

Town of Scarborough Sustainability Committee

April 22, 2026 | 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. | Hybrid Meeting – Town Manager’s Conference Room and Zoom

To participate in the Sustainability Committee’s meeting, please use the following link:
https://scarboroughmaine.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0Wj2DCaBTzi0qpBGYuRAKw

To view in the Sustainability Committee’s meeting, please use the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCD5Y8CFy5HpXMftV3xX73aw>

Agenda

- 8:00 am** **Call to order and attendance**
- (1) Welcome and introductions
 - (2) Vote on minutes from 3/25/26
 - (3) Review 4/22/26 meeting agenda
 - (4) Public Comment
- 8:10 am** **Old Business**
- (1) METRO Transit Pilot (8:10 – 8:40 am)
 - Overview of proposed plan – presentation by Mike Trambly, Greater Portland METRO
 - Council status
 - Discuss Sustainability Committee role
 - (2) *Sustaining Scarborough* Climate Action Plan (8:40 – 9:15 am)
 - Review goals, strategies, and actions
- 9:15 am** **Updates**
- (1) Town Council
 - (2) Planning Board
 - (3) Transportation Committee
 - (4) Conservation Commission
 - (5) Scarborough Public Library
- 9:25 am** **Next meeting**
May 27, 2026
- 9:30 am** **Adjourn**

Engineering & Technical Services

259 US Route One | PO Box 360 | Scarborough, ME 04070 | P: 207.730.4400 | scarboroughmaine.org

Town of Scarborough Sustainability Committee

March 25, 2026 | 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. | Scarborough Town Hall and via Zoom

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Attendance

Committee (in person): Ron Allen, Geoff Gezik, Patrice Kastenzholz, Deb McDonough, Dan Shapiro

Committee (Zoom): Anton Bodor

Town Council: Bill Donovan

Staff: Jami Fitch, Helen Harmon

Guests: David Kunhardt, resident; Elsa Rowe, Scarborough Public Library

[Meeting recording](#)

Call to Order

1. The meeting is called to order at 8:03 am.
2. Patrice motions to approve the minutes, Ron seconds. Rollcall vote was unanimous. Motion passes.
3. Deb requests to take up new business first.

Public Comment

1. David Kunhardt provides an update about LD2112, An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity.

Old Business

1. [LD1870](#) – “An Act to Establish a Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program to Impose Penalties on Climate Polluters”
 - Jami provides an update on the bill status. The language was amended to be a study on the economic impact of fossil fuel emissions on Maine communities.
 - The Committee discusses the need to bring the resolution to the Council, given the change in scope.
 - *Anton motions to withdraw the Town Council resolution. Patrice seconds. Rollcall vote was unanimous. Motion passes.*

New Business

1. Outreach & engagement opportunities with the Scarborough Public Library (SPL)
 - Elsa Rowe, SPL Community Engagement Manager, to discuss partnership opportunities.
 - Elsa provides information about a number of upcoming programs at SPL that relate to the Committee's charge:
 - Clothing swaps, kids (5/2), adults (5/9) – both events are 1:00 – 3:00 pm
- Any remaining items are donated to Blue Point Church, which will then sell the items in their thrift shop or provide them to other organizations.

