

**Town of Kennebunkport  
Board of Selectmen Meeting VIA Zoom  
September 10, 2020  
6:00 PM**

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of September 10, 2020

**Selectmen attending via Zoom:** Patrick A. Briggs, Allen A. Daggett, Ed Hutchins, Sheila Mathews-Bull, and D. Michael Weston.

**Others attending via Zoom:** Mike Claus, Mike Davis, John Everett, Werner Gilliam, Paul Hogan, Karina Grater, David James, Alison Kenneway, Jen Lord, Leia Lowery, Chris Mayo, Arlene McMurray, Tracey O'Roak, Craig Sanford, Chris Simeoni, Abbie Sherwin, Laurie Smith, and others

**1. Call to Order.**

Chair Daggett called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM. He took **roll call** of Selectmen present: Patrick Briggs, Allen Daggett, Sheila Matthews-Bull, Ed Hutchins, and D. Michael Weston.

**2. Approve the August 27, 2020, selectmen meeting minutes.**

**Motion** by Selectman Hutchins, seconded by Selectman Matthews-Bull, to approve the August 13, 2020, selectmen meeting minutes. **Roll Call Vote:** Briggs, Hutchins, Daggett, Matthews-Bull, and Weston. **Voted:** 5-0. **Motion passed.**

**3. Public Forum (This is an opportunity for anyone who wants to address the Board of Selectmen with any issue that is not on the agenda.).**

There were no comments.

**4. Presentation on climate change impacts to Kennebunkport.**

Leia Lowery, Director of Education at the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust; Karina Grater, the Town's regional sustainability coordinator with Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission (SMPDC); and Abbie Sherwin, senior coastal land use planner at SMPDC presented a PowerPoint presentation on climate change. See Exhibit A.

Town Manager Laurie Smith went over the responses to the Growth Planning Committee's citizen survey:

- Town priorities over the next 5-10 years.
  - The preservation of natural resources and the environment was listed as the #1 priority by 54% of respondents.
- The Town should continue to preserve and support the fishing industries in town.
  - 95% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed.

- The Town should plan for local impacts to sea level rise and changing climate.
  - 77% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed.
- The Town should work to reduce energy consumption of town-owned facilities.
  - 85% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed.
- Municipal sustainability means meeting the needs of present community members without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The Town should develop a sustainability plan.
  - 82% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed.

Chair Daggett mentioned that they should provide their suggestions for the next budget discussions.

The Board agreed that Ms. Smith and Werner Gilliam should bring in some goals and strategies for the Board to consider.

#### **5. Certification on proposed ordinances.**

Town Clerk Tracey O'Roak explained that the Board must certify the proposed ordinances: Codification; Tent Ordinance; and Emergency Management Ordinance which are on the November ballot.

**Motion** by Selectman Weston, seconded by Selectman Hutchins, to approve the certification of proposed ordinances. **Roll Call Vote:** Briggs, Hutchins, Daggett, Matthews-Bull, and Weston. **Voted:** 5-0. **Motion passed.**

#### **6. Set public hearing date for November 3 proposed ordinances (October 22).**

**Motion** by Selectman Hutchins, seconded by Selectman Weston, to set the public hearing date for October 22 for the November 3 proposed ordinances. **Roll Call Vote:** Briggs, Hutchins, Daggett, Matthews-Bull, and Weston. **Voted:** 5-0. **Motion passed.**

#### **7. Consider Collection of Delinquent Accounts Receivable Policy.**

Treasurer Jen Lord explained the policy. She said it will provide consistency in their collections.

**Motion** by Selectman Briggs, seconded by Selectman Matthews-Bull, to approve the Collections of Delinquent Accounts Policy presented. **Roll Call Vote:** Briggs, Daggett, Hutchins, Matthews-Bull, and Weston. **Voted:** 5-0. **Motion passed.**

#### **8. Authorize the replacement and purchase of swimming advisory signs at all public beach access points at Goose Rocks Beach.**

Ms. Smith said the Beach Advisory Committee met and recommended replacing the current swimming advisory signs that warn people of elevated bacteria levels that occur after heavy rainfalls at Goose Rocks Beach with warning signs that are more specific

and differentiates between river warnings and beach warnings. The cost of the new signs would not exceed \$1,300.

Public Health Nurse Alison Kenneway agreed that the news signs would be beneficial.

**Motion** by Selectman Hutchins, seconded by Selectman Weston, to approve the purchase of new swimming advisory signs at a cost not to exceed \$1,300. **Roll Call Vote:** Briggs, Daggett, Hutchins, Matthews-Bull, and Weston. **Voted:** 5-0.  
**Motion passed.**

## 9. Other Business.

Selectman Matthews-Bull announced that they are having Prelude reimagined due to COVID-19. There will be safety protocols in place and not large gatherings, but they will continue this tradition.

Ms. Smith announced there will be a meeting with the three towns and one member from the RSU to increase communication, for September 30, at 5 PM. She is waiting to hear back from Arundel. The Board agreed with that date and time.

Since York County has an increase in COVID-19 cases, Ms. Smith urged everyone to continue with maintaining social distancing and hygiene protocol to keep everyone safe.

## 10. Approve the September 10, 2020, Treasurer's Warrant.

**Motion** by Selectman Hutchins, seconded by Selectman Matthews-Bull, to approve the September 10, 2020, Treasurer's Warrant. **Roll Call Vote:** Briggs, Hutchins, Daggett, Matthews-Bull, and Weston. **Voted:** 5-0. **Motion passed.**

## 11. Adjournment.

**Motion** by Selectman Hutchins, seconded by Selectman Briggs, to adjourn. **Roll Call Vote:** Briggs, Hutchins, Daggett, Matthews-Bull, and Weston. **Voted:** 5-0.  
**Motion passed.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Submitted by Arlene McMurray  
Administrative Assistant

*Exhibit A - 9-10-2020*



# Our Town

# Our Future





## What are Greenhouse Gases?

The same way that a greenhouse captures the heat from the sun and traps it to keep the plants inside warm, **greenhouse gases** are trapping heat in the atmosphere, warming the earth.

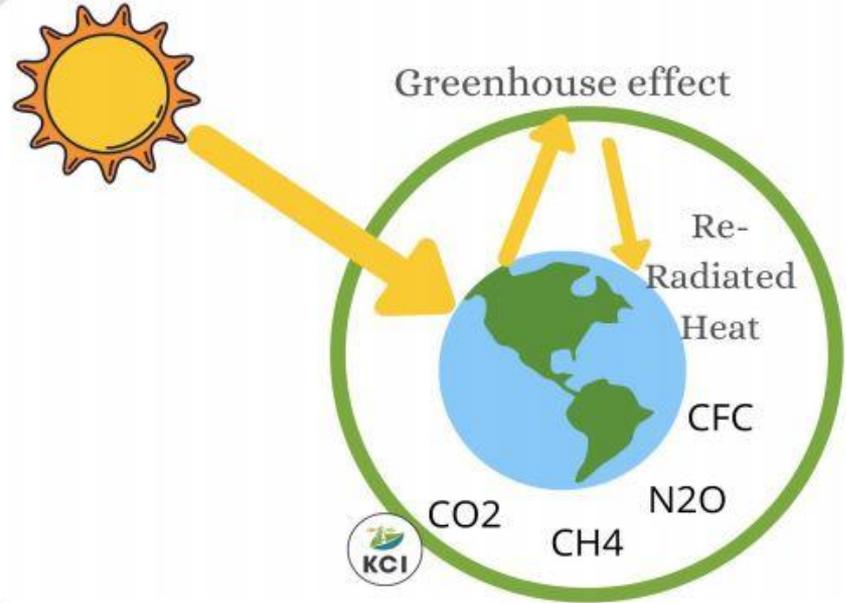
The major greenhouse gases are:

**Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)**

**Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)**

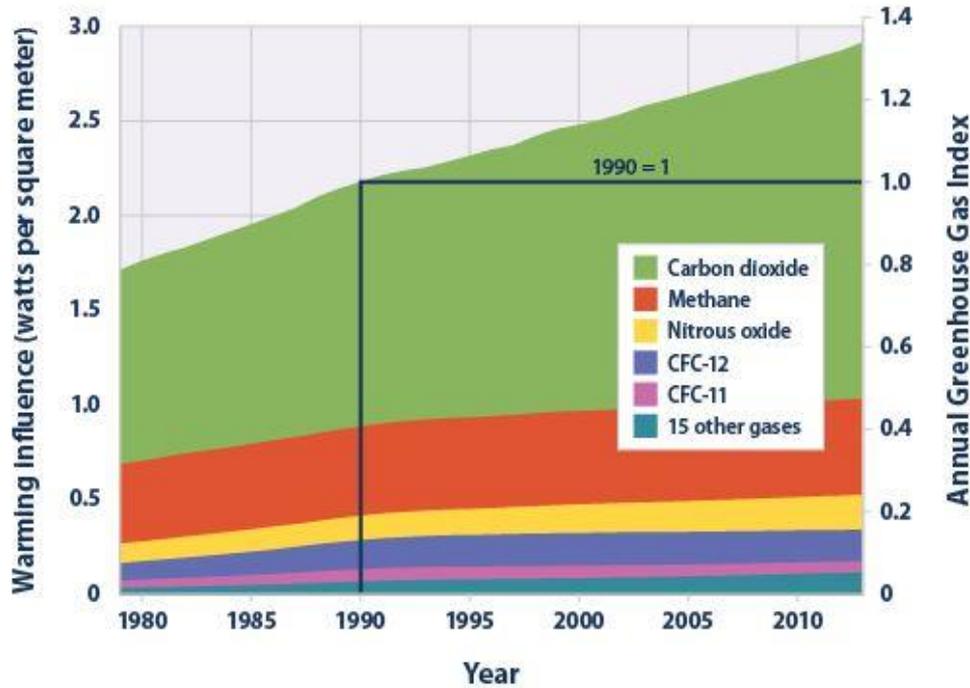
**Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)**

**Fluorinated Gases**



Greater concentrations of greenhouse gases mean more solar radiation is trapped within the Earth's atmosphere, making temperatures rise. Source: W. Elder, NPS.

# Climate Change?



Of the twenty greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide accounts for by far the largest share of radiative forcing since 1990, and its contribution continues to grow at a steady rate. Source: US EPA.

- Climate Change is caused by an excess of greenhouse gases.
- The excess over-insulates the planet. As a result, temperatures rise — too much insulation causes the planet to overheat, which has already begun to change the climate.
- The warmer it gets, the more our land ice melts... creating more warming! (Albedo Effect)
- The oceans have absorbed 90% excess heat in the atmosphere, warming our oceans and causing Thermal Expansion

# Problems



Sea Level Rise/  
Ocean Temp-  
GOM warming  
faster than 99%



Decreased  
snowpack



Extreme  
Weather:  
Flood/drought



Increased  
Ocean  
Acidification



North East  
warming faster  
than any other  
region in  
contiguous US



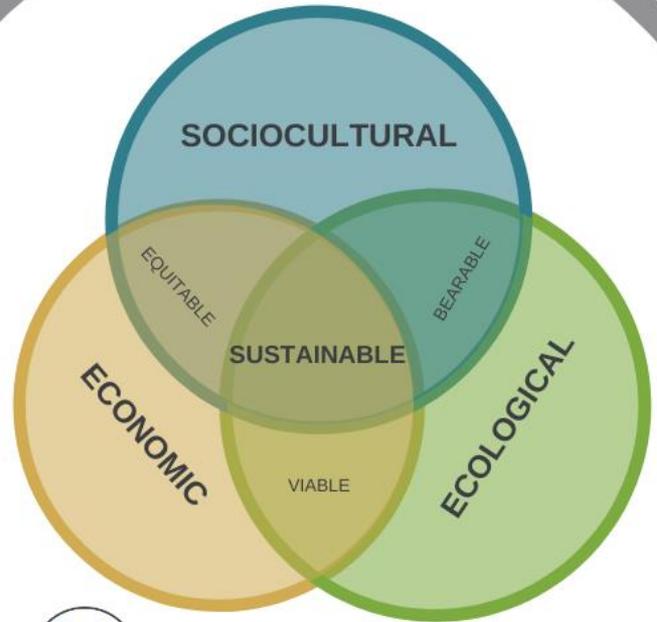
Loss of  
Biodiversity

## What Changes Are You Seeing?

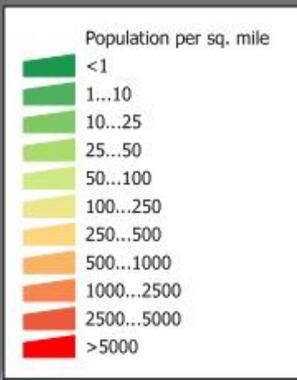


**Changes in our community  
are already being seen**

GRB after Riley March 2018



**Environment**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau  
Census 2010 Summary File 1  
population by census tract

## Economic:

- Longest coastline and economic buoy to GDP
- 46th economic growth- depend on seasonal income
- Collapse of the fishing industry
- Less flood insurance due to high cost=higher cost to the taxpayer for damages
- Shorefront home devaluation

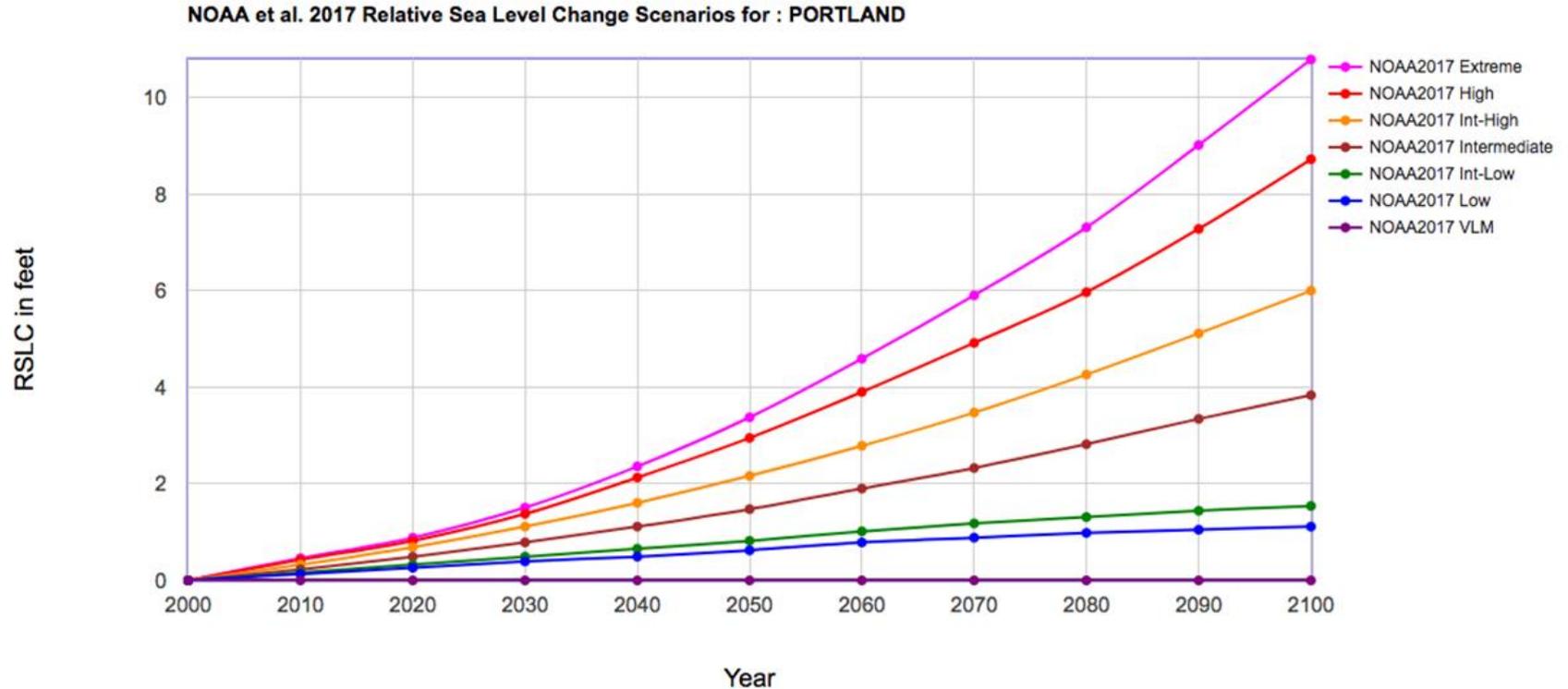
## Ecological:

- Water quality - continued flooding & erosion
- Ocean acidification- lobster and shellfish
- Shifting tide zones
- Loss of biodiversity/invasive species- marsh & forest degradation
- Decreased snowpack
- Warming Temperatures-impact fishing

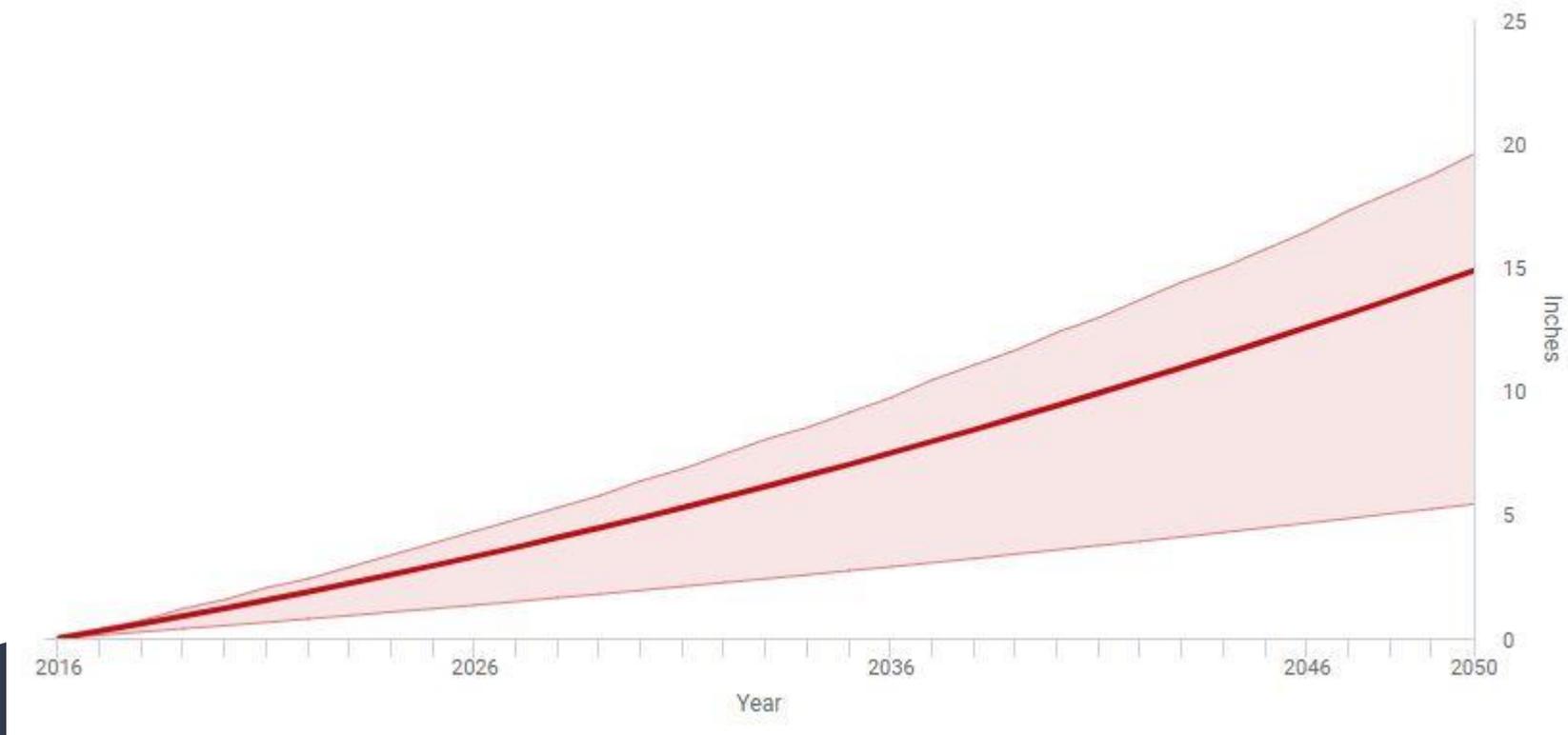
## Sociocultural:

- Threat to traditional way of life
- Public access to land and water
- Increased tick and mosquito population
- Burden of cost shift could have serious equity implications

