



**PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
KEVIN M. BYRNE**

To: Hon. Paul Jonke  
Chairman, Putnam County Legislature

From: Kevin M. Byrne  
County Executive

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "KB", is written over the name "Kevin M. Byrne" in the "From:" field.

Date: December 7, 2023

Re: Rescission of Executive Memoranda/Appointments of Putnam County Climate Smart Communities Task Force and Program Coordinator

---

This memorandum serves to rescind Executive Memoranda issued on September 12, 2019 by County Executive Odell to Chairman Joseph Castellano regarding her appointments to Climate Smart Communities Task Force and Program Coordinator. County Executive Odell appointed her Executive Capital Projects Committee to dually serve as the Task Force. (See attached Executive Memoranda.)

For greater context, the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Program is a New York State certification process where local governments affirm their commitment to adopting actions that mitigate climate change. Putnam County plans to work to achieve bronze certification by completing action items required by the State. By implementing this program and becoming certified, communities can benefit through cost saving energy efficiencies, reduction of future flood risk through climate adaption strategies, and increased grant opportunities. In 2019, Putnam County became a Registered Climate Smart Community, and the Putnam County Legislature passed a resolution adopting the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge. (See attached Resolution No. 114 of 2019.)

In order to receive bronze certification, the State mandates that local governments create a Task Force, and to submit a list of the Task Force members and the organizations that they represent, showing that the Task Force includes representatives from the local government and the community. Additionally, the County must provide meeting minutes, including sign-in sheets, or other records of attendance from two task force meetings held within the past year. While the previous County Executive did appoint a Task Force, there is no evidence that the previous administration filed the needed paperwork with the State to demonstrate its creation or that it fulfilled its State-mandated commitments.

As such, Commissioner Barosa of the Planning, Development and Public Transportation Department has recommended that our administration update the Task Force created in the 2019 Executive Memorandum by establishing a new CSC Task Force and CSC Coordinator.

Upon this recommendation, and pursuant to Section 3.02 (e) of the Putnam County Charter, I hereby dissolve the 2019 Climate Smart Task Force, and designate the following members of our community, and local government officials to the updated CSC Program Task Force.

**Putnam County CSC Task Force Members:**

Ilona Campo, Putnam County Climate Smart Coordinator

Jennifer Caruso, Putnam County Director of Compliance and Intergovernmental Relations

Amy Sayegh, Putnam County Legislative Representative

Barbara Barosa, Putnam County Commissioner of Planning, Development & Public Transportation

Joseph Bellucci, Putnam County Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Works

Vincent Tamagna, Putnam County Director of Transportation

Neal Tomann, Putnam County Soil & Water District Manager

Shawn Rogan, Putnam County Health Department/Patterson Town Councilman

Amanda Catale, Cornell Cooperative Extension Representative

Anne Campbell, Kent Town Councilwoman

Joseph Montuori, Sustainable Putnam Representative

Max Garfinkle, Philipstown Natural Resource Officer

**Putnam County CSC Program Coordinator**

I hereby appoint Ilona Campo as the Coordinator of the CSC Program for Putnam County pursuant to section 3.02(b) of the Putnam County Charter. As a Planning Assistant with the County, Ms. Campo has the necessary skills and background to serve as Coordinator. She received a Bachelor's Degree in Sustainable Development from Appalachian State University, and is LEED certified. Ms. Campo has been recommended for the role by Commissioner Barosa. Further, Ms. Campo has been acting as the Coordinator to date, in anticipation of the Task Force's appointment.

The appointment of CSC Task Force members and the appointment of Ilona Campo as CSC Coordinator shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until otherwise superseded or revoked.