

Welcome to the Green Worcester Advisory Committee Meeting

MARCH 7, 2022



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WORCESTER**

Community | Resilience | Sustainability

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Members

Mary Knittle, Chair

Ted Conna

Stephanie Covino

Nathan Fournier

Evelyn Herwitz

Deirdra Murphy

7th member TBD

Department of Sustainability and Resilience Staff

John Odell, Chief

Jacquelyn Burmeister, Senior Environmental Analyst,
Lakes and Ponds Program

Jessica Davis, Project Manager

Nick Pagan, Environmental Analyst, Lakes and Ponds
Program

Sushil Rajagopalan, Energy Analyst

Luba Zhaurova, Director of Projects



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2. GREEN WORCESTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - RESPONSIBILITIES

Assist with the Implementation of the GWP actions

1. Project Prioritization and Review:
 - a) Assist annually with prioritization of short term and long term municipal and community GWP actions.
 - b) Assist with the development of the Sustainable Project Score Card, which will incorporate the three GWP lenses – equity, health and prosperity.
 - c) Review and advise on upcoming municipal projects using the Sustainable Project Score Card.
2. Communication:
 - a) Develop, revise as needed, and implement an effective communication strategy to advance GWP goals.
 - b) Assist with outreach and education about GWP actions by the businesses, institutions & nonprofits, households & individuals (“Getting Started” sections at the end of each chapter).
 - c) Serve as a transparent channel of providing information to the public and other external stakeholders about the City’s efforts to advance GWP goals and actions.
 - d) Serve as a sounding board for new initiatives and opportunities within the community aligned with the GWP goals and actions.



3. AN OVERVIEW OF DSR GOALS & CURRENT/UPCOMING PROJECTS

Goal 1: Reduce Carbon Emissions

Goal 2: Advance Climate Change Resilience

Goal 3: Advance Mobility Transformation

Goal 4: Support and Grow Lakes and Ponds Program

Goal 5: Educate, Effectively Communicate and Facilitate Action at the Community Level

Goal 6: Maintain Structural Support for ongoing GWP Implementation



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GOAL 1: REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS

Measuring, Planning, Commitments:

- a) Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (Kim Lundgren Associates, Inc.)
- b) Green Community Designation and Reporting (since 2010)
- c) Better Buildings Challenge (since 2013)
- d) Better Climate Challenge 2022 signatory – commitment to reduce GHG emissions reductions by 50% in 10 years without the use of offsets in municipal facilities
- e) Draft MOU with utilities for 3 years to meet energy efficiency goals for municipal facilities and the community

Managing:

- a) Upcoming Solar Installations (21 total existing and upcoming), O&M
- b) Upcoming Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, O&M; META Grant
- c) Frances Perkins Library – Investigating opportunities for electrification
- a) Municipal Aggregation Program