# Projected Sea Level Rise



## Portland Sea Level Rise Forecasts

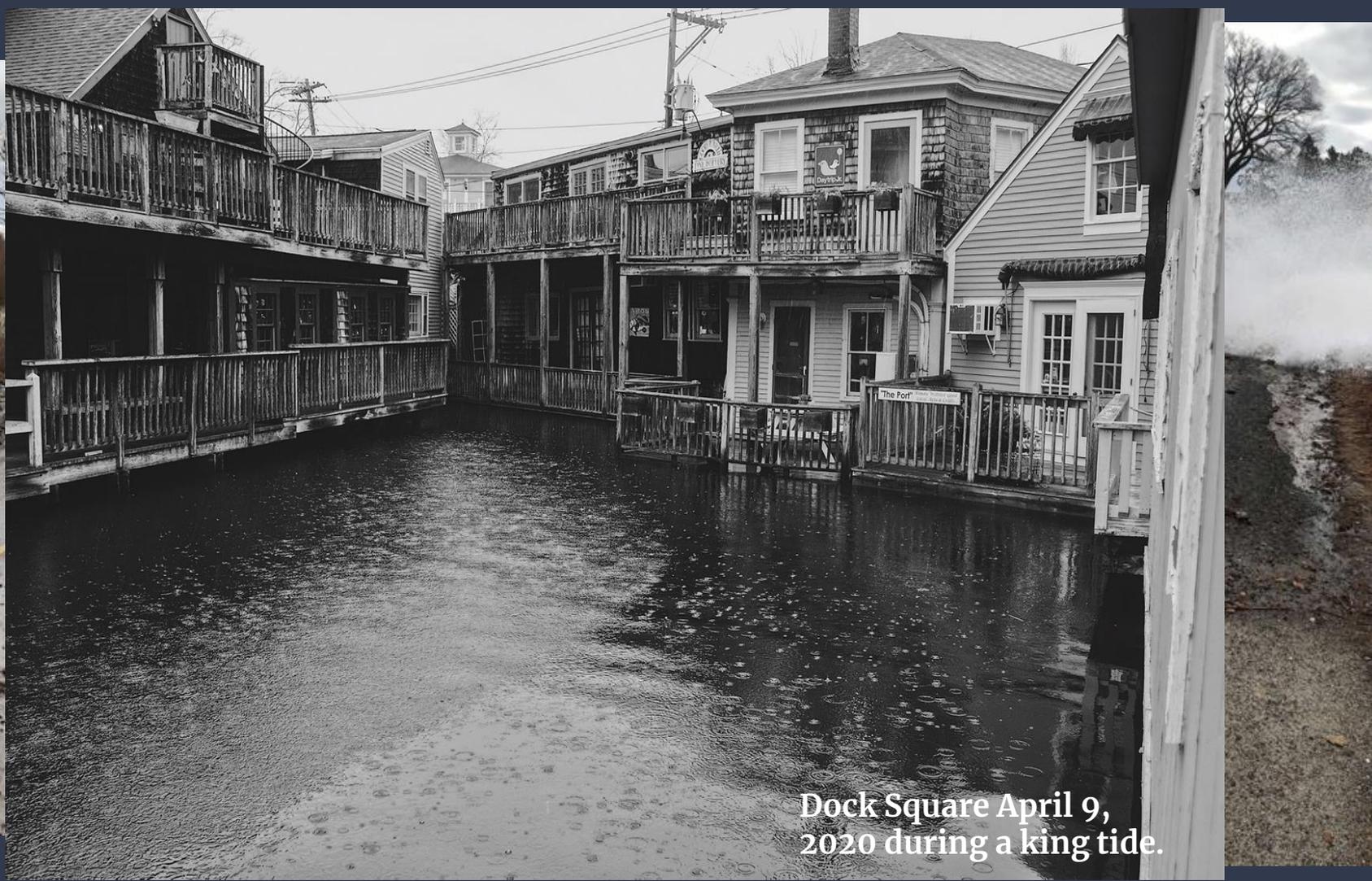


Sealevelrise.org graph on Portland Maine SLR projections

# Is Sea Level Rise an Issue Now?

Kennebunkport #5 in the top 20 towns affected by Sea Level Rise





Dock Square April 9,  
2020 during a king tide.



# Shoreline Change: Goose Rocks

**Dune Change** – the rate of change of dune size in feet per year ('07 – '18)

- Overall dune erosion
  - Range: -2.0 to +1.5 ft/yr
- Average erosion greater than state average

**Beach change** – the difference between the shoreline position of the mean high water line in feet ('17 – '18)

- Overall beach loss
  - Range: -46.3 to +26.6 ft
- Average loss greater than state average

