



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wellesley Launches a Climate Action Plan with Actions to Meet Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals

February 17, 2022 (Wellesley, MA) – The Town of Wellesley’s new [Climate Action Plan](#) is a thoughtful roadmap for the future of our community and its residents. Launched this month after more than a year of work, the Plan outlines specific actions Wellesley will take to reduce the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions causing climate change and to build resilience to climate change impacts.

“Climate change is not some theoretical possibility on the horizon. We’re already witnessing and paying the price for climate change impacts, including tree damage from extreme storms, increased flooding, poor air quality, and the rise of insect-borne illnesses. We have a moral obligation to address this existential crisis. Doing so will reduce future costs for Wellesley and yield additional economic, health, ecosystem, and infrastructure benefits.” said Dr. Marybeth Martello, Wellesley’s Sustainability Director. “Goals and actions outlined in the Plan are tangible and meaningful ways to protect our planet, our community, and our children.”

The Town has acknowledged the devastating impacts of climate change with more than ten years of action on greenhouse gas emissions reduction and other sustainability initiatives. After Wellesley achieved its 2020 emissions reduction target, Annual Town Meeting 2021 updated town-wide goals calling for a 50% reduction of GHG emissions by 2030 (using 2007 measures as a baseline), a 75% reduction by 2040, and net zero emissions by 2050. These goals parallel those set at state, national, and international levels.

The much-anticipated Climate Action Plan was developed with community-wide input and is organized along six pathways: Governance, Energy, Buildings, Mobility, Natural Resources, and Waste. Goals, strategies, and actions are spelled out for each pathway. Several of the Plan’s action steps are already underway!

Read the [Climate Action Plan summary](#). To view the complete list of actions within each pathway, visit [Climate Action Plan](#).

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