

City Council Presentation

City of Bath Climate Action Commission
5 January 2022

Introduction

- Climate change is here now
 - A global crisis
 - Impacts are here in Bath
- Bath has been proactive
 - 2019 City Council Resolution
 - 2019 Climate Action Plan
- Goals of this Presentation
 - Acquaint City Council with the Climate Action Commission
 - Introduce recommendations to shape activity and maintain Bath's leadership

In 2019 the City of Bath:

- Pledged “to take a leadership role to minimize the City’s energy use and emissions and maximize efficiency and sustainability”
- Established the Climate Action Commission “to promote practices to reduce the effects of climate change through legislation, preparation and education”

Climate Action Commission – Members

Name	
Paul Perkins (Co-chair)	Solid Waste Advisory Committee rep
John Zittel (Co-chair)	At-large
Julie Ambrosino	Council rep
Mary Ellen Bell	Council rep
Connor English	Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee rep
Ruth Indrick	Kennebec Estuary Land Trust rep
vacant	City Arborist, Forestry Committee rep
Laura Walters	At-large
Ben Averill (<i>ex officio</i>)	City Planner
Marc Meyers (<i>ex officio</i>)	City Manager

Climate Action Commission looks forward to Filling Key Vacancies

Maine's Climate Future

The number of days when it feels really hot in Maine will surge by midcentury, a new report says
Bangor Daily News, 16 July 2019

