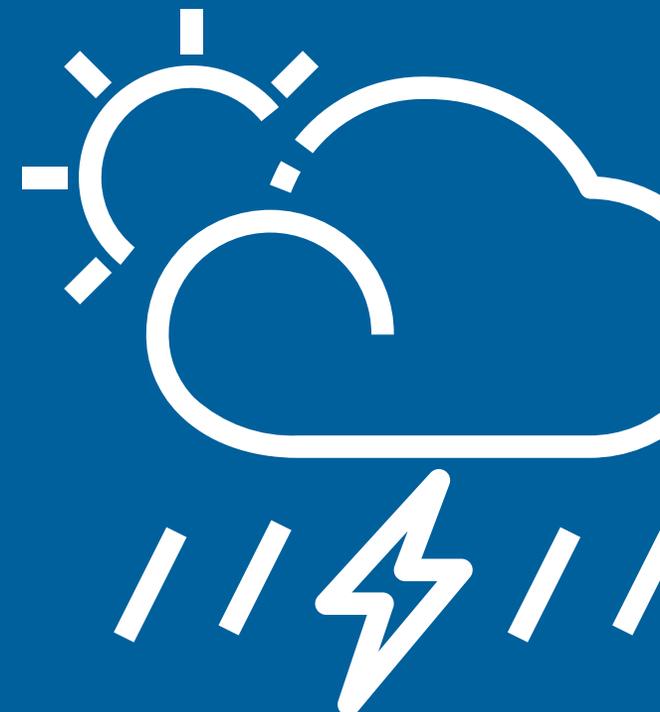


# Summary of Climate Solutions



# Improving access to water to cool off

- Residents did not trust that the lakes/ponds in the nearby state parks were safe for swimming
- Residents suggested installing splash pads in commonly used parks:
  - Natick Commons
  - Stone Park in Ashland
  - Cushing Facility in Framingham
- Reduce registration/admission costs at pools and beaches

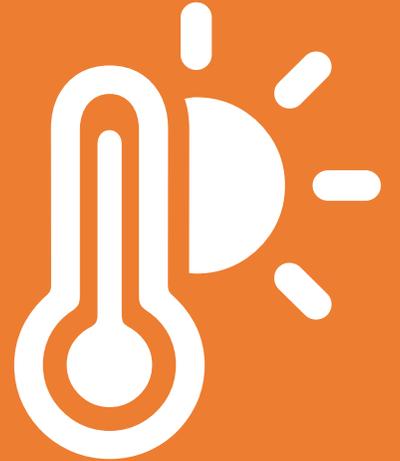


Residents were nervous about **solar energy scams**. They wished their city/town provided **more guidance on clean energy options**.

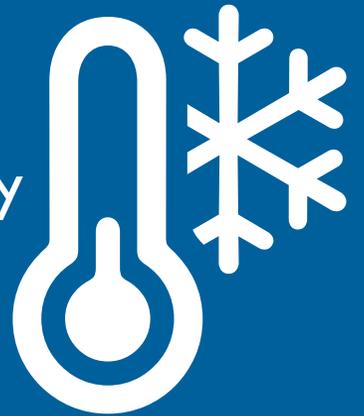


**Residents wanted programs that built community resilience to extreme temperatures**

Provide or subsidize air conditioners for low-income households



Improve the accessibility of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)



# Residents wanted to **make walking and biking safer and easier**

## Natick

- Add **bike lanes** to Pond Street
- Add **lighting to rail trail**
- Add a **sign** to show where to safely cross the bridge on the rail trail



## Ashland

- Add **streetlights** to make streets more walkable and bikeable
- Install **sidewalks** on Rt. 135 so residents can walk to the train station
- Install **sidewalks** that lead to Ashland State Park

## Framingham

- Add **bike lanes and sidewalks** on roads feeding into rail trails
- Add **protected bike lanes to Rt 9** from apartments near Foss Reservoir to Natick Mall
- Add **protected Rt 9 crossings** near apartments and grocery stores
- **Pedestrian connections** between downtown Framingham and Farm Pond, Cushing Memorial Park

# Residents wanted **improved MetroWest Regional Transit Authority service:**

1. Increase the frequency & hours of the bus (weekend & night service)
2. Add signage, benches & shelters to bus stops
3. Translate signage, route information, and CatchConnect app into multiple languages
4. Promote existing services, such as CatchConnect, to Environmental Justice communities

# Residents wanted to get to **school without a car**

Framingham and Natick residents described difficulties getting children to school or after-school programs

In Natick, the after-school bus route has a very long route

Parents/caregivers did not want kids walking home because of unsafe roads/sidewalks

Residents who live within a mile of the school do not qualify for buses

## Resident Suggestions

Have different after-school busses for each school

Create a subsidized ride-share or taxi program for rides to school

School provides transportation to practice or match location

Residents  
suggested ways  
to get the word  
out about  
**emergency**  
**planning** and  
services



Translate materials into **multiple languages**

Send important information **in the mail**, do not just post to the City/Town website



Adopt the liaison model to share resources, **go in-person to locations and events** (ex. festivals, soccer games, schools, ESOL programs) to connect to residents about climate readiness

Send **welcome packets** with resources to new residents