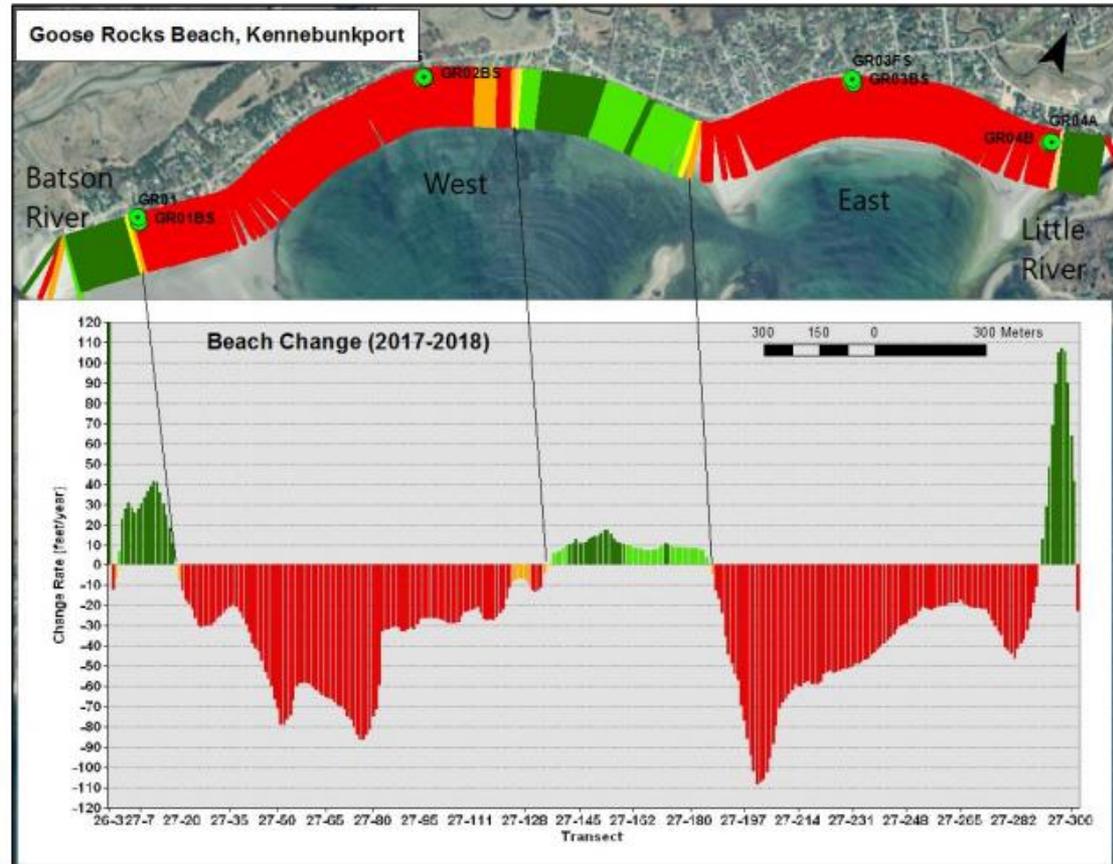
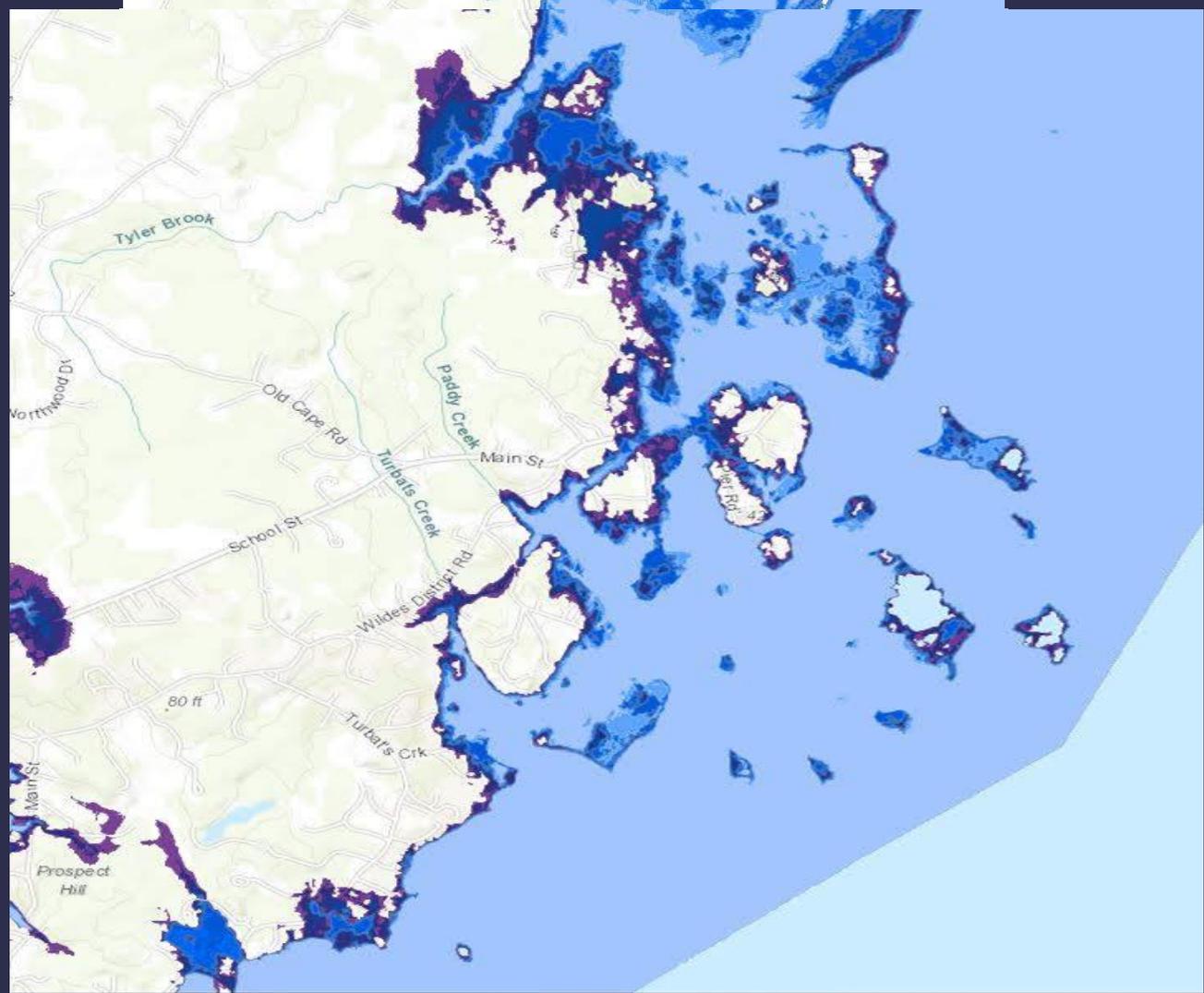
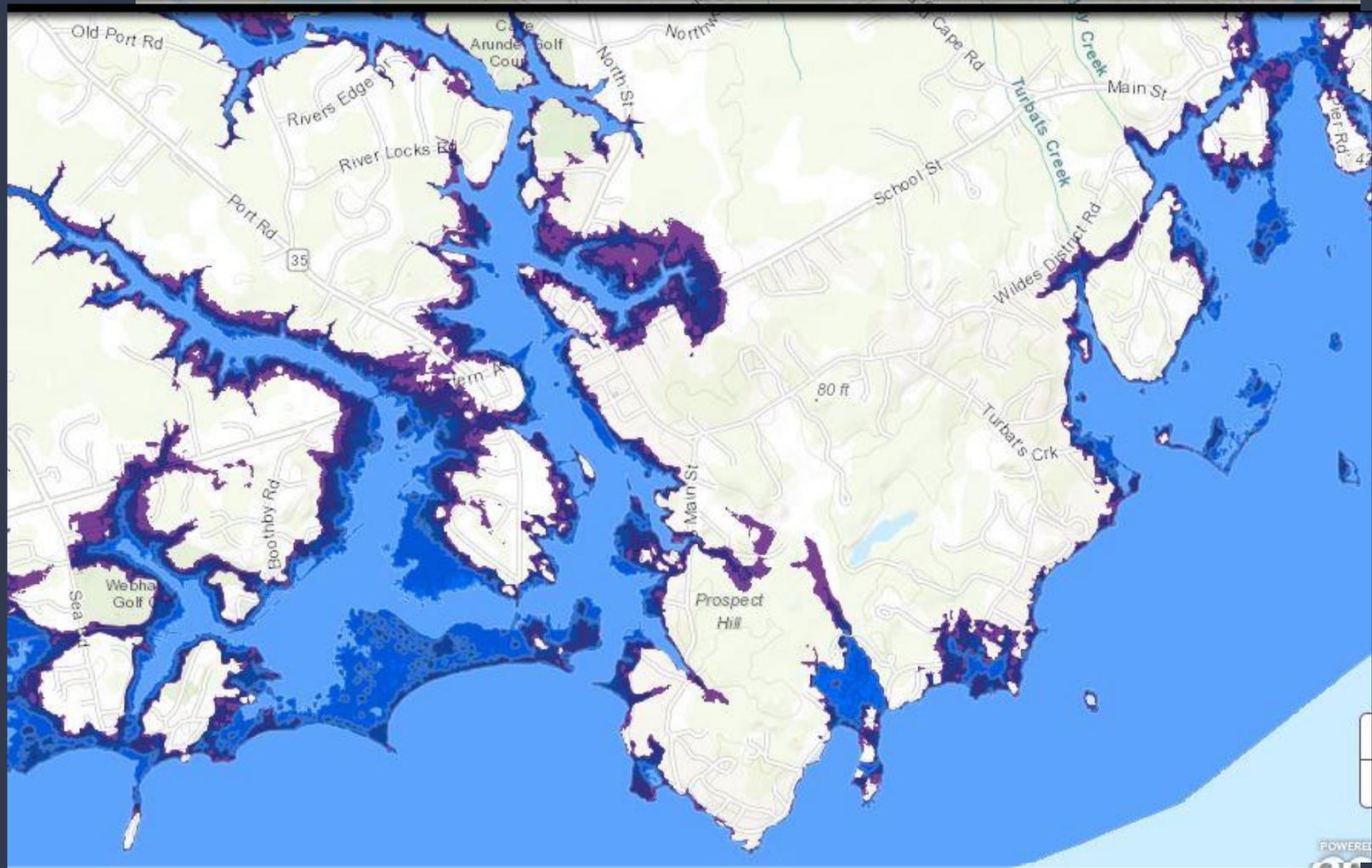