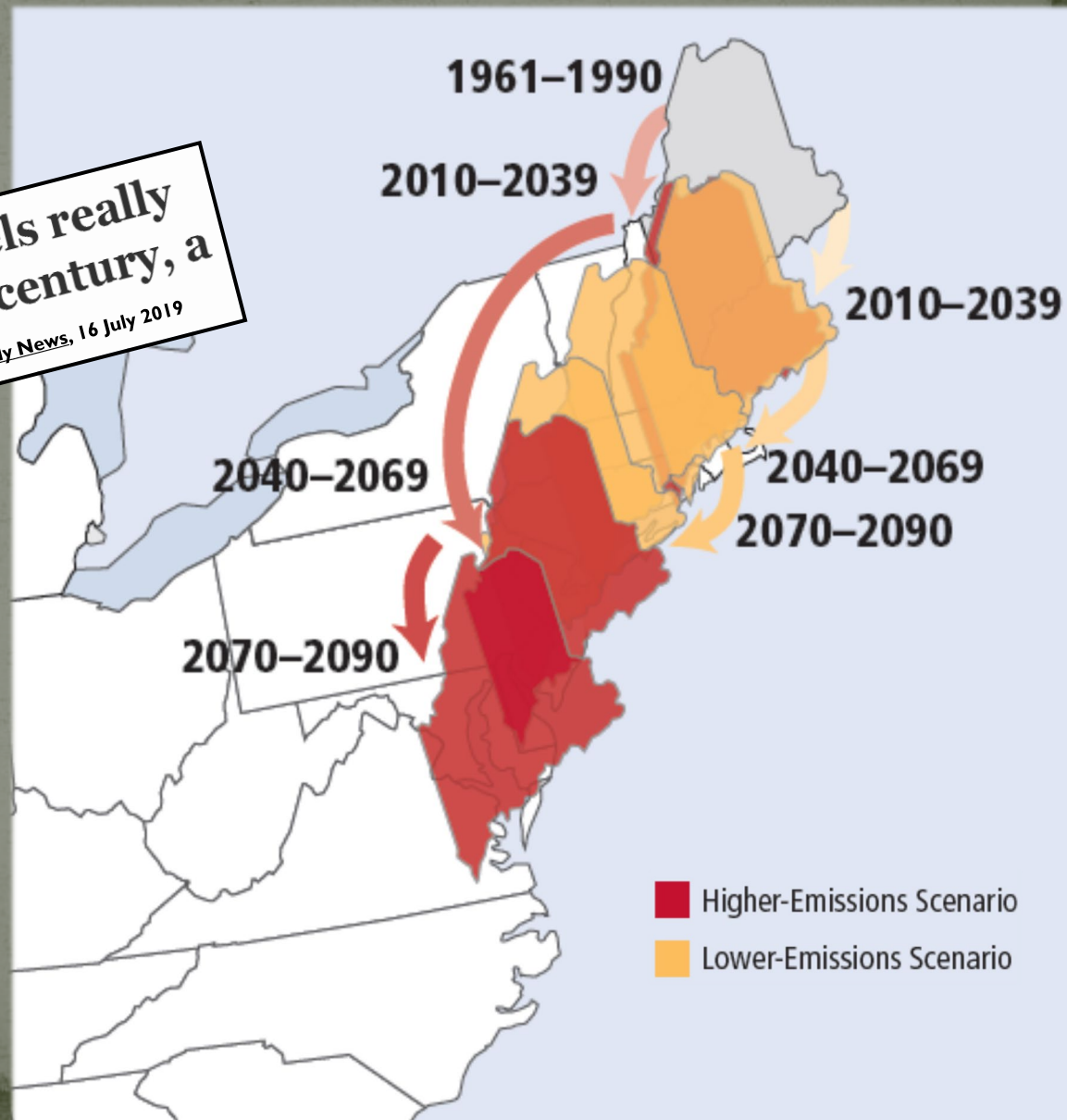


Figure from:

[https://www.maine.gov/dacf/municipalplanning/docs/NortheastClimateImpactsAssessment\(MaineSummary\).pdf](https://www.maine.gov/dacf/municipalplanning/docs/NortheastClimateImpactsAssessment(MaineSummary).pdf)

Downtown Bath

Maine Climate Council
recommendations:

By 2050

By 2100

Commit to manage:

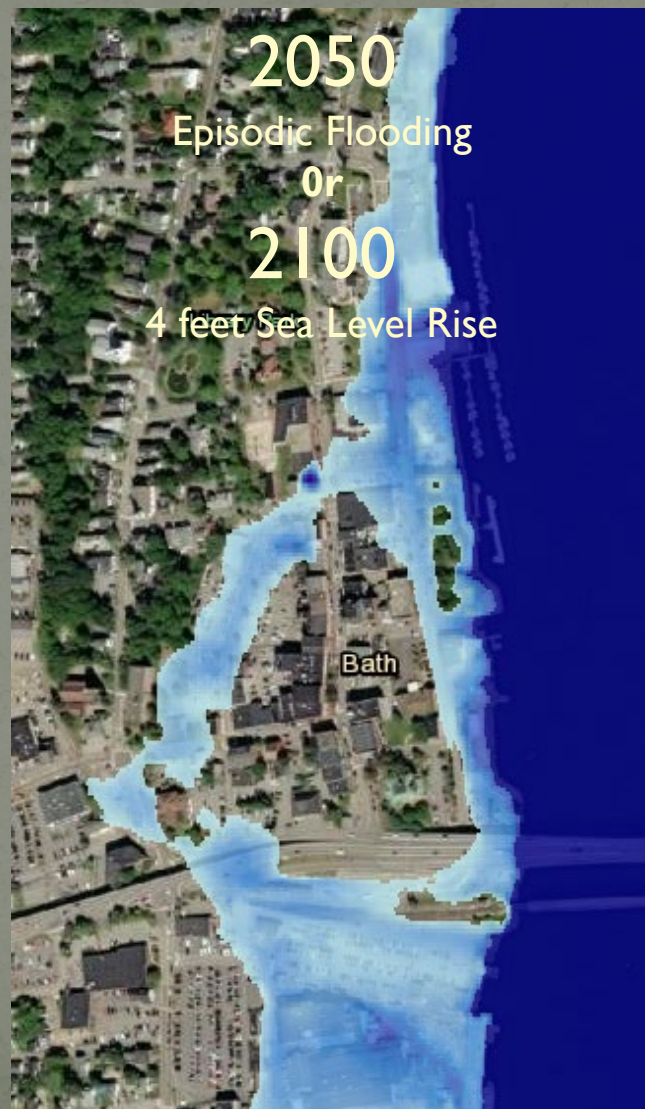
1.5 feet

3.9 feet

Prepare to manage:

3 feet

8.8 feet



Building from Existing Goals

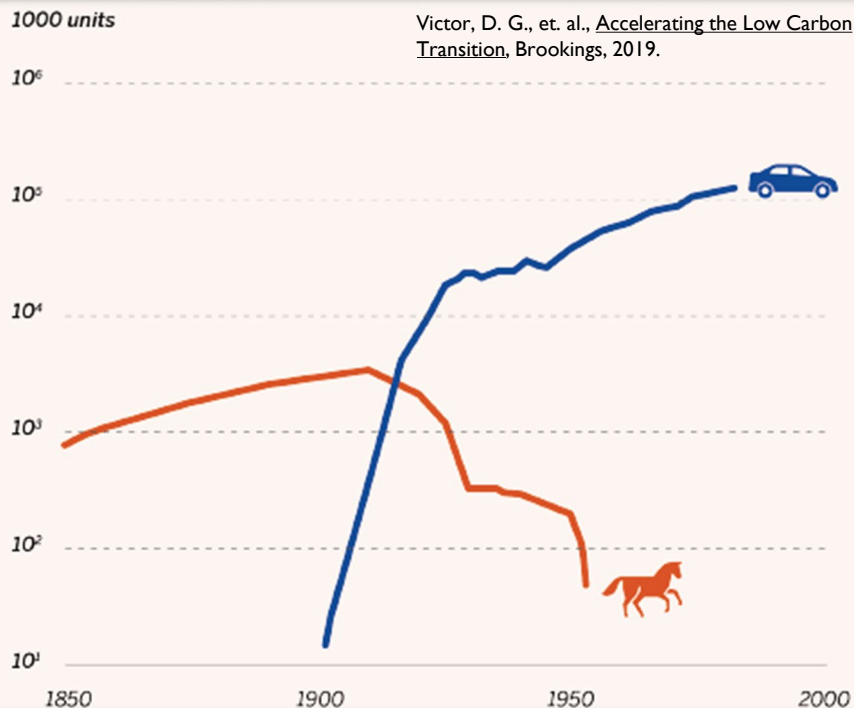
2019 Resolution and Plan identified initial actions

	2019 Resolution	Proposed 2022 Resolution Strategic Recommendations to Meet or Exceed State of Maine Goals		
Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions	40% by 2030 (of 2018 levels)	40% (of 2018 levels) by 2030 Transformation: 80% by 2050		
Remediate and Adapt	--	Sea Level Rise:	By 2050	By 2100
		Commit to manage:	1.5 feet	3.9 feet
		Prepare to manage:	3 feet	8.8 feet
Carbon Capture	Encourage	Work with City Arborist & KELT on incentives & approach to achieve Carbon neutrality by 2045		

Transformation is Coming

A New Energy and Transportation Economy

- Sustainable energy sources
- Flexible electric grids
- Car companies switching to EVs



