



Inclusion Through Diversity

Marcia E. Lynch, Public Information Officer
607-274-5555, Office
607-227-2152, Cell
January 10, 2017
ONE PAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tompkins County Seeking Applications for Newly Created Energy Task Force

On January 3rd, the Tompkins County Legislature, by unanimous vote, established the Tompkins County Energy Task Force. The new Task Force is charged with providing input and guidance to the County Planning Department and the Legislature on the topics of energy, climate change, and energy-related economic development, and will be available to provide advice to other community groups on these topics, as requested.

Speaking to the Legislature, County Planning Commissioner Ed Marx said that to achieve the County's energy-related goals, it is very important to have community engagement as the County responds to recommendations from the Tompkins County Energy Roadmap and the County Environmental and Economic Development Task Force, and updates the County's Energy Strategy this year. Having people with expertise and interest to guide the work on these issues will be important, he said.

The broad-based task force, established for a three-year term, will be made up of 15-20 members appointed by the Legislature, representing various segments of the community and providing expertise to the Task Force. The Legislature's resolution specifically identified the following potential representation to be sought on the task force: Tompkins County Area Development, Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce, large business, small business, renewable energy/energy efficiency consultant or contractor, climate change expert, Tompkins County Council of Governments, City of Ithaca, Tompkins County, transportation, real estate development (developer, architect or engineer), local organization involved in energy issues, local organization involved in sustainability issues, local organization involved in economic issues, local organization involved in social justice issues, energy generation/utility, and higher education. It is anticipated that the Task Force will meet bi-monthly (six times per year) at a time to be determined by the membership.

The County is currently recruiting to fill all seats on the Energy Task Force. Tompkins County residents are invited to submit an application no later than January 30, 2017. For an application, visit the County's website at www.tompkinscountyny.gov/legislature/advisory-board, or call the Legislature office at 607-274-5434. Applicants should indicate which segment of the community they seek to represent and explain on the application the expertise they could bring to the task force.

For more information about the Tompkins County Energy Task Force please contact Katie Borgella at the Tompkins County Planning Department, kborgella@tompkins-co.org (607) 274-5560.

Media Contact: Katie Borgella, Tompkins County, kborgella@tompkins-co.org (607) 274-5560.

- END -