



CAPITAL DISTRICT
**Regional
Planning
Commission**



NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY™

**Climate Smart
Communities**

Climate Smart Communities

Support for Local Governments

Haley Balcanoff

Sustainability Planner

Climate Smart Communities Coordinator

Clean Energy Communities Coordinator

Our Team

The Capital District Regional Planning Commission assists municipalities in [Albany](#), [Rensselaer](#), [Schenectady](#), [Saratoga](#), [Columbia](#), [Greene](#), [Warren](#) and [Washington Counties](#) to complete clean energy actions in the hopes of creating designated Clean Energy Communities.



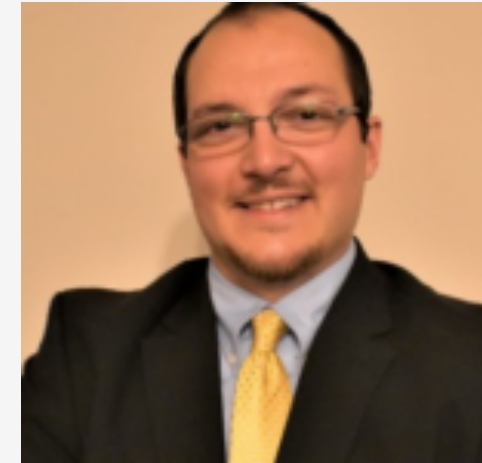
Todd Fabozzi
Director of Sustainability



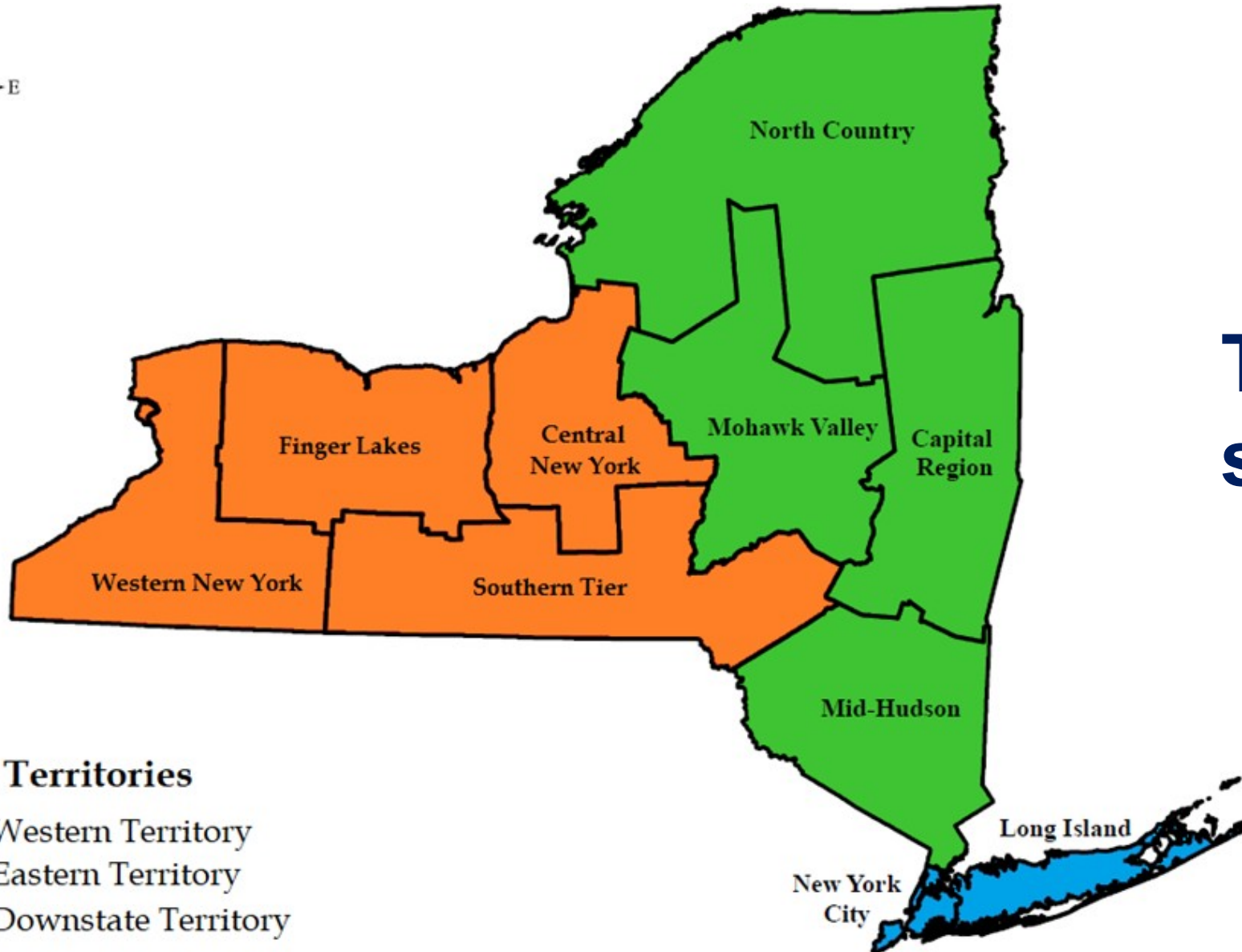
Tara Donadio
Assistant Director of Sustainability
Albany, Schenectady, Greene, No.
Columbia Counties



