CT. Discussions focused on the bus depot. Quarterly updates to be reported to the BOS.
EV Zoning Regulations	In progress ▾	Land Use Department + Live Green CT	An action plan is in place and will be led by the Land Use Department and Live Green CT. Quarterly updates to be reported to the BOS.
Renewable Energy	In progress ▾	Municipal lead TBD	Re-evaluate Action Plan when permanent town administrator is appointed. SWTC Eric Shrago standing by.
Water plan	In progress ▾	Municipal lead TBD	Water Study committee fulfills the role of the action plan and is actively engaged in leading this effort on behalf of the town.
Electric Municipal Fleets	Not start... ▾	Town Administrator + Live Green CT	Reevaluate Action Plan when permanent town administrator is appointed. Live Green CT Daphne Dixon in contact with Lary Roberts.
Land Stewardship	Not start... ▾	Municipal lead TBD	An action plan is in place and awaiting a municipal lead to create a relevant task force. SWTC Sarah Hutchison standing by.

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Next Steps

For **Projects that Have not yet started.** Next Steps are as follows:

1. Build The Teams and Define Goals
2. Identify one municipal leader and one volunteer to spearhead each team
3. Expect 1-2 projects to have the greatest impact over 5 years

For **Projects that are in progress.** Next Steps are as follows:

1. Regular Team Update
2. Continue to invite new team members and organizations to collaborate with

For **Projects that have been launched.** Next steps are as follows:

1. Regular Team Update
2. Identify public outreach and awareness opportunities
3. Track progress

2023 Successes

Action Area	Success Story	Details
Recycling & Organics	Effective partnership between DPW and SWTC	Several planning meetings were held with HRRRA in the first 2 quarters. Larry Roberts started his role as Director of Public Works in the 3rd quarter and agreed to be the Municipal Lead on this Action plan. Vision & goals were jointly drafted; a presentation by HRRRA to the community to refresh “What’s In What’s Out, What’s New” was held at Lachat in September. In 4th quarter, a 2nd operator hired at Transfer Station starting Jan 2024 paving the way to add more recycling stations, including the go ahead to launch the Food Scraps recycling program; planning began for opening FSRP 02 March 2024.

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Action Area	Success Story	Details
Land Stewardship	Town Green	The renovated town green is a wonderful Weston greenspace, and provides an opportunity for the town to lead on sustainable land stewardship - native plantings, pollinator friendly maintenance and public education opportunities.
Renewable Energy	DPW Solar Array	The Town Hall complex will soon be entirely powered by solar energy, thanks to the award of \$438,240 from a state grant program designed to help small towns complete infrastructure improvements.
Electric Police Fleets	Budget Request for 2 Ford Explorer Hybrid vehicles	Awaiting budget approval - May 2024
Electric School Buses	Plan in place to move forward with EV school bus adoption	Plan in place to move forward with EV school bus adoption
EV Zoning Regulations	Model Zoning Regulations are being developed	Live Green CT has partnered with the COGs to develop a set of EV Zoning regulations to be shared with regional municipalities.
Zero Waste Schools	Increased Waste Management Solutions	In 2023 the WPS rolled out several initiatives to encourage faculty and students to rethink their waste. In the High School, they have food scrap recycling stations in the cafeteria, redeemable bottle and can collections, food rescue and textile swap shops, with a goal to roll out these initiatives to all schools in 2024.

2023

Sustainable Weston Action Plan

Weston, CT



Presented By:
Live Green Connecticut



Executive Summary



The Town of Weston has contracted with our organization, Live Green Connecticut, Inc. (LGCT), a 501 (C) (3) charity, to consult with a sub-committee of Sustainable Weston, to guide the successful completion of the Sustainable Weston action plan.

Municipal sustainability plans are important because they enable municipalities to attain long-term goals that create environmental, community and financial stability.

The Town of Weston, Sustainable Weston, and Live Green Connecticut embarked on the process of developing a community informed, five-year Sustainable Weston Action Plan. Our collective vision was to assemble a team comprised of municipal contacts, community liaisons, community organizations, and members from Sustainable Weston. Through a dynamic and iterative process involving engagement with the community, collaboration with municipal leaders, working closely with Sustainable Weston and Live Green Connecticut, our collective efforts culminated in the identification of ten action plans, each featuring a diverse set of leads and co-leads. Of these ten action plans, one is a collaboration between the school district and Sustainable Weston, three are a collaboration between municipal leads and Live Green Connecticut. The remaining action plans are pending the identification of municipal leads.

Process:

1. Identify Key Projects
 - a. The goal was to identify 3-7 projects, with the expectation that 2-3 will not go to fruition. Through this process, ten projects were identified.
2. Build the Teams and Define Roles
 - a. Identify one municipal leader and one volunteer to spearhead each team
 - b. Expect 1-2 projects to have the greatest impact over 5 years
3. Taking Action – Create Action Plan for Each Project
 - a. Each project has a long-term goal with yearly and quarterly milestones.
 - b. S.M.A.R.T (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Timely)
 - c. Weekly Team Update
 - d. Continue to invite new team members and organizations to collaborate with

Outcomes:

- Action plans provided for electric school bus fleet, police fleet, and EV zoning regulations
- Action plan provided for municipal fleet when municipal lead is identified
- The zero waste schools action plan was identified as the most powerful action plan
- Action plan provided for Recycling and Organics. and 2023 milestones achieved
- Action plan representatives will provide written and/or verbal updates quarterly to the BOS

Benefits:

1. Raise awareness within the local community on key challenges and opportunities affecting long-term development and quality of life.
2. Develop common goals and build support within the local government and the community for the desired future development of the jurisdiction.
3. Increase transparency through a long-term dialogue using public outreach, and demonstrate accountability by openly monitoring and evaluating progress.
4. Use resources more efficiently by identifying opportunities to conserve energy and save money through smart sustainable decisions with identifiable payback.
5. Improve the environment by monitoring and improving local air quality, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, cleaning up waterways, reducing auto dependency by increasing transportation options, decreasing waste, and reducing urban sprawl.
6. Lay the groundwork for major investments that can have a dramatic impact on the overall sustainability of the jurisdiction.

Action Plans Moving Forward



Action Plan:	Town of Weston	Sustainable Weston	Live Green Connecticut	Community Involvement
Recycling & Organics	X	X		X
Renewable Energy	X	X		X
Zero Waste Schools	X	X		X
Electric Municipal Fleets	X		X	
Electric Police Fleets	X		X	
Electric School Buses	X		X	
EV Zoning Regulations	X		X	
Water Plan	X	The Town of Weston already has a town commission / task force group in place to lead the Water Plan.		

Metrics

10 Initiatives Identified
 22 Clarity Sessions Held
 7 Municipal Departments Engaged
 20 Sustainable Weston Action Plan Check-Ins