

**EXETER SUSTAINABILITY & COASTAL RESILIENCE PROJECT: CHARTING A COURSE FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE
NEEDS ASSESSMENT / GAP ANALYSIS**

PL - Planning

MOP - Municipal Operations and Policy

CBO - Community Based and Outreach

RLU - Regulatory/Land Use

CN – Conservation

AR - Adaptation & Resilience

Action: Planning	S-M-L Term Action	Funding Needed	Partners	Outcomes
P1: Examine waste reduction initiatives (e.g. get data for waste management on Exeter and region as a whole and identify areas where reductions can be made and track progress; evaluate use of single-use plastics) [CBO]				
P2: Complete a town-wide Bike and Pedestrian plan				
P3: Explore implementing a “high water mark initiative” to mark levels of past floods in visible parts of town [CBO]				
P4: Implement FEMA Community Rating System actions to make flood insurance discounts available to residents [MOP]				
P5: Promote sustainability among businesses w/ a ‘Sustainable Exeter’ seal of approval for incorporating local food sourcing, composting, etc. [CBO]				

Action: Municipal Operations/Policy	S-M-L Term Action	Funding Needed	Partners	Outcomes
MOP1: Develop a Sustainable Purchasing Policy and bring to the Select Board for consideration				
MOP2: Develop a Green Building Policy for Town owned buildings and bring to the Select Board for consideration				
MOP3: Develop a Complete Streets Policy and bring to the Select Board for consideration				
MOP4: After the municipal operations Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory is completed this summer, develop a policy committing to GHG reductions and bring to Select Board for consideration				
MOP5: Develop and implement a Reduce & Reuse strategy in municipal operations and eventually town-wide [CBO]				
MOP6: Examine landfill and identify, if any, recapture opportunities exist				
MOP7: Examine adding electric vehicles to the town's vehicle fleet and charging stations at DPW and other Town facilities (PD, FD, TO could all share one location)				
MP8: Explore opening viable public land to farming [CBO, CN]				
MOP9: Develop a municipal "EV first" vehicle replacement policy and bring to Select Board for consideration				
MOP10: Review existing policies and permit procedures to identify and remove barriers to clean energy production [RLU]				
MOP11: Form regional partnerships (RPC, Chamber of Commerce, surrounding Towns, surrounding SAU's, major employers, REDC, etc.) to promote and engage in sustainable activities [MOP]				
MOP12: Review the energy checklist Durham				

utilizes in their TRC review process [MOP]				
MOP13: Draft recommendations to improve downtown business connections to our trail networks [CN]				
MOP14: Emphasize the importance of making public spaces and pedestrians an equal priority as vehicle travel [CBO]				
MOP15: Explore a “Reuse facility” in Town as a place for sharing, swapping goods, services and resources [CBO]				
MOP16: Promote sharing economies (i.e. tool & equipment library, HOA’s could be a good focus group) [CBO]				

Action: Community Based/Outreach	S-M-L Term Action	Funding Needed	Partners	Outcomes
CBO1: Explore implementing a “high water mark initiative” to mark levels of past floods in visible parts of town				
CNO2: Promote sustainability among businesses with a ‘Sustainable Exeter’ seal of approval for incorporating local food sourcing, composting, etc. (See SAC Coastal Resilience project)				
CBO3: Explore opening viable public land to farming [CN, MOP]				
CBO4: Form regional partnerships (RPC, Chamber of Commerce, surrounding Towns, surrounding SAU’s, major employers, REDC, etc.) to promote and engage in sustainable activities [MOP]				
CBO5: Educate the community about composting and work with partners (large businesses and schools) to implement community and neighborhood based efforts				
CBO6: Develop a public education campaign about sustainability and what it means (i.e. Sustainable				

Exeter video)				
CBO:7 Develop a branding effort for Sustainable Exeter to encourage participation by residents (e.g. logo and message)				
CBO8: Promote sharing economies (i.e. tool & equipment library, HOA's could be a good focus group) [MOP]				
CBO9: Form a case-study group or recruit an organization or business to work on their ecological footprint that can be later replicated to others across the community				
CBO10: Convene small community groups (stakeholder groups, businesses, neighborhoods, etc.) to start pilot programs on sustainability that can be built out to the broader community later				
CBO11: Foster a waste stream connection amongst businesses. Use EDC to foster connections between commercial users that can benefit from one another and recycle, reuse another's waste products				
CBO12: Promote water use reduction and conservation programs, smart meters, volume-based pricing structure, harvesting and recapture (e.g. "save \$/save the planet" initiative)				
CBO13: Water infiltration. "Let it rain" initiative. Educate resident and businesses about how their property contributes to runoff and what they can do to reduce it (rain barrels, porous pavers, plant trees, natural landscaping instead of lawn where appropriate, "Save Your Saturday! Don't mow/weed whack" program)				
CBO14: Partner with Healthy Lawns Clean Water Committee on outreach and Conservation Commission on their rain barrel program				

CBO15: Promote community gardens in public spaces, among neighborhood groups and in partnership with private property owners				
CBO16: Involve Chamber of Commerce in promoting local businesses, products and services (e.g. farm to table restaurants)				
CBO17: Form local partnerships/networks (public and private schools, neighborhood groups, businesses, etc) and work with them to develop similar initiatives the Town is pursuing				
CBO18: Hold an annual sustainability event timed around community events (such as the alewife run and American Independence Festival etc.) to keep sustainability on the forefront of people's minds. Highlight towns initiatives, climate related planning maps, living shoreline resources, HLCW, carbon footprint tracking activities etc.				

