



**Hingham
Climate Action
Planning Committee**

Hingham Climate Action Plan Public Engagement Session

Initial Draft Review

7 December 2022



Agenda

- Where We Are (Plan Timeframe)
- What We Hope to Accomplish Today
- Plan Review
- Public Input
- Next Steps

Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N5N9NLP>

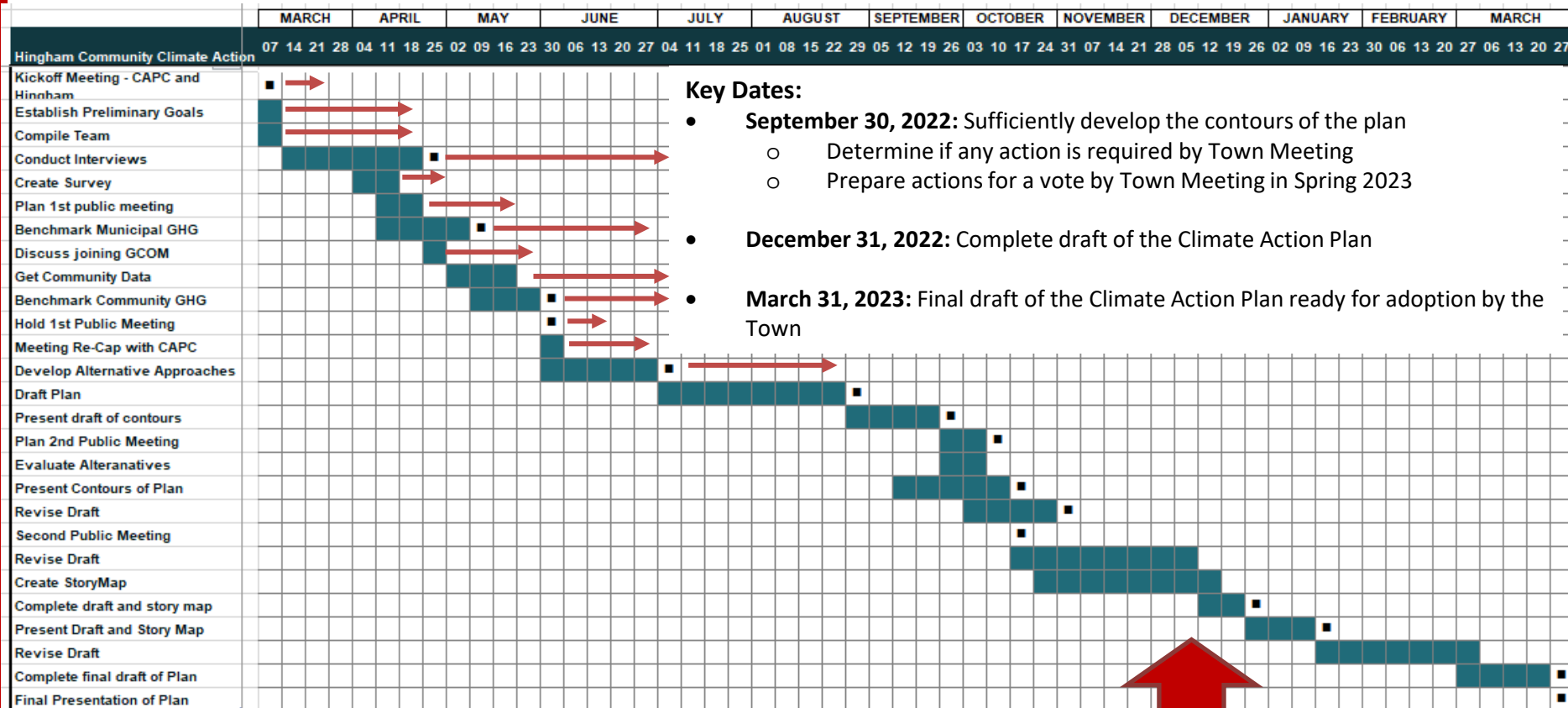


Public Engagement Session #3
WHERE WE ARE

Update on Climate Action Planning

The planning timeline is on track and meeting milestones

Project Timeline



Key Dates:

