



The Boston Foundation

# INAUGURAL BOSTON CLIMATE PROGRESS REPORT

Research Presentation

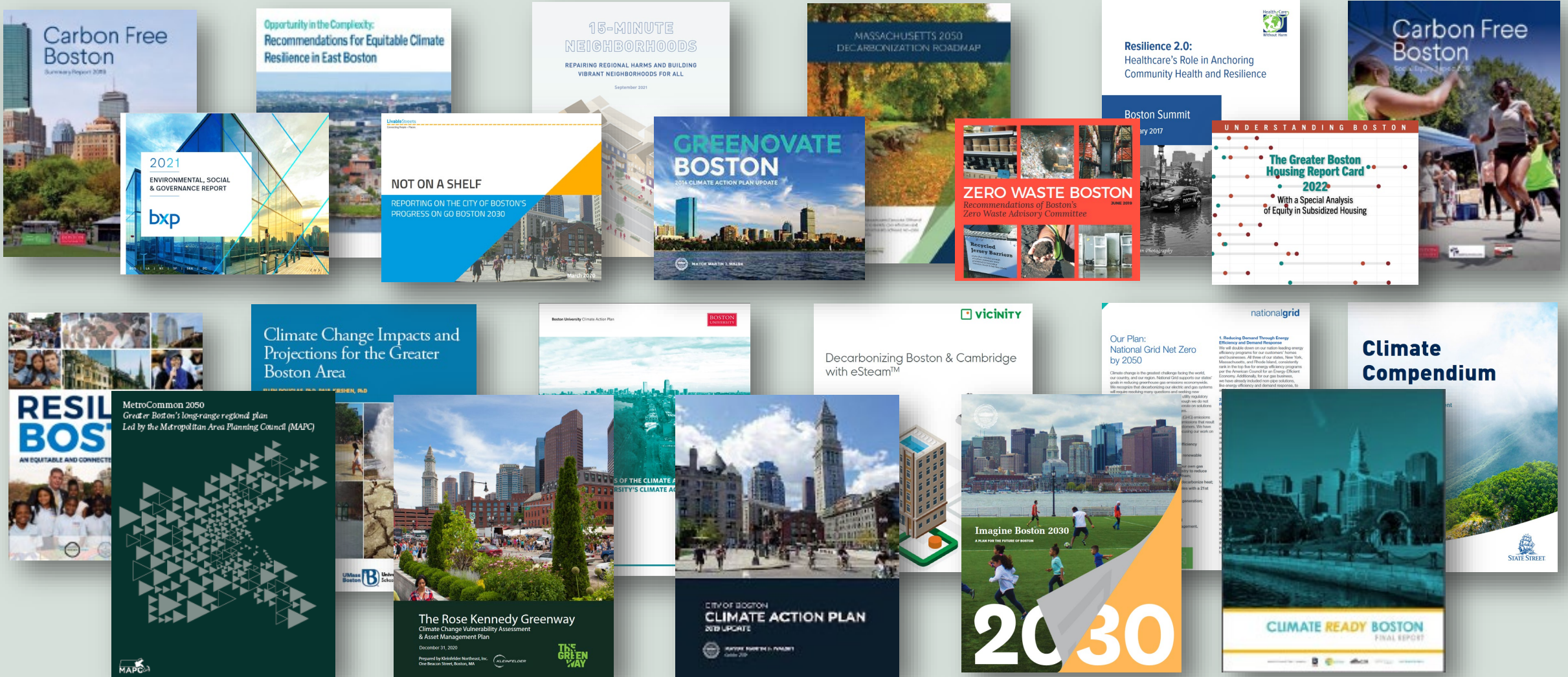
November 3, 2022

**Boston  
Green Ribbon  
Commission**

**The Boston  
Foundation** 

 **Northeastern University  
Dukakis Center for  
Urban and Regional Policy**

# BOSTON HAS MANY CLIMATE PLANS



# BOSTON IS BEHIND ON ITS CLIMATE GOALS

## Net Zero Emissions

Boston is on track to miss its 2030 community emissions target by approximately 5 years due a collective inability to implement big changes over the past decade.

