



Sustainability Advisory Committee

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, June 2, 2022

6:00 PM-7:30 PM

Via Zoom –

Link to join will be emailed to committee members.

Meeting notice will be posted on the Sustainability Advisory Committee webpage at <https://www.albanyny.gov/342/Sustainability-Advisory-Committee>, the [Sustainable Albany Facebook page](#) and [Albany Office of Sustainability Facebook page](#).

Meeting will be livestreamed via Facebook.

Advance questions/comments from the public can be sent via Facebook message or emailed to: Sustainability@albanyny.gov

- Regular Business – 10 minutes
 - Call to Order and roll call – Commissioners, please send designee if unable to attend
 - Review/Approval of March 3, 2022 and April 7, 2022 minutes
 - Public Comment Period (Approx. 3 minutes per comment)

- New Business –70 minutes
 - (25 min) Update from John Ciovacco on Albany Geothermal Loop progress.
 - (10 min) Update on Clean Energy Community Campaigns – 3 campaigns (*Energy Efficiency/Heat Pumps, Community Solar and Electric Vehicles*) approved by NYSERDA on 10-18-2. (Tina, Jason, Jackie)
 - (15 min) Legislative update: bills we might endorse before sessions's end.
 - Tenant Dignity and Safe Housing Act (TDSHA) would establish a streamlined court process to give tenants a way to sue their landlords for relief for not addressing code violations; relief could include eviction prevention, rent abatement, rent refund, or reduction in future rent until landlord makes the repairs
 - Right to Counsel would extend the right to free counsel to housing tenants; this has been adopted in other states and has shown to save money by preventing homelessness and costs related to court
 - Better Bottle Bill would likely increase NY's stagnant redemption rate from 64% to the 90% seen in other states where the deposit is 10 cents. It would also lead to a lot more recycling since it would include more types of beverages (non-carbonated) and their containers, including glass wine/liquor bottles. It would lower costs for municipalities who are



currently paying a lot of \$ for recycling, a good part of which ends up in landfills anyway. A Better Bottle Bill means that more people will take their bottles to redemption centers where the bottles are much more likely to actually be recycled and not end up in landfills.

- (5 min) Review of needs for Annual Report (Gaby)
- (15 min) Director of Sustainability, Commissioners and Subcommittee Chairs: Updates
- Upcoming events, calls for Volunteers

Next meeting –Thurs. July 7, 2022 at 6 pm.

Adjournment:

Anticipated absences: