

Good morning, Tim,

I hope you are well.

I am in the process of applying for a MA Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program (MVP) action grant for Task II of a comprehensive Martha's Vineyard and Gosnold Climate Action Plan (CAP). A letter of support from Chilmark Board of Selectmen would be very much appreciated.

**The CAP will be an Island(s) specific, community-based, stakeholder driven plan** that will identify climate resilience strategies in the following six climate change themes:

- Land use and natural resources
- Buildings, infrastructure, and transportation
- Public health and safety
- Food security
- Economic resilience
- Energy efficiency and transformation

These themes were established based on the priority actions identified in all 7 town's MVP community resilience workshops, extensive Martha's Vineyard Commission community listening sessions, and priorities identified by the town's climate and energy committees.

**The CAP will focus on social and environmental resiliency using nature-based solutions** (where possible) and with an emphasis on environmental justice and other vulnerable populations. EJ communities include low income, minority, and non-English speaking residents. Other vulnerable populations include seniors, youth, and those unable to secure affordable housing.

Rather than hire an outside consultant the local stakeholders will develop the CAP under the guidance of the MVC, with a well-defined procedure, and with significant community input. If they feel it is necessary the stakeholders will have the option to hire a consultant specific to one or more of the defined themes. Community activities will include a Climate Awareness Week in November 2021.

Task I of the CAP, funded by an MVP action grant, included the collection of over 400 resources related to local and regional climate change issues and development of town-by-town climate change informational booklets that were presented to each Vineyard Board of Selectmen.

**The goal of the CAP is to build a specific, well-rounded climate resiliency plan based on locally identified climate priorities. The project will include an interactive CAP website that will track plan implementation and provide climate-related resources for the public.**

**Please email your support letter to me** and address it to:

Secretary Kathleen A. Theoharides  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114

I hope this email provides you with enough information to draft a letter of support. If you have any questions, please contact me. Your support is very much appreciated.

Thank you,  
Liz Durkee  
MVC climate change planner