

2024 Petition to the Williston Planning Commission - Housing Energy Efficiency and Electrified Heating Requirements

Dear Planning Commission,

In light of the number of new residential homes that are planned in Williston (the Snyder Annex project, Summerfield, Glazer, etc.), we would like to formally request that the Planning Commission write amendments to the town bylaws or ordinances. Namely, that all new large scale housing builds must use no fuels that emit green house gases (fossil fuels, Renewable Natural gas [RNG], biomass or green hydrogen) as their primary source for heating and cooling. Also, all new large-scale housing builds should meet stronger energy conservation building standards.

New homes will be in service for 100+ years. Adding more homes that consume fossil fuels or false solutions like RNG, biomass or green hydrogen would be short-sighted and expensive to correct. The same issue applies to new commercial construction, but we are less familiar with how to achieve this.

We request that these changes be made ASAP, in advance of the Town Plan.

We ask ourselves – What can we do now, to avoid regrets about what we could have done but didn't, in years to come? One answer is to put strong energy requirements and recommendations for large scale building projects in Williston's bylaws ASAP.

Thank you for your consideration.

Signed,

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* Indicates required question



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I would like to join Sustainable Williston members at upcoming Planning Commission and Selectboard meetings where this petition, or policy changes in response, are being considered. *

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