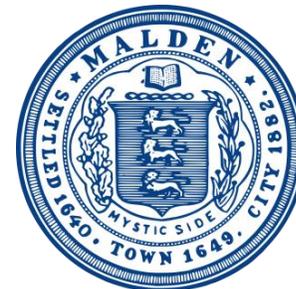


# Malden Climate Action Plan

City Council Committee of  
the Whole

September 17 | 7pm

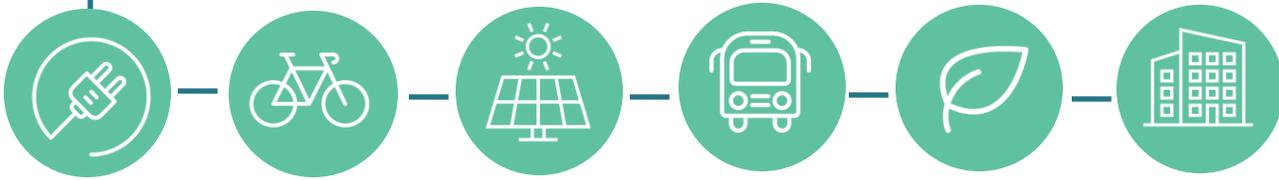


# Agenda

- I. Project Background & Recap**
- II. Contents of the Climate Action Plan**
- III. Spotlights & City Council Strategies**
- IV. Next Steps & Implementation**
- V. CAP Video**



# CAP Overview



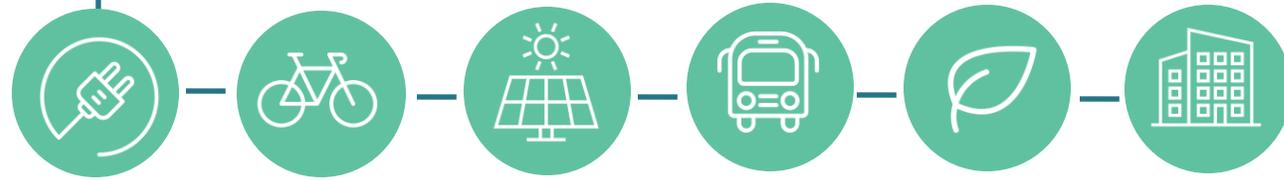
## What is a Climate Action Plan?

A **Climate Action Plan** (CAP) is a detailed strategic roadmap to reduce emissions, protect neighborhoods from climate impacts, and create a sustainable and resilient future for all.

**It takes a village!**



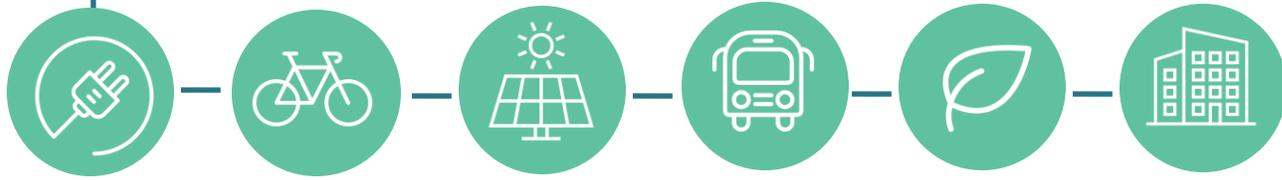
# Key Players



## Who was involved?

<b>Project Manager</b>	Office of Strategic Planning & Community Development
<b>MAPC</b>	Technical Consultants
<b>Steering Committee</b>	7 Malden residents leading on community engagement
<b>Municipal Sustainability Working Group</b>	Municipal staff: Public Facilities, Communications, City Engineer, Tree Warden, Building Commissioner, Emergency Mgmt.
<b>Energy Efficiency &amp; Sustainability Commission</b>	6 residents that guide the City towards climate-friendly practices, chaired by City Council





