

WEBINAR

PATHWAYS TO DECARBONIZATION: FROM PLANNING TO COMPLETION

Senior Stewards Acting
for the Environment (SSAFE)

April 3, 2025 | 11 A.M. ET



WEBINAR GOALS

1. Provide SSAFE audiences with examples of decarbonization options at different scales
2. Offer perspectives on decarbonization pathways, technologies, and trends
3. Answer your questions

WEBINAR ROADMAP

1. Introductions
2. Decarbonization stories
3. Getting buy-in and raising funds
4. Q&A

INTRODUCTIONS



CHRIS LEWIS, CEM

Vice President of Engineering
GreenerU



JENNIFER HAUGH

Vice President of Planning and
Customer Engagement
GreenerU

ABOUT GREENERU

GreenerU helps institutions navigate the pathways to **decarbonization** through **planning, engineering, and construction**.



goals and values
development



stakeholder buy-
in

engineering and
design

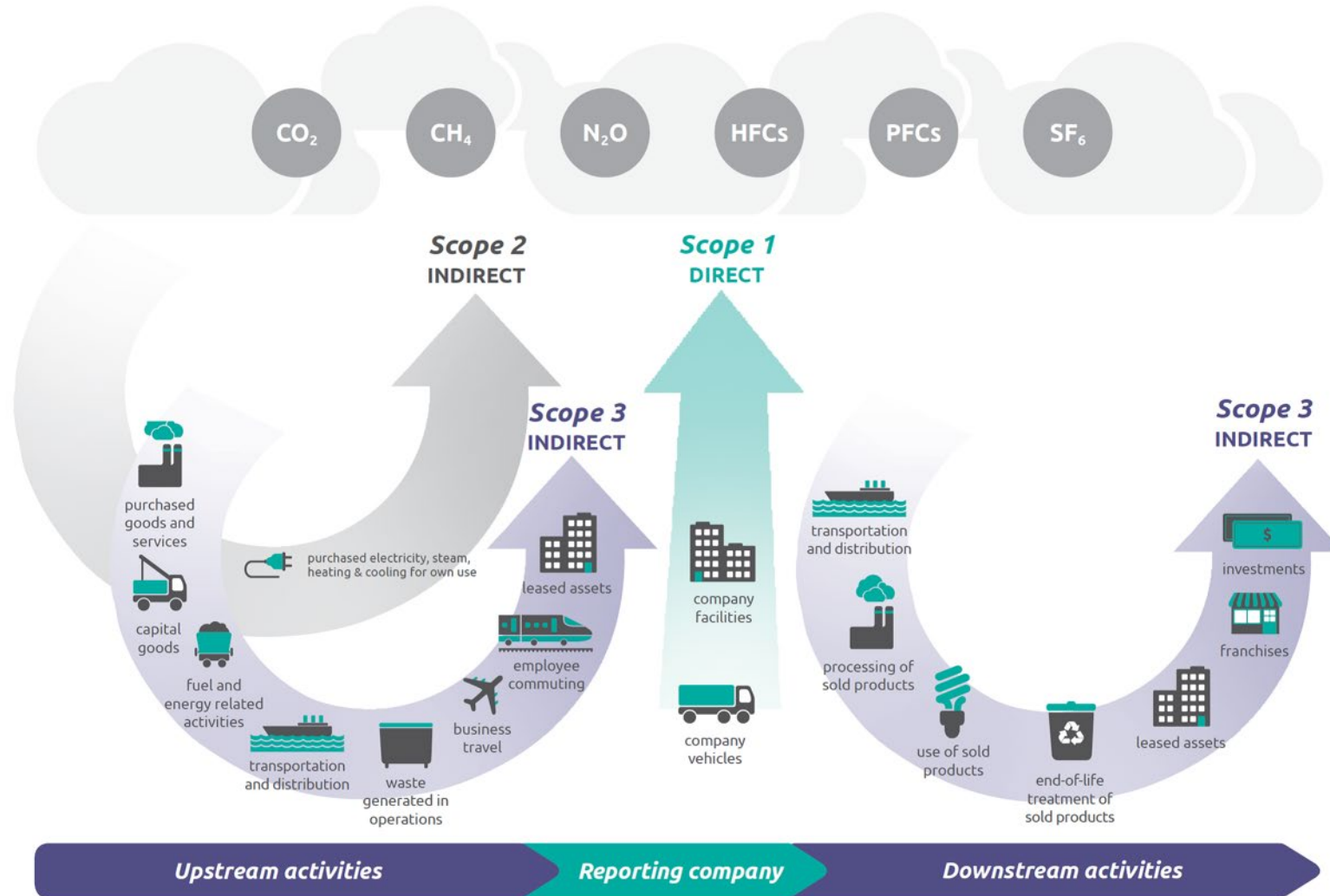


construction project
management



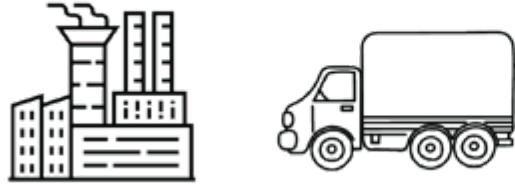
DECARBONIZATION STORIES

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY DECARBONIZATION?



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY DECARBONIZATION?

