



Active/Ongoing Projects

- **Community Compost Drop off Site Pilot** – In partnership with the Facilities Division and Concord Public Works, we are aiming to start a pilot community compost drop off site within the next few weeks. This will allow residents to drop off food compost at 55 Church Street and the Beede Center after taking a short survey to receive a code to unlock the bins.
- **Municipal Fleet Electrification Study** – The vehicle modeling has been completed. Next steps include finalizing a transition report, starting the charging infrastructure needs assessment and a financing analysis.
- **UNH Fellowship Application** – The Town has been selected to host a UNH Fellow. The Fellow will increase the Division's community engagement capacity by building tools, protocols, and content that will support efforts beyond the 10-week fellowship.
- **Concord Middle School Building Project** – Special Town Meeting will occur on 1/20/2022 and the Special Town Election will occur on 2/3/2022.
- **Tree City USA Recognition** – I am working with the Natural Resource Division and Public Works to apply for the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA Recognition. As a Tree City, Concord would be eligible for grants and technical assistance.
- **2021 Annual Report** – Previous annual reports can be [found online](#). The 2021 report will include a progress update on Sustainable Concord including an effort to synergize the tracking of metrics between the annual reports, dashboard, and indicators of success in Sustainable Concord. I have sent an email to champions requesting updates on the indicators of success in addition to a process update on the priorities.
- **CSEC's Cooler Concord Sustainability Series** – CSEC is preparing a suite of engagement events for 2022. The series will kick off in April with a keynote speaker.

Highlights from the Community

- **Concord Free Public Library** – The CFPL is convening a Sustainability Implementation Committee to work on accomplishing the goals in CFPL's Sustainability Plan.
- **Fenn School** – The Fenn School has been having workshops to develop a Sustainability Plan that incorporates education, operations and grounds, buildings and the natural environment.

Grant and Technical Assistance

- **MVP Action Grant** – The Expression of Interest (EOI) form is due on January 22nd. In partnership with the SuAsCo Climate Coalition, Concord is submitting an EOI for a watershed model to assess climate vulnerabilities. The exact scope is yet to be determined in coordination with feed the SuAsCo member communities, CAAB members, and the MVP Regional Coordinator.
- **USDN Nexus Guidance** – Thank you to those who have provided feedback on the participation in this program. I will be meeting with the Deputy Town Manager and USDN to discuss our participation and I will provide a summary of the thoughts that I have

received to-date. The DEI Commission has sent a letter in support of accepting the technical assistance.

- **MAPC Technical Assistance on Climate Adaptation** – MAPC is going to provide a scope of work for assistance in three weeks after reviewing Sustainable Concord and the suite of regulatory avenues in place.
- **New - HMPG FEMA Grant** – The Sustainability Division will be working with the Fire Department to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan and to include a greater focus on climate resiliency in alignment with Sustainable Concord. We are considering seeking funding support from the FEMA HMPG Grant.
- **New - Community Compact Efficiency and Regionalization** – Several departments are looking at this funding source as a way to advance priorities. Only one application can be submitted per community. The Sustainability Division has provided several ideas on how priorities from Sustainable Concord could be advanced.
- **Grants Watch List**
 - MassEVIP Fleets
 - Green Communities
 - MassEVIP DC Fast Charger
 - GAP III Financing

State Legislation to Track

**All legislation is subject to change until final bill/policy is voted on and adopted.*

- **Green Futures Act** - H.3292 establishes a green infrastructure fund.
- **The Better Buildings Act** - H.3366 and S.2232 includes components such as large commercial will need to report energy use to DOER annually, establishes an energy performance standard for different building types, cities and towns can establish their own energy disclosure requirements.
- **Home Rule Petition** - Senator Barrett came to the [Nov 22, 2021 Select Board Meeting](#) in Concord and spoke to the current standing. It seems like the home rule bill is on “standby” while a statewide net zero building code is being proposed as required under climate bill (see minutes 23:50-29:30 of the recording for this recap). He hopes that a draft/outline of the statewide code will be available by the end of the year. Then five public hearings will occur with the goal of having a final code ready by end of the 2022.

Events and Engagement

- **Special Town Meeting (1/20/2022) and Election (2/3/2022) on the Concord Middle School Building**
- **Upcoming Director Speaking Engagements**
 - Jan 12th – Mothers Out Front
 - Jan 18th – ConcordCAN
 - Feb 2nd – Concord Business Partnership
 - April 4th – Seeds and Weeds
- **CAAB Monthly Meeting** - third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM
- **CSEC Monthly Meeting** – third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM
- **Light Board Monthly Meeting**– second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 AM
- **Have a special interest?** Contact Amanda Kohn (akohn@concordma.gov) for information on how to join groups working together on EV adoption (Concord Drives Electric), expanding the use of air source heat pumps (Concord Heats Electric), and more!