



# Town of Sudbury

Select Board

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## SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING POLICY

(Adopted 4/28/26)

The Town of Sudbury recognizes that procurement decisions of our employees and contractors play a critical role in advancing the community's climate and sustainability objectives. Consistent with Sudbury's values and commitments as a community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and practice sustainability, as outlined in the 2023 Climate Mobilization Action Plan and 2022 Climate Emergency Declaration, the Town will integrate sustainability considerations into purchasing practices across all departments.

Sustainable purchasing is the practice of acquiring goods and services in a manner that delivers best value over the full life cycle while reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving natural resources, and supporting healthy, equitable communities. Procurement decisions influence not only the direct environmental footprint of municipal operations, but also broader market trends that affect emissions, energy use, and material consumption at regional and global scales. By including environmental, public health, and waste reduction considerations in our purchasing decisions, along with price, performance, and product availability, the Town can pursue fiscal responsibility while promoting practices that minimize waste and environmental impacts.

Through this policy, the Town seeks to align purchasing practices with its sustainability goals by prioritizing products and services that:

- Minimize lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions, including those associated with production, transportation, use, and disposal;
- Reduce waste and promote circular economy principles, including reuse, repair, and recycled content;
- Avoid or reduce the use of toxic substances that may harm human health or the environment;
- Improve energy and water efficiency and support the transition to renewable energy; and
- Support climate resilience and adaptation in municipal operations and infrastructure;

To meet the above goals, the Town will, whenever feasible:

- Purchase products and services offered through the Commonwealth's Operational Services Division's (OSD) Environmentally Preferable Products and Services Guide.

- Prioritize donation and reuse before disposal of goods or equipment; and whenever possible, utilize the State Surplus Property Program.
- Adhere to Federal Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines, or other established criteria, for minimum recycled content levels when purchasing office supplies.
- Prioritize purchasing products that are durable, long lasting, reusable or refillable, and avoid purchasing single-use products.

The Town is committed to sustainable purchasing and empowers employees to be innovative and demonstrate leadership by considering environmental and public health benefits when making purchasing decisions.