

Climate Smart Task Force- Putnam Valley
Wednesday, July 1, 2026 · 6:30pm – 7:30pm
Pancho's and Gringos

In attendance: Judy Allen, Abigail Arrunategui, Jeff Cohen, Maia Gilleo, Allison Hague, Alison Jolicoeur, Henry Lopez, Christian Russo, Ken Sills, Mike Towle

Zero Emissions Vehicles

Regarding the awarded grant funding to install EV chargers:

Based on estimates for the purchase of chargers and construction to install them on Town Hall campus, the Task Force recommended that two (2) dual port Level 2 ChargePoint CP6021 pedestal stations be installed for public use. Supervisor Jolicoeur shared that Putnam Valley will be requesting bids for the electrical installation of the chargers. Following approvals and purchase of the stations, the installation will be completed by the end of September.

(PE2) GHG inventory/energy audits:

The Greenhouse Gas Inventory and aggregation of energy bills are progressing. Initial findings from prior NYSEG bills as associated costs, Henry proposed that the Town install a solar light on the "Welcome to Putnam Valley" sign. A Town employee will install the light, which will aid in beautification as well as save money.

The group discussed a Benchmarking Resolution, which would implement the free platform [Energy Star Portfolio Manager](#) as a monitor of energy usage. Since NYSEG smart meters and ENERGY STAR automatically link, onboarding would be minimal. In the future, a programmable thermostat would be helpful to manage heating and cooling of government buildings.

(PE5) Waste Management

The Food Scrap Recycling (FSR) committee will work on an [Organics Management Plan](#) for the Town's review. Though the NYSP2I grant application was not awarded, FSR will continue through the summer at Tompkins Corners Farmer's Market.

Recycling Bins in Gov't buildings

The Supervisor will look into passing a Resolution to require the placement of recycling bins wherever there is a trash bin. Should that pass, Town employees would need to be notified describing the location of the recycling bins and what materials can and cannot be recycled in the program. The group committed to setting up the Sustainable Putnam zero waste station at 1-2 summer concerts and at Town Day in the fall. The effort would be supported by volunteers.

PE6: Comprehensive Plan

The grant to complete an updated Comprehensive Plan will require community outreach. The Supervisor plans to create a steering committee with members of different commissions to guide these conversations. There will also be a public listening tour at various locations around Putnam Valley. Given that Climate Smart goals overlap with a resilient town plan, the task force recommended that it be involved in the Comprehensive planning process.

PE7: Policies for [Climate Resilience](#)

Putnam County Climate Smart Task Force is collaborating with Cornell, the Hudson River Estuary Program, and small municipalities to take actions for flood readiness. Allison agreed to connect the Supervisor with more information on the project. The Town is also working with the County on an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan, which includes a [public survey](#). The Task Force agreed to help disseminate the survey, and Mike agreed to share an example Hazard Mitigation plan including Climate Smart requirements.

The group discussed the ongoing County [Hazard Mitigation Plan](#), and Mike T agreed to send an example hazard mitigation plan which included Climate Smart elements for Putnam Valley's reference. Mike also gave an update on the GIS/MS4 Work, sharing that the Highway department is already mapping using the updated tool. The Supervisor reminded the group that HVRC has shared educational Stormwater Management infographics for the Town to share. The CCE/CSC can support educational outreach as necessary.

PE7: Extreme Temperatures

To better prepare for extreme heat events like the one being faced at the time of meeting, the group discussed action for [Cooling Centers](#), [Shade Structures](#), and a [Heat Emergency Plan](#). Putnam Valley Ambulance Corp and the German Center are used as cooling centers, which would be promoted on the Town website, through emergency alerts, and on social media.

PE8: [Farmers Markets](#)

Supervisor Jolicoeur discussed the possibility of consolidating the existing Farmer's markets at Tompkins Corners Cultural Center and the Putnam Valley Grange to one unified market at Town Hall. Relevant stakeholders will discuss this further.

PE8: [Buy Local, Buy Green Campaign](#)

Maia discussed the Neighborhood Business Commission's plans to develop a map of local assets, including businesses and natural attractions like trails. She noted that other resources could be included, and that the NBC and Climate Smart could stay in contact as it is developed.

Supervisor Jolicoeur shared the plan to feature local businesses in a video for Small Business Saturday. The group agreed to engage local stakeholders early to ensure widespread participation.

PE7: Lakes/watershed:

At the [Commission of Lakes meeting on June 23](#), Riverkeeper gave a presentation on their collaborative work protecting our watershed. Putnam Valley will continue to work alongside the Watershed Inspector for the town of Peekskill to protect their source of drinking water.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm