

Mohawk Valley Regional Sustainability Plan Cleaner Greener Communities Sustainability Plan Announcement



November 19th, 2012

PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND A PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING FOR THE

NY State Cleaner, Greener Communities (CGC) Mohawk Valley Regional Sustainability Plan:

WHEN: Wednesday, December 5th, 2012

WHERE: Herkimer County Community College

WHY: Request for public participation in the development of the Mohawk Valley's comprehensive sustainability plan under the Cleaner, Greener Communities Planning Grant Program

- The Public Outreach Meeting on Wednesday, December 5th, 2012, 6.30 pm will be at Robert
 McLaughlin College Center Auditorium, Herkimer County Community College in Herkimer, NY.
- A <u>Free buffet dinner</u> will be provided from <u>5:30- 6:30PM</u> for those who <u>RSVP by Friday</u>, <u>November 30th</u> to <u>Greg Eisenhut</u> at Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, 315-866-4671 or <u>mvedd@twcny.rr.com</u>
- More information on the project is available on www.sustainablemohawkvalley.com

Project Background:

The Cleaner, Greener Communities program was announced by Governor Cuomo in 2011 as a \$100 million competitive grant program to encourage communities to develop regional sustainable growth strategies. The program is intended to provide the necessary resources for each region, as defined by the boundaries of the Regional Economic Development Councils, to develop a comprehensive sustainability plan. The plans that result from this program will:

- Establish a statewide sustainability planning framework that will aid in statewide infrastructure investment decision making
- Outline specific and tangible actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with a goal of 80% carbon reductions by the year 2050
- Inform municipal land use policies

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- Serve as a basis for local government infrastructure decision making
- Help guide infrastructure investment of both public and private resources
- Provide each region with a sustainability plan that will enable them to strategically identify and prioritize projects they submit for consideration to the Phase II Implementation Grant stage.

In Phase II of the Cleaner, Greener Communities program – the Implementation Grant stage – up to \$90 million will be provided on a competitive basis statewide for implementation of specific projects that provide the greatest opportunities for achieving carbon reductions, energy efficiency savings, and renewable energy deployment consistent with a region's sustainability and REDC strategic plans. Other actions identified in the plan may be eligible for funding from other sources. Phase II is planned to start in 2013.

Public outreach and input is an integral aspect of this Cleaner, Greener Communities project. The first project Public Stakeholder Meeting is scheduled for 6:30-8:00 PM, Wednesday, December 5th, 2012 at Robert McLaughlin College Center Auditorium, Herkimer County Community College in Herkimer, NY. The meeting will offer more details on the program, present some baseline information, and provide opportunity for public comments.

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More information on plan progress is available on www.sustainablemohawkvalley.com or by contacting:

Karen Sullivan, Otsego County Planning Dept. sullivank@otsegocounty.com, (607)547-4225 Ray Durso, Genesis Group, Rdurso@thegenesisgroup.org, (315) 792-7187 (Oneida and Herkimer Co.) Greg Eisenhut, MVEDD, gregmved@twcny.rr.com, (315) 866-4671 (Montgomery and Fulton Co.) Travis Sauerwald, OCCA, programdirector@occainfo.org, (607) 282 4087 (Schoharie and Otsego Co.)