## Increase Social Equity

An inequitable transition looms due to a legacy of past harm and a lack of a comprehensive strategy for addressing it.

## Climate Resilience

Current governance structures and funding levels are failing to meet the growing resilience need.

# BOSTON IS BEHIND ON ITS CLIMATE GOALS

*And so is the rest of the world...*

The New York Times

*Climate Pledges Are Falling Short, and a Chaotic Future Looks More Like Reality*

**Copenhagen's dream of being carbon neutral by 2025 goes up in smoke**

By Charles Szumski | EURACTIV 📅 Aug 22, 2022

Forbes

ENERGY

**California Risks Missing Its Climate Targets. Here's How It Can Get On Track And Add Billions In Economic Growth.**

**City of Vancouver not on track to meet climate targets: report**

*A progress report shows a shortfall of \$230 million in the money needed to meet the goals of the city's climate plan*

# STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

3.....Goals

12.....Outcomes

4.....Big Lifts

9.....Barriers

## PROGRESS ON GOALS

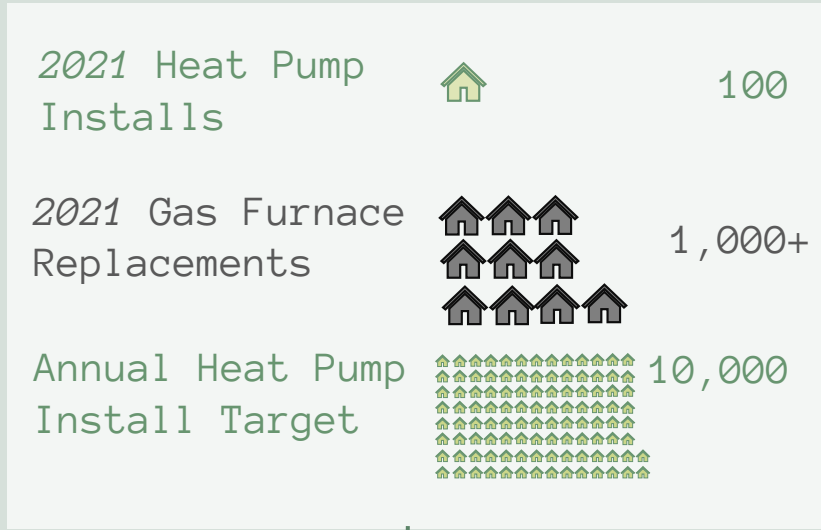
## PROGRESS ON OUTCOMES

## BOSTON'S BIG LIFTS



# LOCAL ACTION ONLY GOES SO FAR

## Electrify Boston's Small Buildings



State Electrification Industrial Policy Signal

Market & Workforce Development

## Local Energy Planning



Expand City of Boston Planning Powers and Capacity

## Building a Resilient Coastline



Develop Process for Engaging Communities and Property Owners Early

# CONFLICTING GOALS

## Electrify Boston's Small Buildings



Significant tradeoffs among building owners, tenants, utilities and society

**Gas Transition Planning**

**Improve Data**

## Local Energy Planning



The benefits and tradeoffs of new infrastructure are not well understood by everyone

