

Greater Boston Metropolitan Mayors Climate Commitment

How local leaders are meeting the moment together

In the ten years since the adoption of the Metro Mayors Coalition's first regional climate commitment in 2015, our 17 communities have led the way in planning and implementing climate solutions at the local and regional level. Accomplishments include: the establishment of an inter-governmental Climate Taskforce to build capacity, coordination, and collaboration; the adoption of a net-zero by 2050 goal and implementation of hundreds of policies and actions to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions; advocacy for improvements to critical regional infrastructure, such as our dams, that must be upgraded to withstand the impacts of climate change; and the development of a first-of-its kind regional extreme heat preparedness and adaptation plan.

In May of 2025, we remain steadfast in our shared commitment to address collaboratively our region's greatest challenges, including climate change. The impacts of the global climate crisis have begun to hit home: more intense coastal storms that batter our shores, increased heatwaves that harm our most vulnerable residents, extreme drought that lead to unprecedented wildfires, and catastrophic flooding in inland communities that can wreak havoc on personal and municipal budgets. We know the time to act is now.

As Mayors and City Managers we recognize that the next decade is a critical time to invest in climate action, both to reduce emissions rapidly and to scale-up solutions that make us more resilient to the impacts of climate-driven disasters. This also comes during a period when the federal government is threatening to abandon our communities, rolling back environmental protections for clean air and water, and cutting financial support for life-saving solutions. Local governments must work together and continue to lead the way, in close coordination with the Commonwealth, to maintain our commitment to ensure a livable and thriving region in the face of the climate crisis.

We hereby reaffirm our commitment to this work and make the following agreements:

We agree this Coalition has a key role to play in leading climate action and will continue to work towards our 2016 target of a net zero region by 2050 and partner with the Commonwealth to achieve its target of 50 percent emissions reductions by 2030. **We will** advocate for a grid that is prepared to support our electrification and clean energy goals.

We will advocate for energy infrastructure that is sited and built to meet our climate goals, while also sharing the regional burden and addressing the legacy of environmental injustice. **We will** advocate to maintain vital clean energy programs at the federal, state, and local levels.

We agree that our critical infrastructure is vulnerable to climate change. **We will** advocate for state and federal funding and authority to safeguard critical infrastructure, such as the Island End food distribution center, and to upgrade key assets like the Amelia Earhart and Charles River Dams, which have economic and safety impacts across our region. **We will** lead by example and create public buildings that are safer, more resilient, and better able to respond to the changing weather of our region.

We agree that buildings are our largest source of emissions in the region and that most of the buildings built today will be in use in 2050. **We will** advocate for large building emissions standards that align with our climate targets, along with the funding incentives necessary to support building improvements.

We agree that all residents deserve homes that are prepared for the changing climate and remain committed to the Metro Mayors' Housing Task Force commitment to build 185,000 new homes by 2030. **We will** advocate for continued state and federal investments in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and other social safety net programs, and **we will** advocate for existing and new state programs that help renters and homeowners to reduce energy costs. **We will** advocate for state laws and regulations to protect energy consumers from rising prices and scams.

We agree that transportation is the second largest sector of emissions in the Commonwealth. **We will** advocate for funding to ensure a robust, resilient, and reliable regional public transportation system, to ensure a strong network of reliable ways to move about the region. **We will** advocate to expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure to meet future demand, and **we will** continue to prioritize active transportation through pedestrian safety improvements, bike infrastructure, and safer streets for all.

We agree that inclusive outreach, including youth, non-profits, and historically marginalized communities, across our communities and the region is a critical aspect of preparing for climate change. **We will** hold a Metro Mayors' Youth Climate Summit this coming year that will engage young people from around our region in our critical climate work.

These shared commitments build on the significant work that many of our communities and agencies have undertaken for more than a decade. By signing this commitment, we pledge to support our shared vision for a more resilient and sustainable region. We pledge to dedicate resources and expertise to advance the work of the Climate Taskforce, to work together to secure additional resources, and to build capacity to meet our shared climate commitments.

This Commitment shall become effective upon adoption. ADOPTED this 12th day of May, 2025.