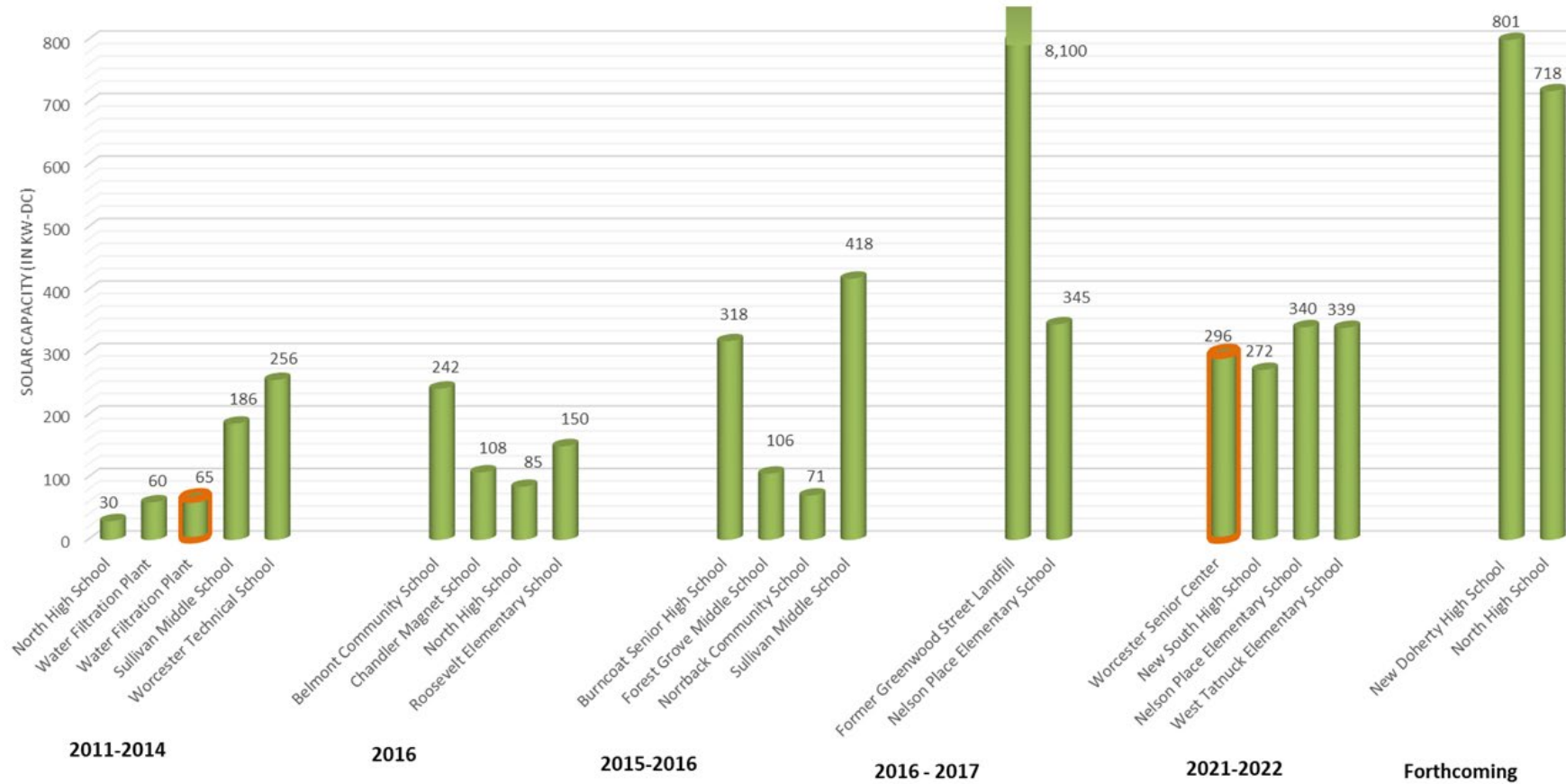


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City of Worcester Municipal Solar Installations by Capacity

Total nameplate capacity of municipal solar projects - 13.3 MW DC



*Bars with a orange outline represent ground-mounted solar projects; all others are roof-mounted solar installations

Produced by the Department of
Sustainability and Resilience
Last Updated 3/2/2022



