

Clean Heat for Arlington

Sustainable Buildings Now!

Fossil Fuel Free Infrastructure Warrant Article



What is Being Proposed?

Warrant Article No. 5 would ask the state legislature to allow Arlington to implement legislation that would **prohibit the installation of fossil fuel piping in both new construction and significant rehabilitation projects, with some important exemptions**. Town Meeting Members will vote on the Article beginning November 16, 2020. This Warrant Article is the successor of a warrant article that had been filed for the May 2020 Town Meeting, and its substance is the same as the old one.

Why is it Being Proposed?

Cities and towns must begin to **reduce carbon emissions to zero by 2050, and to 50% by 2030 to prevent catastrophic global warming**. Emissions cannot be lowered if we continue to rely on fossil fuels. To reach these goals, Arlington can act now to begin to decarbonize buildings, which account for approximately 60% of all emissions in our town.

What are the Alternatives and Associated Costs?

Air source heat pumps are an affordable and effective clean heating and cooling alternative, sourced by electricity. *Installation* of these systems is actually cheaper than installing gas systems, given state and federal subsidies. With new insulation code requirements, the *operating* cost of electric heat pumps is comparable for new construction and significant rehabs. For some buildings, ground source heat pumps may be an alternative.

Get Involved and Learn More:

Attend the public information session about the bylaw:

November 12th @ 7-8 pm
Register to attend on Zoom:
<https://bit.ly/3o16UW8>