



Posted 12.15.2022 at 4:00pm by JAD

**SELECT BOARD
AGENDA
Tuesday, December 20, 2022
7:00pm**

Rich Maiore, Erin McBee, Kara McGuire Minar, Don Ludwig, Charles Oliver

The Select Board Regular Meeting is being held virtually in accordance with legislation S. 2475, an act relative to extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the Covid Pandemic state of emergency. Interested individuals can listen in and participate by phone and/or online by following the link and phone # below.

UpperTH ProWebinar is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Select Board

Time: Dec 20, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84506745135?pwd=SjAzREt3eFhJVHQ3Nitab1cyb2pxUT09>

Meeting ID: 845 0674 5135

Passcode: 790683

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc92NzlrJh>

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AGENDA ITEMS

- 1) Call meeting to order – Chair Rich Maiore
- 2) Meet with the Tree Warden JC Ferguson to discuss two requests: (7:00)
 - a) Murray Lane tree removal
 - b) Mounting mirror across from 136 Oak Hill Road
- 3) Discuss increasing the Community Preservation Act (CPA) surcharge (7:15)
- 4) Town Center/Agriculture overlay district update (7:30)
- 5) Act on Annual License Renewals including entertainment dates for the General Store in January (7:40)
- 6) Public Communication (7:50)
- 7) Discuss needs assessment Request For Proposals (RFP) for playing fields and funding (7:55)
- 8) Approve minutes 12/1 & 12/6 (8:10)
- 9) Staff Report/Updates (8:15)
- 10) Action/Discussion: (8:25)
 - a) Act on increasing the Senior Tax Work-off hourly rate along with the overlay account
 - b) Act on the updated Hazardous Mitigation Plan
 - c) Discuss the 2023 spring annual town meeting date
 - d) Review and discuss draft letter from Harvard Devens Jurisdiction Committee
 - e) Review and discuss draft memo from the Climate Action Committee; next steps on the Climate Action Plan
- 11) Select Board Reports

*Next Regular Select Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 3, 2022
7:00pm*

OFFICE OF THE
TREE WARDEN

13 AYER ROAD HARVARD, MA 01451

978-551-8135

harvardtreewarden@stillriver.org



SUBJECT:

Meeting Minutes from November 30, 2022 9:00 hearing on two Oak Trees in the public way to be removed as per MGL 87, described as follows:

ID #	Species	Diameter 3' from Ground	Location
1	Oak	40"	At end of Murray Ln, on the right side, at the entrance to the Bilodeau nursery
2	Oak	42"	At the end of Murray Ln, on the right side, approximately 150' to the right of tree ID 1 (above)

The meeting was held on site at the end of Murray Ln.

MEETING NOTES:

The meeting was called to order by JC Ferguson, appointed Tree Warden of Harvard, MA, at 9:00 on Wednesday November 30, 2022. The order of the meeting was outlined (speaker and presenter order) being first The Petitioner; second Public Officials; third Written Responses read aloud by the Tree Warden, and 4th the public in attendance.

We took each tree, in order, starting with #1 in the table above.

Tree #1

Sean Bilodeau (requester / petitioner) presented his rationale for removing tree #1:

- The tree is located at the entrance and exit of his company's (Acorn) nursery, where smaller trees are planted and nurtured until they mature and ready for harvest.
- The tree poses a sight line problem when exiting the driveway with on coming traffic. With the added conservation trust land at the end of the road, there's more traffic than there has been in the past (walkers, cyclists, and vehicles).

- The road is narrow, the tree poses a problem making the turn from the driveway to the road. Mr Bilodeau noted a leader removed previously from the tree often was hit by vehicles entering/exiting the property.
- Because there is a slope leading to the road, vehicles have to get speed in order to be able to make the hill and enter Murray Ln. The tree poses safety issue due to the speed needed to exit the driveway.
- Due to the lean of the tree over the property, Acorn is not able to utilize the space for tree plantings, because if/when the Oak falls, it may destroy expensive specimen trees. It also poses a safety issue for Acorn employees and others walking on the land.
- Mr. Bilodeau (certified Arborist) also noted the asphalt so near the tree roots poses a health issue to the tree longer term. He also noted presence of white mushrooms (fungal conks) near the bottom of the tree as an indicator of terminal deterioration of the root system.