# Resident Steering Committee



**Steering Committee Meeting**  
(Lipin Ji not pictured)



Sheila Rachels



Mamadou Balde



Amanda Treat



Bob Fitzpatrick

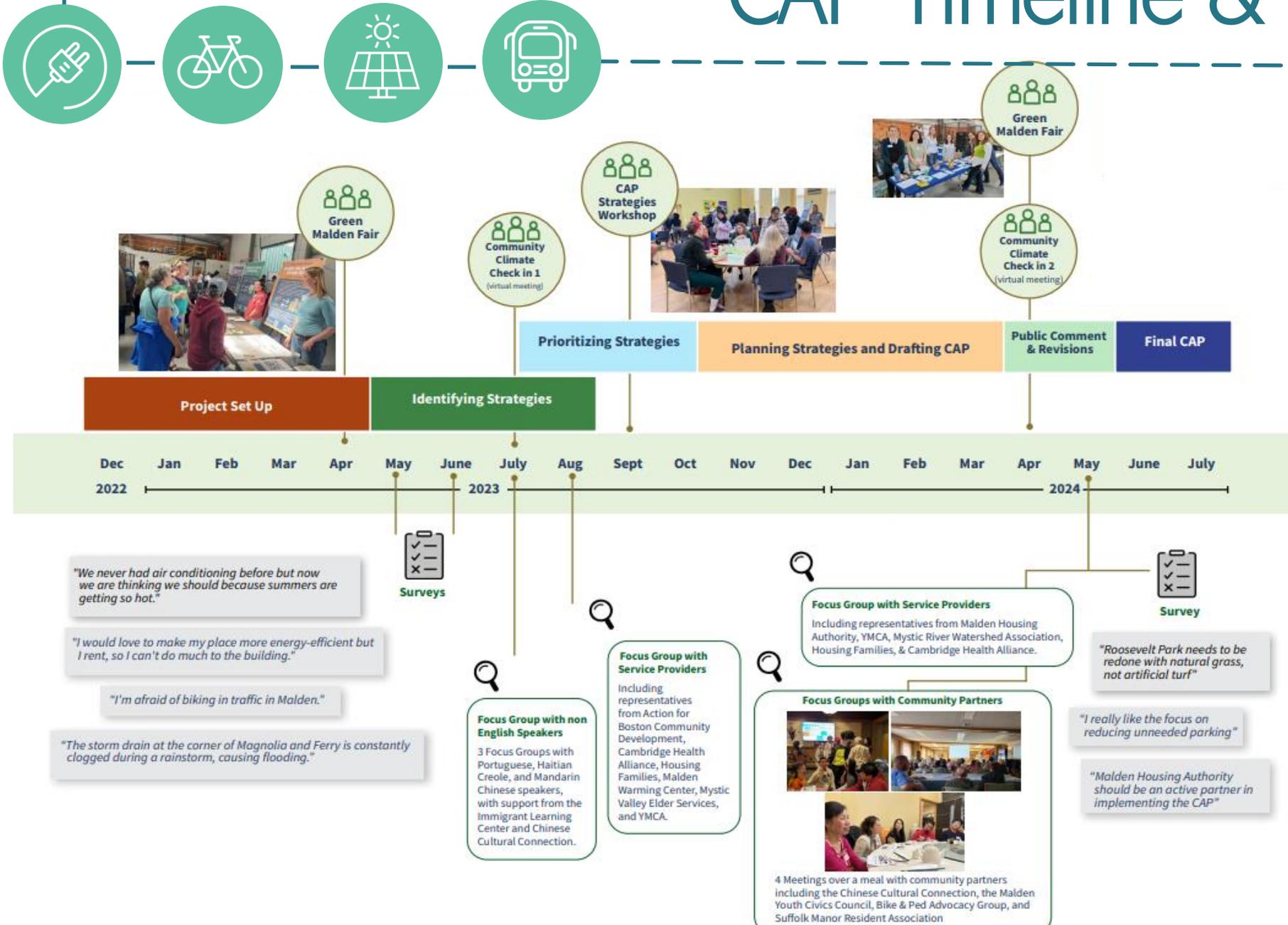


Sarah Zeiberg

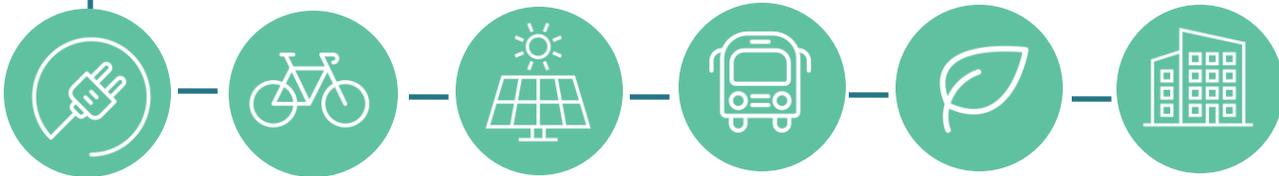


