

Implementation: What's Next?

The Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP) is a living document, a roadmap for how the City of Gloucester will take climate action in real and impactful ways. As has been demonstrated throughout the plan, both Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, AND the power to mitigate their impacts, exist across spheres of influence. Therefore, the transition to a clean energy future requires an all-hands-on-deck approach – City staff, elected bodies, local community partners, residents, and businesses all have a role to play. The creation of this plan represents a commitment on the part of the City to leverage the municipal tools to achieve the CARP's goals. These tools include:



Governance

The City will work with the appropriate municipal departments and leaders to implement strategies in the City's sphere of influence. The creation of a Sustainability Coordinator position will improve the City's organizational capacity to understand and coordinate the elements of the CARP's goals across departments.



Aligning City planning efforts

Throughout CARP planning, alignment of the City's climate goals with past and ongoing planning was a key consideration. In particular, the City recently engaged in Open Space and Recreation planning (see page 42) and Municipal Harbor planning (see page 48). Within the context of both of these planning efforts, the impact of climate change was foundational in defining goals and objectives. This fact is exemplary of how climate change intersects with a wide breadth of topics and issues within the City. This understanding will extend to future planning, where goals and strategies should strive to be aligned and/ or weigh the impact to achieving the City's climate goals, outlined in the CARP. Updating the City's previous community development plan, completed in 2001, the City intends to initiate the creation of a comprehensive plan, this opportunity will create even further parity, and clarity, across City goals.

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Public engagement and education

The City will leverage engagement and educational tools to support implementation of strategies within the sphere of influence of residents and businesses. Initiatives like the Mass Save Community First Partnership connect residents with the resources they need to take climate action in their own lives. Outreach to the community can come in the form of tabling at events, forums and workshops, educational materials, social media outreach, newspaper articles, interviews, and mailers. The City will also continue to engage with volunteers and leverage youth internships to extend our outreach capacity to reach communities that are traditionally less likely to engage.



Partnerships and collaboration

Partners will be key to implementing the CARP's goals. Partners at the State and Federal level can be leveraged to advocate for climate actions outside the sphere of influence of City authorities. Local partners will also be a key touch point for reaching Gloucester residents with resources and information.



Gloucester Harbor, City of Gloucester



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