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- Junk in the Trunk – 6/27, 9:00 am – noon
Pop-up Swap Shop event where people bring items they no longer want and people take them for free. At the end of the event, the remaining items leave with those who brought them. Elsa is open to plan Junk in the Trunk events each month in the summer.
- Repair Café – date TBD
Patrice has several connections and will help Elsa coordinate the event.
- Induction cooking demonstrations
Elsa shares that SPL is raising money for a cooking Charlie Cart to be able to do cooking demonstrations.
- Committee members are encouraged to attend the events to share information about the Committee's work. Committee members are also welcome to introduce the speakers.
- Jami is pulling together display materials for the Sustaining Scarborough Climate Action Plan that can be set up during the events.
- Elsa is willing to help coordinate the Halloween costume swap at Sustainable Scarborough Day.
- Elsa is planning sustainability-related programs in the week leading up to Sustainable Scarborough Day. Some ideas for speakers and talks include:
 - Keith Carson, Maine Conservation Voters Science Communication Director and former meteorologist on Newscenter Maine (ch. 6) to talk about climate change.
 - Beverly Johnson, Bates College professor who specializes in blue carbon (carbon sequestration in marshes).
 - Maine Conservation Voters utility bill education program.
- The Committee is encouraged to share ideas for speakers and talks as well.
- SPL will host an interactive display for the Sustaining Scarborough Plan April 13 – 24. She encourages interactive displays to get kids' opinions.
- Patrice offers to hold an art session using found or upcycled items.
- Patrice is part of the Wild Seed Project and is willing to do a program about native plants in the fall.
- SPL will be added to the updates section of the Committee's agenda.

Updates

1. Town Council
 - Bill shares that the Town Council recently updated the Cannabis Control Ordinance and is considering a Short Term Rental Ordinance.
2. Planning Board
 - Autumn is working on reorganizing up the Town's Zoning Ordinance.
 - The Planning Board is considering a workforce housing development off Broadturn Road, a conservation subdivision on Elmwood Ave, and a mixed-use development on Haigis Parkway.
3. Conservation Commission
 - Conservation Commission continues to support the development of a Low Impact Development ordinance.
4. Transportation Committee
 - Metro has been working with the Town to expand service into Scarborough. They shared the proposed fixed route and micro-transit zone with the Transportation Committee on 3/24. There is a Town Council workshop scheduled on 4/1.
 - MaineDOT is proposing a pilot closure of a northbound lane on Rt. 1 across the Marsh this summer. The closure is proposed as part of the Rt. 1 resiliency project to add a multi-use path for bikes and pedestrians across the Marsh. A workshop with MaineDOT is scheduled on 5/6.

5. Climate Action Plan

- The Climate Action Plan Advisory Group will meet again on 4/14 to review actions that will be considered for inclusion in the Plan. The Sustainability Committee's April meeting will focus on reviewing the proposed actions.
- The project website is SustainingScarborough.org. **There is a quick poll currently available on the site. Please take the poll and encourage your networks to do so as well.** The link is also shared on the Town's [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 am.

Next Meeting: April 22 (Earth Day!), 2026 at 8:00 am.

Future Projects List:

- School Building Process
- Communications, outreach, and engagement
- Community solar / municipal solar array
- Revamp [Sustainability Committee webpage](#)
- Recycling information for homeowners when houses change hands
- Composting/food waste
- Residential energy efficiency grants
- Coordination with Scarborough Public Schools
- Municipal building energy audits
- Electric school buses
- Tree preservation ordinance
- Swap shop
- Energy stretch code
- Incremental fees for trash bins
- 10-year cost-benefit analysis for building systems
- Storm drain stenciling

GREATER PORTLAND METRO

Scarborough Town Council Workshop

April 1, 2026



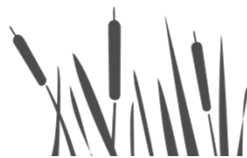
Glenn Fenton

Executive Director

Greater Portland Metro

Presentation Overview

- Review of planning activities
- Implementation plan
- Project budget review
- Intergovernmental agreement terms



TOWN OF
SCARBOROUGH, MAINE



Service Planning

Public Outreach

- Public outreach for Scarborough service conducted in November/December 2025
 - Combined with South Portland service change outreach
- 3 public meetings
- Survey
 - 300+ responses
 - Online, available in print