- **September 30, 2022:** Sufficiently develop the contours of the plan
 - Determine if any action is required by Town Meeting
 - Prepare actions for a vote by Town Meeting in Spring 2023
- **December 31, 2022:** Complete draft of the Climate Action Plan
- **March 31, 2023:** Final draft of the Climate Action Plan ready for adoption by the Town

We are here

The Committee is on track for meeting its key deadlines



Schedule Update

The public outreach plan is meeting its milestones

Outreach Timeline

Event	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
Webpage for CAPC												
Establish link on Hingham homepage	■											
Coordinate with staff point person		■										
Post materials		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Community Survey												
Draft Survey / Working Group Review	■											
Approval by CAPC		■										
Insert into HMLP Bills		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Email to Town list serves/social media			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Hard copy in Town Hall			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Stakeholder Interviews												
Finalize list with Working Groups		■										
Approval by CAPC as part of Plan		■										
Finalize questions			■									
Assignment to Working Group members			■									
Outreach			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Interviews				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Summarize and present findings						■						
Community Events												
	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Public Meetings												
CAPC Meetings (1-2 per month)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Select Board Meetings (quarterly)												
Initial meeting to identify concerns			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Present Outlines of Plan						■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Present Draft Plan							■	■	■	■	■	■
Present Final Plan								■	■	■	■	■
Presentation at Town Meeting												■


We are here



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WHAT WE HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH TODAY

Goals

- Educate the public on the scope and key considerations of the Climate Action Plan
- Provide an opportunity to the public to provide
 - Overall input on the direction the plan is taking and
 - Weigh in on specific issues relating to metrics, measurements, and recommendations

Questions to Ask of the Plan

- What do you like most about Hingham's Climate Action Plan?
- What do you dislike?
- Is anything missing?
- Anything that is included but should not be?
- How is this plan effective? How is it not?
- How should this plan speak to the average Hingham citizen?
 - Should it include specific recommendations, including cost-benefit analyses?
 - Or should it provide general guidance and educate citizens on next steps to take (e.g., grants that are available, sources for HVAC conversions, etc.)?
- What sources of carbon should NOT be included for determining net zero?
 - Should we try to measure the carbon output of vehicles traveling through Hingham but not originating or ending here (e.g., Main Street traffic, Route 3 traffic, etc.)? What about boat traffic in the harbor?
 - Should we measure other sources not in Hingham's control to reduce or eliminate (e.g., gas leaks from investor-owned utilities)?

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PLAN REVIEW

Plan Contents

- Intro & Acknowledgements
- Executive Summary
- Contours
 - Energy
 - Buildings
 - Transportation
 - Waste
 - Community
 - Natural Resources
- Implementation Considerations
- Tracking & Metrics
- Action Items
- Carbon Emissions Inventory

Key Recommendations

Energy



- Clean Energy
 - HMLP continue to increase its already impressive clean energy portfolio
 - HMLP continue to purchase renewable energy from residents and businesses through its net metering program
- Reliability
 - HMLP to consider using active demand response programs and virtual power plant programs to reduce peak demand usage
- Resiliency
 - HMLP to explore cost-effective ways to facilitate community solar and other Hingham-based power supply
- System Upgrades
 - HMLP to monitor and upgrade distribution system to allow for targeted electrification of load
 - Cost-effective investment in system automation to control decentralized energy resources
 - Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) purchases of renewable energy credits

Key Recommendations

Buildings



- **Energy Efficiency**
 - Residents and businesses can realize energy cost savings through investments in energy efficiency and smarter energy use, including insulation, less energy-intensive appliances, and LED lighting
 - Continuation and expansion of HMLP’s existing programs, legislative support for maintenance and expansion of existing energy efficiency programs, and consumer education on energy efficient alternatives and decarbonization opportunities
- **Temperature & Appliances**
 - Recommendations include capitalizing on heat pump and appliance demand-response technological advances, and creation of demand response programs that can capitalize on remote controls and new software management tools
- **Large Users**
 - HMLP should consider augmenting and expanding its interactions with large users to create a commercial/industrial team that explicitly targets this group to discuss incentives for implementation of carbon-reduction activities and investments
- **Building Codes**
 - Consider adopting the Massachusetts stretch codes, identify and address opportunities for historical homes and historical districts, and examine potential Town-wide limitations on new fossil fuel hookups