Climate Change Effects: Sea Level Rise

- Resilient shorelines where possible
- Sea walls where necessary

<http://climatecosts1940.org/> accessed 4 July 2019

Bath in 2040

\$63.5

MILLION
FOR SEAWALLS

7th most costly in Maine

11

MILES
OF SEAWALLS

4th most miles of seawalls in Maine

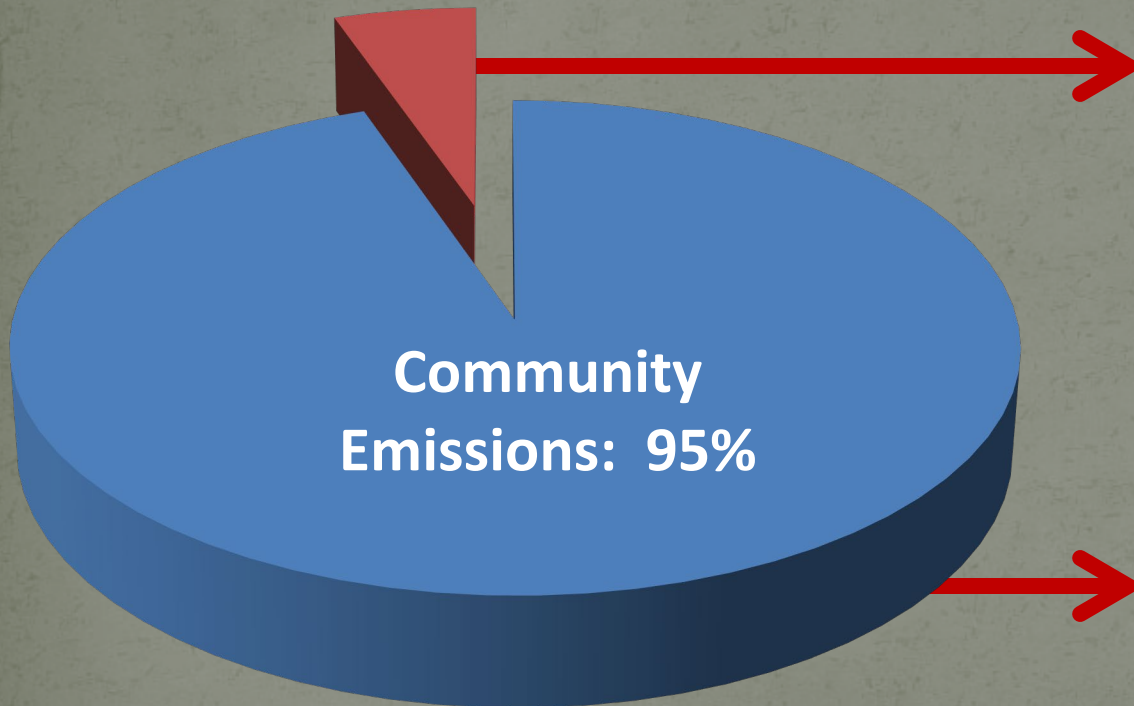


<https://www.curbed.com/2019/10/3/20897300/parks-climate-change-pollution-landscape-architects> accessed 2 Apr 2020

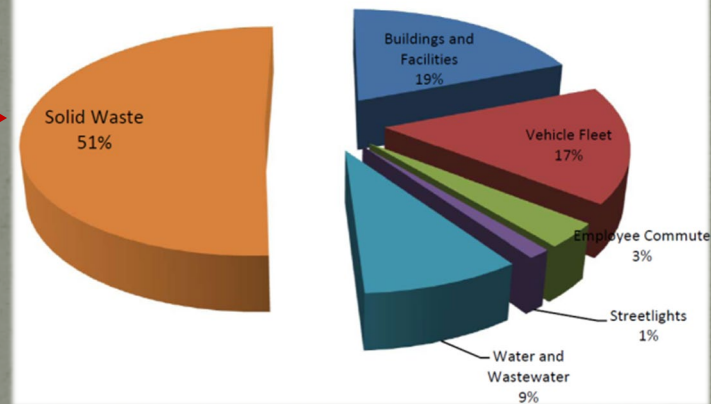
Inaction could cost more than action!

Community Engagement is Key!