Lipin Ji

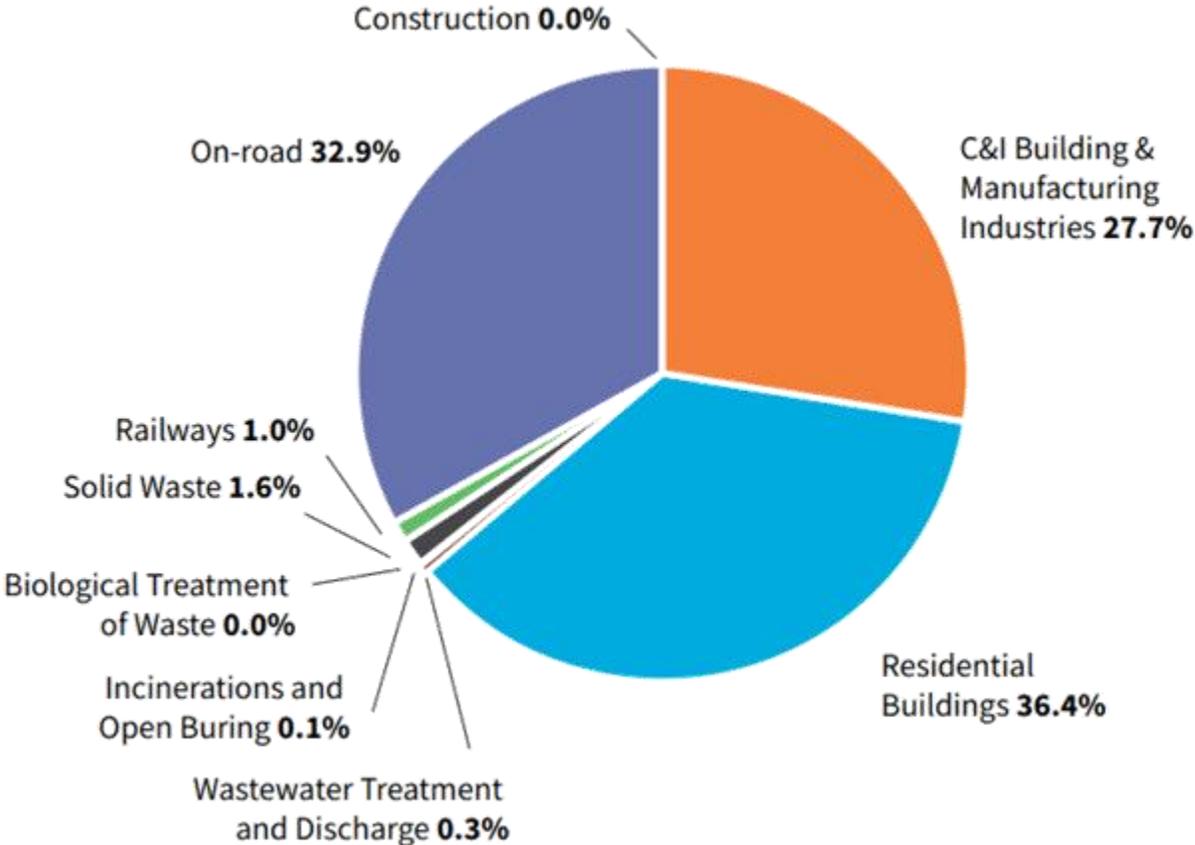
# CAP Timeline & Engagement



# GHG Inventory



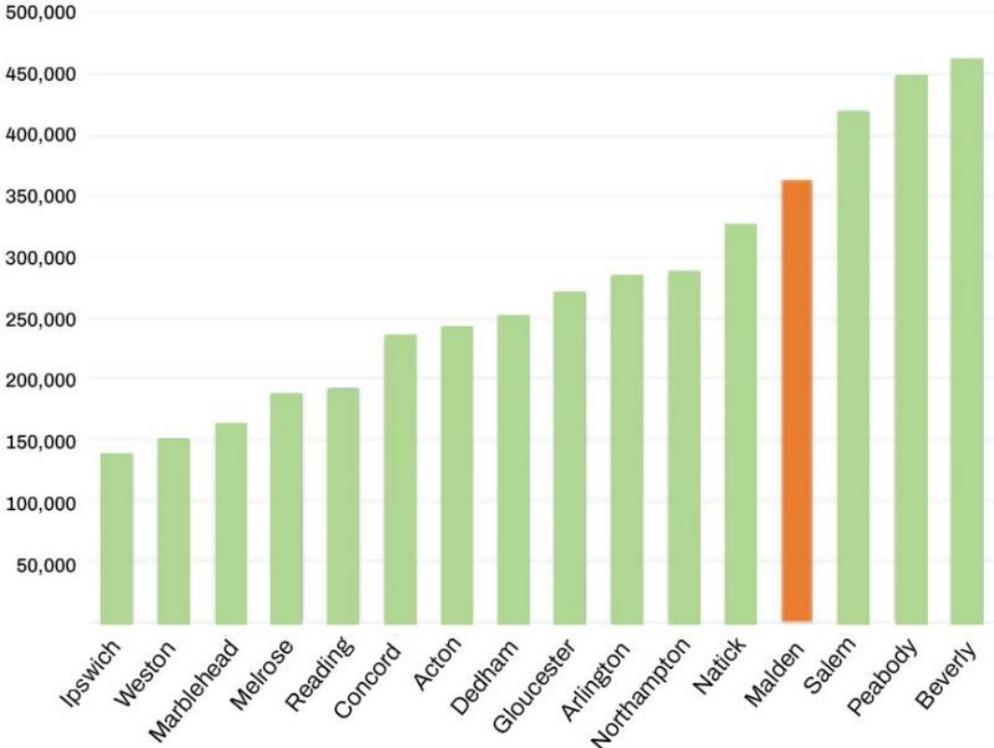
**Total Community-wide Emissions by Category (2017)**



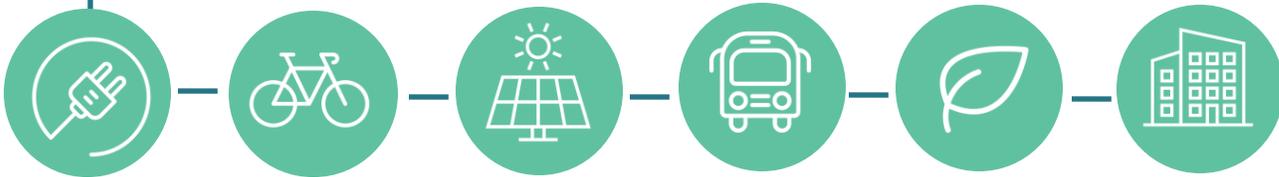
**Total community-wide emissions in 2017:**  
 362,984 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2</sub>e)

Approximately 64% of our City's emissions come from stationary energy, 34% from transportation, and less than 2% from waste.

