

BOS NEWS

The newsletter of the Lincoln, Massachusetts Board of Selectmen



BOS Votes to Move Town Meeting to May 15, 2021! *Town Election Remains on Monday, March 29, 2021!*

At its December 14th meeting, the Board of Selectmen (BOS) voted to move Town Meeting from its traditional date in March to Saturday, May 15th. The decision was made in recognition of the continued impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on public health. Although there is promising news on the vaccine front, wide-spread vaccination will not be available in time for the

Board to feel comfortable asking citizens to gather indoors. Therefore, the Board decided to plan for another outdoor Town Meeting when the temperatures are (hopefully) conducive to gathering.

Plans will continue to develop but here are some initial thoughts:

- As we did in preparation for last June’s meeting, the Board will ask all presenting committees to provide presentations ahead of time and to hold virtual meetings to walk through the presentations in detail.
- We hope to include both essential budget business and other business such as citizens’ petitions, by-law changes, etc.
- The goal is to limit the meeting to 3 hours. If necessary, we will schedule additional meeting time on another day.
- *The Annual Election for town officials (BOS, School Committees, Planning Board, Board of Health, etc.) will still be held on March 29th. A Special Election for potential capital items will be held on Monday, May 17th.*

Lincoln Scholarship Committee Announces Harriet Todd Scholarship

The Lincoln Scholarship Committee (LSC) is delighted to announce the establishment of the Harriet Backus Todd Scholarship in honor of Harriet Todd, longtime resident of Lincoln, Massachusetts and widely known by members of this community for her civic engagement and her extraordinary generosity of both time and resources to community institutions and local government.

The first scholarship will be awarded for the academic year 2021-2022 for study at post-secondary institutions or certificate training programs. Its purpose is to encourage students in pursuing studies and/or training consistent with Harriet Todd's lifetime of devotion to public service and volunteerism, demonstrating both commitment

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and integrity to a broad range of civic concerns.

In 2019, Harriet Todd made a generous bequest to the Town. The Board of Selectmen determined that a portion (\$225,000) of that bequest should be designated for a scholarship in Harriet's name with the intent of sustaining the endowment long term. The BOS charged the LSC with developing the terms of the scholarship and administering the application procedures and the selection of the recipients. Throughout the spring and summer, the LSC worked on refining the terms of the scholarship fund. The BOS formally approved these terms on September 21, 2020. Rob Todd, Harriet's husband, noted, "My family and I are impressed with the efforts of the Lincoln Scholarship Committee to bring to fruition an appropriate use of a portion of Harriet's bequest to the Town. She would be pleased with this lasting contribution to her community, and her family is certainly proud."

Two scholarships of \$5000 each will be given annually, one for a new and one for a continuing student. Students will be eligible to apply who:

- Complete a minimum of grades 5 through 8 on the Lincoln or Hanscom campuses, *and*
- Who are Town of Lincoln residents, or
Who are resident on the Hanscom Air Force Base, or
- Who attend Lincoln Public Schools through the METCO Program, or
- Who attend Lincoln Public Schools as children of Town of Lincoln Employees, and
- Who graduate from Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School or Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School, or other vocational school, and whose tuition is paid for by the Town of Lincoln.

Additional details about the Harriet Todd scholarship will be available on the Town website in January when the application process for the Codman Scholarships and the Lincoln Community Scholarships for 2021-2022 are posted.

On behalf of the Lincoln Scholarship Committee, the Board of Selectmen, and, indeed, the entire town, we offer our deepest gratitude to Harriet Todd and the Todd family for establishing the Harriet Backus Todd Scholarship. Speaking on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, Jonathan Dwyer has observed, "This scholarship makes a truly meaningful difference to students in our community. Specifically, it provides financial scholarship opportunities to the 15% of Lincoln's public school students who live outside the town, in Boston and elsewhere, and are ineligible for our existing resident-restricted scholarships. Also, this scholarship memorializing Harriet Todd is significant to the town as an example of generous service to others. Her gift will help people she never met improve their lives. For all of this, the board is sincerely grateful."