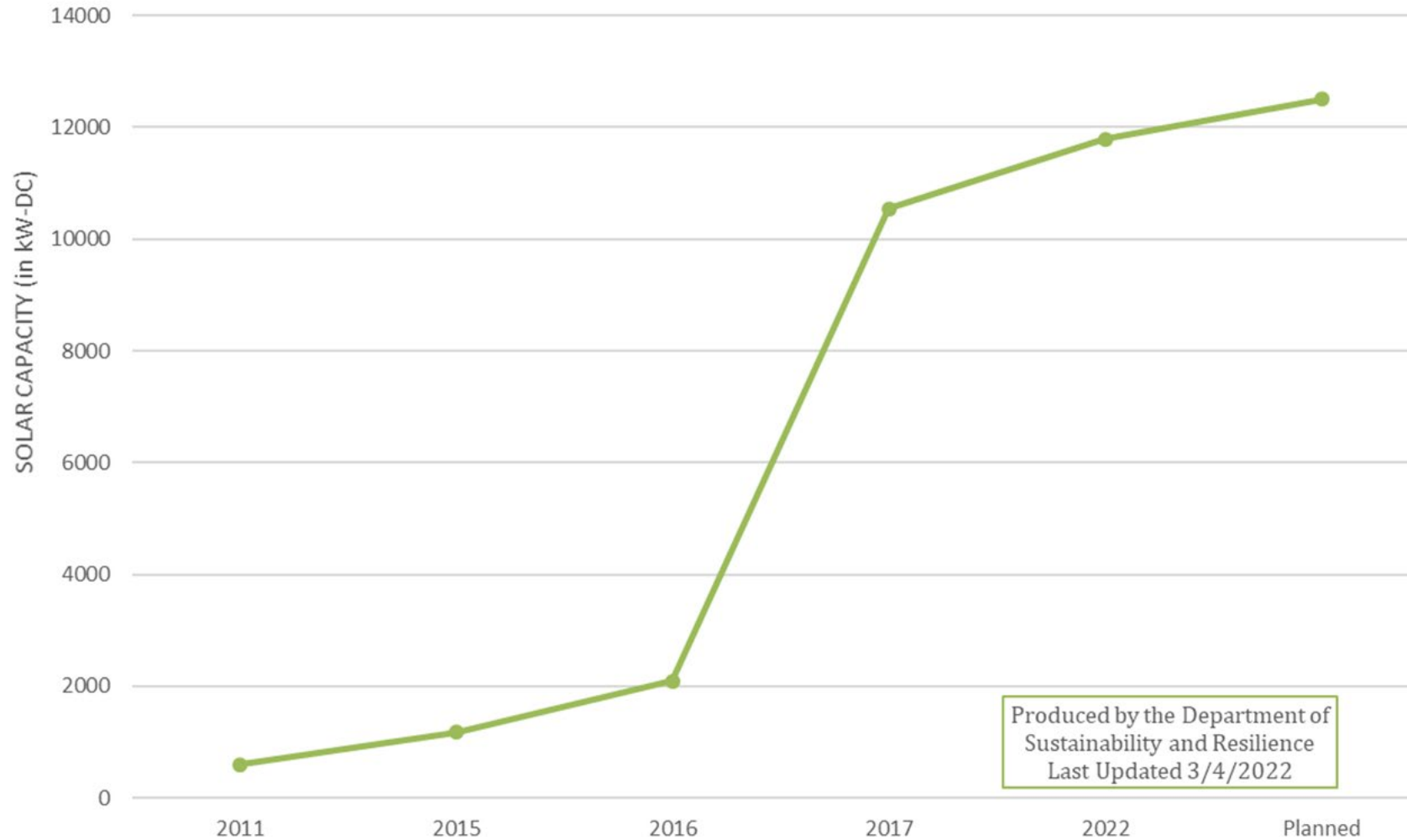
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City of Worcester

