

Residential Energy Score Program

Summary of changes to the Tompkins Residential Energy Score Program and Implementation Plan (since draft two)

1. Updated information on home assessment in the Home Value section of Consideration of Concerns. Based on discussions with the Tompkins County Department of Assessment, energy efficiency features historically have not affected market value. There are a number of barriers that would have to be overcome before a home energy score could be factored into an assessment or show an effect on assessed value (4.7).*
2. Added language relating to local and state-wide programs that facilitate home energy improvements for low-income homeowners, as well as a new attachment: *Attachment 11. Related Programs and Financing Mechanisms in New York and Tompkins County*. The document contains an example of information that could be used on the Home Energy Label and in outreach efforts for the RESP program (4.3.1, 4.7, and Attachment 11).
3. Added language to the Program Overview section and to the Home Energy Label Recommendations section to clarify that the Tompkins Residential Energy Score and associated information should only be made available to the public at the homeowner's discretion (3.0 and 4.3.1).
4. Added language to Privacy section in Consideration of Concerns, clarifying that rating information would be disclosed only at the discretion of the homeowner, and included the following statement from the RESNET Code of Ethics:
 - o "Raters, Home Energy Survey Professionals or a rating organization shall not disclose information concerning the rating or home energy survey for a specific home to parties other than the client or the client's agent without the written permission of the client or the client's agent except to report to the Rating or Home Energy Survey Provider for the purposes of registration, certification or quality assurance" (4.7).
5. Added language stating that an average home score in Tompkins County could be calculated and displayed without having to disclose each individual's home score to the public (4.7).
6. Added additional language to the Evaluation and Adjustments section to recommend that program evaluation look for skewed data based on types of homes or types of individuals that participate (5.5.3).
7. Added language to the Home Energy Label Recommendation section, to consider including basic assumptions used in calculating the Tompkins Residential Energy Score (4.3.1).
8. Added clarifying language in the Executive Summary stating that although "Tompkins" is included in the name, the score and units are applicable anywhere. The usefulness of the score is not limited to Tompkins County (1).
9. Added an Acknowledgements Page.
10. Changed the formatting of glossary words throughout the document from italics to small caps (all sections).
11. Edited glossary terms (7).

* Numbers in parentheses following change descriptions denote section numbers.
All program documents are available for download at www.town.ithaca.ny.us/resp.