SCOPE 1



convert heating to electricity-based heating systems

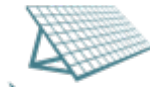


invest in zero-carbon fleet vehicles



invest in energy-efficient building operations

SCOPE 2



invest in on-site and/or off-site renewable energy



purchase 100% renewable energy

SCOPE 3



minimize emissions from commuting and travel



divest from investments in fossil fuels



minimize embodied carbon in construction materials



minimize supply chain emissions



offset remaining emissions

DECARBONIZING A HOUSEHOLD



DECARBONIZING AN INSTITUTION

image source: Historic New England



HISTORIC NEW ENGLAND

Historic New England is committed to addressing the global climate crisis through actions that **reduce or eliminate greenhouse gas emissions, promote resiliency, engage our communities, and advance climate justice and energy equity** by meeting these four goals by 2050:

GOAL 1

Enacting operational shifts that integrate climate action into the day-to-day **operations** of Historic New England

GOAL 2

Achieving **carbon neutrality** for all Historic New England sites by 2050, continuously evaluating progress and adjusting actions to achieve success

GOAL 3

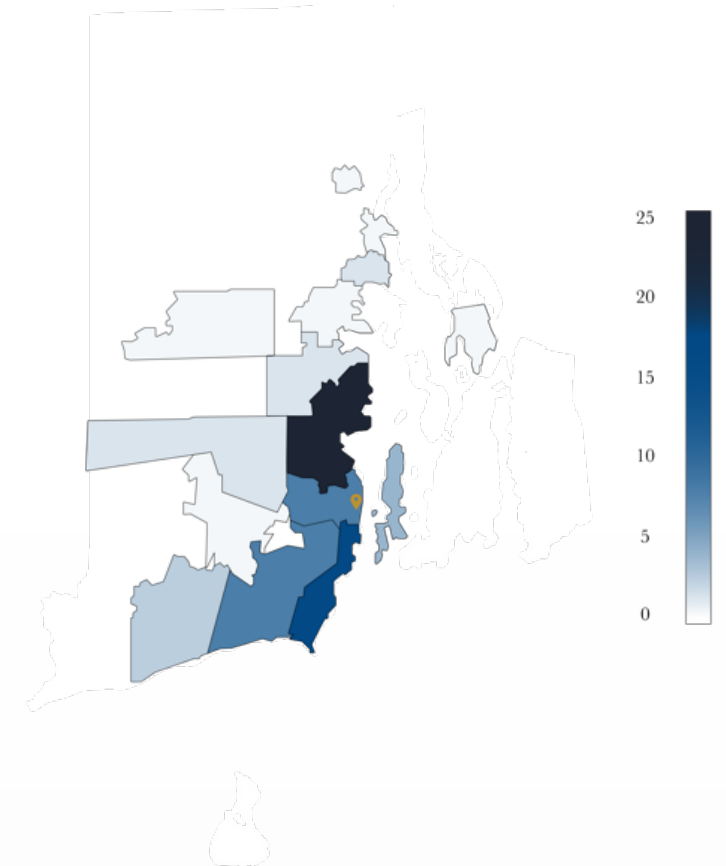
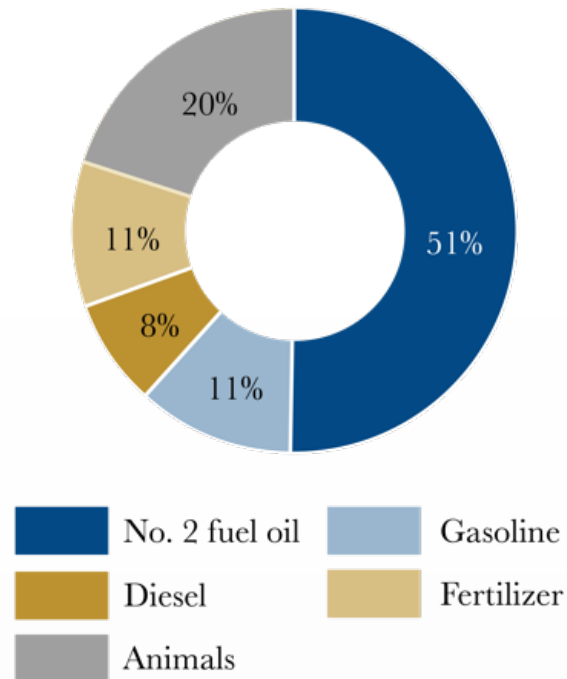
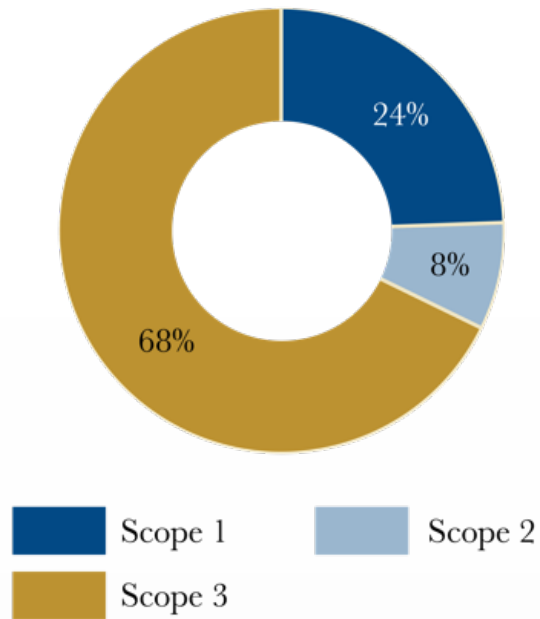
Managing our properties to meet our high preservation standards but also adapting those standards to ensure **resilience** in the face of weather extremes and sea level rise

