

We, the people of the Town of Harvard in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in order to assure the effectiveness of town government, facilitate the delivery of services, maintain a high quality of life, prepare for future growth, and encourage public participation in municipal affairs - all in accord with the Home Rule Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth - do ordain and establish this Home Rule Charter for the Town of Harvard.

Our community derives strength from the diversity of its population and from its commitment to equal opportunity for all. We believe that civil conduct in public affairs promotes participation in democracy and that by sharing our ideas and opinions with others in thoughtful and considerate ways we build a stronger and more diverse community.

Harvard's governance relies on citizen volunteers. Drawing on the breadth of their talents and depth of their goodwill, bringing their diverse perspectives to bear, is fundamental to Harvard's wellbeing. Our commitment to equal opportunity, diversity, and inclusion ensures all voices are heard, and all citizens emboldened to contribute to Harvard's governance and community spirit.