



Climate Action Net Zero (CANZ) Plan

Presented by: Plymouth Climate Action Network (PCAN)

Plymouth Climate Action Network (PCAN)

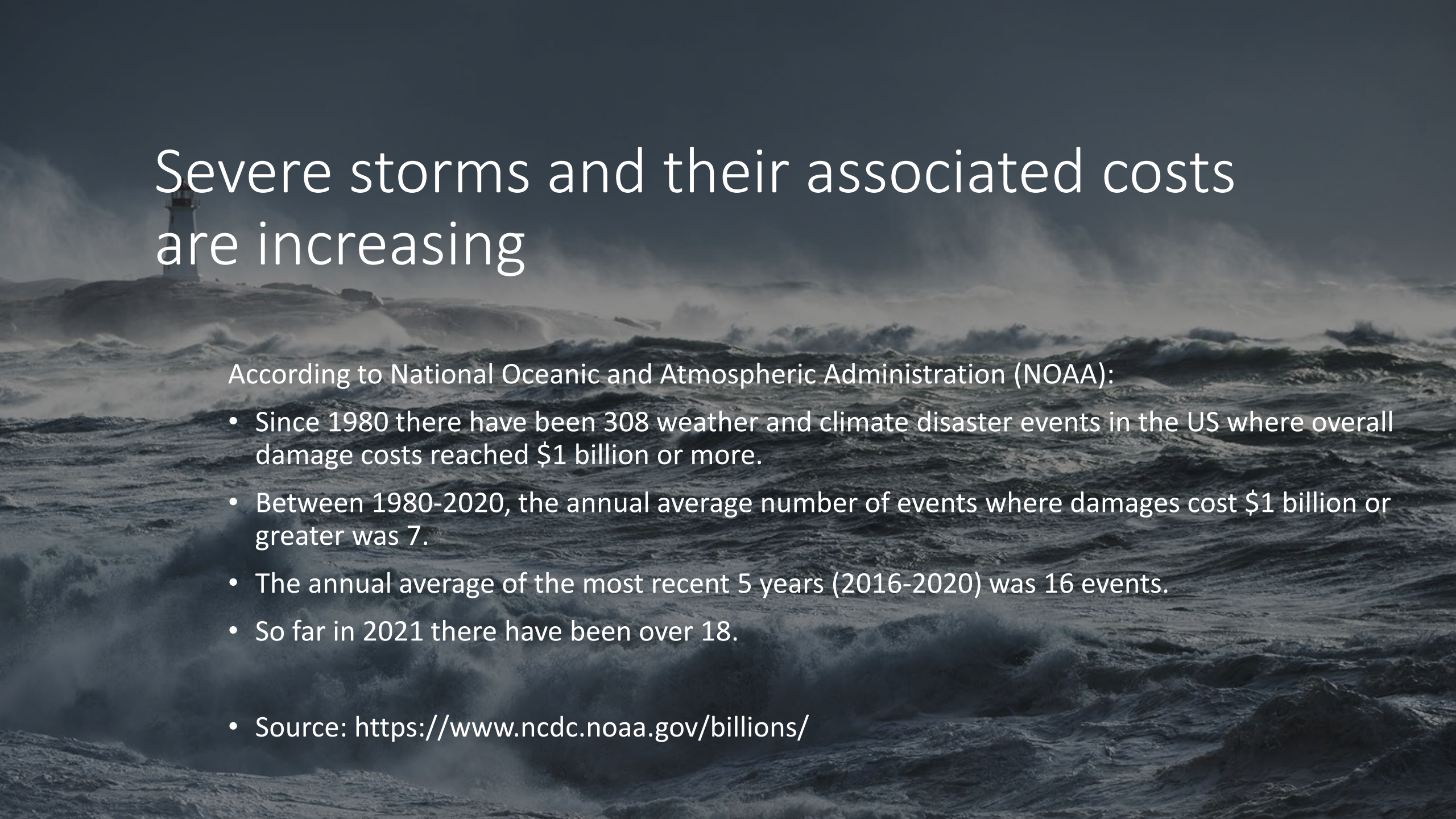
The Climate Action/Net Zero Decarbonization (CANZ) Plan is being proposed as a Select Board goal by the Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe, The League of Women Voters Plymouth Area, Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance, and Sustainable Plymouth. These four groups are members of the growing coalition of local organizations known as Plymouth Climate Action Network (PCAN).