GOAL 4

Engaging a broad and inclusive public through robust partnerships, programs, and activities that advance **climate justice** for all

HISTORIC NEW ENGLAND

Climate action planning: baselining (Casey Farm)



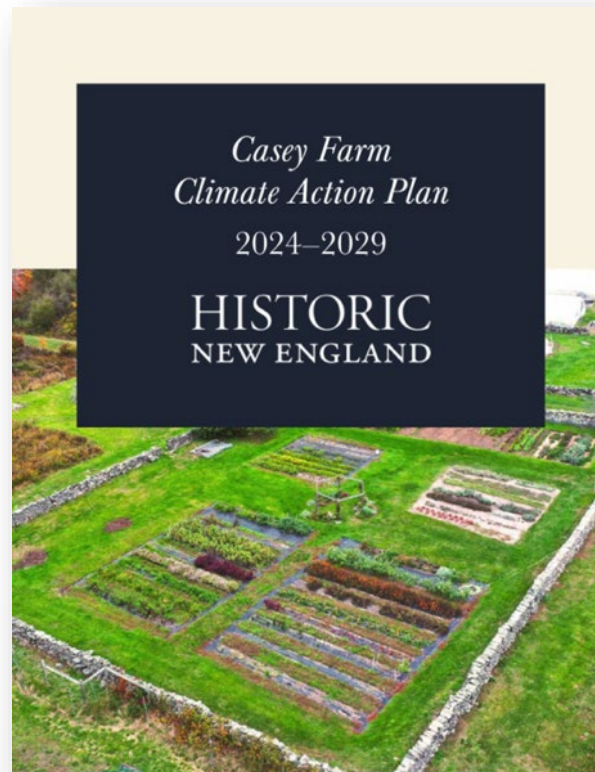
HISTORIC NEW ENGLAND

Climate action planning: goal setting (Casey Farm)



HISTORIC NEW ENGLAND

Climate action planning: plan publication



HISTORIC NEW ENGLAND

Climate action planning: engineering and construction



1. Upgrade lighting to LED
2. Upgrade HVAC to heat pumps
3. Convert irrigation to solar
4. Explore on-site renewable electricity generation
5. Weatherize buildings
6. Install museum-grade climate control system

DECARBONIZING A MEDICAL SCHOOL CAMPUS

image source: UMass Chan Medical School



BASELINE FINDINGS

As a medical school campus, UMass Chan faces unique decarbonization challenges.



