



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 9, 2023
7:00 P.M.
Zoom Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melissa Eusden, Chair
Robin Greenberg, Clerk
Sean Cash
Tiana Veldwisch
Chris Lewis
Dan Noren
Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep
Thomas Boettcher, WMGLD rep
Ann Waitt, DPW rep proxy
William Buswell, Student Member
Aliza Margolis, Student Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Myra Sessions, Vice Chair
Eileen Colleran, School Comm. rep
Joe Conway, DPW rep
Fiona Recene, Student Member

----- TOPICS OF DISCUSSION -----

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m by M. Eusden.
The meeting is being recording and closed captioning is available.

Public Participation

No comments

Approval of Minutes

R. Greenberg motion to approve of the revised February meeting minutes as distributed. J. Smith-Galvin second. Motion passed.

ESC Open Seats

There are three seat available for the next term. M. Session is leaving her ESC term one year early. S. Cash is not requesting to renew his appointment. D. Noren has reapplied for his appointment but he shared that he is planning to relocate from Wakefield by the end of 2023. M. Eusden will share the applications that the town received so committee members can issue comments to her. Town Council will select members.

Earth Day Planning

Earth Day is Saturday, April 22.

Representative Kate Lipper-Garabedian is hosting her recycling event on April 8th. Ideas for her event include attendance by Melrose's Lend & Mend and a toy swap. M. Eusden looking for assistance to volunteer at the event.

ESC will see if Wakefield Warier clean-up crew is hosting event.



Other suggested Earth Day events include education on the value of native plants and promote removal of aggressive invasive plants like oriental bittersweet and garlic mustard. R. Greenberg will work with T. Veldwisch and A. Waitt to plan education and/or event on the topic.

**Specialized Opt-In
Stretch Code
Sponsorship**

T. Boettcher presented for ESC committee's consideration a motion for ESC to ask the Town Council (TC) to sponsor a warrant article at spring Town Meeting 2023 regarding the Specialized Opt-In Stretch Code. If we sign on, Wakefield would be aligned with MA Net-Zero Emissions Economy goal/ EEA's 2050 Roadmap.

J. Smith-Galvin motioned for ESC to discuss and recommend to TC for TC to put forth an article to approve the Specialized Opt-in Stretch Code at the upcoming Town Meeting with effective date July 1, 2024. T. Boettcher seconded. The motion passed.

M. Eusden and J. Smith-Galvin will work on next steps including requesting to get on the Town Council March 27th agenda to present the article. Warrant article must be submitted to the town by April 7th.

**Waste Reduction
Subcommittee**

M. Eusden shared that the subcommittee is working on by-law that would require multi-family developments to provide recycling for residents. They are doing research on other communities' regulations on it. T. Veldwisch hopes to have by-law language ready for this spring Town Meeting.

The subcommittee recently visited The Loop Melrose, a store that does toy lending, bike repairs and rentals, and other similar services. The business needs to relocate and hopes to stay in the area. <https://theloopmelrose.com/>

**Land Protection
Subcommittee**

S. Cash shared that the Conservation Commission has set up Trail Steward program which has stewards agree to clean and maintain the town trails. The Open Space group continues to meet.

**Building
Efficiency
Subcommittee**

R. Greenberg reminded the group that the town-wide vote to support the funding for the new WMHS is Saturday. For the Northeast Voc High School project, the project is still in the permitting process as construction fencing is going up.

She attended a recent Capital Planning Committee meeting to see if they consider the town's MVP when they review capital planning project requests. DPW Joe Conway indicated that he considers Greenhouse Gas impacts and building efficiencies when he assembles the DPW capital project funding requests.

**Volunteer
Coordination
Subcommittee**

D. Nolen is working with volunteers and connecting them with efforts that need volunteers. Two people maybe assisting with food rescue and volunteer at the April 8th recycling event. He is looking into reaching out to previous ESC member applicants to see if they are interested in getting on the volunteer list.

