



# Town of Concord

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## CONCORD RECEIVES \$250K FROM STATE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING

CONCORD, MA—Concord has been awarded \$250,095 in grant funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program. The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' MVP grant and designation program provides communities with technical support, climate change data and planning tools to identify hazards and develop strategies to improve resilience.

Concord became an MVP designated community earlier this year after receiving a \$33,000 MVP Planning Grant to complete a community resilience building workshop, community outreach and education, including videos on [climate resilience in Concord](#) and [smart water management](#).

“The MVP planning grant allowed us to collaborate with residents, businesses, partners, and staff to identify how climate change is already, and will continue, to impact our community and how we can be more resilient to those impacts,” said Kate Hanley, Director of Sustainability for the Town of Concord.

Concord received **\$100,095 to develop a Climate Action and Resilience Plan**. “A climate action and resilience plan is the next step in addressing climate change in Concord,” said Hanley, “Concord has been a leader in sustainability by setting ambitious greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals and making climate resilience a priority. We understand where we are and where we want to go. Now we need a climate action plan to connect the dots and chart a course toward meeting our goals.”

Another **\$150,000 was awarded for a Reforestation and Tree Resilience** project which will include planting 100 trees and evaluating the feasibility of a tree nursery at Concord's Wastewater Treatment Plant. “Concord's tree canopy and urban forest is an important aspect of the town's culture, and a valuable asset in protecting Concord from the urban heat island effect,” said Richard Reine, Concord Director of Public Works and Engineering. “We are grateful to the Commonwealth for the opportunity to accelerate and expand our tree planting program. Increasing temperatures and rainfall patterns, as well as changing pest infestations, can put our trees at risk. The MVP grant will provide valuable resources for Concord to plan for improving the resilience of our urban forest.”

Concord is one of 34 communities awarded a total of \$10.3 million through this round of MVP Action Grants to implement projects that build local resilience to climate change impacts.

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