

Resolution

WHEREAS, in May of 2021 the Town of Brookline declared " a Climate Emergency, recognizing the truth about the climate crisis and what it demands of us: an emergency response at emergency speed;" and

WHEREAS, more than 10 billion tons of concrete are produced annually around the world, making it second only to water as the most commonly used substance on the planet; and the production of cement, a major component of concrete, accounts for an estimated 7-10% of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions; and for every ton of concrete produced, a ton of CO₂ gases are emitted; and

WHEREAS, demand for concrete is projected to increase by more than 20% by 2050; and

WHEREAS, low-carbon concrete is available, and products are under development and beginning to enter the market, which enable concrete to remove CO₂ gases from the air, which could make concrete a carbon sink rather than a source; and

WHEREAS, the market is nascent, we can help to build it through publicity and purchases; and

WHEREAS, the Town purchases tons of concrete per year for sidewalks, roads, and structures; and

WHEREAS, this proposal defines low-carbon products as those that produce at least 10 percent less carbon dioxide emissions in their production and use than the average mixture used for a given application; and

WHEREAS, the DPW has been recycling concrete for the past eight years;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Brookline use available low-carbon concrete products wherever feasible and encourage developers to do the same for any new construction.