GHG Inventory Subcommittee

C. Lewis with M. Eusden shared their Town of Wakefield Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory. Their process is based on MAPC Community GHG Inventory Tool. It includes town-wide energy data from WMGLD, municipal waste-hauling records, and town vehicle use with the baseline period of FY2021.

T. Boettcher said WMGLD is asking rebate applicants what is their current energy source so WMGLD can compare it to the new energy source to understand GHG impact.

J. Smith-Galvin suggested this GHG inventory be presented at a public form and it is valuable for grant applications as it documents our current status and lists how Wakefield can improve. M. Eusden will share the report with Steve Maio and ESC liaisons.

Green Communities Subcommittee

J. Smith-Galvin met with DPW, Jenn Kallay, Steve Maio, and Tim O'Brien to create a town energy baseline. They are considering using the current GC funding for Dolbeare School, Town Hall, and Americal improvements. Next step to apply for additional grant funding to cover system improvements at another school.

Community Education Subcommittee

While ESC email list is currently stored on Tuft's server, we will still have access to it when S. Cash leaves the committee.

T. Veldwisch notes that we have had lots of engagement on rain barrel posts. She and W. Buswell are talking about making an ESC account on Instagram.

Student Member Update

W. Buswell shared that the high school is recycling again.

A. Margolis found teacher to help create a Green Team. She will get M. Eusden in touch with teacher.

School Committee Liaison Update

Member not present

DPW Liaison Update

A. Waitt is working on a home composter sale and the rainbarrel sale continues. There are still Black Earth bins are available.

Town Council Liaison Update

J. Smith-Galvin is TC member on MBTA zoning committee. Town Council is getting ready for the spring Town Meeting on May 15th.

WMGLD Liaison Update

T. Boettcher shared that the Community Solar project's final design is in works. Green Choice is still an option; there are currently 95 customers. T. Veldwisch will promote info.

The Energy Park project is now at state Office of Energy. Conservation Commission (ConComm) has not voted on the project. A ConComm vote might not

be a requirement by the state for the state to approve the project but WMGLD would like their support.

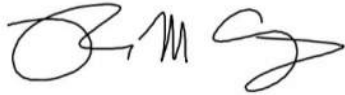
Next Meeting

The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 7pm. There may be a special ESC meeting to review Town Meeting by-laws prior to it.

**Committee
Meeting
Adjournment**

S. Cash J motioned to adjourn. J. Smith-Galvin second. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Greenberg, Secretary

Attachments: Town of Wakefield GHG Inventory report



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD GHG INVENTORY

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

MARCH 9, 2023





OUTLINE

- Process overview
- Baseline emissions summary
- Key takeaways
- Next steps

PROCESS OVERVIEW

- Our process was based on the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's (MAPC) *Community GHG Inventory Tool*
- This is an Excel spreadsheet model with a user guide and directions for accessing various public data sets.
 - Example: vehicle registration information including fuel type and mileage estimates (for on-road transportation)
- Other data sources include town-wide energy data from WMGLD, municipal waste-hauling records, etc.
- We selected FY21 as a baseline period



AutoSave: Off | Wakefield MAPC_Emissions_Inventory_Tool_041020 23.03.06 | Search

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Automate Help BLUEBEAM Power Pivot

Clipboard: Cut, Copy, Paste, Format Painter | Font: Arial, 10, Bold, Italic, Underline, Color, Background Color | Alignment: Wrap Text, Merge & Center | Number: General, Currency, Percentage, Date, Time | Styles: Conditional Formatting, Format as Table, Normal, Bad, Neutral, Calculation

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1						
2		Data Input				
3		Please enter community-specific data below using the instructions provided. Green cells must be updated for the tool to function properly. Blue cells are not applicable to all communities or data may be input by others (i.e. MAPC).				
4						
5						
6						
7		Legend: ● Required input ● Optional input				
8		Links to Input Tables: Energy Data Transportation Data Waste Data				
9						
10						
11		Select your city or town from the drop down menu: Wakefield				
12		Inventory year: 2021 FY2021				
13						
14		Energy Data				
15						
16		ELECTRICITY AND NATURAL GAS				
17						
18						
19						
20		Which investor-owned utility or utilities provide(s) electricity in your community? (Use drop down menu to select) Municipal Utility/Not served by IOU				
21		If not served by an investor-owned utility, which municipally-owned utility supplies electricity in your community? (Use drop down menu to select) Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Dept.				
22						

