

# Using Consensus Building to Improve Energy and Environmental Policy

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November 16, 2009

[www.RaabAssociates.org](http://www.RaabAssociates.org)

ACEEE: Behavior, Energy & Climate Change  
Conference

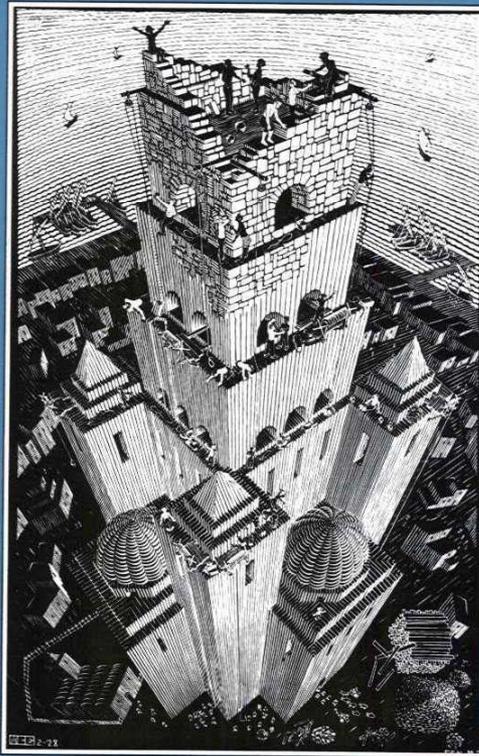
RAAB ASSOCIATES, LTD.



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# Using Consensus Building To Improve Utility Regulation

JONATHAN RAAB  
*Foreword by Susan F. Tierney*



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ACE<sup>3</sup>

# Consensus Building: Why Bother?

- May save process related time and money
- More importantly
  - Can improve the **practicality** of policies, programs, and laws
  - While enhancing their **legitimacy**

# 8 Principles for Consensus Building (in Electric Utility Regulation)-- From Raab (ACEEE Book)

1. Initiate consensus-building as early as possible.
2. Include all stakeholders.
3. Secure direct involvement of the PUC whenever possible.
4. Provide adequate resources.
5. Do not exclude contentious or sensitive issues from consensus-building efforts.
6. Consider assisted negotiation.
7. Structure consensus-building processes to supplement traditional adjudicatory and rulemaking procedures.
8. Modify traditional procedures to better accommodate consensus-building opportunities.



# **USING ADR TO RESOLVE ENERGY INDUSTRY DISPUTES:**

## **THE BETTER WAY**

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**REPORT OF THE ENERGY ADR FORUM**

**OCTOBER 2006**

# Spectrum of ADR Energy Applications

Upstream

Downstream

**Broad Policy Development**

(e.g. strategies to encourage new sources or markets)

**Facility (Re) Licensing**

**Complex Disputes**

**Contractual Disputes**

**Dispute Settlements**



**Exchange of Information on Energy Issues with the Public**

**Rulemaking to Implement Policies**

**Adjudicatory Proceedings to Apply Rules**

Many

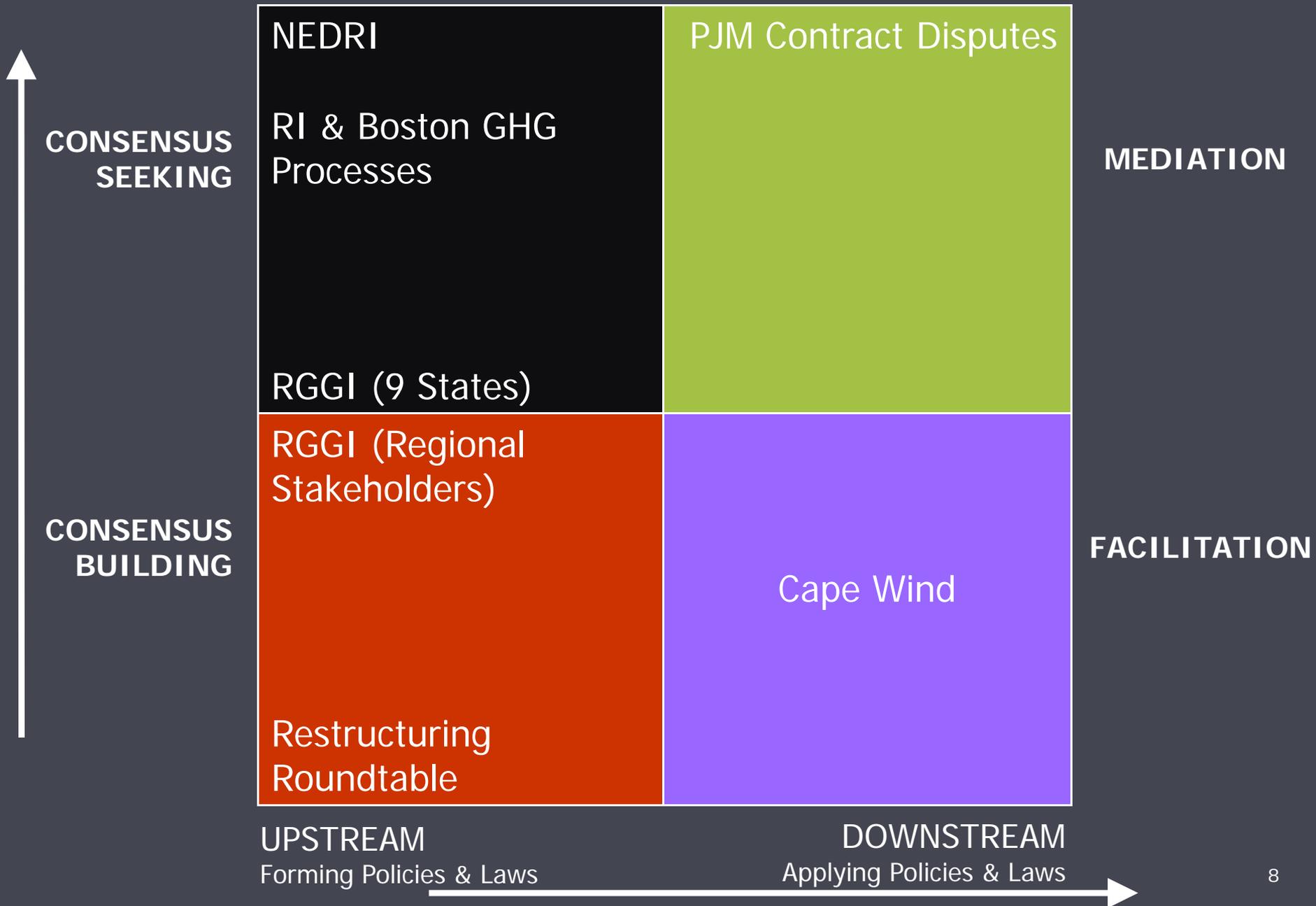
**Interested Parties**

Fewer

# Dispute Resolution Spectrum

<b>Parties Control Substantive Outcome and Process</b>	<b>Third-Party Assisted ADR</b>					<b>Court or Tribunal Controls Substance &amp; Process</b>
<b>Unassisted Negotiations</b>	Facilitation	Mediation (incl. Reg-Neg)	Med-ARB	Third-Party Advice (incl. ENE, mini-trial)	Binding Arbitration	<b>Litigation</b>
<b>Non-Directive</b>	Parties lose (Neutral gains) control of process then substance <span style="float: right;">—————→</span>					<b>Directive</b>
	←———— Best Opportunity to Preserve/Improve Long Term Relationships —————→					
	←———— Best Opportunity for Win-Win Solutions —————→					
<b>Third Party Role</b>	Listening ↔ Clarifying ↔ Assisting ↔ Advising ↔ Controlling ↔ Deciding					

# Major Northeast Electricity Related Matters Using 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Neutrals:(2000-2009)



# NE Electricity Restructuring Roundtable

- Substance
  - Unique forum to discuss “current” restructuring issues in New England.
- Process
  - 113 Roundtables held so far! Have been meeting 6-10 times a year for 15 years in Boston.
  - Roundtable averages over 150 participants per session, with listserv of over 2,000 New England stakeholders.
  - Sponsored by 25 organizations, run by Raab Associates hosted at Foley Hoag offices
  - 2/13/09 Roundtable on “*Integrating Electric Vehicles into a Smarter Electric Grid*” drew 175 people and panel included FERC Commissioner, Better Place, Northeast Utilities, Xcel Energy, UofDE Prof—Blogged on NY Times Energy Page
  - 10/30/09 Roundtable on EE and bidding demand response into energy markets w/FERC Chair Wellinghoff drew over 200
  - <http://www.raabassociates.org/main/roundtable.asp>

# Restructuring Roundtable 2009 Sponsors

nationalgrid



*Energy Options*



Northeast Utilities System



Conservation Services Group



GUY W. NICHOLS

Managed and facilitated by:



Hosted by:



# Cape Wind

- **Substance**
  - **Proposal to build largest offshore wind project in the world in MA—130 windmills, 400 MW.**
  - **Developed stakeholder process NOT to seek consensus but to better prepare organizations to participate in formal environmental impact statement process run by Corps of Engineers.**
  - **Explored substantive issues and stakeholder perspectives.**
- **Process**
  - **Hosted by MA Technology Collaborative, facilitation team led by Raab Associates.**
  - **Stakeholder group of 24, plus resource group of 25 state/federal agencies, academics, and others.**
  - **7 full day meetings: October 2002 to June 2004**
  - **<http://wind.raabassociates.org/>**

