

Imagining Boston of the Future

Planning for the Future in Boston



Climate Planning

Climate Action Plan updates every 3 yrs

- 2017 update will be released in 2018

Climate Ready Boston: [Adaptation](#)

- Report released in December 2016

Carbon Free Boston: [Mitigation](#)

- Report to be released in late 2018

Citywide Planning

Transportation Planning (Go Boston)

- Released 2017

Housing (Housing a Changing City)

- Released 2015

Land Use and Zoning

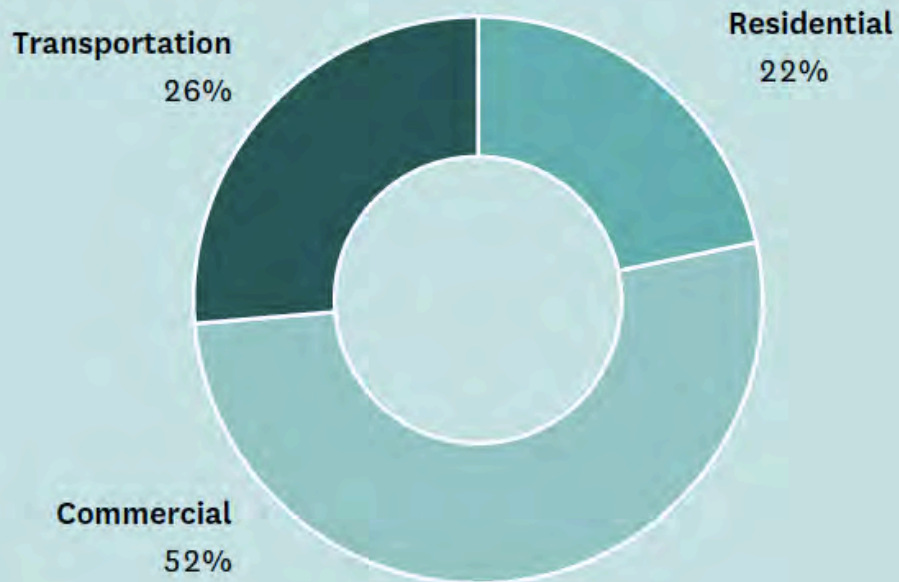
- Special Area Plans (by area)

Social Cohesion and Racial Equity

- Report to be released July 2017

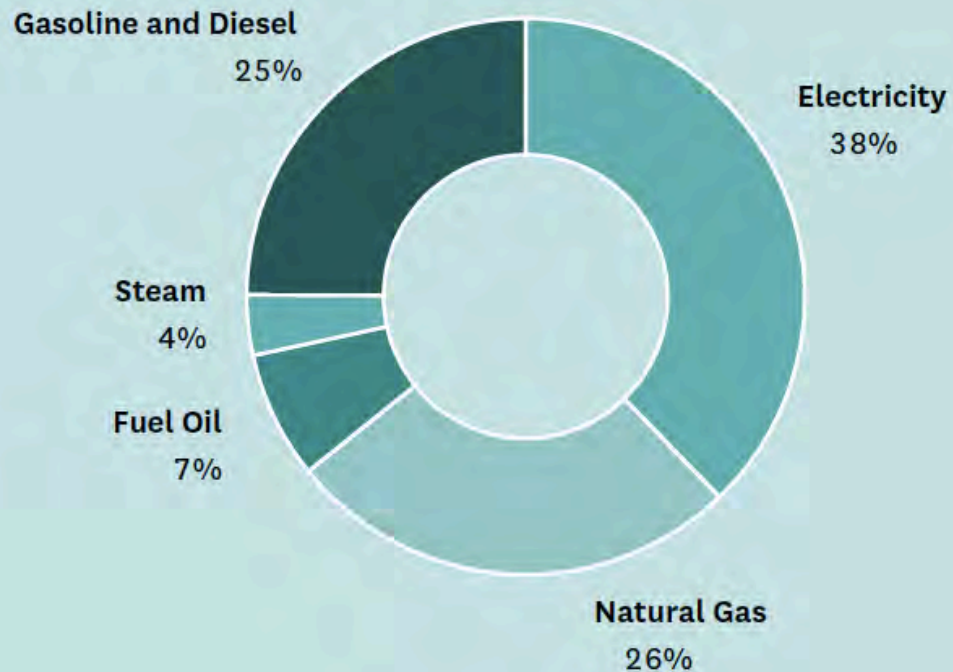
Where We Stand

Community-wide Greenhouse-Gas Emissions by Energy Sector



Where We Stand

Community-wide Greenhouse-Gas Emissions by Energy Type

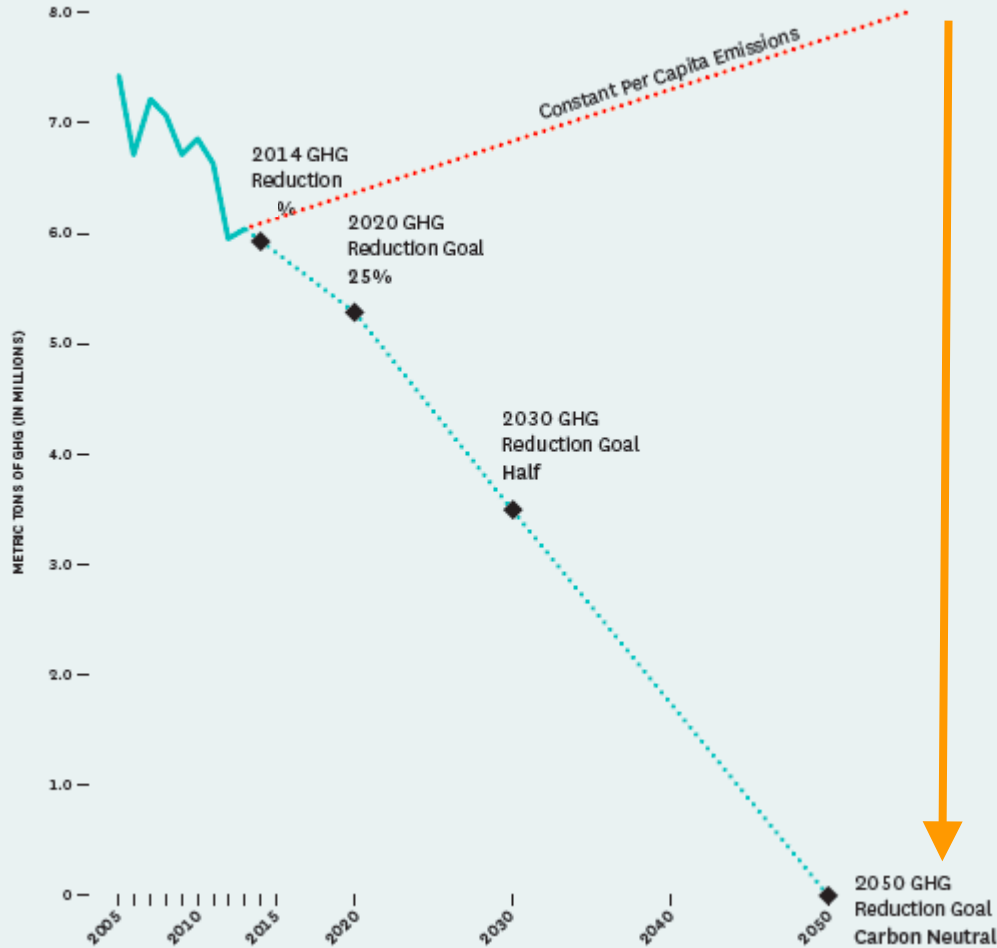


carbon neutral by 2050

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Chart

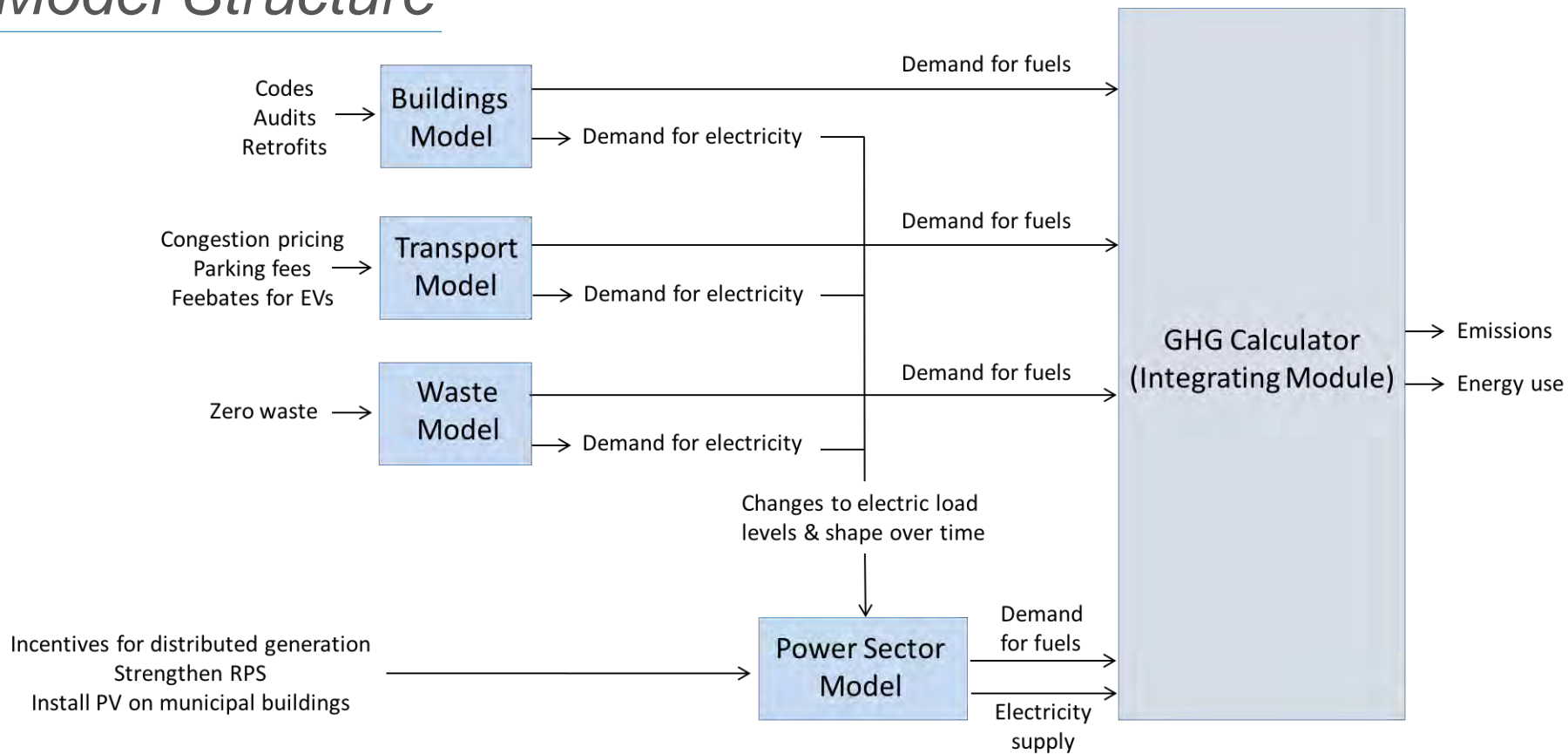


Greenhouse Gas Reduction Chart



- Power
- Buildings
- Transportation
- Waste

Model Structure



Tools We Have

Areas

- Land Use
- Building regulation and inspection
- Street infrastructure
- Waste Management
- (Some) energy policies
- (Some) transportation
- Parks

Tools

- Policies and regulations (e.g. LEED)
- City-controlled assets (e.g. buildings)
- Convening (e.g. local business leaders, tech developers)
- Advocacy (e.g. mode shift)
- Proof points (e.g. green jobs)
- Incentives (soft e.g. Key to the City and hard e.g. regulation)

What else do your cities / organizations think of as core tools?

Partial Candidate List of Policies to Assess

Electric Power	Transportation	Buildings	Waste
Strengthen Renewable Portfolio Standard	Regional congestion pricing	Implement aggressive building and energy conservation codes	Implement zero waste program
Invest in large- and medium-scale distributed generation	Invest in infrastructure for low- to no-carbon mobility: EV charging, walking, biking, hydrogen	Require deep retrofitting of buildings	Pay-as-you-throw fees
Install solar panels on all municipal properties	Parking fees	Require energy audits, rating, and disclosure	Waste specific campaigns: reusable mugs, bottles, bags; eliminate, plastic bags, junk mail, and food waste
Lower cap on GHG emissions via RGGI	Feebates for low- to no-carbon vehicles	Reduce urban heat island effect via cool roofs and cool pavements	
Financial incentives for on- and off-site renewable generation	Convert public transit, government fleets, and taxi fleets to no- to low-carbon energy	Raise standards for energy efficiency of appliances	
Provide clean power purchasing options for consumers			

Let's zoom out.

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Imagine Boston 2030

14,000 voices guided Imagine Boston 2030

Today, Boston is in a powerful position to create quality jobs, strengthen our competitive economy, add the housing our city needs to become more affordable, and prepare for climate change. By harnessing the robust growth and economic dynamism of Boston today, we can make Boston a place of unparalleled economic and social opportunities for people of all races, genders, and incomes.

Context [page 54](#)

Boston responds to its strengths and challenges, including:

- › **Productive Economy:** People who work in Boston generate \$27 billion in incremental productivity each year.
- › **Growing Population:** Boston grew twice as fast as the nation between 2010 and 2014.
- › **Inequality:** There is a stark wealth gap between whites and people of color.
- › **Affordability:** Median household income is the same as the nation, but homes are two-and-a-half times as expensive.
- › **Changing Climate:** As soon as the 2070s, more than \$90 billion of property value will be exposed to flooding.
- › **Transformative Technology:** Technology is changing how we work, live, and get around our city.

The Opportunity of Growth [page 108](#)

- Boston is expected to continue adding residents and jobs.
- › Boston is expected to have 68,000 more people by 2030.
 - › Boston is expected to add 110,000 new jobs by 2030.
- Boston is guiding this growth to create new places to live and work, improve quality of life and increase affordability.

Taking Action [page 136](#)

Boston identifies priority action areas—physical locations where integrated growth, enhancement and preservation will respond to opportunities and challenges.

- › Enhance Neighborhoods
- › Encourage a Mixed-use Core
- › Expand Neighborhoods
- › Create a Waterfront for Future Generations
- › Generate Networks of Opportunity: Fairmount Corridor

Initiatives [page 228](#)

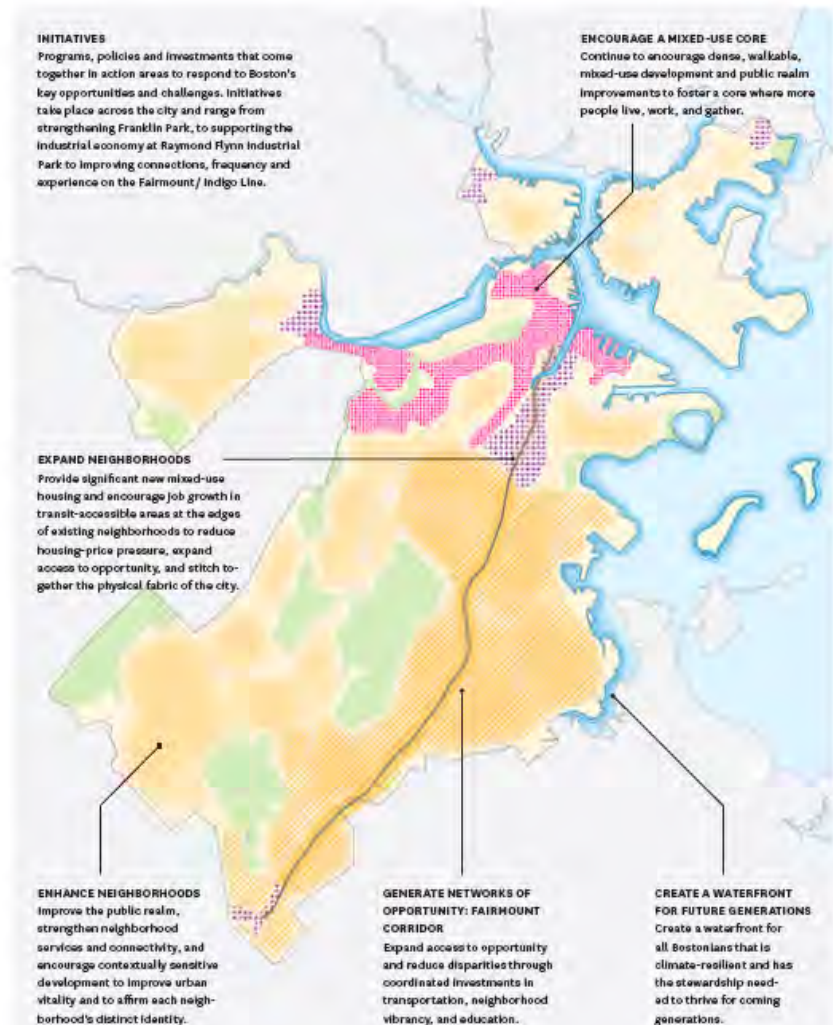
Boston outlines programs, policies, and investments to support each of the action areas.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| › Housing | › Open Space |
| › Health & Safety | › Transportation |
| › Education | › Technology |
| › Economy | › Arts & Culture |
| › Energy Environment | › Land Use & Planning |

Next Steps [page 399](#)

Boston will implement the plan by:

- › Building partnerships with the public, private and non-profit sectors
- › Identifying and coordinating funding sources
- › Testing new policies through pilots
- › Setting metrics to measure success

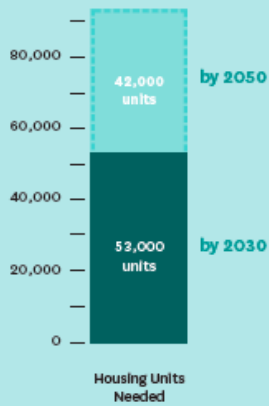


1.

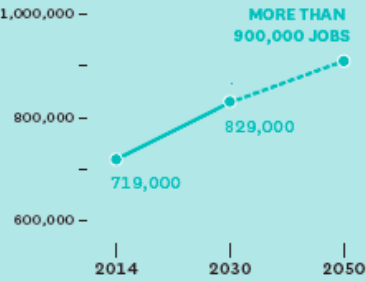
Population Growth Projections



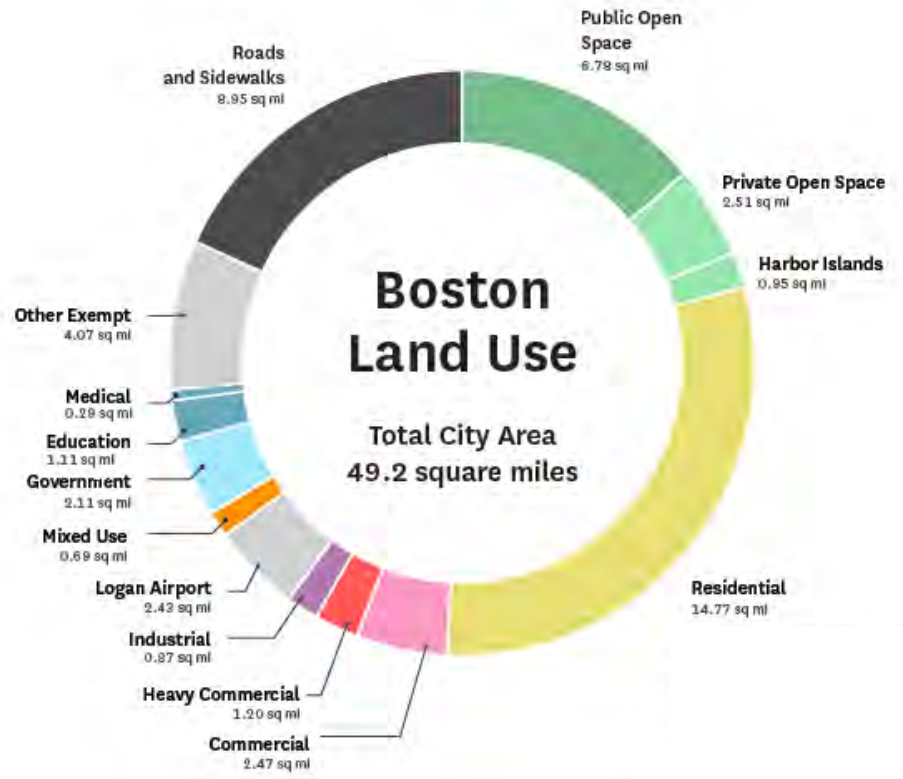
Projected Demand for Housing



Job Growth Projections

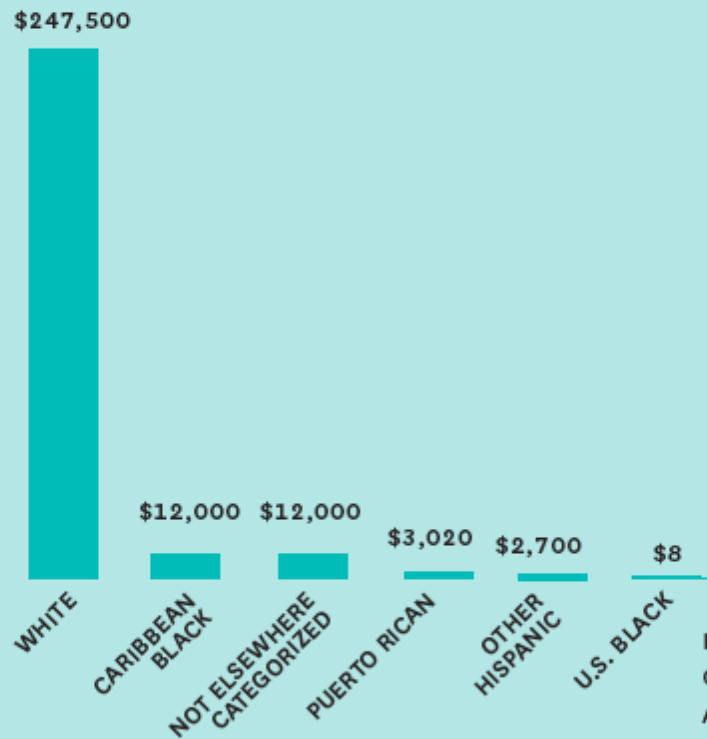


Projected Demand for Space to Work

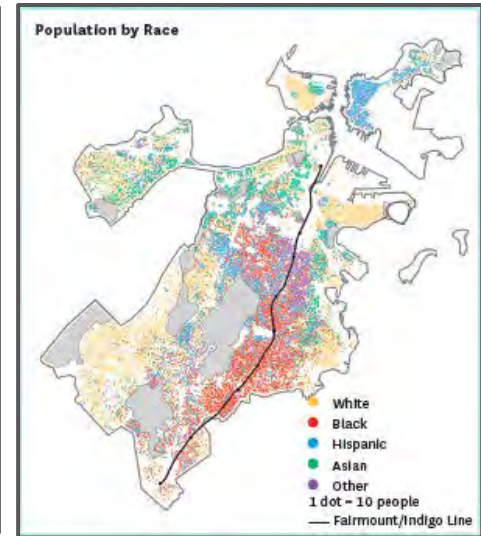
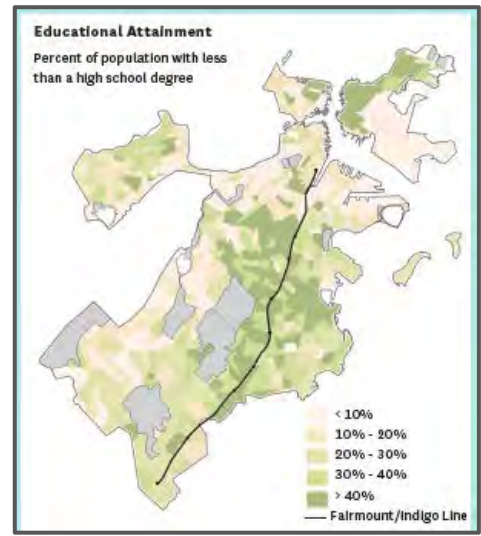
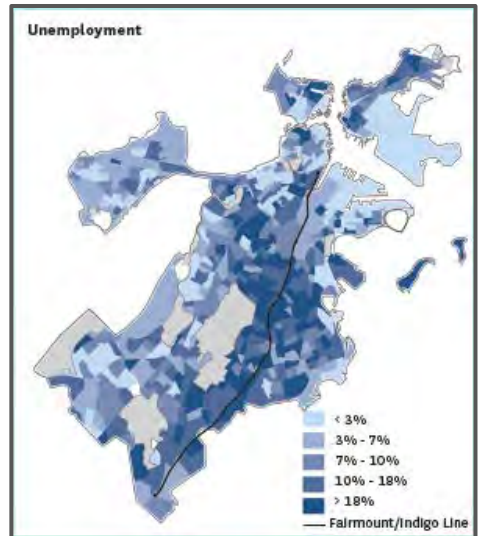
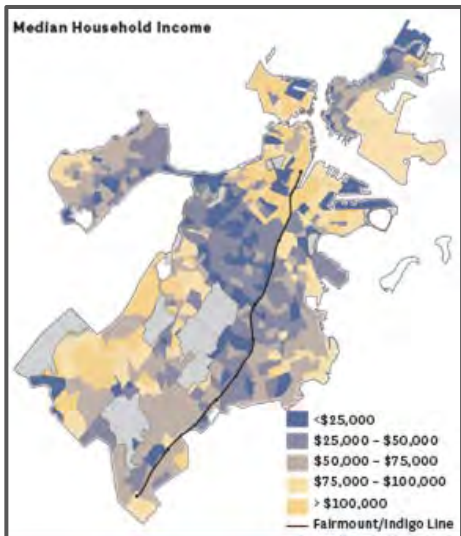


2.

There is a stark wealth gap between whites and people of color.



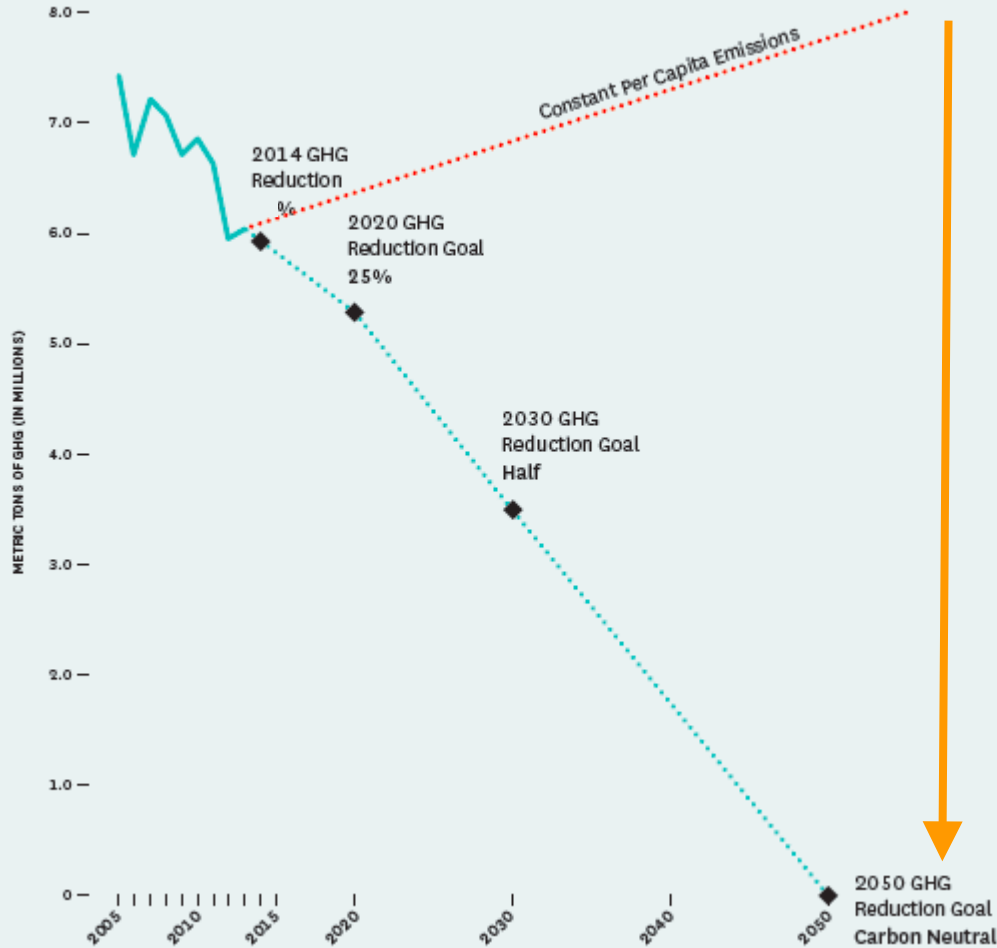
Figures are for Greater Boston. Analysis did not look at all races.



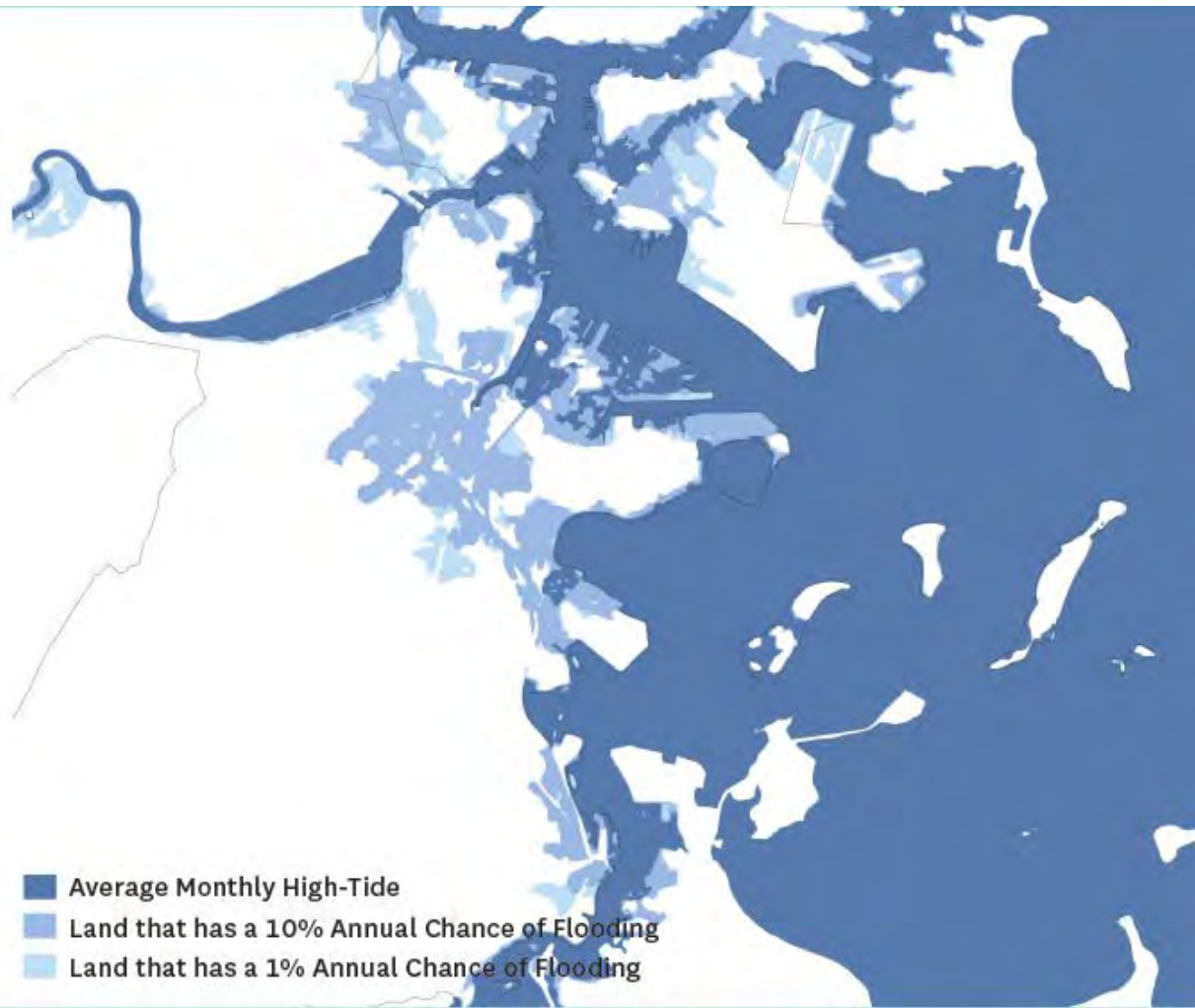
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carbon neutral by 2050

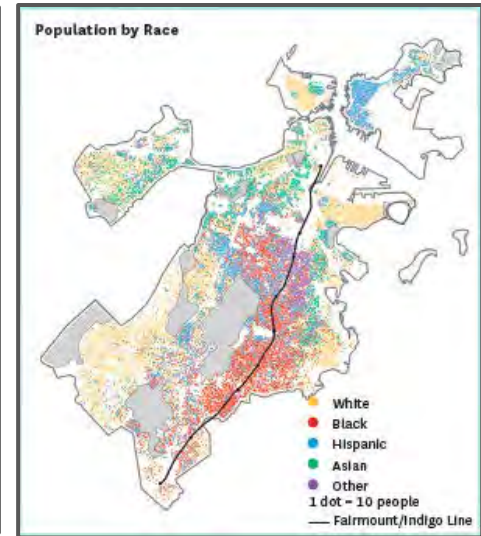
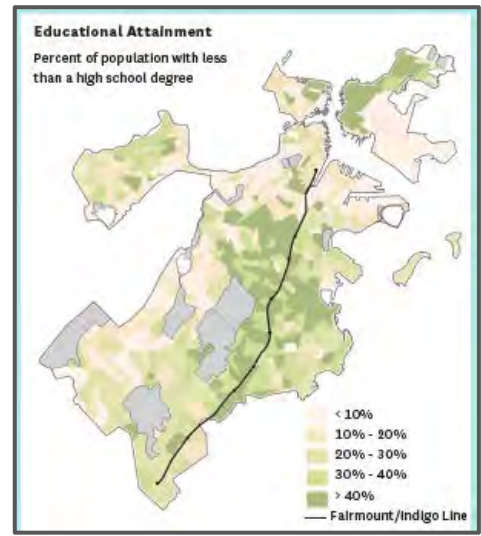
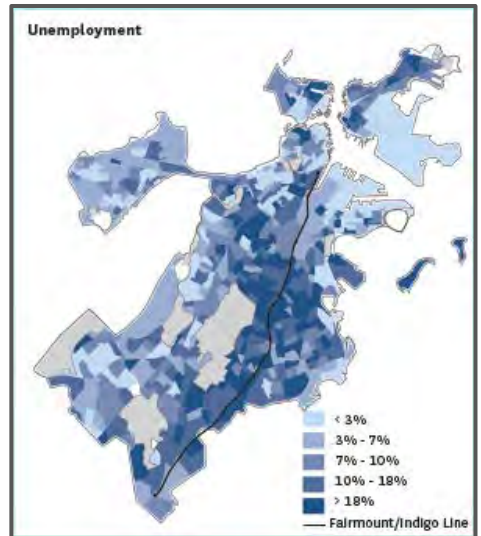
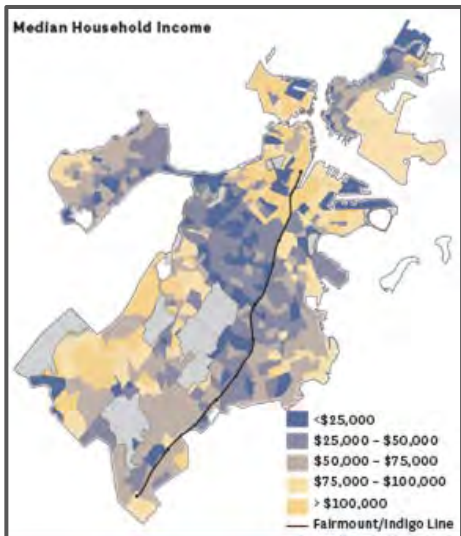
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Chart



- Power
- Buildings
- Transportation
- Waste



How it comes together.





A Mixed-use growth and industrial center at Newmarket and Widett Circle

B Enhanced east-west connections via rapid bus

C Catalytic investments in Upham's Corner

D Green, active transportation corridor along Columbia Road

E Investments in Franklin Park as a signature green space

F Eco-innovation district at Talbot-Norfolk Triangle

G Improved connections, frequency, and experience on the Fairmount / Indigo Line

H Mixed-use industrial center in Readville

I City-catalyzed investments around station areas and neighborhood nodes

Major education investment

Candidate area for District Energy

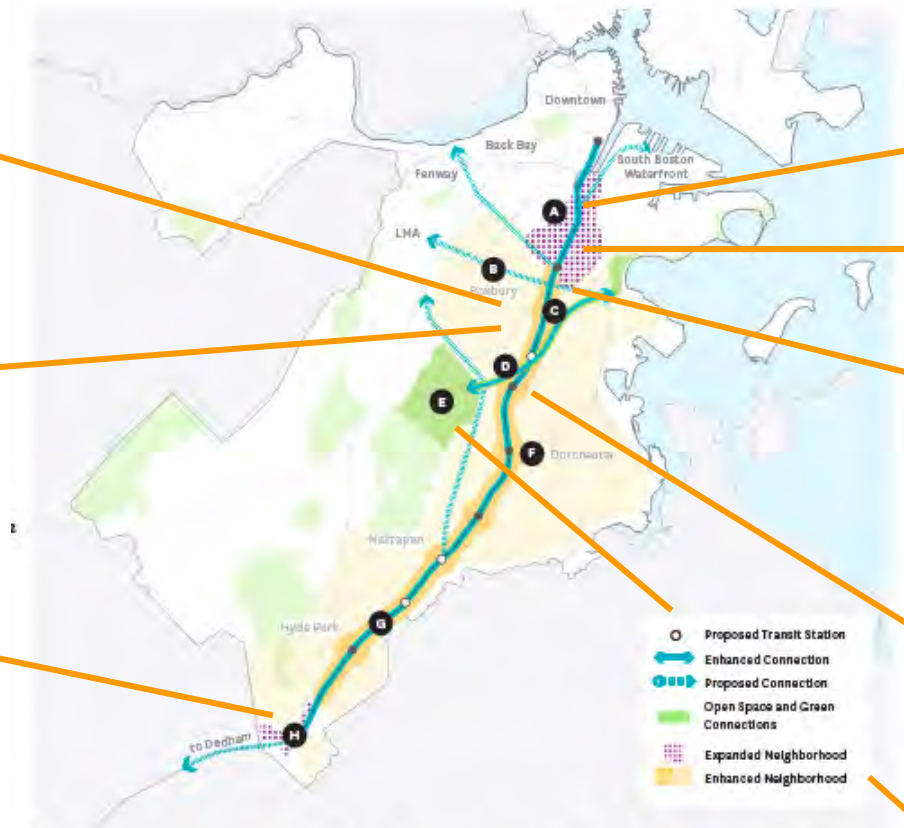
Job centers for all education levels

Better transportation
Considering energy efficiency requirements

Transportation to areas with career ladders

Density around transit stops


Signature assets



- A** Mixed-use growth and industrial center at Newmarket and Widett Circle
- B** Enhanced east-west connections via rapid bus
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IMAGINE | BOSTON
2030

"Reducing displacement and encouraging affordable housing must be a priority for everyone in Boston."

Chinatown resident via community workshop

"Affordable housing near neighborhood workplaces."

East Boston resident via street team survey

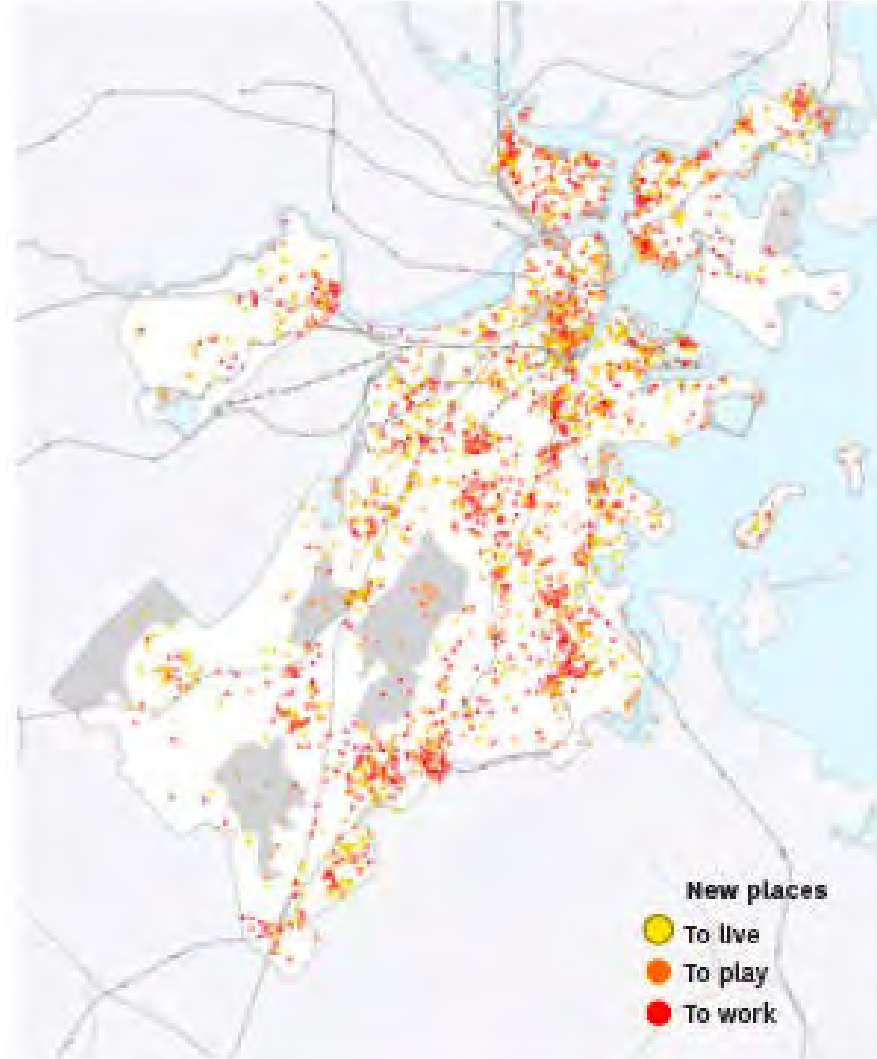
"Mixed-income senior housing downtown."

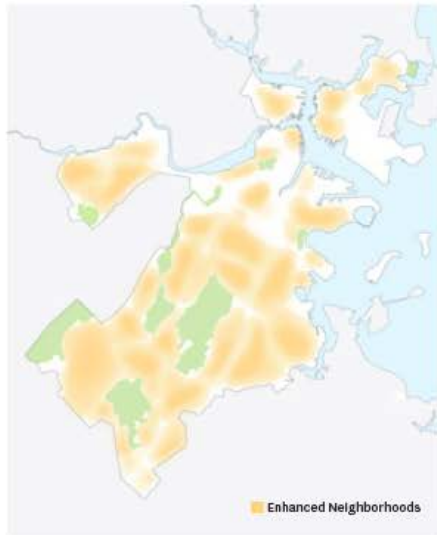
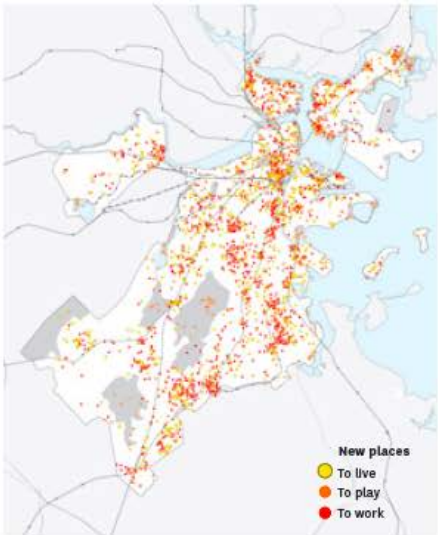
Dorchester resident via online mapping comments

"Adding transit-oriented development and density along existing industrial corridors in outlying neighborhoods. Adding height in exchange for affordability."