Haley Balcanoff
Clean Energy Communities
Outreach Coordinator
Saratoga, Rensselaer, So.
Columbia Counties






Josh Dranoff
Clean Energy Communities
Outreach Coordinator
Warren, Washington Counties



**Three regions
statewide**

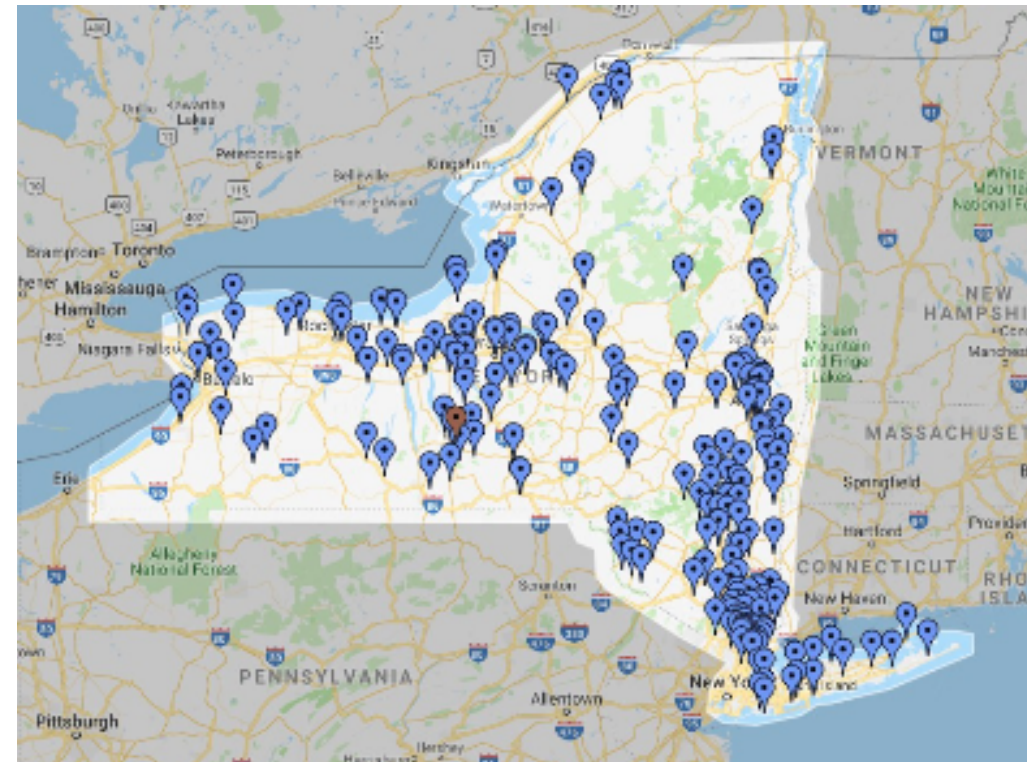
CSC Territories

-  Western Territory
-  Eastern Territory
-  Downstate Territory



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

The Climate Smart Communities Program





Climate Smart Communities

State Support for Local Climate Action



Assistance to local government leaders to:

- Reduce greenhouse emissions
- Adapt to climate change

Voluntary. No fees. Sponsored by 7 NYS state agencies.