GREATER PORTLAND
metro
next stop!
South Portland | Scarborough

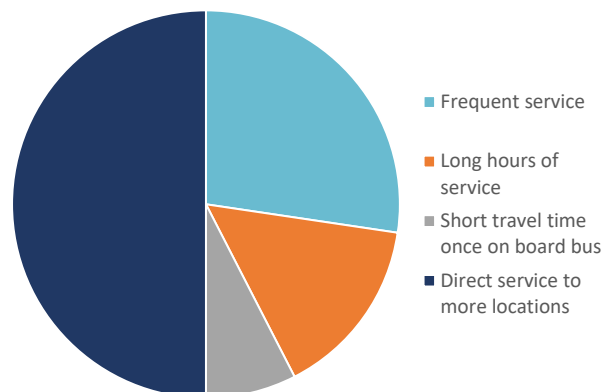
Service Planning

Summary of Public Outreach

- Reasons for Travel
 - Shopping (70%)
 - Social Activities (54%)
 - Health services (51%)
 - Work (41%)
- Origins and destinations in Scarborough
 - Hannaford
 - Beaches
 - MaineHealth
 - The Downs (Costco)
 - Route 1
 - Walmart
 - Prouts Neck

GREATER PORTLAND
metro
next stop!
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Top Service Priority



Service Planning

Summary of Public Outreach

- Likelihood to use transit service
 - 79% likely/very likely to use service
 - 96% likely/very likely among those who don't drive

What would encourage you to use bus service in Scarborough?

- Direct routes to Portland and South Portland
- Convenient stop locations that are walkable from home
- Frequent service
- Fast service
- Park and ride in Scarborough

Direct service to the beach to reduce parking pressure

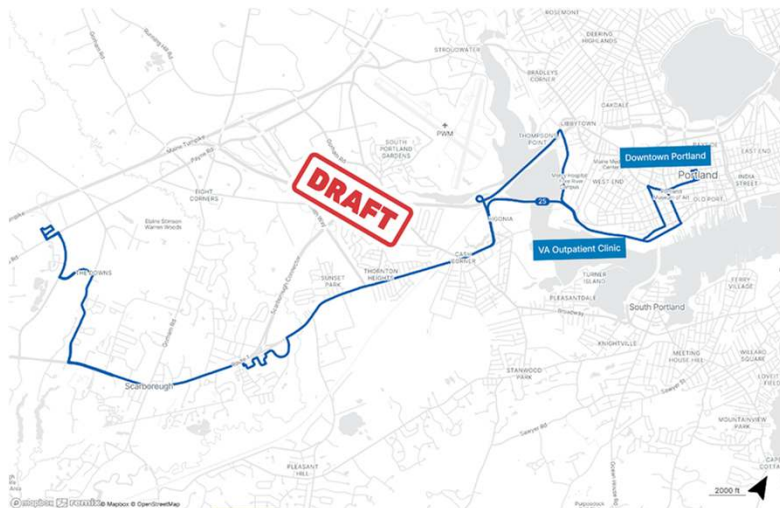
Bus service may exacerbate crowding at beaches

Transit in Scarborough

Route 25

Current DRAFT schedule:

- 45 minute frequency service (Mon-Sat)
- 60 minute frequency on Sundays
- 6:00 am to 10:00 pm



Transit in Scarborough

Microtransit

Microtransit Zone

- Refined by Metro and Town staff
- Operates 7 days a week.
- Service hours similar to fixed route service.
- Covers numerous Town services, recreational and commercial areas.
- Approx. 10,000 population
- Approx. 11,300 jobs



Implementation Plan

Service Launch

- Fleet acquisition (June)
- Bus stop installation (July)
- Operator training (June/July)
- Public outreach/promotion (Summer 2026)
- Service soft launch (early July)
- Microtransit launch (July 13)
- Route 25 launch (late August)



Transit in Scarborough

Funding Plan

The service is fully funded for 3+ years with Scarborough's approval.

