



TOWN OF BROOKLINE

Massachusetts

SELECTMEN'S CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

NANCY HELLER, Co-Chair
WERNER LOHE, Co-Chair

May 1, 2017

Re: Support of Warrant Article 20 (Paris Climate Agreement)

At its April 24, 2017 public hearing, the Selectmen's Climate Action Committee (SCAC) voted unanimously to support Warrant Article 20 (Paris Climate Agreement) with amendments in addition to those recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

The Committee agrees that it is appropriate for the Town of Brookline to sign the Paris Climate Agreement via the Non-State Actor Zone platform provided by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). By joining the ranks of numerous cities and towns across the United States, this action would emphasize the Town's commitment to taking active, measurable steps toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change.

The Committee plans to update its 2012 Climate Action Plan (CAP), as amended in 2015, reflecting the accomplishments the Town has achieved to mitigate and adapt to climate change, including progress it has made beyond the action items in the latest CAP. The CAP is based on the robust objectives of the Massachusetts Global Warming Solutions Act of 2008. In July 2017, the SCAC will be completing its first vulnerability assessment to predict climate change impacts in 2030 and 2070, and a data-driven preliminary mitigation plan based on this assessment, which will be presented at Town Meeting in Fall 2017. This process will greatly inform our planned revision of the CAP.

Furthermore, the SCAC is committed to measuring the Town's progress toward meeting the mitigation/adaptations goals and sharing these achievements and resources with the Brookline community to slow the rate of climate change.