Roslindale resident via web survey

Resident generated solution





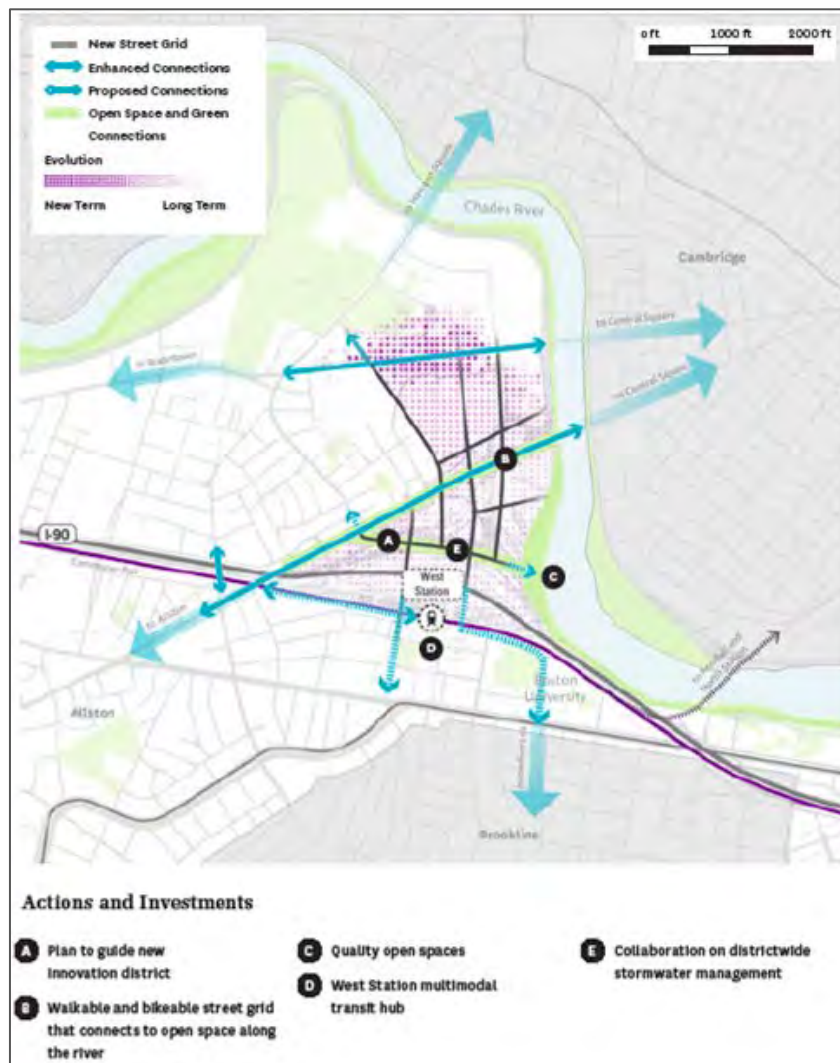




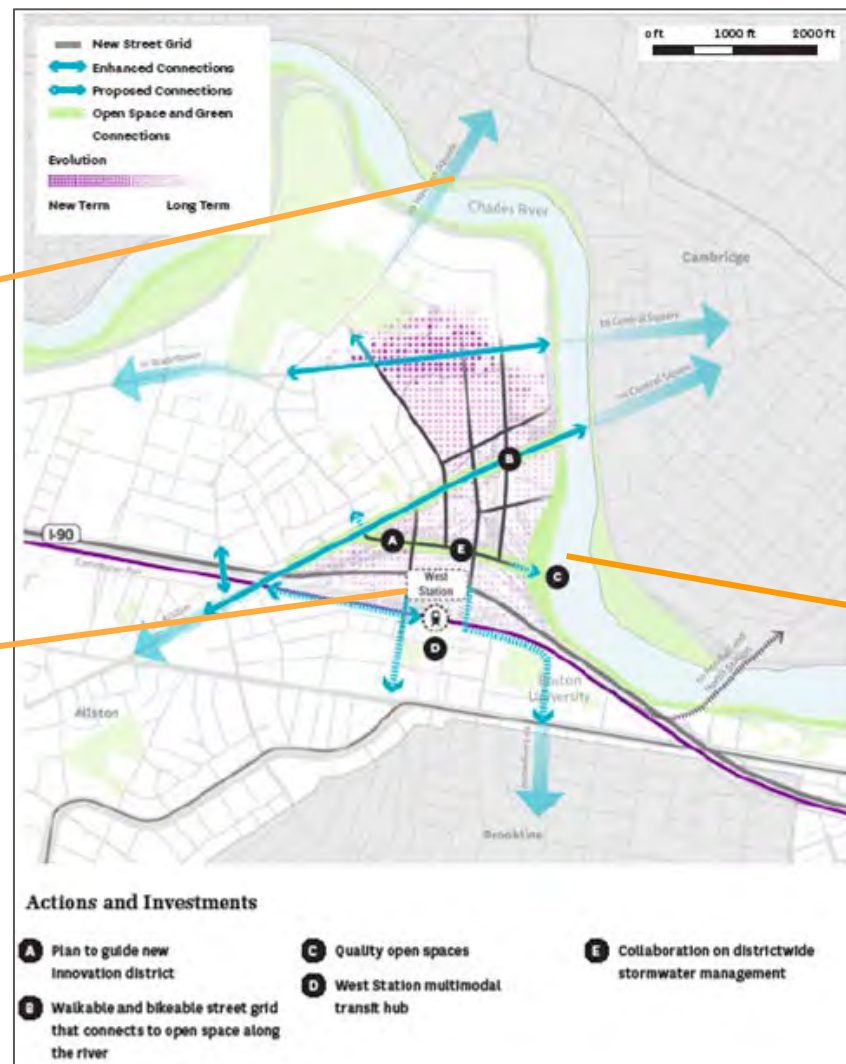
6 areas



Beacon Yards, Allston



Beacon Yards, Allston



Synergistic economic planning

Integrating transportation planning

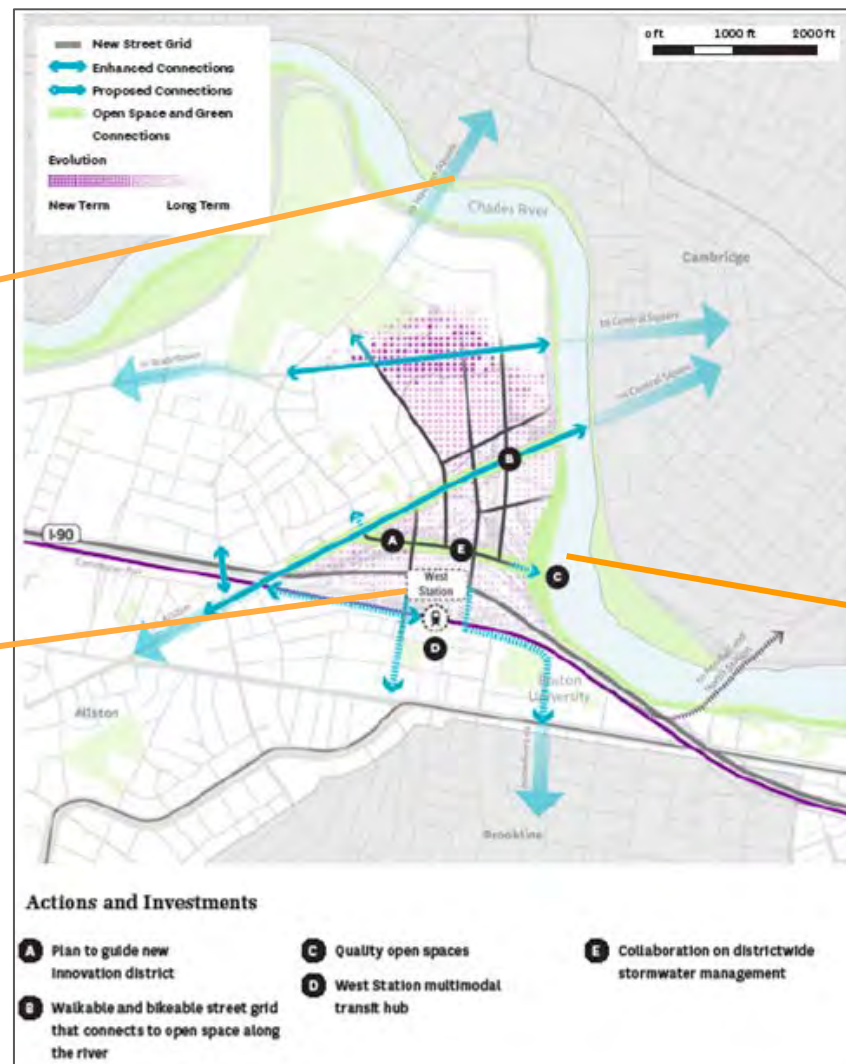
Coordinated open space planning

Beacon Yards, Allston

Synergistic economic planning

Integrating transportation planning

Coordinated open space planning



Synergistic
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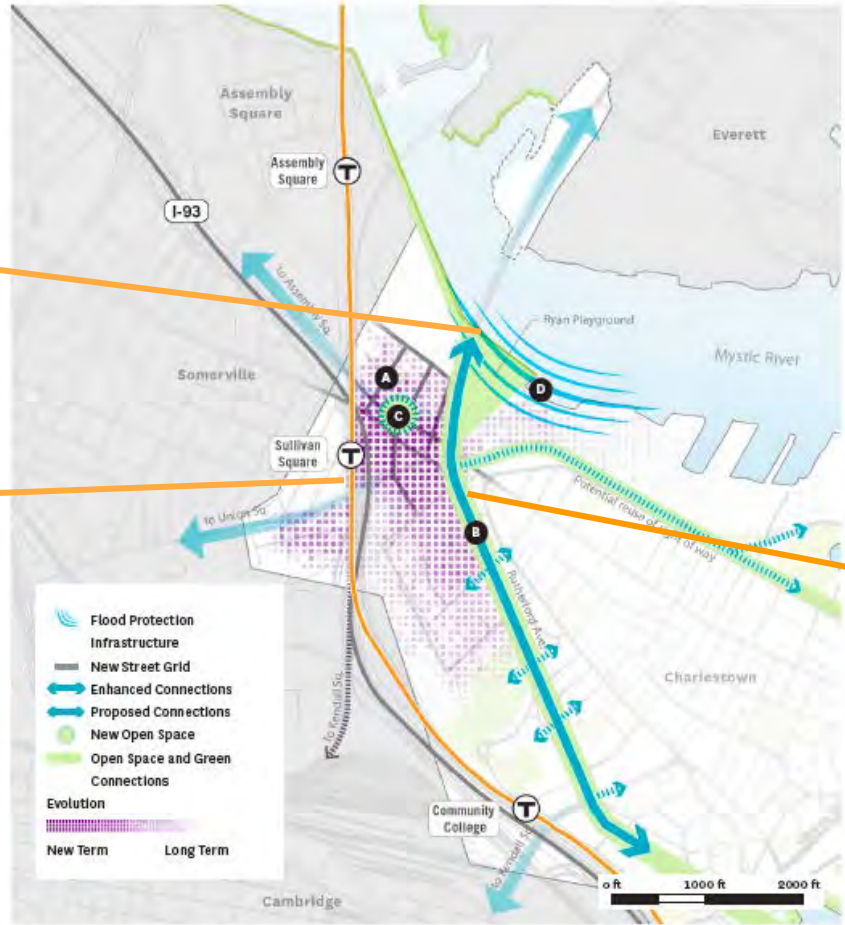


Sullivan Square, Charlestown

Climate planning

GHG reduction

Ideas to Action: 2018-2022 Imagine Boston Capital Plan

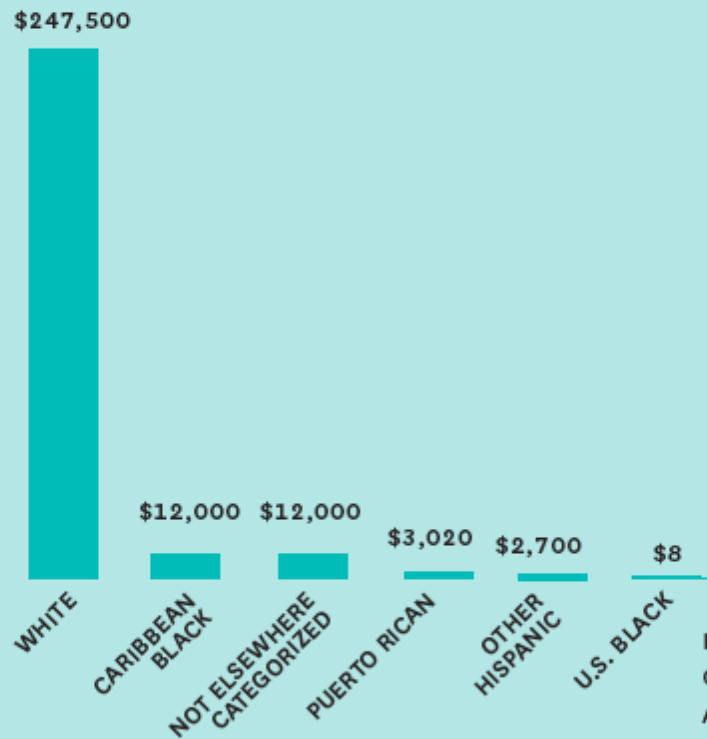


- A** Walkable street grid to support mixed-use growth
- B** Transportation and streetscape investments
- C** Open space investments
- D** Climate ready infrastructure

