

## Somerville Climate Forward Overview

- Somerville’s comprehensive climate change plan will develop short- and medium-term strategies to reduce Somerville’s contribution to climate change (*mitigation*) and prepare Somerville for the unavoidable impacts of climate change (*adaptation*).
- Final plan will bundle solutions to provide benefits across sectors and to work towards an equitable distribution of opportunities and burdens.
- Solutions will be informed by Somerville’s Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, Greenhouse Gas Inventory, Pathways to Carbon Neutrality Study, SomerVision, and stakeholder input.
- The solutions in Somerville Climate Forward are intended to be the first steps in moving Somerville towards carbon neutrality and climate resilience. Future planning will be required to bring us all of the way to 2050 and beyond.

### Somerville Climate Forward Schedule & Process

- Spring 2017: Visioning & Goal Setting
- Summer – Fall 2017: Develop Solutions (currently in the Research and Evaluate phases)



- Winter 2018: Document and Communicate

### Working Groups

- Working groups will provide advice and feedback on solutions. Ideas and recommendations raised by the working groups will help to inform the solutions that are developed, but not all recommendations will be able to be incorporated into the final plan.
- Working groups will meet three times throughout the project to work on the following parts of the plan:
  - Meeting 1: Groups will review and revise vision statements and generate ideas to be considered and/or analyzed.
  - Meeting 2: Groups will provide feedback on a narrowed list of strategies to help scale the solutions to Somerville and identify possible co-benefits or unforeseen burdens.
  - Meeting 3: Groups will review and comment on nearly finalized solutions and will provide ideas on implementation.

## Somerville Climate Forward: Draft Vision

Somerville is a **thriving, equitable, carbon neutral**, and **resilient** city that is preparing for climate change while doing its share to prevent it.

### Definitions

**Thriving** – Somerville continues to be an exceptional place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

**Equitable** – The benefits and opportunities created by climate action are fairly distributed to all and resources are prioritized to alleviate the unequal burdens of climate change.

**Carbon Neutral** – Somerville will have a net-zero release of greenhouse gases. Any emissions that cannot be fully eliminated will be offset.

**Resilient** – Somerville will adapt to be prepared for the chronic and acute impacts of climate change.



**Buildings** - Somerville's buildings and homes are net-zero carbon, healthy, safe, and affordable.



**Energy** - Somerville uses 100% renewable energy to heat and power all homes and buildings.



**Natural Systems** - Somerville's urban and natural systems work together to adapt to climate change and provide social and environmental benefits to all.



**Utilities & Infrastructure** - Infrastructure and utilities in Somerville are reliable and adapted to changes in Somerville's built environment and to changes in the climate.



**Transportation** - Everyone has accessible, and affordable zero-carbon ways to commute and get around Somerville.



**Consumption & Waste** - Residents and businesses in Somerville understand the impacts of a consumption-based economy and are working to reduce consumption and to decrease the climate-change impact of waste.



**Health & Wellbeing** - Residents are protected from climate-related extreme weather events and maintain access to safe and affordable housing, healthy and local food, and recreational activities as the climate changes.



**Economic & Community Development** - Somerville has a sustainable economy that builds on opportunities created by climate action and is resilient to negative impacts from climate change.



**Education & Outreach** - Everyone within the Somerville community has information about climate change, and is empowered and supported to take action, regardless of age, education level, cultural background, and language.



**City Operations** - The City of Somerville is proactive about preparing for climate change and leads by example.