



# City of Kingston 2018 Sustainability Report



## Staff

Since 2005, the City of Kingston’s sustainability staff have helped the City become a leader in environmental awareness and stewardship. The City's Environmental Program's mission is to:

- develop and facilitate unique programs designed to educate the public about the local environment
- focus on creating a more positive energy to solve environmental issues while saving tax payer dollars and leveraging public and private investments
- coordinate sustainability projects among and between municipal departments
- strive to make Kingston a more sustainable and healthy community through programs, capital projects, education, stewardship and environmental services

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## Grants

In 2018, the staff was successful in the development and award of **various local and state funds** allowing the City to capitalize on the sustainability and efficiency movement. In 2018, staff managed the following grants below. (See Table 1: Grant Spreadsheet for full information.)

- *National League of Cities- Sustainable Cities Initiative*
- *Organic Waste Management Plan for City of Kingston*
- *Open Space Plan For City of Kingston*
- *Natural Resources Inventory for City of Kingston*
- *NYSERDA- City Hall Window & Lighting Upgrades*
- *Kingston Point Beach ADA Accessibility Improvements*
- *Environmental Asset Manager & GHG Inventory*
- *Cornell Street Parking Lot EV Charging Station*
- *Dock Street Parking Lot EV Charging Station*
- *Lower Broadway Parking Lot EV Charging Station*
- *City of Kingston Electric Vehicle Purchases 2017, 2018*
- *Kingston Rec. Youth Development: UC Youth Bureau*
- *Forsyth Nature Center/Kingston Parks & Rec: ZBGA*

<b>Additional New Grants 2019</b>	<b>Grant amount</b>	<b>Staff on Grant</b>
DEC Municipal Parking Lot EV Charging Station- Building Safety	\$13,611.20	Julie Noble Sean Koester
DEC Municipal Parking Lot EV Charging Station- Dietz Stadium	\$13,752.40	Julie Noble Sean Koester
DEC Municipal Parking Lot EV Charging Station- Prince Street	\$14,173.88	Julie Noble Sean Koester
DEC MWRR Recycling Education and Coordination	\$26,890.25	Julie Noble

Table 1: Grant Spreadsheet

Year Awarded/ Funding Agency	Original Funding Source State/Fed/ Other	Project Title	Contract #	Timeline	Total Project Cost	Sustainability Staff on Project
2016 DEC	State: EPF	Open Space Plan For City of Kingston	DEC01-T00182GG-3350000	11/01/16-10/31/18, ext 06/30/19	\$ 24,500	Julie Noble
2015 DEC	State	Natural Resources Inventory for City of Kingston	DEC01-T00061GG-3350000	11/01/15-10/31/17, ext 03/30/19	\$ 22,000	Julie Noble
2017 NYSERDA	State	Clean Energy Communities Grant- City Hall Window and Lighting Upgrades	NYSERDA #120360	01/01/18-06/30/19	\$ 100,000	Julie Noble Sean Koester
2017 DEC	State	Kingston Point Beach ADA Accessibility Improvements (River Access)	DEC01-T00395GG	12/01/17-11/30/19	\$ 45,820	Julie Noble
2016 DEC	State	Environmental Asset Manager and Updated Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory	DEC01-T00230GG-3350000	03/08/17-03/07/22	\$ 50,000	Julie Noble Sean Koester
2016 DEC	State	Cornell Street Kingston Municipal Parking Lot EV Charging Station (92)	DEC01-T00315GG-3350000	11/01/16-10/31/18, ext 10/31/19	\$ 15,990.38	Julie Noble Sean Koester
2016 DEC	State	Dock Street Kingston Municipal Parking Lot EV Charging Station (120)	DEC01-T00326GG-3350000	11/01/16-10/31/18, ext 10/31/19	\$ 15,990.38	Julie Noble Sean Koester
2016 DEC	State	Lower Broadway Kingston Municipal Parking Lot EV Charging Station (120)	DEC01-T00327GG-3350000	11/01/16-10/31/18, ext 10/31/19	\$ 15,990.38	Julie Noble Sean Koester
2018 UC Youth Bureau	State- OCFS	Kingston Rec. Youth Development	2018-00000398	1/1/18-12/31/18	\$ 10,000	Julie Noble KC Keegan-Twombly
2016 ZBGA	State-OPRHP	Forsyth Nature Center/Kingston Parks and Recreation	PRK01-C90801GG-1290000	04/01/16-03/31/21	\$ 175,000	Julie Noble KC Keegan-Twombly
2016 OPRHP	State EPF	Kingston Point Park Infrastructure Improvements	PRK01-C65734GG-1290000	12/08/2016-12/07/2021	\$ 262,645	Julie Noble Kevin Gilfeather Lisa Bruck
2017 HREP	State	Organic Waste Management Plan	DEC01-C00586GG-3350000	03/15/2018-03/14/2023	\$ 62,960	Julie Noble Sean Koester KC Keegan-Twombly
2018 National League of Cities	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Sustainable Cities Initiative: Leadership in Community Resilience Program	2018 Resilience Cohort	01/01/2018-12/31/2018	\$ 10,000	Julie Noble
	<b>Total</b>				<b>\$ 810,896.14</b>	

