

Warrant Article 51–
Fin Com Hearing 2.27.17

Warrant Article 51

Warrant Article 51– Concord's Energy Goals

- To determine whether the Town, informed by the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015, will vote to align the energy goals of the Town of Concord with: (a) the Massachusetts Global Warming Solutions Act of 2008 to achieve a minimum 25% town-wide reduction in Green House Gas (GHG) emissions by 2020 and an 80% reduction by 2050 from the baseline established in 2008;
 - and (b) by 2030, as an intermediate goal, direct CMLP to reduce the GHG emissions of its power supply portfolio and to offset any residual GHG emissions of its electricity supply through the purchase of RECs or other offsets;
- and further,
- to determine whether the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from funds available in the Treasury, the sum of \$100,000, or any other sum, to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager for the purpose of engaging one or more consultants for the purpose of developing and making publicly available an operational plan to achieve said goals;
 - and further, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$100,000, or any other sum, to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager for the purpose of hiring a Director of Energy, on an on-going basis, to be accountable to the Town Manager for recommending policy and measuring progress toward meeting these goals and implementing the operational plan, as well as tracking and assessing new energy technologies and funding opportunities, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommendations Guided By

1. International commitments for greenhouse gas reduction:
 - 2015 Paris Agreement on climate Change
 - 2008 Massachusetts Global Warming Solutions Act
2. A commitment to bold approaches and actions to achieve greenhouse gas reduction
3. A recognition that Concord should actively contribute to the transformation from an economy powered by fossil fuels to an economy powered by clean energy
4. A commitment to Concord's sustainability principles.

Goals and Recommendations

GOALS

- 25% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2020
- 80% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2050
- These are town-wide goals and are applicable to all sectors. The baseline is 2008.

RECOMMENDED IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

- 1. Issue a policy statement to establish decreasing emissions as a criterion in all Town decisions.
- 2. Hire a Director of Energy [or other title] and a consultant to assist the Director to guide the Town in designing and implementing a sustainable energy future consistent with the recommendations in this Report.
- 3. Appoint a new advisory group to assist the Town Manager, the Energy Director, and the consultant.
- 4. Integrate the goals and recommendations of the EFTF report into CMLP's current strategic planning effort and with the Comprehensive Long Range Plan currently underway

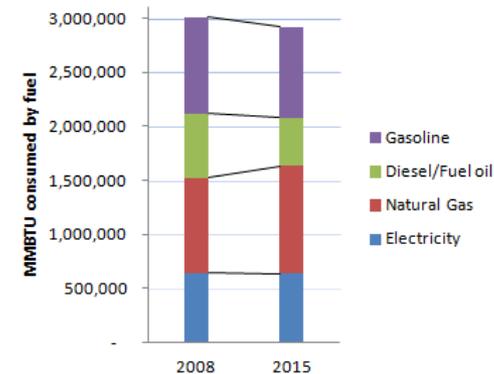
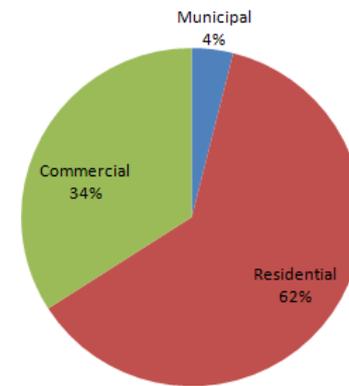
Public Outreach

- At three public meetings
- Meetings with CMLP
- Stakeholder Interviews
- In the on-line survey
- Through emails
- At task force meetings
- Concord's Townwide Survey
- [FinCom Hearing February 27 \(tonight\)](#)
- [Select Board March 27](#)

Concord's Baseline

- 227,949 Tons of CO₂ in 2015 which is equivalent to the weight of the Sears Tower.
- Concord's full GHG Footprint is estimated to be 3 times greater when all GHGs (CH₄, N₂O, F), Propane Purchases, fugitive methane leaks, products and services we buy are considered
- Over 7 years Concord has
 - Switched to Natural Gas from Oil
 - Reduced CO₂ by 9.9%

2015 - 227,949 Tons of CO₂



Other Suggestions

- Educate citizens about the goals to incentivize individual actions to reduce emissions
- Charge the Director and consultant to develop an implementation plan that addresses all sectors including commercial, residential, agricultural, water and waste water management, transportation, and land use
- Employ integrated systems thinking, to recognize that when one aspect of a system changes it affects every other aspect.

Suggestions re: CMLP

- Develop a set of cost-effective energy efficiency incentives and measures that meet or exceed those offered by Massachusetts investor-owned utilities
- Convert CMLP's electricity supply to non-emitting resources with a target of achieving 100% from non-emitting resources by 2030
- Consider alternatives to reduce barriers for adopting energy efficiency measures
- Develop incentives to encourage users to switch from fossil fuels to electricity from clean energy sources for heating and transportation

Possible Outcomes

- Integration of renewable technologies and operational efficiencies at CMLP
- Increased energy conservation
- Increased rates for electricity over time

Ensuring Success for Concord

- Engage a Director and consultant to develop an implementation plan and integrated strategy across all sectors and to be accountable to the Town Manager
- Close cooperation with and involvement by CMLP to integrate GHG emissions reduction in Strategic Planning
- End Use changes in our choices of fuel for heating and transportation with increased electrification
- Decarbonize electricity through renewable energy procurement
- Promote energy efficiencies and energy conservation

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