

Sherborn Energy Committee



19 WASHINGTON STREET
SHERBORN, MASSACHUSETTS 01770

MEMO

TO: Sherborn Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)

FROM: Sherborn Energy Committee

DATE: April 28, 2021

RE: Recommended Conditions for Coolidge Crossing Project related to Energy and Water Efficiency, Sustainability and Climate Change Goals

The Energy Committee recommends that the final plans for the Coolidge Crossing project include that all appliances and relevant devices should, when available, be rated Energy Star or WaterSense. These are both USEPA and USDOE (in the case of Energy Star) programs to help save money and protect the environment (as well as long term sustainability of water supplies). This inclusion will also contribute to the broader local goals of meeting greenhouse gas reductions necessary to address climate change.

The Committee views this modest measure as a local need for the Town of Sherborn to contribute its part for the legislated MA climate action pathway and goals. The direct as well as indirect (from reduced water use) energy savings are significant, ranging from 10-25%.

Furthermore, the economic burden of this requirement should be minimal as there is a wide range of well accepted products that meet these standards as these are longstanding programs. More importantly, studies have shown that this requirement will improve the affordability of the housing to its residents due to a lower life cycle cost resulting from reduced operating costs that cover any additional upfront costs in a period much shorter than the life of the device or appliance. It is recognized that there is the issue of educating residents that a possibly higher rent will be more than offset by lower utility bills.

The Committee would also like to commend the developer for its commitment to include electric car charging stations in its final plan.