A comprehensive plan is needed

We are asking the Select Board to set a Climate Action/Net Zero Decarbonization (CANZ) Plan as a goal because of the urgency of the climate crisis and the need for a comprehensive plan to address it.

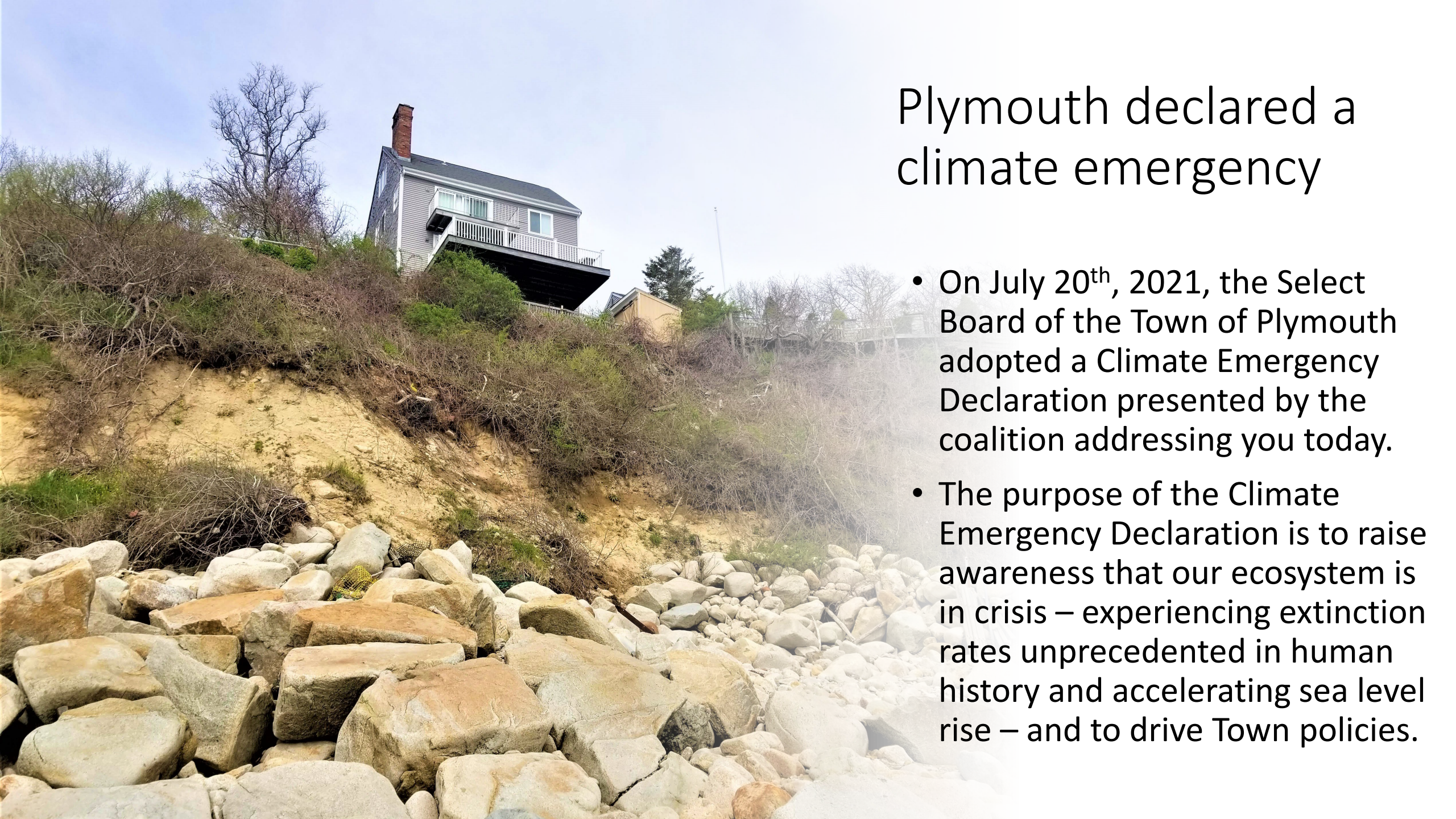




Severe storms and their associated costs are increasing

According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):

- Since 1980 there have been 308 weather and climate disaster events in the US where overall damage costs reached \$1 billion or more.
- Between 1980-2020, the annual average number of events where damages cost \$1 billion or greater was 7.
- The annual average of the most recent 5 years (2016-2020) was 16 events.
- So far in 2021 there have been over 18.
- Source: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/billions/>



Plymouth declared a climate emergency

- On July 20th, 2021, the Select Board of the Town of Plymouth adopted a Climate Emergency Declaration presented by the coalition addressing you today.
- The purpose of the Climate Emergency Declaration is to raise awareness that our ecosystem is in crisis – experiencing extinction rates unprecedented in human history and accelerating sea level rise – and to drive Town policies.