Comprehensive. Flexible.

Climate Smart Pledge Elements



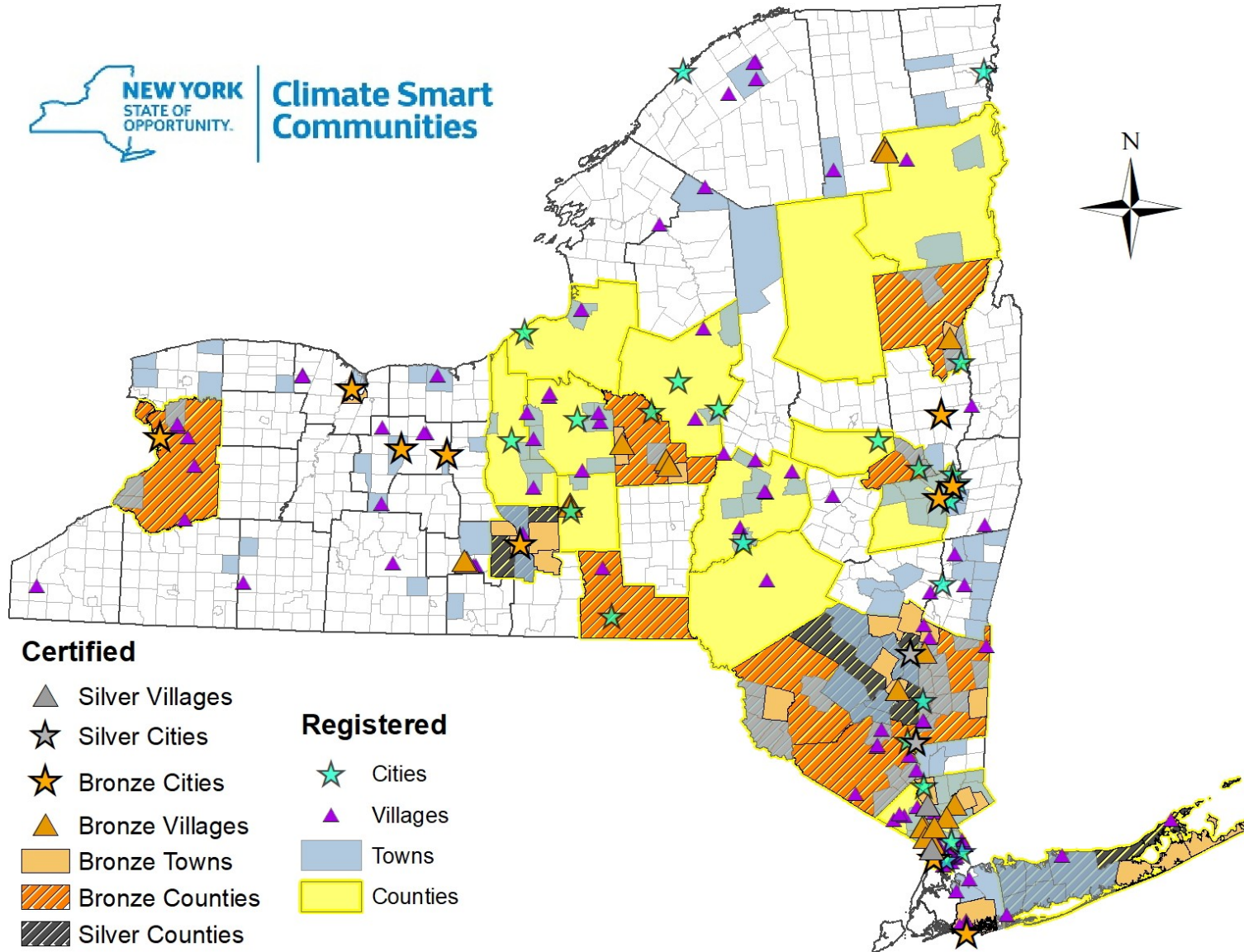
- 1) Build a Climate Smart Community
- 2) Inventory Emissions, Set Goals, & Plan for Climate Action
- 3) Decrease Energy Use
- 4) Shift to Clean, Renewable Energy
- 5) Use Climate-smart Materials Management
- 6) Implement Climate-Smart Land Use
- 7) Enhance Community Resilience to Climate Change
- 8) Support a Green Innovation Economy
- 9) Inform & Inspire the Public
- 10) Engage in an Evolving Process of Climate Action



