

# Appendix A

Presentation from the Community Resilience Building  
Workshop (1/25/2019)



# WORCESTER COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING WORKSHOP

JANUARY 25, 2019



# I. WORKSHOP AGENDA

<b>I.</b>	<b>Arrival / Light breakfast</b>	8:00 am
<b>II.</b>	<b>Welcome and agenda overview</b> Luba Zhaurova, Sustainability Project Manager, City of Worcester	8:30 am
<b>III.</b>	<b>Opening remarks</b> Edward M. Augustus Jr., Worcester City Manager	8:45 am
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Kick-off / Participants Introductions</b> Led by the Kleinfelder team	9:00 am
<b>V.</b>	<b>Hazards</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Presentation (by Kleinfelder)</li><li>○ Large group discussion – determine the highest priority hazards</li></ul>	9:30 am
<b>VI.</b>	<i>Break</i>	10:30 am
<b>VII.</b>	<b>Community Strengths and Vulnerabilities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Presentation (by Kleinfelder)</li><li>○ Small groups’ exercise (infrastructural, societal, environmental)</li><li>○ Small groups present findings</li></ul>	10:45 am
<b>VIII.</b>	<i>Lunch</i>	12:00 pm
<b>IX.</b>	<b>Community Actions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Presentation (by Kleinfelder)</li><li>○ Small groups’ exercise</li></ul>	1:00 pm
<b>X.</b>	<i>Break</i>	2:00 pm
<b>XI.</b>	<b>Priority Actions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Small groups’ exercise (identifying overall priority actions using a risk matrix)</li><li>○ Small groups present findings</li><li>○ Large group identifies highest priority actions; defines 6 locations for further risk &amp; vulnerability assessments</li></ul>	2:15 pm 3:00 pm 3:30 pm
<b>XII.</b>	<b>Summary and Closing</b>	3:50 pm-4pm

# WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

Visit [www.resilientma.org](http://www.resilientma.org) to learn more!



resilient **MA**

Climate Change Clearinghouse for the Commonwealth

Explore Sectors

Identify Changes

Take Action

Maps Data Documents

Search for resources...

Search

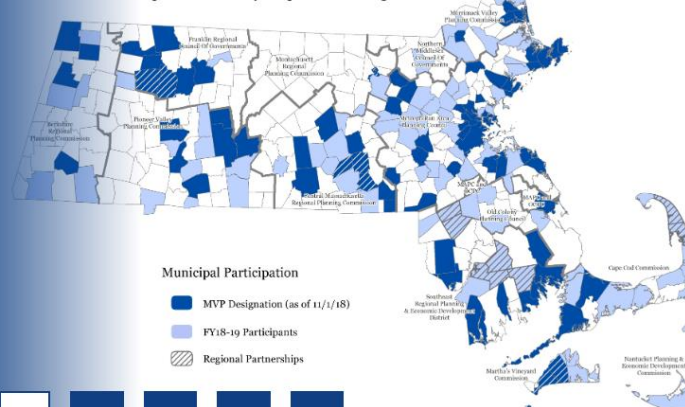
Providing the most up-to-date climate change science and decision-support tools for the Commonwealth. [More »](#)

## Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness

Our cities and towns are on the front lines of climate change. The new MVP program from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs works with communities across the state to decrease risk, build resiliency, and identify strengths and opportunities through targeted planning and action.

[More »](#)

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program









# WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

Visit [www.resilientma.org](http://www.resilientma.org) to learn more!

## Climate Change Projections for Massachusetts

CLIMATE CHANGES	RELATED NATURAL HAZARDS	PROJECTIONS BY THE END OF THIS CENTURY
<b>Changes in precipitation</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inland flooding</li> <li>- Drought</li> <li>- Landslide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual precipitation: Increase up to 16% (+7.3 inches)</li> <li>- Days with rainfall accumulation 1+ inch: Increase up to 57% (+4 days)</li> <li>- Consecutive dry days: Increase 18% (+3 days)</li> <li>- Summer precipitation: Decrease</li> </ul>
<b>Sea level rise</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coastal flooding</li> <li>- Coastal erosion</li> <li>- Tsunami</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sea level: Increase 4.0 to 10.5 feet along the Massachusetts coast</li> </ul>
<b>Rising temperatures</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Average/extreme temperatures</li> <li>- Wildfires</li> <li>- Invasive species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Average annual temperature: Increase up to 23% (+10.8 degrees Fahrenheit)</li> <li>- Days/year with daily minimum temperatures below freezing: Decrease up to 42% (-62 days)</li> <li>- Winter temperatures: Increase at a greater rate than spring, summer, or fall</li> <li>- Long-term average minimum winter temperature: Increase up to 66% (+11.4 degrees Fahrenheit)</li> <li>- Days/year with daily maximum temperatures over 90 degrees Fahrenheit: Increase by up to 1,280% (+64 days)</li> <li>- Growing degree days: Increase by 23% to 52%</li> </ul>
<b>Extreme weather</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hurricanes/tropical storms</li> <li>- Severe winter storms/nor'easters</li> <li>- Tornadoes</li> <li>- Other severe weather</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Frequency and magnitude: Increase</li> </ul>

Note: This plan also assesses earthquakes, but there is no established correlation between climate change and earthquakes.  
 Source of Climate Change Projections: Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

# HOW WE ARE ADAPTING?

Visit [www.resilientma.org](http://www.resilientma.org) to learn more!

## How Adaptations and Interventions Work



# INTRODUCE YOURSELVES!

- Name
- Affiliation
  - *(department, organization, business, resident, etc.)*

# GROUND RULES

1. Everyone must participate (and listen)
2. Everyone's input is equally valued
3. Disagree without being disagreeable
4. No side conversations
5. Stay on topic



# NATURAL HAZARDS

## Community Resilience Building Risk Matrix



H-M-L priority for action over the Short or Long term (and Ongoing)  
 V = Vulnerability S = Strength

www.CommunityResilienceBuilding.org

Top Priority Hazards (tornado, floods, wildfire, hurricanes, earthquake, drought, sea level rise, heat wave, etc.)

# 1

Features					Actions					Priority		Time	
Location	Ownership	V or S	Hazard		Actions					H - M - L	Short Long	Ongoing	
Keep in mind that the prioritized features will be used in the <b>Task 2 – Risk and Vulnerability Assessments</b>													
<b>COMMUNITY STRENGTHS AND VULNERABILITIES</b>					<b>COMMUNITY ACTIONS</b>					<b>PRIORITY ACTIONS</b>			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> <span>Part 1</span> <span>Part 2</span> <span>Part 3</span> </div>													

# II. HAZARDS AND THEIR IMPACTS

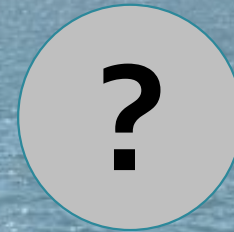
What are Worcester's past, current, and future hazards?



Heavy  
Rainfall



Ice/Snow  
Storms



Wind



Brush Fires



Extreme  
Heat



Drought



# IDENTIFIED HAZARD 1:



# HEAVY RAINFALL



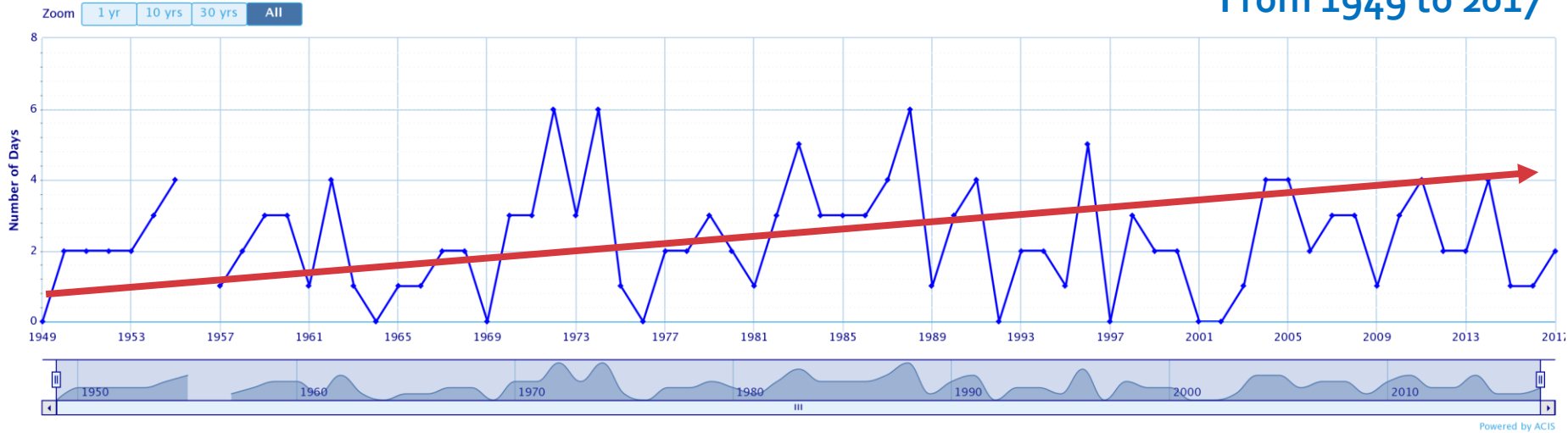


# HEAVY RAINFALL – HISTORICAL DATA

Number of Days Precipitation  $\geq$  2 in – Jan through Dec – WORCESTER, MA

Use navigation tools above and below chart to change displayed range

From 1949 to 2017



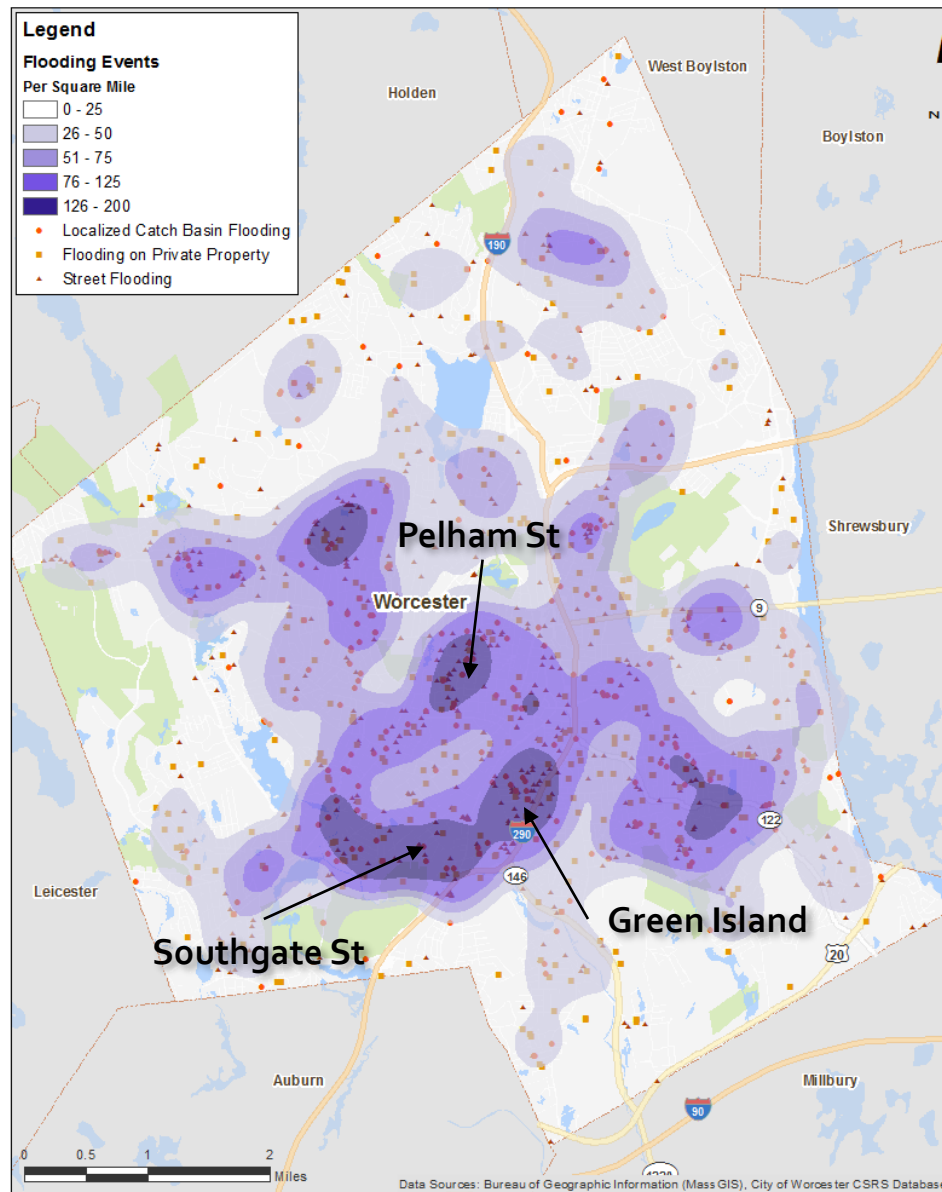
Two types of rainfall flooding:

- Overbank flooding from rainfall / snowmelt
- Piped Infrastructure backup / failure (Culverts, CSO, SSO)





# HEAVY RAINFALL – HISTORIC FLOODING EVENTS



Concentration of Reported Flooding Events

- Heavy rainfall already causes flooding in Worcester.
  - Green Island (Elsworth St, Quinsigamond Ave)
  - Pelham St (small area, localized flooding)
  - Southgate St (near Green Island, failing infrastructure and erosion issues)
- Impacts: infrastructure, property damage, loss of life/injury, natural resources.

*Note: Map based on the Worcester's Customer Service Request System (CSRS) data for flooding events 2006-2016.*

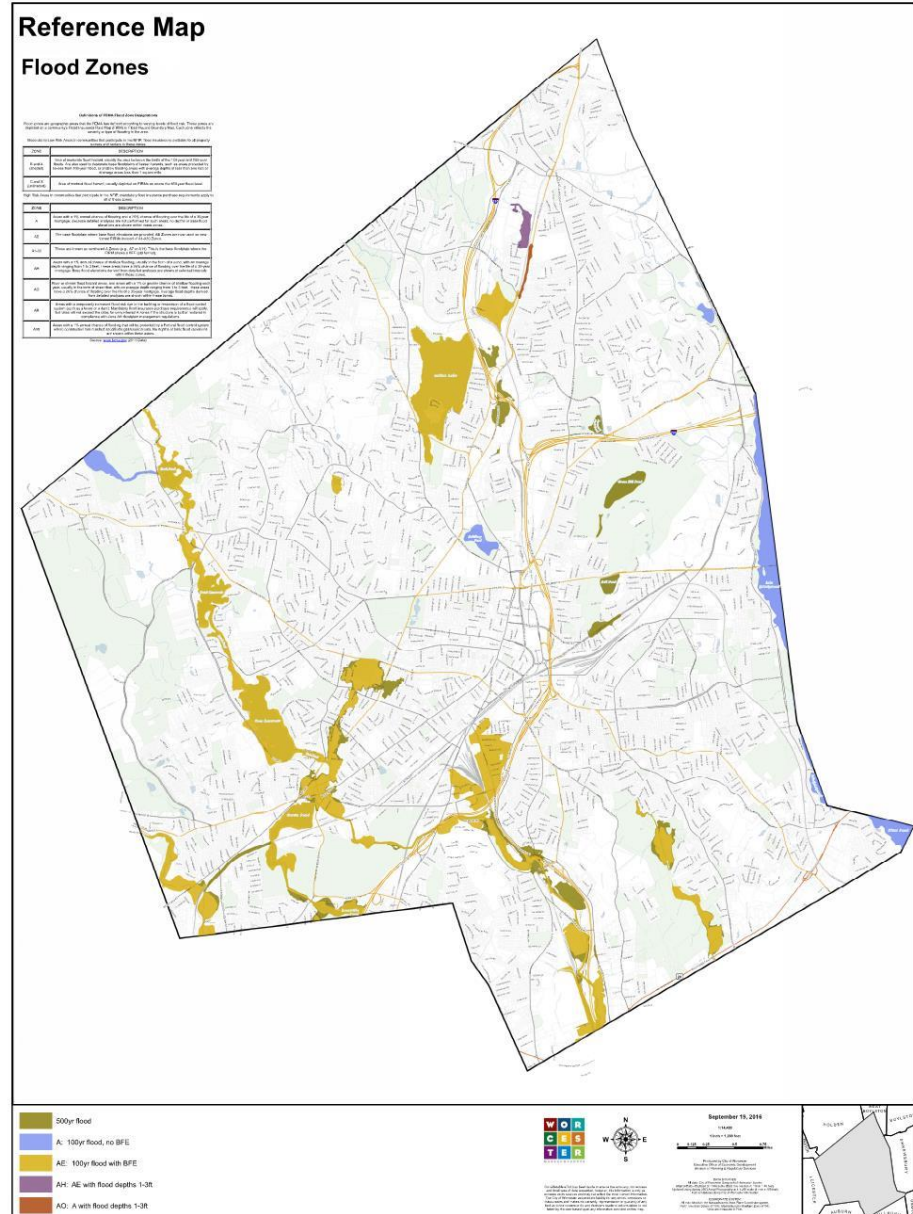
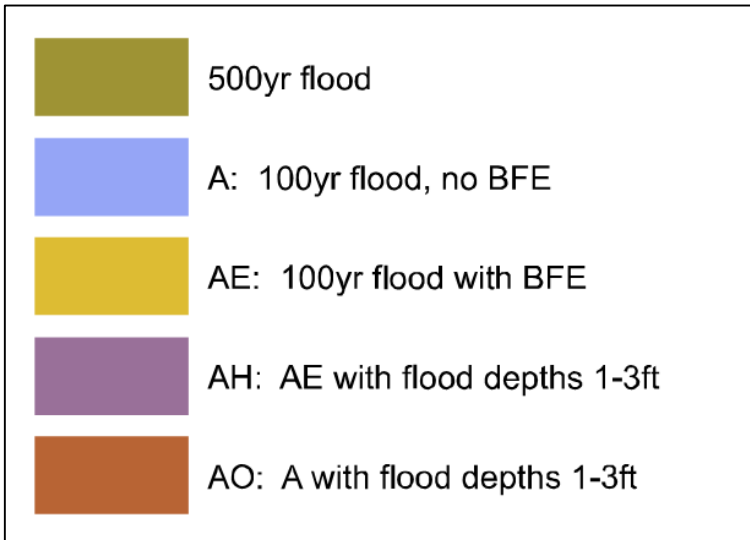


# HEAVY RAINFALL – FEMA FLOOD ZONES

FEMA flood zones are based on probabilities of future flooding events.

- Example: A 100-year flood is an event that has a 1% probability of occurring in any given year (500-year flood has 0.2% probability).
- These zones are used by communities to set building and flood insurance requirements.

Source: [https://www.fema.gov/disaster/updates/fema-flood-zones-explained](https://www.fema.gov/disaster/updates/fema-flood-maps-and-zones-explained)



Source: <http://www.worcesterma.gov/planning-regulatory/boards/conservation-commission>



# HEAVY RAINFALL – PIPED INFRASTRUCTURE FLOODING

## Sewer backups are an issue in Worcester

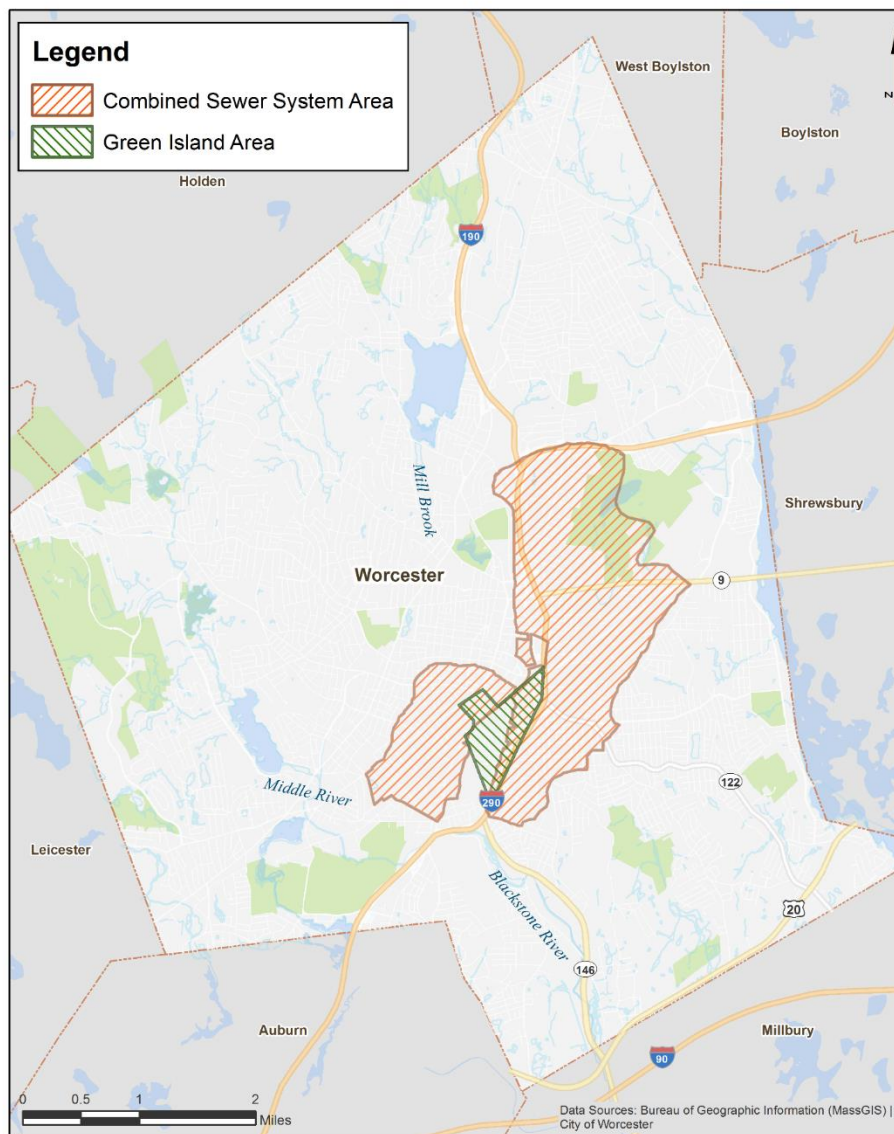
- ~400 miles of sewer pipeline in the city
- ~60 miles of combined sewer pipes in the city
- Old pipe infrastructure: combined sewer and drain (CSO) makes up about 15 % of wastewater collection system area (about 4 mi sq), but 60% of the total system flow is generated in the combined system.
- CSO piping increases chance of backup during wet weather because of increased stormwater runoff.







# HEAVY RAINFALL – COMBINED SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE



- Combined sewer areas (in brown) are located near populated areas of the city.
- Locations are vulnerable to Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs).
- Green Island (in green) area is particularly susceptible given its topography.

