

Greetings,

As a Village Trustee of Canton NY and member of the local sustainability committee, I'd like to make some recommendations.

Being a small rural Village with limited funds, it's been extremely difficult to make much progress in addressing climate changes. There are three areas where NYS could be hugely helpful in assisting municipalities like ours in making progress here.

EV chargers - There need to be EV chargers in all municipalities and along all main routes of travel. The charging equipment is too costly for local towns and villages to afford. A major regional effort needs to be initiated to help get EV chargers installed across the state. There need to be chargers at many gas stations on main travel routes. Leaving it up to local municipalities will never get enough chargers installed to meet the need. NYS needs to work out a program with gas station companies to incentivize them to install EV chargers.

Renewable energy - There needs to be a major assist by NYS to help programs like Community Choice Aggregation work in towns and villages across the state. The program is being stifled by financial hedge arrangements on the part of power suppliers, that make it more profitable to let the program fail than supply renewable power to communities. Action needs to be taken to protect citizens and communities, and allow CCA to work properly. It is critical to maximize the access to renewable power, to lessen the burning of fossil fuels.

Composting - Here again, the need to reduce food waste is critical, and local communities often don't have the resources to purchase necessary equipment to start affective composting operations. A regional approach (say incentivizing Counties to get involved) would be a huge help to towns and villages that are trying to get composting off the ground. Especially in rural areas, NYS could be instrumental in getting regional and County participation, facilitating operations of scale, allowing purchase of necessary equipment, giving localities a far greater chance of success.

The above three efforts could be greatly assisted by timely and wholehearted NYS action. Thanks for your consideration.

Klaus Proemm
Village of Canton Trustee
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