Carolyn Caswell Dwyer

Nancy Marshall

Barbara Slayter

Members, The Lincoln Scholarship Committee

Coming Soon...Lincoln Green Energy Choice



The Board of Selectmen and Green Energy Committee are pleased to announce that the Town has contracted with First Point Power to significantly reduce emissions from our electricity use. The Lincoln Green Energy Choice program (www.LincolnGreenEnergyChoice.com) will allow residents to add clean, renewable sources to their electricity supply.

In 2021, Eversource is required to source 18% of its electricity supply from renewable sources in New England. But we are doing better than that!

Using bulk purchasing power, **Lincoln Standard Green**, the new default program for Eversource Basic customers, will include 45% renewable electricity at a cost that is slightly below the Eversource Winter Basic Service price. This plan more than doubles the renewable New England electricity included in Eversource Basic. Note: Lincoln Green Energy Choice only affects the “electricity supply services” portion of your bill (see graphic on the right). Eversource will continue to provide delivery at the same cost and will be the one to call if the power goes out! Lincoln Green Energy Choice rates will be in effect from March 2021 to January 2023.

Electric Account Summary	
Amount Due on 01/28/21	\$187.84
Last payment received on 01/20/21	\$187.84
Balance Forward	\$0.00
Current Charges/Credits	
Electricity Supply Services	\$89.57
Delivery Services	\$120.20
Total Current Charges	\$209.77
Total Amount Due \$209.77	
Total Charges for Electricity	
Supplier (First Point Power)	
Generation Service Charge	764kWh x .11.725 \$89.57
Subtotal Supplier Services	\$89.57
To calculate your bill, multiply your kWh usage by the different rates shown in the chart below.	

More Choice!

- **For maximum carbon reduction, ‘opt up’ to Lincoln 100% Green.** This option significantly reduces your household’s carbon footprint by supporting 100% regionally-generated renewable electricity for a monthly bill increase of less than 10% (for median electricity users).
- Alternately, you can choose to ‘opt down’ to the **Lincoln Basic** program. You’ll pay a bit less and add an extra 2% of green electricity.
- For a median Lincoln household, the chart below compares the three Lincoln Green Energy Choice options to Eversource Basic Service. The Eversource winter 2021 rate is 11.795¢/kWh and the median kWh usage in Lincoln is 764 kWh.

Comparative Costs for Median Monthly Usage	Lincoln Standard Green (Default)	Lincoln 100% Green (Opt Up)	Lincoln Basic (Opt Down)	Eversource Basic
% New England Renewables	45%	100%	20%	18%
Supply Cost ¢/kWh	11.725¢	14.043¢	10.651¢	11.795¢
Delivery Cost ¢/kWh	11.362¢	11.362¢	11.362¢	11.362¢
Supply Cost	\$89.58	\$107.29	\$81.37	\$90.11
Delivery Cost	\$86.81	\$86.81	\$86.81	\$86.81
Monthly Customer Charge	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$7.00
Total Monthly Cost	\$183.39	\$201.10	\$175.18	\$183.92

You will learn more about this program in a letter from the Town that will arrive soon. The options are explained in the letter. *If you don’t wish to participate, you can opt out at any time.*

If you already have a third-party supplier (e.g. you’ve chosen to purchase wind-powered electricity or you’ve contracted for an electricity supply that is cheaper than Eversource) you will not automatically be enrolled in Lincoln Green Energy Choice.

Questions? Answers to FAQs can be found at www.LincolnGreenEnergyChoice.com.

Join the Green Energy Committee at one of the upcoming virtual info sessions: Jan. 21st @ 7:30pm; Feb. 4th @ 1:00pm; Feb. 7th @ 4:00pm; and Feb. 8th @ Noon! Zoom links available on the website. To speak with someone about the program, please call 844-651-8919 or email support@LincolnGreenEnergyChoice.com.



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Anti-Racism (DEIA)

<https://www.lincolntown.org/1221/Equity-Diversity-Anti-Racism>

DEIA Next Steps

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

7:00pm via Zoom (see page 5)

Join the BOS

to review and discuss a draft
committee charge.

In September and October, the Board held three roundtables focused on DEIA, and a follow-up session during State of the Town in November. The purpose of these sessions was to establish a baseline understanding of the Town's jurisdictions and what it is currently doing to focus on DEIA, to hear about the work our private institutions are doing, and to think about how town – institution partnerships might amplify our collective efforts.

At State of the Town, we asked residents to brainstorm about short-term and long-term goals, and to imagine metrics that would let us measure how well DEIA work is taking root. Some of the themes that came out of the discussion included:

- **Short-Term Work:**
 - An audit of where we are. What do people in Lincoln need? How do people outside of Lincoln view the town? Do people feel welcome?
 - Once a committee is established, give it time to be trained and to build trust.
 - Develop a data dashboard of who lives in, works in, goes to school in, and visits Lincoln.
 - Celebrate the diversity that exists in town.
 - Provide ongoing opportunities for individual self-reflection and develop a common language for conversations.
 - Establish trusted places where people can go to talk about difficult incidents or interactions.
- **Long-Term Work:**
 - Examine hiring practices and factors that promote or prevent retention of a diverse staff.
 - Create a culture that is anti-racist and embraces diversity; think about how to further support and attract a diverse population.
 - Look at housing options in town. Examine a variety of possible zoning by-laws that could help ensure a wide range of housing values/prices.
 - Advocate for the people who don't yet live here; how do we find out what they need?
 - Keep economic diversity in mind as we set tax policy.
- **How Do We Measure Progress?**
 - DEIA becomes part of the fabric of how town government and institutions operate.
 - Diverse voices are not only at the decision-making table, but are influential.
 - There is a steady stream of diverse and engaged residents choosing to be involved in the civic life of the town.

- We see measurable changes in the demographics of our residents, employees, volunteers, students, and visitors.

The Board also asked those who attended State of the Town to weigh in on whether DEIA efforts should be town-led or citizen-led. About 3/4 of those who answered the poll thought the town should take the lead.

Now it is time to take the next step and consider the composition, scope and charge of a DEIA committee. **Please join the BOS on January 27th @ 7:00pm to discuss a draft committee model and an outline of the work ahead:**

<https://zoom.us/j/91832375325?pwd=aXRpdnJWVHJINnZzd0xOQW9ZTjlvdz09>

Meeting ID: 918 3237 5325; Passcode: 378902

Community Partner...Welcome Inclusion Diversity Equity (WIDE)



WIDE is a group of volunteer Lincoln residents working to serve as a supportive body for all organizations in town who are looking to engage in real, sustained, and meaningful anti-racist work. We want to create a community where people of all races, ethnicities, and religions (including individuals from all marginalized communities) feel welcome and where anti-racism is enacted. This means working towards a community where diverse voices, ideas, and experiences are not only celebrated but heard.

In a small town where the capacity of volunteers and professional staff is often taxed, we are looking to leverage the town's resources by coordinating and facilitating collaboration efforts and by providing opportunities for anti-racist advocate training which will enable us to share a common language to address inequity community-wide and be supportive of the school and official town efforts.

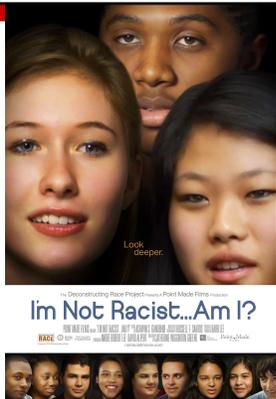
We are developing a series of trainings that all individuals in Lincoln can attend, and are hoping that every organization in town will send a small cohort of leaders. This will begin to sow the seeds of anti-racism throughout every community space in town. Thanks to the support of the Ogden Codman Trust, we are offering the trainings for free, beginning in Spring 2021.

We are looking to hear from you about what you need from us. Tell us how we can support you. We want to hear what you have started working on, what you feel successful at, and where you could use information or support. Please fill out this [form](#) or [contact us for a meeting](#) so that we can be sure to include the voice of the community while we design our trainings, meetings and plans for the future.

I'm Not Racist...Am I?
is a feature
documentary from
Point Made Learning

**All events are
virtual & FREE**

*Stay tuned for
registration
information



Documentary Screening
Saturday, February 27, 9:00AM
to
Monday, March 1, 2021, 12:00PM

Community Panel Conversation
Wednesday, March 3rd @ 6:30PM

Professionally Facilitated Small Group Discussions
Thursday & Friday, March 4th & 5th @ 7:00PM
Saturday, March 6th @ 10:00AM

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All events are virtual & free thanks to:
Lincoln Metco Coordinating Committee &
Sudbury Community for Racial & Social Justice

Note: Attendees are welcome to register for one or all of the group discussions; watching the documentary is a pre-requisite.

