Clean Energy Future Committee

Date: July 25, 2025
Time: 8:15 – 9:30 a.m.
Hybrid Format Meeting

Minutes

Attendance:

- Members Remote: Aimee Graeber, Amos Meeks, David Morgan, James DiTullio, John Alessi, Kristen Fritsch, Pasi Miettinen, Ryan Katofsky (as Chair), Shelly Dein
- Members In-person: Talia Fox, Eric Helmuth
- Members Absent: Jim Feeney, Michael Kozuch
- Also attending: Paige Kelley

R. Katofsky convened the meeting at 8:15 am.

- **Virtual Meeting Reminders**
  - If there is a technical failure, we will try to relaunch the meeting three times.
  - If we are unable to relaunch and there are more than 20 minutes left in the meeting, the CEFC will reconvene the following Friday.
  - If there are fewer than 20 minutes left, the CEFC will carry the remaining agenda items forward to the next meeting.

- **Review and Approve 6/25/2025 Meeting Minutes**
  - June 2025 meeting minutes were reviewed. S. Dein moved to approve the minutes, A. Meeks second. A. Graeber, A. Meeks, J. DiTullio, J. Alessi, P. Miettinen, R. Katofsky, and S. Dein voted in favor to approve. D. Morgan and E. Helmuth abstained.

1. **GHG inventory update presentation and discussion.**
   P. Kelley
   The greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory was compiled in coordination with the subcommittee. Inventories were previously completed for the years 2017 and 2020. Another inventory was completed in 2021 when the NZAP was released. The goal was to have a GHG inventory update for 2023, to stay consistent with 3-year intervals, but the data was incomplete for 2023. MAPC also provided some assistance with completing the GHG inventory update.

   For the year 2022, Arlington's total emissions were 242,048 megatons of CO_2 equivalent. In 2017 it was 284,078 megatons CO_2, and in 2020 it was 270,152 megatons CO_2. A decrease of 14.8% from 2017 to 2022.

The largest contributor to emissions was stationary energy, which includes residential, commercial and industrial buildings, manufacturing industries, municipal buildings and construction. Transportation, including passenger, commercial, municipal, and state vehicles, in addition to on road buses and trolleys through the MBTA, contributed 36.4%. Waste contributed 0.4%. MAPC did not have much insight into how the waste calculation waste number comes to be. The number was pre-calculated, and theoretically includes emissions from all waste, including incineration and wastewater treatment.

Residential buildings comprised 47.8% of emissions, passenger cars at 32.9%, C&I and manufacturing at 11.3%, municipal buildings at 3.3%, commercial vehicles at 2.9%, and construction at 0.6%.

Percentage of building energy emissions by fuel type is 56% natural gas, 24% electricity, and 20% fuel oil. Fuel oil is overrepresented in terms of emissions because it is a more intensive energy source, compared to the percentage of buildings with fuel oil. It may be useful to add to the NZAP how these numbers might change in different scenarios.

Stationary energy decreased by 4.2%. This decrease included a reduction in homes using fuel oil as a heating source. Municipal stationary energy experienced an increase. The ACE contract update in 2022 is not reflected in these numbers. Transportation emissions decreased by 15.5%. The methodology for this calculation changed between 2020 and 2022, though MAPC said the change shouldn't impact the results. This decrease is mainly attributed to the adoption of hybrid and electric vehicles. The miles traveled per individual decreased due to an increase in remote work. Waste decreased by 23.3%, though this category makes up a smaller percentage of the Town's emissions. This reduction is largely attributed to emissions reduction from wastewater treatment and discharge. Arlington's stormwater system is separate from the sewer system. Waste from residential projects is not included due to use of private haulers for waste.

A copy of the model can be provided to CEFC members to investigate the data. If the rate of reduction continues, the Town could be emissions free in 17 years. Looking at the numbers may help to understand drivers and where the Town can continue achieving results.

A few factors that may have contributed to the emissions increase in municipal buildings are return to in-person work after COVID-19, filtration systems added to buildings, and the first building of the high school opening in 2022, with systems needing adjustments.

Gas leak data is not included in the analysis, which may be overlooking a contribution to Town emissions.

A more formal report on emissions could be produced based on the results or even incorporated into the NZAP.

2. NZAP update: subcommittee presentations and discussion

R. Katofsky and P. Miettinen met and discussed the roadmap for updating the NZAP document. Action item prioritization criteria will include factors like emissions, community interest, and equity considerations. The action item descriptions will also get updated. P. Kelley is going to help start up the framework for the summary table format proposed in the previous CEFC meeting. A narrative will then be built around that. Any members interested in helping develop the NZAP report can contact R. Katofsky.

T. Fox provided an update for the outreach subcommittee. The first phase currently underway is mainly focusing on awareness and promotion, including tabling at the Farmers' Market and Town Day. Another component is feedback sessions to solicit input on the draft list of actions. These sessions would be tailored towards specific stakeholder groups. Additionally, one or two large public meetings that would be open to anybody, either in-person or virtual. A survey will be released in fall. We should see results of the whole process by the end of the year or early next year. All of this is subject to change depending on how quickly the process moves.

For feedback sessions, M. Kozuch has already offered to coordinate with schools. Lori Kenschaft is holding an event in the fall to do some outreach with landlords about Mass Save resources. There may be an opportunity to incorporate a discussion around the NZAP action items at the same event. Other groups in consideration for feedback sessions include Mothers Out Front, Sustainable Arlington, affordable housing providers or tenants. Capacity to hold events like this is limited. Not holding an event for a specific stakeholder group doesn't mean the members can't participate in the NZAP update process. The survey and a general event will be open to everyone.

It's possible focusing on groups like landlords instead of tenants may yield better results, since tenants cannot make decisions about the building. Determining what would motivate residents or landlords to take action could be informative for the NZAP. Property managers and condo associations may be useful for some larger buildings, though property managers don't usually get a say in capital improvements for buildings. Some committees the CEFC could reach out to for a virtual meeting are the Transportation Advisory Committee, Gas Leaks Task Force, and the Capital Planning Committee. Other committees could maybe provide feedback on the draft action items through email. T. Fox could talk to Mike Ciampa about the municipal buildings. Outreach to Town departments through email or meetings could inform department heads about the NZAP update and gather feedback on draft action items.

3. Sustainability Updates

T. Fox

Based on feedback during the last CEFC meeting, additional posters were added at all current electric vehicle (EV) charging station locations and potential EV charging station locations. Of the 255 survey responses, 153 have an EV and 99 do not have an EV. Seventy respondents said they would purchase an EV if the infrastructure existed. The top sites for street charging stations were Capital Square, Mass Ave near Pond Lane, and Brattle Square. The North Union Park area scored one point lower, and the lowest scoring was near Cambridge Quarter. The next step is to take

the project to the Capital Planning Committee to obtain funding for the three charging stations.

Town Day is on September 20th and the CEFC could have a table or put a flier about the NZAP update on the Electrify Arlington table. A flyer could go unnoticed at the Electrify Arlington table. A. Graeber, R. Katofsky, P. Kelley, and K. Fritsch all offered to help staff a CEFC NZAP table at Town Day.

Next meeting date to be determined.

T. Fox moved to adjourn, S. Dein seconded. Unanimous vote in favor to adjourn.

Submitted by Aimee Graeber 9/9/2025

Agenda Item	Document Used
1	GHG Inventory Update 2022 PowerPoint
2	NZAP Update Outreach Plan PowerPoint

Arlington's Greenhouse Gas Inventory

Inventory Year: 2022

Presented at CEFC Meeting, 7/25/25

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Process Background

GHG Inventory Subcommittee

1. The subcommittee met to introduce the CELT Graduate Fellow to the process.

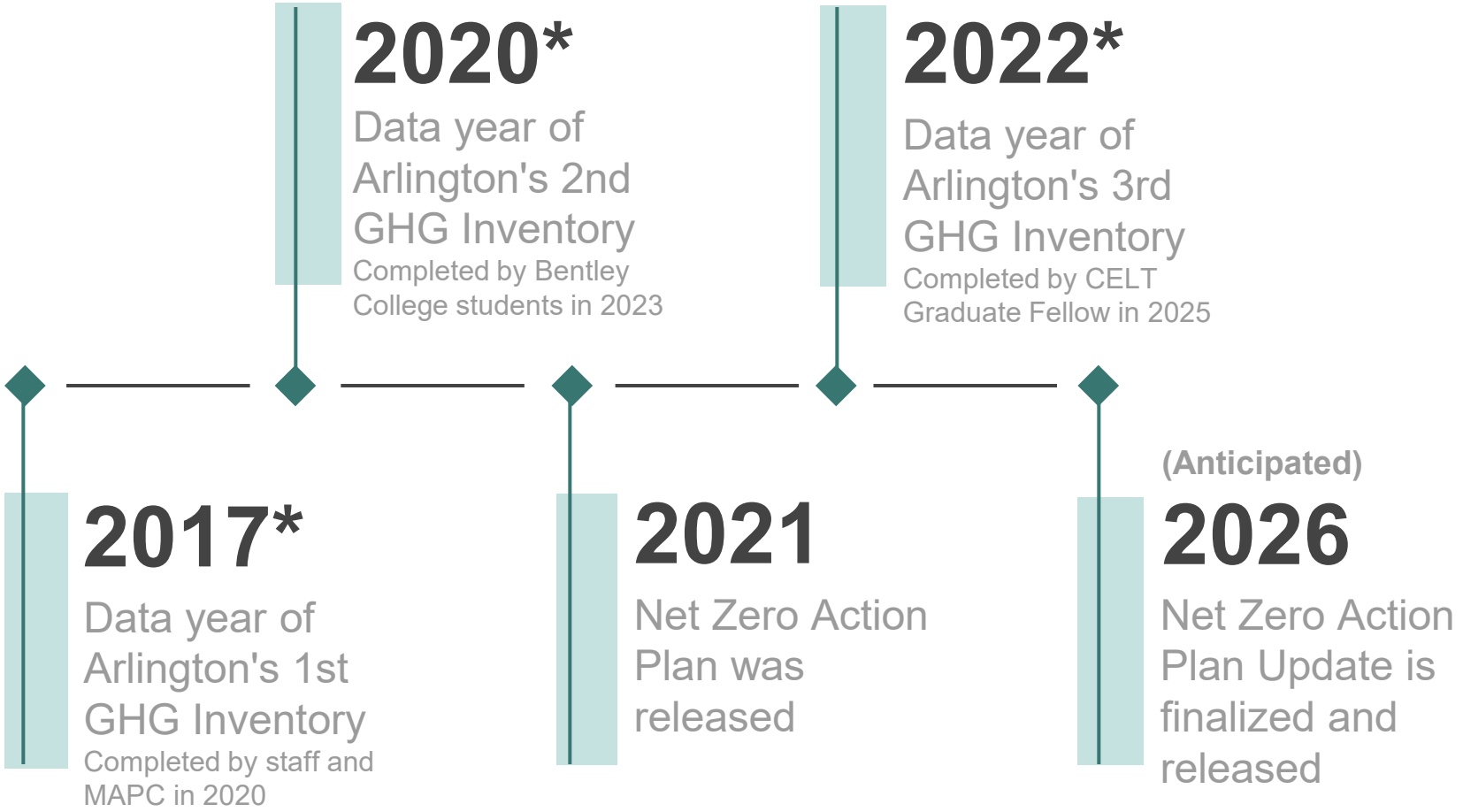
2. CELT Graduate Fellow researched whether it was possible to update for the 2023 inventory year.

3. The Subcommittee met and decided on an inventory for **2022.**

4. CELT Graduate Fellow compiled the inventory, checking work for accuracy and communicating with MAPC.

5. Subcommittee reviewed final inventory, met to discuss questions and observations.

Timeline



**year corresponds to year of inventory data, not inventory completion*

Inventory Update Methodology

Arlington uses the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)'s Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool.

MAPC provides the Community GHG Inventory Tool as an Excel Spreadsheet, with instructions on how to input data for a given municipality.

The formulas auto-populate into summary data and charts.

For more information: https://www.mapc.org/resource-library/community-ghg-inventory-resources/

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Inventory Results

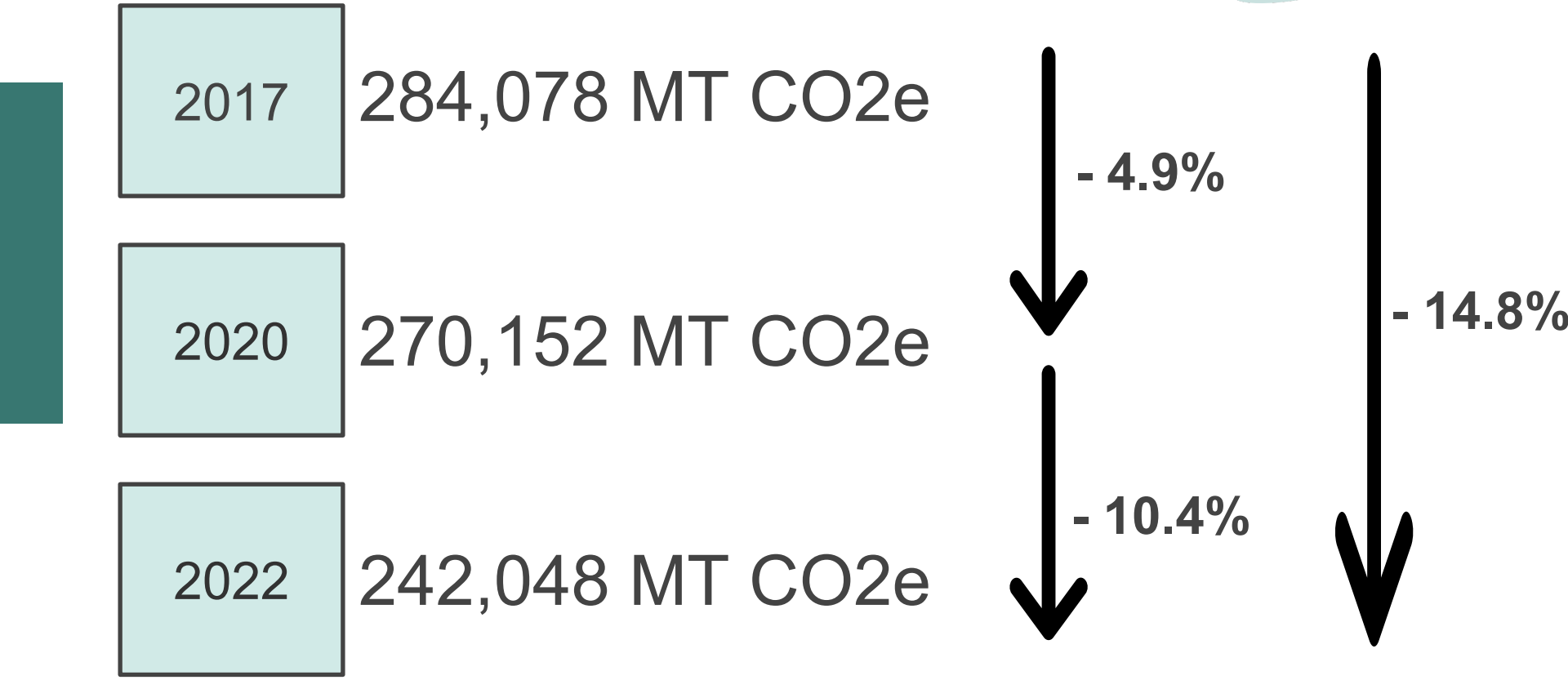
Big Picture

For the year 2022, Arlington's total emissions:

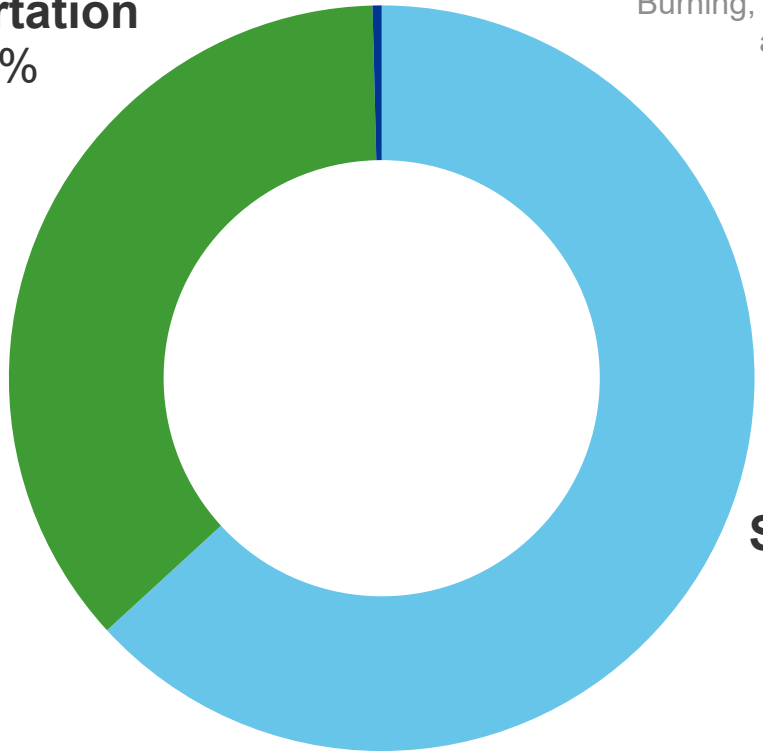
242,048 MT CO2e

(Carbon Dioxide Equivalent Emissions)

Big Picture: Previous Inventories



Community-Wide Emissions (MT CO2e) by Sector



Waste
0.4%

Includes Biological Treatment of Waste, Incineration and Open Burning, Wastewater Treatment and Discharge

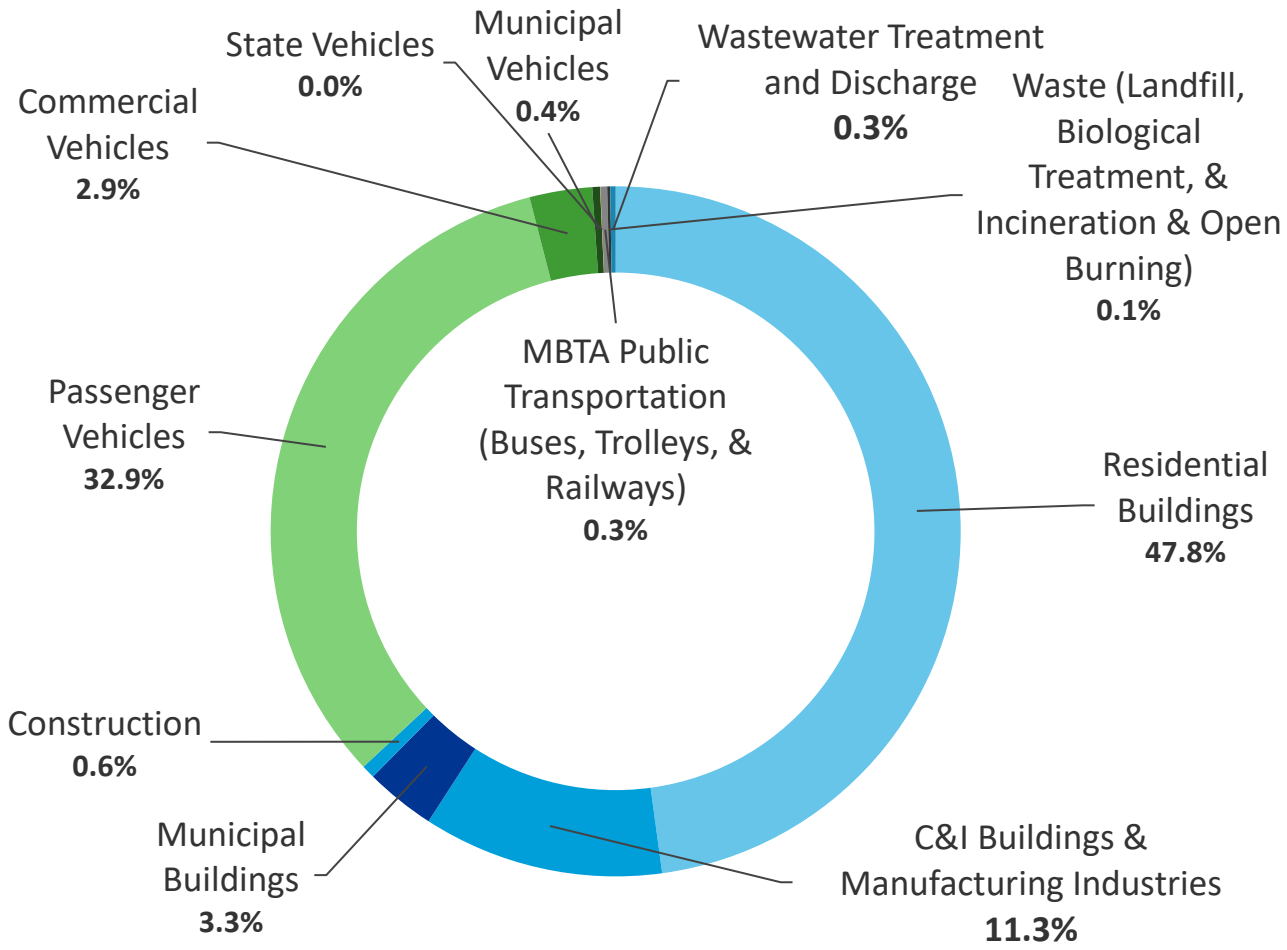
Transportation
36.4%

Includes passenger, commercial, municipal, and state vehicles; On-road Buses and Trolleys (MBTA)

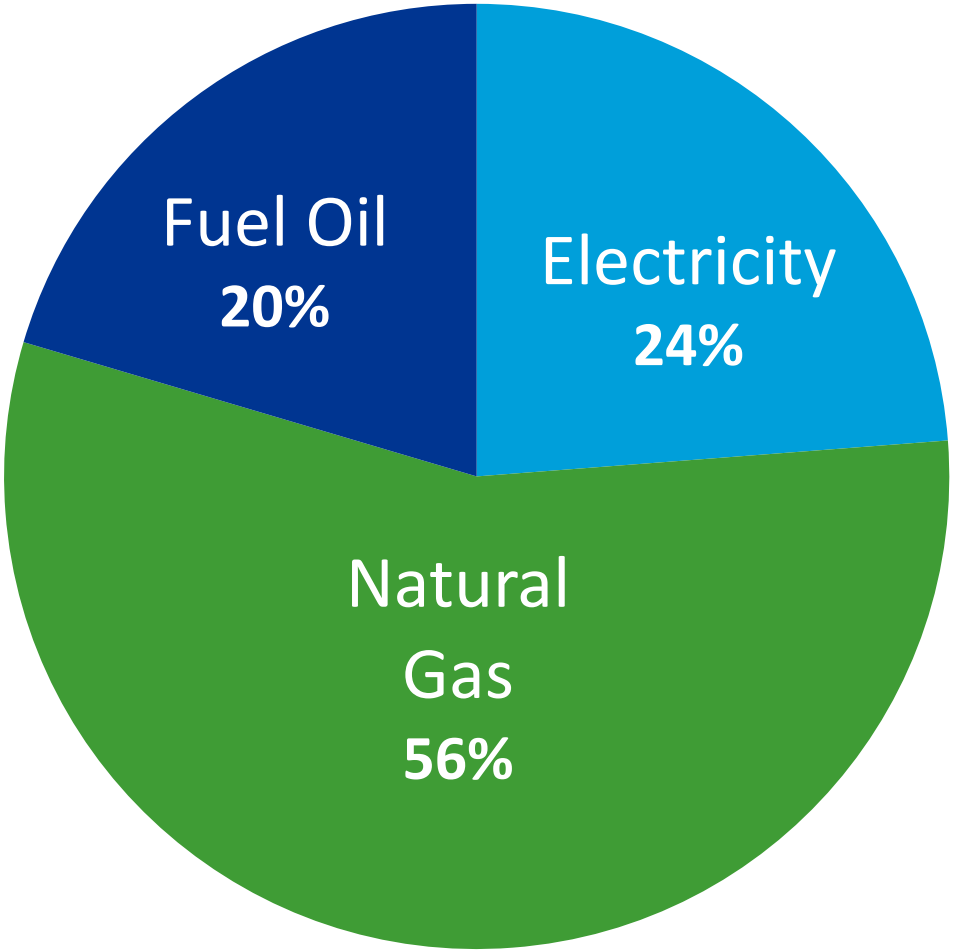
Stationary Energy
63.2%

Includes Residential, C&I Buildings & Manufacturing Industries, Municipal Buildings, Construction

Community-Wide Emissions (MT CO2e) by Subsector



Percentage of Building Energy Emissions by Source Energy



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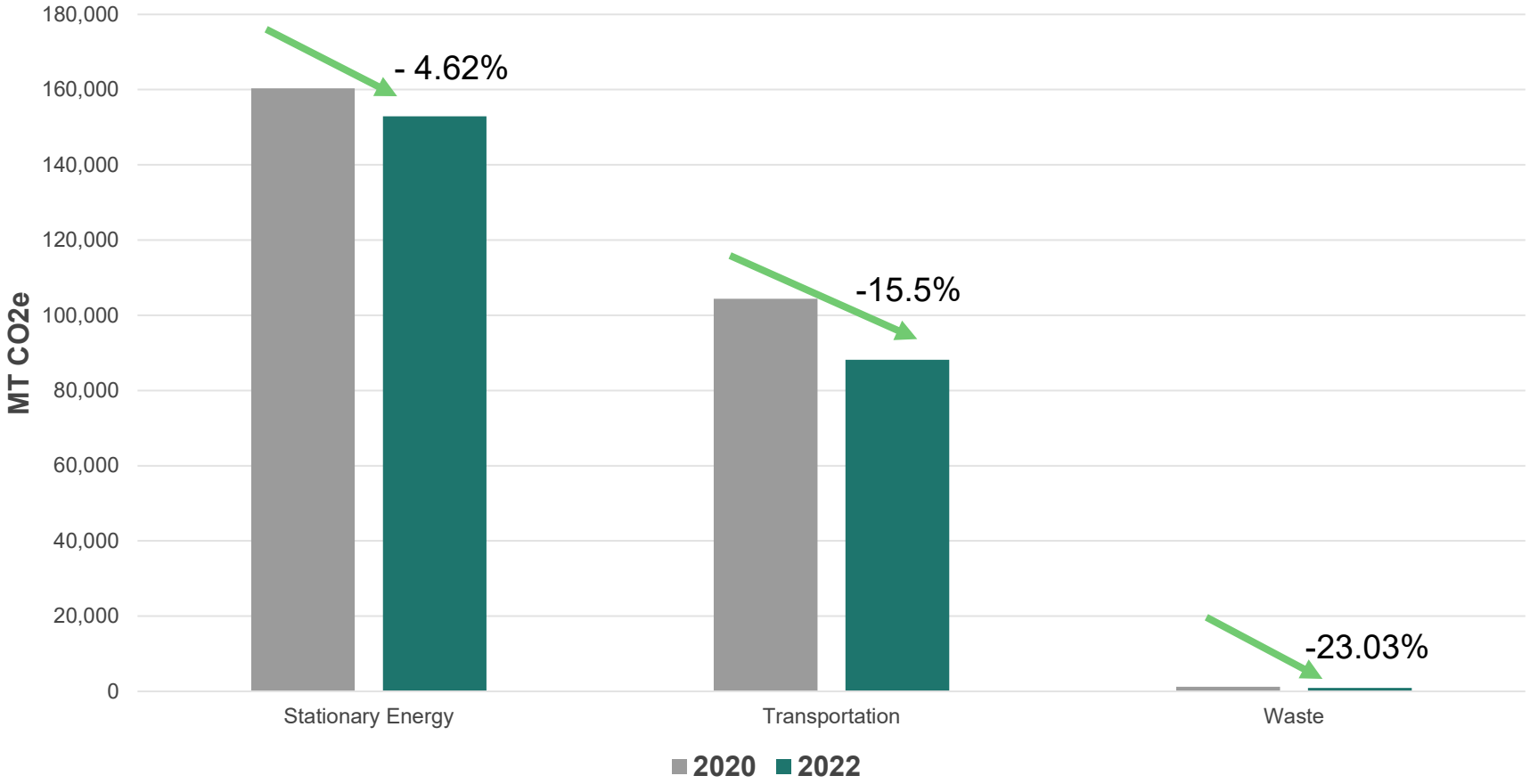
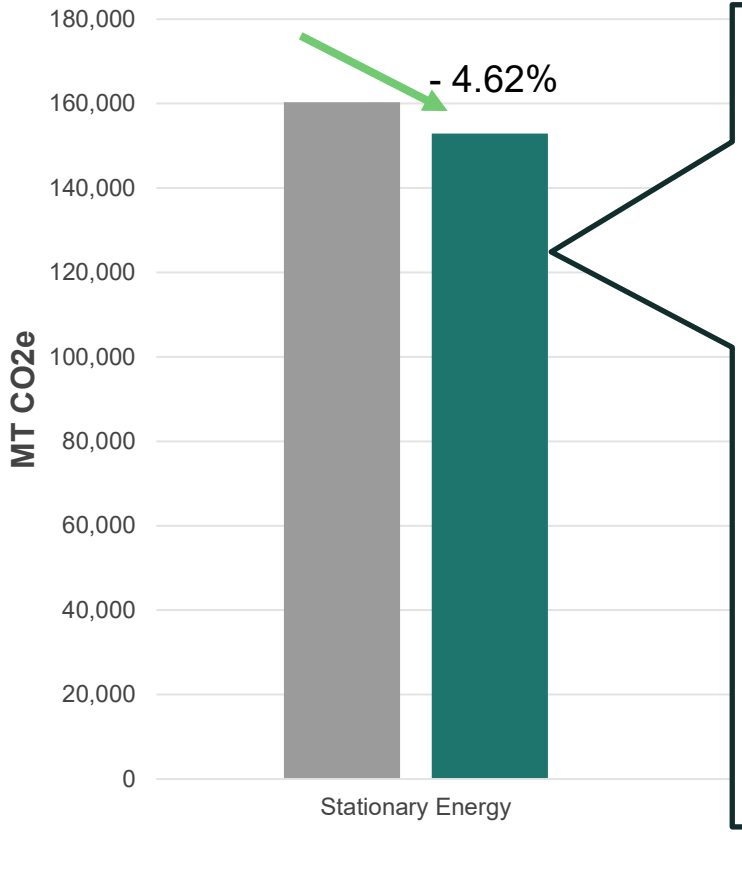
Trends & Main Points

Community-Wide Emissions



Community-Wide Emissions



Residential Buildings & C&I Buildings & Manufacturing Industries subcategories decreased.

Data Insights:

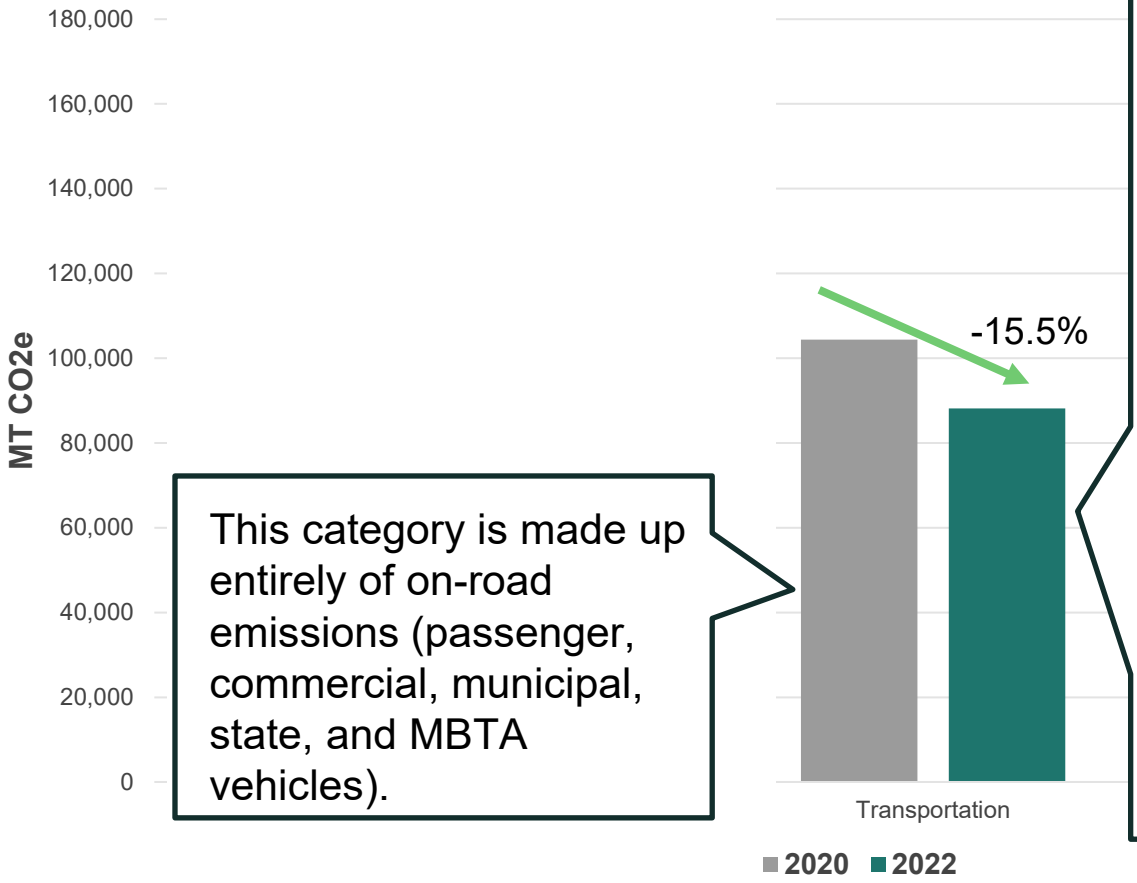
- Fewer homes (~3% less in 2022 compared to 2020) are using oil as their house heating fuel
- A cleaner grid

- *Note*: Municipal stationary energy has increased

Question for the group:

- Why else might stationary energy be down?

Community-Wide Emissions



This category is made up entirely of on-road emissions (passenger, commercial, municipal, state, and MBTA vehicles).

Data Insights:

- Increased adoption of electric vehicles and hybrid electric vehicles
- Improved ICE vehicle fleetwide efficiency
- Changes in driver daily patterns post-pandemic, with a higher share of remote work

Question for the group:

- Why else might transportation emissions be down?

Community-Wide Emissions

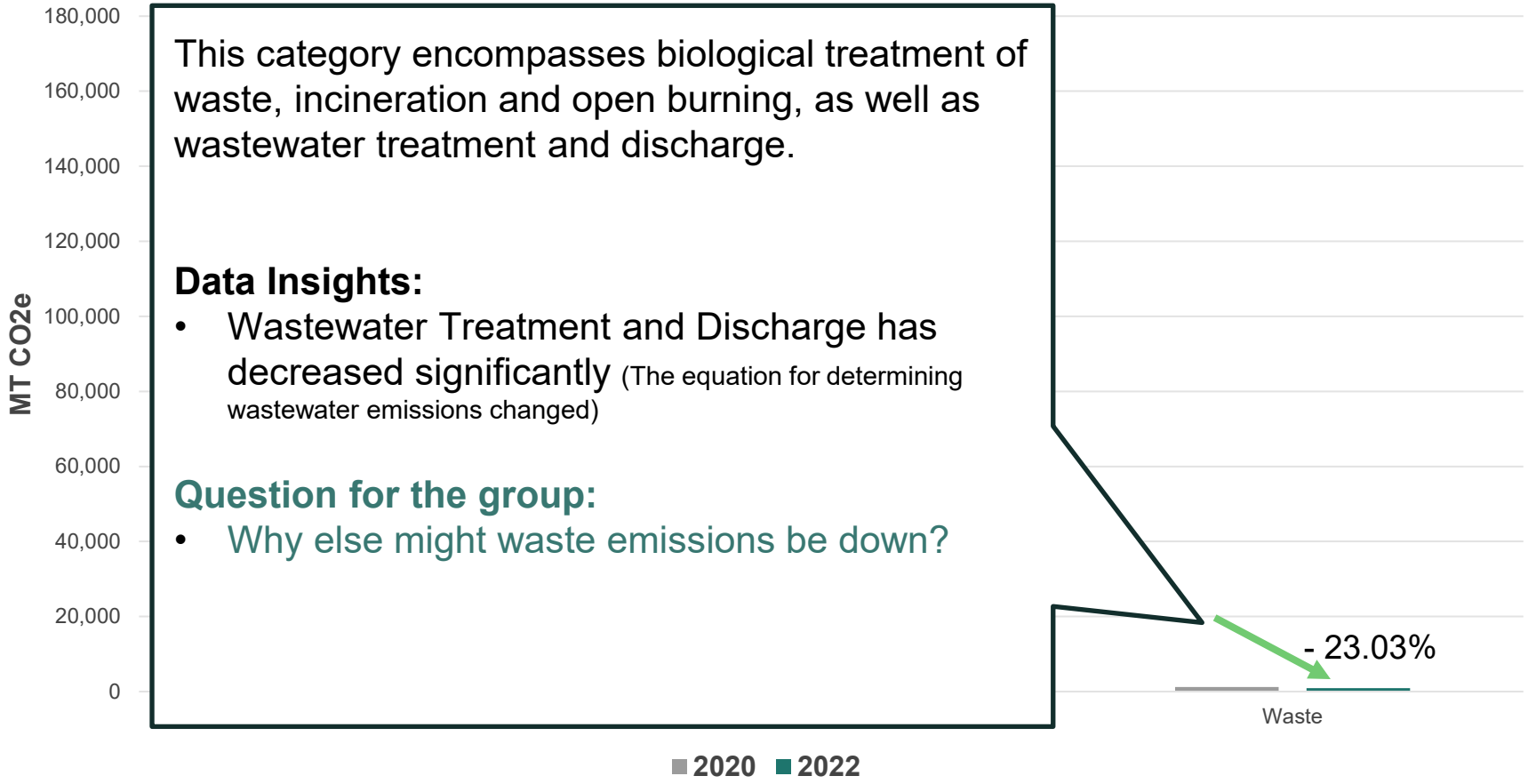
This category encompasses biological treatment of waste, incineration and open burning, as well as wastewater treatment and discharge.

Data Insights:

- Wastewater Treatment and Discharge has decreased significantly (The equation for determining wastewater emissions changed)

Question for the group:

- Why else might waste emissions be down?



Biggest Changes Since 2020, by Subsector

Increases

- Municipal Stationary Energy
- Construction Stationary Energy
- Biological Treatment of Waste
- Incineration and Open Burning

Decreases

- Residential Buildings Stationary Energy
- C&I Buildings & Manufacturing Industries Stationary Energy
- On-Road Transportation
- Wastewater Treatment and Discharge

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Discussion

Discussion

- What else did you notice?
- What surprised you?
- How can this information inform new or existing action items?
- What questions do you have?

Thank you!

Please feel free to email Paige, CELT Municipal Fellow, with any additional questions!

Paige_Kelley@uml.edu

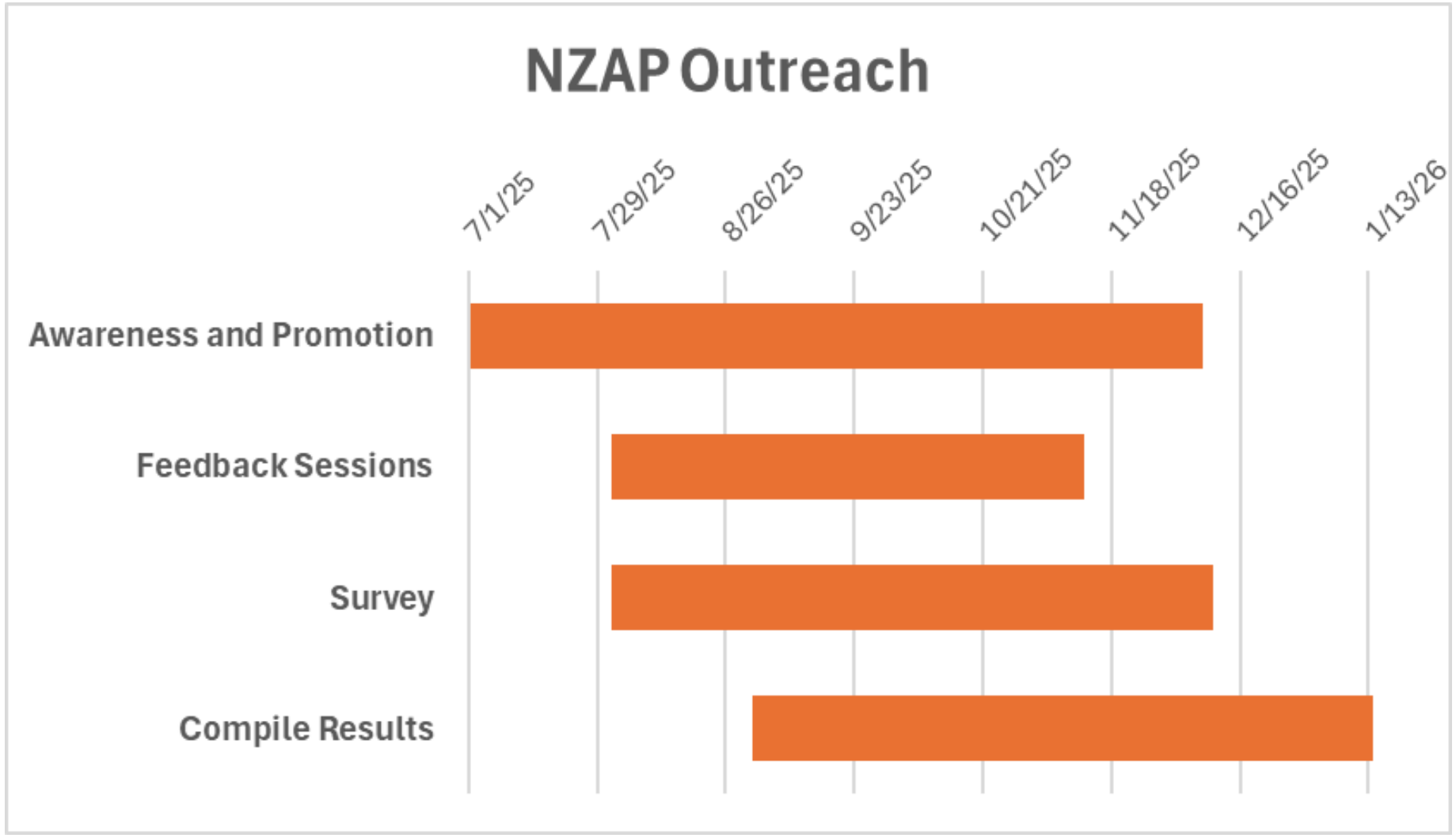
NZAP Stakeholder Outreach: Confirming Approach

CEFC, July 25, 2025

General Plan (adapted from Aimee's June presentation)

- Awareness and Promotion
  - Farmer’s Market, Town Day, Social Media, Town Website, etc.
  - Goal to educate about plan update, share survey link
- Feedback Sessions
  - Focus groups/specific stakeholders – Number of sessions: tbd
  - Public forum/general – Number of sessions: 2
  - Goal to solicit specific input on draft list of actions
- Survey
- Compile Results

Proposed Timeline



Priority Focus Group Ideas

- Youth / APS students
- Landlords
- Affordable Housing providers / tenants
- Builders/Contractors
- Community groups: Sustainable Arlington, Mothers Out Front, Equitable Arlington, others

Questions:

- Which groups should we prioritize hosting versus sending the draft plan or an invite to the public forum? We have capacity for 2-3
- What is the goal of engaging with these groups?
- Who is missing?

Committee Outreach

- Present at meeting OR send draft actions for review
- Ideas:
  - Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
  - Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee (ABAC)
  - Gas Leaks Task Force (GLTF)
  - Capital Planning Committee

Questions:

- Which groups should we prioritize visiting vs sending the draft plan to review? We can realistically visit ~5 or so, depending on capacity.
- Who is missing?

Town Depts/Staff

- Either 1:1 conversations or email draft actions for review
- Ideas:
  - Town Manager's Office
  - Planning
  - Health & Human Services
  - Facilities
  - Inspectional Services
  - Schools
  - Library
  - Communications

Questions:

- Which staff should we prioritize review vs. targeted conversations?
- Who is missing?

Public Forums aka General Feedback Sessions

- Open to the public
- One in fall after draft actions final
- One in winter after final (draft) plan ready
- Larger lift events that will require committee support!

Questions:

- Can committee members commit to supporting such an event?
- When (specific dates) should we aim for?
- Where should the event be?

Questions? Additional Ideas?