

Brunswick Climate Action Task Force: *Call for Members*

The Town of Brunswick is thrilled to announce the drafting of its first comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CAP). This plan will collect information about the Town's greenhouse gas emissions and vulnerability to climate change and will be used to guide the development of actions that decrease greenhouse gas emissions and increase community resilience to the impacts of climate change. Creating a CAP is the first step towards a greener, more adaptable Brunswick. To ensure that this planning process will be led by a diverse, representational Task Force, we need your help! The Brunswick Town Council is seeking applicants for the Climate Action Task Force. This Task Force will collaborate with municipal staff and members of the Council to ensure the Plan is comprehensive and provides the necessary guidance to meet emission reductions and adaptability goals set for the Town. Community members of all ages are encouraged to apply.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Climate Action Task Force is to oversee the development of the Brunswick CAP, with assistance from Town staff and Greater Portland Council of Government (GPCOG) staff.

This Climate Action Plan will:

- Assess community vulnerability to the impacts of climate change,
- Conduct a community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory,
- Identify & address community needs via a vulnerability assessment & community engagement,
- Establish a vision for & prioritize specific targets for climate mitigation and adaptation, and
- Develop a strategic plan composed of a set of recommendations to meet mitigation & adaptation targets and a framework for implementation and identification of possible funding sources or opportunities.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Brunswick Climate Action Task Force shall

- Promote community engagement to guide the creation of CAP targets and actions
 - Pool input, resources, and feedback from throughout the community
 - Collaborate with municipal staff, Town Council, and other community stakeholders to plan, promote, and conduct outreach events
 - Identify vulnerable populations & develop strategies to encourage inclusive participation
- Recommend prioritization of actions for the Climate Action Plan
 - Identify vulnerable areas of the community (physical and social) that would most benefit from improvement (based on local knowledge)
 - Identify opportunities for greenhouse gas reductions
 - Provide input on suggested strategies and specific actions
- Provide input and review on technical reports
 - Review emission reduction inventory and choose an emissions reduction target to recommend to the Town Council
 - Assist in the development of a prioritized set of actions for both climate adaptation and emissions reductions
 - Review the final Climate Action Plan as part of a public review

MEMBERSHIP: Anyone who resides in Brunswick is encouraged to apply for the Climate Action Task Force; this includes business owners, members of community groups, non-profit leaders, Town committee members, school faculty and staff, as well as residents-at-large. Topics discussed may pertain to infrastructure, sustainability and adaptation, renewable energy, at-risk populations, and stewardship of natural resources. Applicants should be interested in learning about and discussing these topics; prior experience or expertise within the sector applicants intend to represent is preferred. Applicants under the age of 18 will require written permission from a parent or legal guardian.

The Task Force will be composed of at least two members of the Recycling and Sustainability Committee who shall serve as representation for the “Sustainability and Adaptation” sector. The remainder of the Task Force shall be comprised of residents, community stakeholders, and industry leaders, who specialize in adjacent or related fields, and shall consist of representation from some, or all (preferred), of the following categories:

SECTOR	AREAS OF INTEREST
Sustainability & Adaptation	Waste Reduction & Management Recycling & Composting Climate & Environmental Sciences
Transportation	Transportation (<i>pedestrian, bike, motor, etc.</i>) Carbon Footprint, Emissions, and Pollution
Business	Economic Development Business & Finance
Planning & Development	Housing, Construction & Building Operations Sustainable Infrastructure Community Development & Town Planning
Energy	Electricity Renewable Energy
Food Systems	Agriculture & Aquaculture
Natural Resources	Marine Resources Rivers & Coastal Waters
Land Use & Conservation	Land Conservation Environmental Health and Diversity

TIME COMMITMENT: This Task Force shall convene for up to one year (or until project completion). The time commitment is expected to be between 1-2 meetings and no greater than 5-10 hours per month (*10 hours more so towards the last few months when finalizing the plan*). Meeting frequency and length will be decided by the Task Force, but applicants should expect meetings to be at least one hour, and up to twice per month.

REPORTING: The Task Force will be facilitated by the Town’s Environmental Planner, Ashley Charleson, who will serve as Town liaison and point of contact with the consultant facilitating the development of the Climate Action Plan. The Task Force will provide summary updates to the Town Council on a quarterly basis, or as deemed necessary by the Town Manager.

HOW TO APPLY: To learn more about the initiative, and the Town’s efforts in sustainability and energy efficiency, head to our town [website](#). Interested applicants must apply and be interviewed by the Brunswick Appointments Committee; the application deadline is Monday, April 10th, 2023 at 4:30pm. Applications may be filled out [online](#) as well as in person in the Town Clerk’s Office (Room 202 on the 2nd floor of Brunswick Town Hall, 85 Union Street). **When applying, please indicate the sector/area of expertise you wish to represent under the application field “Committee or Membership Type.”** For questions about the application process, please call the Clerk’s office at 207-725-6658. All other questions concerning the nature of this work may be directed to the Environmental Planner, Ashley Charleson (acharleson@brunswickme.org).