Combined sewer infrastructure map





# HEAVY RAINFALL – GREEN ISLAND



Projected Locations of Flooding in the Green Island Area

Source: CDM Smith Green Island Area Flooding Study, May 2016

The Green Island area is highly susceptible to flooding events.

- Lowest elevation in the city.
- Situated at the confluence of Mill Brook and Middle River.
- Large portion lies within FEMA flood zone.
- Combined sewer infrastructure.
- Area is densely populated.

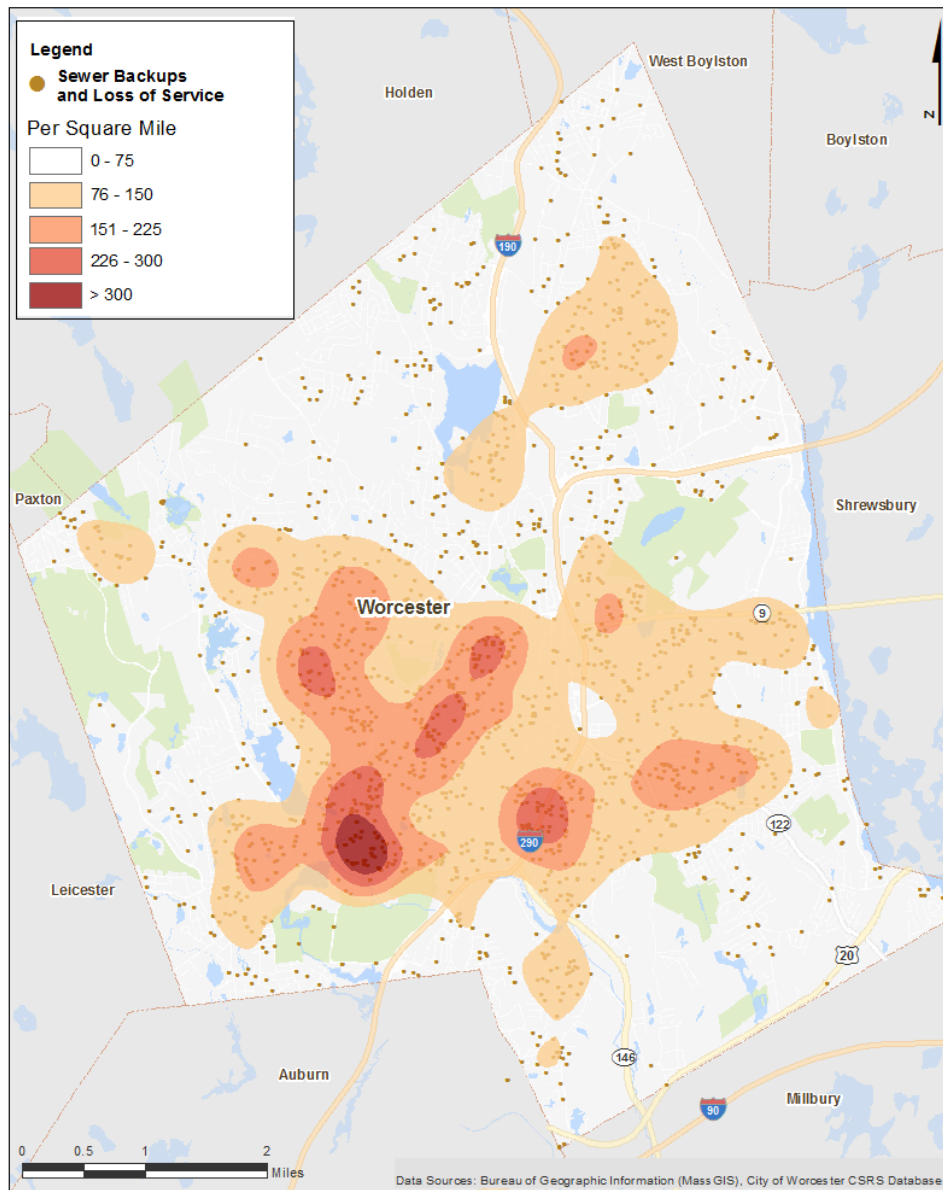
Source: Worcester Integrated Plan [DRAFT], Kleinfelder 2018



Flooding on Southgate Street – June 2010



# HEAVY RAINFALL – HISTORIC PIPED INFRASTRUCTURE FLOODING



Density of Reported Sewer Backups and Loss of Service

Data based on reported sewer backups and service losses from Worcester residents between 2006 and 2016.

*Note: Map based on Customer Service Request System (CSRS) data for sewer backups and loss of service 2006-2016*





## HEAVY RAINFALL – BANK EROSION

Erosion a concern for Worcester:

- Caused by a combination of factors (intense rainfall, flooding events, soft sediments, farming activity, land topography, etc).
- A danger for properties, ecosystems and other infrastructure along the river.





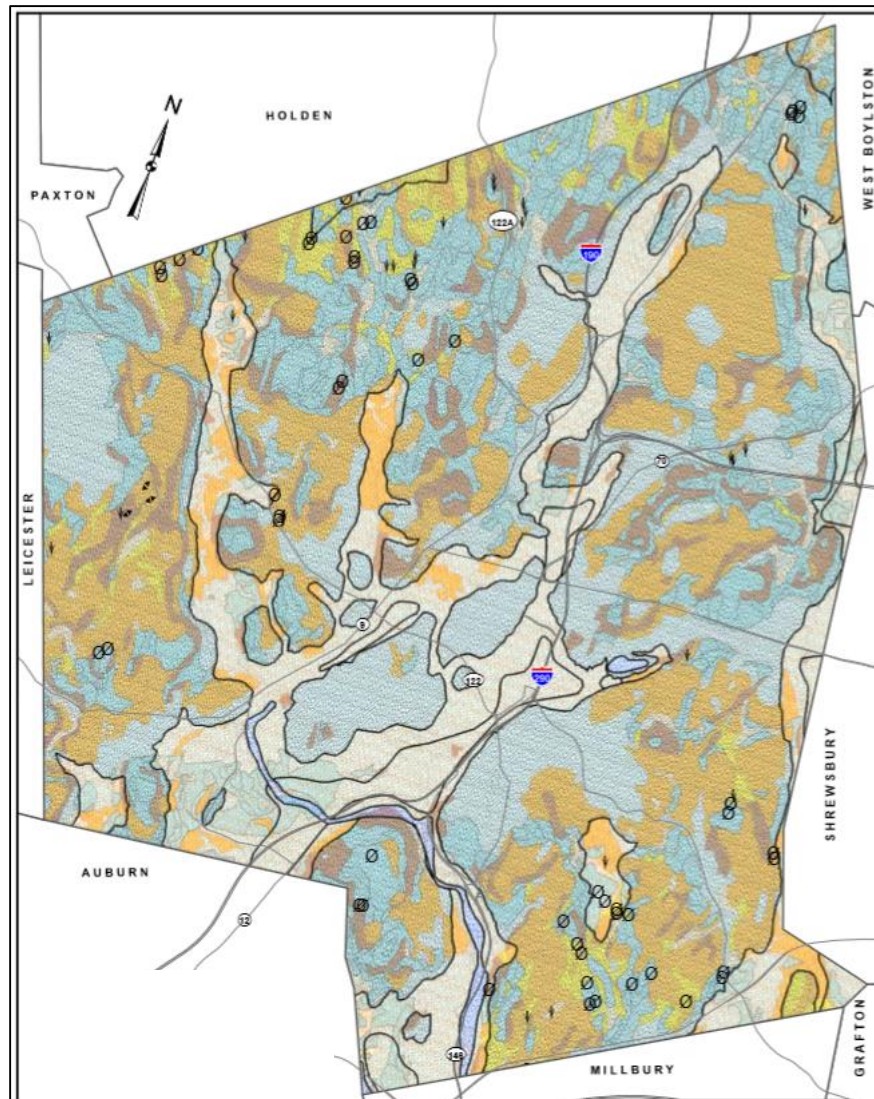
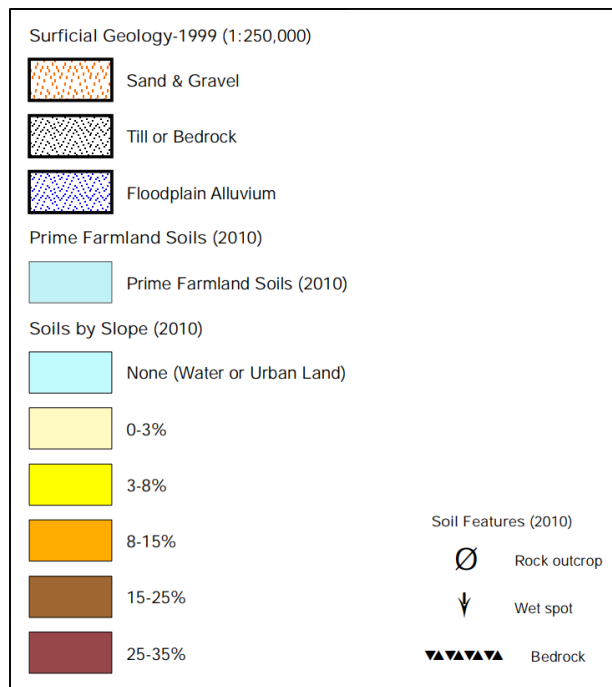


# HEAVY RAINFALL – RIVERBANK EROSION

From the map:

- Soft sediments like sand and gravel are common.
- Topography is hilly - a large portion of the city has sloped land.

## Soils and Geologic Features Map

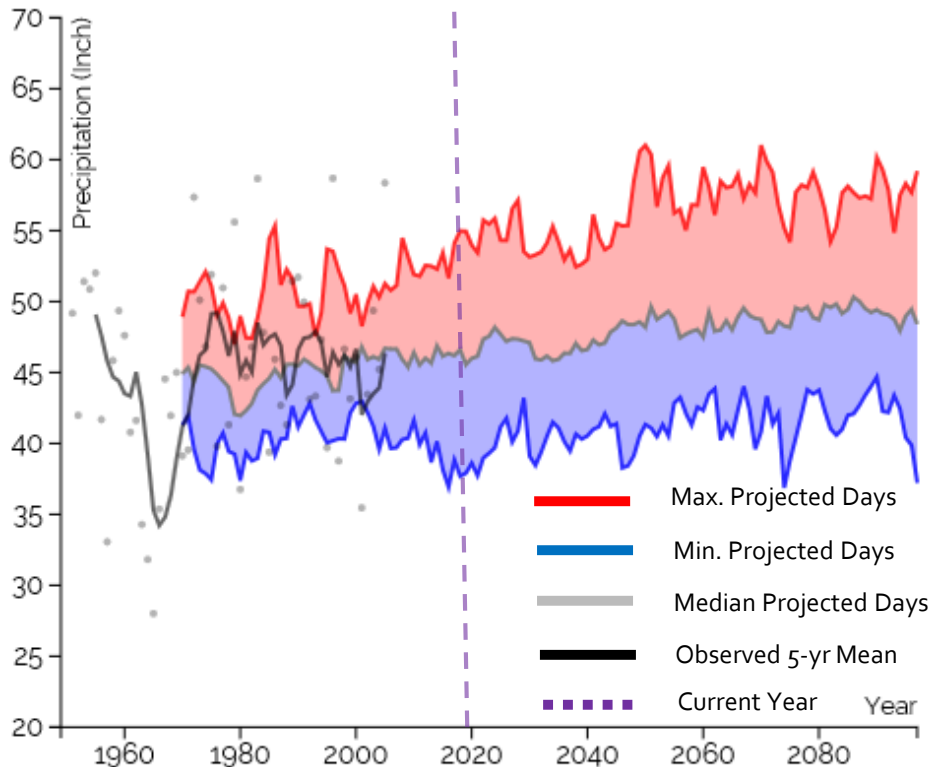




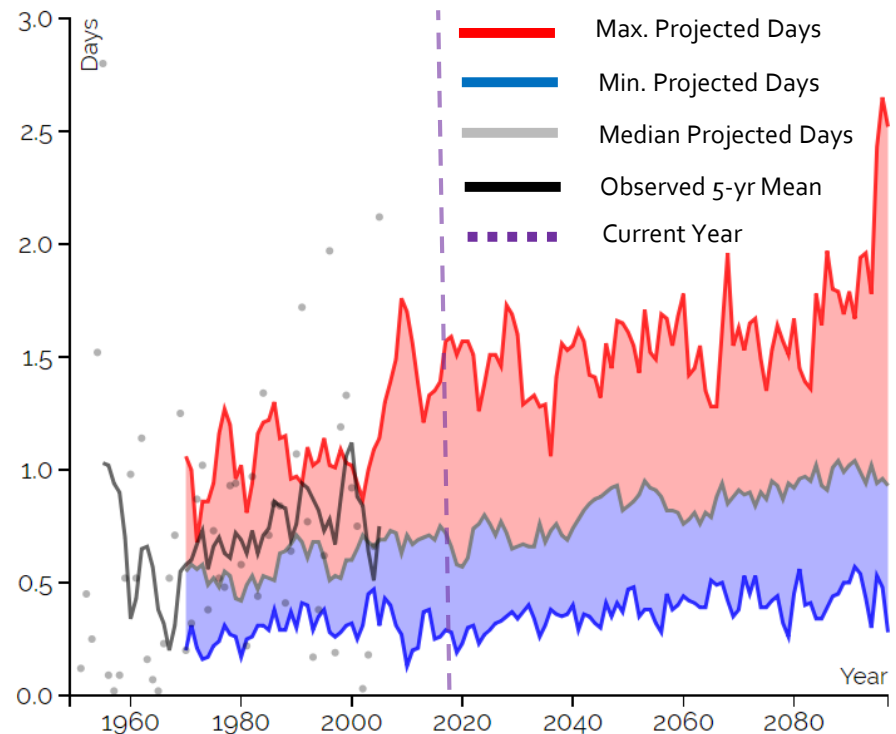
# HEAVY RAINFALL – FUTURE PROJECTIONS

- Total annual rainfall will increase
- Heavy rainfall events will become more frequent

**Annual Total Precipitation**  
Worcester County, MA



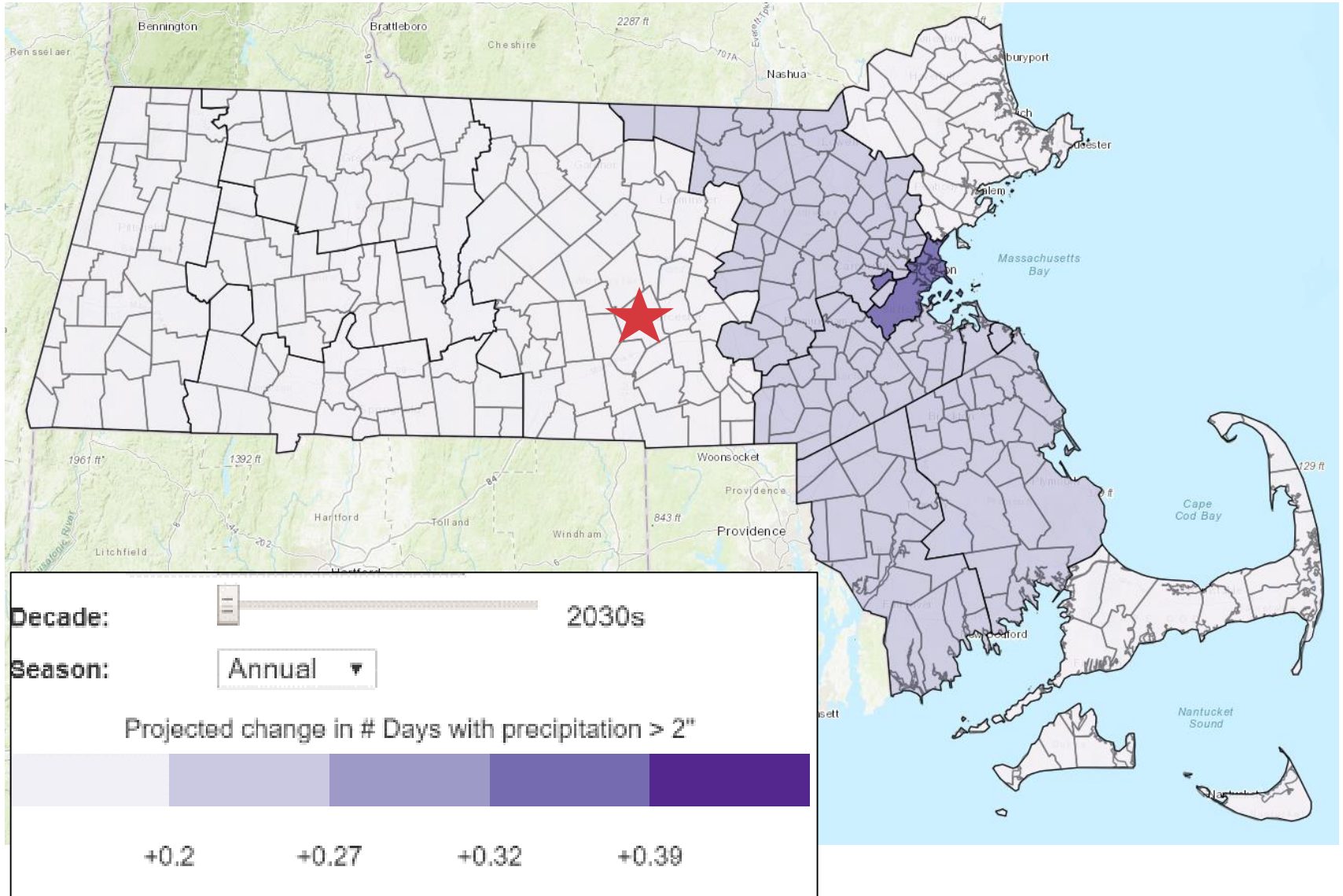
**Annual Days with Precipitation > 2"**  
Massachusetts





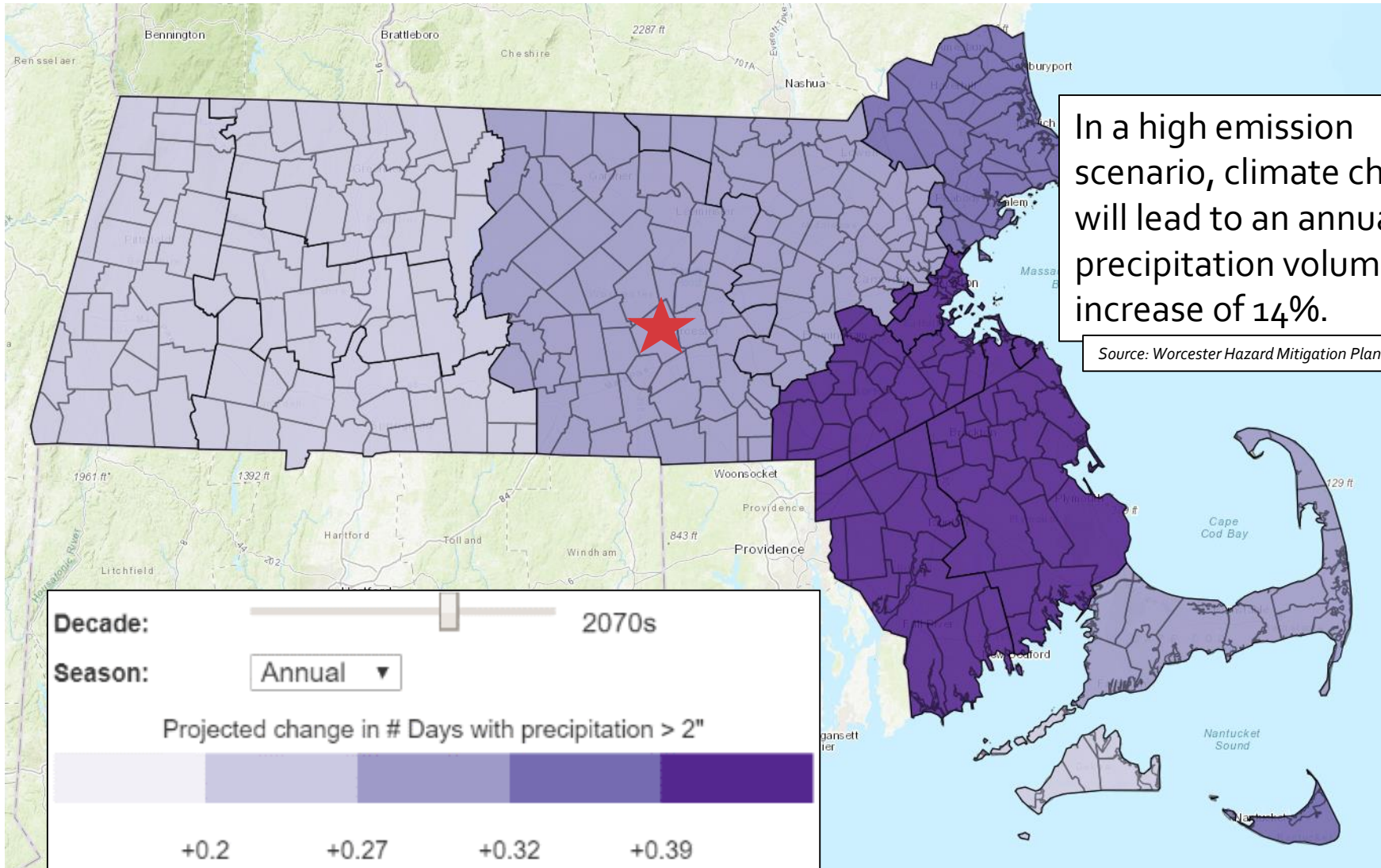


# HEAVY RAINFALL – 2030



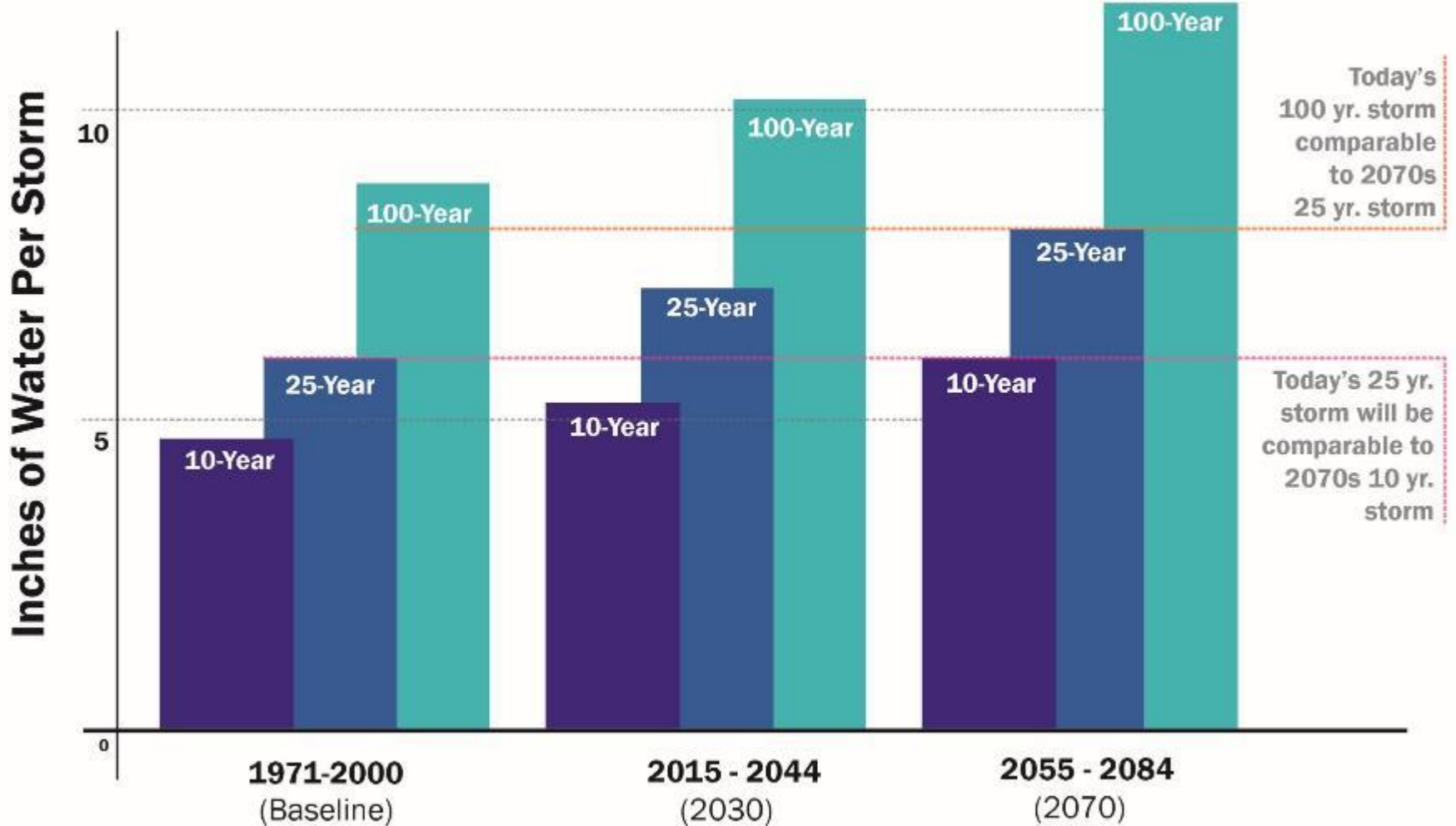


# HEAVY RAINFALL – 2070





# HEAVY RAINFALL



Source: Design storm projections for the Boston metro area based on Kleinfelder/ATMOS projections, Nov. 2015, Kleinfelder for City of Cambridge.



