

TOWN OF FALMOUTH, MAINE



The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

As Chairman of the Falmouth Town Council, I am writing to urge you to take the lead in moving the global community toward a strong international climate deal in December.

Climate disruption is already threatening communities throughout the country. The Gulf of Maine is warming and becoming more acidic every year, damaging our seafood industry and ecosystem. Warming temperatures and extreme weather events make it clear that climate disruption is a crisis that needs not only a local solution but a global solution as well. As you and your Administration prepare for the historic climate conference in Paris, I would like to highlight the local actions we have taken in Falmouth to address climate change.

We have taken leadership in both local and regional efforts since signing the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement in 2007. For example, biomass boilers supply all of our school department's heat and hot water; we have integrated biofuels, hybrids and electric vehicles into the vehicle fleet; we have made the energy efficiency of our municipal buildings a priority as we assess their heating and electrical needs; we are committed to reducing our annual emissions by 2% and have begun the planning process to turn our capped landfill into a solar power generation facility as well as to replace all Town streetlights with advanced controlled LED fixtures. These efforts will mitigate the impacts to our environment and are also saving the Town money.

In addition to local efforts, Falmouth participates in regional sustainability efforts. These include Home Energy Fairs throughout the region and collaboration with other towns and entities to share information. We have discovered that this work involves many different stakeholders and progressive local, state and federal policy decisions are critical in moving forward

We believe that, "what you can measure, you can manage," and our Town and School Energy Plan, which includes measurable strategies for emissions reduction, will aid us in continuing our work in the future. Attached with this letter is a resolution approved by the Falmouth Town Council in November, 2015.

Thank you for your continued leadership on climate change, and I look forward to a strong international climate commitment from the United States and the global community.

Most respectfully,

David Goldberg, Chair
Falmouth Town Council