## Education and Outreach

The City of Kingston's Parks and Recreation Department offers residents and visitors a variety of Environmental Education opportunities, including experiences and programming through the [Forsyth Nature Center](#), one of the only municipal nature centers in New York State. Kingston's **Environmental Education program** offers both indoor and outdoor experiences for school and youth groups, as well as adults, plus summer camps and a summer Junior Naturalist Program. To learn more visit the [Environmental Education/Nature Center](#) page.

Additionally, sustainability staff, in collaboration with community partners, developed, planned, organized, and executed several major public outreach events. Each of these events drew community members and regional visitors to the Kingston Parks System.

### 2018 Environmental Education Participation

**Number of School/Afterschool Students: 2712**

**Number of Junior Naturalist Camp Program participants: 94**

**Number of Public Program participants: 1325**

**Kingston Kayak Festival attendees: 175**



**Forsyth Nature Center Fall Festival attendees: 3500**

**Kingston Earth Fair and Expo attendees: 600**

**Waterfront Resilience Summit & High Water Festival attendees: 350**

**Amount of trash collected at Kingston Clean Sweep: 1.2 tons trash, 1.95 tons yard waste**

**On the Air-** Community outreach was expanded in 2018 to include several **on-air live radio shows** focusing on sustainability in the City of Kingston.

WBPM: Healthy Ulster Radio show, aired December 2018

WGHQ: Feel Good Fridays show, aired October 12, 2018

WKNY: Monday's With the Mayor show, aired June 25, 2018

WKNY: Monday's With the Mayor show, aired September 24, 2018

## Energy and Renewables

**A Climate Smart Community** – The New York State Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Program is a network of New York [communities](#) engaged in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving climate resilience. Municipalities become involved with the CSC Program by adopting the [CSC Pledge](#), which includes 10 elements that lead to a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and provide guidance on climate change adaptation. Municipalities can opt to participate in the [Climate Smart Certification Program](#), which has four

certification levels: certified, bronze, silver and gold. Communities can access technical support and funding opportunities to reach their certification goals.

The City of Kingston achieved Bronze Climate Smart Community certification in 2014, and **Silver Climate Smart Community certification in 2018**, the highest level achieved by any municipality in New York State. Kingston has completed a variety of adaptation and mitigation strategies to achieve this level, including appointing a commission, conducting a [Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#) and creating a [Climate Action Plan](#). The Climate Action Plan outlines strategies and actions for the city to take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and set a goal for energy use reduction of 20% by 2020. For more information, visit the Climate Smart Kingston webpage, and view Kingston's [Climate Smart Communities Profile](#). **In 2019, the City will be updating our Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, tracking our progress, and understanding the road ahead toward achieving our goals.**