New Path to Codman Farm



In 2019, the State awarded the Town a Complete Streets grant of \$132,424 for a new roadside path in support of its multi-year efforts to connect our train station and shopping area to other points of interest and neighborhoods, and create a walkable, pedestrian and cyclist friendly area.

The new path will start at the intersection of Codman and Lincoln Roads. It will run along the farm side of the stone wall, in front of the gas station, and end at the resident parking lot. This project will include crosswalk improvements at the intersection of Codman and Lincoln Roads. Currently, our roadside paths require two crossings of Lincoln Rd for people coming from the direction of Codman Rd to access the Mall at Lincoln Station. Not only will this new path eliminate the need to cross busy Lincoln Rd twice, it will offer striking views of the farmstead for all to enjoy.

We are grateful to the Codman Farm Board, The Murphys, owners of the gas station, the Conservation Commission, and other Boards and Committees for their feedback, which resulted in an improved design. We look forward to a successful implementation that makes us all proud. We expect work to begin when weather permits.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Explores Pilot of “Advisory Shoulders” to Improve Safety

In 2019, the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) surveyed the town on bike and pedestrian use of our roadways and found that many/most residents would like to bike or walk more, but regard the roads as unsafe to do so. These are “vulnerable road users” (VRUs).

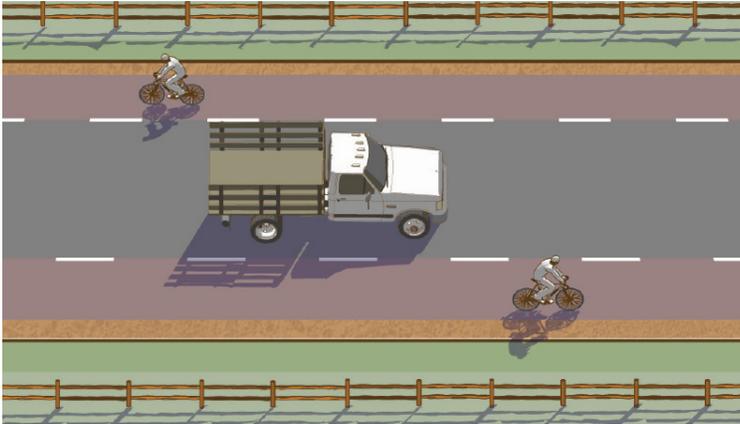
A large number of Lincoln’s roads are minor connecting roads that connect neighborhoods and are also conduits for motor vehicles both within and through the town. The resulting traffic volume and speeding keeps VRUs off the road.

BPAC members have been investigating a concept called **advisory shoulders** for several years. First deployed in Europe, they are currently used in dozens of US locations including, Cambridge, MA, Burlington, VT, Hanover, NH, and Yarmouth, ME.

- Advisory shoulders are inexpensive to install and have been shown to reduce vehicle speeds and accidents, and to increase road use by VRUs.
- BPAC believes that advisory shoulders could be used to calm traffic on our minor connecting roads and is looking for a suitable site for a first test or pilot. It is working with traffic safety consultants and our public safety team.

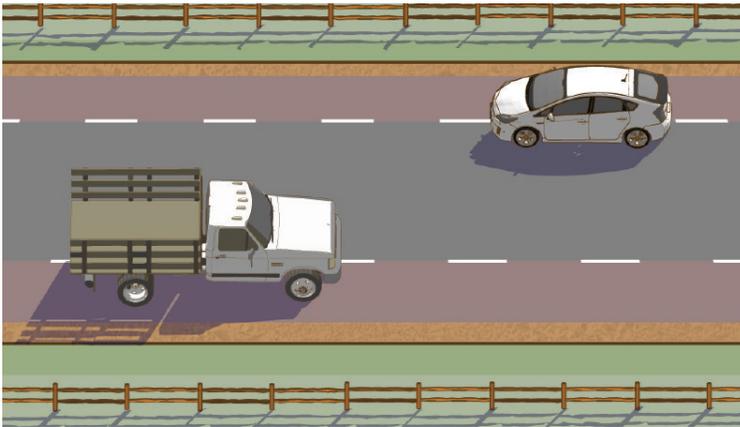
How do advisory shoulders work?