Scarborough's financial commitment for the pilot phase:

Fiscal Year	Town's Share of Capital Expense	Town's Share of Operating Expense	Total Payment	Payment Due Date
2026-27	\$65,000	\$0	\$65,000	July 31, 2026
2027-28	\$0	\$145,000	\$145,000	July 31, 2027
2028-29	\$0	\$159,500	\$159,500	July 31, 2028

Project funding sources:

Funding Source	Amount
Maine Turnpike Authority	\$3,555,771
Federal Transit Administration	\$1,356,250
MaineDOT	\$230,000
Scarborough (over 3 years)	\$369,500
Total Funding	\$5,511,521

Note: Metro is currently in negotiations with the Downs to assist with capital funding for bus stop improvements in Scarborough. Total funding amount to be determined.



TOWN OF
SCARBOROUGH, MAINE



Greater Portland Metro

Intergovernmental Agreement

- Same format used for the Towns of: Brunswick, Freeport, and Yarmouth prior to joining Metro.
- Outlines the responsibilities of the parties.
- Details the financial commitments of the parties.
- Sets deadlines for certain milestones.



Greater Portland Metro

Intergovernmental Agreement

Terms of the agreement

Metro responsibilities:

- Regular reporting on service performance
- Maintenance of bus stops in the Town
- Consultation with the Town on service changes
- Compliance with all federal and state laws pertaining to transit operations
- Recommendation based on service performance at the end of the pilot period



Greater Portland Metro

Intergovernmental Agreement

Terms of the agreement

Scarborough responsibilities:

- Report damaged or vandalized bus stops.
- Fund the service as specified for three years (\$369,500 total).
- Hold a vote to consider joining Metro.



Greater Portland Metro

Intergovernmental Agreement

Terms of the agreement

Other terms:

- Termination by either party with 120 days notice, Metro to retain funding for capital investments (\$65,000).
- Unspent funding at the end of the pilot phase will be applied solely to support the continuation of the service.
- Service launch will be no later than September 1, 2026.
- Scarborough must decide to join or not join Metro by July 15, 2028.



Questions and Discussion



Glenn Fenton

Executive Director

gffenton@gpmetro.org

(207) 517-3025

Clean Energy & Efficient Buildings

VISION: Scarborough's buildings run on clean energy sources and are designed to promote energy efficiency.

Draft Goals, Strategies, & Actions

Goal	Strategy	Draft Actions	Sustainability Committee Comments
Goal 1: Scarborough is primarily powered by renewable energy.	Strategy 1.1: Streamline permitting processes to maximize Scarborough's renewable energy generation and storage capacity.	Action 1.1.A: Use solar bylaw as a model to expand permitting specifications for battery storage and other distributed energy sources.	
	Strategy 1.2: Champion innovative renewable energy solutions locally and statewide.	Action 1.2.A: Work with Central Maine Power to support regional efforts to expand electric transmission capacity.	
		Action 1.2.B: Install solar arrays on publicly-owned parking lots.	
		Action 1.2.C: HOLD: CCA? KLA to follow status of LD 2112 before finalizing this. Key considerations to ensure focus on driving new RE capacity in the region - Develop a clear guide for CCA with Community Solar Promotion.	
Goal 2: Scarborough's buildings are energy efficient and minimize greenhouse gas emissions.	Strategy 2.1: Support communitywide electrification.	2.1.A: Evaluate and consider adopting the Maine Stretch Code. If not feasible, explore incentives such as density bonuses to encourage development to align with Stretch Code principles.	
		Action 2.1.B: Partner with community organizations like Project Grace to expand access to free home energy audits and tactical weatherization.	
		Action 2.1.C: Partner with local housing advocacy groups to request rental energy disclosures to encourage property owners and managers to make efficiency improvements.	
		Action 2.1.D: Launch a community Energy Coach program to train volunteers to help residents understand energy efficiency upgrades, available incentives, and how to prioritize home improvements.	
		Action 2.1.E: Incentivize oil transition in all residential and commercial buildings, prioritizing properties vulnerable to sea level rise based on most up to date models.	
	Strategy 2.2: Optimize municipal facility energy performance.	Action 2.2.A: Adopt a "No New Fossil Fuels" policy for new municipal construction and major renovations.	
		Action 2.2.B: Incorporate life-cycle costs into decision making for energy-related projects at municipal facilities.	
		Action 2.2.C: Establish energy performance targets for new and renovated municipal facilities.	