Next, the Tree Warden read a letter from James O'Shea, submitted prior to the written submission deadline in the legal notice. Points made:

- Mr O'Shea indicated is against removal of both trees.
- In summary, he stated in his written submission the trees are important for the quality of Harvard's forests, providing support for various species we find around town (squirrels, bobcats, insects, birds) and also stated these older trees help maintain Harvard's historic character.
- Mr Bilodeau agreed with the many excellent points made in Mr O'Shea's letter, but not pertaining to trees creating safety and property damage issues.

Next, Bill Calderwood (Elm Commission) spoke and noted:

- Mr Calderwood recommended the removal for the reasons Mr Bilodeau noted
- Mr Calderwood wants to ensure we preserve the oak tree between #1 and #2, which is not under consideration for removal at this time.
- Mr Calderwood asked if town funds would be used to pay for this tree. This has not been determined or agreed to at this time; the Tree Warden indicated, if town funds were to be used, this tree would be placed at/near the bottom of the long list of tree work as they are far less dangerous than other road side trees. Mr. Bilodeau indicated he would be willing to participate in the cost of removal.

Next, Wendy Sisson (chair of Land Stewardship)

- Ms Sisson indicated she is against removal of tree
- Ms Sisson seconded many of Mr. O'Shea's comments
- Ms Sisson said the tree is a key part of the scenic value at the end of Murray Ln and can serve to calm traffic due to the tree's proximity to the road.
- Ms Sisson noted birds in the tree when visiting the site.
- Ms Sisson asked if there was a way to re-route the driveway (requiring removal of a large aborvitae) to mitigate the removal of the tree.

Next, Peter Basile spoke (resident of Murray Ln):

- Mr Basile indicated he is against removal of the tree
- Mr Basile agreed with Ms Sisson's comments and Mr O'Shea's letter
- Mr Basile also suggested exploring moving the entrance

The Tree Warden asked if there were any further questions, of which there were none; the group moved to the second tree.

Tree #2

Sean Bilodeau (the petitioner) spoke first:

- Mr Bilodeau, a certified Arborist, noted the considerable rot in the tree, with two of the three leaders already removed.
- Mr Bilodeau cited presence of the white mushrooms (fungal conks) as an indicator of terminal rot occurring in the root system of the tree, which will lead to eventual failure and falling of the tree.
- Similar to Tree #1, Mr Bilodeau cannot use the space under the tree, due to the heavy lean over his company's nursery property. Placing trees/specimens under Tree #2 could result in property damage/loss of trees/plantings in the nursery as well as a safety issue for his employees as well as others walking on the land.

The Tree Warden did not re-read O'Shea's letter as it was previously shared and applied to both trees.

Next, Bill Calderwood (Elm Commission) spoke:

- Mr Calderwood is in favor of removal due to the condition of the base of the tree, showing considerable rot and posing a safety problem for Acorn's operation.
- Mr Calderwood expressed a desire to preserve the stump, as a way to protect the middle tree, and Mr Bilodeau agreed.

Next, Wendy Sisson (chair of Land Stewardship):

- Ms Sisson is not in favor of removal.
- Unsure of the rate of rot – when will the tree fall? When will it truly become a safety hazard? The Tree Warden cited the large, 125-year-old Oak that fell before Halloween in 2021 – the canopy of the tree was in perfect shape showing no signs of duress, yet the root system completely failed, causing the tree to fall – as an example of the difficulty in predicting when a tree will eventually fall due to decline.
- Ms Sisson asked who would pay for removal, the Tree Warden indicated this is to be determined, however, the Tree Warden explained if the trees were to be removed using town monies, the tree would receive a low priority versus many other trees along town roads in significantly worse shape (completely dead), which may prolong removal for a long time (potentially years). The Tree Warden offered in cases like this, he has authorized property owners to remove trees at their expense if there was a desire to speed removal.

Next Peter Basile spoke (Murray Ln resident):

- Mr Basile is in favor of removal and supports using town funds to remove the tree.
- Mr Basile cited the amount of rot, visible at the base, as his reason for removing the tree.

Next Anne Bamford spoke (Murray Ln resident):

- Ms Bamford supported removal of the tree.
- Note: she did not wish to speak during the discussion of Tree #1.

The Tree Warden asked if there were any further comments, which there were none.

Closing Comments

The Tree Warden indicated section 4 in MGL 87: *“Tree wardens shall not cut down or remove or grant a permit for the cutting down or removal of a public shade tree if, at or before a public hearing as provided in the preceding section, objection in writing is made by one or more persons, unless such cutting or removal or permit to cut or remove is approved by the selectmen or by the mayor.”*

Because of MGL 87 section 4 and the written objection received by Mr O’Shea, the Tree Warden hereby denies the request to remove the trees, deferring the decision to the Selectboard as per the law.