**Develop Processes That Ensure Positive Outcomes for Communities Hosting Energy Infrastructure**

## Building a Resilient Coastline

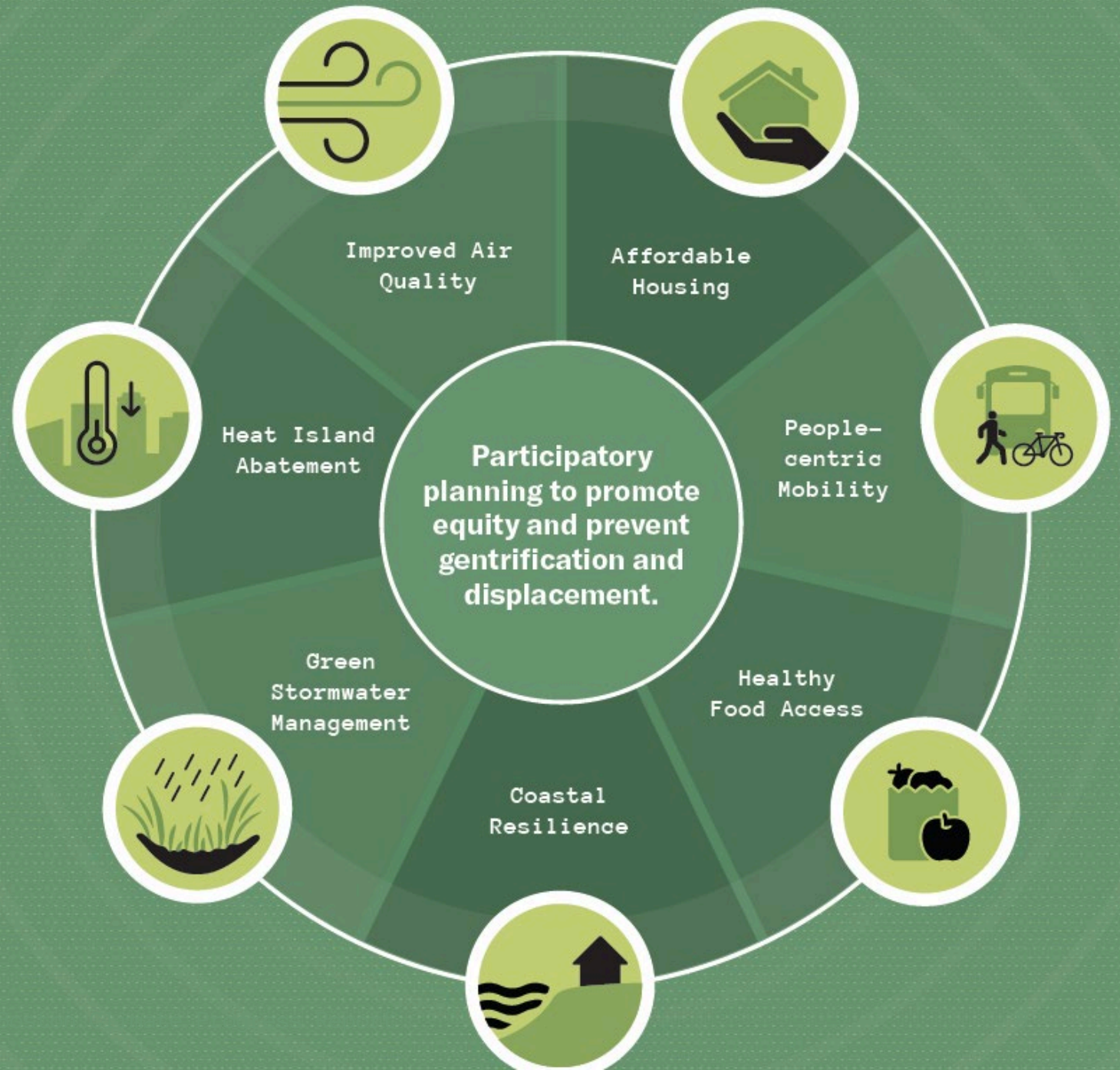


City, state and federal regulation can conflict and challenge project permitting

**Create Statewide (or other) Governance Agency to Coordinate and Finance Coastal Resilience**

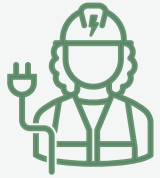
# LINKING EQUITY AND CLIMATE ACTION THROUGH REPARATIVE PLANNING

- > Reparative planning acknowledges the role urban planning has played in oppressing Black people and other people of color and seeks to undo past harms





# BOSTON'S BIG PIVOT POINT IS HERE NOW



Green New Deal Agenda in City Hall



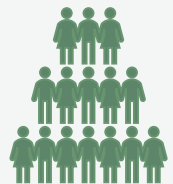
New Governor & Collaborative Opportunities