Figure 46. Beach changes from 2017 to 2018 for Goose Rocks Beach, Kennebunkport, ME. Base imagery from Maine Geolibary.







“Benefits of strong,  
early action on  
climate change  
outweigh the costs.”

– Nicholas Stern (British economist-  
Grantham Research Institute)



**How do we move  
forward?**

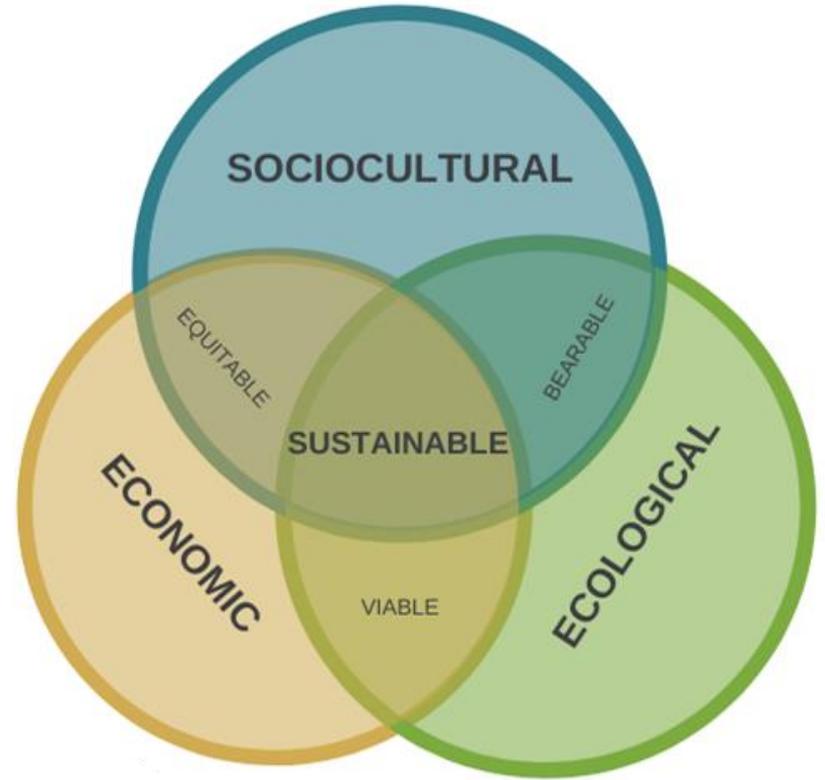
# A sustainable, resilient future for Kennebunkport



# SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is when a healthy environment, economic prosperity and social justice are pursued simultaneously to ensure the well-being and quality of life of present and future generations.