Growth of Municipal Solar Installations Capacity 2014-2022

Total nameplate capacity of municipal solar projects - 13.3 MW DC



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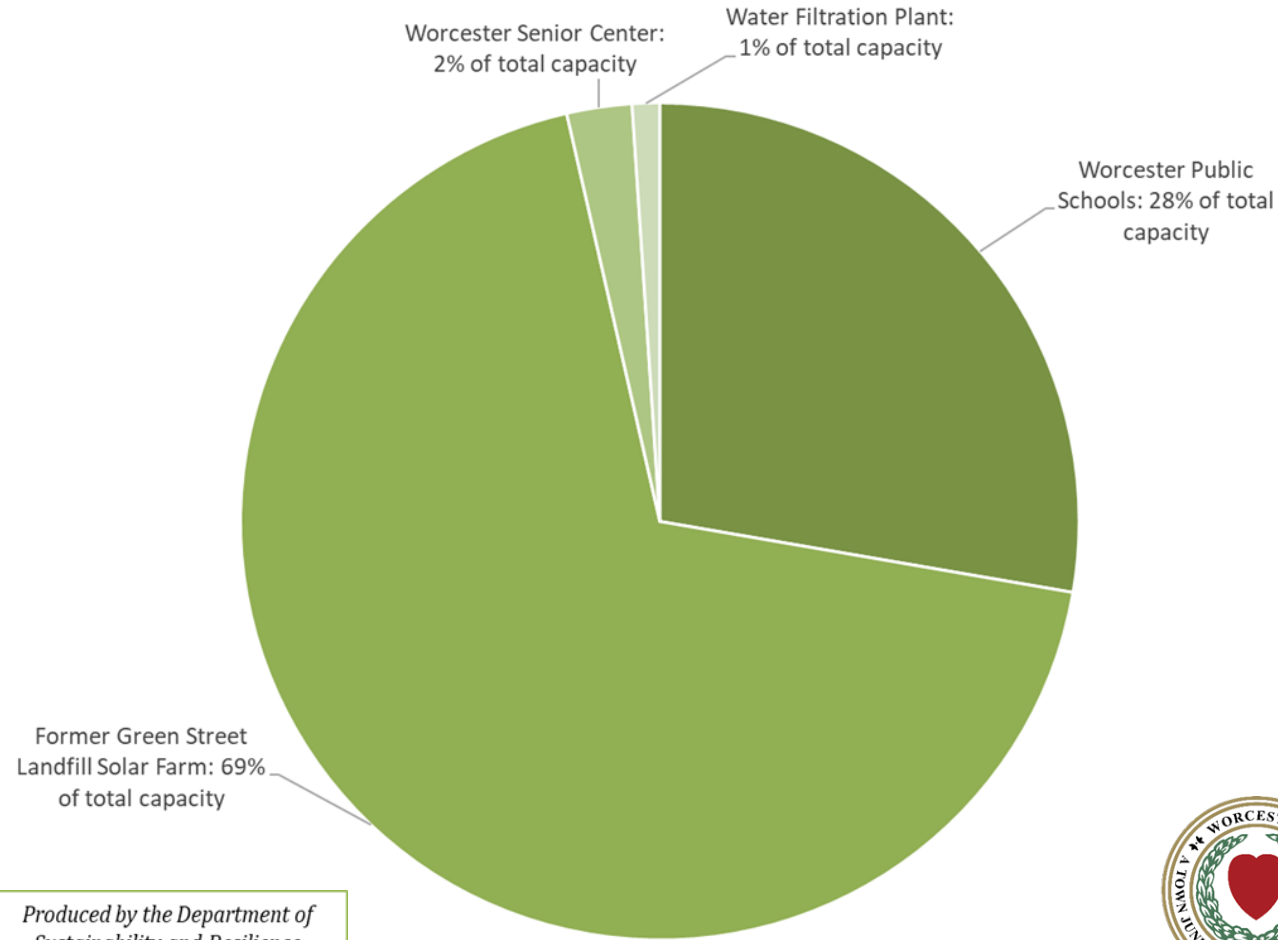


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City of Worcester Municipal Solar Installations by Site Type