Smart Land Use & Transportation

VISION: Scarborough grows in a balanced way with safe, reliable transportation options.

Draft Goals, Strategies, & Actions

Goal	Strategy	Draft Actions	Sustainability Committee Comments
Goal 1: Scarborough residents regularly choose active transportation and transit options for local trips.	Strategy 1.1: Improve multimodal transportation.	Strategy 1.1.A: Support Route 1 redesign process and advocate to include safe bike and pedestrian infrastructure.	
		Strategy 1.1.B: Coordinate with school system to promote Safe Routes to School including installing bike/ped infrastructure around new schools and expanded bus routes.	
		1.1.C: Encourage METRO to add bike racks on buses.	
		Strategy 1.1.D: HOLD for Trails and Sidewalk Master Plan - Improve neighborhood connectivity by expanding Scarborough's trail network, especially in areas West of the Turnpike.	
	Strategy 1.2: Support expansion of regional transit into Scarborough.	Strategy 1.2.A: Evaluate results of METRO Mico Transit pilot and determine options for permanent routes.	
		Action 1.2.B: Identify existing parking lots within key last-mile destinations and establish relationships with property owners to create park-and-ride opportunities.	
Goal 2: Scarborough is an EV-ready and friendly community.	Strategy 2.1: Model EV adoption.	Action 1.2.C: Develop seasonal transit options (e.g., trolley) to connect Scarborough beaches with nearby destinations/transit hubs.	
		Action 2.1.A: Expand EV-ready ordinance to include municipal facilities beyond schools.	
	Strategy 2.2: Accelerate electric vehicle adoption among residents and businesses through expanded EV infrastructure.	Action 2.1.B: Create a municipal fleet electrification policy.	
		Action 2.2.A: Launch a clean transportation education campaign targeting businesses and developers in Scarborough to encourage EV charging infrastructure and fleet electrification.	
		Action 2.2.B: Use in-lieu fees in the Sustainability Reserve Account to expand public EV charging at key destinations like beaches and recreation facilities. Develop a grant process to incentivize installation at non-mandatory commercial and industrial sites.	
Goal 3: Scarborough continues to develop strategically with climate hazards in mind.	Strategy 3.1: Adopt climate-resilient land use policies.	Strategy 3.1.B: Incentivize new development to occur in identified high-density growth areas.	
		Action 3.1.C: Explore creating a Coastal Overlay Zone as recommended in the Vulnerability Assessment.	
		Action 3.1.D: Amend zoning ordinance to include Design Flood Elevation based on newly adopted sea level rise projections.	
		Action 3.1.E: Amend zoning ordinance to require Salt Reduction Plans as part of Site Plan Review.	
		Strategy 3.1.A: Amend zoning to limit the development of data centers and/or create guidelines or requirements for data centers to follow regarding energy use, water use, etc.	

Sustainable Operations & Waste Management

VISION: Scarborough embraces responsible waste disposal and efficient Town operations that minimize environmental impacts.