# PJM Contract Disputes (Mediation/Arbitration)

- **Substance**
  - **Disputes between members and PJM, or among members on a wide rang of contractual, tariff, and other business disputes.**
- **Process**
  - **Time-constrained mediation required for all disputes.**
  - **If mediation does not successfully resolve dispute, binding arbitration is required for disputes valued at less than \$1 million.**
  - **PJM maintains a list of qualified mediators and arbitrators. Raab Associates has mediated four cases for PJM and its members.**

# New England Demand Response Initiative (NEDRI)

- **Substance**

- **Developed 38 major recommendations for incorporating demand response into retail and wholesale markets in New England.**
- **Covered short-term price-responsive load, retail pricing and metering strategies, reliability-driven DR, and longer-term energy efficiency investments.**

- **Process**

- **Included representative from 45 state and federal agencies, suppliers, consumers, and environmental organizations.**
- **Met for 19 days in plenary session in 2002 and the first half of 2003**
- **Joint project with the Regulatory Assistance Project, which managed the technical consulting effort and Raab Associates, which managed the stakeholder process.**
- **Funded by US EPA, US DOE, ISO-New England, the New York ISO, and the Energy Foundation**
- **<http://nedri.raabassociates.org/index.asp>**

# Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative-(RGGI)

- Substance

- Developed a greenhouse gas cap and trade system for electricity sector in 10 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states
- Reduces GHG emissions by 10% by 2020, allows for offsets, and establishes a public benefits fund.
- RGGI allowance auctions have raised \$433 million to date--used mainly for energy efficiency

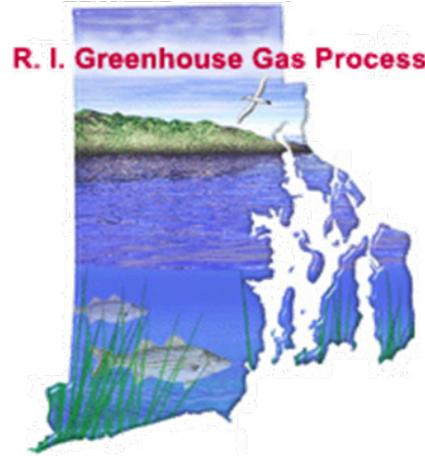
- Process

- Raab Associates designed and ran 24-member regional stakeholder group to provide "advice" and act as "sounding board" for states.
- Meanwhile, states negotiated MOU in separate, parallel process, signed in December 2005 by seven states (NY, NJ, VT, NH, CT, DE, and ME) and later joined by MD, RI, and MA.

- [www.rggi.org](http://www.rggi.org)

# Rhode Island Greenhouse Gas Stakeholder Process

2001-2007



## **Sponsors/Hosts**

RI Department of Environmental Management

RI State Energy Office

## **Facilitators/Mediators**

Raab Associates, Ltd.

## **Consultants/Modelers**

Tellus Institute

Other Independent Consultants

## **Funders**

U.S. EPA (convening \$)

IECR (early plan/implementation \$)

RI Department of Environmental Management and State Energy Office

RI Foundation (small education grant)

# Original Stakeholders

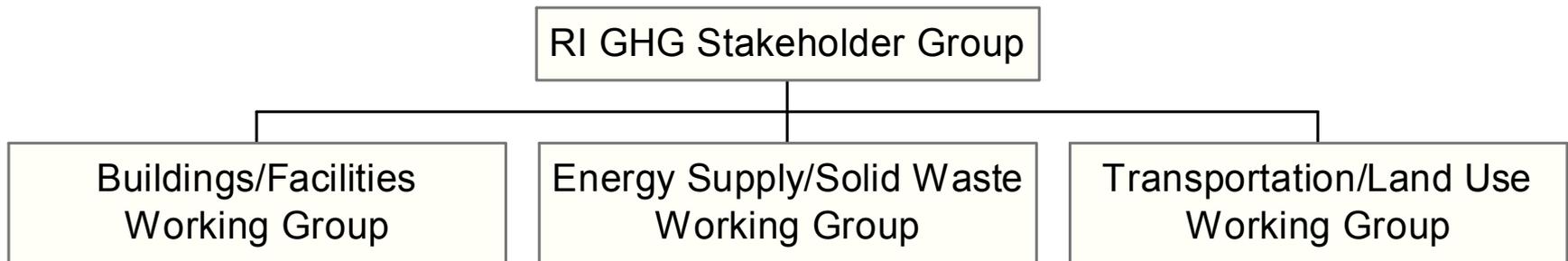
Apeiron Institute for Environmental Living  
Associated Builders and Contractors  
Audubon Society of Rhode Island  
Brown University  
Business Roundtable  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Department of Administration  
Narragansett Electric  
Nat. Fed'n of Independent Businesses  
New England Gas Company  
Northern RI Chamber of Commerce  
Oil Heat Institute  
Providence Chamber of Commerce  
RI Builder's Association  
RI Dept. of Environmental Management  
RI Dept. of Transportation  
RI Economic Development Corp.  
RI League of Cities and Towns  
RI Petroleum Institute

RI Public Interest Research Group  
RI Public Transit Authority  
RI Division of Public Utilities and Carriers  
RI Society of Environmental Professionals  
RI State Energy Office  
RI Statewide Planning  
Save The Bay  
Sierra Club  
Sustainability Coalition  
The Energy Council of Rhode Island

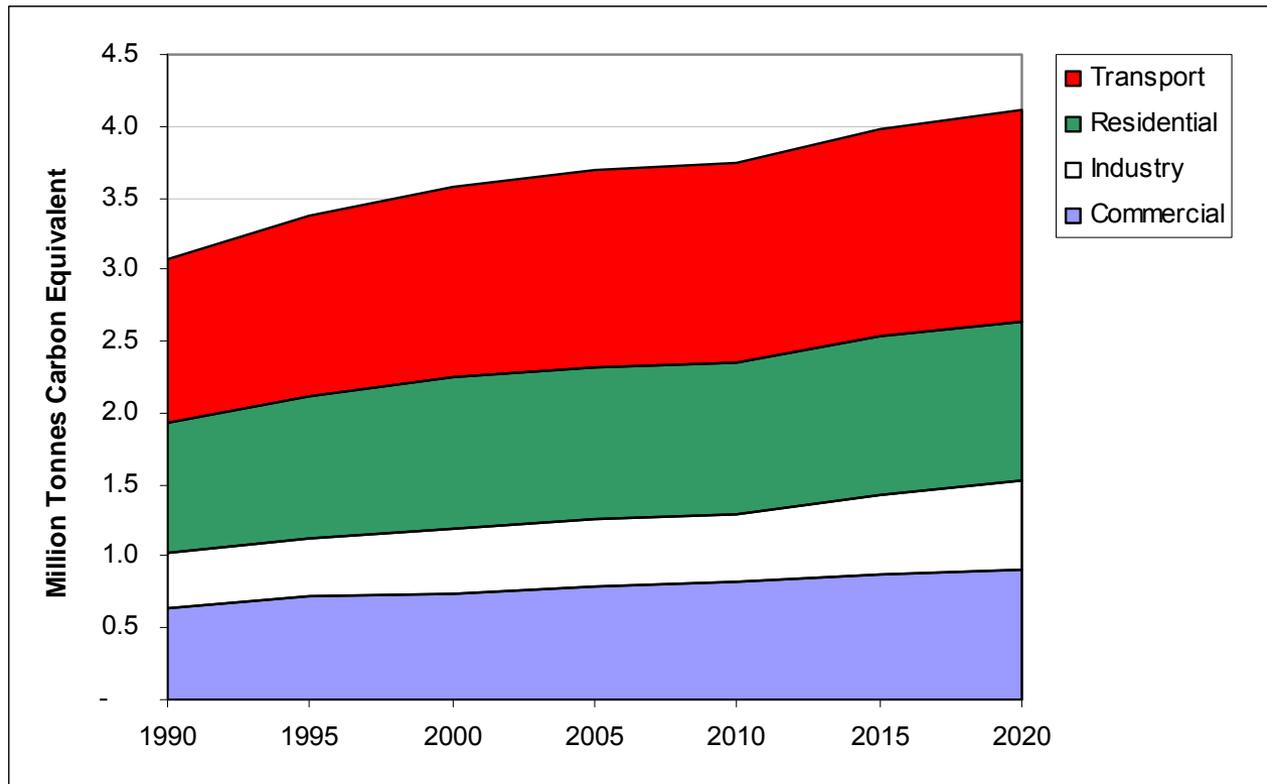
## Ex-Officio

Governor's Policy Office  
RI House, Policy Office  
RI Senate, Policy Office  
US EPA  
US DOE