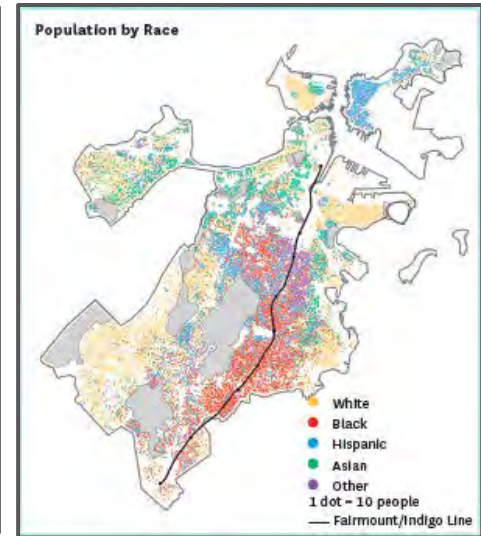
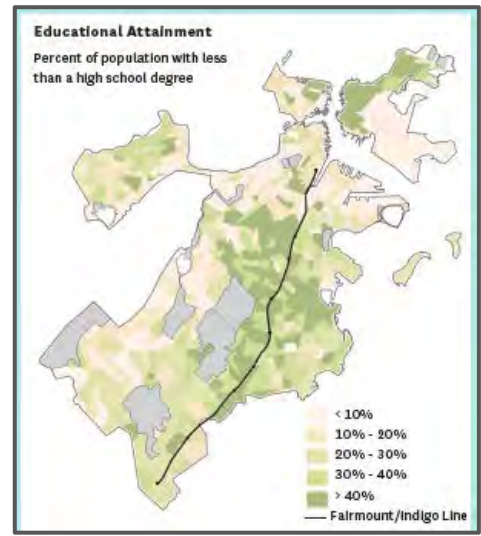
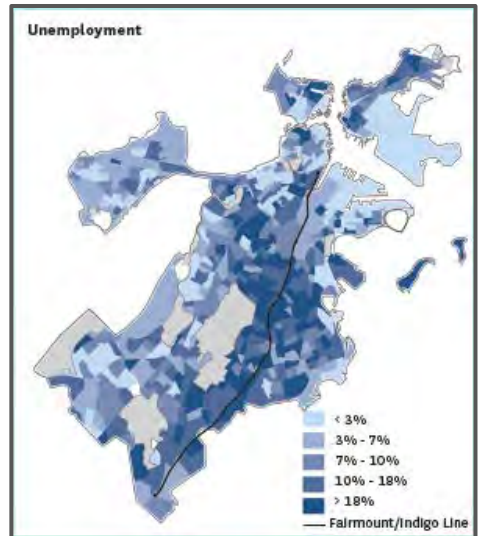
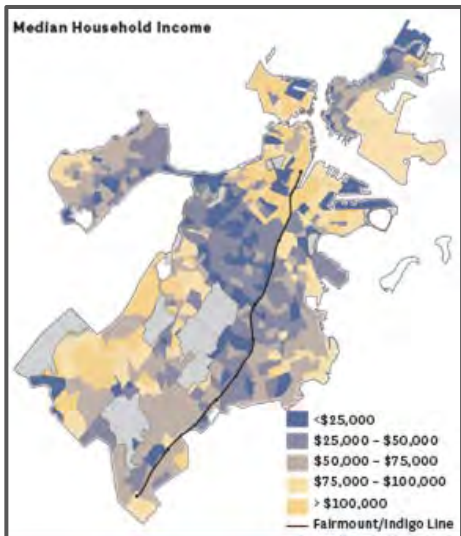
- Enough space to accommodate growth to 2050
- Map-level vision for each area
- Key actions funded in 2018-2022 Capital Plan

2.

There is a stark wealth gap between whites and people of color.



Figures are for Greater Boston. Analysis did not look at all races.



"To connect lower-income communities (like Roxbury, Dorchester Mattapan) to job centers (like the LMA, Colleges of Fenway, downtown), gold-standard Bus Rapid Transit can help achieve this goal and break down racial inequity in transit access and travel times."

**Roxbury resident via
online mapping comments**

"Expand jobs along the Fairmount corridor, and also [add] more mixed-use space [and] buildings at all transit stops."

**Comment via handwritten note in
response to Draft Plan**



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Same neighbors, better transit: Frequent fair service on the Fairmount/Indigo Line

- Short term: Frequency, connections, experience
- Long term: Subway level service + regional connections



- › What are the possible unintended consequences of the policy?
- › What steps can be taken to avoid or repair these unintended consequences?
- › How are the area and the communities that would face unintended consequences part of developing the plan?
- › Choose a measure which, if it were crossed, should trigger a re-evaluation and plan of action within six months.

>10% net loss of households making under \$50K triggers a re-evaluation within 6 months





- A** Investments and policies to assure affordable housing
- B** City-catalyzed Investments around key transit stops
- C** Improved connections, frequency, and user experience on the Fairmount/Indigo Line
- D** Support of local businesses, artists, and entrepreneurs
- E** Foster the creation of an arts Innovation district with artist housing and resources
- F** Investments in green and active corridors

