

**COUNTY OF NORFOLK
NORFOLK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners for the County of Norfolk (“County”) will hold a PUBLIC HEARING, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 34, Section 14, on Monday, May 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Norfolk County Agricultural High School, Animal Science Building, AKC Ring, located at 400 Main Street, Walpole, MA, on the County’s proposed lease of the following County-owned premises (“Premises”) in the Town of Walpole to Kearsarge Energy LLC.

9.0 acres of land to be leased from land that is owned by Norfolk County with the improvements thereon contiguous with the main campus (which consists of 202.6±Acres) of the Norfolk County Agricultural High School addressed as 400 Main Street, Walpole, MA, said 9.0 acres of land to be leased from portions of the following recorded & registered land parcels depicted on plans entitled: “Plan of Land in Walpole, Mass”, Plan Number 971 of 1969 in Plan Book 226, and “Plan of Land in Walpole, Mass”, Plan Number 69 of 1973 in Plan Book 235, and Land Court Case Plan 11282A, Lot A. The 9.0 acres leased area will include portions of the following Town of Walpole Assessor Maps-parcel numbers 13-169, 13-167, 13-166 and 18-21.

The County of Norfolk proposes to lease the Premises to Kearsarge Energy LLC for the construction and installation of a One (1) megawatt AC ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (“PV”) system for a period of 20 years. The rental rate for the Premises will be \$31,500 per year in ground rent with a provision for a 1.5% annual increase in rent for the term of the lease

The County’s intent is to use this solar PV system to address, meet, or exceed several of its goals, objectives, strategies, and actions concerning the County and the Norfolk County Agricultural High School’s fiscal needs including entering into a solar Energy Management Services Agreement (“EMSA) that supports the County and School’s essential governmental functions and the policies and goals of: (1) reducing energy costs; (2) promoting and supporting the development of renewable energy resources; (3) reducing the County’s carbon footprint; and (4) developing a ninth through twelfth grade curriculum in solar energy for the school that conforms to Common Core and Next Generation State Science Standards.

Additional information, with an overview of the County’s solar proposal, can be found on the homepage of the Norfolk County website at www.norfolkcounty.org or by calling the Commissioners’ Office at (781) 461-6105 to request a copy of the overview.

Residents are invited to provide oral and/or written comments during the PUBLIC HEARING concerning the County's proposed lease. The County Commissioners encourage residents who are planning to submit extensive testimony to provide said testimony in writing so that all interested parties will have the opportunity to participate in the public hearing. For planning and logistical purposes, the County requests residents planning to present oral or written comments during the PUBLIC HEARING to email commissioners@norfolkcounty.org in advance of said hearing.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing in person but would like to comment or have questions, please feel free to contact the Office of the County Commissioners at commissioners@norfolkcounty.org or by phone at (781) 461-6105.

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Posted on the County of Norfolk website homepage on April 8, 2022