

# Article 22

## Municipal In-Town Solar Generation Task Force

Article 22 will be moved as printed in the Warrant

# Why Are We Here – Again?

- 20MW of Solar By 2030 – Climate Action Plan
  - 7.5MW was created by 2017
  - None since that time
- 2022 Article 38 urged CMLP to develop a plan
- Little to no progress on a roadmap to 20MW

# Is Local Solar Important?

- 2022 Town Meeting answered this question

YES!

- The 'buy local' mantra extends to energy
- All renewables intrude on the natural world

*We should accept our share of this burden*

# Align Our Energy with Our Values

**CMLP is contracting here**



Brookfield, MA

**But not building here**



Main St Parking Lot

# Align Our Energy with Our Values

**We are changing mountaintops**

**But not our rooftops**



Spruce Mtn - Woodstock, ME



Public Works, Keyes Rd

# Our Neighbors are Finding a Way

Acton Boxboro HS



Wayland HS



Lincoln Sudbury HS



Carlisle Public School

# New Approach

- Limited Duration Task Force
- 5 Members
  - *CMLP Director, CAAB liaison, 3 citizen appointees*
- Climate Action Advisory Board (CAAB)
  - *Oversight, periodic reporting*

# Plan Elements

- Inventory Public Land Opportunities
- Refine financial modeling
- Address local grid vulnerabilities
- Develop Partnership process
  - *Unlock oppty's on Baker Ave, Emerson Hospital, etc.*
- Balance community priorities
  - *Conservation, Agriculture, Historical Character*

# Benefits from Local Solar

- Local renewable energy serves demand peak
  - Transmission and capacity savings
  - Benefits are enhanced by battery storage
- Long term, known costs. No surprises.
- Reduced stress on wider New England grid

# What Will This Mean?

- 20MW goal equals ~ 14% of power portfolio
  - Currently at 6% of power portfolio (7.5MWs)
- Numerous municipal sites available
- CMS not ready until 2025
- Get started now

# Article 22

## Municipal In-Town Solar Generation Task Force

Article 22 as printed in the Warrant