

Buildings and Energy

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Objectives

1. Reduce energy use in existing buildings by at least 25%
2. Reduce energy use in new construction and major renovations of existing buildings by at least 30%
3. Promote the use of renewable energy in place fossil fuels

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Action

- 1.1 Promote programs that offer incentives for residential and commercial building energy efficiency improvements
- 1.2 Develop additional financial programs to help building owners undertake energy efficiency improvements
- 1.3 Improve the energy efficiency of properties that are participating in City programs
- 1.4 Encourage the disclosure of building energy performance to prospective tenants and buyers
- 1.5 Develop “Greener is Greater Binghamton Challenges” for homes and for businesses
- 1.6 Create incentives for adaptive reuse of residential and commercial buildings
- 1.7 Develop green building incentives for Projects Receiving Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreements
- 2.1 Adopt green building incentives for high performance new construction
- 2.2 Support adoption of the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code in New York State
- 3.1 Encourage residents and businesses to purchase electricity from renewable supply sources
- 3.2 Encourage homeowners and businesses to install onsite renewable energy generation systems

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What happened and/or what to do next.

- 1.1 The City has had a number of energy efficiency programs and funded a program for the replacement of outdated appliances and mechanical systems in low income households.
- 1.2 Clean Energy Community program funded with a NYSERDA award as well as the HUD funded LMI home rehab program uses only Energy Star rated upgrades .
- 1.3 See 1.1 & 1.2.
- 1.4 City will contact NYSEG about the feasibility of this kind of disclosure.
- 1.5 Program in development will include the following Challenges - Rain Gardens, Tree Planting, Green Energy, Pollinator Gardens, Edible Landscapes, and a Reuse-it Challenge.
- 1.6 Parking requirement waivers, modifications to zoning codes, and updates to zoning maps have encouraged and created opportunities for the repurposing of low tenant (or vacant) commercial buildings to residential.
- 1.7 City is currently reviewing this action.
- 2.1 In any nonresidential zoning district, the area of any structure or building covered with a vegetated greenroof, as defined in Chapter 410, shall not count towards the calculation of the total lot coverage.
- 2.2 The New York State Energy Code adopted in 2020 incorporates the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code, and includes a “Stretch Code” that is 10% above code.
- 3.1 Climate Action Plan website will have links to the various state and utility programs that are incentivising renewable energy purchases, and information sites regarding clean energy providers such as NY Power to Choose.
- 3.2 City did this as part of the Clean Energy Communities program, as well as through the creation of a Unified Solar Permit.

■ Completed

■ In progress