The Tree Warden indicated notes would be produced and shared within 5 days of the hearing.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM on November 30, 2022.

136 Oak Hill Road – Mirror Install request

From Tree Warden JC Ferguson

Homeowner is requesting a convex mirror to get a better view of traffic coming down Oak Hill Rd to his driveway (#136). Downhill traffic comes at his driveway faster than uphill traffic and there is a mound of dirt obstructing a little of his view uphill. He wants to mount the mirror to the oak tree across from his driveway. I am not in favor of this, as it would detract from the tree's beauty and driving nails/bolts/etc into the tree is not in the tree's best interest.

The Tree Warden suggested the mirror be mounted on a piece of 4x4 wood, about 8'-10' to the left of the tree as you look at it from his driveway. This is more aligned with preserving the scenic beauty rather than affixing a non-natural product to an otherwise very nice oak tree. In the scenic road bylaw, JC did not observe any section governing this sort of "use case".

Select Board approval is required for an item in the right of way that is free standing.

<u>ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWALS</u>			
License #	Name	Address	Type of License
CV01/23	The Fruitlands Restaurant	285 Ayer Road	Common Victualler
	Sorrento's Brick Oven Pizzeria	Harvard, MA 01451	w/ carry in (beer & wine)
	Mohammed Basal		
CV02/23	Fruitlands Museum	102 Prospect Hill Road	Common Victualler
EL01/23	Manger: Julie Vaughan	Harvard, MA 01451	Entertainment License w/ carry in
CV03/23	Courtney Donuts, LLC	188 Ayer Road	Common Victualler
	Dunkin Donuts - Frank Catalano	Harvard, MA 01451	
CV04/23	Karen Green	90 Oak Hill Road	Common Victualler
	Westward Orchards	Harvard, MA 01451	w/ carry in (beer & wine)
CV05/23	Shaker Hills Country Club	146 Shaker Road	Common Victualler
	Andrew Jordan, Manager	Harvard, MA 01451	
CV06/23	General Store	1 Still River Road	Common Victualler
CV07/23	Siam Pepper	325 Ayer Road	Common Victualler
	Nick Kanti	Harvard, MA 01451	
CV08/23	Carlson Orchards Inc.	115 Oak Hill Road	Common Victualler
	Franklyn Carlson	Harvard, MA 01451	
UC01/23	Harvard Outdoor Power Equip.	289 Ayer Road	Class II Used Car Dealer
	Stephen Walz	Harvard, MA 01451	
UC02/23	Stephen Dodge	105 Ayer Road	Class II Used Car Dealer
	Mill Road Tire & Auto, LLC	Harvard, MA 01451	
LIQUOR LICENSES (Remember to mail conditions with license)			
<u>ON-PREMISE</u>			
	Fruitlands Museum	102 Prospect Hill Road	All - alcohol
	Siam Pepper	325 Ayer Road	Wine & Malt

<u>ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWALS</u>			
	The Harvard General Store	1 Still River Road	Wine & Malt
	Shaker Hills Country Club	146 Shaker Road	All - alcohol
	Carlson Orchards	115 Oak Hill Road	Farmer Series Pouring Permit
	204 Lanes	204 Ayer Road	Wine & Malt
<u>OFF-PREMISE</u>			
	Daigneault's Liquor	285 Ayer Road	All - alcohol
	The Harvard General Store	1 Still River Road	All - alcohol

**OFFICES OF THE
SELECT BOARD AND
TOWN ADMINISTRATION**

13 Ayer Road, Harvard, Massachusetts 01451
(978) 456-4100

www.harvard-ma.gov



ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWAL

Harvard General Store
Scott Hayward
1 Still River Road
Harvard, Ma, 01451

Please note: the town is unable to issue an annual entertainment license at this time. Please instead complete the list below with the dates your establishment intends to offer entertainment in the month of January.

It's that time of year again to renew your annual license(s) listed below.
Please find checked the type of license(s) you hold and make any necessary corrections.

Renewal requests are due by Monday, December 5, 2022. If you should need any further assistance, please contact Julie Doucet, in the Select Board office via phone 978- 456 – 4100 X 312 or e-mail at jdoucet@harvard-ma.gov.