Action: Regulatory/Land Use	S-M-L Term Action	Funding Needed	Partners	Outcomes
RLU1: Review existing policies and permit procedures to identify and remove barriers to clean energy production [MOP]				
RLU2: Examine feasibility of large source shared energy and heating systems in new development				
RLU3: Examine revising building codes by requiring higher energy efficiency standards in new and reconstruction				
RLU4: Examine adjusting permit fees depending upon energy reducing measures (e.g. higher fees for minimum code and reduced for meeting higher standards)				
RLU5: Examine expansion of tax exemptions for renewable energy projects, energy efficiency and				

climate adaptation/resilience measures under RSA 79-E:4-a and make recommendations to the Select Board [PL]				
RLU6: Consider adoption of a Coastal Resilience Incentive Zone under RSA 79-E:4-a to incentivize adaptation and resilience actions on private property [PL]				
RLU7: Identify solar field locations (landfill, old sewage lagoons/public lands, PEA and private lands, etc.) and form partnerships to create alternative energy sites [PL]				
RLU8: Identify a flood advisory area for new development and redevelopment [PL]				
RLU9: Explore adopting a stormwater utility				
RLU10: Explore amending the floodplain regulations to require 2 feet of freeboard for non-critical structures and 3 feet of freeboard for critical structures				

Action: Conservation	S-M-L Term Action	Funding Needed	Partners	Outcomes
CN1: Explore opening viable public land to farming [CBO, MOP]				
CN2: UNH Downtowns and Trails program (\$5k needed) to make recommendations to improve downtown business connections to our trail networks [CBO, MOP]				
CN3: Adopt a tree planting plan and program (include edible fruit trees particularly around schools and denser neighborhoods). [CBO]				
CN4: Identify opportunities for town-wide reforestation and buffer restoration [CBO]				

Action: Adaptation & Resilience	Term for Action	Funding Needed	Partners	Outcomes
AR1: Evaluate opportunities to restore natural living shorelines in tidal and nontidal areas [CN]				
AR2: Identify opportunities to conserve land in the regulatory floodplain [CN]				
AR3: Implement outreach to businesses and residents about extreme weather preparedness and flood awareness [CBO]				
AR4: Create community based carbon footprint/greenhouse gas emissions reduction programs [CBO]				
AR5: Work with community groups to implement outreach to populations at risk during extreme heat events, drought and power outages [CBO, MOP]				
AR6: Implement outreach to properties in the regulatory floodplain about options to add resilience to existing and new structures [CBO]				
AR7: Partner with regional outreach specialists to implement climate change educational programs in K-12 schools [MOP]				
AR8: Conduct a community climate change awareness event annually [CBO]				
AR9: Assess and inventory municipal facilities and assets at risk from tidal and stormwater flooding [MOP]				
AR10: Develop shoreline improvement options to address tidal and stormwater flooding in Swasey Parkway [MOP]				
AR11: Incorporate climate change adaptation and resilience recommendations in future Master Plan updates [PL]				
AR12: Update the town's Climate Adaptation				

Policy (2018) document every 2-5 years [PL]				
AR13: Apply for and utilize FEMA mitigation grants and other funding sources to implement climate adaptation and planning strategies that reduce or eliminate flooding impacts. [CRHC CC1.e]				
AR14: Identify mechanisms to raise matching funds for grants. [CRHC CC1.g]				
AR15: Dedicate or establish funding sources for land protection restoration and acquisition of easements and development rights for lands in high risk areas. [CC1.j]				
AR16: Improve connections between hazard mitigation plan, master plan and capital improvement plan. [CRHC CC7.f]				
AR17: Improve management, coordination and delivery mechanisms to ensure the continuity of services to essential facilities, people, businesses and employment centers. [CRHC E2.c]				
AR18: Implement voluntary transfer of development rights programs and other economic incentives to acquire or conserve property in high risk areas. [CRHC E3.e]				
AR19: Promote resilience and sustainability planning as economic development strategies. [CRHC E3.h]				
AR20: Promote land development regulations (and options) that reduce vulnerability and protect ecosystem services (e.g. open space development). [CRHC BL4.c]				

* See additional Adaptation & Resilience actions shaded in green in the Planning and Regulatory/Land Use Sections