

# COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE WITH CLEAN ENERGY

## Northampton's Perspective

### **Mass Municipal Association Annual Meeting and Trade Show**

January 18, 2018

Chris Mason  
Northampton Energy & Sustainability Coordinator

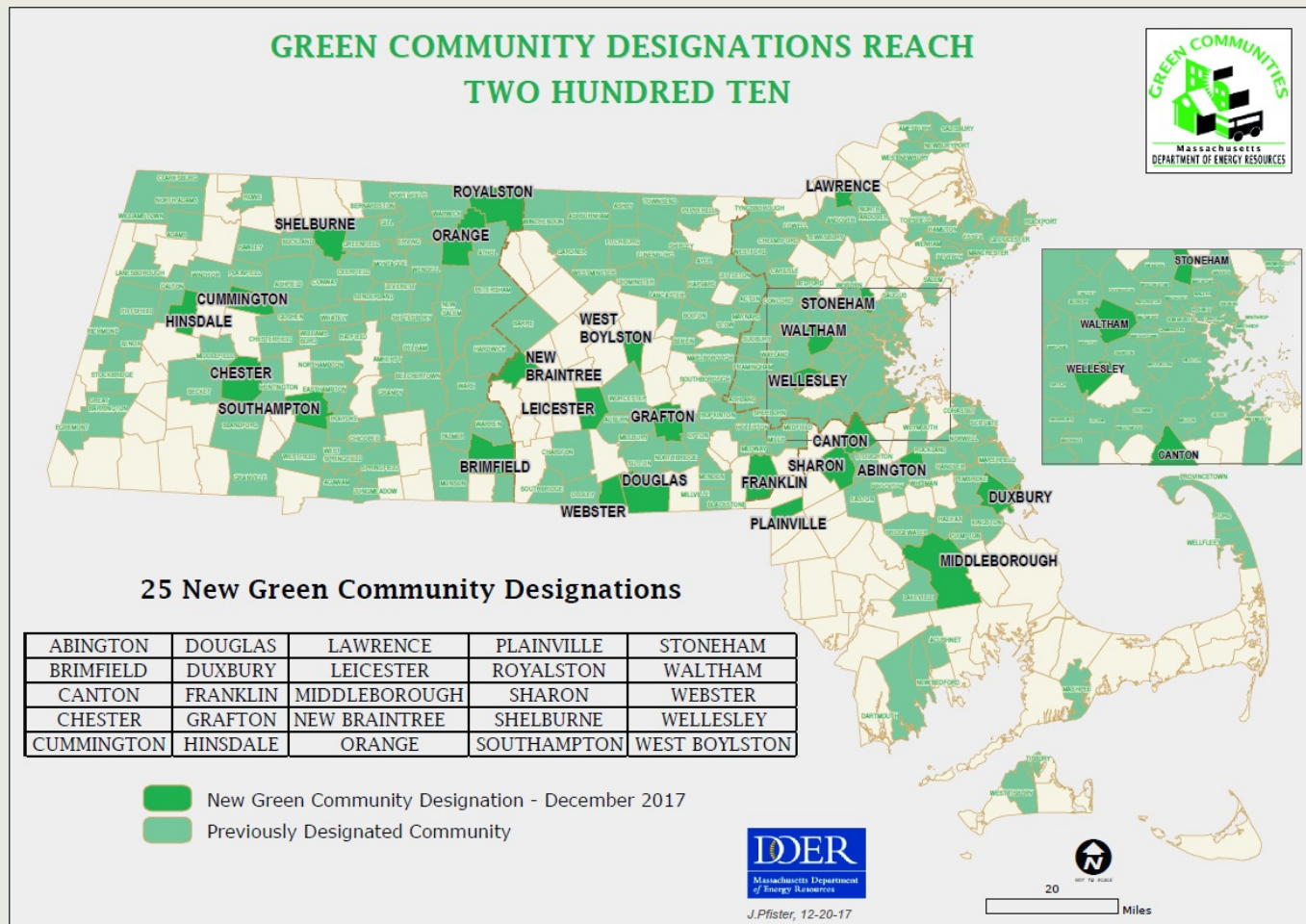
# A Taste of Northampton

- Energy commission & energy coordinator since 1980s
- Cities for Climate Protection Member (2001)
- 2008 Master Plan calls for GHG reductions, improved efficiency and more renewable energy
- Inaugural MA Green Community City (2010)
- MA Leading by Example Award (2010)
- 5-STAR Community Rating (2014)
- Compact of Mayors Signatory (2015)
- Downtown trash is collected by bicycle



# Become a Green Community

## MA DOER GREEN COMMUNITIES PROGRAM



# Become a Green Community

## **MA DOER GREEN COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**

- Northampton has received >\$800,00 in four Green Community Grants
  - PV array – Insulation and Air Sealing – Retro-Commissioning – HVAC upgrade – Outdoor and Indoor LED lights
- New residential homes in Northampton have an average HERS rating of 52 (stretch code requires <70)
- PV as-of-right zoning & streamlined permitting supported Solarize Northampton & PV on landfill

# Get to Know State Partners

- Mass Dept. of Energy Resources
  - Municipal Energy Technical Assistance (via RPAs)
  - Regional Green Community Coordinators
  - On-line Energy Tracking Database (Mass Energy Insight)
- Mass Dept. of Environmental Protection
  - Support for electric vehicles and charging stations
- Mass Clean Energy Center
  - Rebates and grants for renewable energy systems (electricity & thermal)
  - Support for community outreach programs



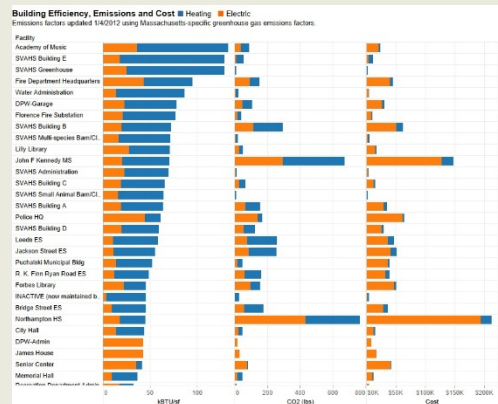
# Northampton Projects w/State Support



MassCEC  
Supported  
Community  
Engagement



Technical Assistance for  
Landfill PV Array



Diagnosing Energy Use  
Mass Energy Insight



MassDEP support for  
EV Charges and Cars

# Other Partners

- Your local Utilities
  - Energy efficiency rebates
  - Program Expeditor Program (PEX) - Similar to state contract for projects of <\$100,000
  - Technical Assistance Studies
- MAPC
  - Multi-town procurement for LED Streetlights
- Local Universities/Colleges
  - UMass Clean Energy Extension

# Who Does the Work?

- Options for Municipalities:

- Dedicated Staff Person(s)

- Shared Staff for Multiple Communities

- Staff Person Directed to Work With Local Energy Committee





# Local Partners

- ❑ Form a local energy committee/commission (particularly important for small towns)
- ❑ Get to know your local advocacy groups



# Questions/Contacts

---

Chris Mason, Northampton Energy and Sustainability  
Officer, 413 587-1055  
[cmason@northamptonma.gov](mailto:cmason@northamptonma.gov)