# IDENTIFIED HAZARD 2:



# SNOW/ICE STORMS





# SNOW/ICE STORMS

## Worcester is susceptible to large snow and ice storm events:

- The local geography plus the way eastern MA protrudes towards the Atlantic Ocean makes Worcester particularly susceptible to nor'easters and other severe winter storms.
- 62 high impact storms since 1968 (> 10 in).
- **Named snowiest city (of population 100,000 or more) in U.S. in 2015 with 90.1 inches (by GoldenSnowGlobe.com).**



## Potential Impacts:

- Power outages, school closings, internet and phone outages, utility damage, tree damage, roadway blockage, property damage, unsafe roads.



# SNOW/ICE STORMS

Ice storm (December 11-12, 2008):

- ½ inch of ice blanketed the region.
- Millions of dollars worth of damage.
- Extended power outages and school closings.
- Vivid reminder of how damaging ice storms can be.



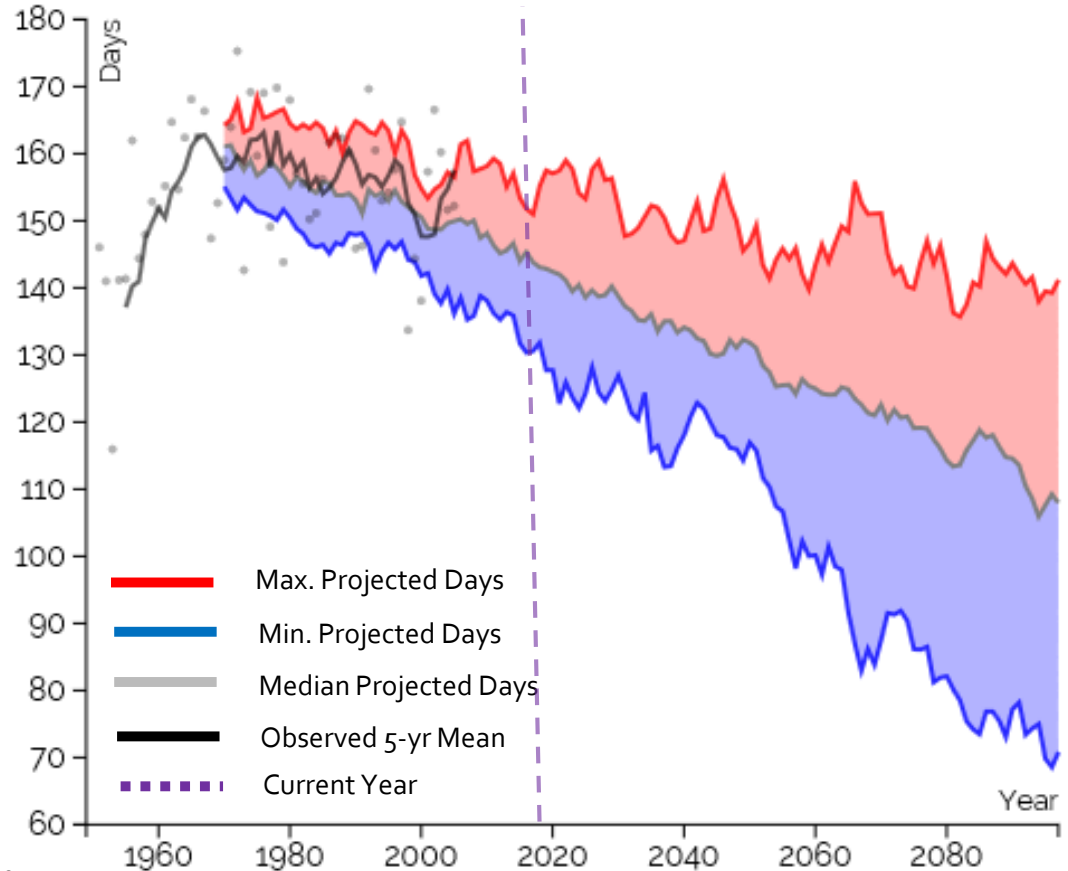


# SNOW/ICE STORMS

- Annual precipitation volume in winter is projected to **increase** 30% due to climate change.
- Annual days below freezing is projected to **decrease** over the next 80 years due to climate change.
- Projected rising temperatures will cause more winter precipitation to fall as rain or freezing rain instead of snow.
- Higher chance of ice and freezing rain storms

Source: Worcester Hazard Mitigation Plan [DRAFT], 2018

Annual Days with Minimum Temperature Below 32°F  
Worcester County, MA



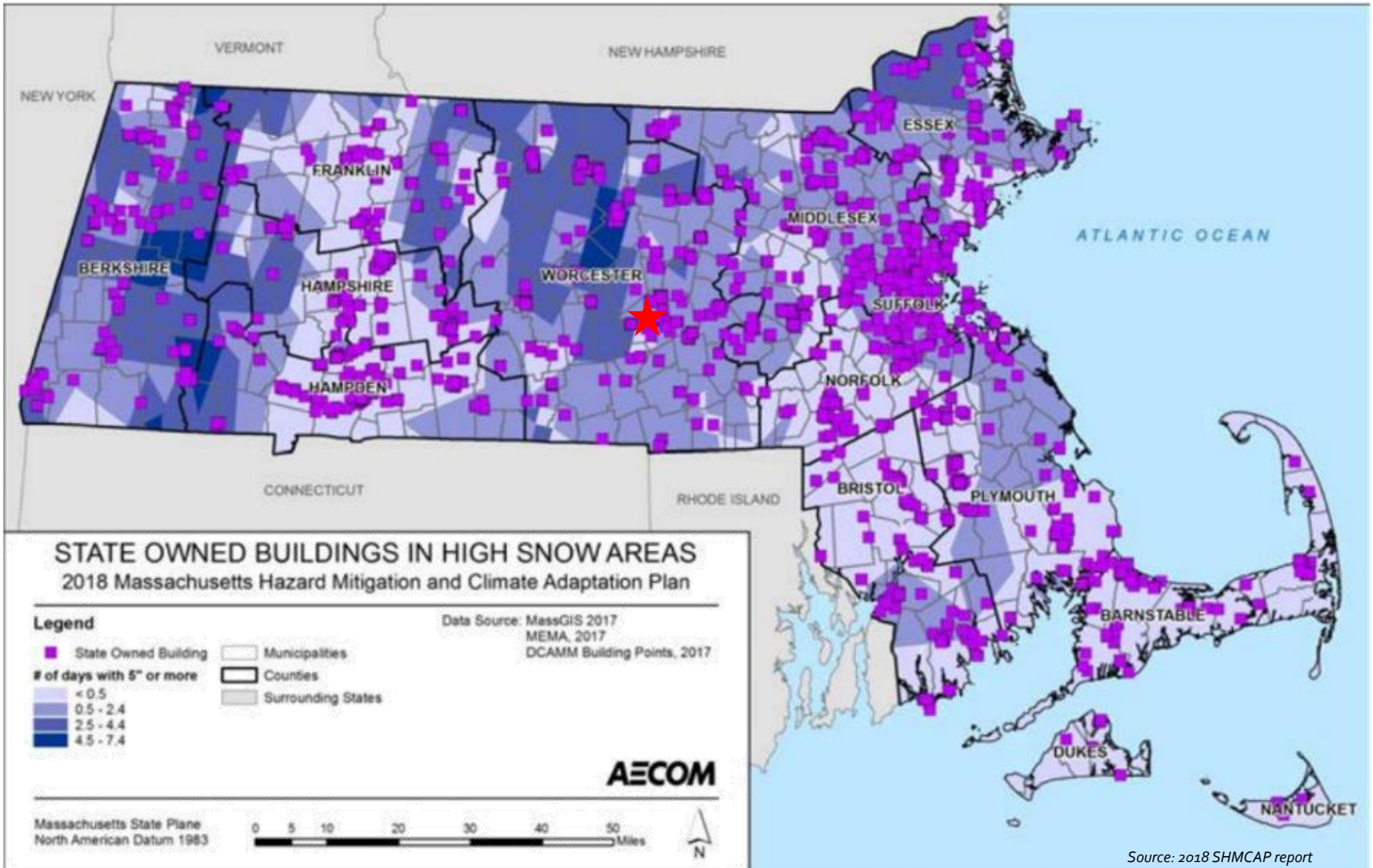
Source: resilientma.org 2018





# SNOW/ICE STORMS – HISTORIC DATA

Figure 4-64: Number of Days with 5 Inches of Snow or More





# IDENTIFY A THIRD HAZARD:



EXTREME HEAT



DROUGHT



WIND



BRUSH FIRES





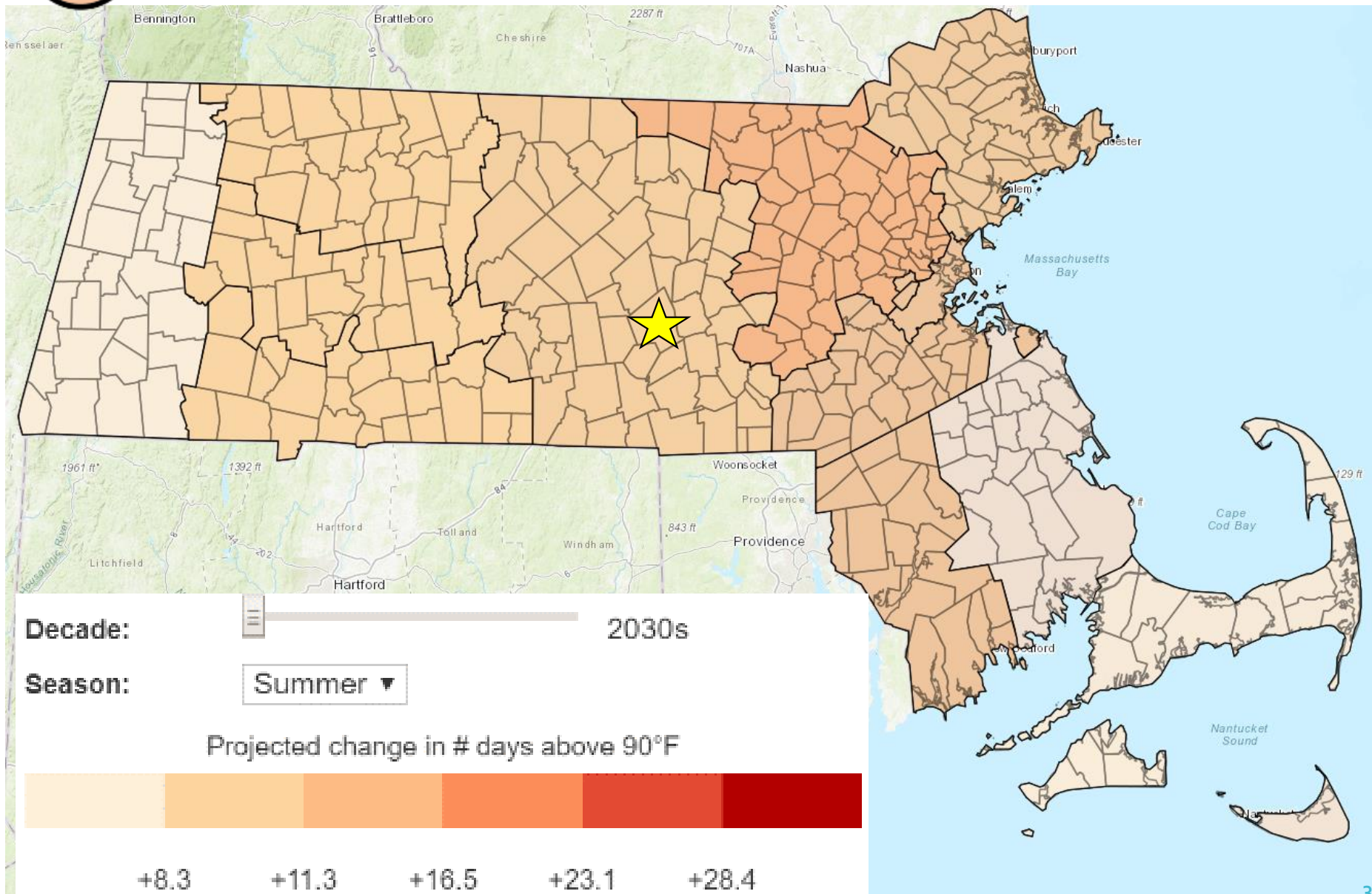
# EXTREME HEAT – PRESENT HOT SPOTS

- Heat effect exacerbated in impervious surface areas in the city known as “heat islands”.
- Often located in business districts or downtown areas.





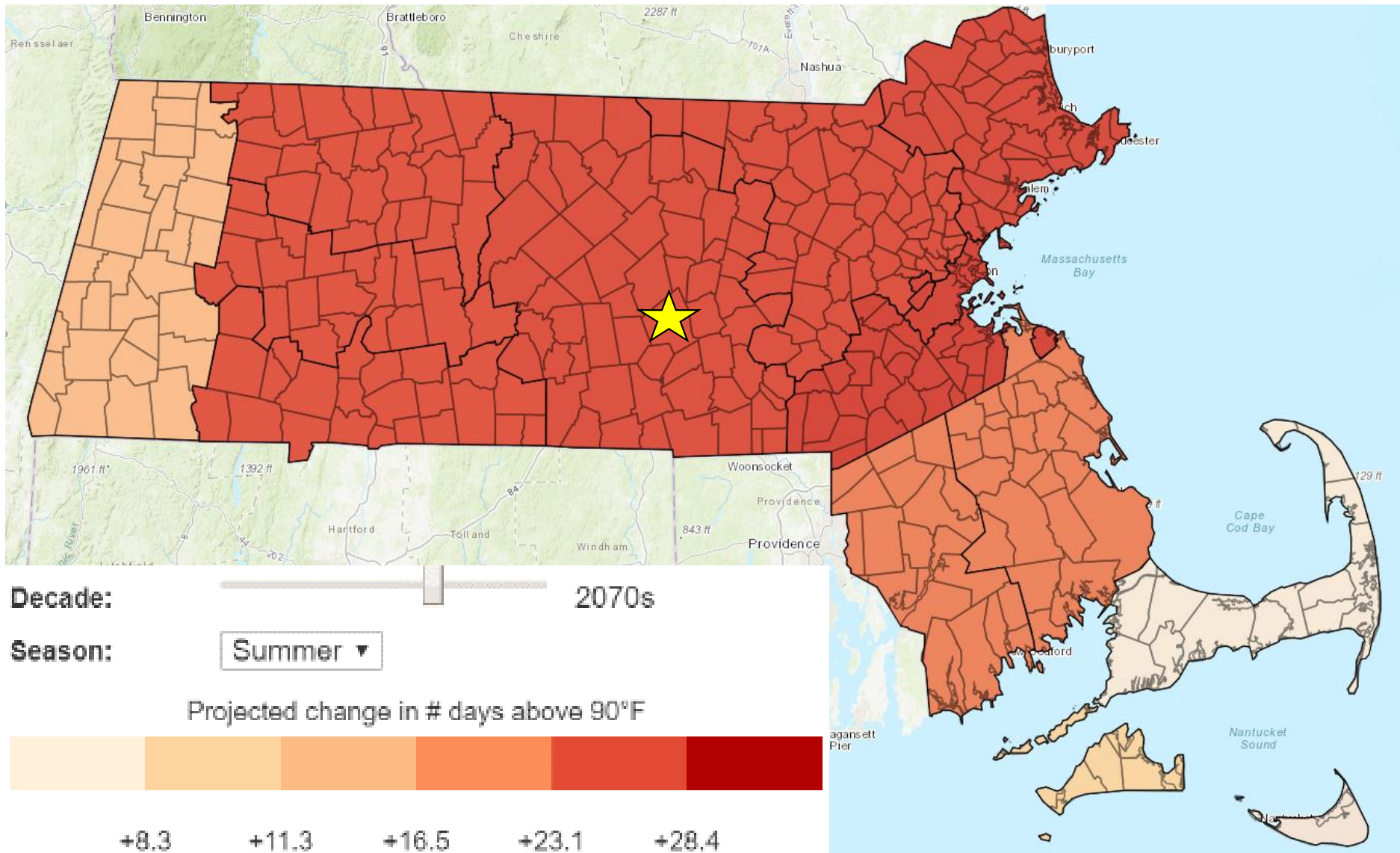
# EXTREME HEAT - 2030







# EXTREME HEAT - 2070



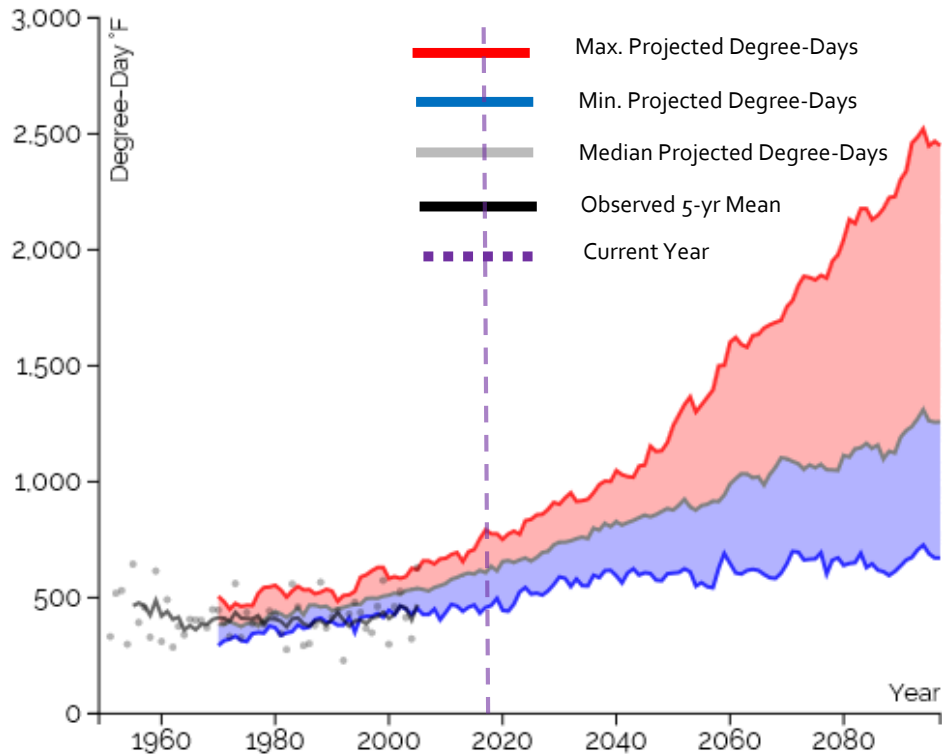




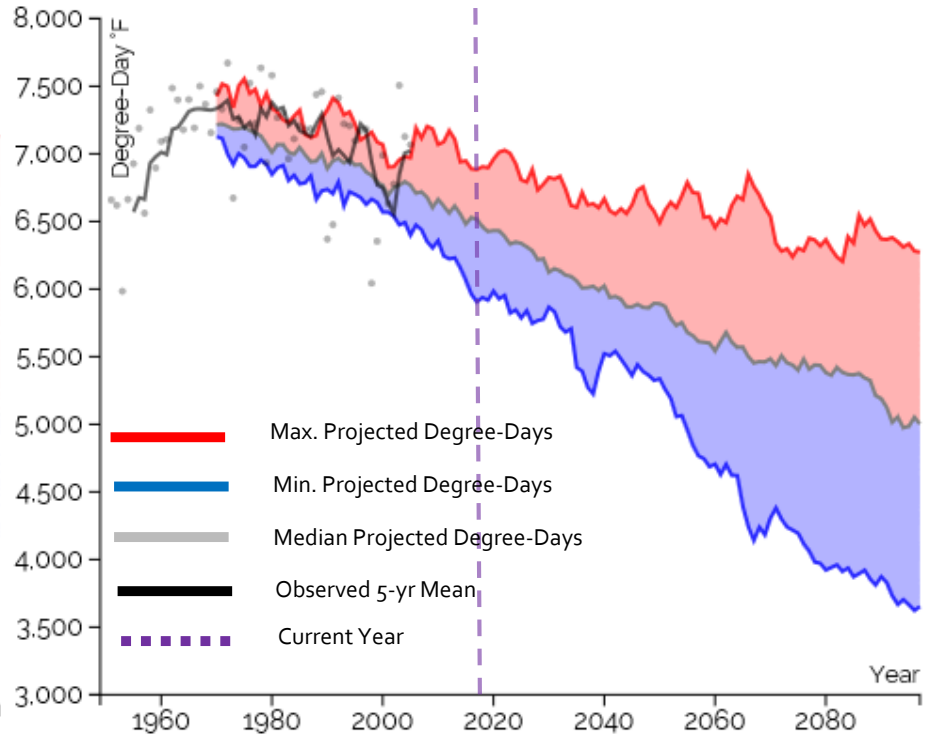
# EXTREME HEAT – ENERGY DEMAND

- There will be more cooling degree-days than heating degree-days by 2070!
- Degree-days are a sum of the year's high or low temperatures relative to the mean. HDD apply to temps lower than the mean, CDD apply to temps higher than the mean.