UMass Memorial is a 24-hour care facility



The campus requires back-up power redundancy

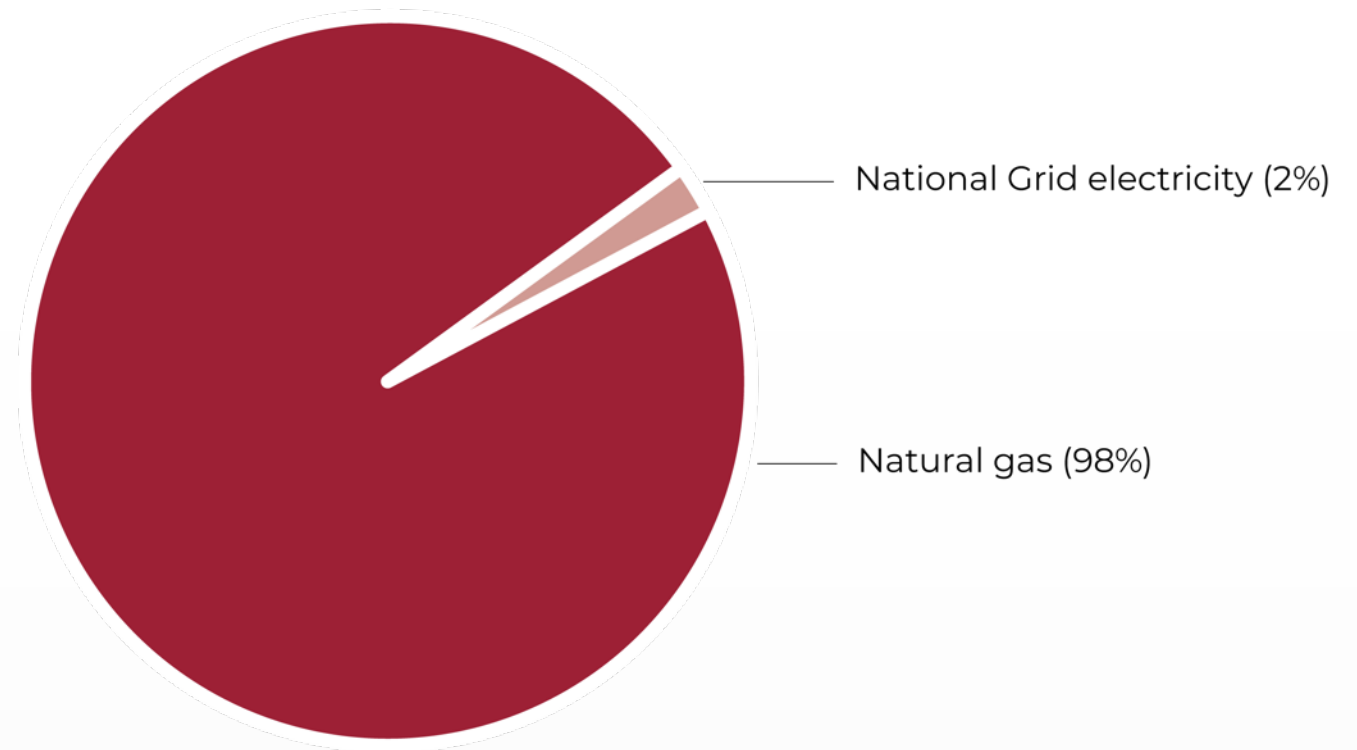


Laboratory research is energy-intensive

BASELINE FINDINGS

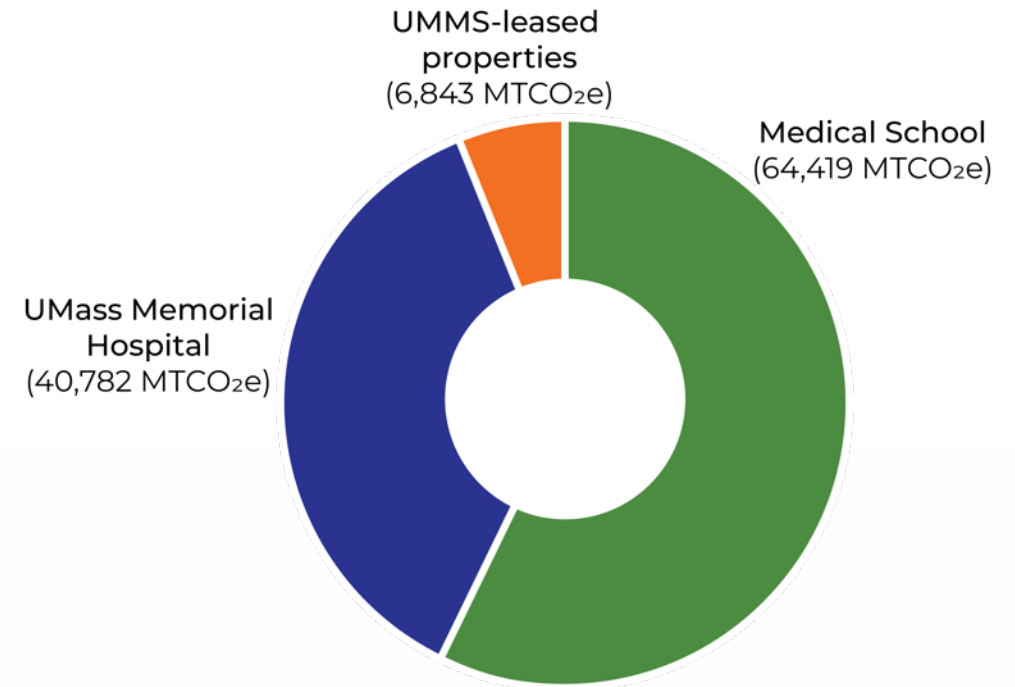
UMass Chan relies on natural gas for 98% of its source energy; 91% of campus electrical usage is produced on site.

Figure. — UMass Chan energy composition (2021 data)



UMASS CHAN MEDICAL SCHOOL

- UMass Chan's 2021–2026 Climate Action Plan calls for a 20% EUI reduction by 2026.
- UMass Chan hopes to decarbonize Scope 1 emissions by 2035.
- Massachusetts' goal is to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 (per E.O. 594).