- Entertainment License Exp. Date Fee: \$
- Common Victualler Exp. Date 12/31/2023 Fee: \$ 50

Date	Time	Type of Event
JAN 7TH	7-9	PUBLIC - LIVE MUSIC
JAN 12	6-9	" "
JAN 15	12-3	PRIVATE - BABY SHOWER
JAN 26	6-9	PUBLIC LIVE MUSIC

- If you wish to renew for calendar year 2023, please send in the following items:
- A check to cover the appropriate fee(s) along with this form
 - A copy of your workers compensation insurance certificate
(This is required for all business owners; no exceptions)
 - The enclosed Attestation of Tax Compliance form.
Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires this form be completed and returned to our office before any license can be renewed.
 - All Entertainment License holders must provide a Fire Safety Certificate. You will need to contact the Fire Department to schedule this.

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$

RETURN DATE:



Select Board Minutes
Tuesday, December 6, 2022
7:00pm

The Select Board Regular Meeting was held virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A. S.20.

Select Board participants:

Rich Maiore, Erin McBee, Kara Minar, Don Ludwig, Charles Oliver

Town Department attendees:

Town Administrator Tim Bragan, Assistant Town Administrator Marie Sobalvarro and Executive Assistant Julie Doucet, Assistant Town Clerk Andrew Sammarco, Land Use/Building Admin Brie Jones

Additional participants:

Regional Assessor Mike Saltzman, OSC Chair Peter Dorward, HCIC Chair Ellen Leicher, HCIC member Jefferson Burson,

Tax Classification Hearing

Regional Assessor Mike Saltzman recommends the town maintain a single tax rate. He explained the tax levy limit has increased which represents at 5.53% increase over last year's levy. His presentation included the fiscal year 2023 calculation of the levy limit, amount to be raised and valuations by class. Saltzman reported Harvard will be once again implementing its Means Tested Senior Tax Exemption applicable to certain long-term residents who qualify for the Massachusetts Circuit Breaker Income Tax Credit, unless the program is extended by a vote at Town Meeting. After reviewing the applications received, he has determined that 5 applicants will qualify for the exemption, resulting in an estimated award of \$24,903.38 in total exemptions. Per the requirements of the exemption program as passed at Town Meeting, this amount will be raised through a burden shift to the rest of the Residential class. Based on this year's tax rate, this will result in a \$.01 increase in the Residential tax rate. He explained the increases are due to the rising housing market and the levy increase for the new school. They discussed ways to increase participation in the Senior Tax Exemption program. By a roll call vote, Minar – aye, Ludwig – aye, Oliver – aye, McBee – aye, Maiore – aye, the board voted unanimously in accordance with M.G.L., Ch. 40, Sec. 56, as amended, the percentage of local tax levy which will be borne by each class of real and personal property, relative to setting the Fiscal Year 2023 tax rates and set the Residential Factor at 1.0, with a corresponding CIP shift of 1.0, pending approval of the town's annual tax recap by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

New Staff Introductions

HR Director Marie Sobalvarro introduced Building Dept/Land Use Admin Brie Jones and Assistant Town Clerk Andrew Sammarco. They each spoke briefly and the Select Board members welcomed them.

Open Space Committee (OSC) update

Chair Peter Dorward came to give their quarterly update. The committee is working with MRPC through a DLTA grant to update the Open Space & Recreation Plan as required. The recently conducted a survey to get a better sense from the community their priorities. The survey was done online with 472 household responses with a mix of longtime residents versus new and empty nesters versus families with children. They learned there is a dichotomy of support for protecting open space and using it for active recreation. Dorward admitted a big issue with protecting open space is how to fund it. The Select Board members offered ideas on how this can be accomplished with one of them being an increase in the Community Preservation surcharge.

Climate Action Plan/review of implementation

Harvard Climate Action Committee (HCIC) Chair Ellen Leicher and member Jefferson Burson came to provide details on implementation of the plan and to seek formal approval of the plan by the Select Board. By a roll call vote, Minar – aye, McBee – aye, Oliver – aye, Ludwig – aye, Maiore – aye, voted unanimously to approve the Climate Action Plan. HCIC will prepare communication for review by the Select Board to be sent to all boards/committees/departments sharing the plan and implementation. Ellen Leicher stressed their need for assistance to attain grant funding for many of the initiatives within the plan. Rich Maiore is sensitive to this fact however making it know many boards/committees struggle with the same issue. The Select Board members decided to discuss the possibility in more detail of hiring a grant writer on a part time trial basis.

Public Communication

Stephanie O’Keefe, Oak Hill Road/associated with Westward Orchards, attending the Planning Board hearings and found the agricultural overlay discussions confusing. She asked the Select Board to carefully deliberate considering the concerns of neighbors. She is fearful there could be negative impacts without careful examination of the proposed language.

