



SPECIAL TOWN MEETING 2020

ARTICLE: 12

That the Town adopt the following resolution to address the serious impact of climate change:

Whereas, the Town of Wellesley has undertaken a number of steps to address climate change and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and Town Meeting recognizes the urgent need to accelerate those efforts,

Whereas, the Town is already experiencing the detrimental effects of climate change from invasive species, increased heavy rainfall events, flooding,

prolonged drought in the summer, loss of trees, and the expenditure of resources to prepare for and counter those effects,

Whereas, the Town has not achieved the goal approved by Town Meeting in 2014 to reduce town-wide greenhouse gas emissions 25 percent below 2007 levels by the year 2020,

Whereas, the Town Sustainable Energy Committee is in the process of developing a climate action plan that will engage town government and the broader community in setting new greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals for the future, and developing a road map for meeting these goals,

Therefore, be it resolved that all boards, committees, and departments

- a. Proactively consider actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with Town supported projects and programs;
- b. Implement measures such as those identified in the Unified Plan to increase resiliency to the detrimental effects of climate change on our Town, region, Commonwealth, nation, and the world;
- c. Document in the Town Annual Report efforts undertaken to combat climate change;
- d. Proactively consider the impacts of Town funded projects and programs by including in any capital request a rationale for how the project or programs may influence greenhouse gas emissions and the Town's climate resiliency overall; and
- e. Coordinate with the Sustainable Energy Committee to develop and implement a comprehensive climate action plan for the Town.