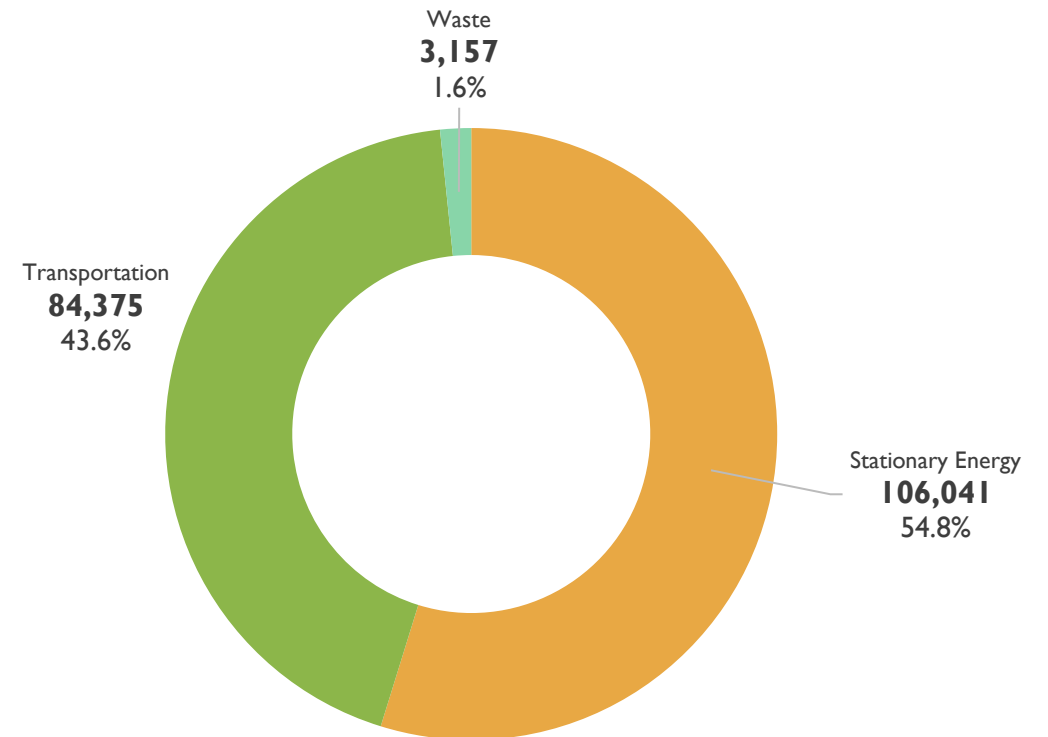
SUMMARY OF WAKEFIELD BASELINE GHG EMISSIONS

Total Emissions in FY21:

