

25 -
2019

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2 OF 2019

WHEREAS, Westchester County is committed to combatting global climate change; and

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WHEREAS, Westchester County wishes to address our critical infrastructure order to build resilience against global warming and ensure long term sustainability; and

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TIMOTHY C. IDONI
COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF WESTCHEST

WHEREAS, since 2018, the County has taken various actions related to climate change including solarizing County properties and facilities while creating energy savings and minimizing expensive and non-sustainable infrastructure construction; expanding electronic vehicle infrastructure and creating a network of charging stations across the County; expanding recycling measures including new programs for textile and food scrap recycling; and entering into a Demand Response Program that eliminates the chance of brown-outs and black-outs and the subsequent need for more expensive infrastructure repairs and upgrades; and

WHEREAS, a Climate Smart Communities Certification Program has been developed by New York State to provide local governments with a framework to guide climate action and enable high performing communities to achieve recognition for their leadership in this area; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Board of Legislators passed a Resolution pledging to participate in the New York State Climate Smart Communities ("CSC") Program in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change; and

WHEREAS, the CSC Pledge requires municipalities to complete 10 elements in order to obtain a certification by New York State as a CSC. Such CSC certification may enables the municipality to receive preference in applications for New York State grant funds including those provided by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority ("NYSERDA");

WHEREAS, Westchester County is working toward completing the required elements to enable the County to achieve CSC certification; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the County's goal to adapt to a changing climate, in 2018, I created a Climate Crisis Task Force to consider and recommend actions to reduce the carbon footprint in the County and to develop an updated long-term Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, it is now appropriate to designate the Climate Crisis Task Force as the Climate Smart Communities Task Force to not only provide advice on energy and climate change but to work toward certification as a CSC;

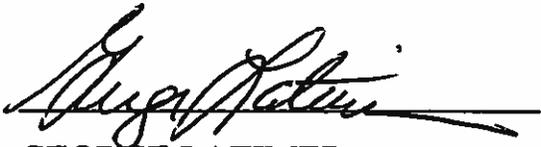
NOW, THEREFORE, I, George Latimer, County Executive of the County of Westchester, in accordance with my statutory duties, do hereby order that the Climate Crisis Task Force shall be designated as the Climate Smart Communities Task Force (“Task Force”) to promote and support climate mitigation and adaptation in the County; and it is further

RESOLVED that the Task Force shall be constituted as follows:

- 1. The Task Force shall consist of nine members. The County Executive shall appoint six members subject to the approval of the Board of Legislators, and the Chairman of the Board of Legislators shall appoint three members subject to the approval of the Board of Legislators;**
- 2. Of the nine members first appointed, three shall be appointed for three years, three shall be appointed for two years and three shall be appointed for one year. All subsequent appointments shall be for three year terms;**
- 3. Peter McCartt, Director of Environment and Sustainability for the County shall Chair the Task Force, serve as the County’s CSC Coordinator, and will coordinate the Task Force’s charges, which will include;**
 - a. Advising the County on environmentally sustainable and energy efficient practices by formulating guidelines for implementing green methods at County facilities,**
 - b. Prioritizing goals, suggesting programs, and recommending policy and legislation that encourage and contribute to sustainability and the reduction of County greenhouse gas emissions,**
 - c. Identifying environmental priorities that include the potential for use of renewable energy resources and green building practices,**
 - d. Assisting in the development of programs to advise and educate County residents on economically affordable alternatives to reduce energy consumption and costs and further sustainability initiatives,**
 - e. Interfacing with other County appointed boards and committees to foster sustainability actions,**

- f. Developing annual reports to measure progress and time frames for meeting future goals.
4. The following staff shall serve as ex officio members of the Task Force without a vote:
 - a. The Director of Operations or a designee,
 - b. Deputy County Executive or a designee,
 - c. One representative each from the Departments of: Public Works; Environmental Facilities; Parks, Recreation and Conservation and Planning, and
 - d. A member of the Board of Legislators, selected by the Chairman of the Board of Legislators.
5. The members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation;
6. The Task Force shall meet at least once per month and at such times as either the Chair or three other members may deem necessary. A special meeting may be called by giving at least two days' notice to the other members of the Task Force of the time and place where the meeting is to be held;
7. The Task Force shall advise the County on implementation of actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and assist the County to adapt to the effects of climate change.

RESOLVED, that this Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until otherwise superseded or revoked.



GEORGE LATIMER
County Executive

Dated: April 22, 2019
White Plains, New York