The recently released Sixth Assessment Report of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC AR6) stresses the seriousness of the issue

The impacts of climate change are locked in for the next 30 years due to the carbon currently in the atmosphere

We can limit warming beyond 2050 if we take immediate and significant action now to reduce emissions and remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere

We are on track to achieve 'worst-case-scenario' climate change impacts, i.e., systemic collapse, if we continue the path we are on

We must achieve Net Zero carbon emissions by 2050

What is a CANZ Plan?

A Climate Action/Net Zero Decarbonization (CANZ) Plan is a document that outlines local climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies with a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to zero at the earliest possible date.

Using the standard and proper protocol, and seeking the input from community organizations, boards, and committees; the town would form an advisory committee to begin working on a plan.



Why a CANZ Plan?

- Given the dire outlook of the recently released IPCC AR6 report, we feel that more must be done at every level to mitigate the impacts of climate change and prepare for the impacts of climate disruption.
- We believe that for the Climate Resiliency/Sustainability Planner to be most effective, she or he should have a comprehensive plan to follow and implement.



The Advisory Committee

An Advisory Committee might consist of subject matter experts and individuals with experience in public health, housing, social and human services, design, development, planning, preservation, sustainability, renewable energy, environmental advocacy, education, and government.

Presumably, the advisory committee would meet at regular intervals.





The task of the advisory committee

- An advisory committee would typically identify the types of energy currently being used and suggest emission reduction measures that are customized to *equitably* meet the needs of the Town of Plymouth.
- An advisory committee might explore solutions for such sectors as municipal buildings, commercial buildings, residential buildings, transportation, energy systems, agriculture, and land use.



Modeling and Resources

- Mass Climate Action Network's Local Clean Energy Toolkit offers a process for developing a CANZ Plan that could be used as a guide.
- The Massachusetts 2050 Decarbonization Roadmap is a publicly available document that may be used as a guide to cities and towns in Massachusetts.
- The Metropolitan Area Planning Council has a public "Net Zero Playbook" available.
- There are also over 20 towns in Massachusetts that have Climate Action/Net Zero Decarbonization Plans publicly available.
- There are many tools and resources available through the EPA and organizations such as Greenhouse Gas Protocol.

Engagement and Responsibility

- The Town could work with local community organizations, nonprofits, and volunteers to engage and inform the public.
- The Town could garner participation from community stakeholders to take part in the CANZ initiative.
- The Select Board would announce the Climate Action/Net Zero Plan initiative as one of its goals.
- Presumably, the Select Board would commit to working with the future Climate Resiliency/Sustainability Planner and advisory committee on achieving the goal.
- We suggest that the Select Board ensure that individual Town departments are accountable for furnishing required information to the advisory committee and Climate Resiliency/Sustainability Planner.



Supporting Organizations

These organizations represent thousands of Plymouth residents

So far, the list of supporting organizations is:

- Friends of Ellisville Marsh
- Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe
- Herring Ponds Watershed Association
- League of Women Voters Plymouth Area
- Living Observatory
- Network of Open Space Friends
- Plymouth Board of Health
- Plymouth Energy Committee
- Plymouth Open Space Committee
- Social Action Committee of First Parish Plymouth Unitarian Universalist Church
- South Shore & Cape Chapter, Citizens' Climate Lobby
- Southeastern MA Pine Barrens Alliance (SEMPBA)
- State Representative Mathew Muratore
- Sustainable Plymouth
- Wildlands Trust

...and growing

Please vote “yes”

We are requesting your “yes” vote to ensure that the Town continues to prioritize preventative measures that will save money in the long term. Implementing a CANZ Plan will mitigate the impacts of climate change; reduce adaptation costs; and ensure the wellbeing of residents, wildlife, the economy, and our coastal ecosystem.

Thank you!