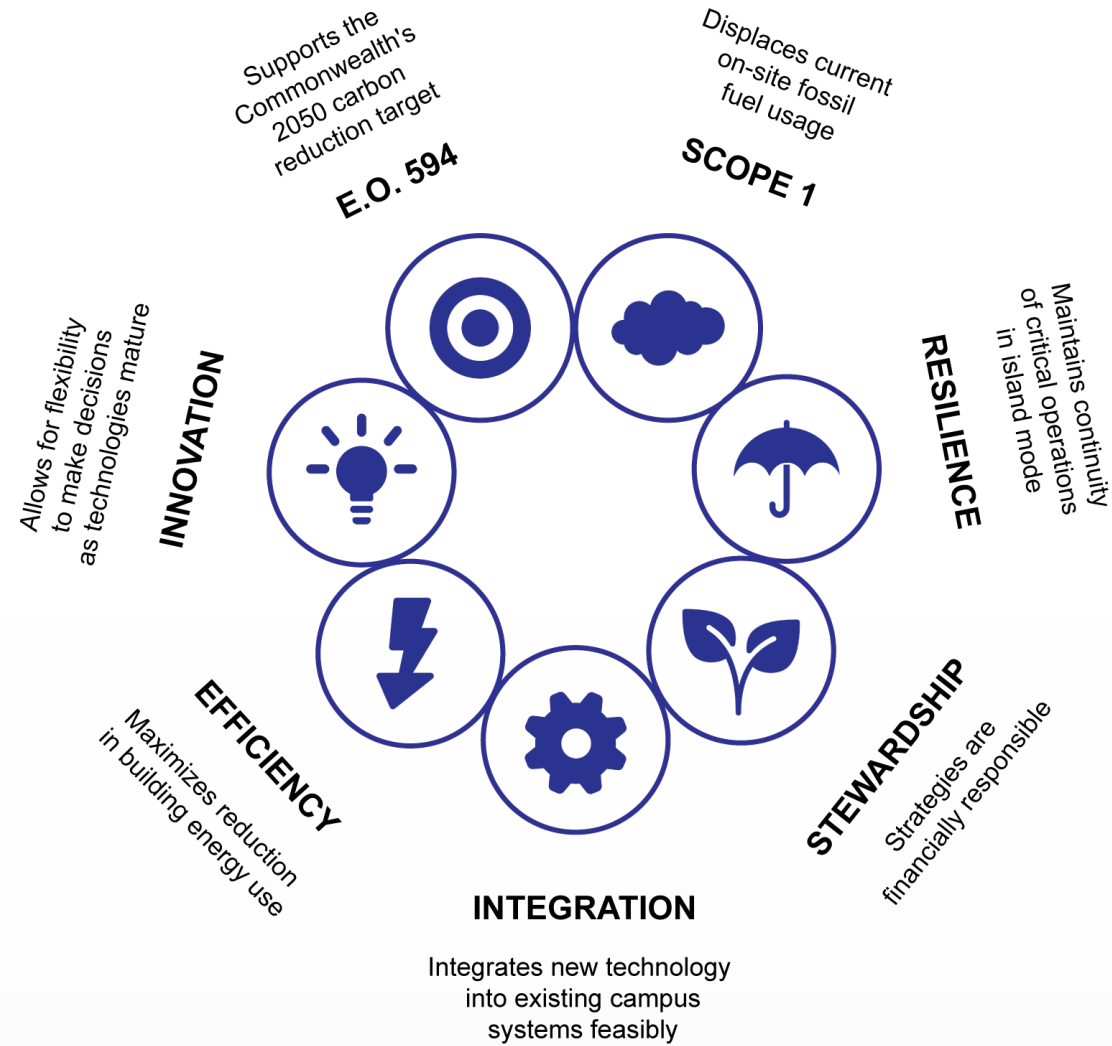


Worked with Arup and GreenerU to navigate the process:

- Involving stakeholders throughout
- Weighing available and upcoming technologies
- Weighing all options against campus priorities

				AVERAGE SCORE
5 ▼	5 ▼	5 ▼	5 ▼	5.00
5 ▼	5 ▼	5 ▼	5 ▼	5.00
5 ▼	4 ▼	3 ▼	4 ▼	4.00
3 ▼	3 ▼	4 ▼	2 ▼	3.00
3 ▼	4 ▼	4 ▼	3 ▼	3.50
2 ▼	4 ▼	4 ▼	2 ▼	3.00

UMASS CHAN MEDICAL SCHOOL



**GROWING
GREEN**



**presents a carbon-cutting drop-in
open house!**

Wed., Jan. 19, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sherman Center Cafe

home-baked cookies • coffee • giveaways for reusable mug users

earth month webinar series



**What is micro
nuclear energy?**
Friday, April 14
3–4 p.m. ET

with Jacopo
Buongiorno, Ph.D., MIT



**Is electrification
the answer?**
Friday, April 21
3–4 p.m. ET

with Chris Lewis, CEM,
GreenerU



**Hydrogen and other
biofuels**
Friday, April 28
3–4 p.m. ET

with Bryan Pivovar, Ph.D., NREL

visit umassmed.edu/growinggreen/earthmonth2023 to register



UMass Chan
MEDICAL SCHOOL

UMASS CHAN MEDICAL SCHOOL



Implement energy-conservation measures

Measures such as LED lighting upgrades and controls, implementing and adjusting temperature zone setpoints and occupancy sensors, replacing leaking valves, reducing air change rates, installing chilled beams, and retrofitting ventilation units help reduce energy demand across campus. Opportunities to conserve energy are monitored and implemented continuously to fine-tune and make the most efficient use of equipment on campus.



Implement on-site solar

UMass Chan is investigating several on-site locations to install solar arrays.



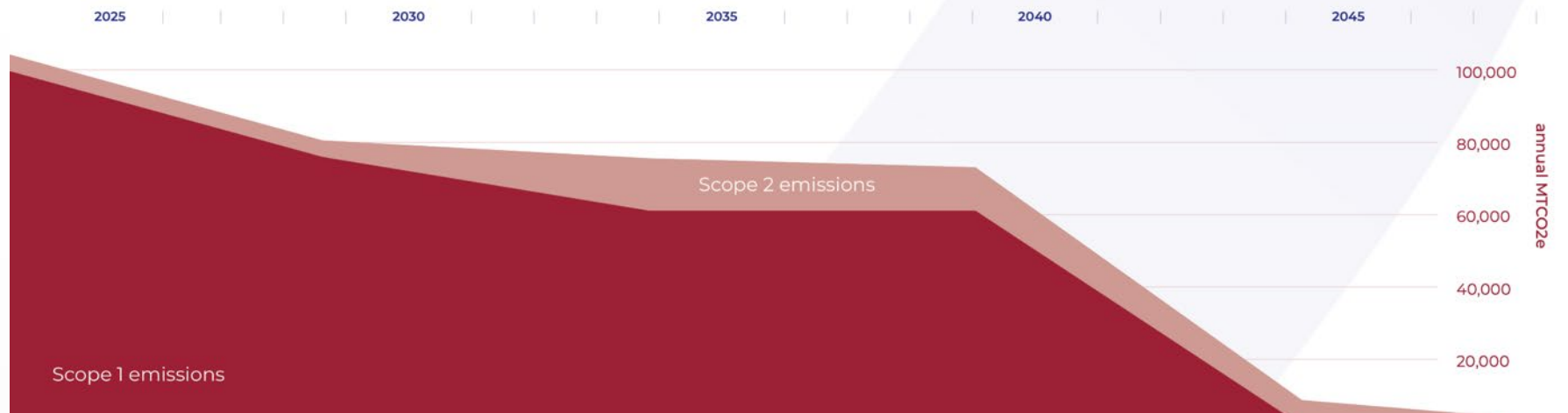
Switch fuels

To eliminate Scope 1 emissions, UMass Chan will need to power its campus with a carbon-free fuel source. UMass Chan will continue to monitor developments in cleaner fuel options as technologies continue to mature to market readiness.



