

To: The Planning Board of Hingham

From: The Climate Action Planning Committee (CAPC)

Date: March 7, 2022



Re: Support of proposed Zoning By-law amendments regarding tree preservation

In its recent meetings, the Climate Action Planning Committee (CAPC) has reviewed the provisions of the proposed Tree Preservation Committee Citizen Petition Warrant Article. Tree preservation is relevant to the mission of the Committee because of its role in reducing global warming by shading, cooling and carbon sequestration. We now understand that the Planning Board has included many of the provisions of this Citizen Petition Article in the Planning Board's Zoning By-Law Warrant Article for the 2022 Town Meeting, including defining protected trees and a "tree yard" and setting criteria for preserving the health of impacted trees.

On March 2, after discussion, the following resolution passed unanimously by individual voice vote on ZOOM:

RESOLVED, That the CAPC conceptually supports the Town adopting amendments to the Zoning By-Law which are meant to provide increased protection of trees that are subject to the Site Plan Review process, and that the CAPC recommends that the Select Board consider adoption of a Tree Preservation By-Law and a Tree Replacement Fund into which contributions may be made to replace trees in other areas when replanting on a given site is not feasible and perhaps also to fund pro-active tree planting projects.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Kathy Reardon
Climate Action Planning Committee