



# Town of Lexington Annual Town Meeting 2023

## **Article 27: Amend Fossil Fuel Bylaw – Compliance with Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Regulations and Guidance**

### **Presenter: Joe Pato**

Article 27 asks the Town to make minor amendments to the Town’s previously approved fossil fuel free bylaw to ensure alignment with the Department of Energy Resource’s regulations for the fossil fuel free demonstration pilot. The pilot will grant authority to 10 Massachusetts communities to regulate fossil fuel infrastructure in new construction and major renovations. Lexington meets all requirements for joining the pilot and is one of 10 communities with a prioritized application status.

The amendments proposed in Article 27 align Lexington’s existing fossil fuel free bylaw with DOER regulations by updating definitions and exemptions to match DOER’s and adding a reference to the recently approved Specialized Stretch code. The amendments have little to no impact on the application of the bylaw. Passing these amendments are a critical step in Lexington being accepted into the pilot program and moving the town closer to our net zero goals.

The Select Board voted unanimously in support of the passage of Article 27.