Draft Goals, Strategies, & Actions

Goal	Strategy	Draft Actions	Sustainability Committee Comments
Goal 1: Scarborough integrates sustainability data and principles throughout its operations and regularly communicates progress with the community.	Strategy 1.1: Establish frameworks and tools to integrate climate action into Scarborough's operations and report on progress to the community.	Action 1.1.A: Develop a Sustainability Framework tool to guide decision making processes across Town projects, processes, and budgeting.	
		Action 1.1.B: Regularly share progress on the implementation of this plan with the community through an online Sustaining Scarborough dashboard and other channels.	
Goal 2: Scarborough's solid waste is reduced and managed responsibly.	Strategy 2.1: Reduce and divert waste across the community.	Action 2.1.A: Increase the number of residents and businesses who compost through a public education campaign and partnering to bring existing pick-up options (like Garbage to Gardens) to Scarborough.	
		Action 2.1.B: Create and manage a volunteer program for residents to provide onsite education about Scarborough's carry-in/carry-out policy and Pitch In Pails program at local beaches during the high season.	
		Action 2.1.C: Prepare to participate in the State's Extended Producer Responsibility Program for Packaging when fully operational in 2027.	
		Action 2.1.D: Build regular bulk and hazardous waste drop-off events into the collection rate for residents.	
	Strategy 2.2: Reduce and divert waste within Town operations.	HOLD - Procurement-related action. Can process be improved, streamlined, or help eliminate paper or single-use plastic use?	
		HOLD - Zero waste program or education for municipal facilities?	

Thriving Natural & Coastal Resources

VISION: Scarborough protects natural and coastal resources and promotes sustainable management practices.

Draft Goals, Strategies, & Actions

Goal	Strategy	Draft Actions	Sustainability Committee Comments
Goal 1: Scarborough conserves and sustainably manages natural resources.	Strategy 1.1: Enhance and protect Scarborough's tree canopy.	Action 1.1.A: Conduct a tree inventory and create a management plan for Town-owned trees that prioritizes native and climate-adaptive species and equitable distribution across the community.	
		Action 1.1.B: Achieve and maintain Tree City USA designation.	
	Strategy 1.2: Enhance and protect Scarborough's water supply and waterways.	Action 1.2.A: Explore opportunities to obtain limited liability coverage in order to reduce winter salt use.	
		1.2.B: Propose ordinance that restricts the use of harmful pesticides and lawn chemicals.	
	Strategy 1.3: Conserve 30% of Scarborough's land by 2030.	Action 1.2.C: Continue to develop locally supported watershed based management plans.	
		Action 1.3.A: Continue to implement the strategies of the Open Space Plan to prioritize and acquire land for conservation.	
Goal 2: Community members maintain resilient ecosystems and landscapes.	Strategy 2.1: Encourage residents and businesses to protect natural and coastal resources.	Action 2.1.A: Accelerate the uptake of sustainable landscaping practices and green infrastructure among community members through rebates, incentives, and education.	
		Action 2.1.B: Publicly recognize maritime businesses that use sustainable harvesting, packaging, or ecosystem management practices.	

Resilient & Healthy Community

VISION: Scarborough understands climate risks and ensures the entire community is ready to respond.

Draft Goals, Strategies, & Actions

Goal	Strategy	Draft Actions	Sustainability Committee Comments
Goal 1: Scarborough residents are prepared and protected from climate impacts	Strategy 1.1: Boost communitywide emergency preparedness education.	Action 1.1.A: Combine Sustainable Scarborough Day with an Annual Health and Safety Fair focused on emergency preparedness and climate hazards.	
		Action 1.1.B: Increase community preparedness workshop offerings to target different age groups, neighborhoods, and abilities.	
		Action 1.1.C: Develop a community outreach campaign to increased awareness of emergency alert systems, available workshops, vulnerable resident registration, and cooling/warming shelters.	
		Action 1.1.D: Engage youth in emergency preparedness work by integrating preparedness into school curriculum, creating internship opportunities, and hiring youth to staff cooling/warming shelters.	
		Action 1.1.D: Explore community partnerships to increase awareness of extreme heat risks, including public health, tick-borne diseases, and wildfire risk.	
Goal 2: Scarborough's infrastructure is climate-ready and flood-resilient.	Strategy 2.1: Ready infrastructure for anticipated sea level rise and increasing extreme weather events.	Action 2.1.A: Adopt official Sea Level Rise projections for planning purposes.	
		Action 2.1.C: Develop a Climate Vulnerability Response Framework to guide decision making on how best to protect existing municipal assets.	
		Action 2.1.D: Implement recommendations from the Coastal Flood Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Strategies Project Report.	