**I AM  
PRO  
SNOW**

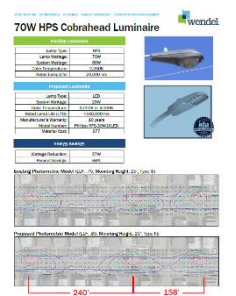
**100%  
COMMITTED**

**Commitment-** To take the City's commitment even further, in 2017, the City adopted Resolution #179 of 2017: Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Kingston, NY committing to 100% Clean Energy by 2050 and Continuing Support of the Principles of the Paris Agreement. Further, **in April 2018, the City joined the 100% Committed campaign in partnership with The Climate Reality Project.** Through this commitment, the City pledged to help our community shift to 100% renewable electricity.

**Property Assessed Clean Energy Financing-** Since 2016, the City of Kingston has been a member municipality of the Energize NY Finance Program, New York State's Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) finance program. PACE financing is made available to eligible property owners in order to provide attractive financing for property improvements that lower energy consumption. In 2018, the **City's renewed its commitment to this critical program** by adopting Local Law #4 of 2018, a local law enabling Kingston to maintain our participation in the program. As a function of this program, commercial property owners have the financing available for installations of renewable energy systems and energy improvement measures, with funds repaid through the property taxes.



**Greening Our Street Lights-** Kingston's street lights consume **1.9 million kWh of energy annually**. In April 2018 the City authorized the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to proceed with the City of Kingston LED Street Lighting Project which will **upgrade all of our non-LED street lights to LEDs with a proposed annual savings of over \$100,000 per year**. This project is a turn-key initiative, led by Wendel Energy Services as the implementation contractor for NYPA.



In the Summer of 2018, the project was launched and Wendel conducted a GIS audit of all of Kingston's street lights and park lights. This audit, with further information from City staff, the administration, and public safety personnel as well as coordination among multiple city transportation projects, helped to develop the preliminary design for the project. The replacement of all the streetlights is expected to take 3-4 months and is anticipated to begin in early 2019. Additionally, in 2018, the city internally **replaced over 250 streetlights with 3000K LEDs**.

A project website was established at [www.kingston-ny.gov/streetlights](http://www.kingston-ny.gov/streetlights), where the public can learn about the process and follow along with construction as it progresses.

**Greening Our Municipal Building Lights-** In the end of 2018, the City of Kingston took a big step to walk the walk by **retrofitting our municipal building lights with energy efficient LED lighting**. This work, being done under the Central Hudson Small Business Direct Install Lighting Program working with Lime Energy Services Company, includes retrofitting lighting in the following municipal buildings:

- Andy Murphy Neighborhood Center
- City Court
- DPW Administration Building
- DPW Garage
- DPW Wilbur Avenue Campus
- Everette Hodge Community Center
- Kingston Heritage Area Visitor Center
- Police Station
- Rondout Fire Station (Building Safety)
- Transfer Station
- Wiltwyck Fire Station (Frog Alley)
- City Hall

These retrofits, which were signed into contract in late 2018, will be completed in the first half of 2019, and will result in an **estimated annual savings of more than \$50,500 and more than 420,000 kWh savings**. This is equal to the equivalent of the electricity use of 51 homes in one year.

## Land Use

**Green Infrastructure** – The City of Kingston has been actively integrating Green Infrastructure techniques and practices into municipal infrastructure. The City will be installing a variety of **green infrastructure treatments**, including porous pavers, bioswales and street tree pits, as part of the [Broadway Streetscape Project](#). The project will help to reduce the amount of storm water flowing into the combined sewer system. To learn more details about the Broadway Streetscape Project, visit the [Office of Economic and Community Development](#) page and scroll down to the Active Projects list. Sustainability staff are part of the design and aesthetics review team for this project.