193,573 MTCO₂e

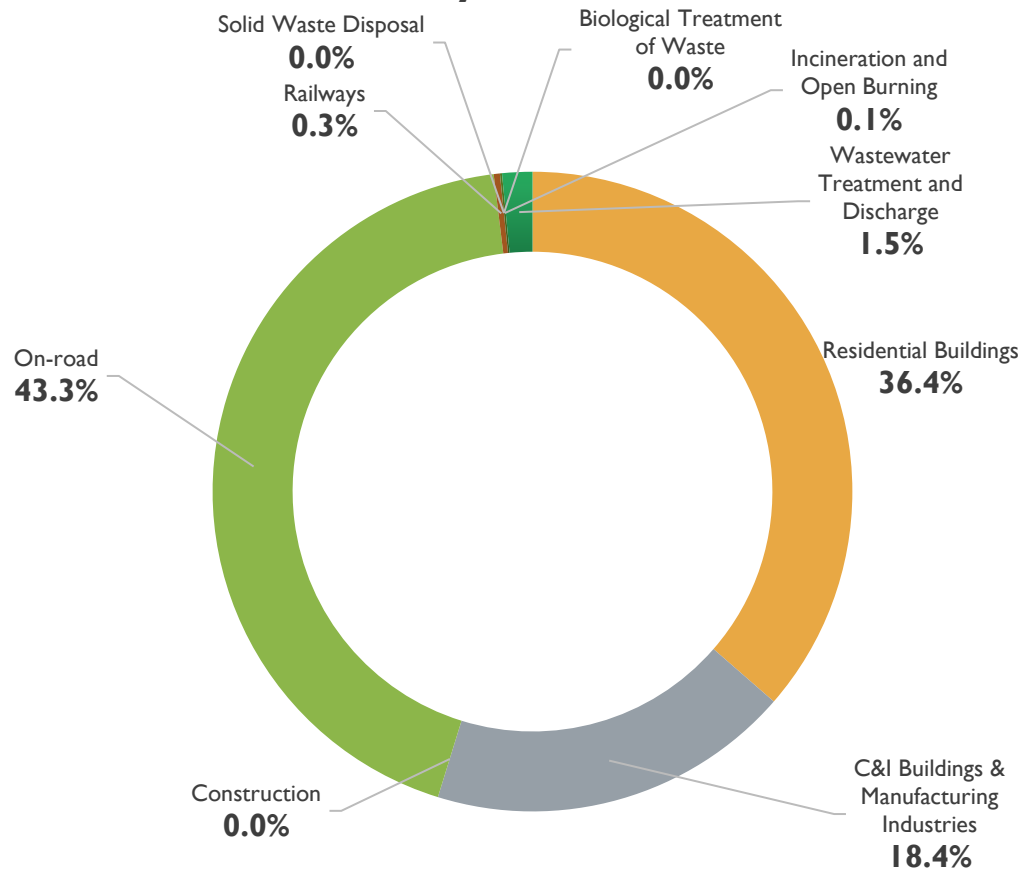
- 7.1 MTCO₂e per capita
- Stationary Energy (buildings) (55%) and Transportation (44%) cause nearly all of Wakefield's emissions

Community-wide Emissions (MT CO₂e) by Sector



SUMMARY OF WAKEFIELD BASELINE GHG EMISSIONS

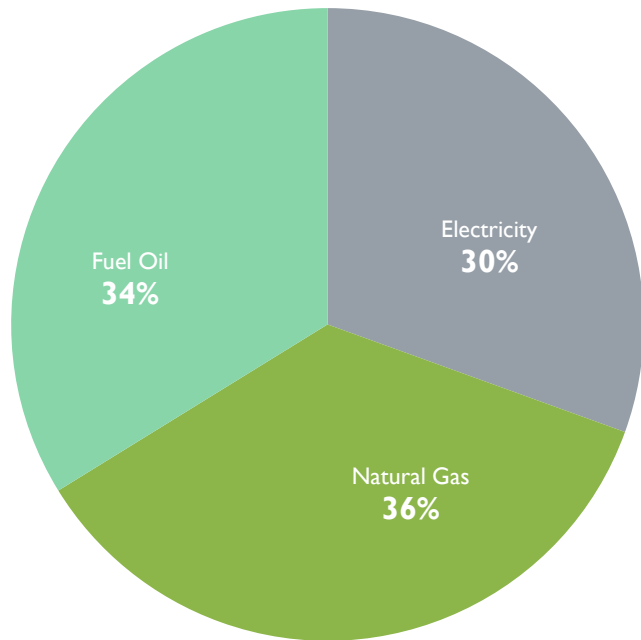
**Percent of Total Community-wide Emissions
by Subsector**



