

Sierra Club Survey / JUNE 2022
Tim Lueders-Dumont, Candidate for Addison County State's Attorney

In what ways will you demonstrate commitment and leadership on environmental and social justice issues?

As noted in conversations with Sierra Club Staff and Board Members and with VCV: I support statewide changes that would provide for a pathway for an Environmental & Climate Justice Action Plan and policy initiative as applied directly to the Criminal Justice System.

The Action Plan must be multi-pronged:

(1) we need a legislative change so that Judges and Prosecutors must consider environmental and climate justice factors (including any data collected as a result of the Environmental Justice bill) in sentencing and disposition of cases, including that Prosecutors should consider such factors when making charging decisions, additionally, the Department of Corrections should be required to inquire as to whether individuals who are set to be sentenced were impacted by environmental and climate justice factors (whether they grew up in a house with lead paint or experienced environmental pollution that impacted health and wellbeing, whether they experienced flooding or lived in a flood zone, or experienced drinking water pollution health impacts...etc.);

(2) as an elected State's Attorney I would work to engage the community to implement an Addison County Environmental & Climate Justice Action Policy that would require deputies in my office to consider, in their use of discretion, environmental and climate justice factors when settling cases, charging cases, and making sentencing arguments;

(3), I would use the platform of a countywide elected constitutional office, the Office of the State's Attorney, to support legislation, call for enforcement action from Attorney General's Office (and ANR) on environmental issues, and would support drafting legislation that would call for more action on water quality issues facing the State, including, as noted in your survey, removing "enforcement" from the Agency of Agriculture's duties;

(4) In sum, I would use the office of the State's Attorney to advance environmental and climate change issues - beyond the job description of a typical County Prosecutor.

What actions do you take now and/or have you taken in the past in your personal and community life that demonstrate your commitment to a just and sustainable future?

(1) In my prior job with Treasurer Beth Pearce I was the lead staff member in the 2017 Clean Water Report, widely noted as a landmark report in the effort to fund water quality and water quality infrastructure. The Report provided a pathway to jumpstart funding which resulted in substantial investment in mitigating years of inaction by the General Assembly and prior gubernatorial administrations. Report linked here: https://www.vermonttreasurer.gov/sites/treasurer/files/committees-and-reports/_FINAL_CleanWaterReport_2017.pdf.

(2) I was the lead staff member in my prior job with Treasurer Beth Pearce to the Local Investment Advisory Committee (LIAC) and the 10% in Vermont program where I was a part of the leadership team that vetted and implemented investment of 10% of the State's daily average cash flow in local investments in Vermont (over \$30 million dollars). Much of this investment went directly to projects in Vermont in the housing and energy sector, including renewable energy projects, energy efficiency projects, and affordable housing. In addition, some funding was directed to energy efficient improvements to State-owned buildings. In this vein, I also served as the Treasurer's appointee to the Clean Energy Finance Collaborative. LIAC page here: <https://www.vermonttreasurer.gov/content/local-investment-advisory-committee>.

(3) In my prior job with Treasurer Beth Pearce I was the lead staff member in the drafting of ESG reports produced by the office, for example: <https://www.vermonttreasurer.gov/sites/treasurer/files/VPIC/PDF/2019/2019%20ESG%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>.

(4) In the personal space, my Wife and I sold one of our cars, despite the need to commute to our jobs. We made this choice, in part, based on our analysis that we needed to rethink our footprint. We now plan trips as a unit and carpool everyday whether to work, social, medical, or other out-of-home needs. In addition, we compost, recycle, and live in a small affordable housing unit. We vote for environmental candidates and donate to candidates that believe in Environmental Justice and Climate Change issues. And, as noted below, I would work as State's Attorney to advance environmental issues.