**Total emissions (MTCO<sub>2</sub>e)**



# Contents of the Plan



## Malden Climate Action Plan

September 2024

<b>Letter from the Mayor</b> . . . . .	<b>3</b>
<b>Letter from the Steering Committee</b> . . . . .	<b>4</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b> . . . . .	<b>5</b>
<b>Climate Action in Malden</b> . . . . .	<b>6</b>
<b>Malden's GHG Inventory</b> . . . . .	<b>10</b>
<b>Climate Vulnerability and Equity</b> . . . . .	<b>15</b>
<b>Developing the Climate Action Plan</b> . . . . .	<b>23</b>
<b>Climate Strategies</b> . . . . .	<b>26</b>
<b>Champion Good Governance</b> . . . . .	<b>29</b>
<b>Achieve Net Zero in Buildings &amp; Energy</b> . . . . .	<b>36</b>
<b>Accelerate Sustainable Transportation</b> . . . . .	<b>54</b>
<b>Enhance Community Resilience</b> . . . . .	<b>67</b>
<b>Mitigate Heat &amp; Flooding Impacts</b> . . . . .	<b>77</b>
<b>Implementation: What Comes Next?</b> . . . . .	<b>90</b>
<b>List of Acronyms</b> . . . . .	<b>94</b>
<b>Endnotes</b> . . . . .	<b>95</b>

# 5 Goals of the CAP



## Champion Good Governance

Strengthen community partnerships, transparency, and accountability in city leadership, while boosting municipal capacity and collaboration, to effectively and equitably tackle climate change.



## Achieve Net Zero in Buildings & Energy

Transition to clean energy sources and make homes and buildings more efficient, ensuring equitable access to affordable renewable energy options for all residents.



## Mitigate Heat & Flooding Impacts

Create cooler, greener neighborhoods with more green spaces and healthier tree canopies that help to protect us from heat, flooding, and extreme weather.



## Enhance Community Resilience

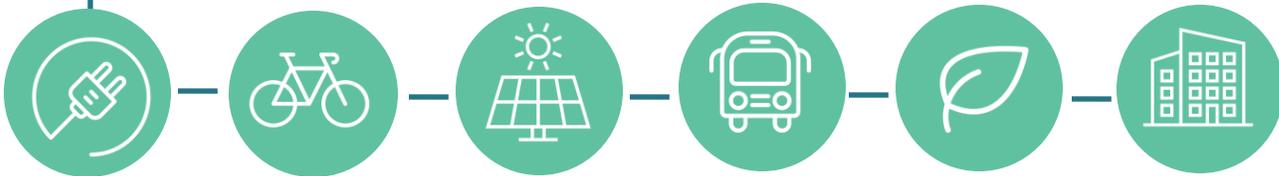
Empower the Malden community with knowledge, resources, and connections to be better able to prepare for, withstand, and cope with climate challenges.



## Accelerate Sustainable Transportation

Transform our city's mobility by prioritizing walking, biking, and public transit, while transitioning to electric vehicles and expanding access to alternative transportation options.

# Strategy Blueprint



## Strategy 5: Address major gas leaks

**Strategy Description:**  
 More than 7% of Malden’s GHG emissions come from leaks in natural gas infrastructure. To reduce gas leakage, the City will coordinate with National Grid to identify and repair leaks and raise public awareness. This strategy will be paired with others to accelerate the transition away from natural gas heating/cooling systems.



**Objectives**

- Reduce the number of known, unresolved gas leaks in Malden by 50% by 2030.



**Implementation Lead:**

Mayor’s Office  
 Department of Public Works



**Implementation Partners:**

City Council  
 HEET  
 MassCEC  
 National Grid  
 MAPC  
 Multi-Town Gas Leaks Initiative



**Timeline:**

Intermediate (1–5 years)



**Resources for Best Practices:**

MAPC & HEET’s [Fix Our Pipes Study](#)  
 HEET’s [online map](#) of gas leaks across Massachuse  
[Gaspipes.org](#) website



**Financial Considerations:**

- The financial burden of this work lies with Nati

## Strategy 5: Address major gas leaks

**Implementation Actions:**  
*Awareness.* Raise awareness about gas leaks locally through events, such as a “Community Gas Walk.” Educate Malden residents about how to report suspected gas leaks to National Grid.  
*Advocacy to National Grid.* Identify unrepaired gas leaks in Malden by noting the permits that National Grid has requested for repairs, and by using HEET’s map and [gaspipes.org](#). Respond to permit requests promptly and, where necessary, advocate to National Grid to accelerate the repair of any leaks without associated permits. Advocate to National Grid to limit the expansion of new gas lines and to remove abandoned gas lines as a condition for building new ones.  
*Multi-Town Gas Leaks Initiative.* Work with this informal group, led by representatives of MAPC, Mothers Out Front, and several municipalities, to explore how towns in National Grid territory can work together to accelerate progress on gas leaks.