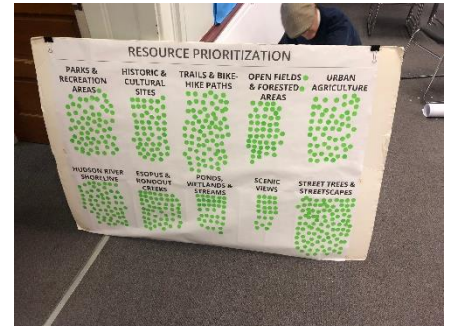
Sustainability staff also annually assists the Engineering Department with the completion of the City of **Kingston Annual Storm Water Report**, measuring the City’s adherence to the Municipal Storm Water Regulations (MS4) also documenting any illicit discharges into the storm water system.



Additionally, in December 2018, the City of Kingston was awarded **\$1.2 million for Midtown Parking Lots Green Infrastructure Upgrades** (\$1,200,000) from the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation Green Infrastructure Grant Program. The City of Kingston will use grant funds to retrofit several parking lots with green infrastructure, incorporating porous pavement, bioswales, tree pits, electric car charging stations, and bicycle parking and fix-it stations. Street storm water run-off will be directed into the green infrastructure elements and remove water from entering the combined sewer system, which could otherwise overflow with untreated sewage into the rivers during storm events.

**Open Space Planning** - Conservation of natural landscapes, such as forests, streams and wetlands, can help to reduce damaging floods. Forests naturally reduce storm water by slowing the movement of runoff and absorbing rain into the ground. Wetlands allow water to slow down and spread out during heavy precipitation events, reducing flood volumes. In tidal areas, wetlands may buffer upland areas from storm surge. Protection of stream corridors can reduce flood vulnerability.

The City of Kingston is completing a [Natural Resources Inventory](#) and Open Space Index and is in the process of creating an **Open Space Plan for the city**. By the spring of 2018, the final data layers were collected and mapped for the City's natural resources by consultant John Mickelson; Behan Planning and Design is the consultant completing the Open Space Plan. Public input on prioritization and conservation interests has been a crucial component of the process. A public meeting was held on June 26, 2018 at City Hall to present the findings. On September 25, 2018, the City of Kingston and the CAC hosted the first **Open Space Plan Public Workshop**. Additional public input was solicited through October. The Open Space Plan development process will continue into the first half of 2019 as Behan Planning and Design review data, public input and community priorities to create a Draft Open Space Plan.



**Cultivating Street Trees** – Kingston has earned the Arbor Day Foundation's **"Tree City USA"** designation for nearly two decades, and celebrates Arbor Day with an annual event. The [Kingston Tree Commission](#) oversees an annual tree planting initiative and coordinates street tree management for the City.

The City recently received funding to conduct an inventory of street and park trees and to update and strengthen local ordinances related to management of trees. In 2017, the City received a grant from the NYSDEC to conduct a Street Tree Inventory for the City. In 2018, City of Kingston contracted with ArborPro, Inc. to **conduct a tree inventory of the City's street trees and park trees**. These inventories will be used as a tool by the tree commission when reviewing tree removal and pruning permits, as well as identifying locations for future tree plantings. For more information please see [Inventory Summary Report](#), [Street Tree Inventory Summary Report](#), [Park Tree Inventory Summary Report](#).

## Transportation

**Kingston on the Move**- A strategic transportation planning sub-committee of the [Complete Streets Advisory Council](#) is working with the current administration to create a new vision and action plan for transportation in Kingston.

This sub-committee envisions the City of Kingston as a vibrant, bustling community, with a safe and reliable transportation system that moves and connects people to places, with a variety of motorized and non-motorized options working together to provide users with a seamless and stress-free experience.

