



**CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**7:00 PM**  
**MEETING AGENDA**

---

Meeting Location:

- In person: Town Hall, Select Board Room, 22 Monument Square, Concord, MA
  
- Remotely, through the following meeting link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84538297108?pwd=Ti9OODdwbFFqdDEyQmk0ZkZOZm5SZz09>

Meeting ID: 845 3829 7108

Passcode: 453589

By phone: 833-548-0282 or 833-928-4608 (US Toll-free)

1. Welcome – comments and announcements [7:00]
  
2. Meetings and minutes [7:05]
  - a. Approval of September 4<sup>th</sup> and October 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes
  - b. Clerk tonight – TBD
  - c. Upcoming meeting dates and clerks (Meeting Time: 7PM)  
December 5<sup>th</sup> (and subsequent first Tuesdays) – Clerk: TBD
  
3. Chair’s update (Brad) [7:10]
  - a. Written update attached
  - b. For next meeting – CAC annual report
  
4. Director’s update (Eric) [7:15]
  - a. Written update attached
  - b. Updates on grant opportunities
  
5. Municipal Solar Task Force report (Gavin) [7:25]
  
6. Updates from Working Group efforts: [7:35]
  - a. Metrics/Reporting (Courtney/Eric)
  - b. Residential Engagement – public events, CoolerConcord.org (Brad/Karen)
  - c. Municipal Electrification/Schools
  
7. Proposed Campaign “Concord Saves Energy” [Brad] [7:45]
  
8. Policy Discussion – What Town Meeting actions might we propose or support [8:30]
  - a. What other communities have done
  - b. What would help towards the Climate Action Plan

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 9. CAC Functioning – open discussion on how committee is working | [8:50] |
| 10. Public comments  | [8:55] |
| 11. Adjourn  | [9:00] |

Distribution:

Committee Members: Brad Hubbard-Nelson (Chair), Courtney Eaton, Jake Swenson, Paul Kirshen, Ben Slayden, Gavin Colbert, Karen Gibson, Jerry Frenkil, Janet Miller, Michael McDonald, Cheryl Baggen

Town: Town Clerk, Mark Howell (Select Board Liaison), Eric Simms (Sustainability Director)

Local Groups: Mothers Out Front, ConcordCAN, League of Women Voters

# Sustainability Director's Update

November 7, 2023

---

## Recent Highlights

- Presented on Town sustainability efforts and the Climate Action and Resilience Plan to the Concord Climate Action Network (ConcordCAN) on 10/17 at Tri Con Church
- Continuing to coordinate with representatives from Lexington and Acton to discuss implementation and communication efforts for the upcoming Specialized Stretch Code and the anticipated DOER Fossil Fuel Free Building Demonstration Program. CAC should consider whether any action should be taken in the next Town Meeting cycle to amend the current bylaw to clarify language on appeals, and/or include major renovations or affordable housing in the future.
- Continuing to coordinate with the GHG Inventory working group to move forward with updating the GHG inventory for Concord.
- Continuing to coordinate with Municipal Buildings workgroup to consider strategies for supporting the Schools with capital and strategic planning to identify and fund electrification and efficiency efforts, particularly with the older elementary and admin buildings.
- Continuing efforts to develop a scope of work for conducting deep energy audits on a suite of municipal buildings. Although ongoing, it was noted that this effort should ultimately include the input of the Town Facilities Director. This position is currently open but the hope is that someone will be hired in the near future.
- Continuing to consider next steps for moving forward with efforts to advance elements of a climate vulnerability assessment for the Town, and need to get input from the workgroup on this. There may be an opportunity to pursue MVP funding in the Spring to fund an idea, but a decision needs to be made on a focus/scope for this. A previous watershed-scale proposal that was not funded is being reviewed as a potential framework.
- Coordinated a meeting with MAPC and internal stakeholders to explore alternative site locations for Concord's Police/Fire services using the Envision process – this effort addressed the final outstanding task associated with the 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update contract of services with MAPC
- Planning a public forum with CPW for early December on the current state and challenges facing Concord's water resources, including connections to Town sustainability efforts. Topics will include current efforts on developing an Integrated Water Resources Management Plan and a Stormwater Utility, both of which are identified in our climate action plan.
- Participated in the monthly Conservation and Sustainability Coffee public meeting
- Participated in bi-weekly Solar Task Force meetings
- Participated in discussions with CMLP and Energy New England to discuss the current use patterns of municipal public EV charging stations in Concord, including potentially proposing changes to rates and fee structures to encourage the use of chargers and discourage long-term idling.

- Currently exploring funding for electric school buses through the EPA Clean School Bus rebate Program in January 2024, including already contacting the Schools to with the intent of getting their required support and commitment to pursue the opportunity.
- Working on updating the Sustainable Concord dashboard
- Participated in an MAPC Regional EV Working Group meeting, which featured Concord as an early adopter of electric school buses
- Met with the CAC Chair and CMLP Energy Efficiency and Electrification Coordinator to discuss a proposal to discuss the concept of doing a Town-wide 'Concord Saves Energy Campaign' in 2024
- Attended the MA Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA) Conference to attend sessions on sustainability