Explore offsets

Purchasing carbon offsets and/or renewable energy certificates (RECs) are a solution to "zeroing" any residual emissions the campus may still be responsible for.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Get the data
- Get buy-in
- Technical solutions are not the only consideration
- Decision-making is iterative
- Decarbonization can be gradual
- Achieve what you can; don't beat yourself up if 100% is out of reach right now



GETTING BUY-IN AND RAISING FUNDS

A CASE FOR STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



WHY IS ENGAGEMENT IMPORTANT?



GETTING BUY-IN

THE PLANNING PROCESS



baselining



planning
kickoff



community
input



focus area
working group
meetings



plan
design



plan
approval



MEETING 1
VISION



MEETING 2
GOALS



MEETING 3
STRATEGIES



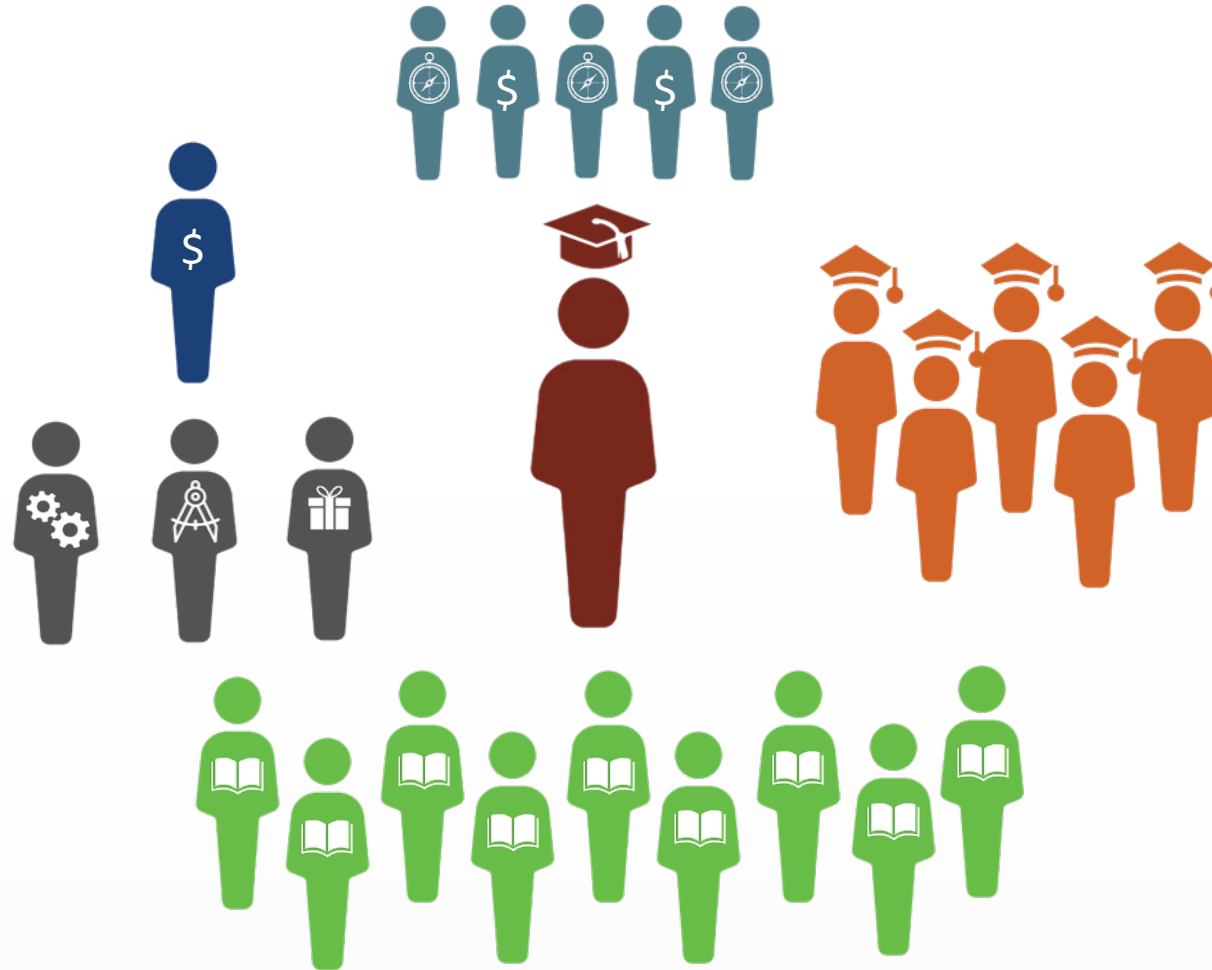
MEETING 4
SUMMIT



MEETING 5
ACTION

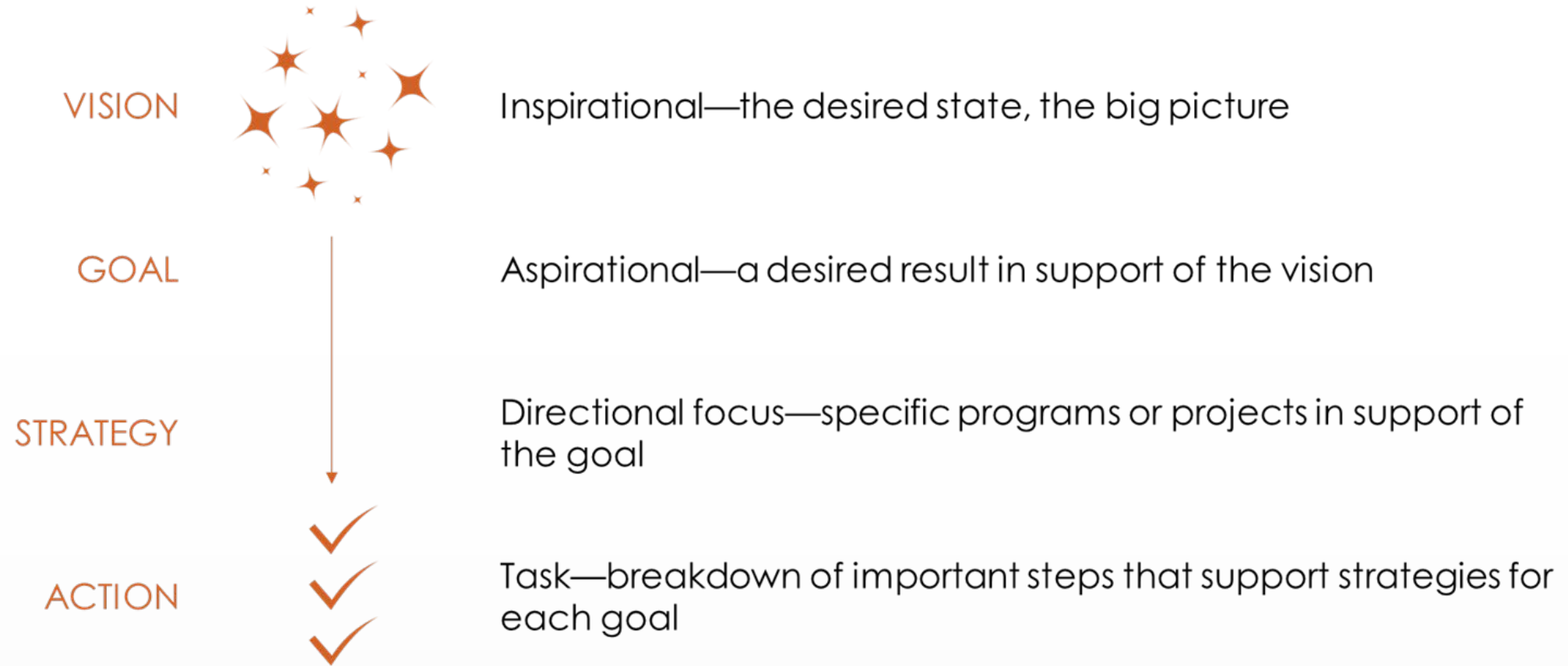
GETTING BUY-IN

STAKEHOLDER MAPPING



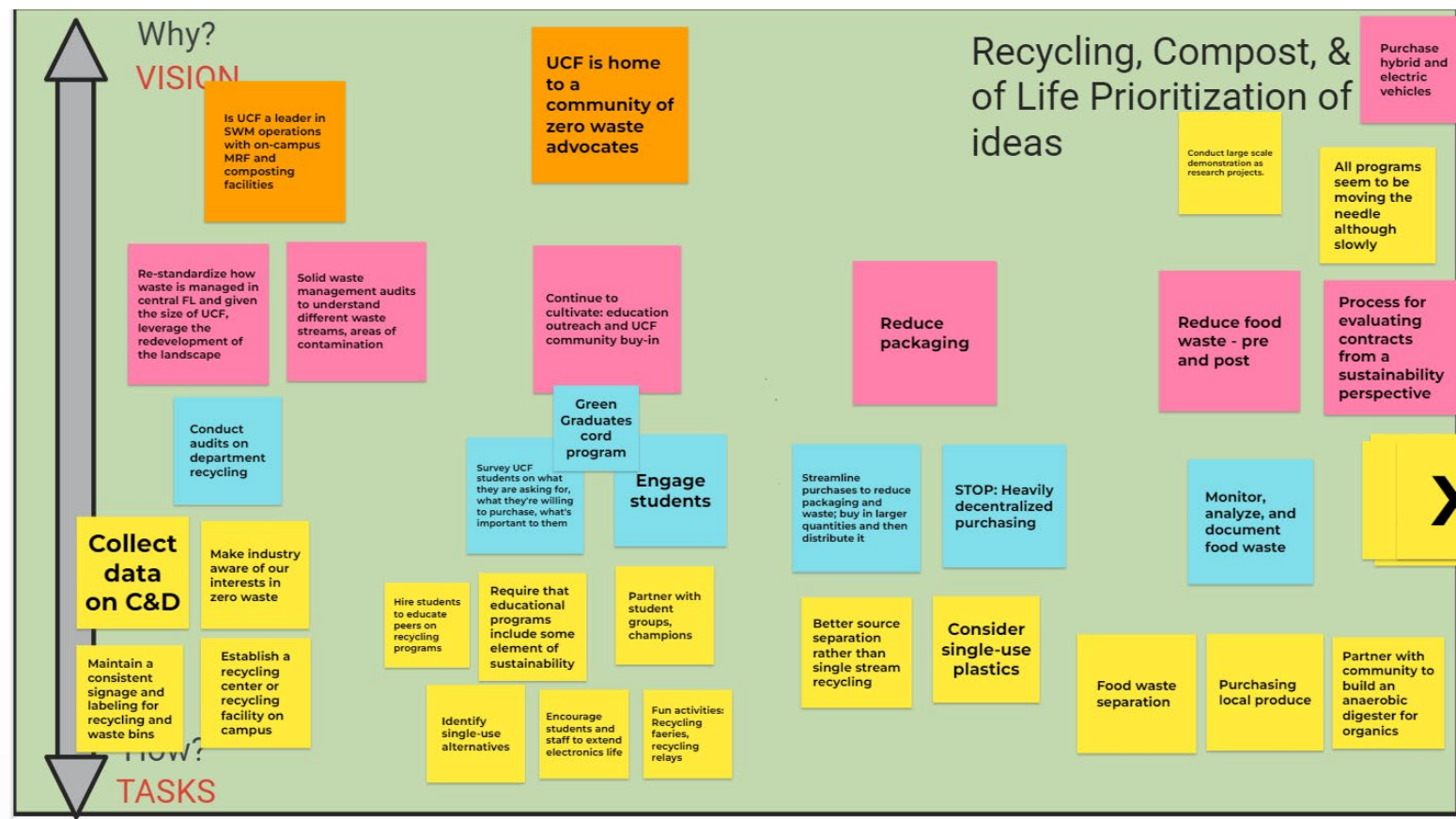
GETTING BUY-IN

FROM VISION TO ACTION



GETTING BUY-IN

WHY/HOW



GETTING BUY-IN

THE SCALE OF AGREEMENT

SCALE OF AGREEMENT				
ADAPTED FROM KANER ET AL.				
1	2	3	4	5
WHOLE-HEARTEDLY AGREE	AGREEMENT WITH A MINOR POINT OF CONTENTION	SUPPORT WITH RESERVATION	MORE DISCUSSION NEEDED	SERIOUS DISAGREEMENT
"I really like it"	"Not perfect but it's pretty good"	"I could live with it"	"There are small concerns to discuss before I could support"	"I am not on board with this"
VOTE BELOW				

GETTING BUY-IN TO RAISE FUNDS



PROS:

- No interest payments to be paid
- Protects us against missed expectations on capital campaign
