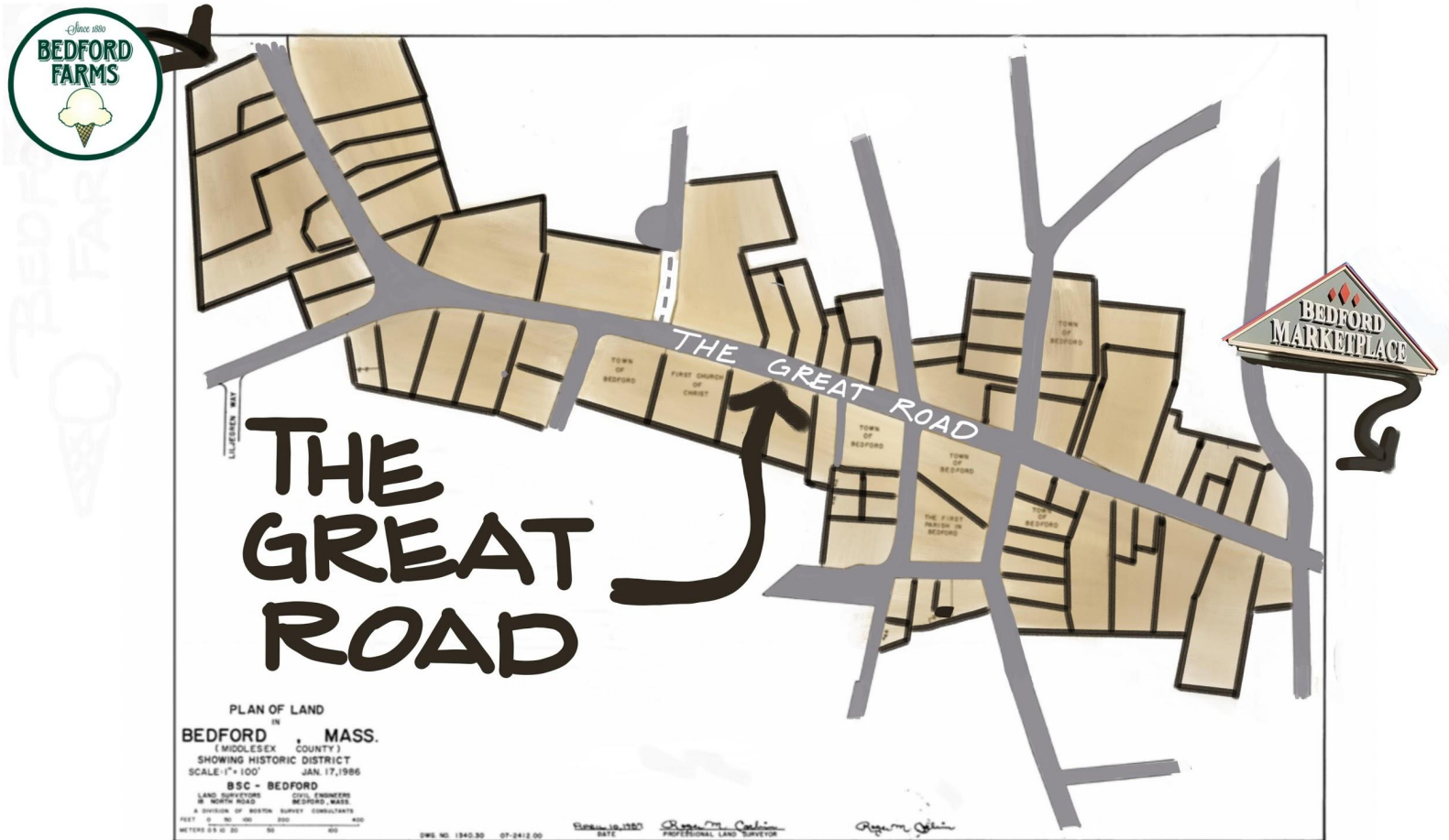


Article 2: Amend HDC Bylaw for Solar Panels

**Special Town Meeting
November 13, 2018**

Article 2 Pertains to the Historic District in the Center of Bedford



Article 2 Makes it Easier to Install Solar Panels in the Historic District

If panels meet the requirements, Historic District Commission approval would not be needed.



Bedford Voted in 2017 for Net Zero Planning to Address the Urgency of Climate Change



Winthrop, MA

Image: Michael Dwyer/AP



Framingham, MA

Image: Alastair McLean



80% Reduction in Emissions by 2050



Article 2 Speeds Transition to Renewable Energy

- Shortens permitting process significantly
- Residents can install before incentives run out
- Contractors more willing to work with owners



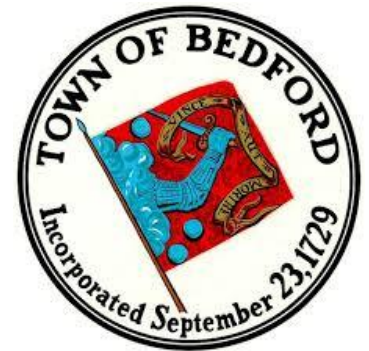
Article 2 Removes Uncertainty

- Streamline process for residents & HDC
- Removes uncertainty in HDC approval of solar
- Building owners can plan with confidence



Article 2 Aligns with Bedford's Goals

- Bedford has been a Green Community since 2011
- 2013 Comprehensive Plan encourages renewables
- 2017 Net Zero planning approved by Town Meeting



Article 2 Aligns with State Goals

- Other HDCs required to consider solar energy
- Global Warming Solutions Act requires statewide emissions reductions
- SMART incentive program encourages residential solar



Article 2 Safeguards the Character of the Historic District

Existing HDC Guidelines

Article 2 Requirements

color matches roof



parallel to roof surface



set back from edge



hidden wires/pipes



Example of Conforming Solar Panels



Article 2 is Legally Appropriate

- **HDC Enabling Act: HDC must follow town bylaws**
- **Attorney General supports “home rule”**
- **State laws support solar energy in historic districts**



Article 2 is Good for Bedford and Good for the Planet



- Gives homeowners control
- Easier permitting process
- Supports Comprehensive Plan
- Increases Renewables for Net Zero



Support The Bedford We Want