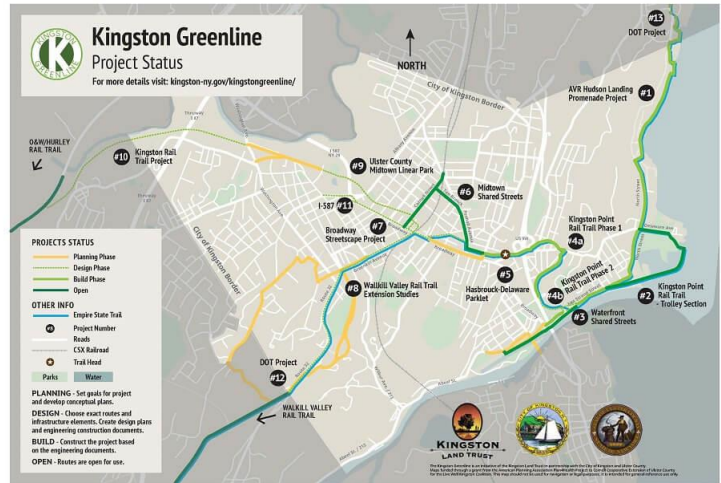
For full, up to date information on Kingston's Transportation Projects, see: [Kingston on the Move](#). These infrastructure improvement projects lead Kingston to a more sustainable and healthy future by reducing vehicle miles travelled through improved pedestrian and bicycle access, reduced vehicle idling by increasing travelling efficiencies, reduced pavement runoff through increased use of green infrastructure, increased quality of life and air quality from increased green space, increased tourism and visitor use, and more. Projects include:

- I-587 Intersection Project
- 2017 Safe Routes to School
- Greenkill Avenue Bridge
- Hurley Ave. Pavement and Complete Streets Project
- Henry Street Safe Routes to School Project
- Kingston Waterfront Resiliency
- Rondout Riverport Shoreline Stabilization and Public Access
- Franklin Complete Streets Project

**Kingston Greenline** – The Kingston Greenline is a vision for a network of urban trails, bikeways, water-trails, walkable sidewalks and complete streets. The project is a partnership initiative of the City of Kingston, [Kingston Land Trust](#) and Ulster County. To learn more visit the [Kingston Greenline](#) page.

View a [PDF of the Kingston Greenline Project Status Map](#).

- #1 AVR Hudson Landing Promenade Project
- #2 Kingston Point Rail Trail - Trolley Section
- #3 Waterfront Shared Streets
- #4a Kingston Point Rail Trail Phase 1
- #4b Kingston Point Rail Trail Phase 2
- #5 Hasbrouck Delaware Parklet
- #6 Midtown Shared Streets
- #7 Broadway Streetscape Project
- #8 Walkill Valley Rail Trail Extension Studies
- #9 Ulster County Midtown Linear Park
- #10 Kingston Rail Trail Project
- #11 NYSDOT I-587 Roundabout Project
- #12 NYSDOT Empire State Trail Project South
- #13 NYSDOT Empire State Trail Project North



In late 2018, the City of Kingston received a grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Climate Smart Communities Program to complete a **Kingston Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan**. This plan will improve conditions for non-motorized travelers throughout the City and on key roads and pathways in and out of the City. The plan will inventory existing conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists and develop a realistic and actionable recommended set of prioritized improvements over the next ten years. It will complete Kingston’s ADA transition plan and create a vision for a cohesive walking and biking network that connects neighborhoods, businesses, the Kingston Greenline, and the Empire State Trail.

**Green Fleet** – Kingston is advancing efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions of municipal vehicles by purchasing hybrid and full electric vehicles, installing electric vehicle (EV) charging stations and hiring an Environmental Asset Manager who is managing the fleet and updating the greenhouse gas inventory.



The City is working towards a goal of retrofitting the municipal fleet to have 20% comprised of alternative fuel vehicles by 2020. In 2018, **three more EVs were purchased** for the Building Safety Division bringing the total up to 7 Electric Vehicles in the City's fleet. Further, in the Summer of 2018, the City installed **three new public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations** in municipal lots: Cornell Street, Dock Street, Visitor's Center. On September 14th there was a ribbon cutting at the Visitor's Center lot to unveil the new stations.

**In 2019, two new EV Charging Stations will be installed** in city municipal lots: Prince Street and at the Building Safety Department's lot off of Garraghan Drive. Additionally, a new EV Charging Station will be installed as part of the DRI investment upgrades at Dietz Stadium.

