



## Sustainable Westchester Proudly Appoints Seven New Members to its Board of Directors

**Adding to the expertise and diversity of the Board, these members will help the organization lead the transition to a sustainable clean energy future.**

We are pleased to announce the appointment of seven new members to our Board of Directors!

Speaking about the appointments, Board Co-Chair Nancy Seligson, Supervisor of the Town of Mamaroneck, said, "We are excited to welcome these seven new knowledgeable members and are proud that the Board better represents and reflects the diversity that defines Westchester County."

Board Co-Chair Laura Rossi, Executive Director of the Westchester Community Foundation, added, "We are so pleased to welcome this extraordinary group of leaders, experts, and professionals to the Board. Our goal was to increase the breadth of experience and expertise to best meet the needs of the growing organization."

Ultimately, the diversity and unique skill sets of the new members will be important to broaden the scope of Sustainable Westchester's programs and will further define the organization's mission to bring the benefits of fiscally, socially, and environmentally sound sustainable solutions to the diverse population of Westchester County.

The 2021 New Board members include:

- **Mohit Chandra**, Principal, @AMP365, LLC
- **Julie Chang**, Vice President, Northeast Geographic Operations Manager, Jacobs Engineering
- **Joan Grangenois-Thomas**, District Director, U.S. House of Representatives Member Mondaire Jones, Trustee, Village of Port Chestester
- **Ken Jenkins**, Westchester Deputy County Executive
- **Sara Kaye**, District 5 City Council Member, City of New Rochelle
- **Su-Fern Tan**, Product Manager, Energy & Sustainability, Prescriptive Data
- **Vennela Yadhati**, Manager, Clean Energy Advisory Services, New York Power Authority

Nina Orville, Executive Director, Sustainable Westchester, said "The new Board will play a pivotal role in expanding the organization's capacity to offer innovative sustainability initiatives in Westchester County. We are thrilled to be working with such a talented and committed group of professionals and look forward to all that we can accomplish together in the coming years."

Chris Burdick, the former Supervisor of the Town of Bedford, stepped down from the Board when he assumed the position of Assemblyman in January. "We want to thank Assemblyman Chris Burdick for his leadership and commitment to the organization. We will always be grateful for his tenure," added Ms. Orville.

Learn a little more about each of the new Board members:

**Mohit Chandra** was originally born in India and immigrated to the United States to pursue an MBA from Ohio State University. After gaining invaluable insights working as a management consultant for over 20 years, he developed his own consulting firm evaluating areas of development for enhanced sustainability and environmental change. His efforts have allowed him to develop influential programs that have been adopted by major governments and that hope to improve climate justice for minority communities.

**Julie Chang** is the Division Vice President and Northeast Geographic Operations Manager for Jacobs Engineering. Her consulting and solution delivery has allowed her to become an accomplished initiator in the field of environmental sustainability. She has been awarded a series of accolades throughout her career for her ability to develop relationships between individuals, organizations, and institutions to create partnerships focused on resilience among green communities.

**Joan Grangenois-Thomas** is the District Director for U.S. House of Representative Mondaire Jones and is a Trustee in the Village of Port Chester. She has leveraged her role both as a community advocate and public relations professional to help develop opportunities for economic impact through the cross-section of social and political efforts.

**Ken Jenkins** currently serves as Westchester Deputy County Executive, a position he has held since his appointment by County Executive George Latimer in 2018. In his role, he has helped prioritize and develop the needs of middle-class families, including affordable childcare and tax relief initiatives. Ken also served on the Westchester County Board of Legislators beginning in 2007 and was elected to his fourth full term in 2015. Ken's many years of public and community involvement include having served on the boards of many distinguished community groups and organizations, such as the Greyston Foundation, United Way, the Westchester County District Attorney's Community Advisory Committee, Westchester County Crime Stoppers and the Community Planning Council of Yonkers. In addition, he was President of the Yonkers Branch of the NAACP for over five years and has served as President of the Yonkers Community Action Program.

**Sara Kaye** is a City Council Member representing District 5 on the City of New Rochelle City Council. During her tenure, Sara has spearheaded multiple renewable energy initiatives, natural resource conservation efforts, community outreach, and strategic planning and engagement of high-impact fundraising. Her steadfastness to environmental sustainability and renewable energy is evident in her work spearheading the effort to fund the City of New Rochelle's Climate Justice Plan. As a leader in the fight against climate change, Sara sponsored a resolution declaring a Climate Emergency in New Rochelle. She also serves as the council liaison to the Ecology and Natural Resource Advisory Committee. In collaboration with community advisors and city administrators, Sara works to implement GreeNR, the City's 20-year sustainability plan.

**Su-Fern Tan** is an engineer who has spent her entire career helping clients achieve energy and sustainability goals through commercially viable outcomes. Originally from Sydney, Australia, her background is building physics, building design, and sustainability consulting. She was heavily involved with the highly acclaimed CH2 building in Melbourne, Australia, which still stands as one of the world's most energy-efficient and healthiest buildings. In 2012 Su-Fern moved to New York to run a large corporate global sustainability program. Su-

Fern is an industry advocate who currently has an advisory role with the U.S. Green Building Council and was recently nominated as an advisor to New York City for their upcoming building carbon cap and trade strategy.

**Vennela Yadhati** is the Clean Energy Advisory Services Manager for the New York Power Authority. She has helped develop, design, and manage major solar energy projects that have provided access to over 30 municipalities and school districts within Westchester County. Vennela brings over a decade of experience working on renewable energy projects in various capacities, from origination to commercial operation and ongoing O&M support. She developed, managed, and designed over 1,500 MW of utility and C&I scale solar PV and energy storage projects. In addition, she has experience working with electric vehicles (EV) and charging infrastructure and integration of the same for vehicle to grid (V2G) applications.



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