- The largest category of emissions come from On-road vehicles (43%)
- Buildings make up the second largest category with Residential buildings causing the greatest emissions (36%)
- Commercial and Industrial (C&I) buildings and Manufacturing Industries also cause a significant amount of emissions (18%)

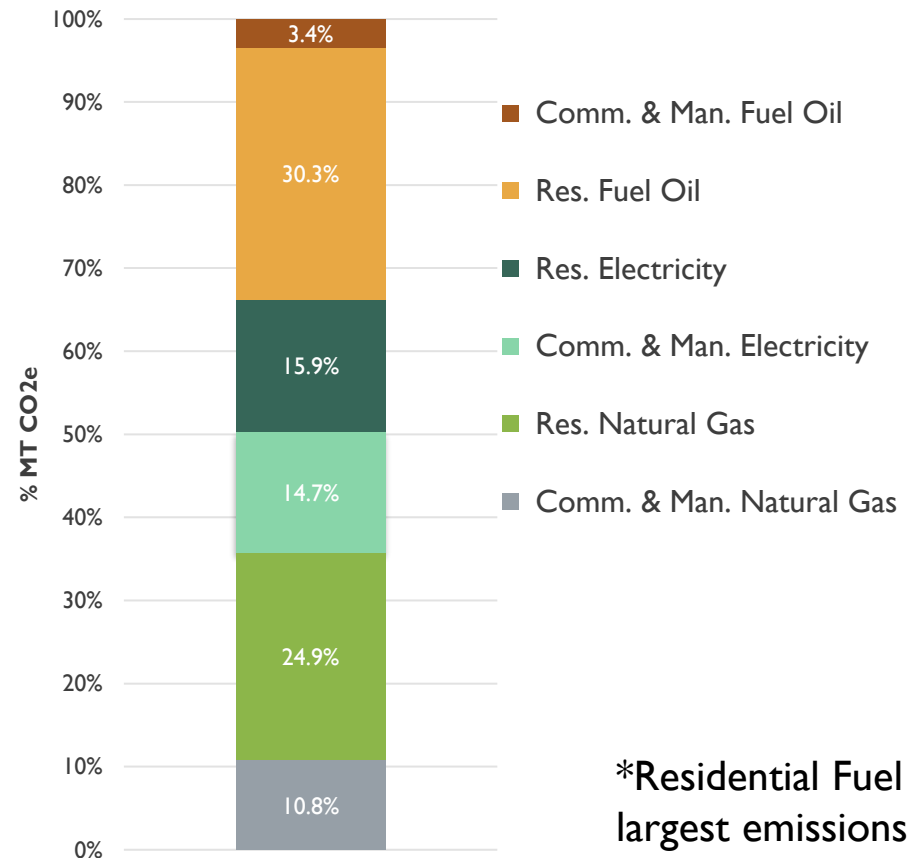
SUMMARY OF WAKEFIELD BASELINE GHG EMISSIONS