**Equity Considerations:**

- Understand where significant gas leaks disproportionately harm low- and moderate-income households and communities of color in Malden and prioritize advocacy to repair them.



**Indicators:**

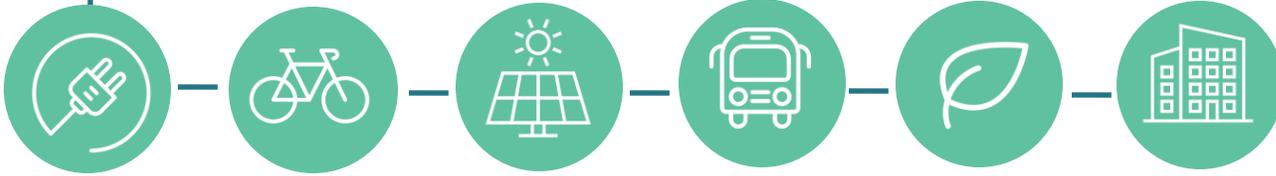
- Number of known, unresolved gas leaks as reported by the DPW annually
- Number of known, unresolved gas leaks as tracked on the HEET map annually



**Constraints**

- The execution of this strategy is largely dependent on National Grid. Note that the City has asked National Grid to remove abandoned gas lines in the past, without success.

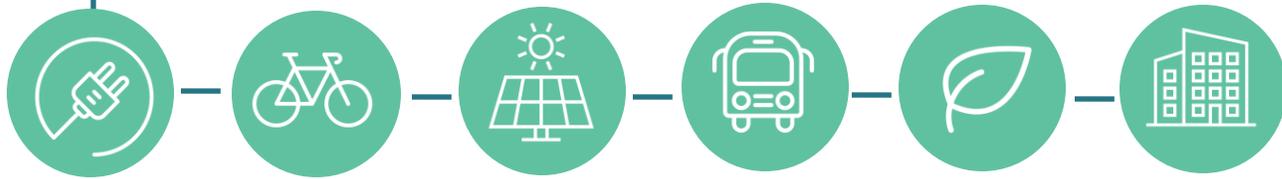
# Additional Strategies



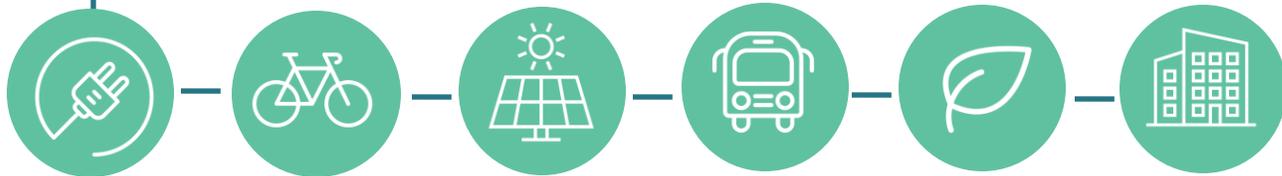
## Additional Strategies

 <b>Strategy:</b>	 <b>Lead:</b>	 <b>Partner:</b>
Ban or restrict gas-powered lawn care equipment.	City Council	Neighboring municipalities who have implemented this
Assess feasibility of micro-grids, energy storage, and solar canopies on critical facilities and public buildings.	Public Facilities	OSPCD's Sustainability Manager
Support a "Weatherize/Electrify Malden" outreach campaign.	CFP Staff	OSPCD's Sustainability Manager
Consider partnering with EnergySage to give residents access to information and quotes for community solar and rooftop solar.	CFP Staff	OSPCD's Sustainability Manager
Enact policy following the Fossil Fuel Free Pilot Program and/or apply to the next round of the program.	City Council	OSPCD's Sustainability Manager, OSPCD, ISD, Malden Housing Authority
Allow net zero enabling technologies by-right by updating height and setback requirements to accommodate clean energy technologies and add relevant terminology into zoning definitions.	City Council	OSPCD's Sustainability Manager, OSPCD, ISD, Malden Housing Authority