**Annual Cooling Degree-Day Accumulation (CDD)**  
Worcester County, MA



**Annual Heating Degree-Day Accumulation (HDD)**  
Worcester County, MA





# EXTREME HEAT – PUBLIC HEALTH

## Human health issues:

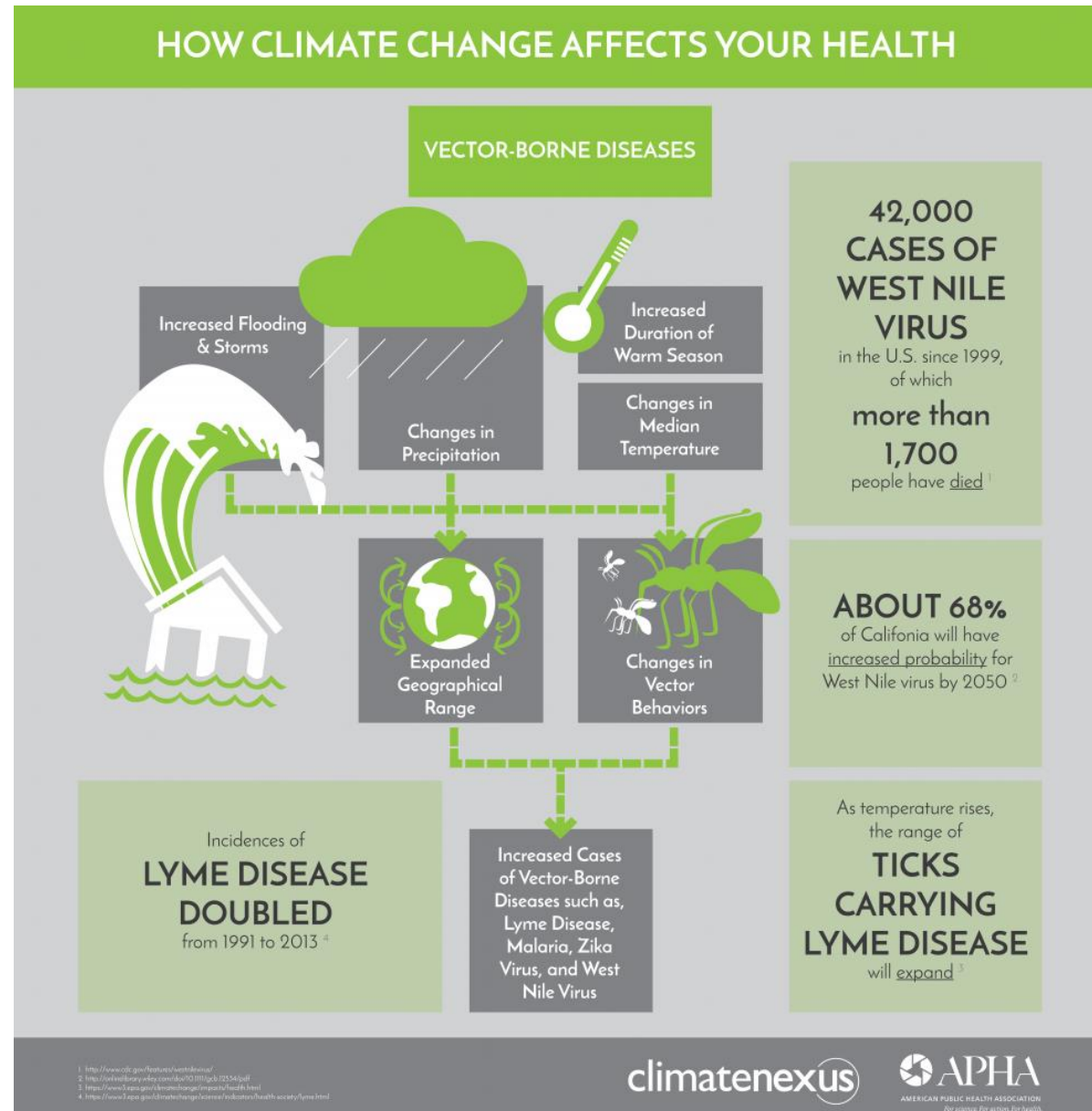
- Heat-related illness and mortality
  - Study shows deaths during heat waves in NYC are more common in neighborhoods with higher relative daytime surface temperature

Source: Madrigano, Jaime & Ito, Kazuhiko & Johnson, Sarah & Kinney, Patrick & Matte, Thomas. (2015). A Case-Only Study of Vulnerability to Heat Wave-Related Mortality in New York City (2000–2011). *Environmental health perspectives*. 123. 10.1289/ehp.1408178.

- Air quality, asthma
  - Emissions of pollutants like ozone and PM2.5 increase at high temperatures. Especially an issue in the north-eastern US, leading to concerns about related illness and mortality.

Source: Kinney, Patrick. (2018). *Interactions of Climate Change, Air Pollution, and Human Health*. *Current Environmental Health Reports*. 5. 10.1007/s40572-018-0188-x.

- Vector-borne diseases

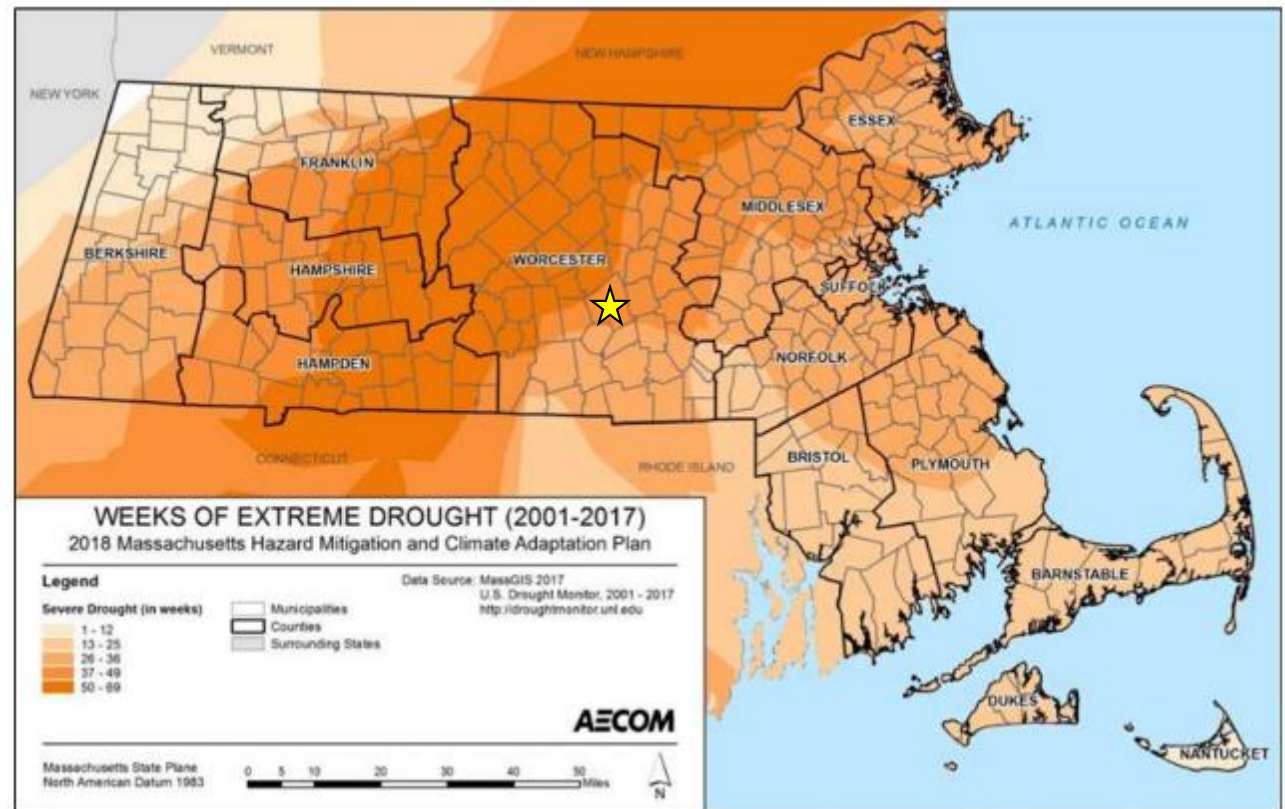




# DROUGHT – HISTORIC DATA

- More rainfall in large events could mean longer gaps with no rainfall locally.
- Could impact natural resources:
  - Trees
  - Water quality
  - Aquatic organisms
  - Aquifers / Reservoirs

Figure 4-8: Weeks of Severe Drought (2001-2017)

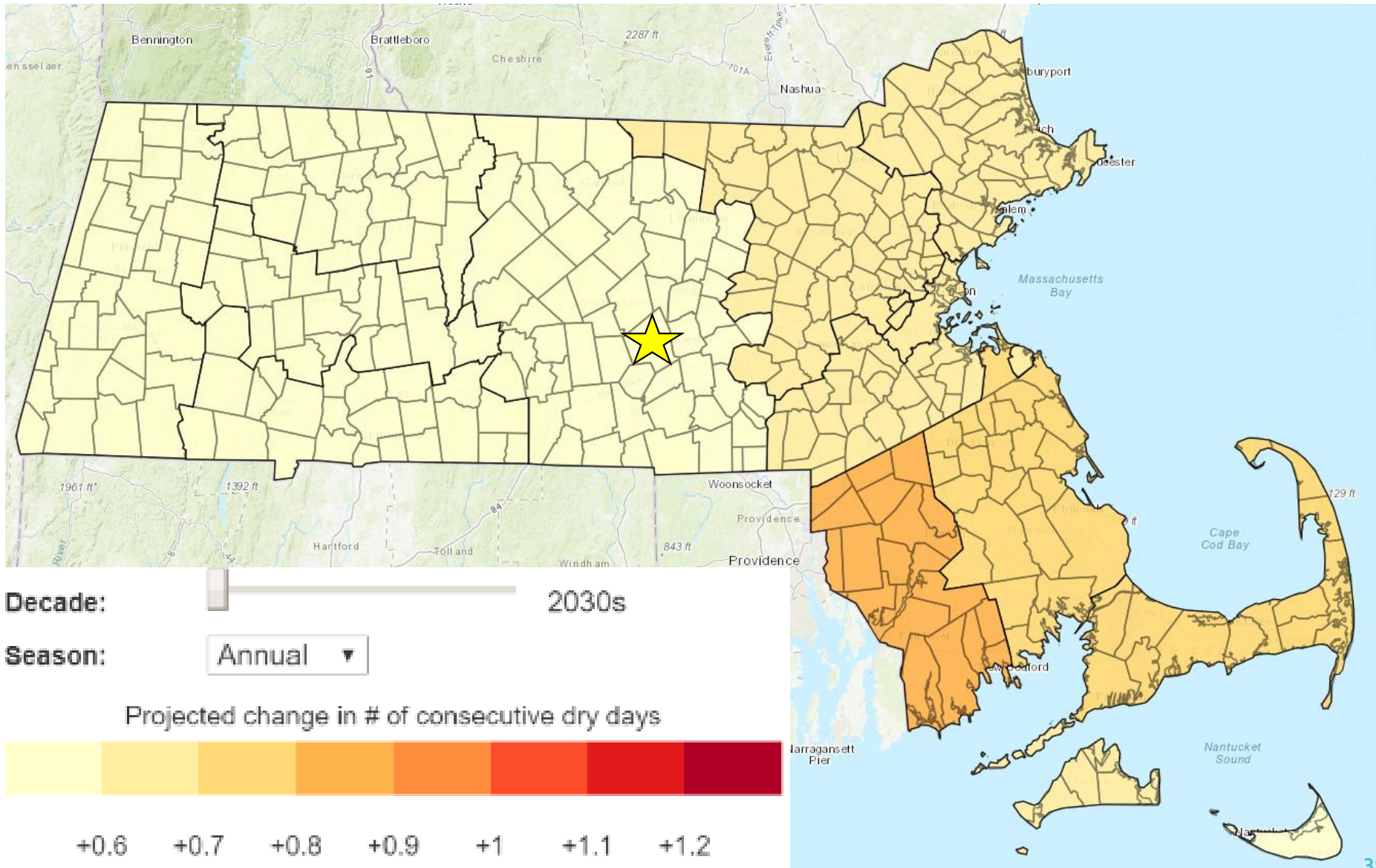


- In Worcester, there have been 7 major droughts since 1930 (3-8 years each)



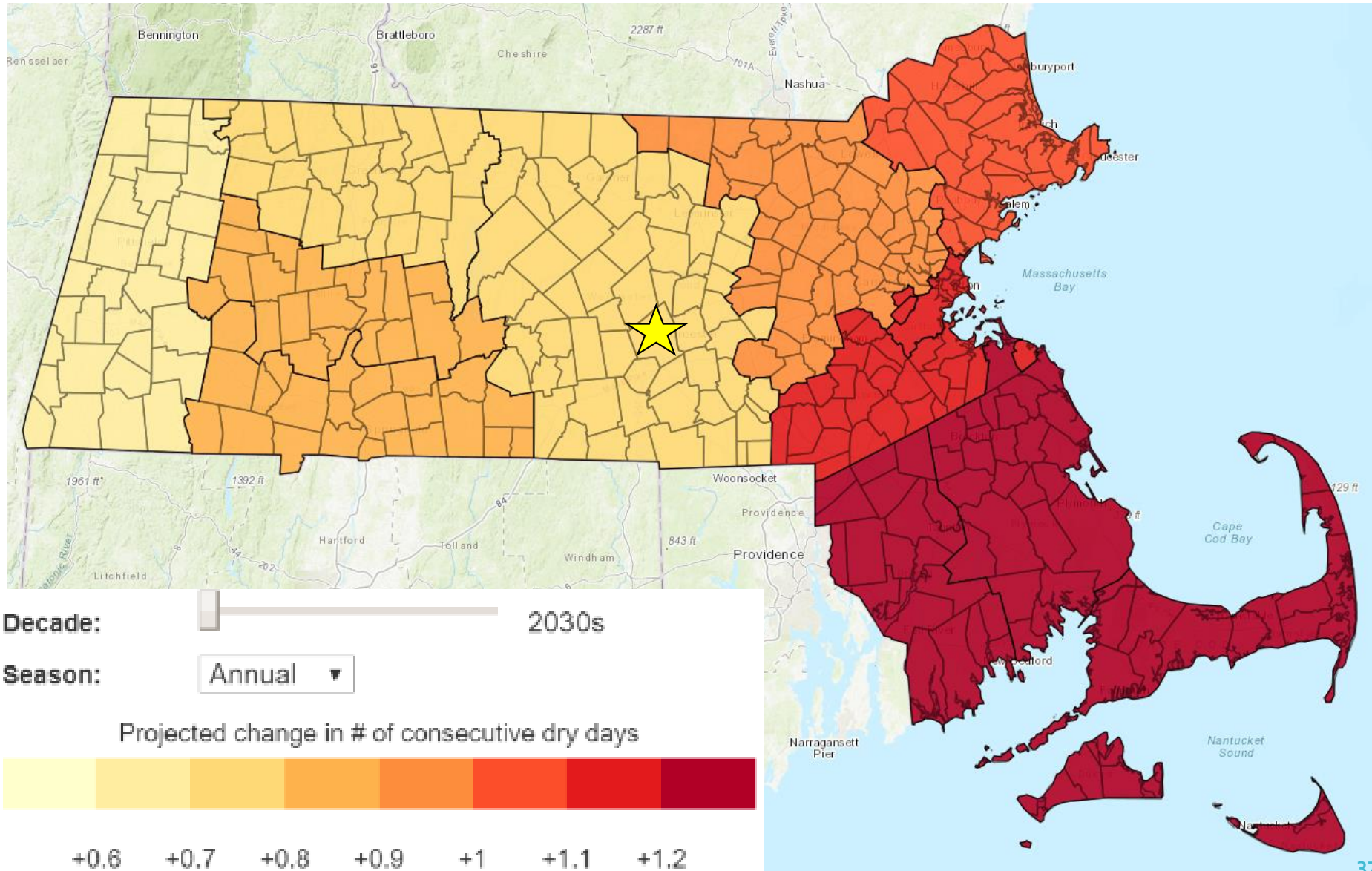


# DROUGHT – CONSECUTIVE DRY DAYS 2030





# DROUGHT – CONSECUTIVE DRY DAYS 2070





# WIND

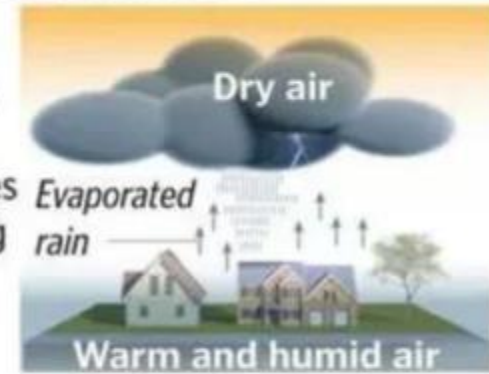
- Typically, damaging winds are classified as those exceeding 50-60 mph.
- Damaging winds can result from microbursts, thunderstorms, blizzards, tropical storms, tornados, etc.
- Impacts: town resources, infrastructure, private and public property.



Source: Joanne Rathe/Globe Staff

## HOW A MICROBURST HAPPENS

- 1 Under certain conditions during a thunderstorm, the rain evaporates quickly, ascending to the drier air above.



SOURCE: NOAA

- 2 The upper dry air is cooled suddenly and sinks to the ground, spreading in strong, damaging winds



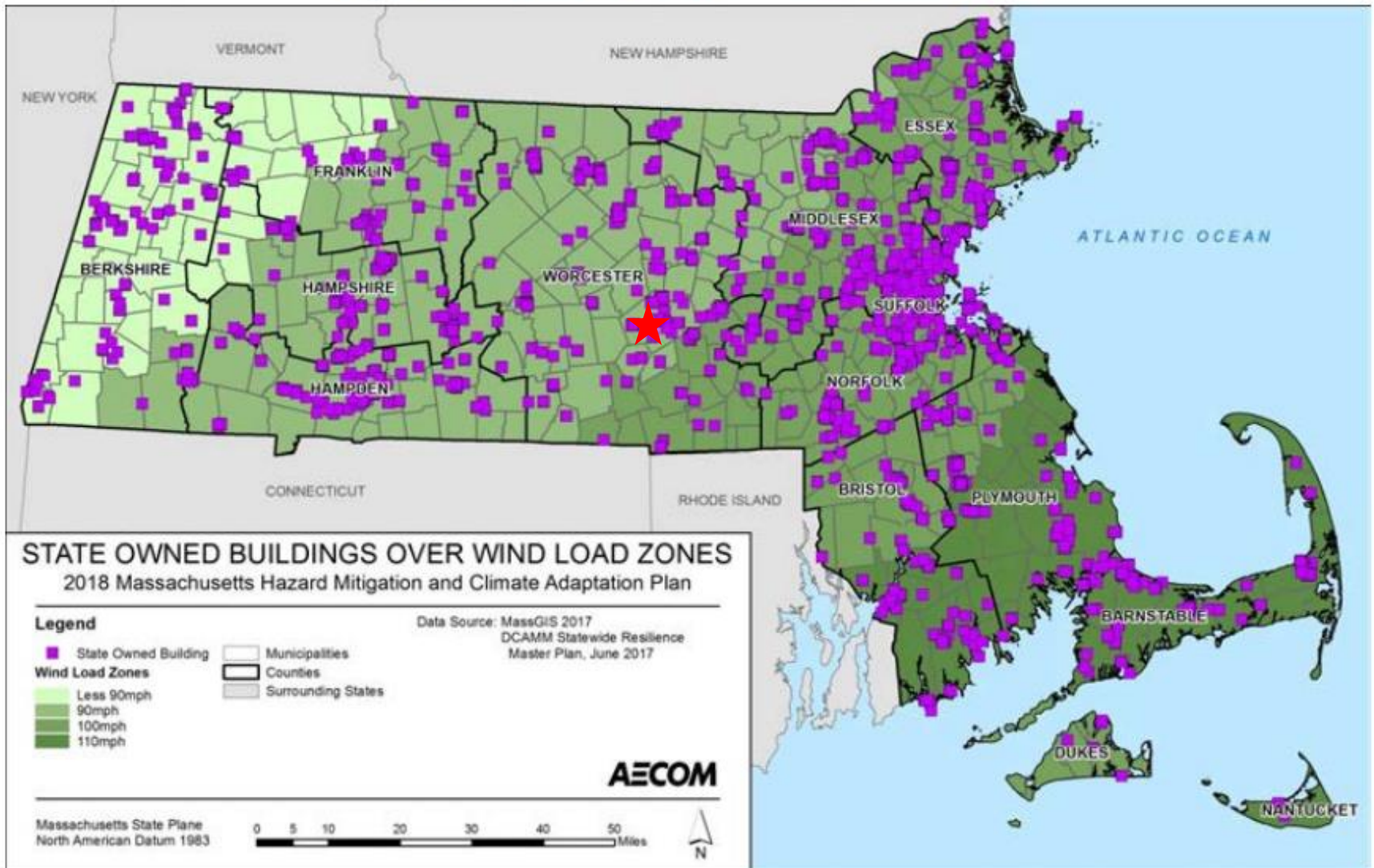
JAVIER ZARRACINA/THE BOSTON GLOBE





# WIND – HISTORIC DATA

Figure 4-76: Wind Load Zones in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts



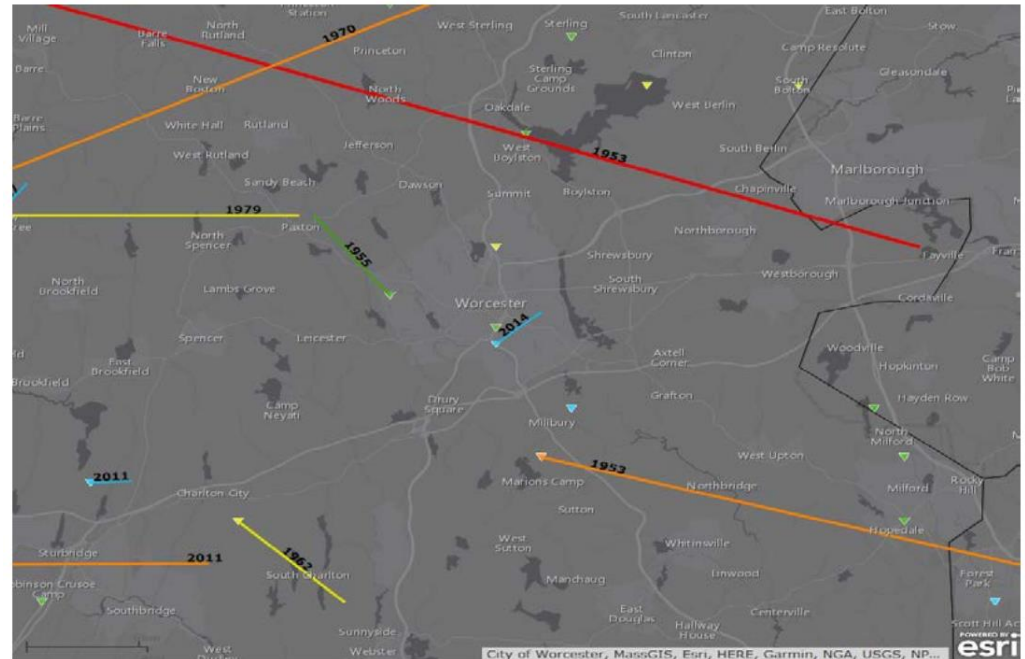
Source: DCAMM, 2017 (facility inventory)

Source: Worcester Hazard Mitigation Plan [DRAFT], 2018

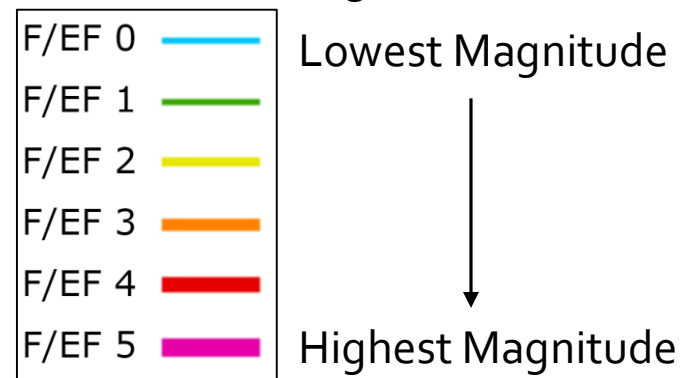
# TORNADOES

## Tornado tracks in Worcester area 1950 - 2016

- Destructive swirling columns of air, often formed during severe thunderstorm events.
- Rotational wind speeds can reach 250 mph.
- Path can be difficult to predict because they often stall or change direction abruptly.
- In MA, tornado events have occurred most frequently in the Connecticut River Valley and in western Worcester County.