# RI GHG Original Structure

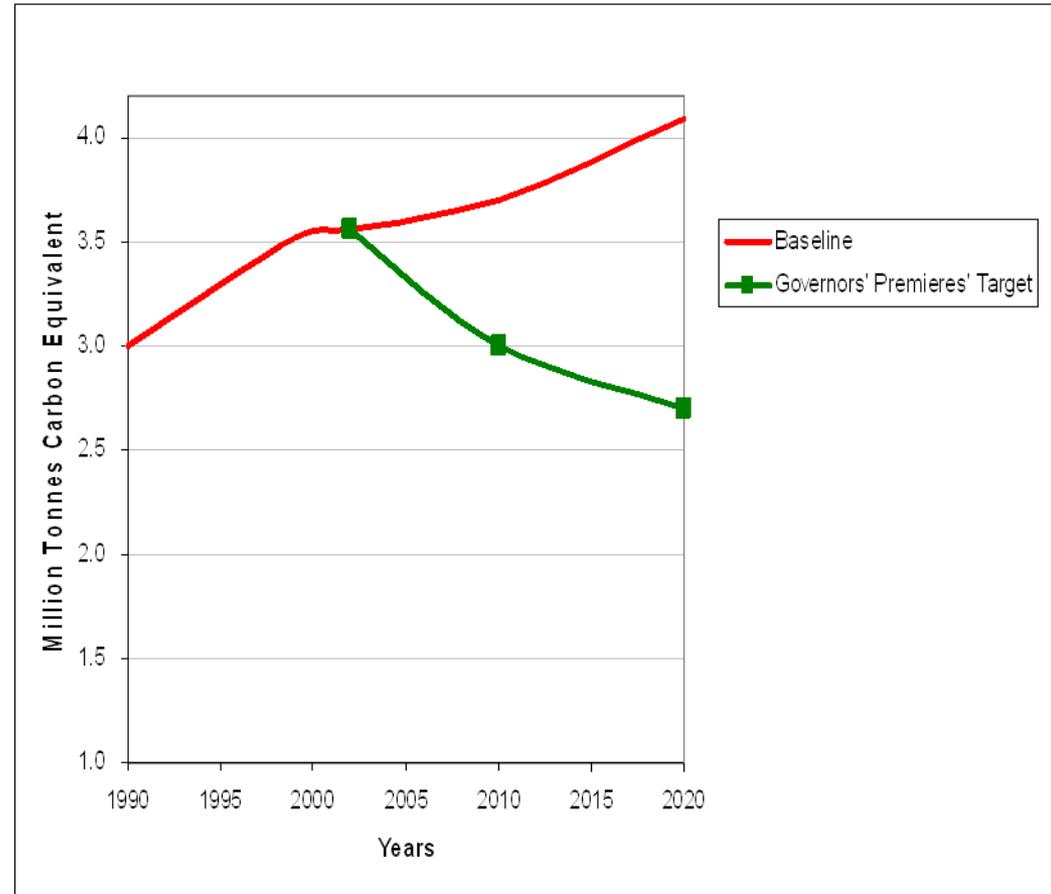


# Projecting a Baseline by Sector



# Selecting Targets

- ▶ Selected NE Governors'/ Eastern Canadian Premiers' Targets for now.
- ▶ 2020 Levels must be ~ 1/3 below 1990 levels.



