

Key Points:

- Find ways to involve all members of our community in climate planning
- Start setting sustainable goals before design starts on new buildings and infrastructure
- Important to find ways to break down barriers to local action
- Reach out to other members of community (not choir), e.g. LWV event on 2/26
- Encourage adoption of solar energy
- Priorities:
 - Buildings – 60% of Lexington's energy budget
 - Climate Adaptation and resilience Planning
 - Solar energy for on town property and residential homes
 - Retrofit existing buildings
 - Plant trees

Mark Sandeen's intro

- Summary of where we use energy
 - 40% of all energy nationwide used is consumed in buildings, 60% in Lexington
- Sources of our greenhouse gas emissions
 - Electric power generation creates 33% of nation's CO₂ emissions
 - 26% of nation's CO₂ emissions come from transportation
- Need to update design standards for our infrastructure to fit the current and future reality.
 - Storm water and sewer infrastructure
 - Roads
 - Buildings
 - Electric Grid
- Local Action Sectors
 - Buildings
 - Energy
 - Water
 - Transportation
 - Food
 - Waste
 - Land Use & Natural Environment
 - Community

Possible actions

- Ask town to integrate climate planning into town projects at outset
- Develop guidelines for greening historic buildings
- Improve electricity delivery reliability
- Reduce flooding and sewer overflows
- Explore potential of electricity aggregation for lowering costs and emissions
- Encourage local food options and lower consumption of carbon intensive food
- Reduce solid waste generation in town— Relook at “pay as you throw”
- Freecycling—we throw stuff away, but there is no “away”
- Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled – Improve Walkability and Cycling options

Group comments

Is there a need/way to quantify energy use in town?

This is in-process. Sustainable Lexington is data driven.

We need to help people reduce energy use at an individual level.

Most important factor is adaptation.

Everyone should do an energy assessment; it's free and there are many credits available to make it affordable.

Why don't more homeowners do energy assessments?

There seems to be psychological blocks.

How do we move people forward to make change?

People are more likely to take action, if a neighbor has taken action.

Need to reach out and engage broader community, e.g. LWV event on 2/26.

Encourage people to apply for Solarize Mass.

Buildings and energy consumption: there wasn't enough planning for green design of new school.

Townpeople had little input.

Upcoming election, March 4: call officials running for re-election and let them know where you stand

There is a need for us to show how everything is connected, so that projects are not developed separately by individual constituencies, but the whole plan is integrated.

Tell stories of success—success is contagious.

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