<https://climatesmart.ny.gov/>



**Climate Smart
Communities**



• 356 Registered

- Pledged to act on climate
- 9.4 M people since **2009**
- 49% of NYS population

• 90 Certified

- Leaders who have documented progress



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Benefits of CSC



- Free technical assistance
- Guidance & tools:
 - Webinars, email list, website, workshops
 - Certification program: framework for local action, planning, priorities
- **Leadership recognition:** State-level attention for local leaders
- **Networking:** Learn with like-minded community leaders
- **Funding:** Better positioned to compete; CSC grants & ZEV funding from DEC
- **Roadmap for Climate Action**

Technical Assistance



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Technical assistance from Climate Smart Communities Coordinators



Coordinators use the New York State [Climate Smart Communities \(CSC\) Certification program](#) as a roadmap for providing technical support, including:

- Outreach and support for climate action engagement, capacity building, education, and training;
- Facilitate local climate mitigation planning and climate adaptation and resilience planning;
- Support the implementation of local climate action and projects;
- Convene climate and transportation listening sessions; and
- Provide CSC certification support.

Related Program: NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities



Clean Energy Communities


The Energy to make it Happen

NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Scorecard

Thank you for participating in NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities Program. This scorecard shows your community's accomplishments and how they compare to others in your region and across New York State.

Select Your Community: Town of Gallatin

Town of Gallatin



A NYSERDA Clean Energy Community

1,668
POPULATION (2010 CENSUS)

Accomplishments

6

ACTIONS COMPLETED



1,200

POINTS EARNED

High Impact Actions	Count	Points
Benchmarking	2	300
Clean Energy Upgrades	1	500
Energy Code Enforcement Training	2	200
Unified Solar Permit	1	200
Grand Total	6	1,200

Which High Impact Actions Are Right for Your Community?



200
Points

Unified Solar Permit



200
Points

Energy Code
Enforcement Training



Up to
2,000 Points

Community Choice
Aggregation



500
Points

Clean Energy Upgrades

500
Points

100 Percent Renewable
Electricity

Up to
900 Points

LED Street Lights

Up to
1,000 Points

Benchmarking

Up to
800 Points

Action Grant
up to \$20K

Community
Campaigns

Up to
1,000 Points

Clean Fleets

Up to
800 Points

Climate Smart Communities
Certification

500
Points

Clean Heating and
Cooling Demo

Three ways to get funding

1) Designation Grants

Complete 4 High Impact Actions to become a designated community and receive \$5,000

2) Action Grants

Certain actions award additional funding when they are completed

3) Point-Based Grants

Collect points by completing High Impact Actions to receive more grant money

Leadership Round Point-Based Grants

Community Size		Awards Available	Grant Amount
3,000 + 4,000 + 5,000 +	Small/Medium	40 per Region	\$10,000
	Small/Medium	10 per Region	\$20,000
	Small/Medium	4 per Region	\$70,000

How are CSC & CEC related?