### Tornado Magnitude Scale



Impacts from tornadoes can be devastating: Loss of life, tree and power line damage, personal property loss.



# BRUSH FIRES

- Like wind, brush fires are typically a result of dry ground conditions and drought.
- Approximately 90% of wildfires in Massachusetts are caused by humans, the other 10% by lightning.
- Impacts: natural resources, infrastructure, private and public property.



*Source: CBS Boston c/o Dustin Fitch)*





# II. VOTE FOR YOUR 3<sup>RD</sup> HAZARD

## AND PROVIDE A REASON

- What hazards have impacted your community in the past/present?
  - Where, how often, and in what ways?
- What is exposed to climate threats now and in the future?
- What have been the impacts to operations and budgets, planning and mitigation efforts?

Fill in Top 3 or 4 Hazards on Risk Matrix

The image shows a 'Community Resilience Building Workshop Risk Matrix' form. At the top, there are six circular icons representing different hazards: a blue cloud with a lightning bolt, a blue cloud with snowflakes, an orange thermometer, a yellow flame, a green wind turbine, and a red sun with a cracked ground. A light blue rectangular box highlights the last four icons (thermometer, flame, wind turbine, and cracked ground). A blue arrow points from the text 'Fill in Top 3 or 4 Hazards on Risk Matrix' to this box. The form itself is a table with columns for 'Features', 'Location', 'Ownership', 'V or S', and several empty columns for data entry. The rows are categorized by 'Features' into 'Infrastructural', 'Societal', and 'Environmental'.

Features	Location	Ownership	V or S					
Infrastructural								
Societal								
Environmental								

# III. BREAK – 15 MINS

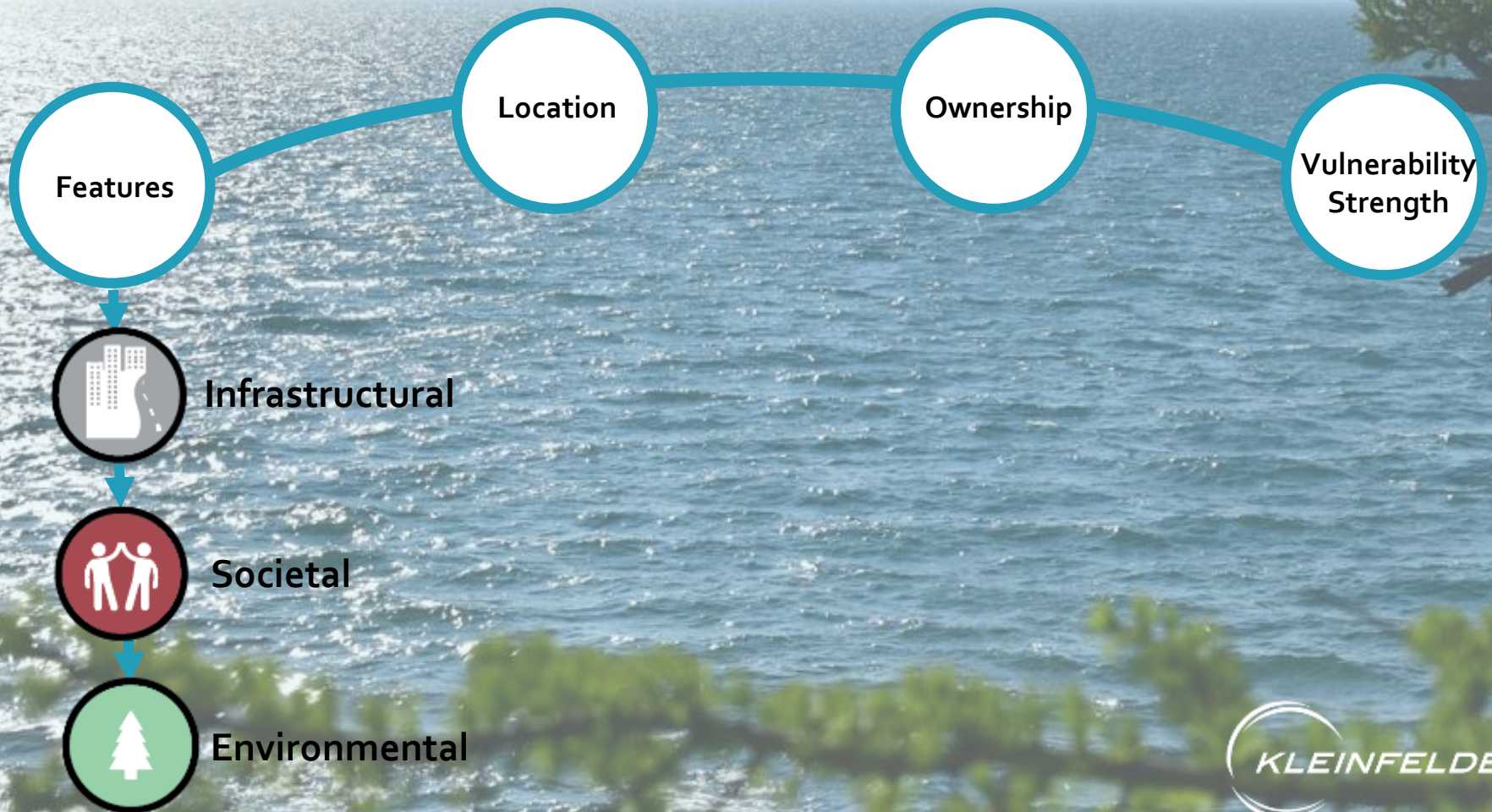
## WORCESTER COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING WORKSHOP





# IV. STRENGTHS & VULNERABILITIES

What are Worcester's infrastructural, societal, and environmental strengths and vulnerabilities?





# INFRASTRUCTURE

**Critical Infrastructure** – provides essential services and serves as the backbone of the city's security and health.

- Vital to the hazard response effort.
- Maintains existing level of protection from hazards for the community.
- Would create a secondary disaster if a hazard were to impact it.
- Facilities and populations to especially protect from a hazard.

*Examples Include:*

- Bridges, Roads
- Dams, Reservoirs
- Emergency Operations
- Municipal Buildings, Schools, Hospitals
- Utilities, Water and Sewer System
- Commercial Buildings and Businesses
- Historic Sites







# INFRASTRUCTURE



Nelson Elementary School



Water Filtration Plant





# INFRASTRUCTURE



Pine Hills Dam



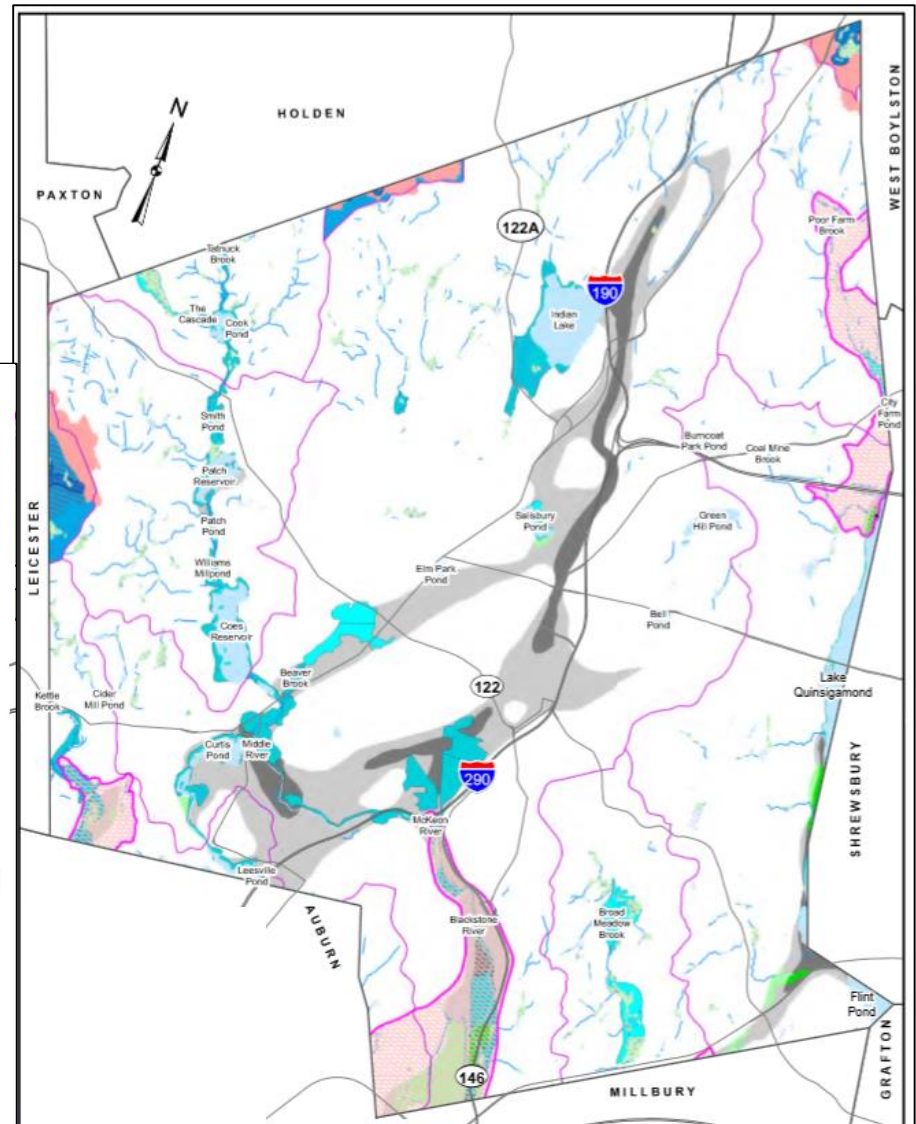


# INFRASTRUCTURE

## Water Resources Map

### Public Water Infrastructure:

- Essential for city function and survival.







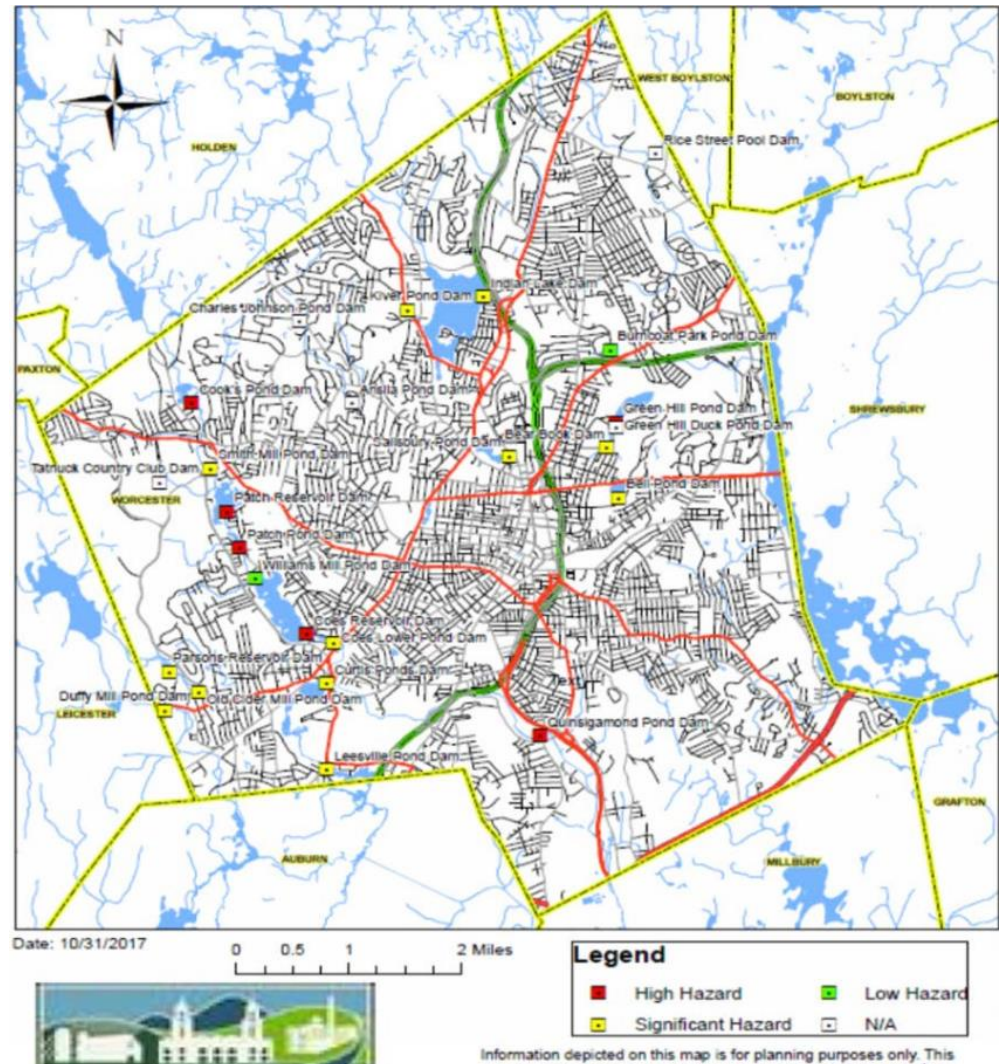
# INFRASTRUCTURE

## Dam Locations and Hazards Map

25 dams in Worcester

- 6 High Hazard
- 12 Significant Hazard

Dam failure is not common but many present a disastrous hazard to lives and property. The hazard level classification reflects the potential impact of a specific dam failure. Extensive flooding would occur in downstream areas.





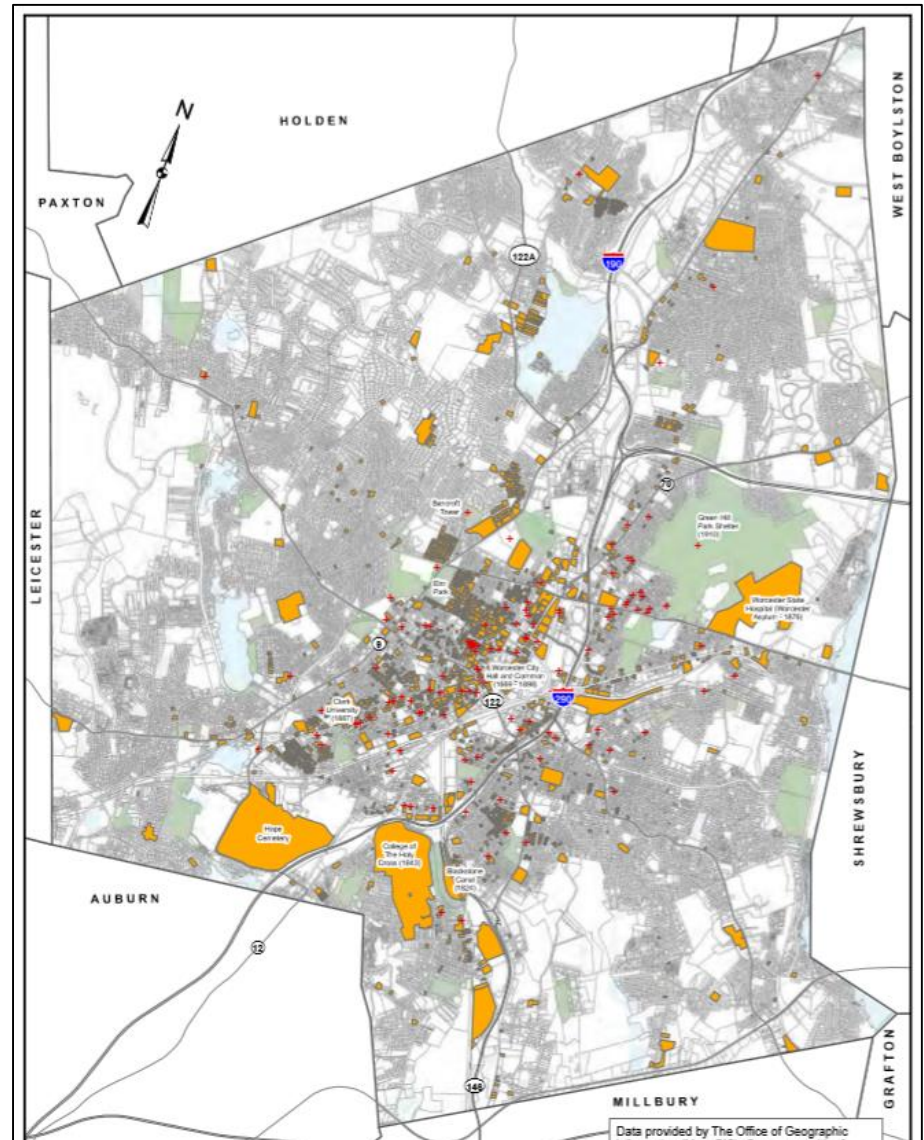
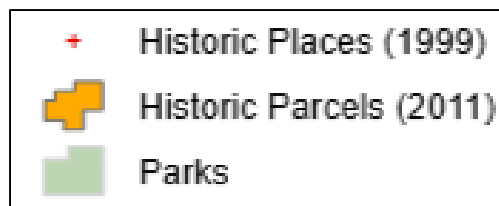


# INFRASTRUCTURE

## Unique Features Map

Other important city infrastructure:

- Historic locations.
- Public parks.





# SOCIETY

- Combination of factors and forces that affect the susceptibility of various groups within a community to harm, as well as their ability to respond positively after extreme events.