Vulnerable road users, whether pedestrians, cyclists, or others, are given a marked and signed right of way to occupy the advisory shoulder.



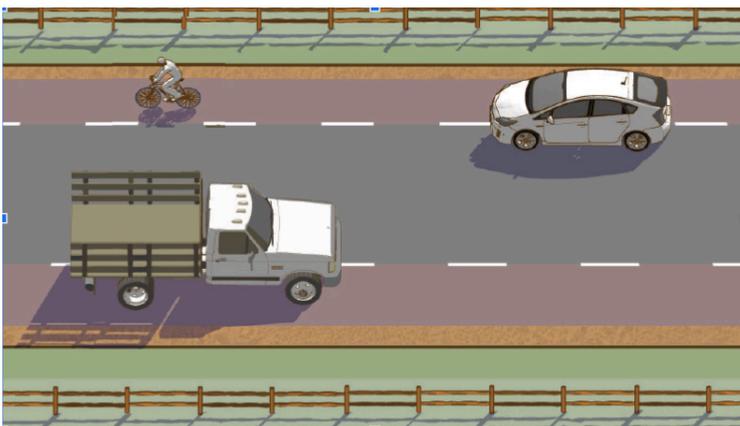
Single vehicle, no VRU

When a single vehicle encounters VRUs traveling in opposite directions, the driver steers their vehicle to the middle of the road, affording ample safe distance for the VRUs.



Two vehicles, opposite directions, no VRUs

With vehicles traveling in both directions and no VRUs, drivers use the edge lane enough to pass one another safely. It's a dashed line and with no VRU present, it's fine for vehicles to occupy the advisory shoulder.



Two vehicles, opposite directions, w/VRUs

The driver of a vehicle following a VRU must wait for the oncoming vehicle to clear so it can pass the VRU safely. Advisory shoulders do not change how the road should be used given the law and safe practice. They advise drivers & VRUs of what they should do to ensure the safety of all road users. This reduces vehicle speeds, improves safety, and reduces the stress of VRUs.

If you would like to learn more about BPACs work on advisory shoulders or the wider master plan for Lincoln and it's VRUs, email us at lincoln-bpac@googlegroups.com.

Congratulations & Welcome!

Michele Grzenda, Conservation Director: This month we welcome Michele as Conservation Director. She is a highly regarded conservation professional, serving most recently as Weston’s Conservation Administrator. Michele enters the role with first-hand knowledge of Lincoln, having been a resident for several years during which time she lent her expertise as a volunteer member of our Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee. Michele is going to be a strong addition to our land-use team.

Dan Pereira, Assistant Town Administrator: Dan was hired in to this new role in July after working, and ultimately leading, the Parks & Recreation Department for 19 years. Dan’s experience organizing and managing programs, staff and volunteers, his understanding of Town procedure and his devotion to the Town will make him a great asset to the Town’s leadership team.

Paula Vaughn, Director of Land Use Planning: Paula was hired as Director in December after serving as the Assistant Director for the past 10 years. Paula’s strong understanding of zoning law, impeccable organizational skills, and ability to respectfully engage all viewpoints make her well-suited to the job.

Brian Young, Fire Chief: Brian was appointed as Fire Chief after being elevated to Acting Chief in 2019. He was first hired as a firefighter in Lincoln in 2007.

And Finally...

Roughly 200 people participated in the recent Lincoln Trails Scavenger Hunt, and 43 households visited all 6 sites and claimed gift certificates! The certificates were provided through funding from the Celebrations Committee – thank you! We appreciate the participation of all those who hit the trails.



Map courtesy of Frank Kjaersgaard who set himself the challenge of running a non-repetitive course that reached all 6 locations!

Lincoln Board of Selectmen

James Craig, Chair
Jonathan Dwyer
Jennifer Glass
16 Lincoln Road
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773

Pre-Sorted Standard
US POSTAGE PAID
Lincoln, MA
Permit #11

ECR-WSS
Postal Patron
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773