Climate & Equity Goals Converging

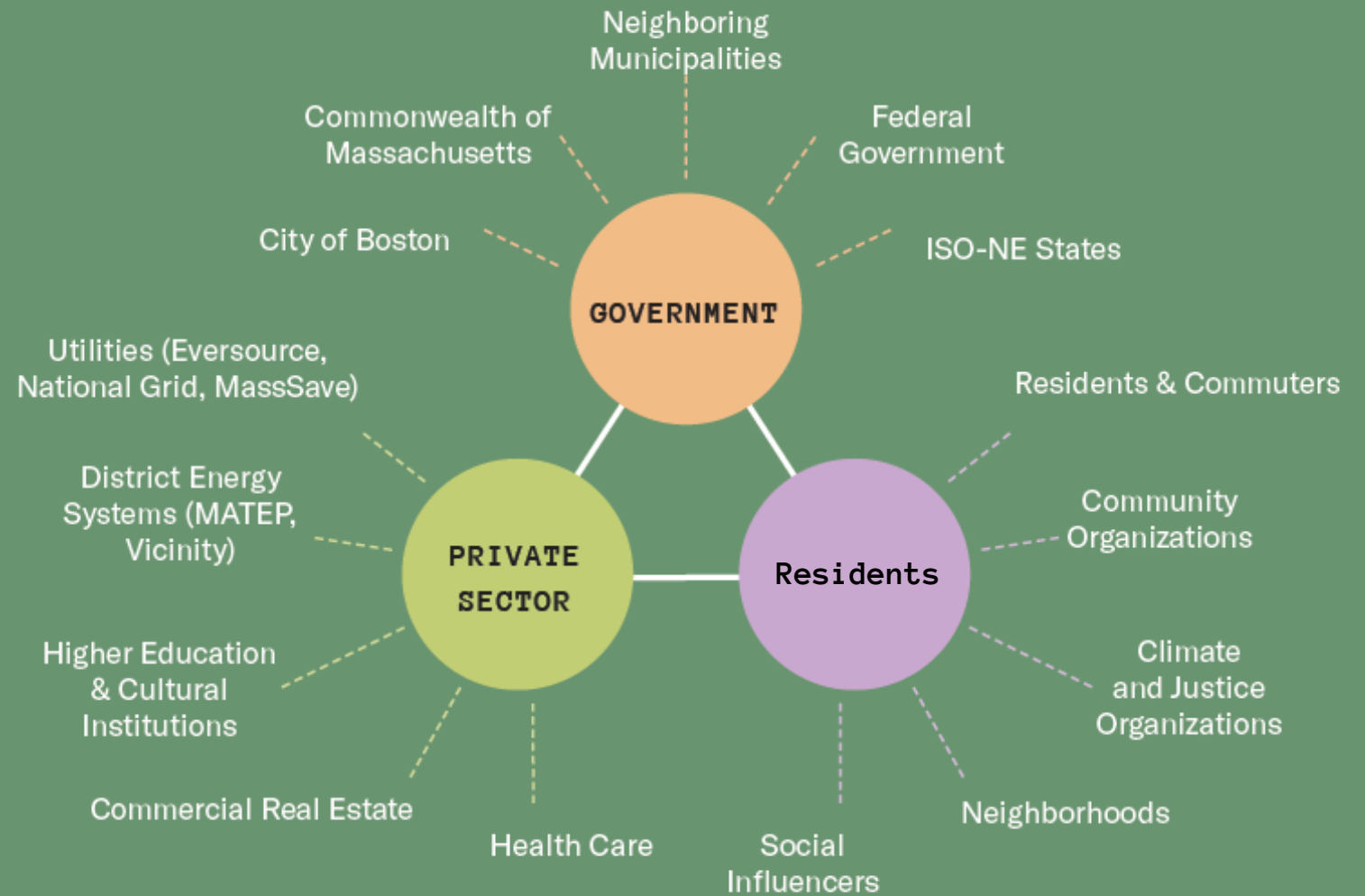


Major State & Federal Climate Legislation



Public & Private Sector Ready to Act

# THE BIG PIVOT REQUIRES ALL HANDS ON DECK





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