

# Energy Committee Presentation on Sustainability to the BHSBC

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Belmont Energy Committee Member  
12/7/17



# What is the Energy Committee?

Founded to implement the Town's Climate Action Plan.

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

## Energy Committee Responsibilities

To facilitate, enable, and help the Town of Belmont and its residents, businesses, and institutions to work toward achievement of the **Climate Action Plan** Resolution (Article 6) adopted by Town Meeting on November 18, 2009.



- To **reduce** the community's carbon dioxide emissions eighty percent (80%) by 2050 based on 2007 emissions,
- To annually **assess** progress,
- To **maximize efficiency** within Town operations, purchasing decisions, **construction of capital assets**, and community planning, through appropriate recognition of energy conservation;
- To **promote** efficiency for Town residents, businesses, and institutions, and
- To explore possibilities for implementing **renewable energy** use within the Town.

*-Source: Charge of the Energy Committee*

# What is Sustainability?

It is social, environmental and financial.

Health and well-being is top priority – and is standard practice.

Greatest opportunity for improvement is Zero Net Energy.



# What is Zero Net Energy?

Create a highly efficient building.

Eliminate fossil fuel consumption.

Produce enough renewable energy on-site to offset building energy consumption, on a net annual basis.



# Why Zero Net Energy?

1. Greatest opportunity to continue Belmont's commitment to sustainability
2. Educating for the future
3. Fiscally responsible

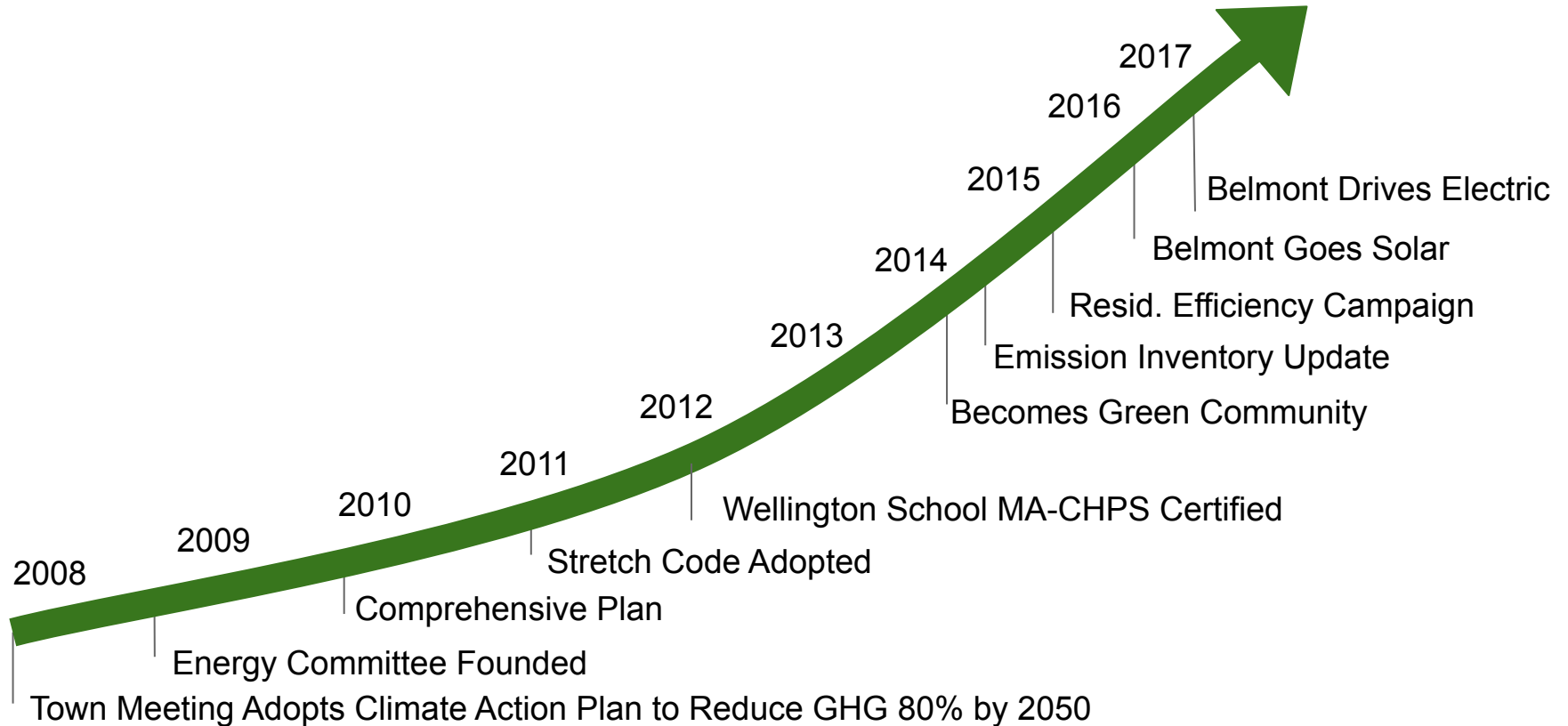


# Belmont: A History of Commitment to Sustainability

Belmont officials accept MA DOER Green Communities initial grant award, 2014.



# Belmont's Sustainability Trajectory



# Indicators of broad-based support from residents



2007 Belmont Light customer survey: **98%** said energy efficiency is important.

2008 November election included ballot question #4: **70%** of Belmont voters said yes to aggressive Greenhouse Gas Emissions reductions.

2009 **Majority** of Town Meeting voted in favor of the town's 120-page Climate Action Plan.

2011 **Majority** of Town Meeting voted in favor of adopting the Stretch Energy Code.



# Belmont residential efficiency campaign

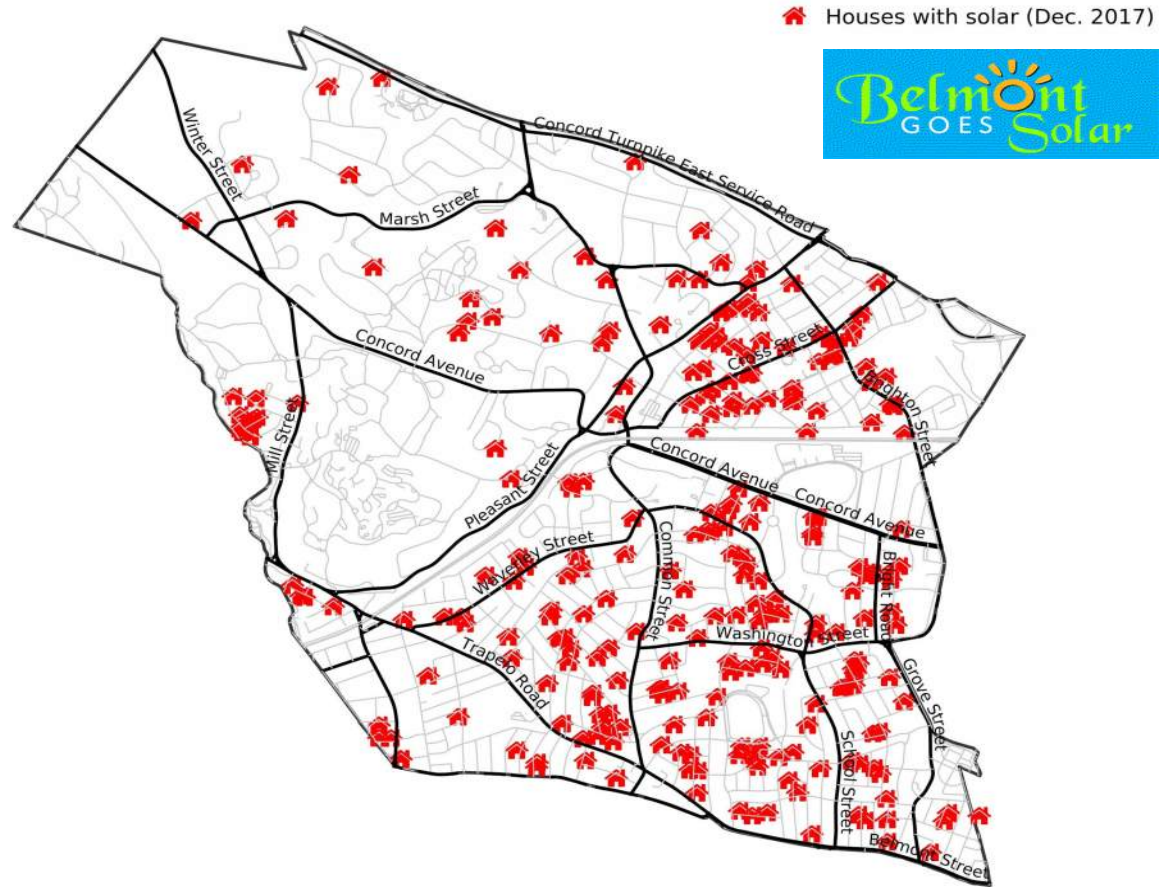
2015:

Highest rate of home  
energy audits / home  
weatherization in MA



# Residential Solar Campaign

2016:  
**Highest** number of  
signups for any solarize  
campaign in MA

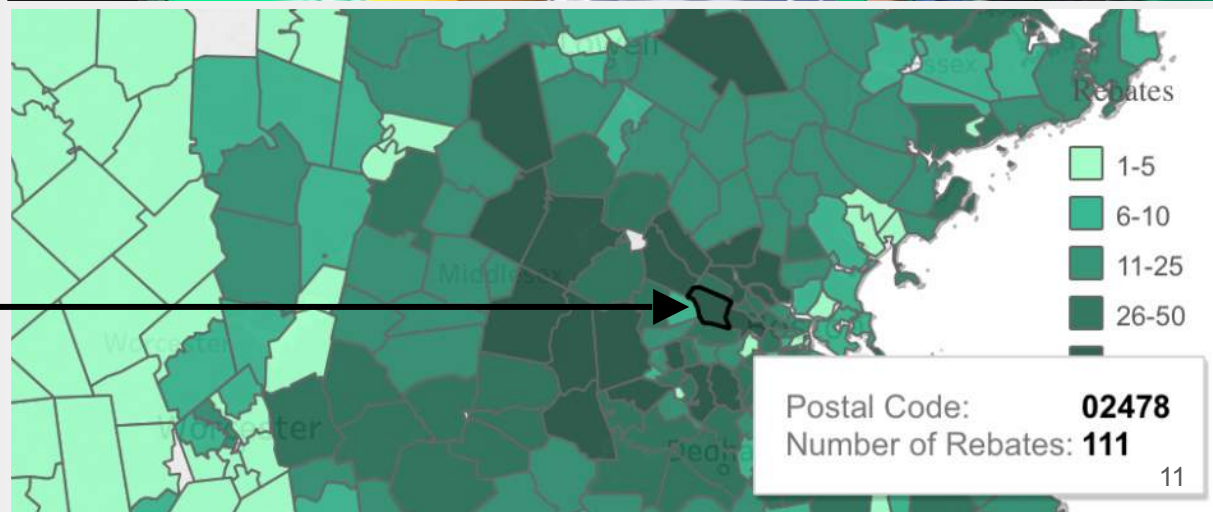




# Electric Vehicle Campaign

2017:

Most EVs of any zip code in MA



# Educational benefits

Zero net energy schools are living laboratories, stimulating learning and innovation.

ZNE schools can serve as a teaching tool for students, STEM programs and the larger community.

This is the future we are educating our students for.

