Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

TOWN OF LEDYARD
CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Conservation Commission
Economic Development Commission
Planning & Zoning Commission
Inland Wetlands & Water Courses Commission
Democratic Town Committee
Republican Town Committee

FROM: Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez SNR

DATE: July 9, 2025

RE: Sustainable CT Ad Hoc Committee – Request for Nominations

In 2020 the Ledyard Town Council adopted a "*Town of Ledyard Resolution Supporting the Participation in the Sustainable CT Municipal Certification Program*"; with the hope to boost our local economy, help reduce costs with initiatives to provide for more efficient municipal operations, and to obtain grants and other programs to help support our community. However, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and limited staff this initiative stalled.

Because Ledyard has continued to implement a number of Sustainable CT initiatives designed to create a resilient, collaborative, and a forward-looking community; the Town Council felt that it was appropriate to continue its efforts to obtain the *Sustainable CT Municipal Certification.* Therefore, at our June 25, 2025 meeting the attached "*Resolution Supporting the Town's Continued Participation in the Sustainable CT Municipal Certification Program And Establishing A Sustainable CT Ad Hoc Committee*" was adopted. The Sustainable CT Ad Hoc Committee would be a short-term two-year assignment and calls for five-members comprised of our knowledgeable and experienced Land Use and Development Commissions; as well as members from of our Community as follows:

- One member from the Planning & Zoning Commission or Inland Wetlands & Water Courses Commission;
- One member from the Economic Development Commission or Conservation Commission;
- Two members from the Community-at-Large
- One member from the Town Council Land Use Committee

The Town Council would like to appoint members to the *Sustainable CT Ad Hoc Committee* as soon as possible and respectfully requests that your Commission/Committee submit the names of those who are interested in participating on this progressive Committee.

Your attention to this request and your cooperation is appreciated. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Town Council Office at e-mail council@ledyardct.org.

Thank you.

cc: Mayor Allyn, III; Land Use Director/Town Planner

SNR/rm

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Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

Res: 004-2025/Jun 25

TOWN OF LEDYARD
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THEIR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION
IN THE SUSTAINABLE CT MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
AND ESTABLISHING A SUSTAINABLE CT AD HOC COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2020 the Ledyard Town Council adopted a "*Town of Ledyard Resolution Supporting the Participation in the Sustainable CT Municipal Certification Program*"; recognizing that Sustainable CT is a comprehensive, statewide, action-oriented voluntary certification program, built by and for municipalities, with the vision that: "*Sustainable CT communities strive to be thriving, resilient, collaborative, and forward-looking*".

WHEREAS, Sustainable CT is designed to boost local economies, help municipal operations become more efficient, reduce operating costs, and provide grants and additional support to municipalities.

WHEREAS, the Town of Ledyard continues to embrace an ongoing process of working toward greater sustainability, selecting which actions it chooses to pursue from the voluntary menu of actions provided by Sustainable CT; and

WHEREAS; The Town of Ledyard has implemented a number of programs which included a streetlight assessment that resulted in the purchase of the streetlights from Eversource and converting them to Light-Emitting Diode (LED) light bulbs saving both energy and taxpayer dollars; constructed the Multi-Use Pathway from Ledyard High School to Ledyard Center to expand safe, connected, active transportation for pedestrians and bicyclists; extending the sewer line providing infrastructure for both affordable housing and business development; improvements to the Linda C. Davis Food Pantry providing an equitable community food action plan to ensure that all community members can access sustainable, nutritious food; improvements to the Town Green providing handicap access to one of the best Farmers' Markets in the State for residents to purchase fresh produce from local farmers and featuring many community organizations providing information to residents regarding fuel assistance, mental health services, public safety services, and many other commodities and programs; regionalization of shared services with the Town of Preston by providing Emergency Dispatch Communication Services, Tax Assessor Services, Public Works Mechanic Services, and the shared purchase of a streetsweeper to maintain the required MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) Permit Certifications.

WHEREAS, the Director of Land Use & Planning is authorized to serve as the Town of Ledyard's Sustainable CT contact person for the Sustainable CT Municipal Certification process and authorizes him/her to complete Municipal Registration on behalf of the Town of Ledyard;

WHEREAS: it is recognized that the town is minimally staffed; and supplemental support is needed to continue efforts to reach the Sustainable CT Goals of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that to focus attention and effort within the Town of Ledyard on matters of sustainability, and in order to promote local initiatives and actions toward Sustainable CT Municipal Certification, the Ledyard Town Council establishes a Ledyard Sustainable CT Ad Hoc Committee to be comprised of five members appointed by the Ledyard Town Council.