Stu Sklar, Scott Road, spoke on the Senior Means Tested Exemption. He said Harvard’s guidelines follow the states circuit breaker guidelines and has no asset requirement. He said the program is supposed to help more residents. He will do what he can to help as the idea of a fixed asset amount regardless of age is nonsensical. He also spoke on the town center/agricultural overlay districts showing support for businesses they will impact.

Ginger Kendall, applauded the Select Board for voting to accept the Climate Action Plan. She too believes a grant writer will be important to help with these efforts.

Chris Green, 102 Oak Hill Road, recalls three years ago when Carlson Orchards came before the board initially. His frustration lies with farm operating hours and the ability that has been given to Carlson Orchards to be open past 6pm. His concern is with the neighborhood and does not understand how entertainment uses align with farming. Green said the Planning Board members did not appear to support the proposed agricultural overlay.

Minutes

By a roll call vote, McBee – aye, Ludwig – aye, Oliver – aye, Minar – aye, Maiore – aye, the board voted unanimously to approve the 11/15 minutes, as presented.

Staff Report/Updates (Attachment A)

Act on out of state travel request for the Police Chief

By a roll call vote, Ludwig – aye, Minar – aye, Oliver – aye, McBee – aye, Maiore – aye, the board voted unanimously to accept request for the Police Chief to attend federal law enforcement training with all expenses paid by the federal government.

Update on Devens Transition Center

Rich Maiore reported Executive Assistant Julie Doucet will coordinate any requests they may have.

Review and discuss overlay district language

Planning Board liaison Erin McBee reported the Planning Board held their initial hearing to discuss the overlay districts. A new map of the town center district was created to expand the district to cover events that may be held on the common, near the library, at town hall or at the churches. It was reiterated that the Select Board will be tasked with issuing entertainment licenses and establishing conditions associated with those licenses. McBee and Minar said discussions regarding the agricultural overlay district were more involved and created more questions than answers. The hearing was continued until December 19th with the plan to hold a special town meeting in January/February.

Select Board reports

Kara Minar referenced a draft letter sent by Harvard Devens Jurisdiction Committee Chair Victor Normand regarding the contract extension for MassDevelopment CEO Dan Rivera.

Erin McBee will follow up with the Planning Board on the agricultural overlay district language prior to the next hearing.

Rich Maiore said playing fields items are in progress such as the wetland delineation of the land at Harvard Park. The Conservation Commission will be consulted on possibilities for the property. The Open Space Committee continues to identify privately owned parcels that have potential for this type of project.

Don Ludwig reported the School Committee has a hearing before the Historical Commission for their stonewall project.

Executive Session, per MGL Ch. 30A, s. 21(a)3

By a roll call vote, McBee–aye, Ludwig – aye, Oliver– aye, Minar – aye, Maiore – aye, the board voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 9:30pm as per MGL 30A Sec. 21.3 To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government’s bargaining or litigating position. The Board will reconvene into open session only to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15pm.

Documents referenced:

Tax Classification presentation – dated 12.6.2022

OSC updated – dated 12.6.2022

Climate Plan response from Town Administration – dated 12.6.2022

HCIC memo on Climate Action Plan implementation – dated 12.1.2022

TOWN OF HARVARD, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE
TOWN OF HARVARD, MA HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the Town of Harvard established a Committee to prepare the TOWN OF HARVARD, MA HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE and

WHEREAS, the Town of Harvard participated in the development of the TOWN OF HARVARD, MA HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE;

and WHEREAS, the Town of Harvard, MA contains several potential future projects to mitigate potential impacts from natural hazards in the Town of Harvard, and

WHEREAS, a duly noticed public meeting was held by the Harvard Board of Selectmen on _____ for the public and municipality to review prior to consideration of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Harvard authorizes responsible departments and/or agencies to execute their responsibilities demonstrated in the plan,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Harvard Board of Selectmen formally approves and adopts the TOWN OF HARVARD, MA HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 40.

ADOPTED AND SIGNED by the Harvard Board of Selectmen on this _____, 2022.

Rich D. Maiore, Chair

Erin McBee, Vice Chair

Don Ludwig, Clerk

Charles Oliver, Member

Kara Minar, Member

December 14, 2022

From: Harvard-Devens Jurisdiction Committee
To: Harvard Select Board
Subject: Cooperation between Harvard and MassDevelopment

At our meeting on December 1, 2022, members of the Harvard-Devens Jurisdiction Committee unanimously voted to approve the following motion:

“We request that the Harvard Select Board engage with our elected State Senator and State Representative, and with the incoming State Administration, to discuss our working relationship with MassDevelopment.”