**“The death toll was the result of distinct dangers in Chicago’s social environment: an increased population of isolated seniors who live and die alone”– Eric Klinenberg**



# SOCIETY

## 2016 Data:

- City Population: 184,509
- Males: 91,316 (49.5%)
- Females: 93,193 (50.5%)

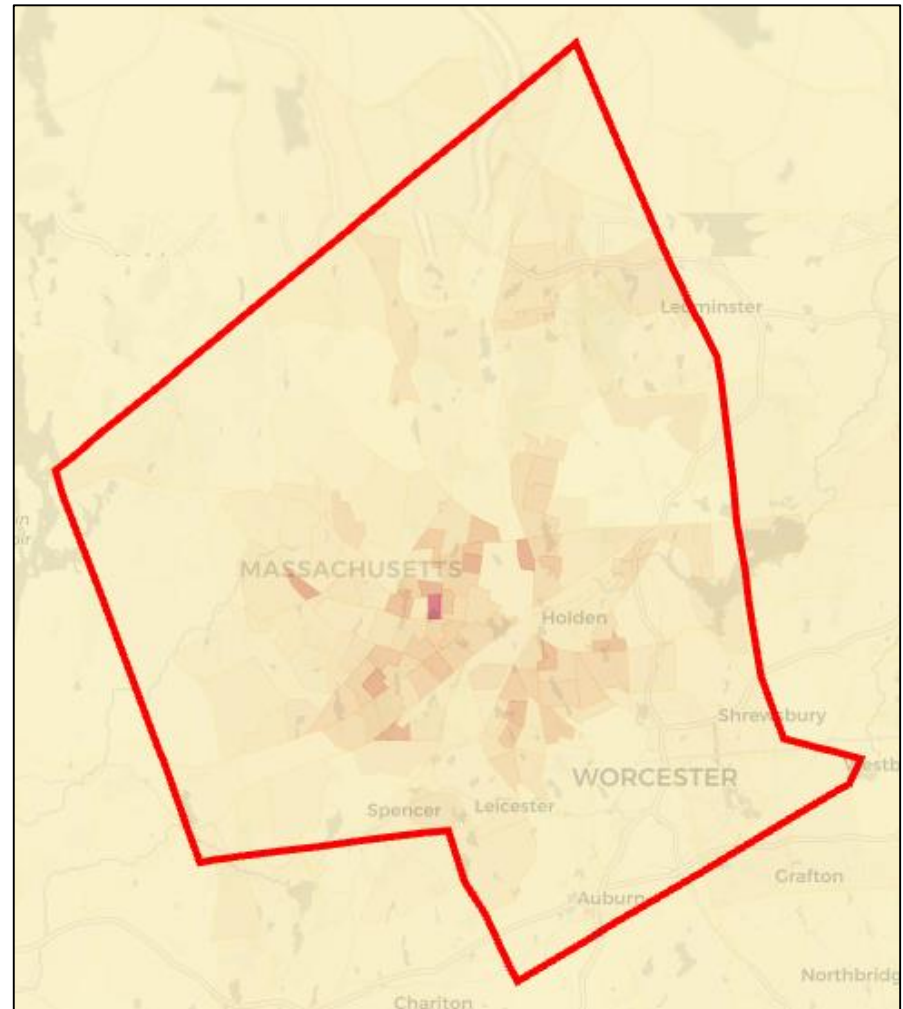
Source: [www.city-data.com](http://www.city-data.com)

## Age Stats for Worcester

- 25.5% under 19
- 12.5% over 65
- Median age 33.8
- MA median age 39.3

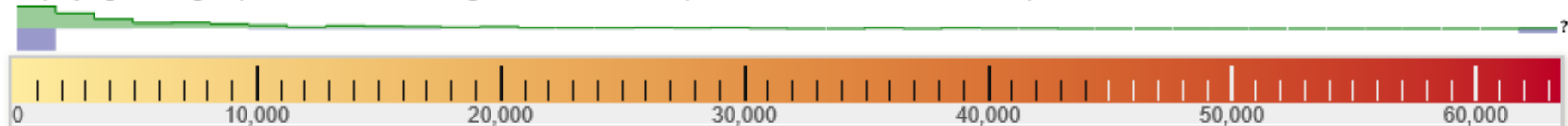
Source: Worcester Hazard Mitigation Plan [DRAFT], 2018

## Worcester Population Density Graphic



Displaying: block groups. Zoom in to view higher resolution data (available down to the block level)

Based on 2000-2016 data



Source: [www.city-data.com](http://www.city-data.com)



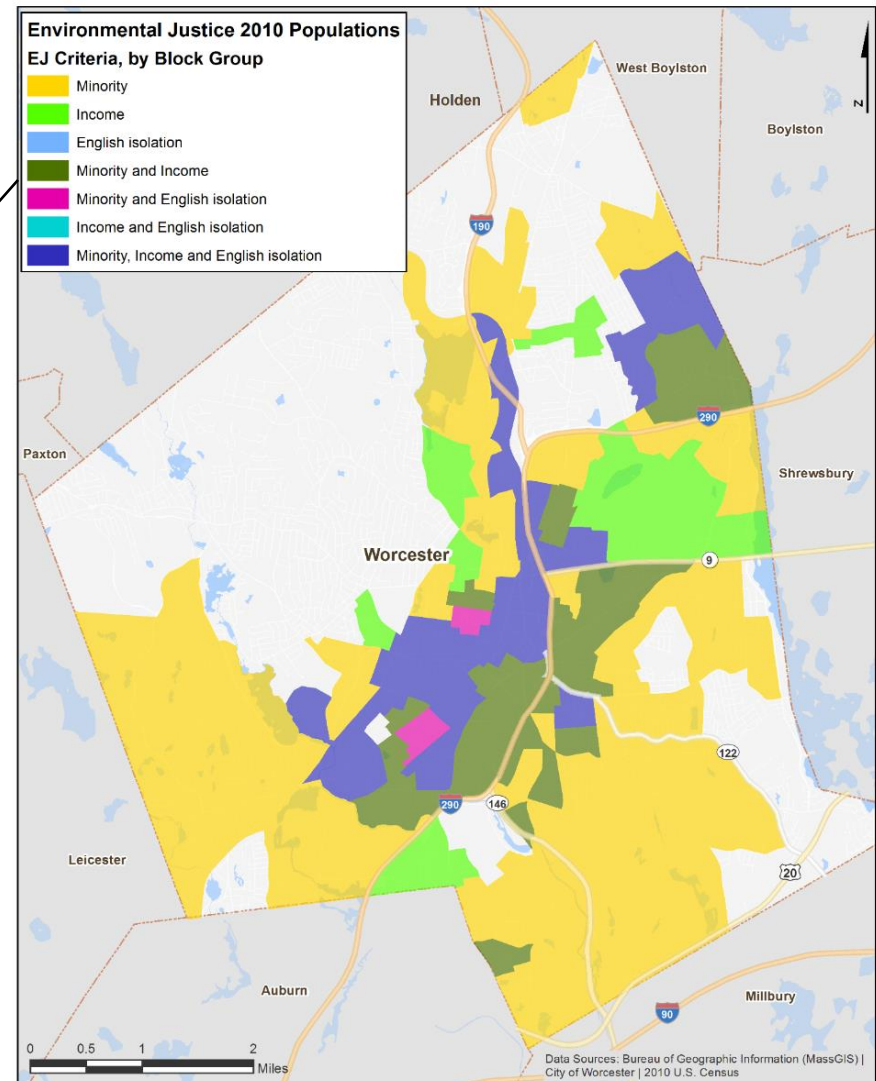
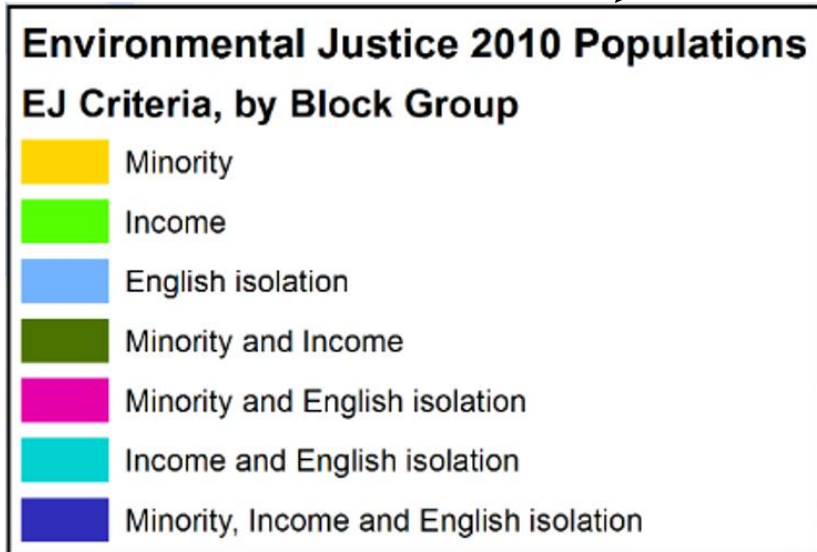


# SOCIETY

The location of vulnerable populations throughout the city.

- Downtown areas have the highest concentration.

## Environmental Justice Populations Map





# SOCIETY

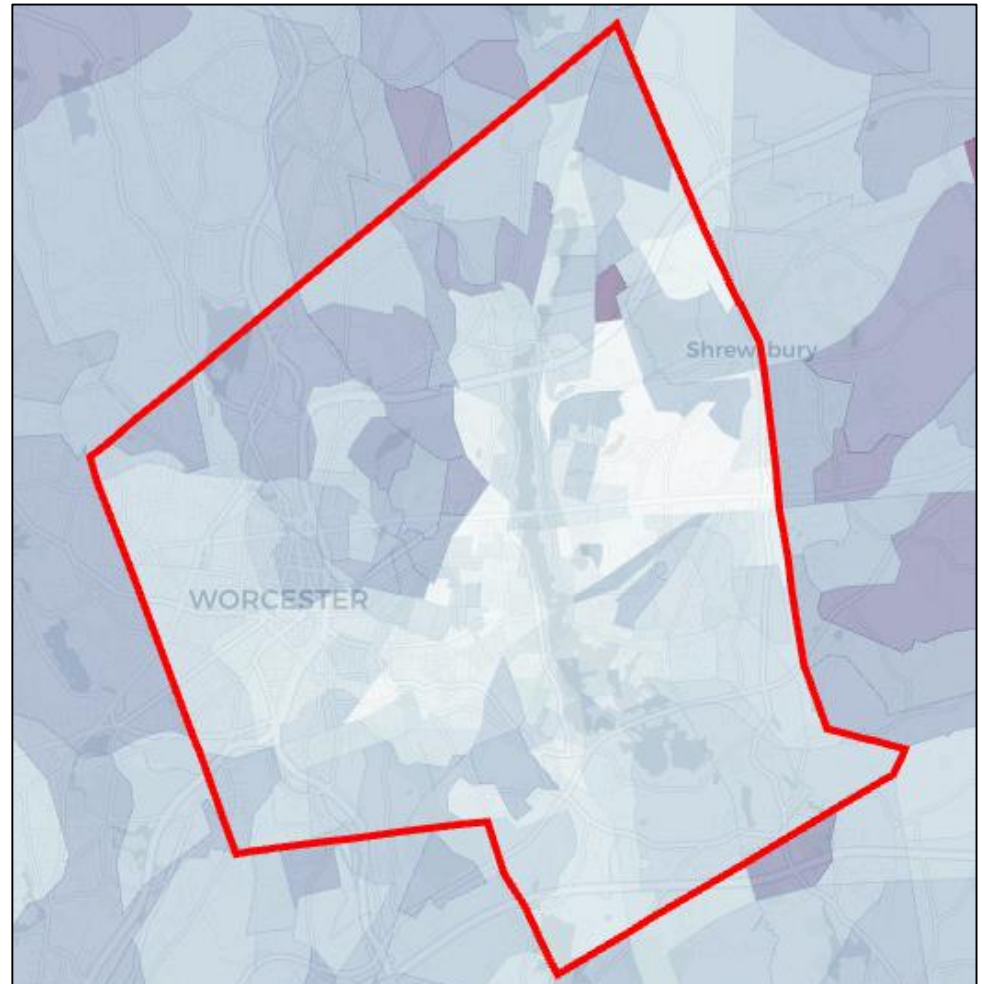
Vulnerable populations, post-incident are most likely to be effected by lack of access to recovery services, displacement, injury, illness, loss of employment, and property damage.

## Worcester Stats : Income

- Median Income: \$56,221
  - MA median income: \$68,563.
  - County median income: \$65,313
- Poverty: 22.4%
  - MA poverty: 11.6%
  - County poverty: 11.8%

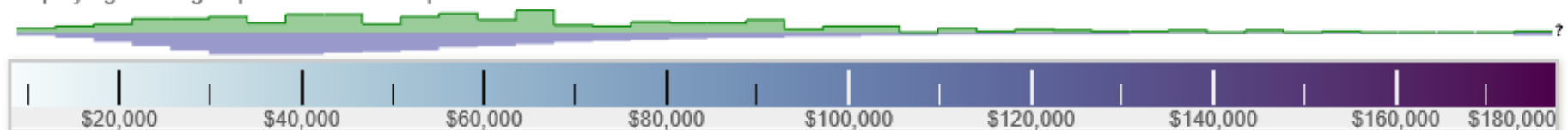
Source: Worcester Hazard Mitigation Plan [DRAFT], 2018

## Median Household Income Graphic



Displaying: block groups. Zoom out and pan to view other areas

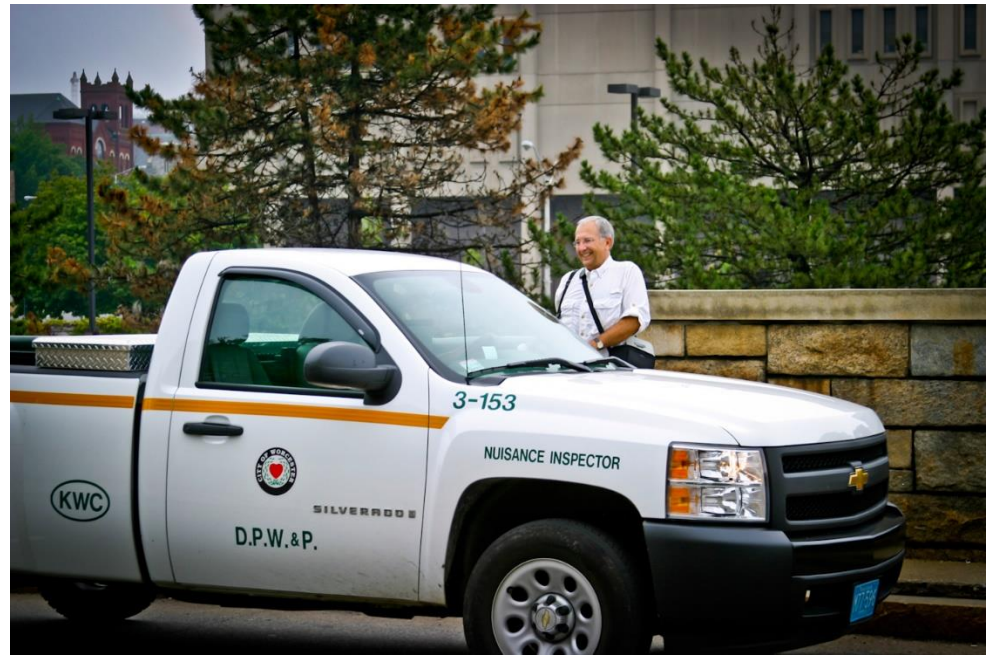
Based on 2000-2016 data







# SOCIETY



© 2011 Scott Erb - Erb Photography



# ENVIRONMENT

Benefits of natural systems include:

- Flood storage
- Recreation and tourism
- Cooling during heat waves
- Biodiversity conservation
- Water filtration
- Mobility Vulnerabilities
- Water quality and quantity
- Air Quality

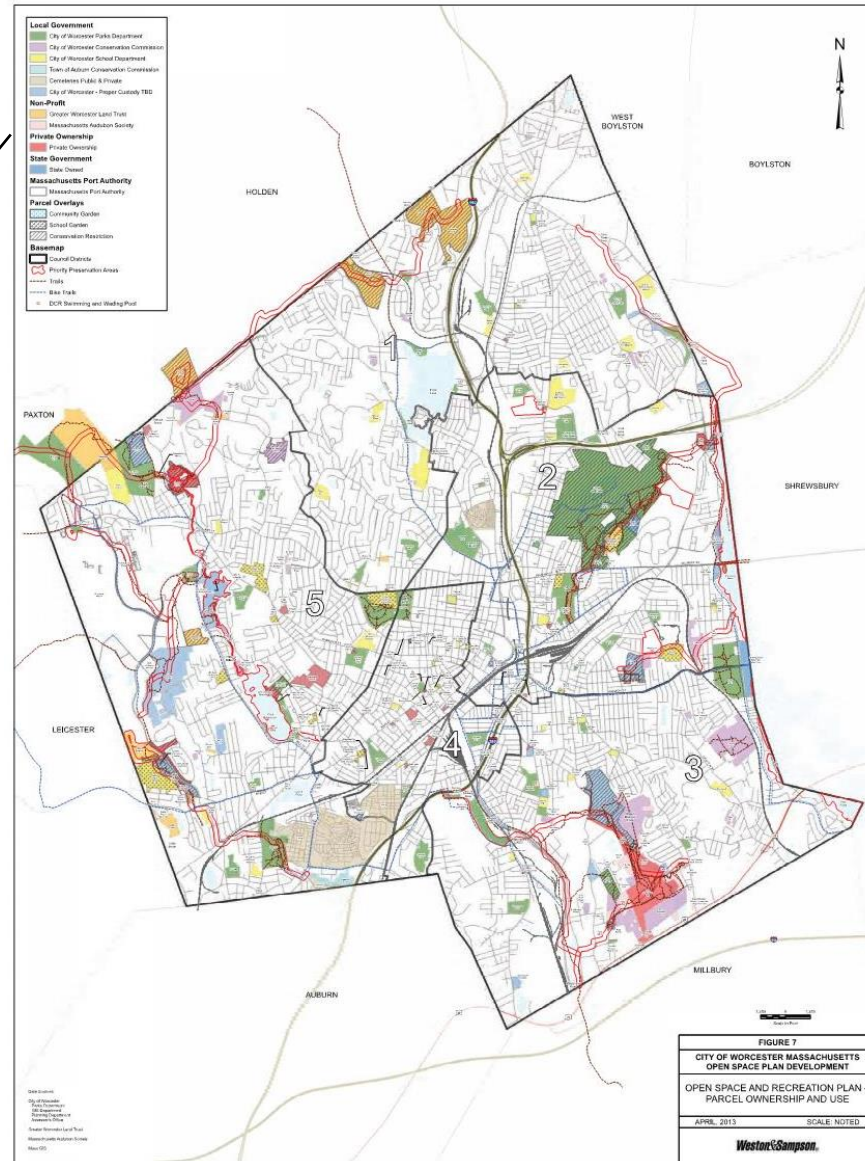
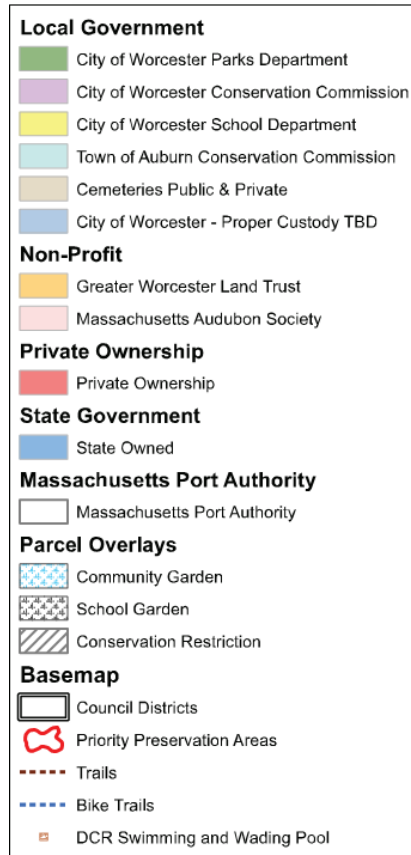




# ENVIRONMENT – PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

## Open Space and Recreation Map

- Parks and open space are essential for cooling and air quality in the city.
- Encourage outdoor activity for residents.



Source: Weston & Sampson OSRP Report, 2013





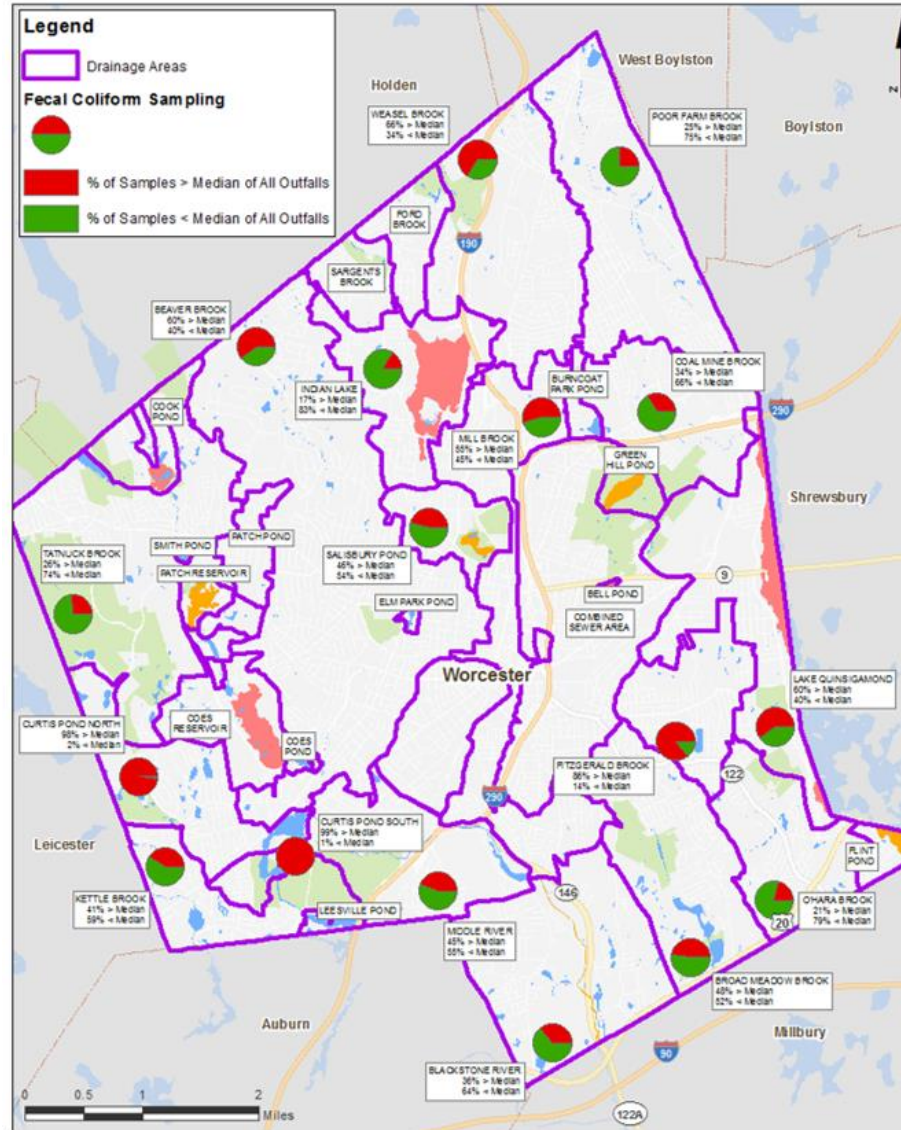
# ENVIRONMENT – POLLUTED WATERWAYS

## Drainage Areas and Fecal Coliform Sampling Locations (1999-2016)

Nutrient loads in Worcester waterways can cause dangerous cyanobacterial (blue-green algal) blooms:

- Some pollution comes from storm water and sewer management.
- Other pollution comes from nutrient release from sediment (difficult to pinpoint and address).
- Cyanobacteria in high levels is dangerous to humans and pets and is difficult to detect.