- Extracts more value from our existing system

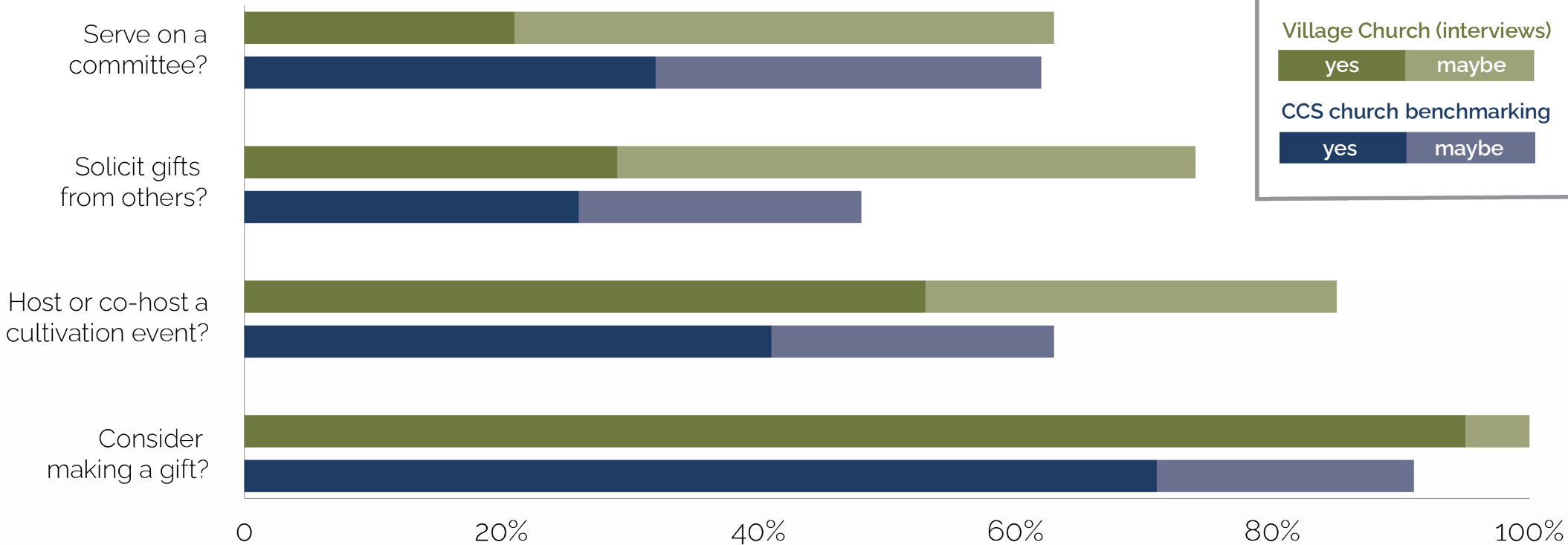
CONS:

- Vulnerable to price changes with both technologies
- Our current system may need major repairs with unplanned and emergency expenditures
- More years of heating with oil
- We will need to finance with endowments and contributions before rebates are received

**Conducting a capital
campaign
(fundraising)**

GETTING BUY-IN TO RAISE FUNDS

Would you be willing to...



GETTING BUY-IN TO RAISE FUNDS



Historic New England was able to leverage their plan:

- To fund its implementation
- To fund similar planning efforts at other sites
- To turn engagement across program areas into support for climate action

“Replacing a roof” vs. “advancing institutional resiliency goals”



Q&A