Thus far in 2022, MassDevelopment has taken the following actions with no or minimal consultation with the Town of Harvard and residents of Devens who live on historic areas of Harvard. Some of these decisions have reversed prior commitments previously made by MassDevelopment, and at least one of them went against an explicit vote taken by the Harvard Select Board.

1. MassDevelopment unilaterally withdrew from participation on the Devens Jurisdiction Framework Committee (DJFC) and refused requests from the DJFC, the Harvard Select Board and the other stakeholders to rejoin the committee.
2. MassDevelopment withdrew its standing offer to pay for the cost of a consultant to help prepare recommendations for future local governance of Devens.
3. MassDevelopment requested support from the Harvard Select Board for eliminating the cap on the amount of commercial development at Devens. The Harvard Select Board voted to raise the cap to 12M sq. ft., and this figure was included in the language submitted by our state representatives. Harvard’s position was ignored and a substantially changed version was sent to, and approved by, the Legislature.
4. MassDevelopment accepted a request from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to use the Eisengrein Community Center at Devens as an intake processing center without first consulting with Devens residents or the Harvard Select Board.

The new governor will have at least two immediate appointments to the MassDevelopment Board, including its Chair, and other board members are likely to cooperate with the incoming administration. A formal request by the Harvard Select Board, ideally in conjunction with the Select Boards of Ayer and Shirley, the local legislative delegation, and representatives of Devens residents, might make a significant positive difference with the MassDevelopment administration concerning matters relating to Devens.

Thank you for taking this under consideration.

From: Select Board

To: All boards, committees, and municipal departments for the Town of Harvard

Subject: Next Steps on the Climate Action Plan

On 6 December 2022, the Select Board approved the Climate Action Plan (CAP) for Harvard. This plan was developed through the efforts and contributions of many of the departments, boards, and committees in town and organized by the Harvard Climate Initiative Committee (HCIC). Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen!

It is now time for us to begin implementing the goals and actions of our plan. This is a multi-year effort and will be done in coordination with the state's goals for Net Zero emissions.

In addition to voting to adopt the CAP, the Select Board has also asked the HCIC to continue to organize and facilitate the implementation phase of this work.

We also ask each of you — the boards, committees, and departments that comprise the town's government — to work in partnership with the HCIC on this implementation work. In a real sense, it will be your efforts that help us accomplish our climate goals in the years ahead.

The CAP has SIX focus areas. Each of these focus areas will be driven by the lead committee that "owns" that goal and a liaison from the HCIC. Project management and coordination will be provided by Jefferson Burson of HCIC.

But this work will not be done in isolation. In many cases, the CAP's actions will only be successful when done in coordination with the other boards and committees in town. We hope you will work with us on this effort. Lead committees will be reaching out to include you in next steps and to help us determine the best way to implement the proposed actions in the CAP.

Please review the list below to understand how this will be organized:

Buildings:

Lead Committees: Select Board, School Committee, Energy Advisory Committee

HCIC Liaison: Brian Smith, Ellen Sachs Leicher, Pat Natoli

Energy:

Lead Committee: Energy Advisory Committee

HCIC Liaison: Brian Smith, Ellen Sachs Leicher

Transportation:

Lead Committee: Transportation Advisory Committee

HCIC Liaison: Rich Marcello

Natural Resources:

Lead Committees: Conservation Commission, Planning Board

HCIC Liaison: Janet Waldron, Lucy Wallace

Agriculture:

Lead Committee: Agricultural Advisory Commission

HCIC Liaison: Christiane Turnheim, Jefferson Burson

Preparedness:

Lead Committee: Public Safety, Board of Health

HCIC Liaison: Sharon McCarthy, Pat Natoli

Engagement and follow-up on our climate goals and actions will begin in January. Lead committees — please look for outreach from the HCIC’s liaisons to begin this work. Next steps will include finalizing the initial set of priorities to work on and what resources will be required to make it happen.

Please contact the Select Board if you have any questions about this communication or our request for coordination. Please contact Ellen Sachs Leicher or Jefferson Burson if you have questions regarding the CAP and its six focus areas.

You will find the Climate Action Plan at:

https://www.harvard-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf676/f/uploads/cap_12-11-2022_final_reduced_resolution.pdf

We thank you for your leadership and commitment to making this happen — both now and in the future.