Total nameplate capacity of municipal solar projects - **13.3 MW DC**



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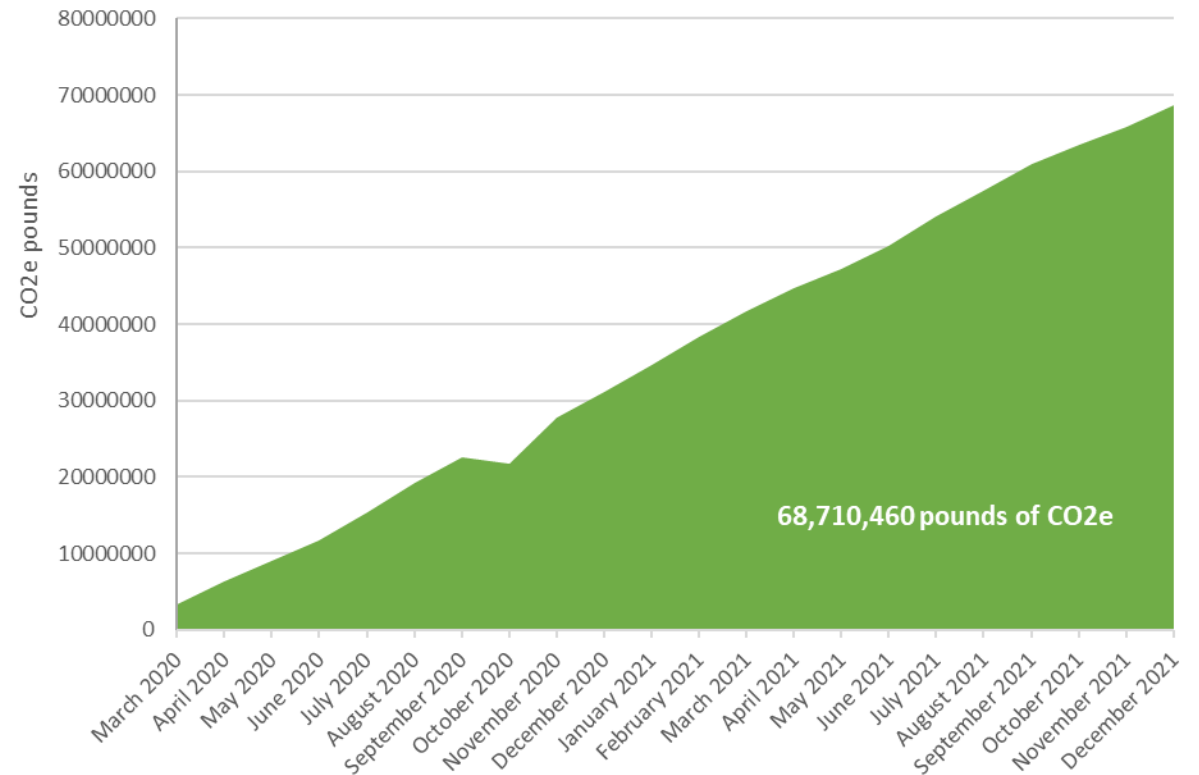
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Worcester Community Choice Electricity Aggregation Program



In the first year of Worcester's Community Choice Electricity Aggregation Program, 68,710,460 pounds of CO2e were avoided!

City of Worcester
Community Choice Aggregation
Carbon Dioxide Emissions Avoided from 2020-2021



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GOAL 2: ADVANCE CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE

1. Neighborhood-Based Urban Heat Risk Assessment for Worcester, Massachusetts (by Dr. Brian Stone and Evan Mallen)
2. Clark University's Project – Urban Flooding in the Green Island Neighborhood.
3. Storymap URL:
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/1a804d8cfca8426996ab98b372b0d288>
4. Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant – upcoming action grant

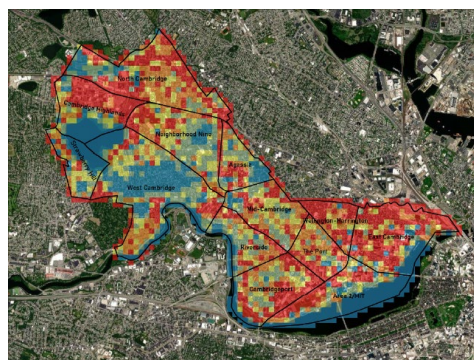


Figure 1. Climate model output (average daily high temperature) for Cambridge, Massachusetts in June, July, August of 2019

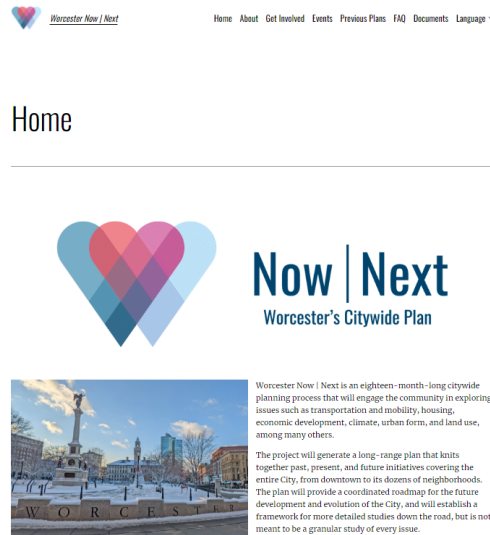


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GOAL 3: ADVANCE MOBILITY TRANSFORMATION