Source: Worcester watershed advocacy group







# ENVIRONMENT

## Environmental Challenges:

- Erosion
- Invasive plant material
- Chronic flooding
- Sedimentation
- Ground and Surface Water Pollution
- Impaired Water Bodies





# ENVIRONMENT – URBAN FOREST

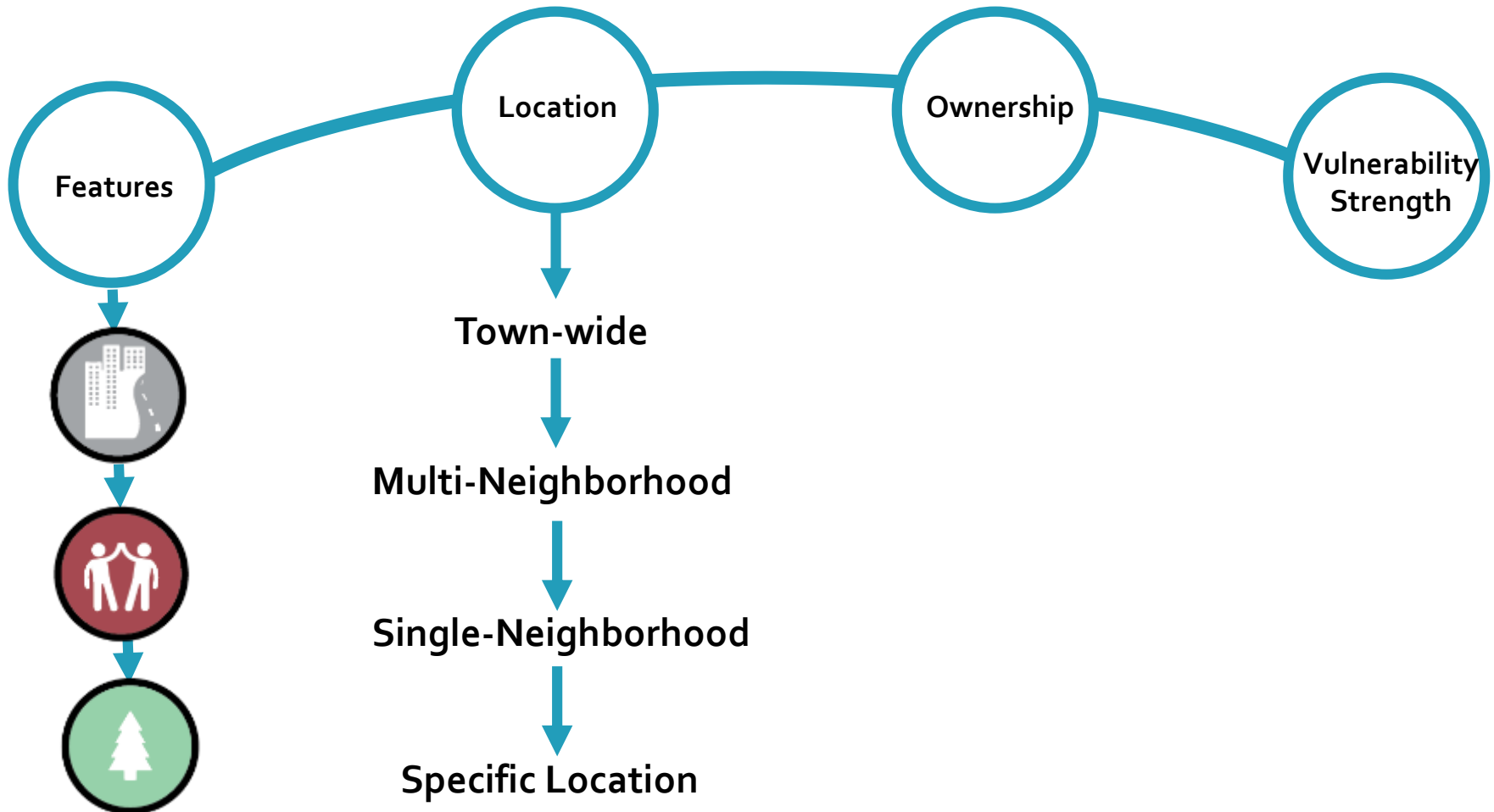
The urban forest is essential for cooling the city. “The average percentage increase in kWh/CDD is 1.17 due to an average one-percentage decrease in canopy cover”.

Block (N = 6)	Percentage Decrease in Canopy Cover (2008-2009)	Percentage Increase (kWh/CDD Usage) after tree removal
1	92	87
2	82	79
3	82	99.6
4	78	116
5	83	140
6	88	67

Table 3: Percent Canopy Cover Difference and Percent kWh Difference between 2008 and 2009.

# IV. RESILIENCE & VULNERABILITIES

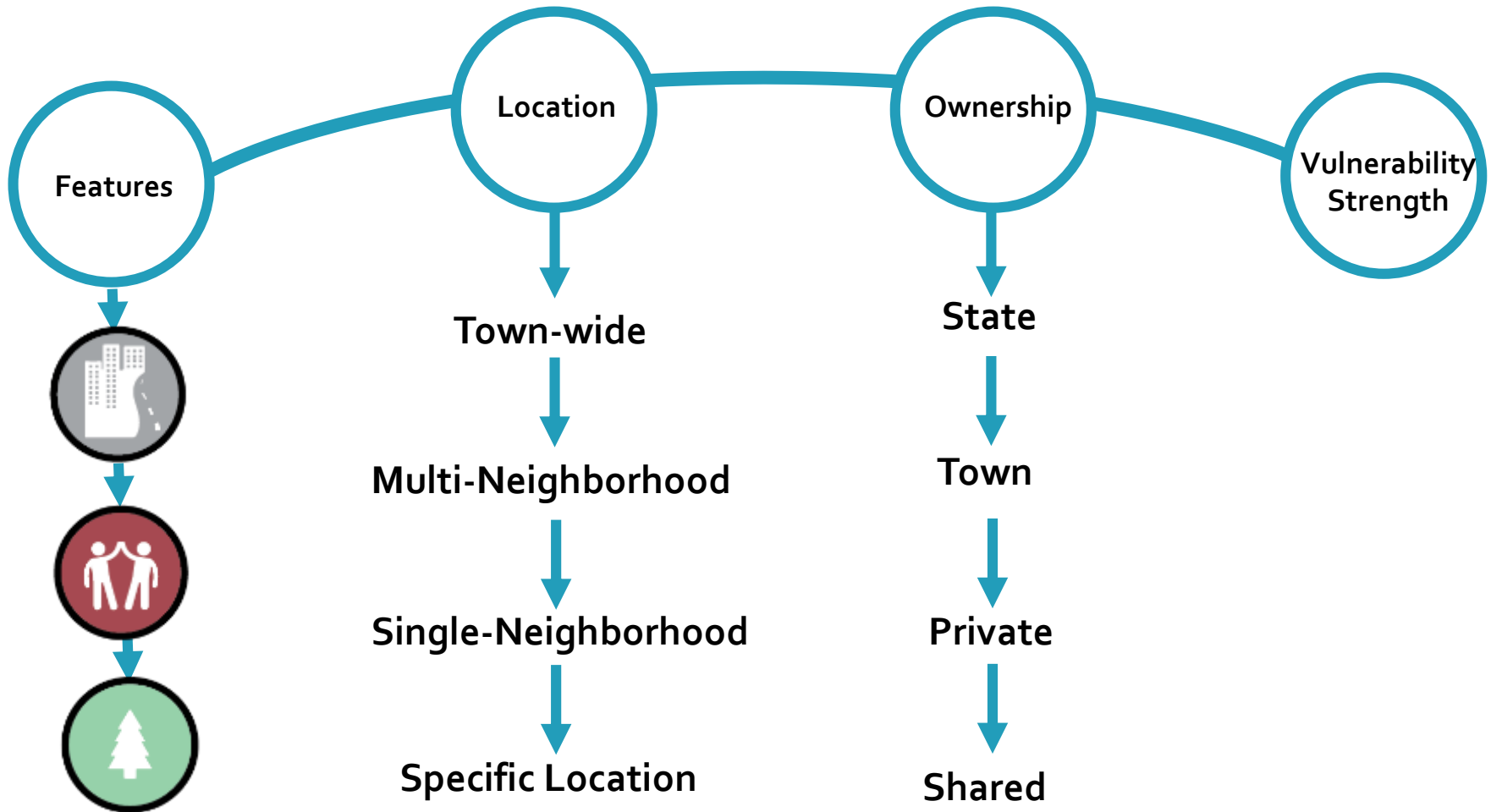
What are Worcester's infrastructural, societal, and environmental strengths and vulnerabilities?





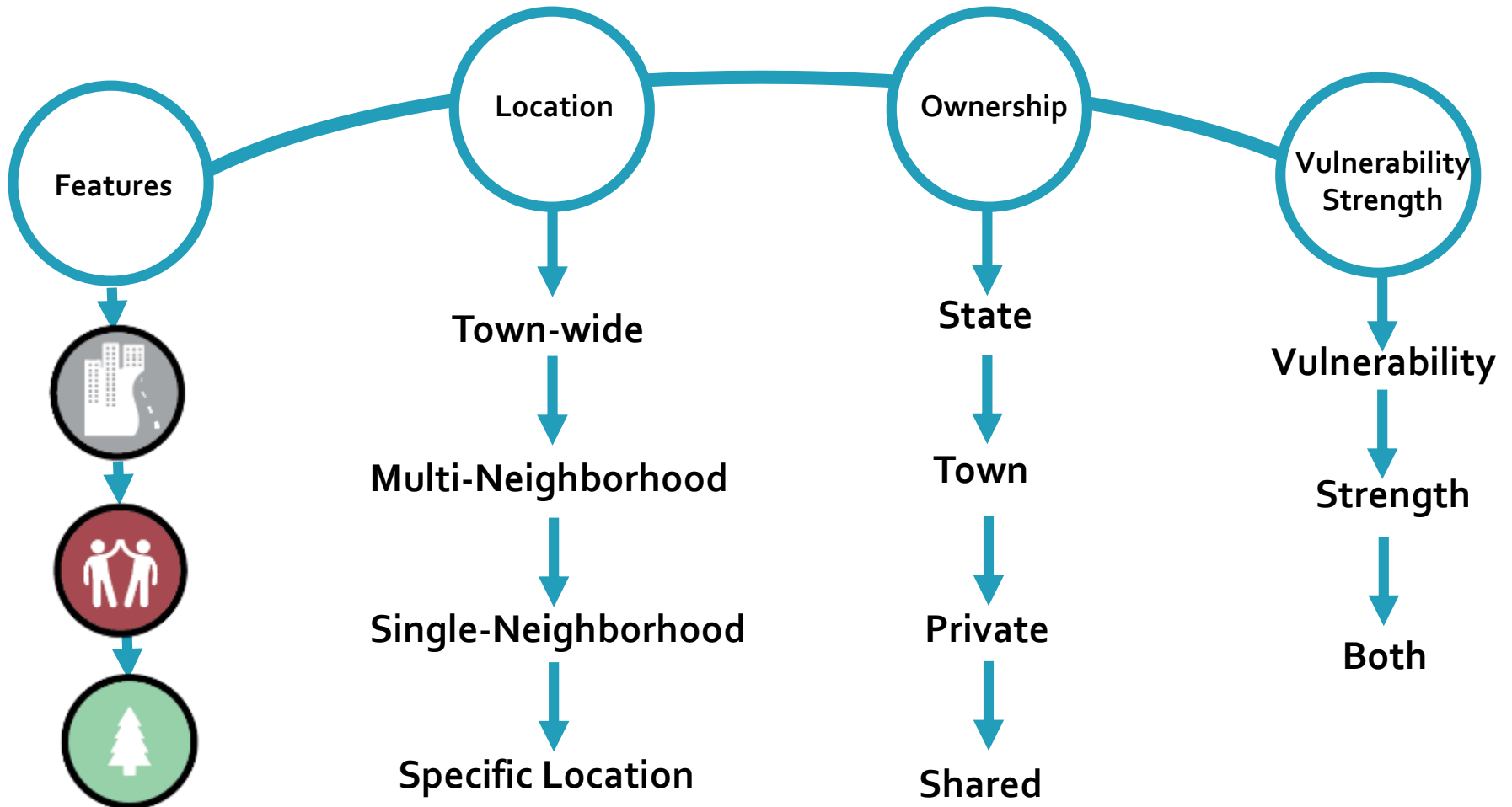
# IV. RESILIENCE & VULNERABILITIES

What are Worcester's infrastructural, societal, and environmental strengths and vulnerabilities?



# IV. RESILIENCE & VULNERABILITIES

What are Worcester's infrastructural, societal, and environmental strengths and vulnerabilities?



# IV. RESILIENCE & VULNERABILITIES

## Small Group Exercise

- What infrastructure, societal features, or important natural resources are exposed to current and future hazards?
- What makes them vulnerable?
- What makes them resilient?
- What are the consequences if the existing vulnerabilities are not addressed?
- *Note: We are working off of provided HMP maps - supplementing work already completed, not starting from scratch.*

The image shows two versions of a 'Community Resilience Building Workshop Risk Matrix'. The left version is a blank template with a header and a grid. The right version is a filled-out example table.

**Community Resilience Building Workshop Risk Matrix**

H-M-L priority for action over the Short or Long term (and Ongoing)  
 V = Vulnerability S = Strength

Features	Location	Ownership	V or S
<b>Infrastructural</b>			
Town Campus	Specific	Town	V
Evacuation Routes - Roads	Town-wide	Town/State	V
Electrical Distribution System	Multiple	CI&P/Town	V
Dams (inland and coastal)	Multiple	Private	V
Railway and State Bridges	Multiple	Amtrak/State	V
State Roads/Intersections	Town-wide	State/Town	V
Wharves and Shore Infrastructure	Shore	Town-State-Private	V
Waste Water Treatment Facility	Specific	Town	V
New Ambulance Center	Specific	Town	S
Zoning Regulations (maintain large lot size)	Multiple	Town	S



# V. LUNCH – 1 HOUR

## WORCESTER COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING WORKSHOP





# VI. COMMUNITY ACTIONS

Case Studies

HAZARDS



FEATURES

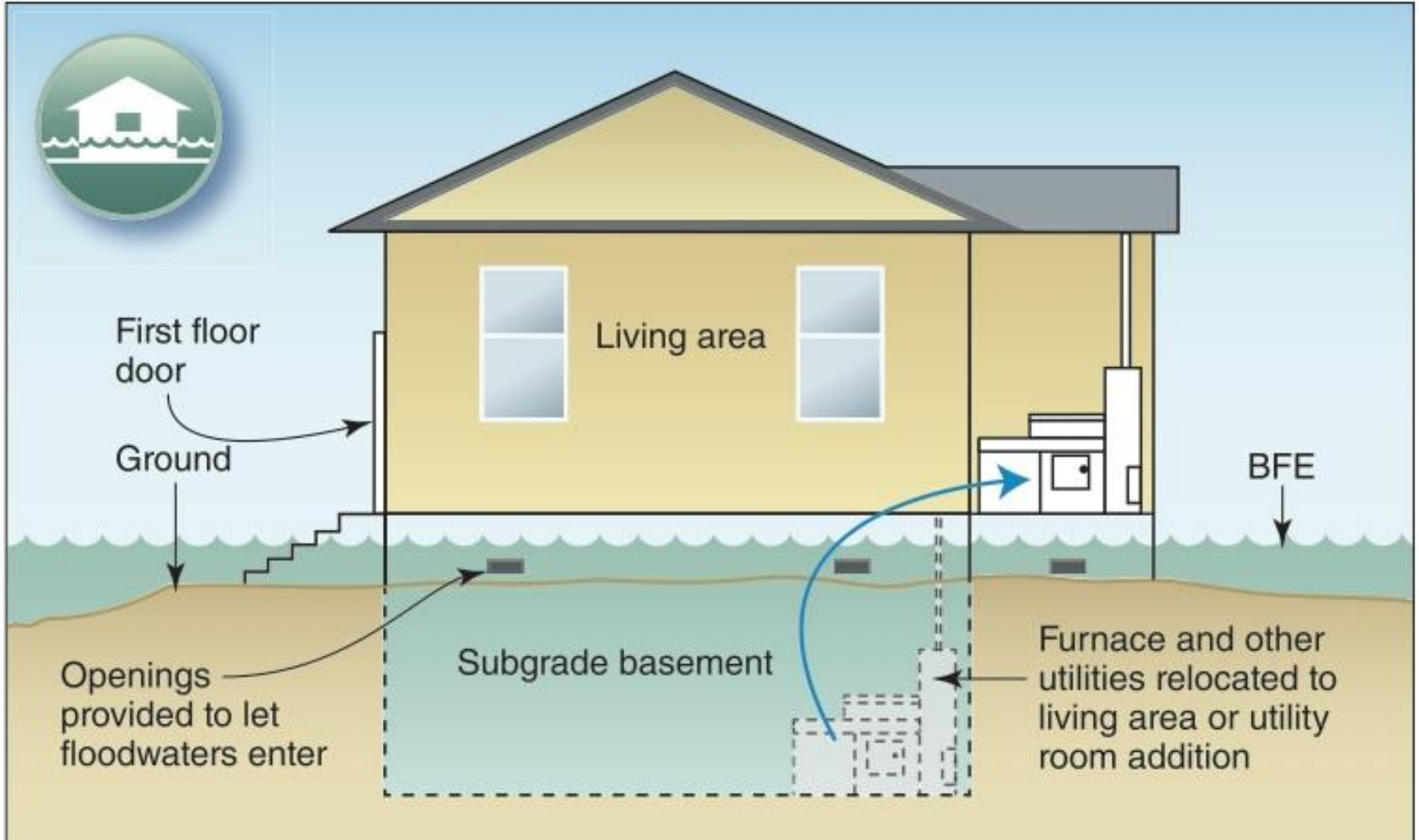


**Strategies**



# WET FLOODPROOFING

Community Action







# RAISED BUILDINGS

Community Action

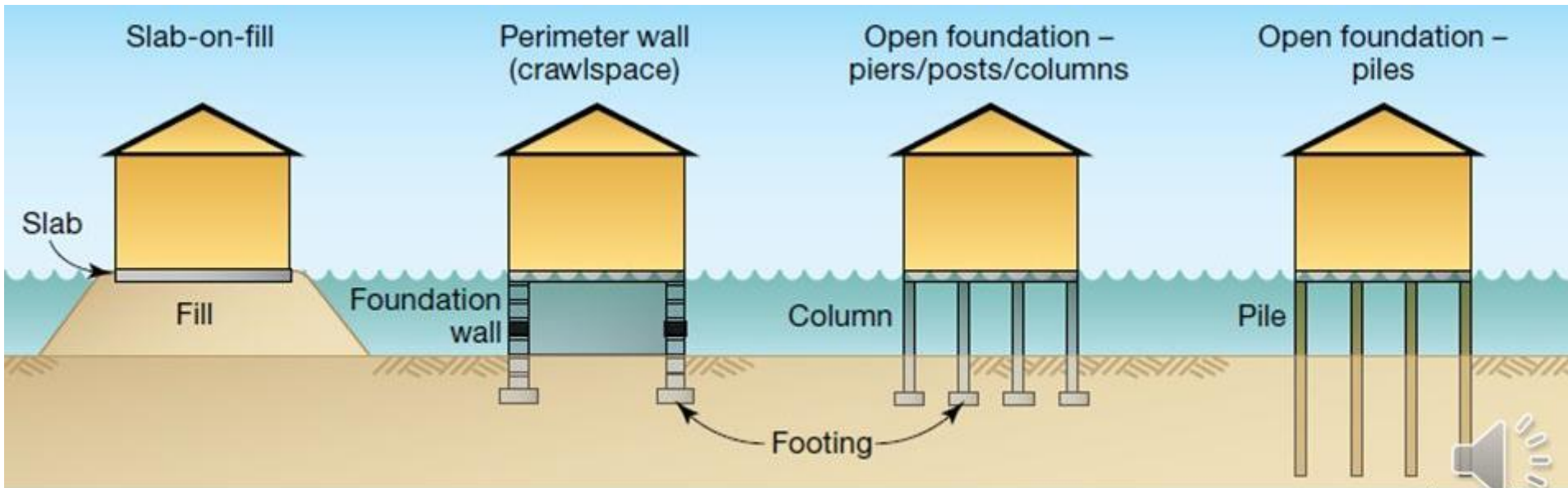


Image source:

FEMA Quick Reference Guide: Comparison of Select NFIP & Building Code Requirements



# ZONING ORDINANCE

Community Action

City of Worcester



## Zoning Ordinance

**Ordained in City Council April 2, 1991**

**As amended through June 26, 2018**

Current Zoning Ordinance, amended June 2018 as an ARTICLE VI – FLOODPLAIN OVERLAY DISTRICT

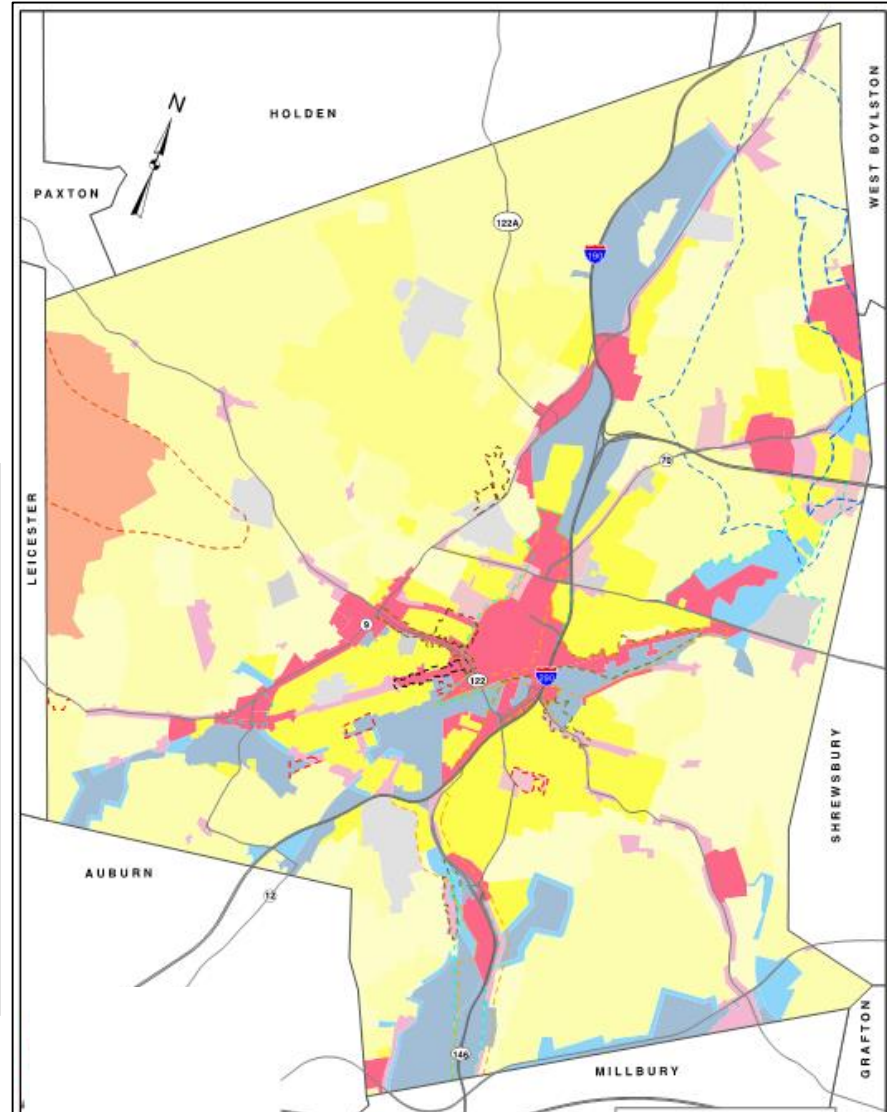
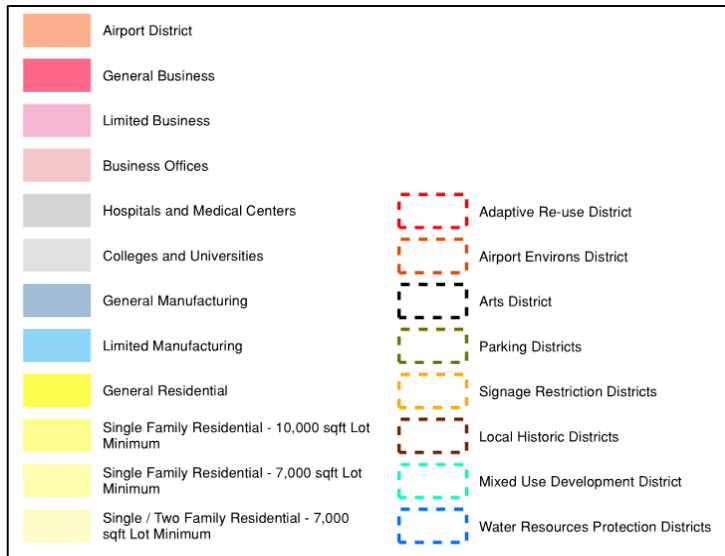
Source: <http://www.worcesterma.gov/uploads/9a/bc/9abccoac3b139cc162db2867ae374da8/zoning-ord.pdf>