Those members shall, as much as possible, be representative as follows:

- One member from the Planning & Zoning Commission or Inland Wetlands & Water Courses Commission
- One member from the Economic Development Commission or Conservation Commission
- One member from the Town Council Land Use Committee
- Two members from the Community-at-Large

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, each member shall serve for a term of two (2) years. Members shall commence to serve their terms immediately upon appointment and shall serve until their successor has qualified or they have been reappointed or removed by the Town Council.

Any vacancies on said committee shall be filled by the appointment of the Ledyard Town Council, with priority given to maintaining as much as possible the structure above; and

Any member of the Committee who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings and any intervening duly called special meetings shall be considered to have resigned from the Commission and the vacancy shall be filled as hereinbefore provided, except that the Commission may vote to waive the requirements of the section in each case where illness or other extenuating circumstances make it impossible for a member to meet the attendance requirements of this action. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Committee to notify the Town Council when a member has not properly performed his/her duties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Ledyard Sustainable CT Ad Hoc Committee is authorized to:

(1). Work with the Land Use Director and the Mayor to engage staff; and or, contract with consultants, or a Sustainable CT Fellow through Southeastern Connecticut Council of Government (SCCOG) Program.

(2). Review the Sustainable CT Tool Kit and Guidelines; and to oversee the preparation and submission of Application at the appropriate time.

(3). Develop initiatives, goals, and recommendations to achieve Points required to complete the process to obtain the Sustainable CT Certification to include:

- Building our community and our local economy;
- Equitably promote the health and well-being of current and future residents;
- Encourage and participate in regional collaboration and other forms of partnership.
- Improve the services and quality of life for our residents, while focusing on sustainability, efficiencies, and reducing the impact of inflationary costs for residents.

(4). Work with the Public Works Director on Food Waste Composting and other waste management initiatives.

(5). Work with the Planning & Zoning Commission to ensure the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development supports the proposed Sustainable CT Initiatives.

(6). Work with the Board of Education to ensure that Ledyard's educational facility needs are considered and met in developing a plan and implementing Sustainable CT initiatives.

(7). Prepare and present to the Town Council for approval a Capital Improvement Plan to support and move the Sustainable CT Plan forward.

(8) Identify funding sources, including grant funding, and other grassroots funding options such as *In Our Backyard* (IOB) Grants, to support the goals and initiatives; complying with the town's Grant Policy.

(9) Work with the Finance Director on the application and administration of any grant funding received; and the preparation of bid specifications and advertisement for Requests for Proposals to facilitate approved Sustainable CT Initiatives, in accordance with Ordinance #200-001 "*Purchasing Ordinance for the Town of Ledyard*".

RESOLVED, that the first meeting of the Sustainability CT Ad Hoc Committee must be held within 90 days of passing this resolution and that the Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee shall meet as frequently as needed, but no less than quarterly; and shall select a Chairman, Recording Secretary, and Fiscal Officer from its body.

RESOLVED, that the Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee shall report annually to the Ledyard Town Council on the progress of its activities toward the Sustainable CT Certification, with reports and presentations being publicly available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the adoption of this Resolution reaffirms the Town of Ledyard's March 11, 2020 initial desire and commitment to continue their work in achieving the Sustainable Development CT Certification.

Adopted by the Ledyard Town Council on: June 25, 2025

S. Naomi Rodriguez

S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman

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The above is a certified a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Town of Ledyard at a meeting of its Town Council on June 25, 2025 and which has not been rescinded or modified in any way whatsoever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: The undersigned has affixed his signature and corporate seal on this 26th day of June 2025.

(SEAL)

Patricia A. Riley, Town Clerk

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Revision: "*Town of Ledyard Resolution Supporting the Participation in the Sustainable CT Municipal Certification Program" Adopted: March 11, 2020*

History:

Due to other competing demands on staff the Town of Ledyard was unable to continue their Application process to obtain the Sustainable CT Certifications. However, the Town has continued to take on and has completed a number of initiatives that have contributed to building its community and our local economy; to equitably promote the health and well-being of current and future residents; and has developed, fostered and participated in regional collaboration and other forms of partnership with other communities in the area.

The 2025 adoption of this Resolution reaffirms the Town of Ledyard's desire and interest to achieve the Sustainable CT Certification to continue to improve the services and quality of life for its residents, while focusing on sustainability, efficiencies, and reducing inflationary costs for its residents.

SNR/rm