Additionally, in 2019, staff will be working with the CAC to develop a **green fleet policy** as well as an **anti-idling policy**, to address procurement and policy related approaches to ensuring reduced GHG emissions from vehicles in the municipal fleet.

## Recycling and Solid Waste Management

**Single Stream Recycling and Composting** – In an effort to make recycling more convenient for residents, the City of Kingston currently utilizes a single-stream recycling program. By instituting single stream recycling, the City of Kingston has increased our recycling rates, reducing landfill-tipping fees and thousands of miles of truck transport emissions saved. **In 2018, the city DPW collected 2073.34 tons of recycled material.**

In late 2018, the City of Kingston received a grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to fund a **year of enhanced Recycling Education and Coordination in 2019** to support the city's mandated shift in recyclables collection to a new system beginning in the first quarter of 2019. This funding will aid in effective transition of recycling collection.



**Organics Diversion** - To further reduce our emissions and tipping fees, the City of Kingston will be exploring the feasibility of instituting a **citywide food waste collection system**.

The City of Kingston, in partnership with the Kingston Conservation Advisory Council, the Climate Smart Kingston Commission, and the Hudson Valley Regional Council, is undertaking a feasibility study for diverting food waste produced at municipal buildings as well as by residents and small businesses. This project, called the **Kingston Organics Diversion Plan**, will take the results from the study and propose a methodology for rolling out food waste diversion.



Undertaking this work, which is funded by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, puts Kingston at the forefront of innovative efforts that save municipalities money while helping our environment. Reducing the amount of food waste that goes to the landfills can save hundreds of thousands of dollars in avoided tipping fees. Reducing the number of trips dump trucks take to the landfill also reduces the emissions of greenhouse gases. When the financial benefits from implementing such a program exceed the implementation and operating costs, it is a win all around. Kingston's goal is to discover if the City can get this win like other like-minded communities have nation- and state-wide.

## Adaptation and Resiliency

**Resilient Design and Development on the Waterfront** - The City of Kingston is participating with stakeholders and partners on Kingston's waterfront to **improve the resiliency and sustainability of the shoreline, implement an economic development strategy, and develop better access to the river**, parks and open space on the waterfront for people on foot, on bicycle, and in boats. Several grants have been secured to implement elements of these plans.

For up to date information, waterfront plans and projects are listed on the City's [Rondout Riverport](#) page.

Additionally, in 2019, staff will work with city emergency personnel and Cornell Cooperative Extension to produce and distribute a **Flood Preparedness Guide** to residents in flood prone areas, which will include information about emergency contacts, shelters, evacuation routes, and how to best prepare for flooding.



Hosting the Cornell University Climate Adaptive Design Studio -The Climate-Adaptive Design (CAD) Studio links Cornell students in landscape architecture with Hudson Riverfront communities to explore design alternatives for more climate resilient, beautiful and connected waterfront areas. The studio is an effort in partnership with Cornell Landscape Architecture Department, Cornell Water Resources Institute, the NYS DEC Hudson River Estuary Program and the City of Kingston. The CAD Studio **envisioned a more resilient Rondout waterfront**, focusing on the parcel level on Kingston’s tidal water front, hosting a third studio on Kingston’s Rondout Waterfront in Spring 2018. The project culminated with an open house to share student ideas with the community. CAD designs show the community options for development and revitalization that also deal with expected sea-level rise and flooding. By taking a comprehensive design approach, the student teams incorporate human and natural systems to inspire adaptation and innovation.



Waterfront Resilience Summit and High Water Festival- The City of Kingston hosted a day-long celebration of waterfront resilience and revitalization on Friday, October 19, 2018 at Rondout Landing with support from the National League of Cities and many other sponsors. The event celebrated the **progress that the city has made towards revitalization of the waterfront**, while adapting to projected flooding and inundation caused by sea level rise and extreme storms related to a changing climate.



