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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement</td>
<td>Falmouth Town Council signed agreement, committing to reduce carbon emissions</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Green Ribbon Report</td>
<td>Falmouth developed first climate action report</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Municipal and School Dept. Energy and Sustainability Plan</td>
<td>Falmouth developed sustainability goals for municipal operations, schools, businesses, residents, and region</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>One Climate Future Maine State Climate Report</td>
<td>Portland/South Portland and State-level climate action plans published</td>
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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
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
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
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
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