

Name: \*\*\*\*\*

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**Proposal description:**

Temple Shir Tikvah should endorse the People's Climate Mobilization march on April 28, 2017, and allow synagogue members to carry the Shir Tikvah banner in the march. The main march is in Washington, DC, and we encourage members to travel there for it, but alternative events should also be available in Boston.

**Time sensitive:**

The issue should be resolved in March so that interested synagogue members can make arrangements to travel.

**Relevant text:** (No text)

**Background:**

The People's Climate Mobilization, <https://peoplesclimate.org/>, is a coalition of well-established and well-respected organizations, including the Union of Concerned Scientists (a representative of which spoke at an ARCC meeting at Shir Tikvah), the League of Conservation Voters, 350.org, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and many more. This coalition pulled off a gigantic march in New York City in 2014, attracting 400,000 to 500,000 people.

**Costs:** No costs.

**Clergy position:**

Beth and Rabbi Cari have both expressed strong support for working on climate change, and Rabbi Cari has said that children in the school are asking what we are doing about the issue. Bailee has also helped on several climate events and brought school children to one.

**Relationship to established positions and current activities and priorities:**

ARCC, our climate change committee, has been the chief focus of Shir Tzedek for a couple years and has organized about 5 sessions, although Shir Tzedek is currently moving into other areas of social justice.

**Risk to tax status:** No risk.

**Support among the congregation:**

ARCC was formed because climate change was one of the top three concerns indicated by the congregation during a High Holidays survey taken by Shir Tzedek a few years ago (though a poster). We have consistently gotten 35 to 40 attendees at our events. The board's endorsement of ARCC's work comes in the minutes of September 21, 2015: "A motion was requested by Jerilyn and seconded by Annie that the board encourage and support ARCC's education and implementation efforts..."

**Impact on congregation:**

Many people are concerned about the future of humanity, and the lives their children may be able to lead in the future. Part of the impact of climate change is literally to drown Boston and other coastal communities.

**Support within Union for Reform Judaism:**

The Religious Action Center takes a strong position on actions to counter climate change, summarized here: <http://www.rac.org/position-reform-movement-climate-change-energy>

**Support within Jewish texts and tradition:**

A good summary of the Jewish response to climate change can be found in Andy Oram's article "Why Jewish communities need to join the People's Climate March," <http://bit.ly/2mLbfw9> on February 17, 2017. A short statement from the Religious Action Center is at <http://www.rac.org/jewish-values-climate-change-energy>

**What actions have you taken, or do you plan to take, to mobilize the Shir Tikvah membership around your cause? What help would you need to do this?**

ARCC has been organizing synagogue members and presenting them with information for two years. We have been contacting interested members we know informally. But we have waited till now to make a big push to recruit marchers because only in the first week of March did information come out about buses.