Key Recommendations

Transportation



- **Electric Vehicles**
 - Hingham should capitalize on Inflation Reduction Act incentives, combined with the upcoming wave of electric vehicle offerings, to convert the municipal fleets to electric vehicles whenever it makes economic sense to do so
 - Hingham also can enable electrification of the community’s fleet by installing charging stations, establishing an EV rate for electricity, and educate citizens on benefits and opportunities with EVs
- **Automobile Alternatives**
 - Move to electric school buses
 - Encourage and support carpooling and ride sharing
 - Begin a formal effort to explicitly track which registered vehicles are alternative fuel vehicles, and HMLP should monitor and track which homes have home charging stations and whether those chargers are Level-1, Level-2 or advanced fast-charge equipment
- **Public Transit**
 - Explore local public transit opportunities, such as electric trolley service and senior transportation conversion to electric vehicles

Key Recommendations

Waste



- Solid Waste
 - Adopt a Pay-as-you-Throw (PAYT) program
 - Regulating private haulers to be consistent with public rules
 - Engaging in efforts to eliminate single-use plastic
 - Diverting bulk waste to recycling centers that are better able to reuse major components of large disposal items
- Recycling
 - Private companies that service Hingham residents may or may not offer recycling as an option, and private company offerings should be aligned to public sector options
 - Extend transfer station hours and provide dedicated personnel to recycling
 - Add recycling bins in public spaces and public buildings
 - Increase water filling stations in public places
- Composting
 - Expand existing efforts to establish town-wide composting for businesses and residents
 - Require curb-side composting collection and education
 - Explore anaerobic digesters and waste-to-energy power supply alternatives

Key Recommendations

Community



- **Community Outreach**
 - Hire a full-time sustainability director
 - Sponsor education and marketing campaigns on how to go net zero
 - Establish a Climate Action Plan dashboard that can be distributed on a regular basis to all citizens
- **Public Pathways**
 - Facilitate bike and pedestrian pathways throughout Town
 - Install bike racks at public locations throughout Town
 - Facilitate public transportation with public ways and transit-oriented districts (TODs)
- **Air Quality**
 - Aggressively monitor/remedy natural gas leaks, support stronger gas leak reduction targets, and support state efforts to decarbonize natural gas pipelines

Key Recommendations

Natural Resources



- Carbon Sink Development
 - Educate citizens about how to protect, enhance and create carbon sinks
 - When developing Hingham land and waterways, consider how to do it in a way that decreases carbon output and increases carbon absorption
 - Promote zero carbon emissions landscaping tools such as electrified mowers and leaf blowers that take advantage of HMLP's carbon-free electricity supply and reduce gasoline exhaust
- Land Conservation
 - Preserve and conserve existing open spaces, land, forests and grasslands
 - Expand protected green spaces that serve as carbon sinks
 - Engage in tree maintenance and planting programs
- Water Conservation
 - Reduce the use of nitrogen fertilizers on Town properties
 - Update bylaws and regulations to protect Hingham's wetlands
 - Manage stormwater flows
- Recreation
 - Enable electric motor alternatives at recreational areas
 - Promote carbon-negative materials

Key Recommendations

Implementation



- Plan is a living document and must continually be evaluated and refreshed
- Adoption by Select Board and impacted bodies, implementation by Town Administration, and oversight by citizen group(s) is a must
- Pursuit of grant opportunities is vital
- The plan must serve as an educational tool to the public and provide for continued outreach
- The plan should recommend feasible actions now, and must then contemplate reevaluation in the mid- and long-term to account for evolving technologies, needs, and opportunities

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PUBLIC INPUT & NEXT STEPS

Next Steps

This is Hingham's Plan created by the Hingham Community



Provide any additional thoughts using our survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N5N9NLP>

Please complete the survey by Friday, December 16th!

Thank you!

Public input is key to our success!