# Developing Options

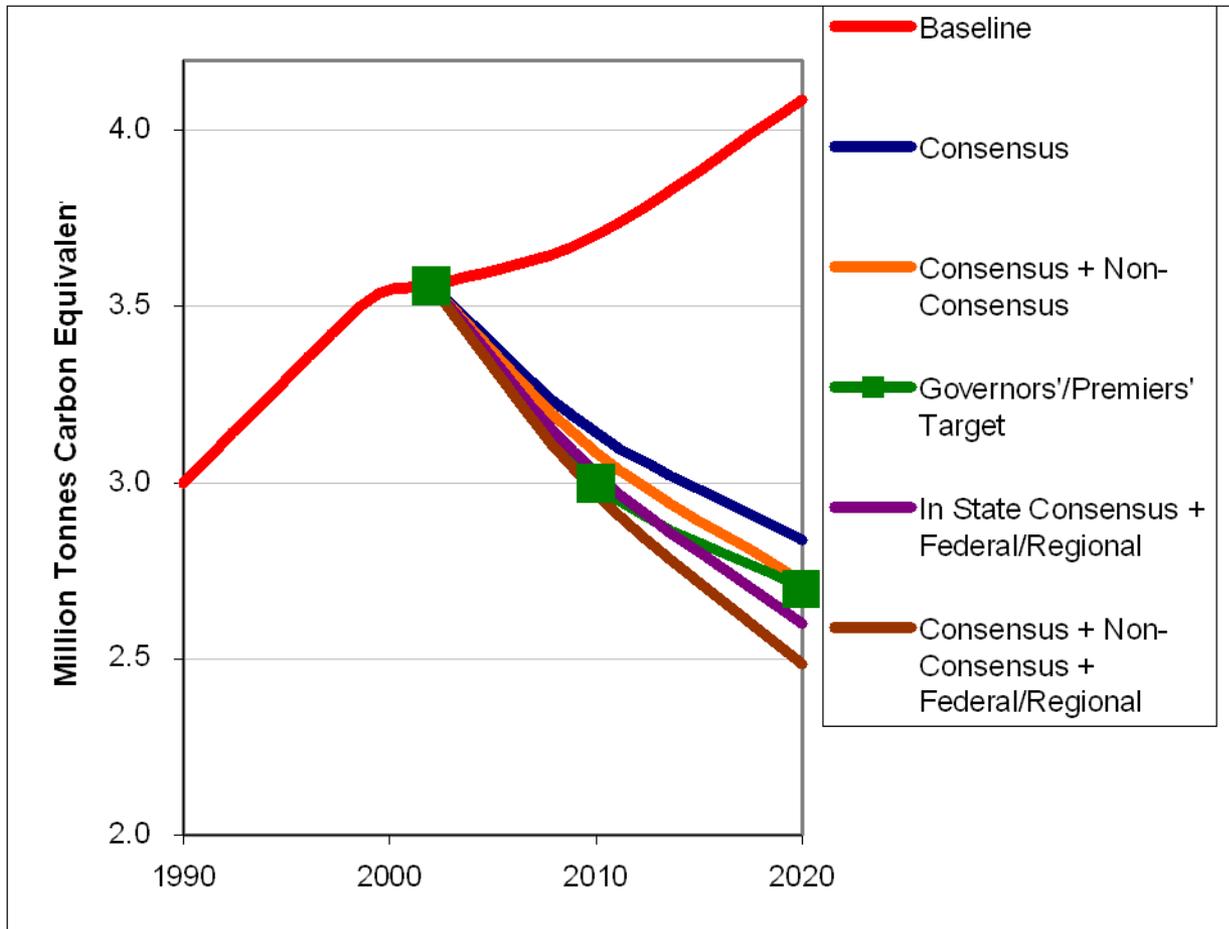
**52 Options  
Generated**

**49 Consensus**

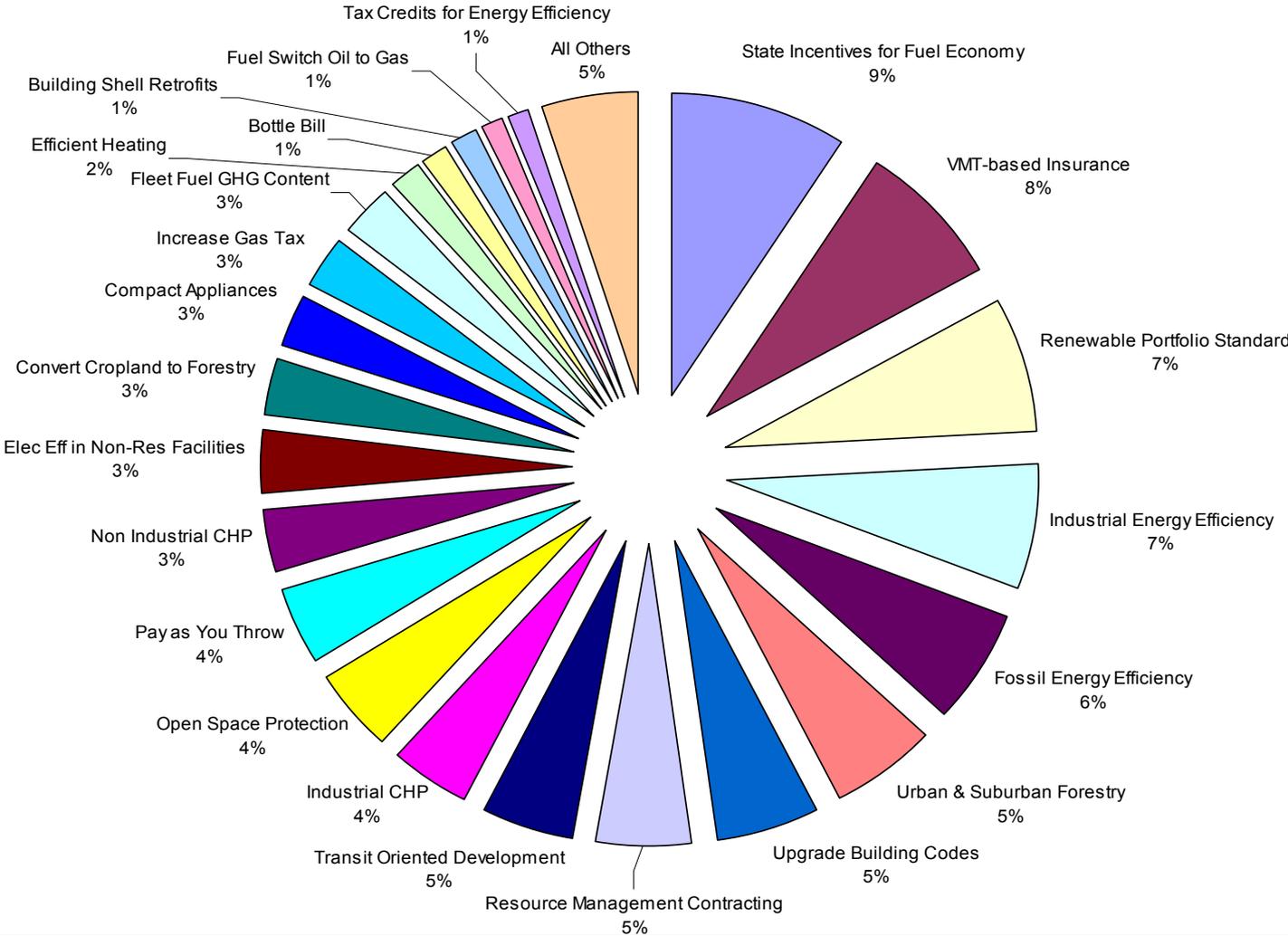
**3 Non-consensus**

**All options include estimated Carbon Saved,  
Cost of Saved Carbon, and Co-benefits**

# Comparing Options to Baselines and Targets



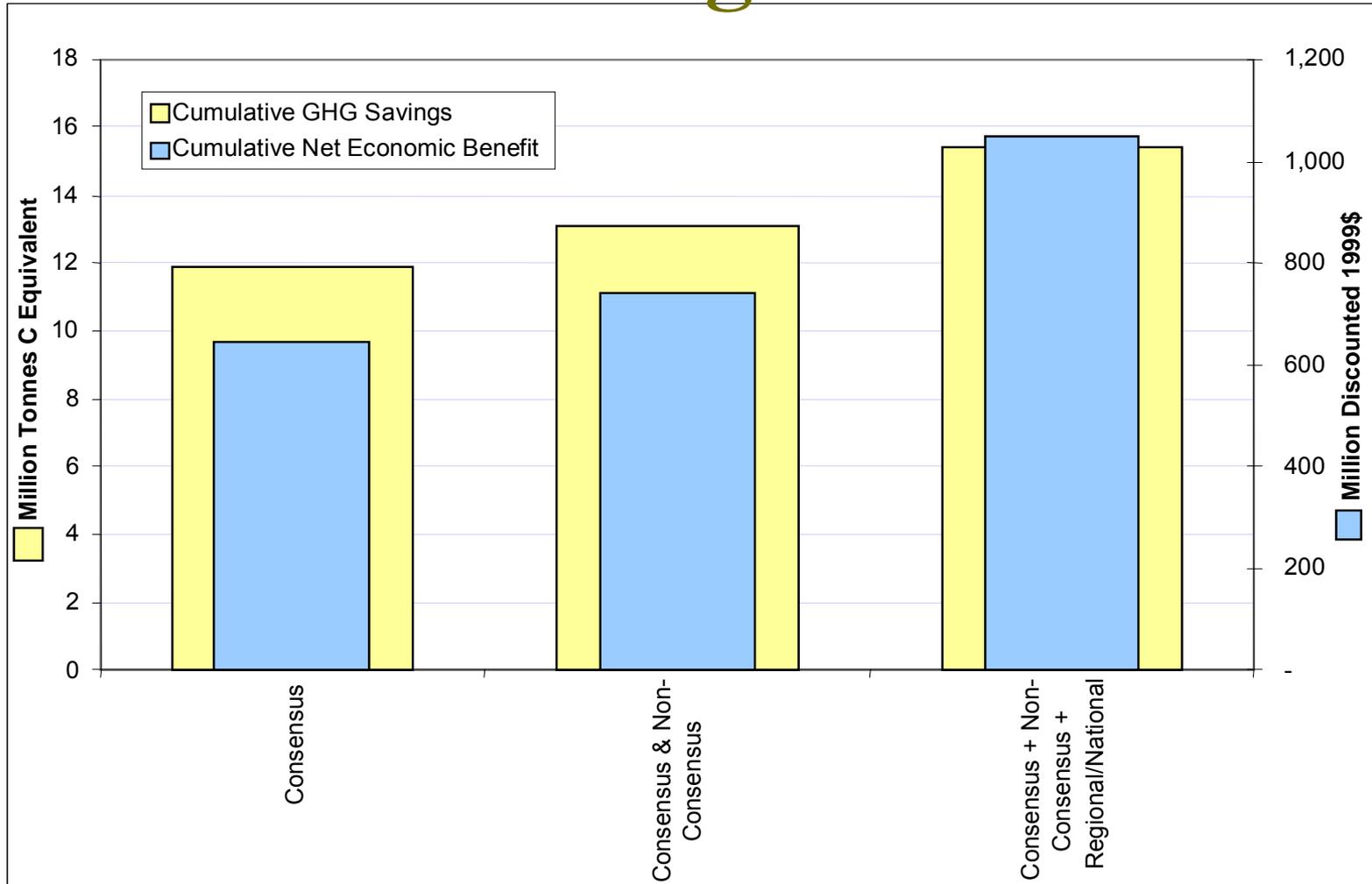
# Contribution of Options to GHG Savings vs. Baseline in 2020



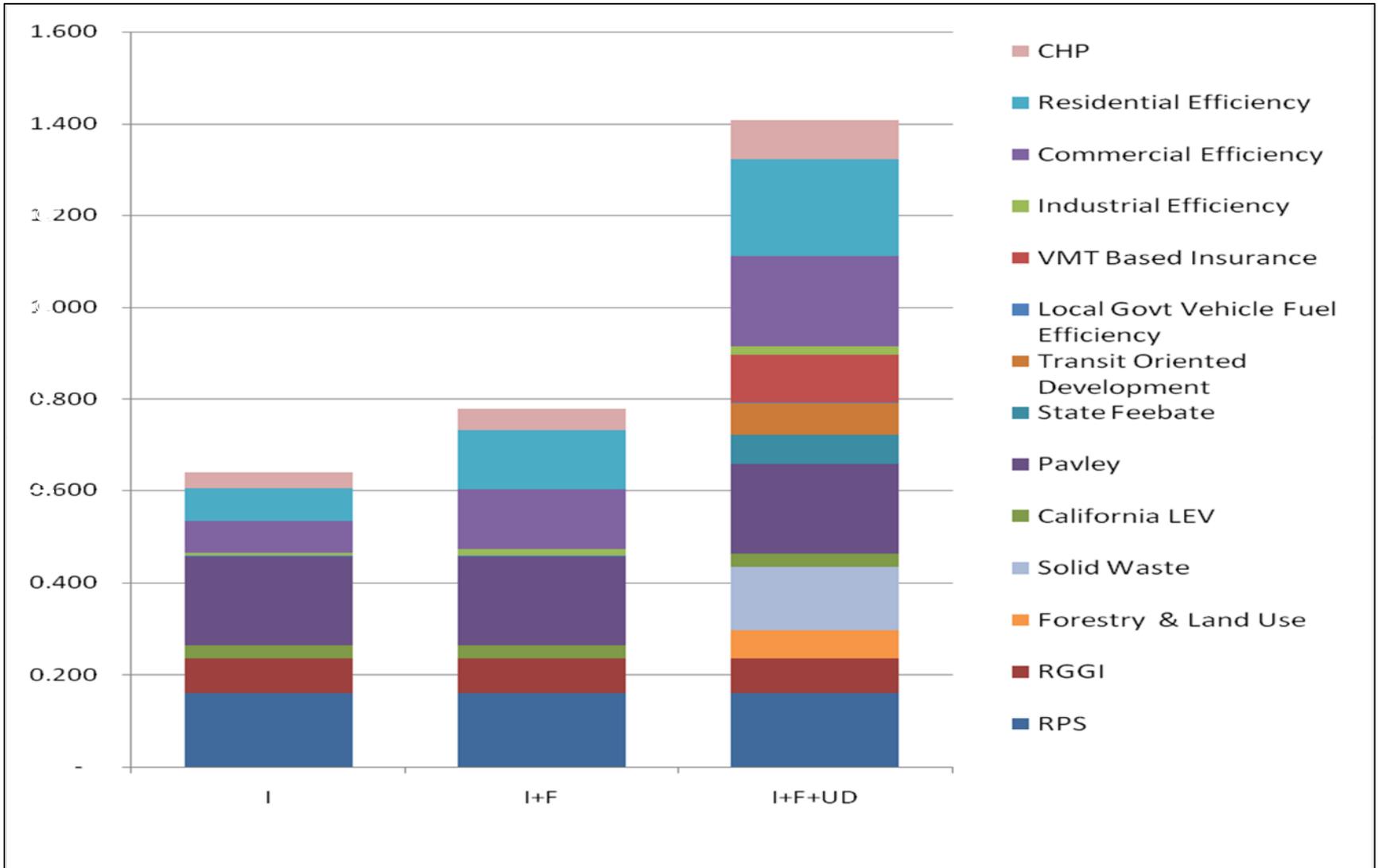
**“All Other Measures”**

- Design 2000
- Efficient Residential Cooling
- Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program
- Efficient Lighting & Appliances
- Compact Floor Space
- Fuel Switching: Electric to Fossil
- Public Facilities Initiative
- Local Govt. Vehicle Fuel Efficiency
- Convert Croplands to Wetlands
- Solar Water Heating
- Solar Water Heating
- Low Input Agriculture
- Energy Star Homes
- Solar PV Cells Program
- Gas Air Conditioning

