

CLIMATE ACTION CONFERENCE



SUSTAINABLE
HUDSON
VALLEY



ACCELERATION THROUGH
COORDINATION

March 31, 2023

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SUNY Orange, Kaplan Hall,
Grand St, Newburgh NY

PROGRAM



MODERATOR

REV. LIMINA GRACE HARMON

PASTOR, NEW PALTZ UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH, HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST,
INTERNATIONAL GREEN BUILD SCHOLAR

10:00 - Welcomes: Mayor Torrance Harvey, City of Newburgh; Carla Castillo, Executive Director, Hudson Valley Regional Council; Jerrod Lang, Blacc Vanilla Community Foundation

10:10 - Keynote Presentation: Leila Conners, Founding Director, TreeMedia

10:45 - Climate Act Update: Mark Lowery, Assistant Director, NYS Office of Climate Change

11:00 - Regional Climate Action Road Map and Tool Kit: Melissa Everett, Sustainable Hudson Valley

11:45 - Solutions Panel - Breaking Down Silos and Building Partnerships
Moderated by Kate Schmidt, Land Use Planner and Sustainability Coordinator, Orange County

- **Economic & Community Development Priorities for a Just Transition:** Jen Metzger, Ulster County Executive
- **Regenerative Agriculture and Agri-Voltaics:** Jared Buono, Director, Cornell AgriTech, Hudson Valley Research Lab
- **Communities' Role in Siting Renewable Energy:** Audrey Friedrichsen, Senior Climate and Renewable Energy Attorney, Scenic Hudson
- **Utility-Community Cooperation:** Edward Yim, State Policy Director, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

12:45 - Networking and buffet lunch

Table discussions on Road Map topics

CLIMATE ACTION CONFERENCE - Afternoon Schedule



SUSTAINABLE
HUDSON
VALLEY



1:30 - Youth Voices

1:35 - Full group conversation: What will it take to get it done?

2:00 - Connecting the Dots for Collaboration and Funding

Moderated by Paul Beyer, Director of Smart Growth, NYS Department of State

- **The Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act:** Andy Bicking, Dir. Government Relations and Public Policy, Scenic Hudson
- **Community Development Strategies to Leverage Climate Funding:** Representative of M & T Bank (invited)
- **Funding Decarbonization: A Municipal Bonding Strategy:** Andrew Chintz - NYC Accelerator Financing Specialist
- **Clean Energy Hubs: Climate Funds Where They're Most Needed** Collin D. Adkins, Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County

3:00 - Embracing the Opportunity: Newburgh Round Table

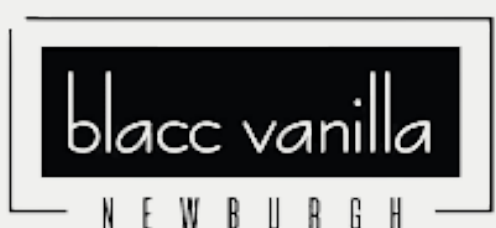
Moderated by Sameer Ranade, Climate Justice Advisor, NYSERDA

- **Accelerating Solar, Jobs and Youth Engagement:** Jerrod Lang, Blacc Vanilla Community Foundation
- **Remaking Places and Empowering People:** Gita Nandan, Thread Collective
- **Building Health, Justice and Environmental Literacy:** Ronald Zorilla, Chair, Newburgh Conservation Advisory Council
- **Centering Health, Wellness and Environmental Justice:** Kathryn McKenzie, Environmental Justice Fellow

3:50 - Summary discussion

4:00 - Refreshments and networking

4:30 - Changing Newburgh: Walking Tour with Kathy Lawrence, Greater Newburgh Parks Conservancy, and Cynthia Nikitin, SHV's Resilient Places Advisor



[RSVP HERE](#)