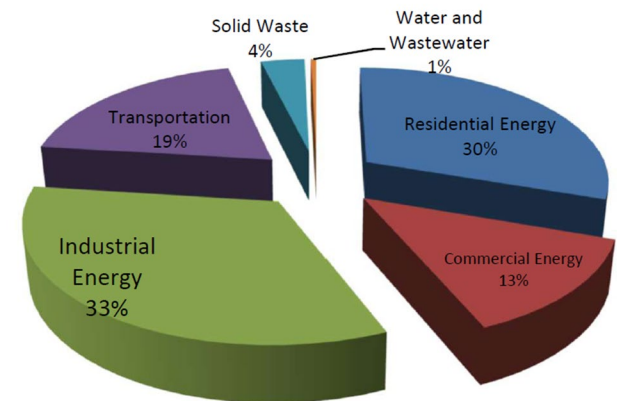
City Government Emissions: 5%
Lead by Example and Offer Incentives



2018 Bath Government Emissions by Sector



2018 Bath Community Emissions by Sector



Note: 2018 Community Emissions include Bath schools

Ideas We Are Exploring

Sustainable Practices on Multiple Fronts

Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Energy efficiency
 - Lighting, heating, appliances, building standards
- Phase out fossil fuel use
 - Incentives & standards for heat & energy
 - Incentives and regulatory enablers for renewable energy
 - Transportation options – bikeways, walkways, public transit, city vehicles, trucks and buses
 - Charging points for Electric Vehicles
 - Lawn / snow removal equipment
- Eliminate other greenhouse gas sources
 - Methane from food/organic waste
 - HFCs from air conditioners and refrigerators

Remediate and Adapt

- Commit/prepare to manage coastline impacts

Capture Carbon

- Carbon capture – urban forest, salt marsh, 'rewilding' of lawns
- Limit greenhouse gas release from landfill and waste water treatment

Education & Outreach

- Coordinate with Maine Climate Council and other communities
- Meet with community stakeholders
- Education & community buy-in – workshops, website, schools, BCTV, Times Record
- CAC support of other City committees or departments

Policy & Leadership

- Endorse State and Federal action: Policy incentives, carbon pricing

Equity

Strengthening Bath's Resolve

Climate Action Commission requests Council support for a strengthened climate action resolution in 2022

- Update City of Bath strategic goals to meet or exceed State of Maine goals
 - 80% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050
 - Manage sea level rise consistent with state of Maine goals
 - Achieve Carbon neutrality by 2045
- Adopt a policy to address climate change, resiliency and sustainability as a central management principle for all actions by the City government

Next Steps

- Now: Request City Council support
 - Adopt City Council Resolution to update strategic goals
 - Fill key vacancies and enhance City staff engagement
- 2022
 - Encourage action
 - Facilitate achievable near-term actions
 - Strategic planning for long-term actions
 - Community outreach and engagement
 - Link with relevant City activities
 - Comprehensive Plan, various departments and committees, etc.
 - Stay engaged with City Council
- Future
 - Detailed actions to support strategic goals

Back-up

Bath Climate Action Plan

City Resolution – 2019

A Starting Point for Climate Action Commission planning

- 1) Reduce overall City emissions by at least 40% from 2018 values by the year 2030
- 2) Support public education on structural and lifestyle changes that must take place in order for the City to make meaningful strides in energy reduction
- 3) Maintain and expand a healthy tree population within the City, as well as preservation and expansion of green space
- 4) Increase composting and recycling rates within City buildings, businesses and private households, to decrease waste sent to the landfill
- 5) All City funded new construction and renovations should meet the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED certification program
- 6) Convert all City streetlights to LEDs
- 7) Continue exploring alternative energy sources including the use of biofuels, hybrid vehicle fleets as technology advances, landfill gas recovery system, natural gas, and solar energy
- 8) Incentivize the use of alternative transportation by continuing to make the City walkable and bikeable with the addition of sidewalks and bike lanes wherever needed
- 9) Adjust City ordinances, codes, and policies to make sustainable, energy efficient lifestyles more attainable
- 10) Explore the use of tax credits and financial incentives as they become more available at the state and federal level