# Net Economic Benefits and GHG Savings vs. Baseline



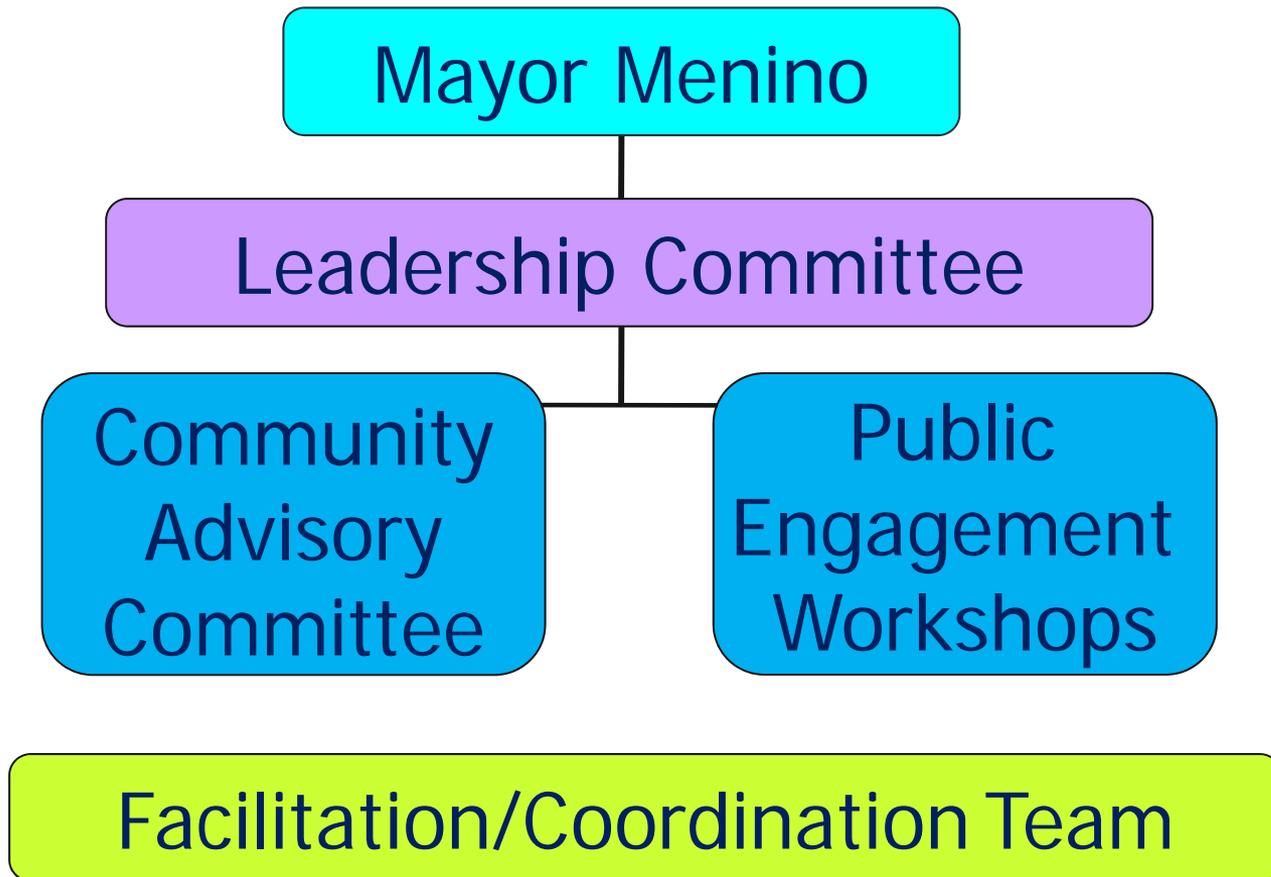
# RI GHG Savings By Option in 2020 vs. Baseline



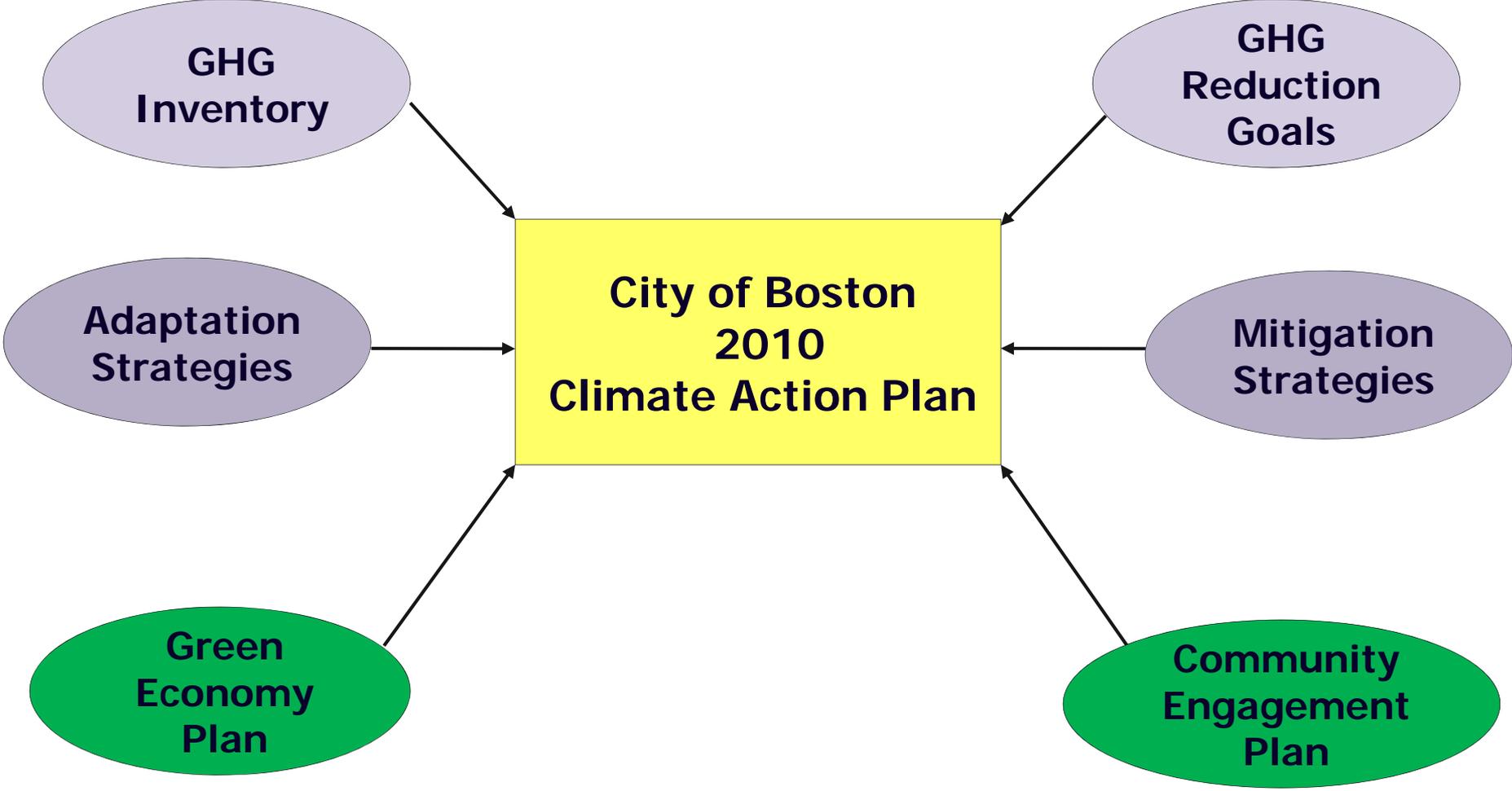
# EPA Award

- ▶ On May 4, 2005 the US EPA gave the RI GHG Stakeholder Group its “Outstanding Climate Protection Award” in a ceremony in Washington D.C.