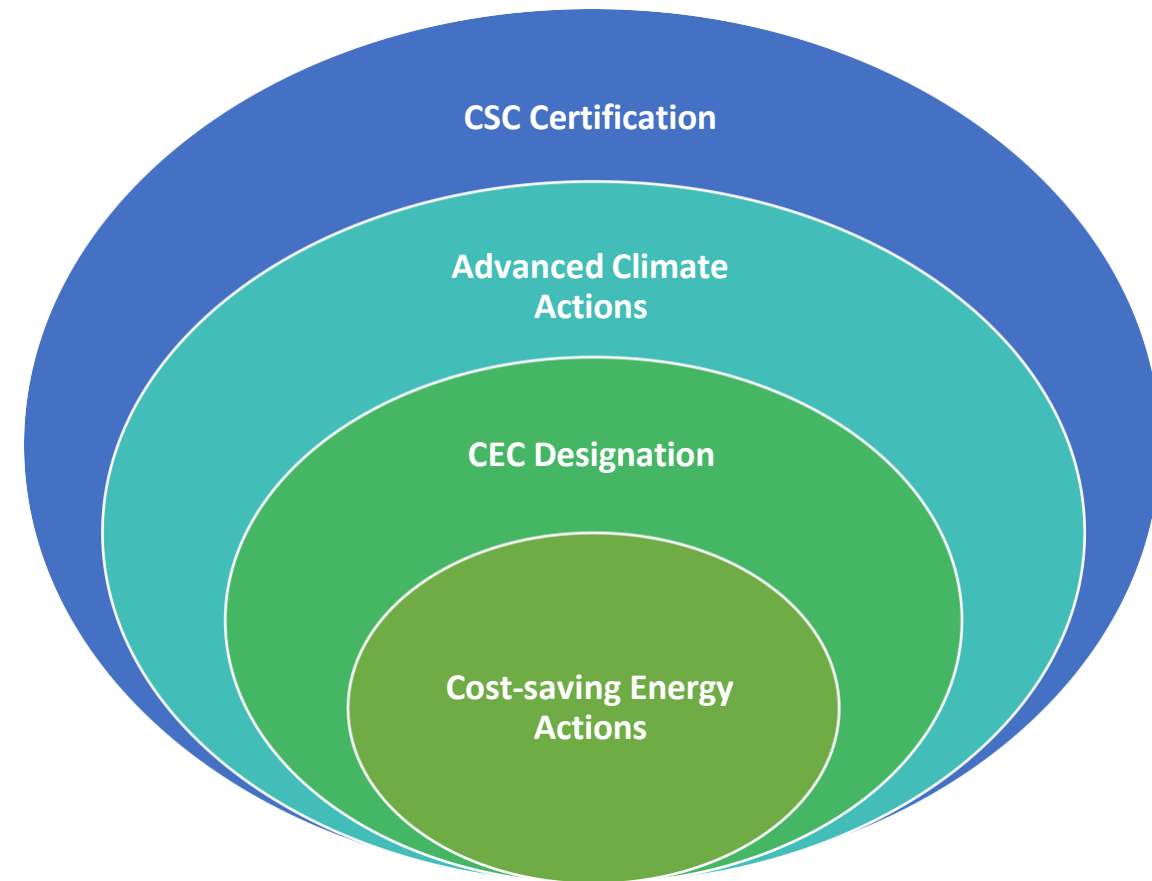
Climate Smart Communities Certification

- Comprehensive climate action program
- 100+ unique actions
- Improve score on CSC grant applications

Clean Energy Communities (NYSERDA)

- Focused on energy use
- Short list of high-impact actions
 - Includes becoming a certified CSC
- Complete actions to access CEC grants

- **Earn points toward CSC certification by doing CEC actions**
 - **Do both!**



CSC Portal Key Pages

- [Participating Communities](#): certification reports, filter by action
- [Getting Started](#): keep track of where you are in the process
- [Mandatory and Priority Actions](#): start with these!
- (Public) [Actions](#) Page: download action list & **CEC/CSC crosswalk**
- (Your Municipal) Dashboard: add users, upload doc to application
- [Application Cycle](#): three review periods per year
- [Support](#): [User Guide](#), [Tutorial Videos](#)

CEC / CSC Action Crosswalk

CEC and CSC programs are complementary

Local Governments that complete any CEC action is encouraged to submit for points under the CSC-related action

CEC High-Impact Action	CSC Certification Actions
Unified Solar Permit	PE6 Action: Unified Solar Permit
Energy Code Enforcement Training	PE3 Action: Energy Code Enforcement Training
PACE Financing	PE8 Action: PACE Financing
Clean Energy Upgrades	PE3 Action: Clean Energy Upgrades
Clean Heating and Cooling Demo	PE4 Action: Heat Pumps
100% Renewable Electricity for Municipal Operations	PE4 Action: Renewable Energy Certificates
LED Street Lights	PE3 Action: LED Street Lights
Clean Fleets	PE3 Action: Advanced Vehicles PE6 Action: Alternative-fuel Infrastructure
Benchmarking	PE3 Action: Benchmarking - Municipal Buildings PE8 Action: Benchmarking - Large Private Buildings
Community Campaigns	PE8 Action: Community Campaigns
NYStretch Energy Code	PE6 Action: NYStretch Energy Code
County-Hosted Trainings	PE4 Action: County-hosted Trainings
Community Choice Aggregation	PE8 Action: Community Choice Aggregation

Thank You!



Climate Smart
Communities



Haley Balcanoff

Sustainability Planner

haley.balcanoff@cdrpc.org

845-399-0230