Improve
Fairmount/Indigo
Line

Affordable
Housing

Arts Hub

Columbia Rd
Enhancements

Dudley-Uphams'
Innovation District

New Upham's
Corner Library

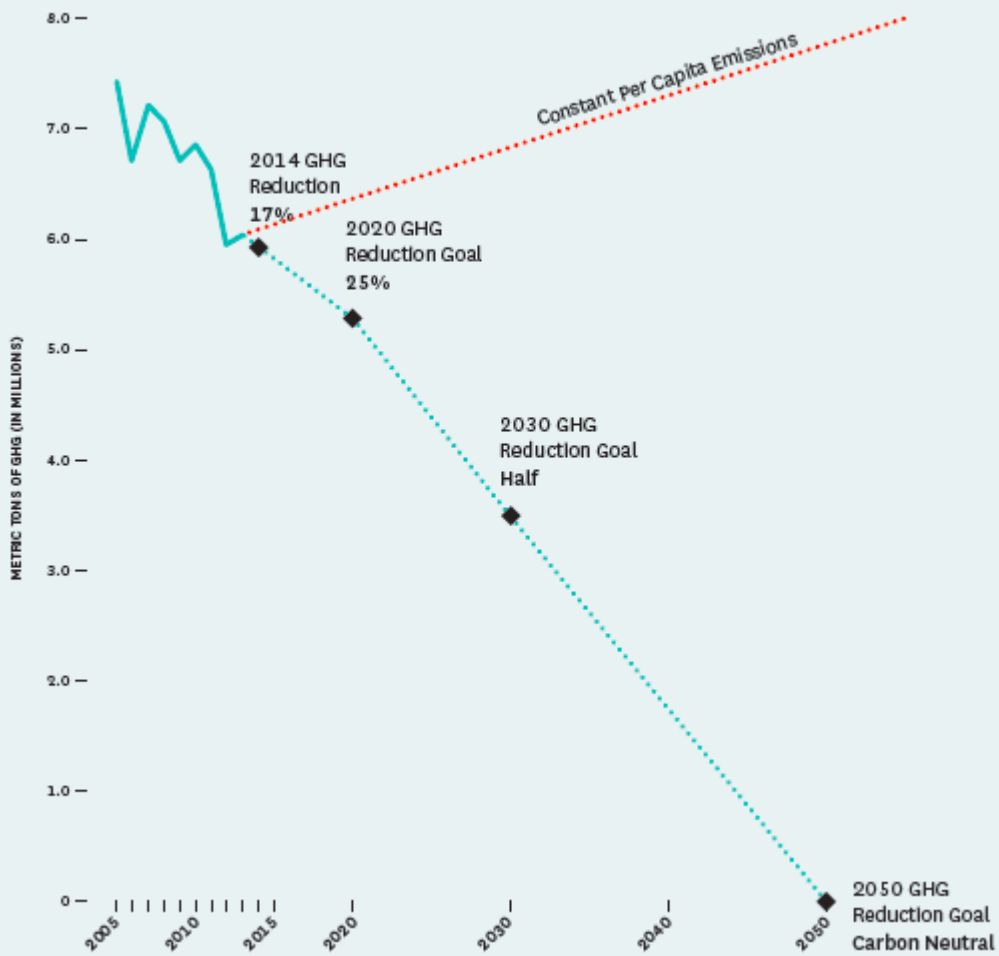


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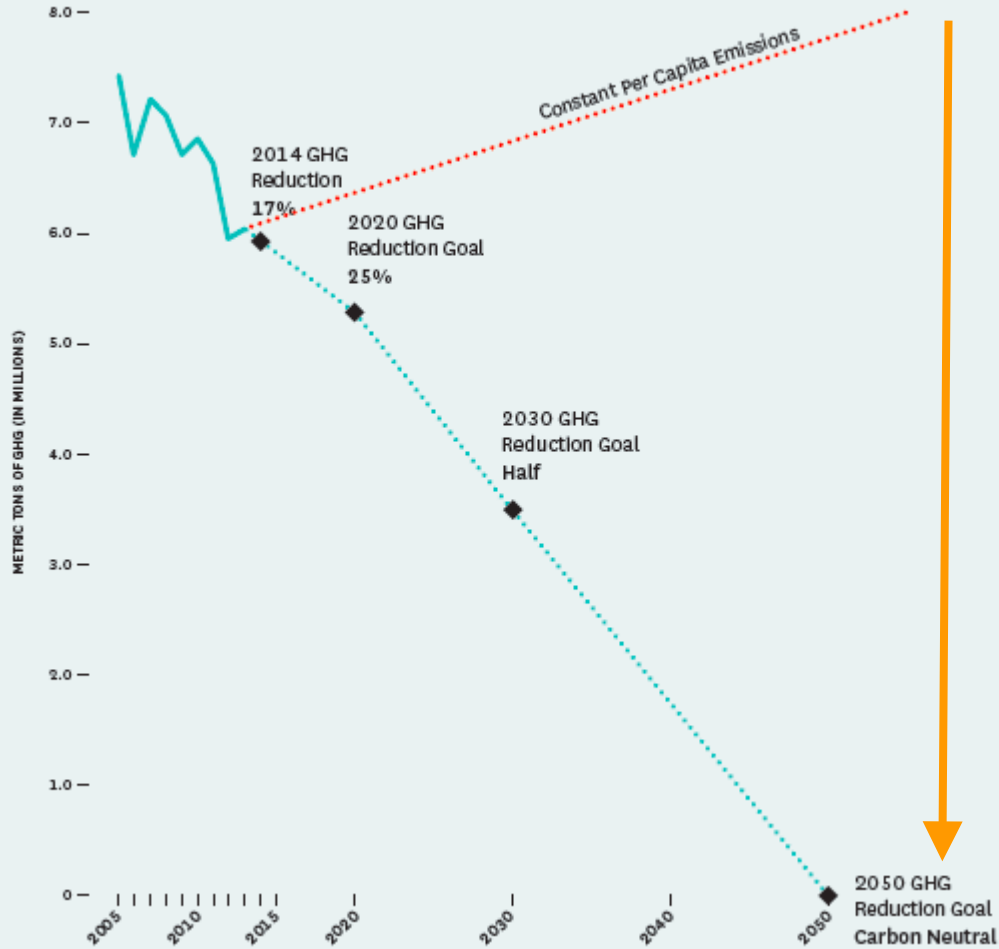
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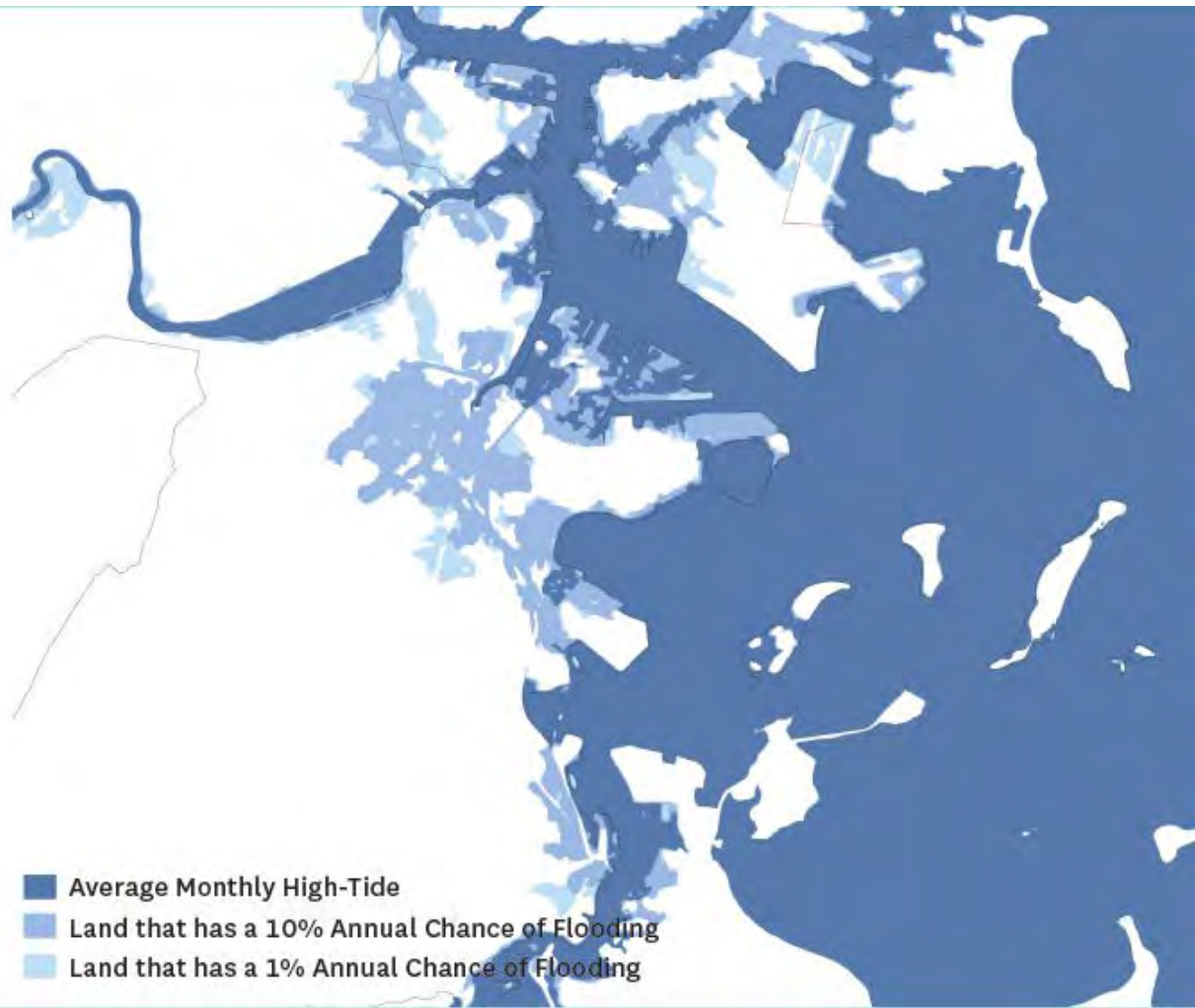
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Chart



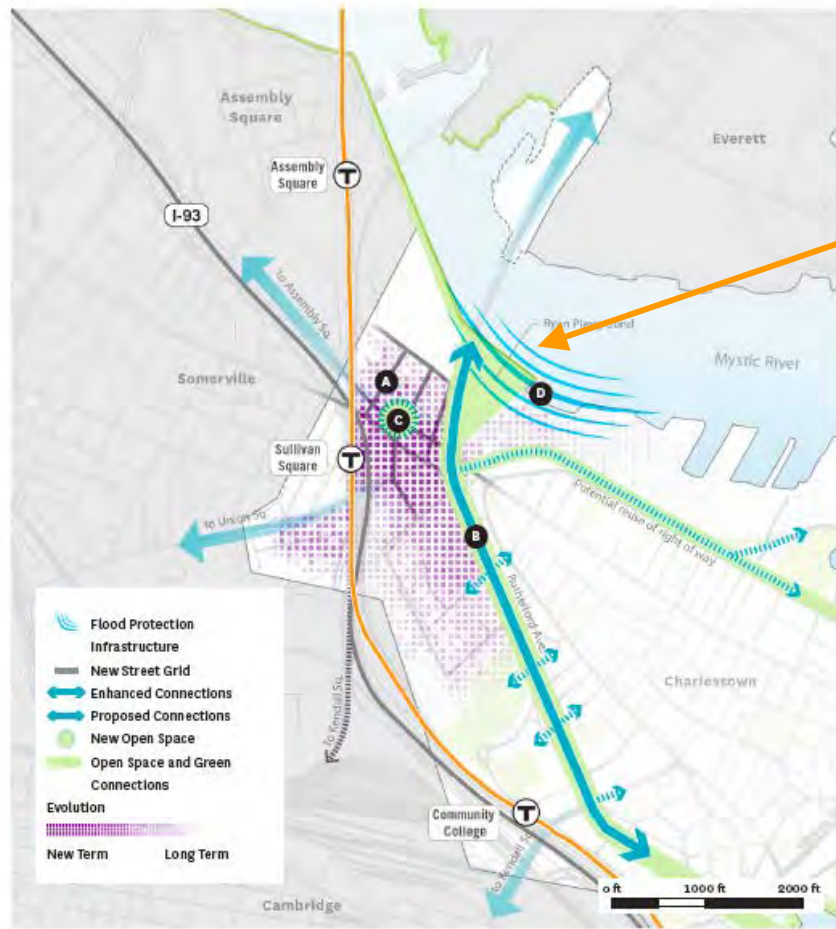
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Chart



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- Average Monthly High-Tide
- Land that has a 10% Annual Chance of Flooding
- Land that has a 1% Annual Chance of Flooding



- A** Walkable street grid to support mixed-use growth
- B** Transportation and streetscape investments
- C** Open space investments
- D** Climate ready infrastructure



- A** Public space activation to create an urban waterfront in Fort Point Channel and South Boston Waterfront
- B** Large connected open spaces at Beacon Yards
- C** Waterfront jobs center at Raymond L. Flynn Marine Park
- D** Diverse and active downtown waterfront
- E** Emerald Necklace completion at Moakley Park
- F** Partnerships to support water Transportation Network
- G** Open spaces, including on the East Boston Waterfront and at Suffolk Downs
- H** District-scale local climate resilience plans

What does the future hold?

Other things we could have told you

- Plan for 2100
- A more residential downtown
- Well placed growth builds connections
- Industrial Toolkit
- A Vision for Education
- Protecting Immigrants