Percentage of Building Energy Emissions by Source Energy



*Energy emissions from different sources are nearly evenly split

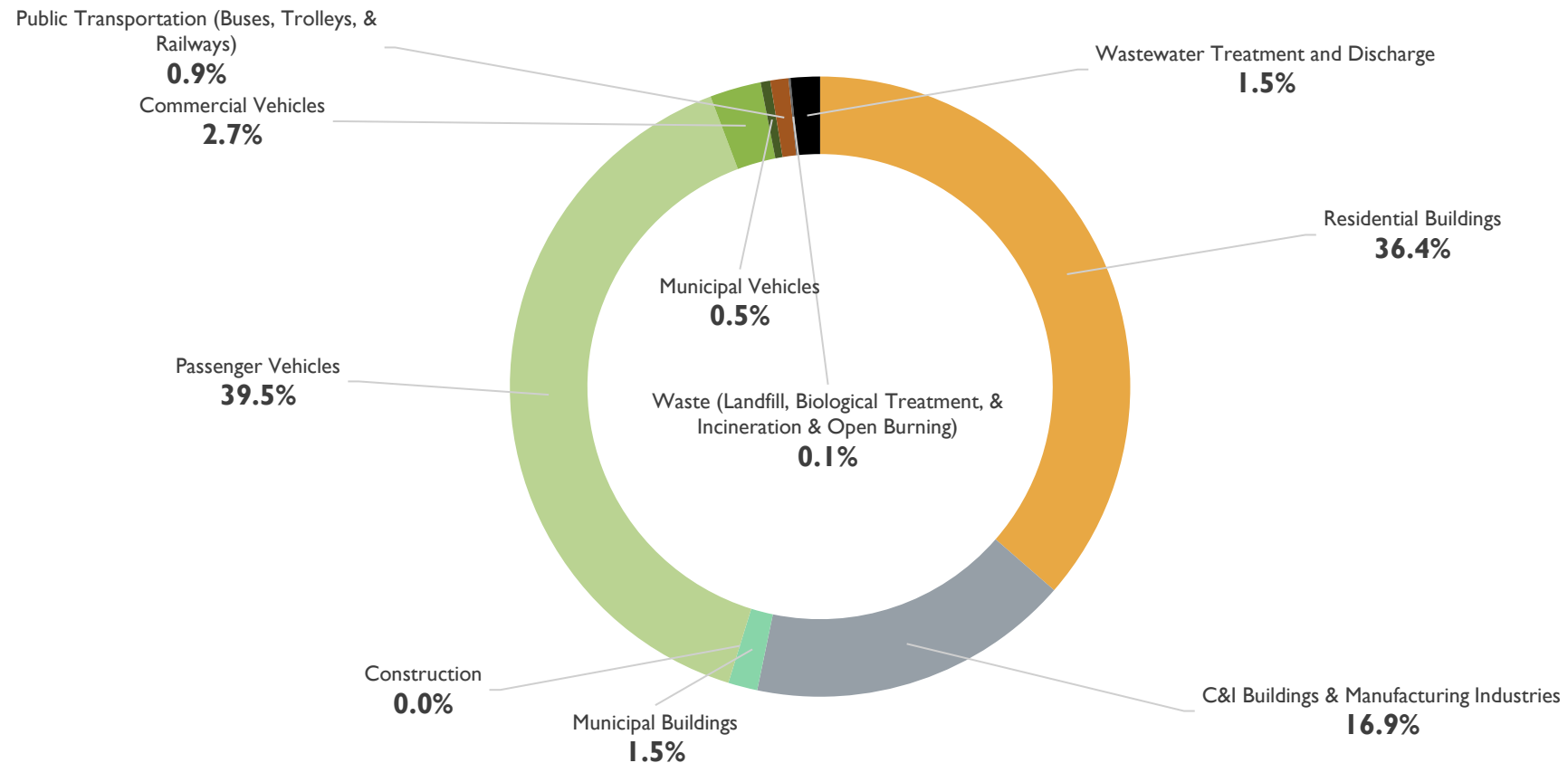
Percent of Total Building Energy Emissions by Customer Type and Fuel



*Residential Fuel Oil is the largest emissions contributor

SUMMARY OF BASELINE GHG EMISSIONS

Percent of Total Community-Wide Emissions by Subsector (with Municipal Emissions Disaggregated)



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Control versus influence: municipal operations are a relatively small proportion of town-wide emissions.
 - ✓ What sources can the town control directly, versus influence through policy and programs?
- Oil accounts for almost 1/3 of building energy related emissions, based on the methodology used. (This category is difficult to track accurately.)
 - ✓ We recommend supporting the upgrade of homes to electric heat pumps.
- C&I building emissions is significant in addition to Residential building emissions.
 - ✓ What the town or utility do to incentivize them?
- On-road emissions are significant.
 - ✓ We recommend supporting the adoption of EVs.

NEXT STEPS & DISCUSSION

- Do we want to share this baseline with the public and/or other town bodies?
- If so, how should we do this?
- What else do we plan to do with this information? (e.g. create a Climate Change Plan like other towns have done)