# **Boston Climate Action Plan 2009-2010**



# City of Boston Climate Action Plan Update Process

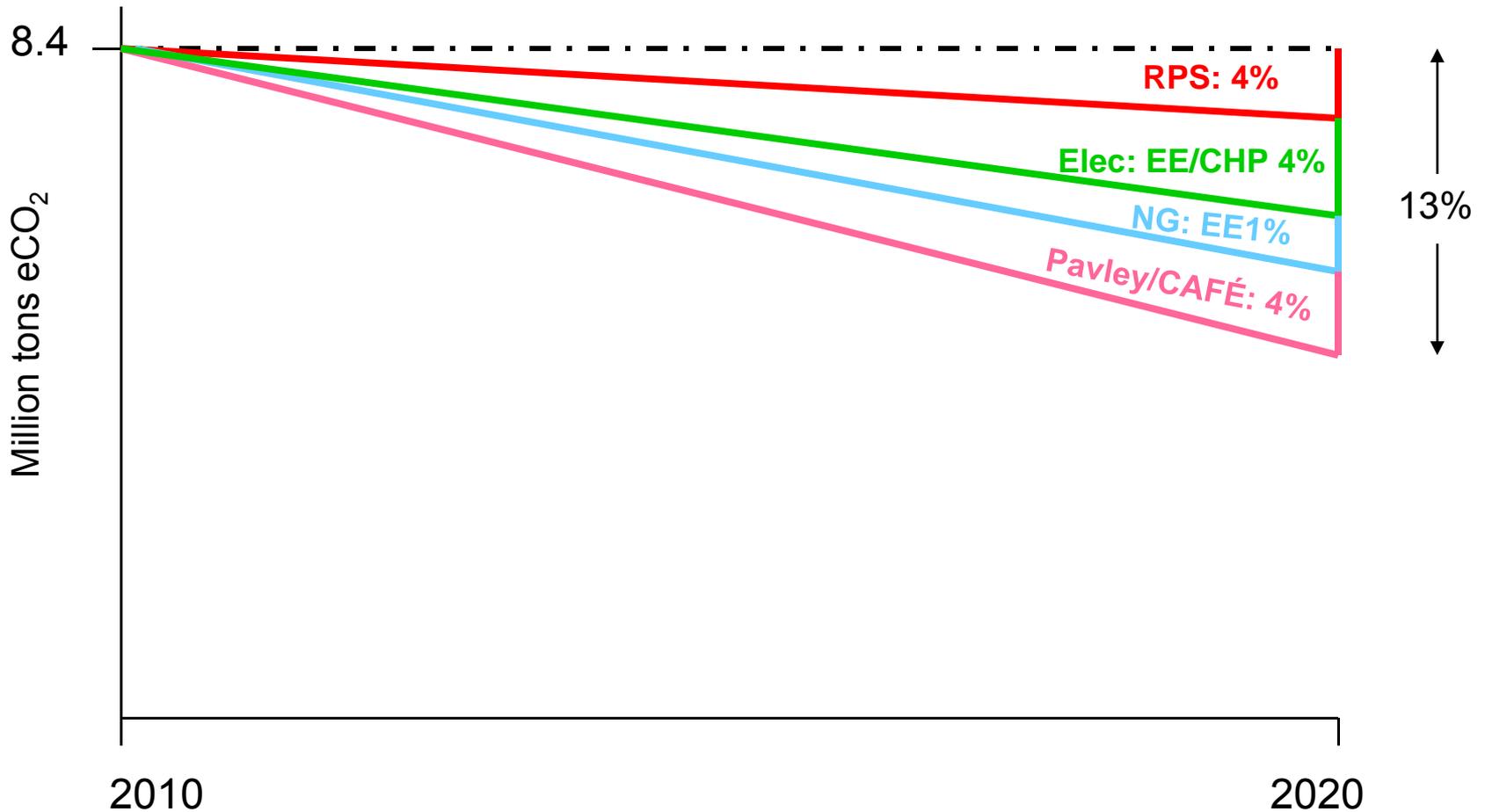


# GHG Emissions per Capita Comparison

□ U.S	24
□ MA	15
□ Boston	12
□ NYC	7
□ Chicago	12
□ Copenhagen	5

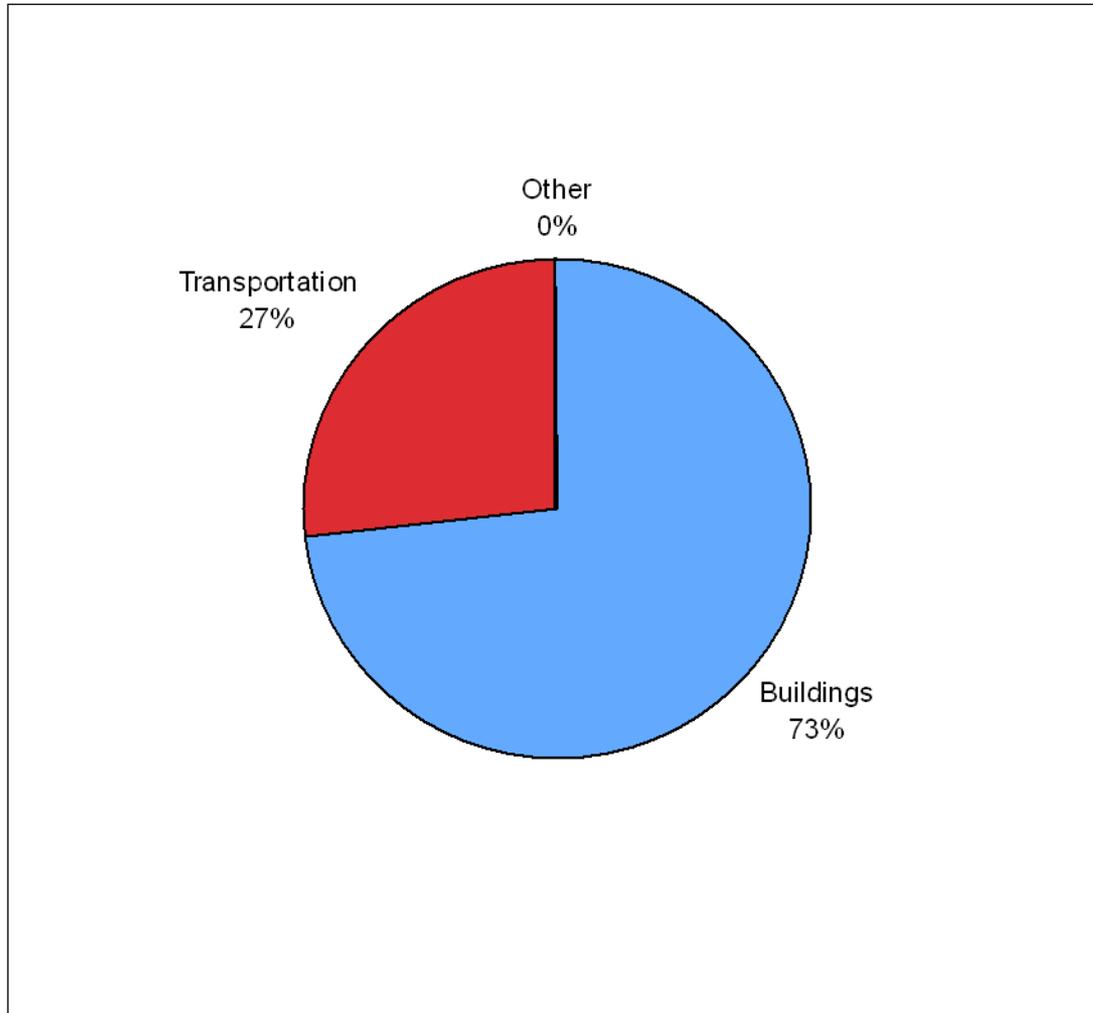


# First Cut Reduction Potential of New Major Programs and Policies: RPS, EE/CHP, NG, Pavley/CAFÉ

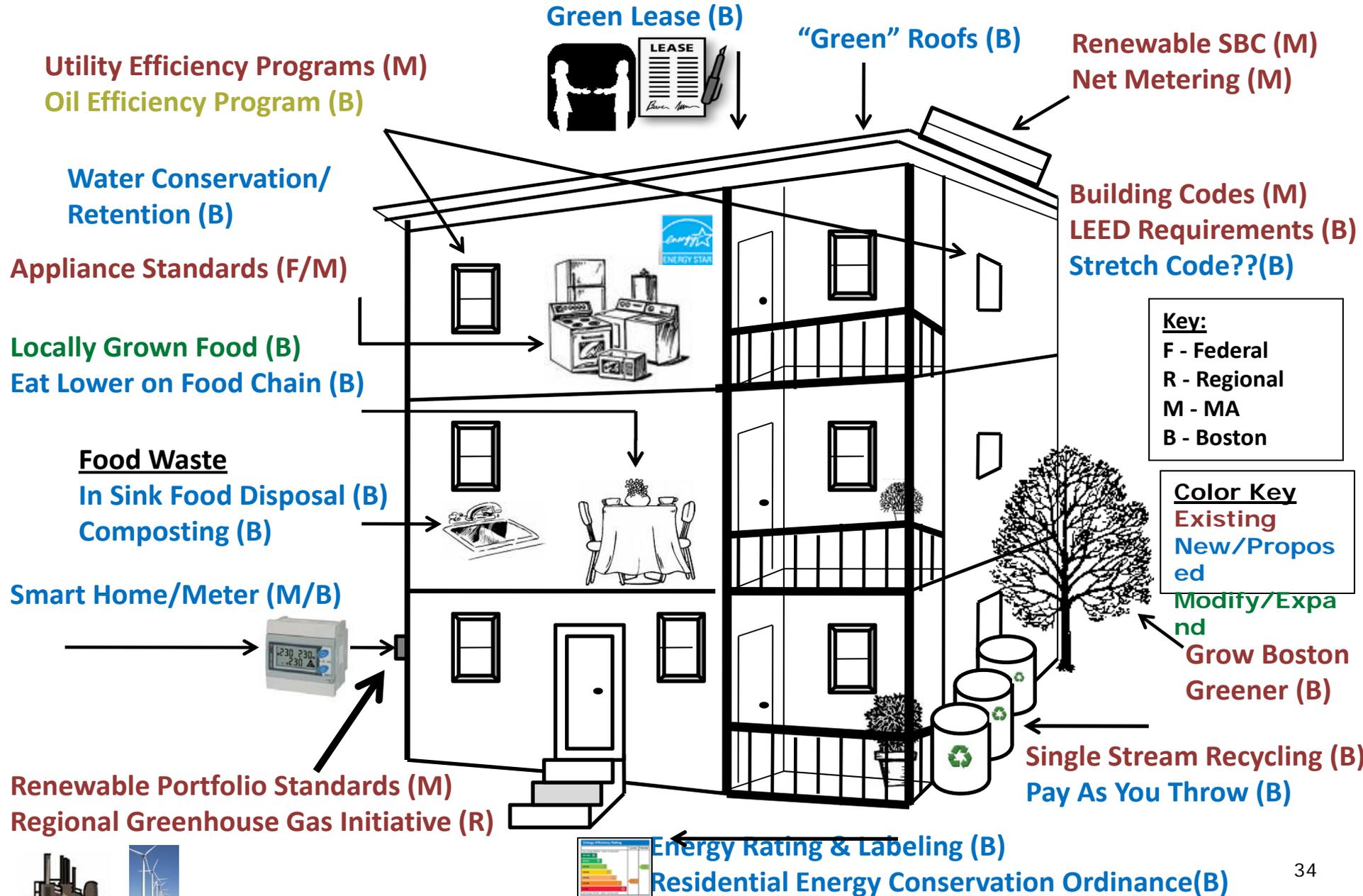


# Boston 2007 GHG Emissions:

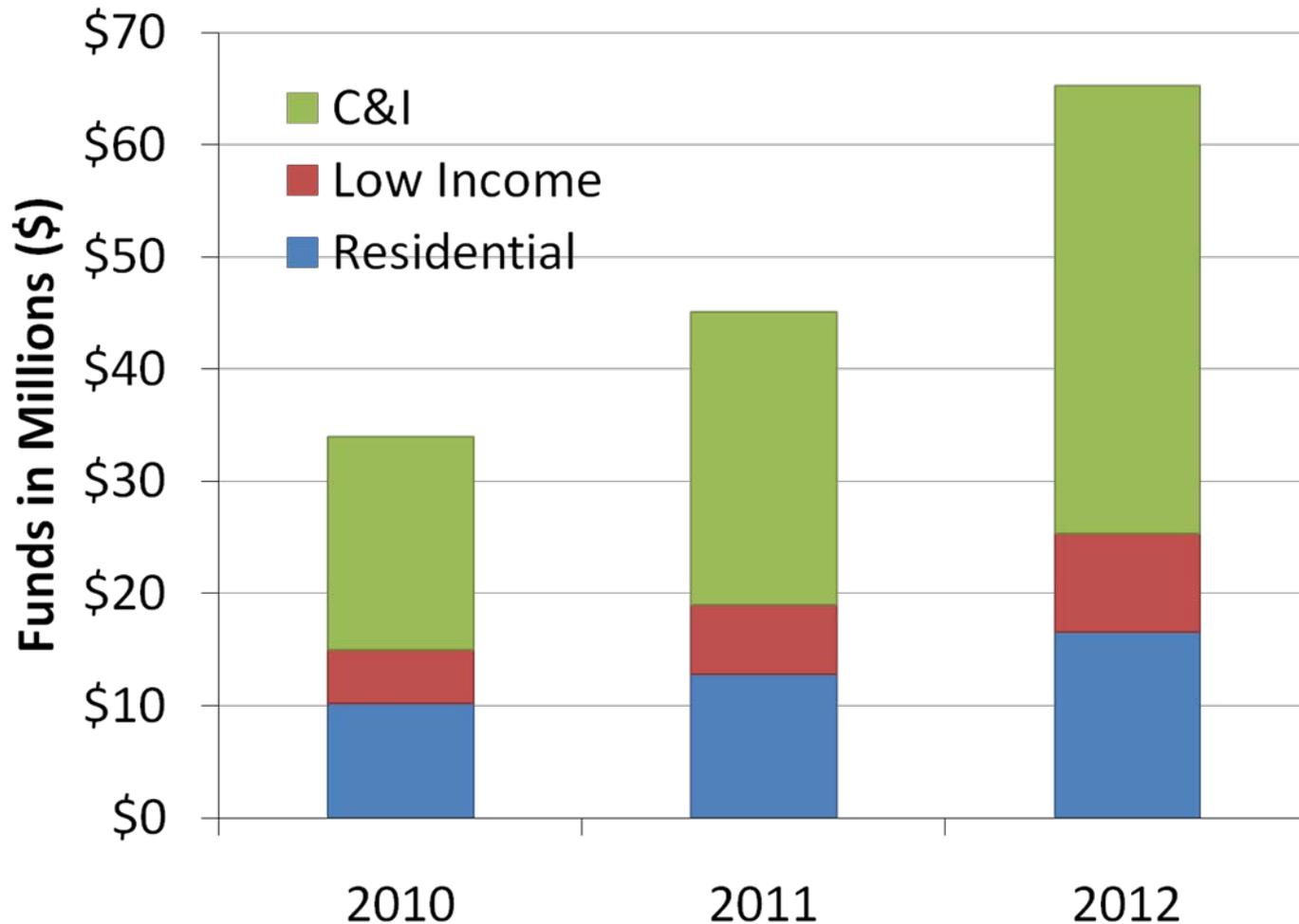
## Buildings (Residential and C&I) relative to other sectors



# Climate Mitigation Policies and Programs for Boston - Residential Buildings



# Funding for Utility Energy Efficiency Programs in Boston is Expanding



# Climate Mitigation Policies and Programs for Boston - Personal Automobile

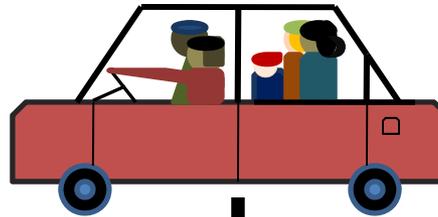