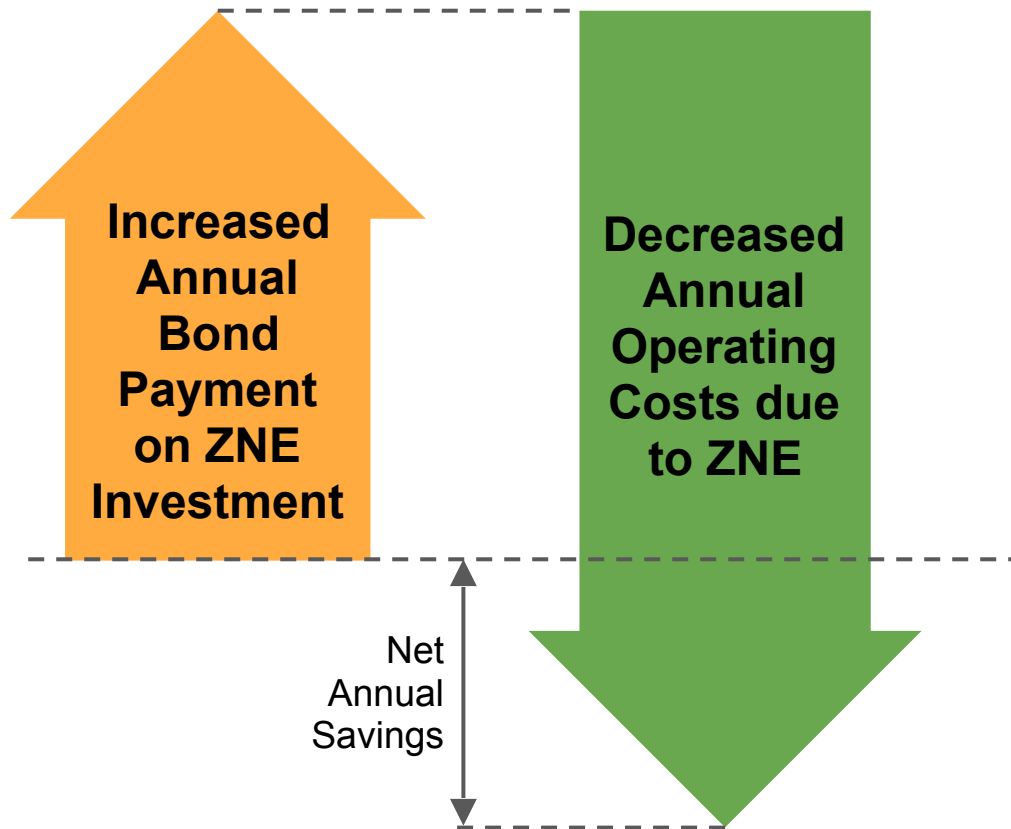


# Fiscally responsible

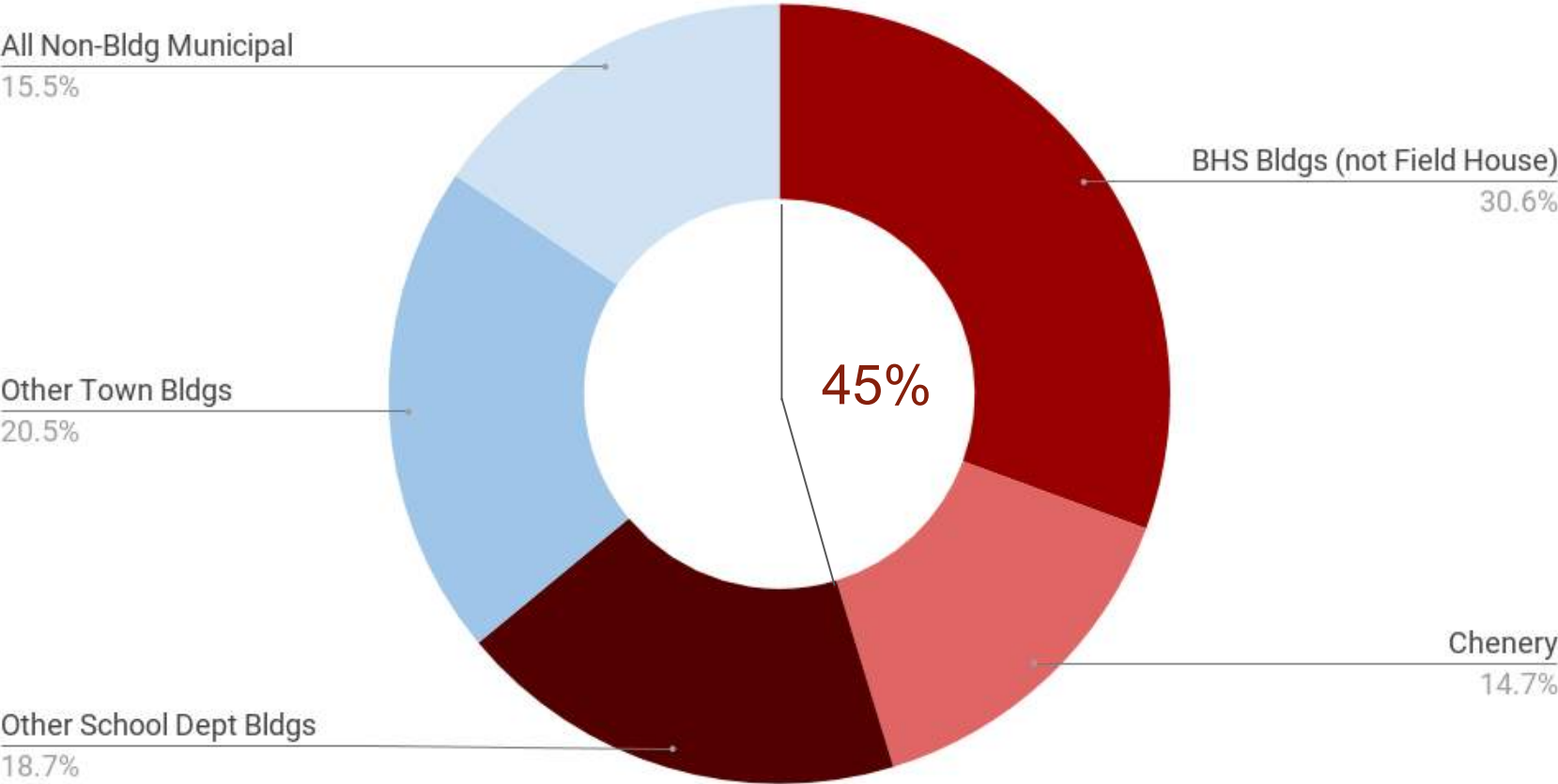
Belmont schools spend **\$1.1MM annually on energy\*** or ~14 teacher salaries.

ZNE results in:

1. Lower total cost to taxpayers
2. Positive cashflow from day one.
3. Protection from rising energy prices.



# Municipal Energy Use: Energy Savings Opportunity



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# Contact Info

[Belmont-ma.gov/energy-committee](http://Belmont-ma.gov/energy-committee)

[SustainableBelmont.org](http://SustainableBelmont.org)