

HCIC Status Report to Select Board – May 2024



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2022



Accomplishments with Grant Dollars

- ✓ MVP grant award for bylaw development
 - Open Space Residential Development – passed Town Meeting
 - Tree clearing as part of Erosion bylaw – in process for fall Town Meeting
 - Wetlands bylaw update – in process for fall Town Meeting

- ✓ MVP grant for land purchase by Open Space Committee

- ✓ Nashua River Wild and Scenic Stewardship Council
 - Invasive Species Management, Information and Tools
 - In collaboration with Harvard Conservation Commission

- ✓ Community Foundation North Central Massachusetts
 - Going Green Flag Project

Pursuit of Grant Dollars

✓ Drafted a Grant Seeking Plan

- Met with MRPC

✓ Grant Opportunities:

- MVP FY25 application round (state)
- Renew America Schools (federal) (Could be used by HEAC to update/decarbonize Bromfield's heating and cooling systems)
- Green Communities Climate Leaders (if we pass specialized code)
- Others identified by State's Federal Grant Office

Committee Accomplishments

✓ Household Changes 2023

- 46 installed solar panels
- 29 installed air source heat pumps, 5 installed ground source
- 25 EVs and 4 EV plug in hybrids

✓ Educational

- Meet Heat Pump Coaches – January 20
- Rooftop Solar, Battery Back-Up, and Solar Farms – February 6
- Know Your Land Series: CR and Chapter 61 – February 13
- Climate Stories Event - HC2 led by Bromfield Green Team student – March 2
- Jane Flegal - Intersection of science, innovation and social outcomes - April 23
- Know Your Land Series: Forest Management/Invasive Species - May 4

2024 Upcoming

✓ Upcoming Events

- En-ROADS Climate Simulator – May 29
- Heat Pump Coaches – June 15
- Know Your Land: Neighborhood Land Coaching

✓ Newsletter Continues

- More than 30 publications covering Solar, Heat pumps, Insulation, Food Waste, Electric Vehicles, Pollinator Gardens, Ground Water, Buy Local, Plastics, Investing, MART Service, Preparedness, Decarbonization as well as national and local news highlights

✓ New website under development to launch this summer

What can the Select Board do to help?

- ✓ Implement All Aspects of the Town Climate Resolution
 - Be strong vocal and visible advocates for addressing climate change
 - Direct boards and committees to work with HCIC on the CAP implementation
 - Prioritize climate considerations for municipal building projects in the beginning of the planning process

- ✓ Implement the Climate Assessment Process
 - Adopt the proposed HCIC checklist to evaluate climate impacts that is transparent
 - Approve implementation with Admin, Boards and Committees
 - Work with new Town Administrator to put the process in place

- ✓ Support the Adoption of:
 - Specialized Stretch Code
 - Tree Clearing Erosion Control Bylaw
 - Wetlands Protections Updated Bylaw

What can the Select Board do to help?

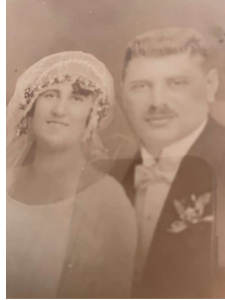
✓ Approve HCIC Membership Changes

- Request to move Staci Donahue to full membership
- Request to approve Mario Cardenas as Associate member

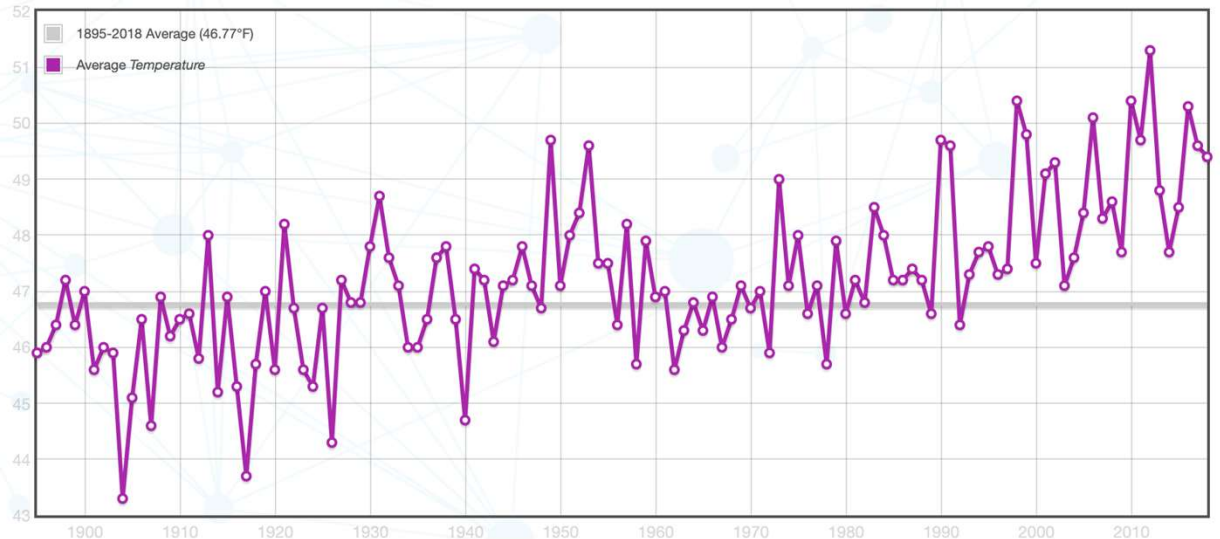
✓ What does the Select Board see as its role to further the goals of the Climate Action Plan?



Just Four Generations of Climate Change



Temperature in Massachusetts 1900 to 2018



Harvard 30 years: 1993 - 2023



Climate Initiative Committee Members

- ✓ Staci Donahue – Associate
- ✓ Rich Marcello
- ✓ Sharon McCarthy
- ✓ Pat Natoli – Associate
- ✓ Deborah O'Rourke
- ✓ Ellen Sachs Leicher
- ✓ Christiane Turnheim
- ✓ Lucy Wallace

Thanks to prior members:

Adam Meier
Jefferson Burson
Jaye Waldron
Brian Smith