**Car Sharing Program (B)**  
**Ride Sharing Program (B)**



**Parking Permit Program (B)**

**Low-Carbon Fuels**  
**Renewable Fuel Standard (F)**  
**Low Carbon Fuel Standard (R)**

**Efficient Cars:**  
**Café Standards (F)**  
**CA GHG Standards (M)**



**Anti-Idling Law (M)**

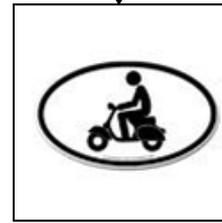
**Promote Alternative Transportation Modes**



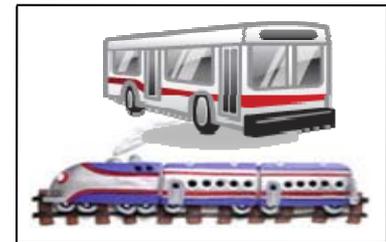
**Biking**



**Walking**



**Other Modes**



**Mass Transit**

**Key:**  
**F - Federal**  
**R - Regional**  
**M - Massachusetts**  
**B - Boston**

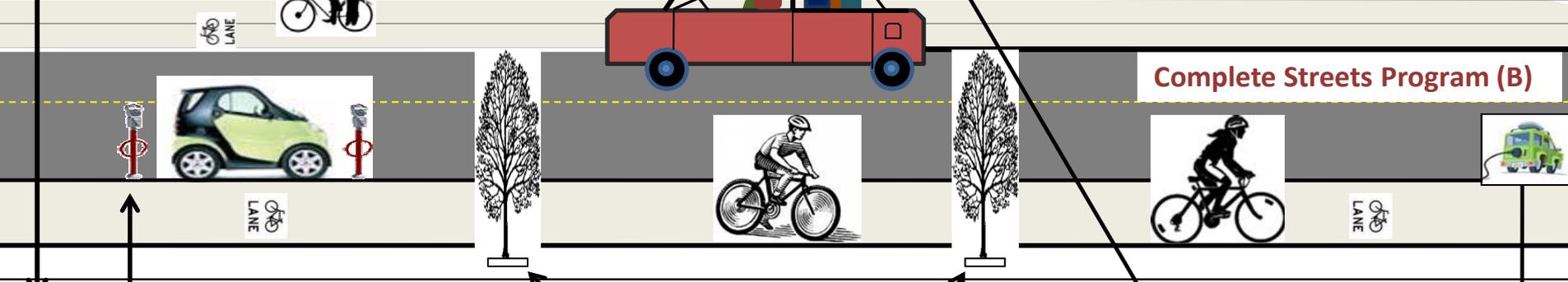
**Color Key**  
**Existing**  
**New/Proposed**  
**Modify/Expand**

