

Arlington Net Zero Action Plan



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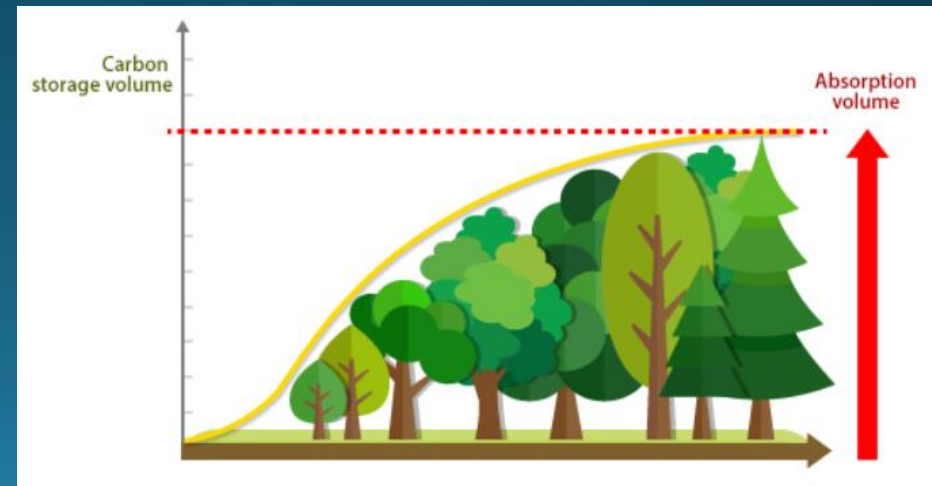


July 13, 2021

Arlington's Net Zero Commitment

- January 2018 Select Board vote committed Arlington to net zero emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050
- Just climate mitigation, not resilience (although much happening in that space)
- “Net Zero” allows any remaining 2050 emissions to be offset

Credit: Rocky Mountain Institute



Credit: Korea Forest Service

Clean Energy Future Committee

- Established by Select Board in July 2018
- Mission: guide Town to net zero GHG pollution by 2050
- 15 members: Town employees, elected officials, residents, Town Meeting Members, business and real estate

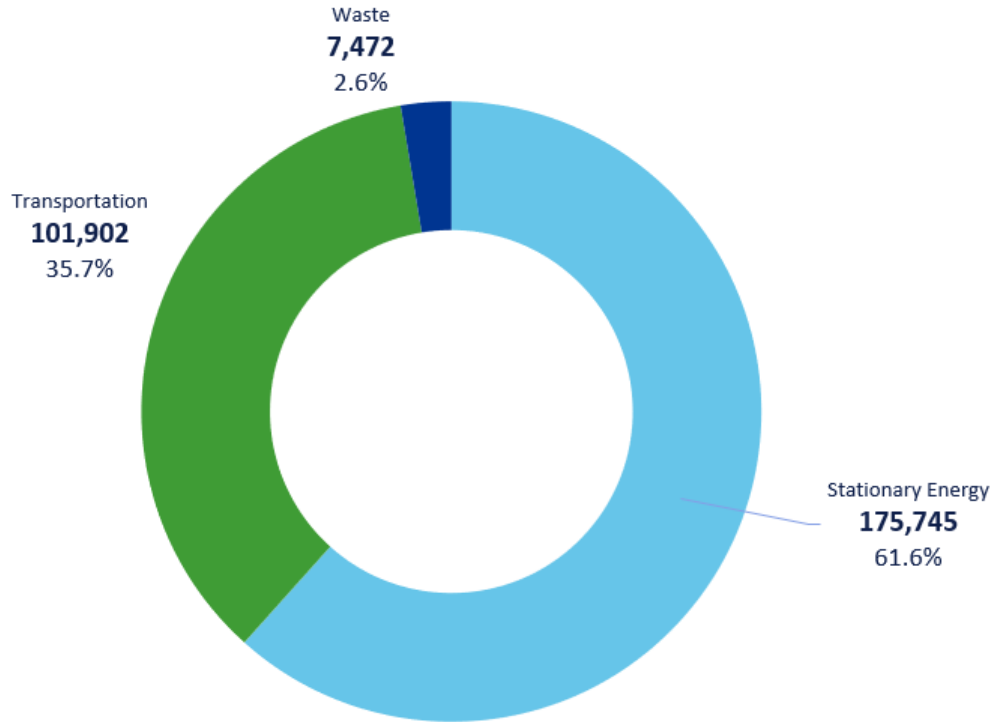


Net Zero Plan Project

- Funding from Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs with Town match
- Technical support from MAPC
- Partnership with MAPC, Natick and Melrose
- Work began late spring, 2019
- Arlington's Plan finished on February 26, 2021
- Also included a GHG inventory



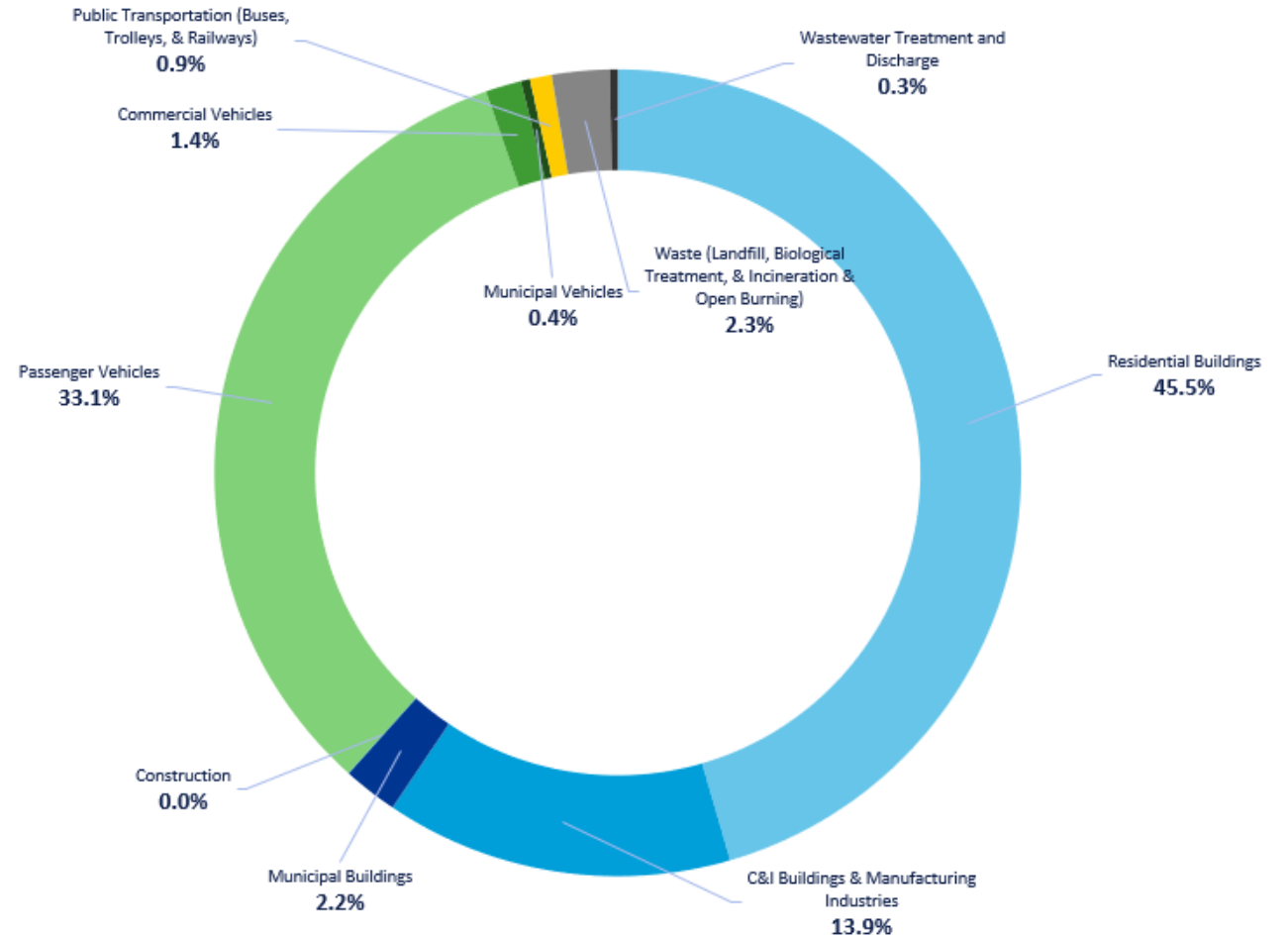
Community-wide Emissions (MT CO2e) by Sector



Total 2017 emissions:
284,078 MT CO2e

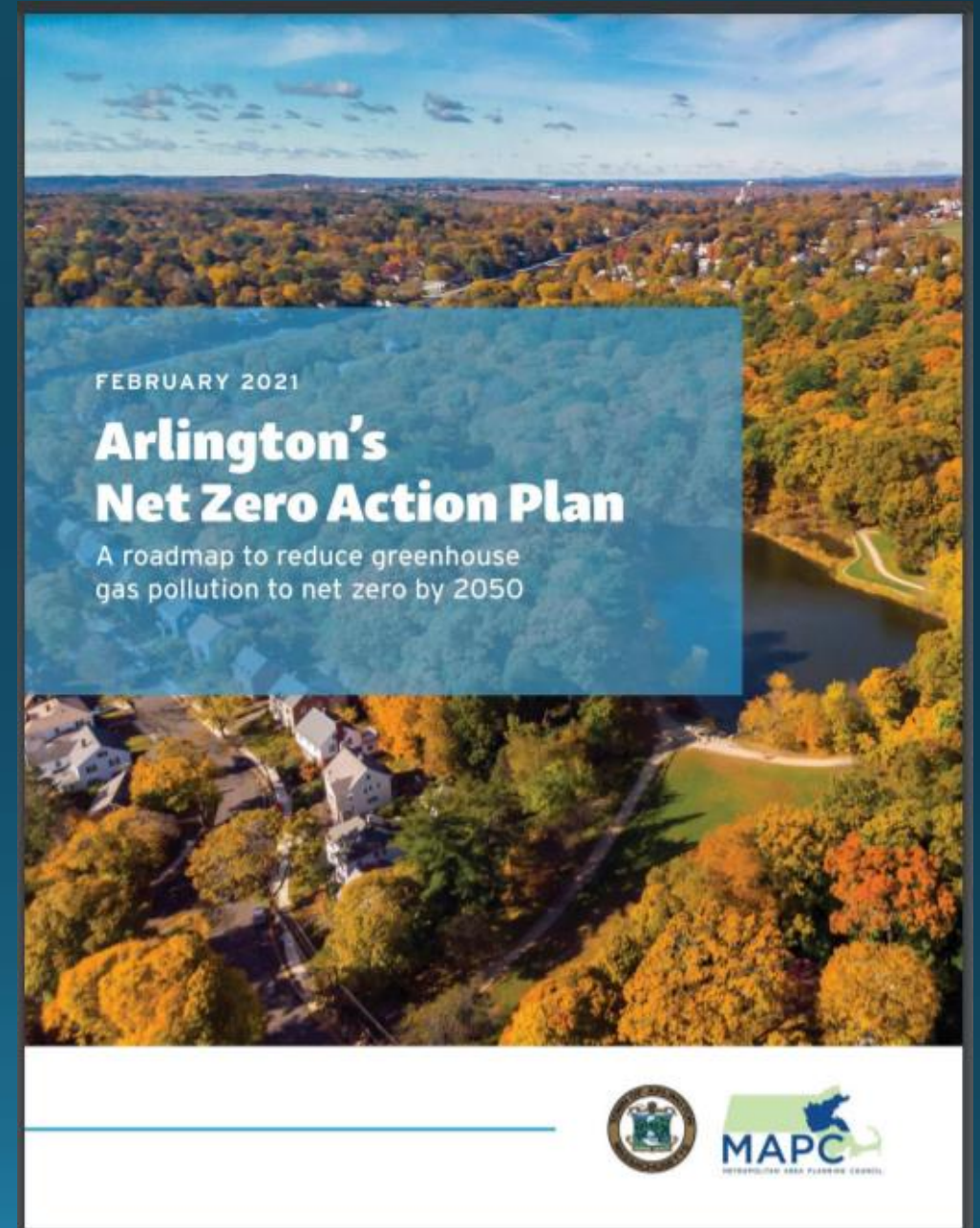
GHG Inventory

Percent of Total Community-Wide Emissions by Subsector (with Municipal Emissions Disaggregated)



Net Zero Action Plan

- Letter from the Future
 - Creative, fun, inspirational
- Getting to Net Zero
 - Background, overall goals
- Net Zero Action Roadmap
 - 31 GHG mitigation measures
- Implementation Tables
 - Key details on all 31 GHG mitigation measures in table format



Net Zero Action Roadmap

- Three sections:
 - Net Zero Buildings
 - Zero Emissions Mobility
 - Clean Energy Supply
- Goal is to get Arlington on path to Net Zero
 - Will get us on path – good start
 - BUT: we will need additional measures not yet conceived of
 - New technology
 - New federal or state laws.

Roadmap: Overall Approach

- Maximize energy efficiency
 - Promote building energy efficiency
- Electrify everything
 - Building space heating, water heating, cooking
 - Transportation (but first reduce VMTs)
- Green the grid
 - Advocate for increase in RPS
 - Green Arlington's electricity supply (ACE, municipal contracts)
 - Generate more local solar power

Roadmap: Overview (cont.)

- 31 GHG mitigation measures
 - 17 in Buildings
 - 9 in Mobility
 - 5 in Energy
- Reflects role of sectors in GHG emissions:
 - 62% from buildings
 - 36% from transportation
 - Clean Energy Supply measures aimed at greening electricity supply to power those two sectors.

Stakeholder Outreach

- Net Zero Survey in June 2020 (667 participants)
