

TOWN OF WELLESLEY



MASSACHUSETTS

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

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Sustainability Director: Marybeth Martello

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Sustainability Analyst: Janet Mosley

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Susan Morris, Chair

Fred Bunker, Vice Chair

Martha Collins

Mary Gard

Ellen Korpi

Catherine Mirick

Lise Olney

Wellesley Climate Action Committee Seeking New Member

Wellesley's Climate Action Committee (CAC, Committee) seeks a new member to be appointed by the Select Board for a term spanning July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2027. Applicants should email a paragraph describing their interest and background to Sustainability Director Marybeth Martello at mmartello@wellesleyma.gov by Friday, March 15. The CAC will accept applications from Thursday, February 15 to Friday, March 29.

Candidates should be committed to the CAC's mission of reducing town-wide greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. Responsibilities include attending CAC meetings one to two times per month (currently scheduled from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on Fridays), taking an active role in CAC projects, and eventually coordinating one or more initiatives related to Wellesley's [Climate Action Plan \(CAP\)](#). Projects often involve engagement with Town departments and boards, grassroots and non-profit groups, nearby communities, regional associations, and state and federal agencies. Candidates should possess:

- A strong interest in climate action;
- Excellent organizational and leadership skills;
- Experience with initiating and leading projects; and
- The ability to collaborate with Town departments, boards, and other stakeholders.

Background Information for 2024 CAC Member Position Description

The Climate Action Committee (CAC) consists of four Select Board-appointed members, plus one representative from each of the following: Select Board, School Committee, and Wellesley Municipal Light Plant (WMLP). In accordance with the [bylaw](#) establishing the CAC, the Select Board appoints the four members from residents active in the Town's volunteer sustainable

energy initiatives or others who bring relevant expertise, such as knowledge about climate action, sustainability, clean energy, marketing, or community engagement.

In 2021-2, the Committee led development of a [Climate Action Plan](#) (CAP) for achieving town-wide greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) reduction goals established by Town Meeting. The CAC supports CAP implementation through work with Town departments, community organizations, residents, the commercial sector, and colleges to reduce emissions from municipal, residential, commercial, and institutional sectors and to support climate action related to governance, energy, buildings, mobility, natural resources, and waste.

The CAC (formerly the Sustainable Energy Committee) was established in 2010 and has led or contributed to many successful initiatives, including Wellesley's:

- [Climate Action Plan](#), engaging over 70 stakeholders across six working groups.
- [Municipal Sustainable Building Guidelines](#), garnering support from seven building proponent boards and leading to development of two new net zero ready elementary schools, an all-electric Town Hall, and plans for an all-electric Warren Building renovation.
- [Building Energy Roundtable](#) engaging Wellesley's large commercial property owners and encouraging building decarbonization.
- **Gas Transitions Working Group** – working to identify and track methane leaks (particularly those with the highest level of methane emissions) and advocating for repair at the regional and state levels.
- [Green Community designation](#), earning over \$475,000 in grant funds to support municipal energy conservation measures.
- Three popular **Electric Vehicle Showcase and Test Drive Events**.
- Multiple **solar installations** including at 70 households and three houses of faith.
- Progress on energy efficiency via a Power to Save campaign, workshops at the Council on Aging, and decarbonization audits.
- **WasteWise** – a collaboration of the Natural Resources Commission, Department of Public Works (DPW) and CAC to identify and capitalize on win-win opportunities associated with sustainable materials management.
- [Residential food waste drop-off program at the RDF](#) and school food waste diversion and food rescue.
- First **municipal EV Charging Station**
- Town-wide Mobility Committee and Electric Vehicle Working Group.
- [Green Collaborative](#) to educate and coordinate grass roots groups, individuals, and municipal departments on sustainability issues.
- [Annual Monitoring and reporting of townwide GHG Emissions](#) and efforts to reduce emissions.