

# A Town-wide Success: Sustainable Old Lyme

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Local Actions.  
Statewide Impact.®



Old Lyme, Greenwich, Westport, Glastonbury, Guilford,  
Old Saybrook, Simsbury, Middletown, Milford, Bristol,  
Coventry, Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Mansfield,  
New Britain, New Haven, New Milford, Portland,  
South Windsor, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Vernon,  
West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windham

# 12 Categories of Best Practices

1. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts
2. Thriving Local Economies
3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources
4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems
5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning
6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices
7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure & Operations
8. Inclusive Engagement, Communications, and Education
9. Strategic Materials Management
10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities
11. Healthy, Efficient, and Diverse Housing
12. NEW: Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention
13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

# Current Initiatives Contributing to Silver Certification

- ▶ Planning Commission: 2020 Plan of Conservation & Development
- ▶ Open Space Commission: 2020 Open Space Plan
- ▶ Affordable Housing Committee (now Commission): 2021 Findings & Recommendations
- ▶ Selectman's Office & Emergency Management: Communications Strategy
- ▶ Selectman's Office: Participation in Arts District Partnership and overall support of arts and cultural programming
- ▶ Economic Development Commission: SWOT Analysis Workshops
- ▶ Historic District Commission: Approval of the Witness Stones Plaques
- ▶ Community Connectivity Grant Committee: Complete Streets (sidewalks, bicycle lanes, crosswalks) in Sound View and its Gateway
- ▶ Town Historic Resource Asset Inventory
- ▶ Town-Funded Region 18: Clean Energy by 2030 Commitment
- ▶ Facilities Department: Efficient Exterior Lighting at Senior Center
- ▶ Town Hall FOIA Training for Commissioners and Board Members
- ▶ Town Hall No Smoking Policy at Town Outdoor Facilities

# New Initiatives that helped us Achieve Silver

- ▶ 2021 *Pollinate Old Lyme!*: Town-wide Education on native plantings and invasive species that affect pollinators, highlight of Town properties with pollinator landscapes
- ▶ 2021 Lymes' Creative Arts (with Equity Component): With Town of Lyme and LYSB, summer arts programming for middle and high school students
- ▶ 2020 Walk Audit of Lyme Street (with Equity Component): Understand how well our older residents can enjoy walking on Lyme Street (re: sidewalks, benches, etc)
- ▶ 2021 Solid Waste Reporting: Determine and then Share on Town Website the Residential Solid Waste ("trash") Old Lyme residents throw away *per person annually*. (Data for FY2021: 891 Pounds per Person)

# Success Stories Across Old Lyme Town Government

1. Optimizing for Equity with EDC SWOT Workshops, Sustainable Old Lyme Walk Audit & Lymes' Creative Arts
2. Develop an Open Space Plan
3. Enhance Pollinator Pathways
4. Map Tourism & Cultural Assets
5. Support Arts & Creative Culture
6. Integrate Sustainability into the Plan of Conservation & Development
7. Inventory and Assess Historic Resources
8. Implement Complete Streets
9. Provide Effective Community Communications
10. Collaborate with other Municipalities (Town of Lyme)
11. Report Materials Management Data to Reduce Waste
12. Innovative Programs: R18 Carbon Free Pledge & Witness Stones

# Next Steps/Requests to BOS

- ▶ 2022 Initiative to Begin Reducing Residential Waste by 10% through Recycling, Composting, and More
  - ▶ **Reactive the Solid Waste & Recycling Committee**
- ▶ 2020 Walkability Survey Outcome: Residents Wish to See Increased Focus on Town Walkability
  - ▶ **Parks & Recreation or other Board to Oversee Subcommittee to Study and Promote Walkability**
- ▶ Build on Success, Maintain Silver Certification (3 Year Renewal) or Exceed Silver
  - ▶ **Maintain New Programs in Place (Pollinator Pathways, Lymes' Creative Arts, etc)**
  - ▶ **Look to BOS to Encourage Boards, Commissions, & Staff to Pursue Sustainable CT's Best Practices (will need to include Assessing Homelessness plus Health & Well Being)**

# Big Thanks!