The background image is a photograph of a coastal scene. On the left, there is a two-story building with a white roof and light-colored siding, situated on a wooden pier. A small blue boat is moored near the pier. The water is calm, and the sky is overcast. In the distance, some land is visible across the water.

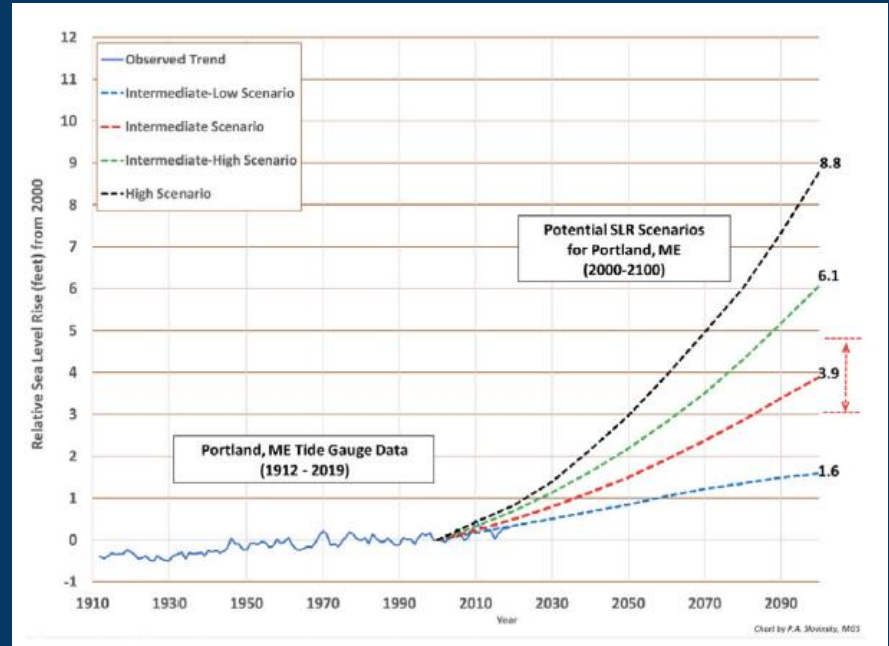
# Falmouth Climate Action Planning

Presentation to Town Council  
April 12, 2021

Photo Credit: Trish Peterson, Water Reporter,  
Friends of Casco Bay

# Climate Change Impacts

- Sea Level Rise
- Ocean Warming and Acidification
- Warmer, More Variable Temperatures
- Increased Precipitation and Storm Intensity



1912-2019 sea level as measured at Portland Tide Gauge, with future sea level rise projections under different emissions scenarios

# History of Falmouth + Maine Climate Action Planning

**2007**

**U.S. Mayors Climate  
Protection Agreement**

Falmouth Town  
Council signed  
agreement, committing  
to reduce carbon  
emissions

**2010**

**Green Ribbon Report**

Falmouth developed  
first climate action  
report.

**2018**

**Municipal and School  
Dept. Energy and  
Sustainability Plan**

Falmouth developed  
sustainability goals for  
municipal operations,  
schools, businesses,  
residents, and region.



**2020**

**One Climate Future  
Maine State Climate  
Report**

Portland/South Portland  
and State-level climate  
action plans published.

# 2010 Green Ribbon Report

- Completed community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory (2007)
- Set 2% average annual GHG emissions reduction target
- Proposed actions to reach reduction target
- Called for continued GHG emissions monitoring to evaluate progress toward target

	
<b>Energy and Climate Protection Plan</b>	2
Recommendations for Action	6
	8
	11
<b>Submitted to Falmouth Town Council</b>	11
<b>On February 8, 2010</b>	11
(rev July 16, 2010)	13
	14
	15
<b>By</b>	16
Falmouth Green Ribbon Commission	16
	17
<b>On Energy and Climate Protection</b>	17
	18
	
5. Monitor and Re-inventory Emissions & Update Recommendations .....	21
E. Recommendations: Energy Efficiency.....	21
3   Falmouth Climate Action Plan	

# 2018 Municipal and School Department Energy and Sustainability Plan

- Completed GHG emissions inventory for municipal and school operations (2016)
- Determined broad strategies for municipal operations, schools, businesses, residents, and region to use to attain 2% GHG emissions reduction target



economic vitality to meet their needs.

## Municipal and School Department Energy and Sustainability Plan

practices with our locally engaged and

*Town of Falmouth, Maine*  
October 2018

Agreement, which is within municipal Commission (the inventory and offer mission Charge, see Plan were accepted sion have strongly ntly updated 2013

of town volunteers d Energy Advisory tters relating to the ted matters. REAC interest in energy but are not limited

ciency of municipal nendations that the aste reduction, and

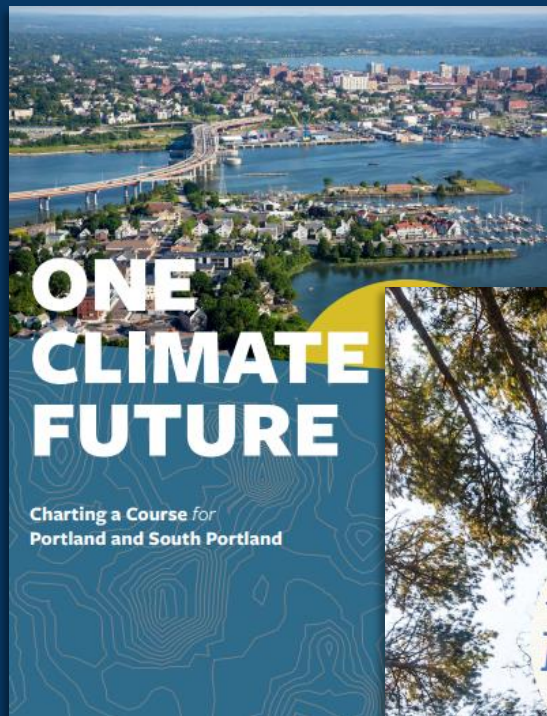


clean energy opportunities and choices;