# Climate Mitigation Policies and Programs for Boston – Residential Neighborhood Scale

**Bike Lanes/Infrastructure (B)**  
**Bike Sharing (B)**

**Car/Ride Sharing (B)**

**Smart Growth/Transit - Oriented Development (M,B)**



**Parking Permit Program (B)**  
**Downtown Parking Freeze (B)**

<p><b>Color Key</b></p> <p>Existing</p> <p>New/Proposed</p> <p>Modify/Expand</p>	<p><b>Key:</b></p> <p>F - Federal</p> <p>R - Regional</p> <p>M - Massachusetts</p> <p>B - Boston</p>
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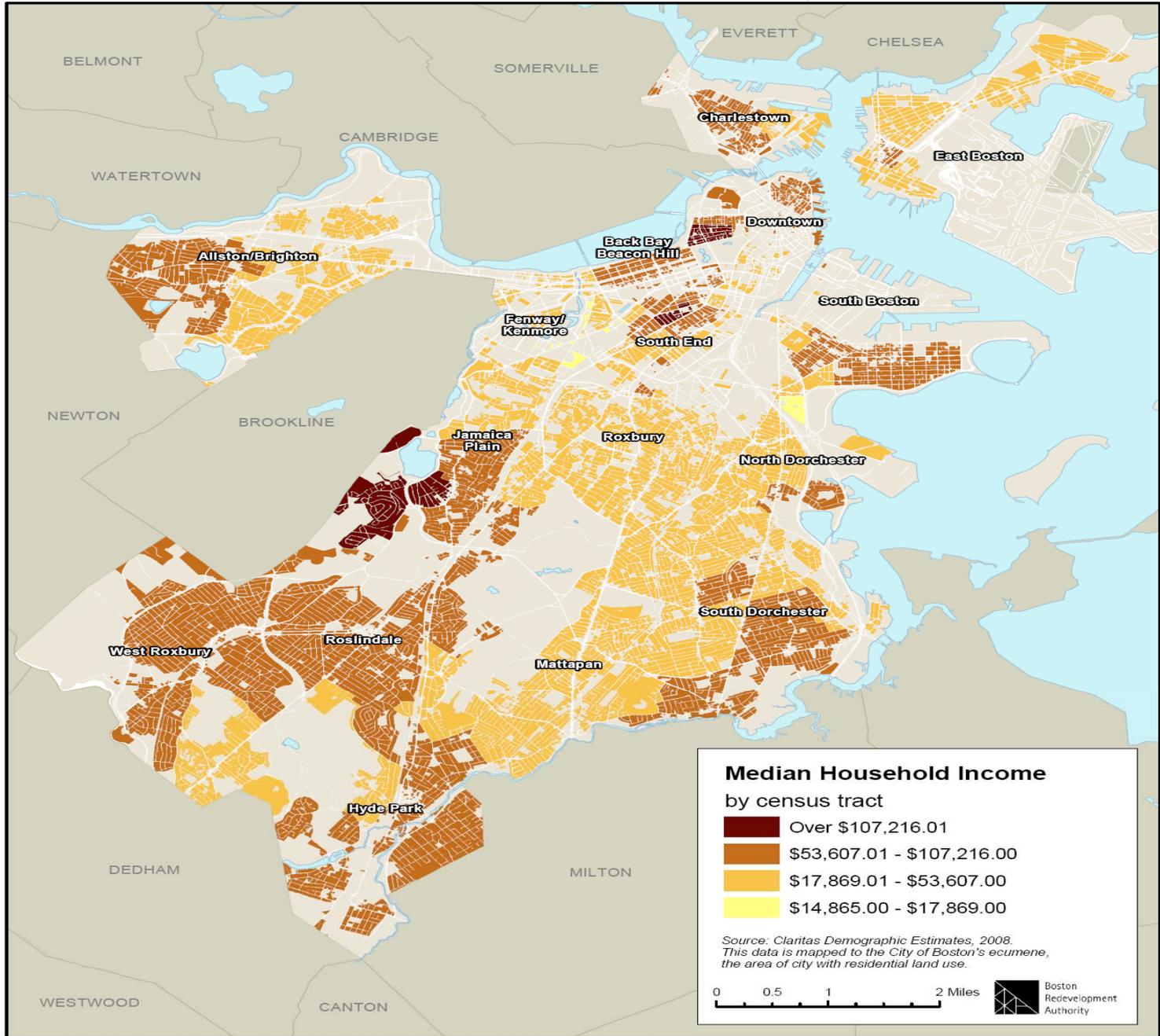
**Single Stream Recycling (B)**  
**Pay As You Throw (B)**

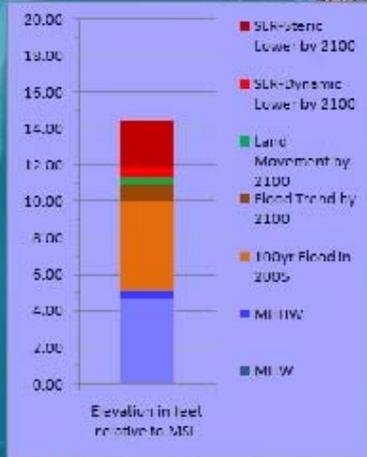
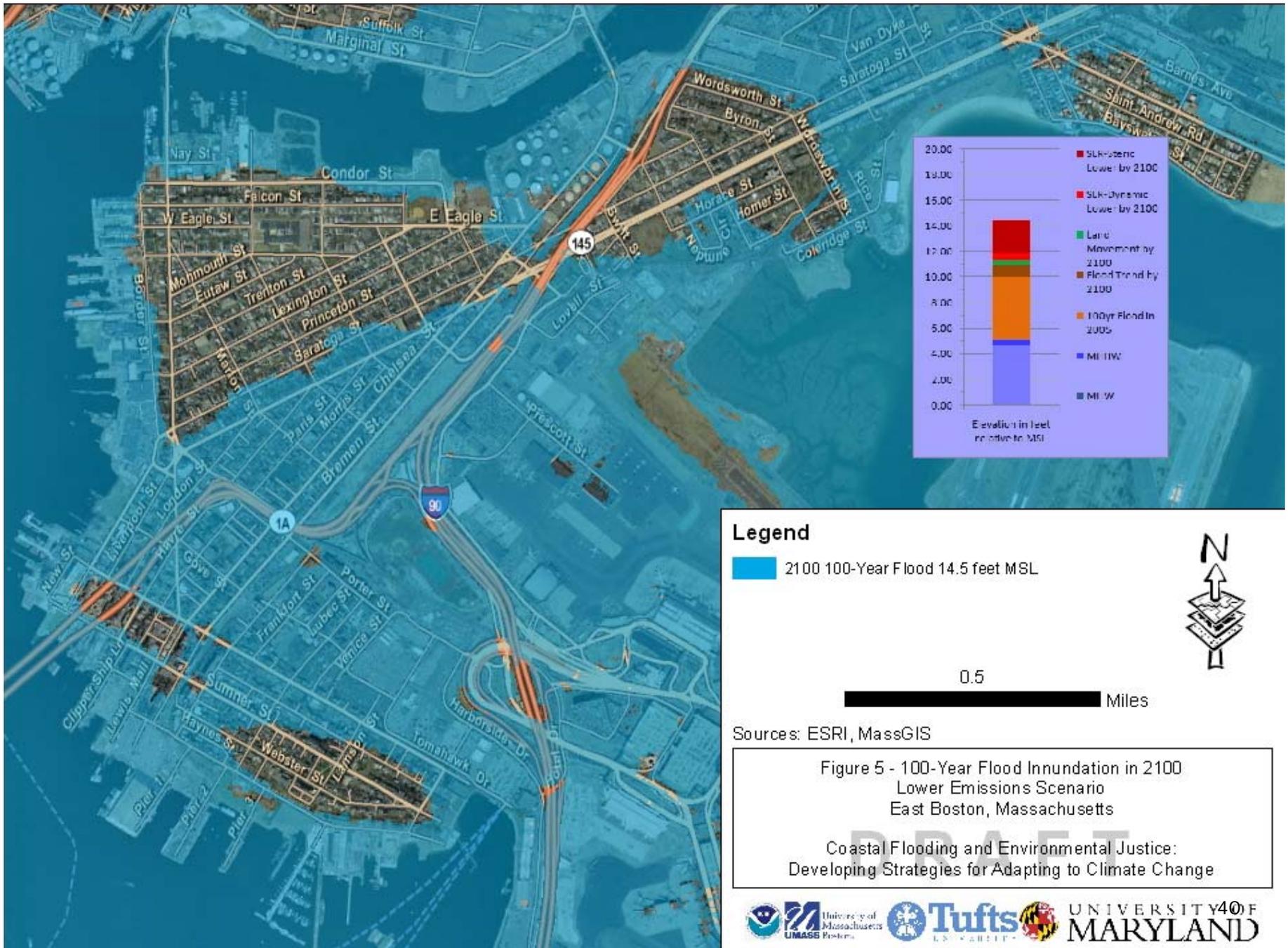
**Electric Vehicle & Alternative Fuel Infrastructure (B)**

# Community Advisory Committee

- 40 member CAC to advise LC and Mayor, and to develop short- and long-term citizen engagement strategies
- More than 70 nominations of more than 60 individuals from all over Boston
- Mix of neighborhoods, ethnic and racial groups, age/generations, expertise

# Median Household Income for Census Tracts - Family of Four





**Legend**

2100 100-Year Flood 14.5 feet MSL



0.5 Miles

Sources: ESRI, MassGIS

Figure 5 - 100-Year Flood Inundation in 2100 Lower Emissions Scenario East Boston, Massachusetts

DRAFT

Coastal Flooding and Environmental Justice: Developing Strategies for Adapting to Climate Change

# Citizen Engagement—Near Term

- 5 workshops—4 neighborhood-based, 1 for high school students
- Goal 500-1,000 people
- Structured feedback on
  - proposed mitigation and adaptation strategies
  - long-term citizen engagement strategies
  - social messaging
- Use presentations, small group facilitated discussions, and keypad polling

# Vermont's Energy Future: Citizen Engagement

## Participant Demographic Comparisons

	Regional Workshops	Deliberative Polling
Number of Participants	652	146
Gender (Male/Female)	60% / 40%	54% / 46%
Average Age	52	54
College Graduate	82%	70%
<u>Political Affiliation:</u> Democrat	46%	23%
Republican	13%	10%
Other*	41%	66%

\* Independent, Progressive, other, none

## Vermont Regional Workshops

Which resource options do you think should be the highest or lowest priorities to meet Vermont's future electricity needs considering all factors (cost, environmental attributes, reliability, etc.)?

Resource	High %	Low %	Difference	Rank
Energy Efficiency	25%	1%	24%	1
Wind	22%	2%	20%	2
Hydro	15%	0%	15%	3
Solar	16%	2%	14%	4
Wood	8%	2%	6%	5
Methane from farms or landfill	7%	2%	5%	6
Natural gas	1%	8%	-6%	7
Nuclear	6%	24%	-19%	8
Oil	0%	27%	-27%	9
Coal	1%	32%	-32%	10

mean n = 507

# Vermont Response Comparisons

Over the Next 10 Years, Would You Like to See Vermont Increase (1) -- Decrease (3)		
	Regional Workshops	Deliberative Polling
Percentage of Electricity from Renewables	1.1	1.0
Funding for Energy Efficiency Programs	1.2	1.2

# Vermont Response Comparisons

How Much Extra Are You Willing to Pay Per Month for Electricity that is,		
	Regional Workshops	Deliberative Polling
Entirely from Renewables	\$29	
Entirely from Non-Polluting Resources Producing no GHG or Nuclear Waste		\$29
Entirely from Smaller Decentralized Plants	\$24	\$19
Entirely from In-State Resources	\$20	\$18

# Figure 12: Continue to Buy from VT Yankee?

Vermont should continue to purchase electricity from the VT Yankee nuclear power plant

