



## City of Beacon, New York

Office of the Mayor

Lee Kyriacou, Mayor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Beacon Recertified as Silver Climate-Smart Leadership Community**

Beacon, NY— Earlier this week, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced that the City of Beacon has been designated as a Climate Smart Community for the second time. This announcement came as part of DEC's latest round of certifications and recertifications during 2025 Climate Week.

Beacon is now recertified with silver status, the highest level of certification, and the designation will be in effect for another five years. Beacon first received the distinction of silver status in 2020, and was one of three communities in the State to earn recertification for the same in 2025, along with the City of Kingston and the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson.

Mayor Kyriacou said: "Since taking office in 2020, my administration has prioritized climate action at all levels of our operations as well as gaining access to extensive grant funding. I am pleased to see that our thoughtful work has paid off in receiving recertification. I look forward to continuing our support of the State's climate goals and I know that Beacon will continue to demonstrate what is possible for municipalities to do in preserving local environmental quality and health in the years to come."

Climate Smart Communities is an interagency State program that acknowledges municipal leaders in climate action and provides access to environmental grant financing. To be certified, a local government must pass a resolution pledging to act, and then complete numerous actions focused on reducing local greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapting to climate change. Communities must also demonstrate an active task force of both residents and municipal representatives advancing local climate action. Faye Leone has served as Beacon's Climate Smart Coordinator since 2021, and works with the City Administration to coordinate many of the City's environmental initiatives.

Among the actions to achieve re-certification of silver status, the City of Beacon completed multiple GHG emissions inventories and an action plan for reducing emissions from government operations through 2030. These informed subsequent evidence-based environmental initiatives, such as:

- Renovating the Central Fire Station to utilize geothermal heating and cooling;
- Using renewable energy for 100% of municipal electricity, and planning new solar installations for additional local energy generation;
- Transitioning gasoline and diesel vehicles in the City's vehicle fleet to battery-electric cars and trucks; and
- Undertaking methane mitigation at the former Dennings Point landfill.

By completing these projects and tracking their impacts, Beacon aims to meet or exceed its target 2030 emissions reduction levels, which were set in support of the New York Climate Law, and contribute to a safe climate for all, both locally and globally.

#### PHOTOS OF CENTRAL FIRE STATION BELOW

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One Municipal Plaza | Beacon, NY 12508 | [www.beaconny.gov](http://www.beaconny.gov)  
[Facebook.com/BeaconNY](https://Facebook.com/BeaconNY)



*Pictured: Beacon Central Fire Station opens after renovations, November 2024. Photo credit: Meghan MacEnroe*



*Pictured (left to right): Former Councilmember Dan Aymar-Blair, Ward 1 Councilmember Molly Rhodes, and Councilmember-at-Large Amber Grant alongside geothermal heat pump equipment inside the Beacon Central Fire Station. Photo credit: Faye Leone.*