4. Enhance and promote the Town's recycling program;
5. Promote the use of clean, renewable energy sources in Falmouth's public and private facilities through education and outreach;
6. Work with surrounding communities on potential regional energy efficiency and clean energy and waste management strategies;

# 2020 One Climate Future + Maine Won't Wait Plans

- *One Climate Future* Goals:
  - 80% reduction in community-wide GHG emissions by 2050
  - 100% renewable energy for all municipal operations by 2040
- *Maine Won't Wait* Goals:
  - 45% reduction by 2030
  - 80% reduction by 2050





## Where Does Falmouth Stand in 2021?

- The Town is using the 2010 and 2018 reports to prioritize actions
- Actions to mitigate and adapt are evolving in the face of climate change

## Where Should Falmouth Go From Here?

- The Town is overdue for a community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory
- The Town has never completed a Vulnerability Assessment

# 2021 Opportunity

- GPCOG Climate Action Plan Municipal Program
- Secured Maine DOT Funds to support development
- Lead planning process as model for other small communities and the State

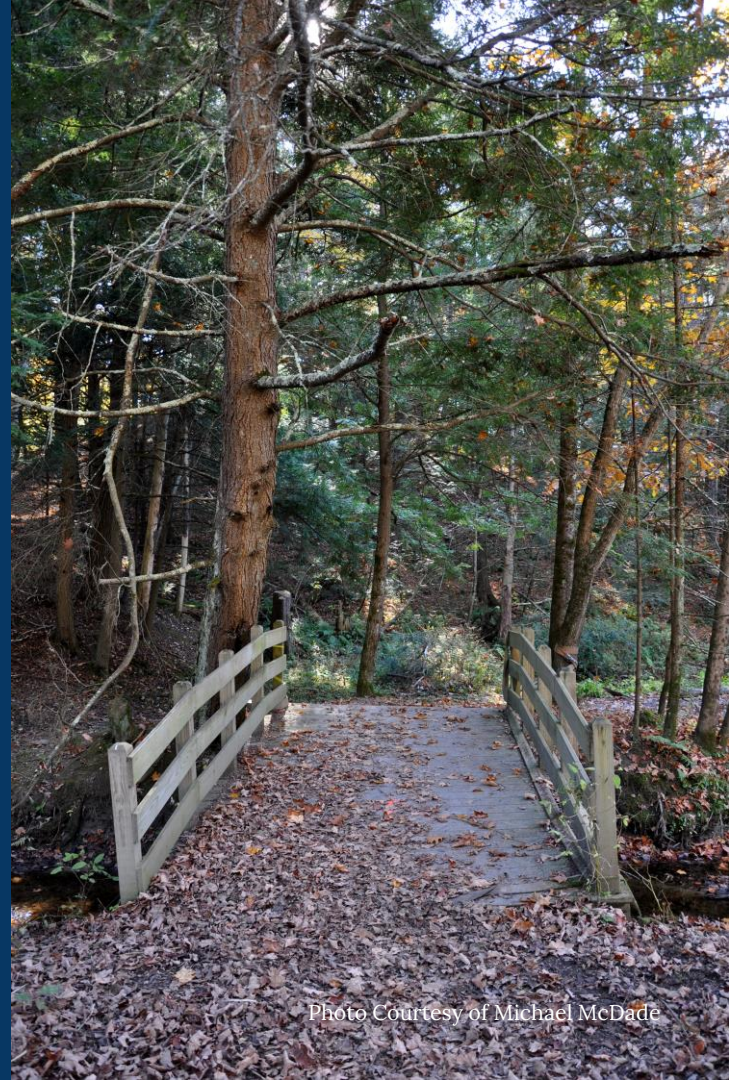


Photo Courtesy of Michael McDade



Recommendation

**Partner with GPCOG to complete updated climate action plan.**

# Climate Action Plan Elements

- Vulnerability assessment
- Updated community-wide GHG inventory
- Community engagement throughout process
- Establish a new vision and prioritize targets
- Strategic Climate Action Plan to achieve targets



Photo Courtesy of Michael McDade

# Vulnerability Assessment

**Includes:** Identify the hazards that Falmouth will likely face from climate change, and how our infrastructure, ecosystems, economies, and communities may be most vulnerable to its impacts.

**Goal:** Prioritize and invest in actions that can best build our community resilience.



# Benefits of GPCOG Climate Action Plan Partnership

- Align with federal, state and regional efforts to produce a coordinated response to climate impacts
- Shape and streamline a process that can be used by other area communities
- Support from GPCOG climate specialists
- Assistance with identifying implementation funding opportunities
- Cost: \$14,711





# Next Steps

# April 2021: Town Council to approve Resolution to complete Climate Action Plan

**May 2021:** Work with REAC to determine key stakeholders

**May 2021:** Budget approval for completion of Climate Action Plan in partnership with GPCOG

## Spring 2022: Anticipated completion of Falmouth Climate Action Plan