The day began with the Waterfront Resilience Summit, hosted by Mayor Steve Noble, and included a Forum on Opportunity and Innovation that featured a panel of mayors and supervisors from Hudson Valley municipalities, who shared details about steps their localities are taking to increase resilience to climate-change related hazards. The Summit also included a presentation on the Cornell University Landscape Architecture Department’s Climate-adaptive Design Studio that has focused on the Kingston waterfront; a walking tour of flood-adapted structures, including the city’s wastewater treatment plant; and descriptions of the city’s efforts to increase resilience of the Rondout Creek and Hudson River waterfronts in Kingston.

The Waterfront Resilience Summit was followed by the High Water Festival, a family-friendly event that featured exhibits and activities related to waterways and resilience. Exhibits and activities were provided by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County, Riverkeeper, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Hudson River Maritime Museum, Climate Smart Kingston, Ulster County Green Business Challenge, Ucart and Kingston Land Trust. Volunteers from the American Red Cross helped attendees to assemble an emergency to-go kit with contents provided by the City of Kingston. Artists and musicians performed throughout the day. The festival culminated with a performance by Arm of the Sea Theater.

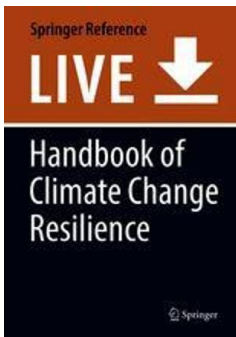


[Inspiring the Community](#) – In 2018, the City of Kingston was featured in several of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Hudson River Estuary Program's "Adaptation Inspiration" videos highlighting the shoreline of the Hudson River and how sustainable shorelines can help us become more resilient.

[Adapt: The Key to Climate Resilience](#)

[Sea-level Rise: Planning Coastal Development](#)

[Sustainable Shorelines](#)



**Publication-** In July 2018, the City of Kingston was the spotlight of a peer reviewed paper, co-authored by Julie Noble with others: Zemaitis L., Tabak N., Marcell K., Brooks B., Noble J. (2018) *Working Together to Build Climate Resilience in Hudson Riverfront Communities*.

In: Leal Filho W. (eds) *Handbook of Climate Change Resilience*. Springer, Cham.

This paper introduces the context of climate adaptation in the Hudson Valley region; outlines the resilience planning and Learning Group processes; shares insights, including resilience recommendations communities had in common, and lessons learned; and proposes future work.

## Boards and Commissions

**Conservation Advisory Council** – Per NYS General Municipal Law, each municipality is sanctioned to create a Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) to advise local government on environmental matters and review development proposals with potential environmental impact in an advisory capacity. Since 2009, the Kingston CAC has worked as a volunteer board to ensure the conservation of the City's natural resources and the enhancement and protection of its environment, while fostering unified actions on environmental matters. Key Conservation Advisory Council focus for 2018 included:



- NRI and Open Space Plan development
- Wood Smoke Reduction /Air Quality Improvement advocacy
- Army Corps of Engineers Storm Surge Barriers review
- Lincoln Park Grid Support Center (Glidepath) review
- Hudson River Tanker Avoidance Zone Rulemaking review
- Urban Agriculture Zoning review
- Waterfront Proposals review

The Kingston CAC meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in Kingston City Hall Conference Room 1. The meetings are open to the public. For more information, visit the [Kingston CAC webpage](#). The Environmental Education and Sustainability Coordinator serves as the Chair of this Council and in this role, acts as a liaison to the City for the Council.

**Climate Smart Kingston Commission** - The Climate Smart Kingston Commission convenes monthly to strategize, plan, and implement the goals of Kingston's [Climate Action Plan](#). The Commission is comprised of residents and officials who want to take action to assure a sustainable future for the city.