-Learning for a Sustainable Future  
Teaching Centre

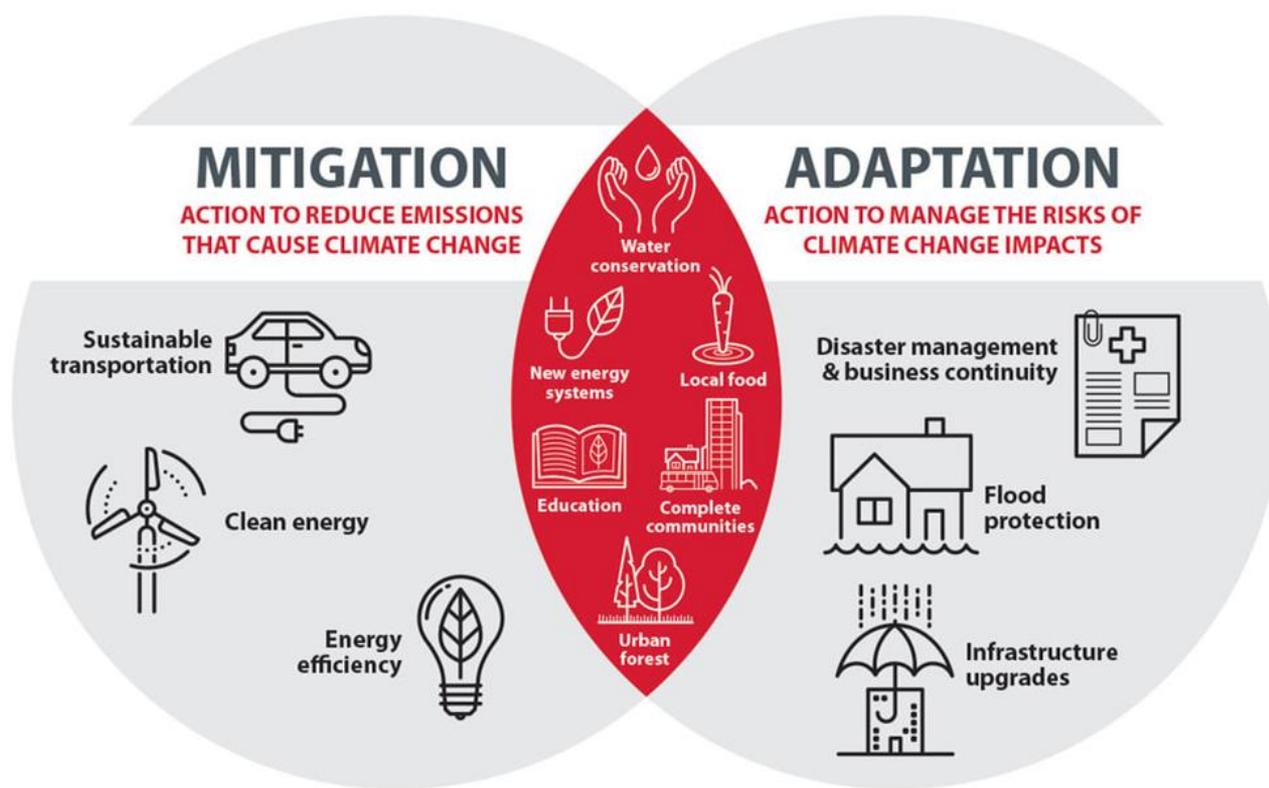


# COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

The capacity of a community to absorb, withstand, recover from and adapt to changing conditions and disturbances while sustaining key functions, structures, and performance.

It involves all dimensions of a system, including social, built, and natural environments within a community.





<https://www.calgary.ca/UEP/ESM/Pages/Energy-Savings/Climate-Change.aspx?redirect=/climateprogram>

Proactively addressing climate change will lead to a more sustainable, resilient, and thriving Kennebunkport



How can municipalities address climate change?

# Kennebunkport is taking the first steps toward climate change mitigation and adaptation



- Integrating climate change considerations into the Comp Plan
- First municipal GHG inventory complete in 2019
- Sea level rise vulnerability assessment through SMPDC-led grant projects
- LED streetlight conversion
- Applying for EDA grant to repair and raise pier
- Partnered to create the Reg. Sustainability and Resilience Program
- Collaborating with local schools and nonprofits to address climate change issues

# Setting climate change goals for Kennebunkport

# Getting started

- pick the low hanging fruit
- build on current successes
- integrate policies and programs into the work plans and budgeting of departments and committees
- find opportunities to leverage the work of partnerships and grants

# 2022 Growth Planning Committee citizen survey responses

- Town priorities over the next 5-10 years:
  - The *preservation of natural resources and the environment* was **listed as the #1 priority by 54% of respondents.**
- The town should continue to *preserve and support the fishing industries* in town.
  - **95% of respondents** agreed or strongly agreed.
- The town should *plan for local impacts to sea level rise and changing climate.*
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- The town should work to *reduce energy consumption of town owned facilities.*
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- Municipal sustainability means meeting the needs of present community members without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The town should *develop a sustainability plan.*
  - **82% of respondents** agreed or strongly agreed.

# Sustainability/resilience collaborators can help with town climate change goals





[www.kportclimate.org](http://www.kportclimate.org)



Educate

Demystify climate  
through tangible s

s for

power,



## Regional Sustainability and Resilience Program



Supports both regional and individual community efforts to enhance:

- Sustainability
- Climate preparedness
- Coastal resilience





# Our Town

# Our Future