1. Upcoming in July – Launch of the Mobility Master Plan (aligning with the Master Plan <https://now-next.worcesterma.gov> and Urban Forest Master Plan)
2. Future Department of Transportation & Mobility



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Worcester Now | Next website. It includes the site logo, a navigation menu with links for Home, About, Get Involved, Events, Previous Plans, FAQ, Documents, and Language, and a 'Home' button. Below the navigation is a large graphic for 'Now | Next Worcester's Citywide Plan' featuring a heart-shaped logo composed of overlapping colored shapes. To the right of the graphic is a text box with the following content:

Worcester Now | Next is an eighteen-month-long citywide planning process that will engage the community in exploring issues such as transportation and mobility, housing, economic development, climate, urban form, and land use, among many others.

The project will generate a long-range plan that knits together past, present, and future initiatives covering the entire City, from downtown to its dozens of neighborhoods. The plan will provide a coordinated roadmap for the future development and evolution of the City, and will establish a framework for more detailed studies down the road, but is not meant to be a granular study of every issue.



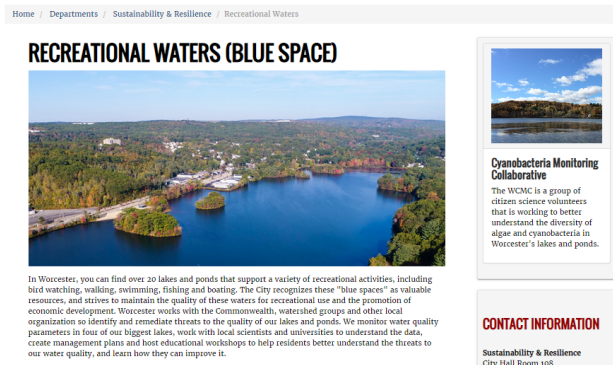
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GOAL 4: SUPPORT AND GROW LAKES AND PONDS PROGRAM

Current Year <http://www.worcesterma.gov/sustainability-resilience/recreational-waters>

1. Monitoring (Worcester Cyanobacteria Monitoring Collaborative)
2. Management (Alum Dosing Station Project)
3. Education and Outreach (Angler Series; The State of the Lakes Report & Presentation)
4. ARPA Funding



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GOAL 4: SUPPORT AND GROW LAKES AND PONDS PROGRAM

Upcoming Years' Priorities:

A: Technological Updates to the Current Monitoring Program

B: Invasive Aquatic Plant Prevention

C: Improve Cyanobacteria Monitoring and Response

D: Increase Education, Outreach, and Community Engagement

E: Expand Lake Management Plan Development and Execution

F: Increase Overall Program Capacity



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GOAL 5: EDUCATE, EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE AND FACILITATE ACTION AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL

1. Work with the GWAC on the Strategic Communication Plan and Implementation
2. Comprehensive Annual Report to the GWAC
3. Dashboard - <https://opendata.worcesterma.gov>
4. Green Worcester e-list
5. Communication with organizations in the recent past



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GOAL 6: MAINTAIN STRUCTURAL SUPPORT FOR ONGOING GWP IMPLEMENTATION

1. Hiring of Project Manager and Energy Analyst in January 2022.
Looking to hire a Manager of Energy Services by the end of the FY, for a total staff of 7.
2. Develop a Sustainable Project Score Card for potential and existing municipal projects for GWAC review.



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4. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION PLAN

Overview of existing City resources

GWP – “Getting Started” sections at the end of each chapter

GWAC discussion



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5. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Received Communications
2. Vice Chair Election
3. Upcoming Meeting Schedule



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ADJOURNMENT



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