ADOPTED KENNEBUNKPORT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

March 29, 2024

BUILD RESILIENCY		
1. Create Resilient Infrastructure to support key community services.	Continue to support critical infrastructure by maintaining key community resources: sewer, water, stormwater management, utilities, roads, culverts, and bridges. \$\$\$\\$\$	
	Assess and manage impacts of saltwater intrusion and groundwater rise on sewers, septic systems and wells - REGIONAL STRATEGY. \$	
	3. Plan for maintaining power at key facilities during power outages.\$\$	
2. Create Energy Resiliency to safeguard critical services for residents.	Investigate cost-benefit of installing renewable energy generation to service municipal and school buildings. \$	
	Work with CMP & MPUC to advocate for improved grid resilience – REGIONAL STRATEGY. \$	

* Relative Cost Key:

\$ \$\$ \$\$\$

3. Ensure Community Resilience/Disaster Preparedness to protect residents during extreme weather events.	 Assess existing Resilience Hub(s) to ensure they have the capacity to provide sufficient critical emergency services, including information, electricity, food, water, and shelter. Review/enhance emergency planning for hazard mitigation and disaster response – REGIONAL STRATEGY.
4. Increase Sustainability and Resilient Development - increase the resilience and safety of existing properties and encourage new development that is adapted to climate change.	 Consider cost risks to the Town of exposure to climate hazards when approving location of new and redevelopment projects. Encourage and streamline processes for residents and businesses to reduce flood risks through the utilization of best practices. Assess cost-benefit to Town of managed relocation/retreat programs. \$
5. Protect Natural Resources as a buffer for climate change and to maintain community character.	 Promote and enable nature-based solutions, where appropriate, for shoreline protection and carbon sequestration. Promote conservation and restoration of natural areas that are vulnerable to climate hazards and those that provide climate and hazard mitigation such as flood mitigation, important habitat, and carbon sequestration.

^{*} Relative Cost Key: \$ \$\$ \$\$\$

REDUCE EMISSIONS		
6. Build Energy Efficiency to reduce energy costs and GHG	 Promote weatherization incentive programs for residential, commercial, municipal buildings - REGIONAL STRATEGY. 	
emissions for municipality, citizens, and businesses.	 Promote building electrification incentive programs - REGIONAL STRATEGY. 	
	3. Encourage transition from the use of gas-powered small engines.\$	
	 Assess cost-benefit of transitioning public fleets to EVs - Potential RSU 21 Partnership. 	
7. Support electric and hybrid vehicles and reduce VMT (vehicle miles traveled)	 2 Encourage installation of commercial EV chargers, especially in public lots, hotels and other public venues. 	
	 Increase bike-ability and walkability where appropriate to reduce dependence on cars. 	

ENABLE	ACTION
	Collaborate with RSU-21 schools to incorporate climate change, resilience, and sustainability into school curricula. <i>Potential RSU 21 Partnership</i> . \$
8. Community Outreach : Actively engage the community in local climate, sustainability and resilience issues.	2. Promote climate education in the community at large. \$
	 Create a shared "Community Vision" around climate resilience for Kennebunkport's future.
	Create a "Climate Committee" to help implement community outreach projects and support town staff and boards. \$
9. Enable Municipal Operations and Funding to support the Climate Action Plan ensuring equal access to services and resources.	Incorporate climate resilience and GHG emissions criteria – along with equity considerations – into municipal budgeting, policy and staffing decisions. \$
	 Investigate opportunities to diversify sources of revenue to decrease over-reliance on taxes from high-value residential coastal properties.
	3. Conduct a review of ordinances and policies to identify necessary changes to reduce emissions and runoff and build resiliency. Consider streamlining approval processes and reducing barriers to allow community members to protect their properties while not negatively impacting their neighbors.

^{*} Relative Cost Key: \$ \$\$ \$\$\$