Key Climate Smart Kingston Commission goals and achievements for 2018 included:

- Co-hosting Repair Café
- Co-hosting Energy Code Training for Municipal staff and boards
- Partnering in the Ulster County Green Business Challenge
- Supporting City of Kingston in resiliency and sustainability efforts



<b>Rhinebeck</b> Town Hall 80 E. Market Street	<b>May 6</b>	<b>12-4</b>
<b>Delhi</b> Bushel Collective 84 Main Street	<b>May 13</b>	<b>10-2</b>
<b>New Paltz</b> United Methodist Church Main and Grove	<b>May 20</b>	<b>10-2</b>
<b>Warwick</b> Warwick Senior Center 132 Kings Highway	<b>May 20</b>	<b>10-2</b>
<b>Kingston</b> Clinton Avenue Methodist Church	<b>June 3</b>	<b>11-3</b>

The Climate Smart Kingston Commission meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month from 5:00-6:30 pm at Kingston City Hall, Common Council Chambers. The Commission also hosts a [Climate Smart Kingston Commission](#) webpage, where community members can sign up for the Climate Smart Kingston Mailing List to be informed via email of updates on Kingston’s sustainability initiatives, they can also follow Climate Smart Kingston on [Facebook](#). The Sustainability Coordinator serves as the Climate Smart Community Coordinator for the City of Kingston, and as such also serves as the Chair of this Commission, as an ex-officio member.

[Friends of Forsyth Nature Center](#) - The Friends of Forsyth Nature Center is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization whose mission is to support the Forsyth Nature Center and to foster and inspire the exploration and conservation of the natural world in and around our urban community. The FFNC Board of Directors meets regularly throughout the year. This group provides scholarships for the Junior Naturalist Program and participates in the Kingston Earth Fair and the Fall Festival, fundraising for the FNC. All proceeds are dedicated to maintaining and improving the Forsyth Nature Center and its programs. The Sustainability Coordinator is the City liaison to this board.



[Climate Mayors](#)- In 2016, the City of Kingston joined Climate Mayors, a bipartisan, peer-to-peer network of U.S. Mayors working together to demonstrate leadership on climate change through meaningful actions in their communities and to express and build political will for effective federal and global policy action. Through 2018, the Sustainability Coordinator participated in monthly Climate Mayors calls.

## Professional Development

Sustainability staff regularly attends meetings, workshops and conferences annually to further professional development and to keep updated on regionally and locally relevant environmental issues.

### 2018 Conferences, Webinars, Workshops, Trainings

- Flood Hazard Mitigation in Historic Districts Webinar (Julie)
- Supporting Green Business in Your Community Webinar (Julie)
- Motivating Behavior Change through Social Marketing Webinar (Julie)
- State Flood Risk Management Guidance Review Web Conference (Julie)
- Green Infrastructure Workshop (Julie)
- Climate Reality Project Presentation (Julie)
- Cornell Cooperative Extension Climate Master Volunteer Program Focus Group Participation (Julie)
- Rondout Creek Summit (Julie)
- Resilient Cities Summit (Julie)
- NOAA Building Risk Communication Skills Workshop (Julie)
- NYCOM Annual Conference (Julie)
- CCEUC Strategic Planning Retreat (Julie)

- DEC Annual Update Meeting (Julie and Sean)
- Local Climate Action Summit - the Cornell Club, NYC (Julie)
- Healthy Ulster Council Presentation: Resilient Kingston (Julie)
- From the River to the Sea: Estuary to Ocean Connections DEC Conference (Julie and KC)
- CDL Recertification and Review (physical, written and road) (Julie and KC)
- NYS Parks and Recreation Society Conference (KC)
- 5% Less: How to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint (Sean)
- Portfolio Manager 101 (Sean)
- Portfolio Manager 201 (Sean)
- NY Energy Code Municipal Opportunities (NYSECCC) (Sean)
- Hudson River Environmental Society Annual Symposium (Sean)
- NY-Alert Training (CSO) (Sean)
- CPR/First Aid (Julie, KC and Sean)
- EPA Industrial Pretreatment Workshop (Sean)
- EV Summit (Sean)
- DEC Erosion & Sediment Control Training (Sean)