# All CAP Strategies



- 1. Champion good governance: The City of Malden will set an example for residents, businesses, and partners to follow, by integrating sustainable, equitable, and collaborative processes in all sectors of civic life.**
  - A. Lead by example by reducing carbon emissions from municipal buildings and vehicles in a variety of ways (see full plan for specific implementation actions).
- 2. Achieve net zero carbon emissions in buildings & energy across the City.**
  - A. Transition residential, commercial, and industrial buildings to electric heating and clean power.
  - B. Adopt a building energy use disclosure policy (i.e., buildings of a certain size would need to report their annual energy use) and consider an emissions performance standard for these buildings.
  - C. Adopt climate smart policies that enable clean energy adoption, like adopting the Specialized Stretch Energy Code, pursuing a SolSmart designation, and exploring tax incentives and other policies to encourage clean energy upgrades for existing buildings.
  - D. Explore whole neighborhood approaches to decarbonization, like networked geothermal, neighborhood scale education campaigns to promote MassSave, and group purchasing options for heat pumps.
  - E. Address major gas leaks through collaboration with and advocacy to National Grid.



# All CAP Strategies

### 3. Accelerate sustainable transportation options in Malden.

- A. Advance walking, biking, and rolling improvements in Malden.
- B. Repurpose on- and off-street parking spaces for climate-friendly uses, like bike racks, pocket parks, annual events, or traffic safety improvements.
- C. Expand Bluebikes service.
- D. Improve bus transit through collaboration with and advocacy to the MBTA.

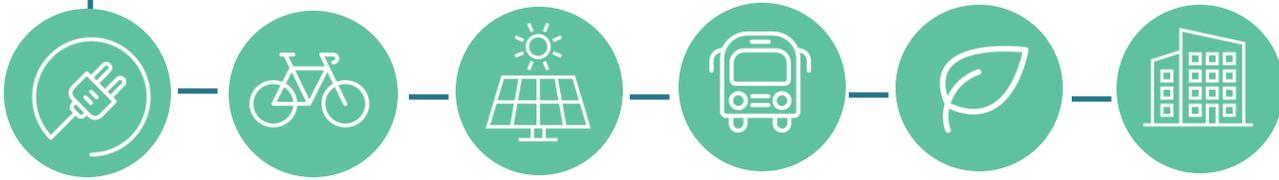
### 4. Enhance community resilience (the ability of our society to respond to, withstand, and recover from disruptions, like climate change or pandemics).

- A. Promote community climate education.
- B. Explore a resilience hubs network (resilience hubs are trusted community spaces that support the public before, during, and after an emergency—like expanded versions of the Malden Warming/Cooling Centers).

### 5. Mitigate the heat & flooding impacts experienced by Maldonians.

- A. Reduce the urban heat island effect by planting more street trees and incorporating cooling improvements like shade structures and cool roofs/pavements.
- B. Expand tree canopy cover and greenspace throughout the City.
- C. Reduce flood risk and impacts by improving stormwater drainage infrastructure and reducing impervious surfaces.

# Spotlighted Actions



- **City facilities** - plan for electrified city buildings and vehicles (p. 32)
- **Energy Coaches** - Explore energy coaches for inclusive outreach to landlords, empowering renters, and language access (p. 40)
- **Solar (PV) permits** - Seek SolSmart designation to streamline solar permitting (p. 46)
- **Safe routes to schools** – Implement routes to make it safer and easier to walk, bike, roll and take the bus to school, libraries, etc. (p. 58)
- **Resilience Hubs** – Develop network of resilience hubs sites (p. 74)
- **Heat Islands** – Implement Wicked Cool Mystic suggestions (p. 81)