 - 87% said climate change “extremely important” to them
 - Strong support for building decarbonization, making biking safer, promoting electric vehicles, etc.
- Net Zero Virtual Open House in November 2020 (350 participants)
 - Strong support for draft Net Zero Action Plan
 - Minority criticized that 2050 is too late
 - Minority said government shouldn’t do anything
- Presentations to environmental, faith, business groups
- Presentations to Town departments, boards and commissions

Plan Implementation so far

- Just getting started – plan finalized 4 months ago
 - Already acted on two measures: fossil fuel bylaw (Nov. 2020) and zoning fix to promote efficient homes on nonconforming lots (May 2021)
- Formed NZAP Implementation Working Group
 - Meeting monthly in addition to CEFC
- Project / campaign-specific working groups forming
 - Electrify Arlington campaign and website
 - Advocacy for net zero stretch code
 - Arlington Community Electricity opt-up
 - Electrify municipal fleet

Lessons Learned

- Be realistic when setting goals
 - Yes, there's a climate emergency. No, we can't solve it by ourselves in 5 years
 - Electrification is key. Be careful about scope and timeline
 - Set yourselves up for success
- Clearly ID implementers (and be sure to ask them)
 - Municipal staff; boards and commissions; advocacy groups
- Seek input from more than the usual suspects
 - Environmentalists are key allies and will want to provide input (good)
 - Including others will be a challenge. Do it anyway.