



Climate Action & Sustainability Commission Agenda

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

5:30PM

City Hall Room 113

215 Pleasant Street

Malden, MA 02148

Roll Call (1 min)

- Councilor Carey McDonald - Present
- Staff Liaison Rebekah McPheeters - Present
- Diego Maldonado* (Secretary) -
- Noha Haraz* -
- Bob FitzPatrick* - Present
- Rachel Surrette* - Present
- Lipin Ji* -
- Amanda Treat* (Vice Chair) - Present
- Auka (Christina) Mui* -
- Ron Cochran* -
- Ricky Ma* (Chair) -
- Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) Consultant Julia Nassar - Present
- Malden Tree Warden – Chris Rosa
- CELT Fellow – William Sheppeck

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Strong Past...Proud Future

**Voting Members of the Commission*

Project Updates (5 min)

Rain barrel updates. (Amanda/Bekah)

- Bekah presented that we are considering using the Malden Farmer's Market to distribute rain barrels
- Chris Rosa suggested using the Forestdale Cemetery storage as an alternate location for distribution. We do not currently know how many rain barrels. We also discussed Pine Banks for distribution.
- We plan to table at Green Malden Fair for sign ups, and distribute 1 month later (week before Memorial Day)
- Rachel raised that we could cap the number of barrels to limit the risk of leftover barrels.
- Rebekah and Amanda will speak with the barrel company to specify dates and numbers.

Minutes to be Approved (4 min)

Meeting now has quorum.

Bob moved to approve the minutes; Lipin seconded. CASC voting members approved the February minutes.

Additional Project Updates (10 min)

De-paving project updates. (Bekah)

- Selected site for application is the High School courtyard. The application is due next week.
- Rebekah and Auka will do outreach to Malden High School students and ask for a letter of support.
- Part of the funding will be for Malden-owned depaving tools that can be made available for Malden residents to do their own depaving projects.

Amelia Earhart Dam project updates. (Councilor McDonald)

- Rebekah sent the commission to the Mayor.
- Councilor McDonald read the drafted resolution for City Council that will be voted on in the March 24 meeting.
- Bob asked if S.2542 amendment language has been submitted to committee yet; it currently is in ways & means.

Clean Energy Coach research updates. (Will/Julia)

- Julia and Will will start scheduling interviews next week, and then (ETA May 2026) write a recommendations memo for the City of Malden on how to run a coaching program.
- Will described the CELT fellowship and the opportunity to coordinate with the Acton CELT fellow.

- Green Malden Fair – we can table and gather contact information for potential coaches and Malden residents who want to do more. We need to phrase this clearly so people know that the program is not ready yet. Will pointed at resources in the shared folders. Julia and Will to work on this ahead of the Green Malden Fair.

Wicked Cool Mystic project updates. (Bekah)

- This is a multi-phased project. Phase 1 is water bottle fillers. Phase 2 will be shade creation and the Skating Park.
- We are applying for a 3rd phase, and discussed potential scope. Possible options include:
 - o Misting tents, water handouts. We talked about leveraging the Summer Youth program (mid-July to mid-August), but need to confirm how to reserve their time – difficult to schedule a weather-dependent work program in advance.
 - o Additional bus shelter; this had been raised with Councilor Winslow
 - o Revisit alternate plans from Phase 2
 - o Chris Rosa had ideas from an older application involving planting, shading and green roofs. He will locate the older application.
 - o Benches in shaded areas.
- Malden may own existing misting tents that Chris Rosa's summer team could use to do pop ups. Rebekah to check on how to access the tents.

Household Hazardous Waste Days Discussion (5 min) - tabled for a future meeting

Green Malden Fair (15 min)

- Bob will provide 2 tables and 1 tent, Carey will bring 1 tent for CASC set up
 - o CASC materials
 - o Rain barrel sign up
 - o CASC will represent Black Earth Compost
- CASC Reporting materials – Julia or Rebekah can print materials. Send Julia any materials before April 13.
 - o 2 Page Progress Report Summary of CASC
 - o Coaching sign up
 - o Newsletter sign up
 - o Rain Barrel sign up
 - o Black Earth Compost sign up
 - o Sign up for Malden 100 electricity if Good Energy cannot attend
- Urban Media Arts filming – will interview people about cooling behaviors. 1-3 questions.
 - o Julia will bring existing art toolkit for the Cool Communications
- Discussed Chris Rosa tabling with DCR – get people to sign up for tree planting. Not as feasible to order seedlings because of delivery timing and concerns that people take them and don't plant them.

Working Group Strategizing: Critical Path Groups (20 min)

CASC working groups to discuss critical path items and next steps in front of the larger group:

1. Data Collection; Annual Report (10 min) – Lipin lead.

- Revisit Autumn 2025 press release; Rachel to look at Julia's spreadsheet and Malden's press release
- Aim to have all the data gathered in the next 2 weeks and summarize into the 2 pager to hit the print deadline of April 13
- Considerations of Override vote impact on gathering data
- Content of 2 pager – discussed presenting final report to UMA
 - Summary statement
 - Net 0 Energy and Sol Smart designation
 - Data on Community Electricity Program
 - Check with Bekah for additional information
- Next steps – have a working group meeting after March 20th. Include Bekah and Will.

2. Communications; Climate Education (10 min) – Amanda lead.

- UMA
- Newsletter – Monthly vs Season cadence –
 - discussed that seasonal with special announcement emails as needed
 - Have the city help promote on social media
 - Bekah to confirm Constant Contact
 - Amanda to reach out to Working Group to finalize Content

Future Invites to CASC Meetings (5 min) - tabled for next meeting

Consider: Councilor Winslow regarding storm drains, MyRWA/CLEANAIR, Green and Open Somerville

Next Steps (5 min)

Discuss agenda for next meeting.

- Carey may invite Councilor Winslow
- Confirm Green Malden Fair plans
- Julia had raised grants for a Heat Pump Accelerator program – she will share the info about this grant program because the application deadline is in early May
- Discuss HHW day at future meeting
- Stretch Code

Confirm date/time for next meeting.

- April 8 at 5:30 PM

Adjournment – 7:00PM

- Bob motioned to adjourn, Amanda seconded. As all voting members present voted in favor, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

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