# City Council: Primary Strategies

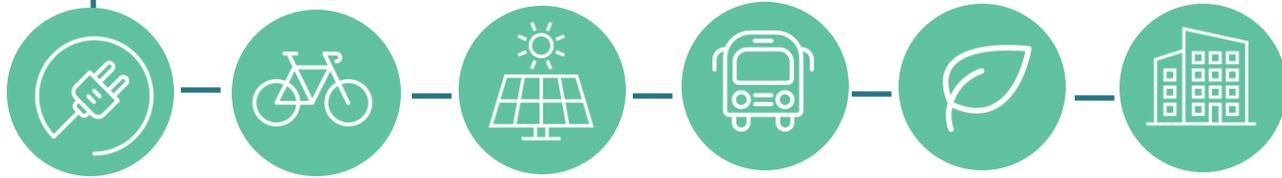


- Update Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Commission ordinance (pg 91)
- Adopt a building energy use disclosure policy and consider an emissions performance standard (p. 42)
- Adopt the Specialized Stretch Energy Code (p. 45)
- Update our Tree Ordinance to fortify protections for trees (p. 83)
- Develop a Transportation Demand Management ordinance (p. 61)
- Secure funding for MBTA rider subsidies and incentives (p. 64)

# City Council: Secondary Strategies

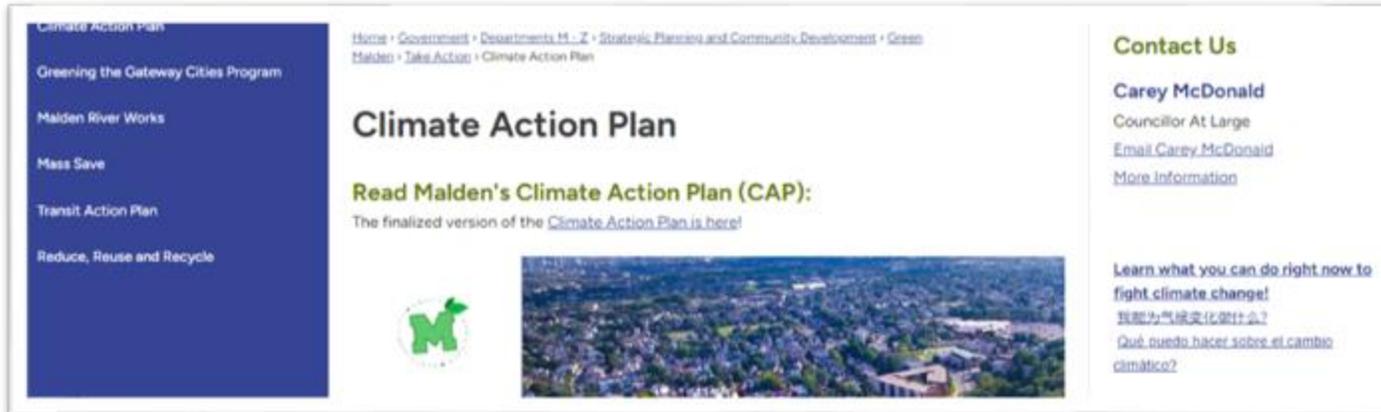


- Advocacy to state re: better MassSave incentives (p. 40)
- Advocacy to National Grid re: gas leak repair and prevention (p. 52)
- Advocacy to MBTA to increase bus service in Malden (p. 64)
- Ban or restrict gas-powered lawn care equipment (p. 53)
- Enact policy following the Fossil Fuel Free Pilot Program and/or apply to the next round of the program (p. 53)
- Allow net zero enabling technologies by-right by updating height and setback requirements and adding relevant terminology into zoning definitions (p. 53)
- Support a Vision Zero Action Plan (p. 58)
- Establish a no-idling policy in school zone (p. 66)
- Update Wetlands Protection Bylaw (p. 89)
- With BOH, determine the environmental impact of artificial turf fields compared to other land uses, and the ability to mitigate those impacts using different materials and design (p. 84)



# Next Steps & Implementation

- **CAP & summaries posted at [cityofmalden.org/greenmalden](http://cityofmalden.org/greenmalden)**



- **Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Commission**  
Update the ordinance of the EESC to oversee the implementation of the CAP
- **Planning for annual CAP progress updates at Green Malden Fair**

# UMA's CAP Video





Thank you!