



# Green Tier Legacy Community Annual Report Instructions

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For Municipalities or Counties subscribing to the sustainability component of this Charter

## STRUCTURE

The Annual Report consists of two main parts: a narrative portion and an updated Legacy Communities Sustainable Strategy Spreadsheet (Appendix 3 of the Legacy Communities Charter) for that year.

The Narrative portion consists of four basic sections:

1. Title (logo optional) includes the name of the city, the year being reported, an indication of participation in the Sustainability Component of the Green Tier Legacy Charter, with the date that the report was last revised.
2. Sustainability Mission Statement (will likely be the same from year to year)
3. A listing of sustainable initiatives and activities that have been undertaken in the City in that year. The format of this section is based on main category headings with a bullet-point listing and short description of your cities initiatives and programs that fit in that category. Below is a listing of categories that most of the initiatives and activities will fall under. The bolded sections of these categories can be used as headings for this section of the report to create an easy to reference document. Your Annual Report may contain some or all of these categories. This list may also be used as inspiration for areas of sustainability your city can expand into for the future. The categories are:
  - a. **Build and Buy Green**- strategies and programs that use or promote the use of sustainable materials and building techniques.
  - b. **Transportation** – Transportation policies and actions that increase pedestrians, bicyclists, transit passengers as a primary mode of transportation, and that are designed to reduce public per-capita VMR and GHG emissions.
  - c. **Land Use** – Policies and actions that seek to identify, cleanup and redevelop brownfield sites, promote street connectivity and mixed-use development, and protect natural resources.
  - d. **Energy** – Environmental stewardship, energy efficiency, waste and materials management policies and the use of renewable fuels to reduce total energy consumption throughout the community.
  - e. **Water** – Policies and actions that address stormwater facilities and infrastructure, water quality improvement, and water conservation.
  - f. **Waste** - Policies and actions that reduce landfill waste and increase or encourage recycling and reuse.

- g. **Healthy Community Planning** – Policies and projects related to incorporating healthy living into community design – whether by built form, programs, education, etc. in an effort to reduce trends in poor nutrition, inactive lifestyles, chronic disease and other negative health risk factors.

The Sustainable Strategy Scoresheet (Appendix 3 of the Legacy Communities Charter) is attached to these instructions. The purpose of the sustainable strategies scoresheet is to provide a broad list of best management practices that encompass several elements of sustainability. Prospective signatories should use the strategy options to gauge environmental performance and then use this baseline to strive for superior results. Superior environmental performance may be achieved when municipalities and counties use the strategy options to develop a sustainability plan that reduces their overall negative impact on the environment.

To use the strategy options matrix:

- First, use the strategy options to gauge environmental performance and create a baseline score for your City. The baseline score should be entered in column E of the spreadsheet, after you have entered the name of your city, and the year the baseline score is being produced at the top of the column.
- Next, consider your baseline score and the sustainability goals and initiatives your city has in place for the future (which are preferably outlined and discussed in your city's sustainability plan) and set a goal score to work toward in the coming year.
- Each year you will submit a narrative report, you will also score yourself for that year on the strategy options matrix. Create a column for each year after the baseline year. After you have scored yourself for that year, create new goals to work toward (insert columns as needed).

## **SUBMITTAL TIMELINE**

Each Green Tier Legacy Community (GTLC) is expected to submit an Annual Report to the Department of Natural Resources by March 31 of each year after the year they initially become a GTLC. For example, if you became a GTLC in 2017 you do not need to submit an Annual Report for 2017, you would begin submitting Annual Reports with the 2018 report, which will become your baseline year and will be due by March of 2018. Annual Reports would then be submitted every subsequent year thereafter.