

EXETER STORMWATER RESILIENCE LINCOLN STREET PHASE II PROJECT



Project Summary and Goals

1. Achieve municipal capacity building around planning for climate change and flood events.
2. Implement public outreach and communication to build support for and understanding of adaptation planning including economic considerations.
3. Advance green infrastructure and other effective means of adaptation implementation for flood damage avoidance and water quality improvements.



Resilient Green Infrastructure

Climate Adaptation Policy

Innovative Messaging

Exeter Climate Adaptation Policy *(draft)*

The purpose of a *Climate Adaptation Policy (CAP)* is to guide local decision making and investment in climate adaptation and implementation actions. The CAP is supported by statements in the Vision section of the Master Plan (draft 2017) which states that local government will protect the welfare of residents and continue to provide support that helps prepare for a changing climate. Elsewhere in the Master Plan, responses to changes in climate and its impacts are detailed in the Support, Steward and Prepare sections as well as in the Action Agenda.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE *“Proactive strategies are identified and implemented that address the impacts of climate change to create a more sustainable and resilient community.”*

CLIMATE ADAPTATION POLICY PRINCIPLES

- Ensure** the community is better prepared to protect the security, health and safety of its citizens.
- Protect** natural resources from the impacts of flooding from sea-level rise and storm events.
- Provide** for a stable and viable economic future.
- Minimize** the future costs of infrastructure replacement and maintenance.
- Support** installations of green infrastructure, renewable energy systems and electric vehicle charging stations.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS - FOCUS AREAS

- *Municipal Policy and Actions*
- *Management and Investment*
- *Environment-Natural Resources*
- *Regulatory and Land Use Planning*
- *Community-Based*

Achieving the Vision

The following eight goals describe a future that achieves the Vision Statement of the Climate Change Policy.

- **GOAL 1:** Potential climate change impacts are considered when undertaking long-term planning, setting priorities, and making decisions affecting resources, programs, policies and operations.
- **GOAL 2:** July 24, 2017 Board of Selectmen proclamation to uphold a commitment to the principles of the Paris Climate Accord by reducing greenhouse gas emissions through implementation of mitigation and adaptation actions is continued and strengthened.
- **GOAL 3:** Innovation and new opportunities are leveraged to provide for a stable and viable economic future.
- **GOAL 4:** Climate change preparedness and resiliency planning are integrated using the best available climate science and climate change information.
- **GOAL 5:** Future costs of infrastructure replacement and maintenance are minimized.
- **GOAL 6:** Natural resources and ecosystems are protected from the impacts of flooding from sea-level rise and storm events.
- **GOAL 7:** Civic groups and businesses engaged in sustainability and resilience practices in the community work collaboratively with the town.
- **GOAL 8:** Installations of green infrastructure, renewable energy systems and use of alternative fuel vehicles are supported.

Actions and Accomplishments

In recent years, Exeter has achieved community support for a number of climate adaptation and resilience initiatives including infrastructure design, planning and regulation.



July 2017 - Adopted a proclamation to uphold commitment to principles of the Paris Climate Accord to address the increase of global temperatures by reducing emissions through implementation of mitigation and adaptation actions.



March 2017 – Completed the Climate Risk in the Seacoast (C-RiSe) Vulnerability Assessment.



2017 – Designed new wastewater treatment plant taking into account projected sea-level rise.



December 2017 – Planning Board reviewed draft recommendations to update the town's stormwater regulations including use of most current precipitation data and implementation of low impact development techniques.



December 2017 – Planning Board reviewed final draft Master Plan update.



February 2018 – Held a Climate Change Open House featuring municipal and local initiatives aimed at better understanding and addressing potential impacts of climate change and how to address them.



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