# ZONING

## Zoning and Overlay Map

Land use breakdown for the city of Worcester



Source: Weston & Sampson OSRP Report, 2013





# DECORATIVE FLOOD WALLS

Community Action



Source: ABC News, KAAL TV



Source: FloodBreak



Source: Terrascapes Landscape Design





# DEMOUNTABLE FLOOD PANELS

Community Action

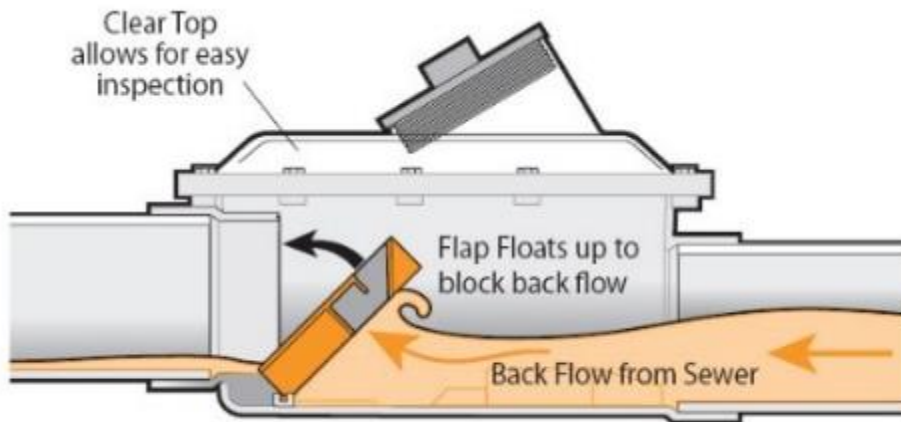




# PREVENTING SEWER BACKFLOW

Community Action

## Backflow Preventer Valve



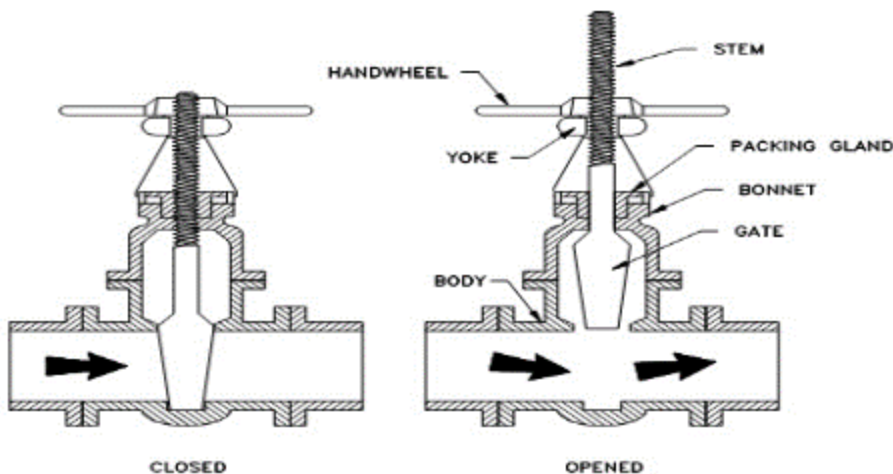
### Pros:

- Closes automatically

### Cons:

- Flap can get stuck (fail)
- Requires maintenance

## Sewer Shutoff Valve



### Pros:

- Reliable

### Cons:

- Someone has to close it





# BERMS WITH BENEFITS

Community Action

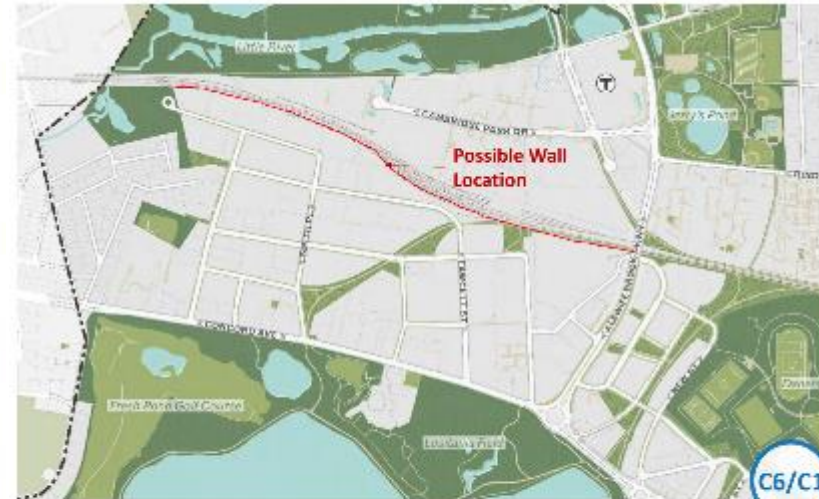
## PROTECTING FRESH POND



[SOURCE: CCPR, 2017]

Evaluate building a vegetated berm at elevation 23.15 feet CCB\* along the Fresh Pond Golf Course. This strategy could effectively protect the Fresh Pond Reservoir for up to the 2070 100-year sea level rise / storm surge flooding.

\*Cambridge city-base datum



[SOURCE: CCPR, 2017]

Evaluate building a flood wall at elevation 22.5 feet CCB South of the railroad track along the Alewife Quadrangle. Building a flood wall at this location can protect the Fresh Pond Reservoir, as well as the Alewife Quadrangle neighborhood.



# GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Community Action

## Benefits of Low Impact Development (LID)

- Flow Control
- Detention
- Retention
- Filtration
- Infiltration
- Treatment





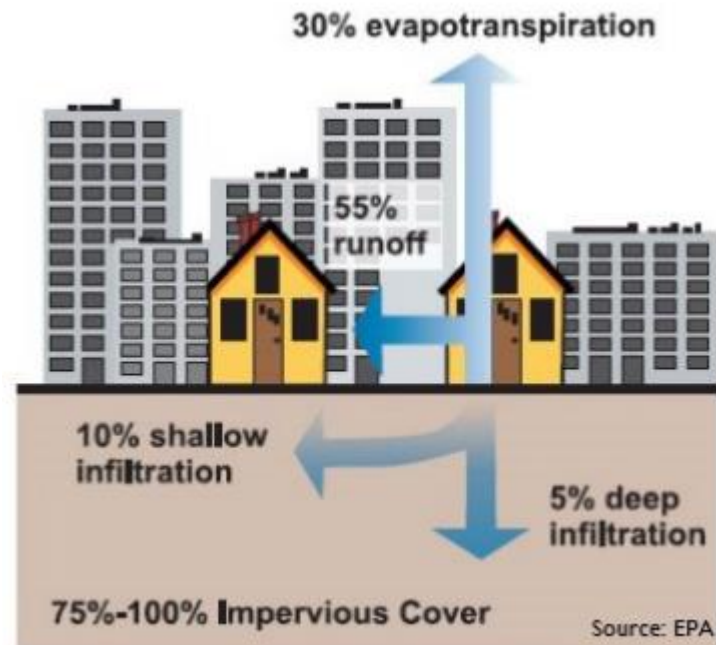
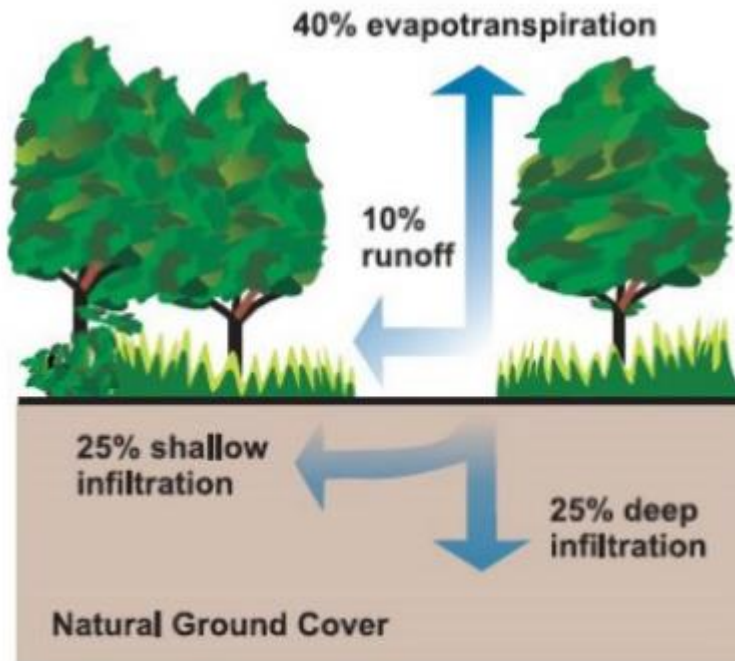


# GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

## Community Action

Local example: Broad Meadow Brook

- Rainfall runoff from impervious surfaces, such as roads, rooftops and parking lots pick up harmful pollutants and flow into local waterways like Broad Meadow Brook.







# GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Community Action

Broad Meadow Brook: LID strategies implemented



Stormwater  
Capture



Rain Gardens



Rain Barrels



No-Mow  
Open Space

Source: <https://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/broad-meadow-brook/about/green-features/water-conservation>



# PERMEABLE PAVEMENT

Community Action



Permeable

Impermeable



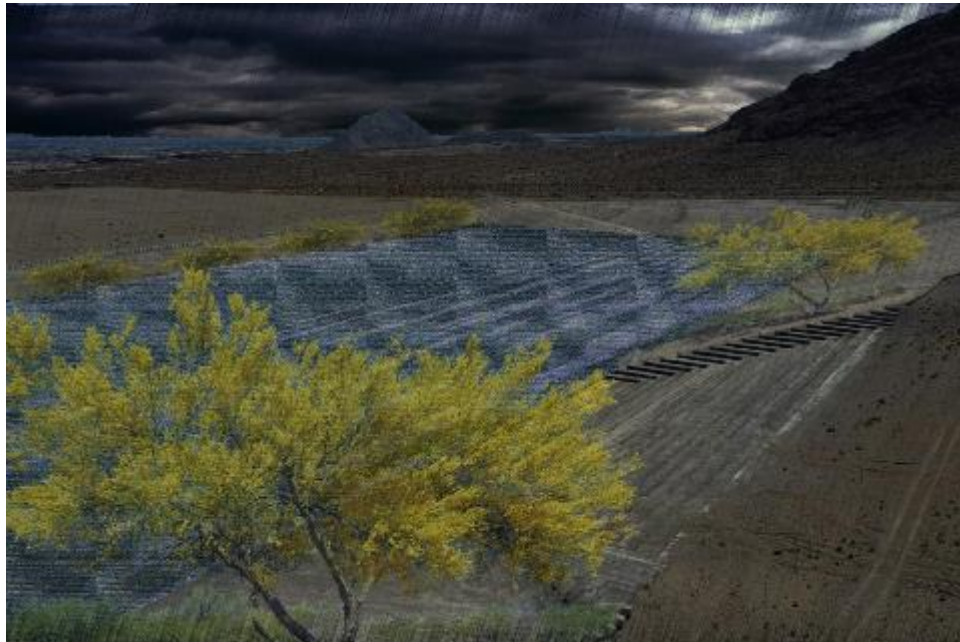


# DUAL-USE FLOOD STORAGE

Community Action



Athletic Field



Flood Storage





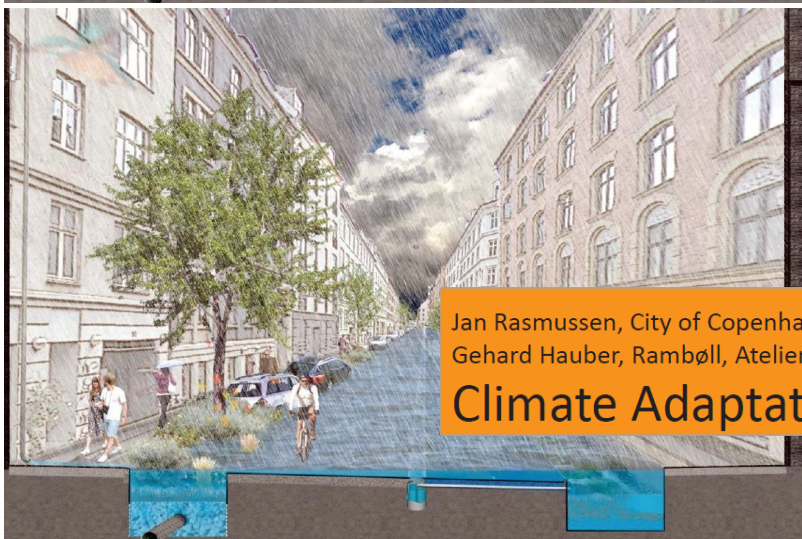
# DUAL-USE FLOOD STORAGE

Community Action

Explore innovative options for managing stormwater

Canal Streets

Open Spaces



Jan Rasmussen, City of Copenhagen  
Gehard Hauber, Rambøll, Atelier Dreiseitl  
**Climate Adaptation**

North Point Park





# MULTI-BENEFIT WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Community Action



Single Purpose



Multi-Benefit



# MULTI-USE LEVEES

Community Action



Flood Protection



Mobility





# PREPARE

Community Action

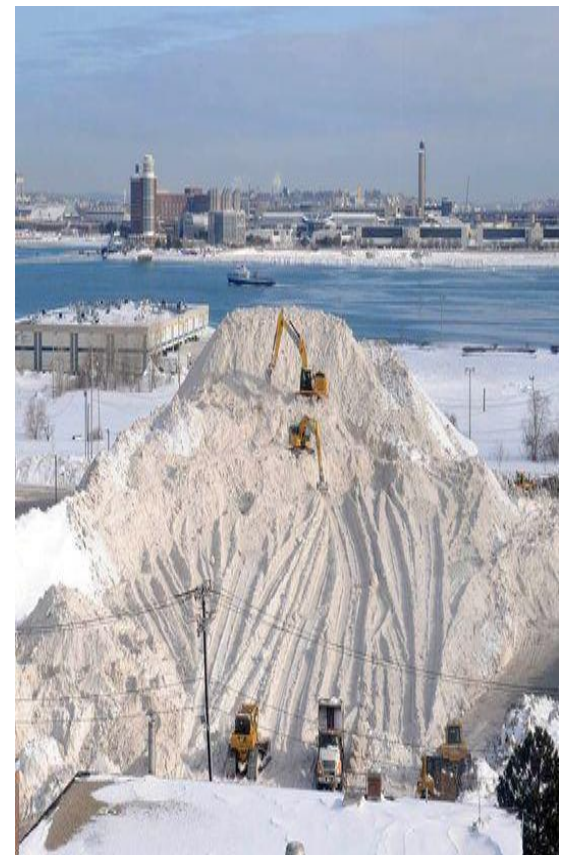
Equipment



Contracts



Storage





# CLEAR COMMUNICATION

Community Action

Emergency Notification System

Keeping our citizens informed

Sign up for **CODE RED**

## WINTER IS COMING

AND SO IS THE WORCESTER WINTER PARKING BAN

**EMERGENCY SNOW ROUTE**

**NO PARKING TOW ZONE  
DEC 1-APR 30  
2AM-6AM  
AND WHEN DECLARED**

WORCESTERMA.GOV

**WINTER BAN**

**NO PARKING TOW ZONE  
WHEN DECLARED**

WORCESTERMA.GOV

**STAY IN THE KNOW AND BE BETTER PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES:**

- @WorcesterDPW, @SnowParkingBan, @TweetWorcester
- [www.facebook.com/WorcesterDPW/](http://www.facebook.com/WorcesterDPW/)  
[www.facebook.com/WorcesterMassachusettsOfficial/](http://www.facebook.com/WorcesterMassachusettsOfficial/)
- [worcesterma.gov/e-services/winter-parking-ban/](http://worcesterma.gov/e-services/winter-parking-ban/)
- (508) 929-1300 City Government Channel 192

SIGN UP TODAY FOR FREE PUSH NOTIFICATIONS & CREATE YOUR FREE SMART911 SAFETY PROFILE



# DEICING ROADS

Community Action

## Equipment



15 million tons of  
deicing salt are used  
each year in the  
United States





# ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Community Action

Other options?





**SNOW & ICE**  
Community Action

What would Dwight Schrute do?

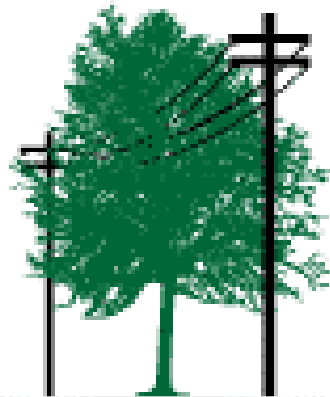


Source: NBC The Office

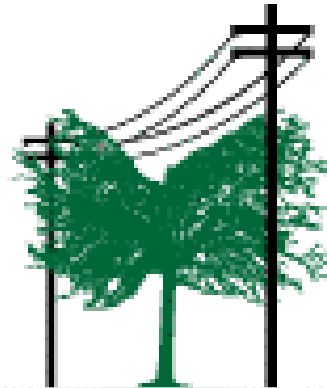


# STAY ON TOP OF MAINTENANCE

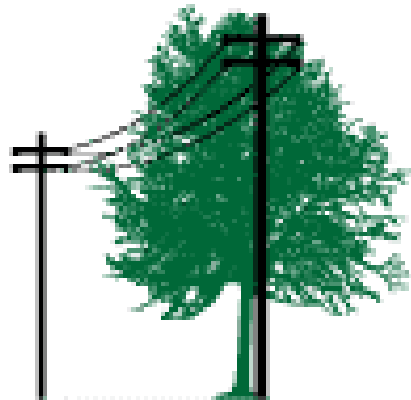
Community Action



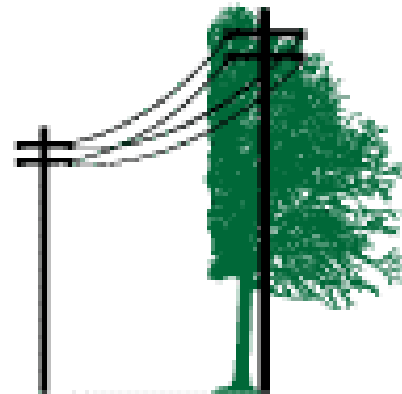
**BEFORE "V"  
PRUNING**



**AFTER "V"  
PRUNING**



**BEFORE SIDE  
PRUNING**



**AFTER SIDE  
PRUNING**





# STREET TREES/ URBAN FOREST

Community Action



Source: Conservation Magazine

In Worcester – A study in the Burncoat Neighborhood showed that urban tree removal resulted in 98% increase in mean energy use during the summer of 2009.

Source: University of Massachusetts, Amherst



# REDUCE PAVEMENT

Community Action

Reduce Asphalt with:

- Infill development
- Native Landscaping
- Solar power canopy devices







# COOLING CENTERS

Community Action

Cooling centers are:  
Air-conditioned public facilities where people may go for relief during periods of extreme heat.





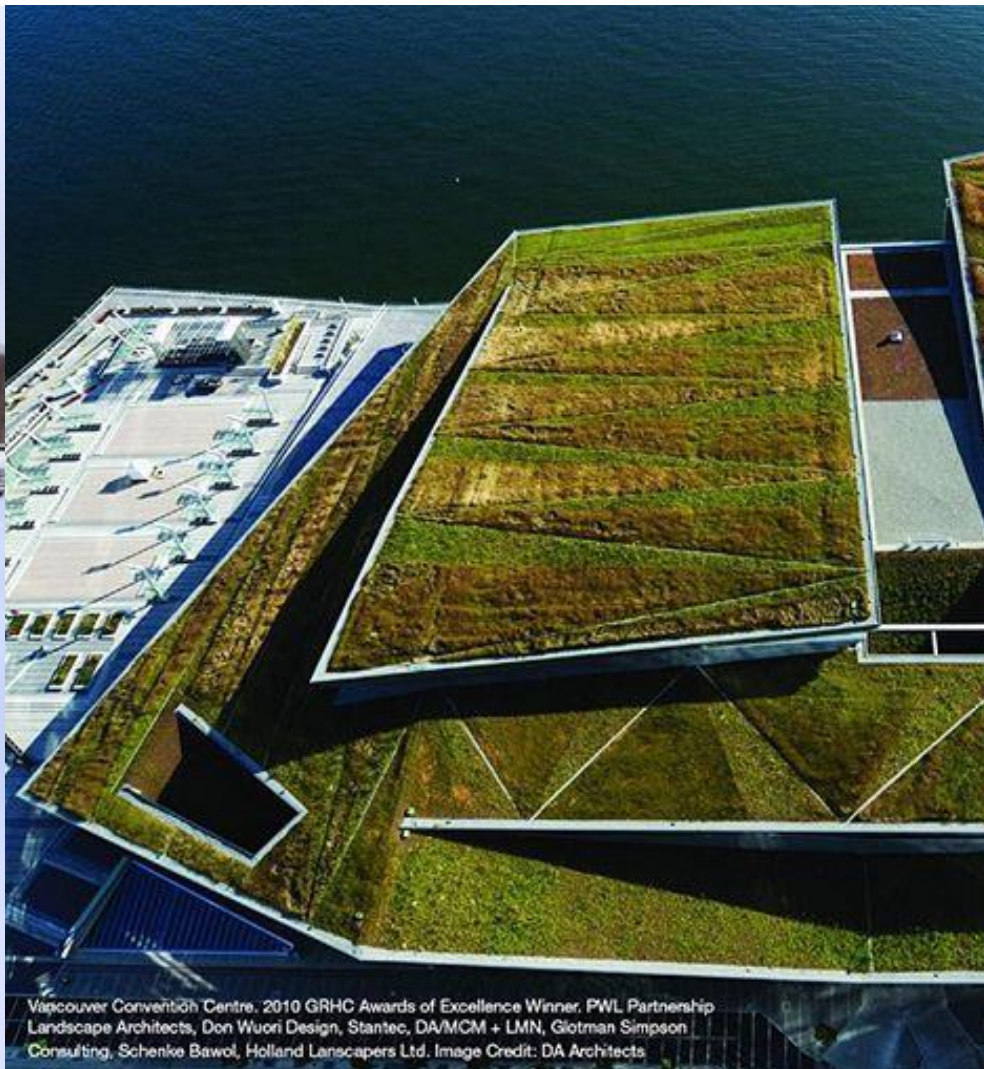


# ALTERNATIVE ROOFS

Community Action

White Roofs

Green Roofs

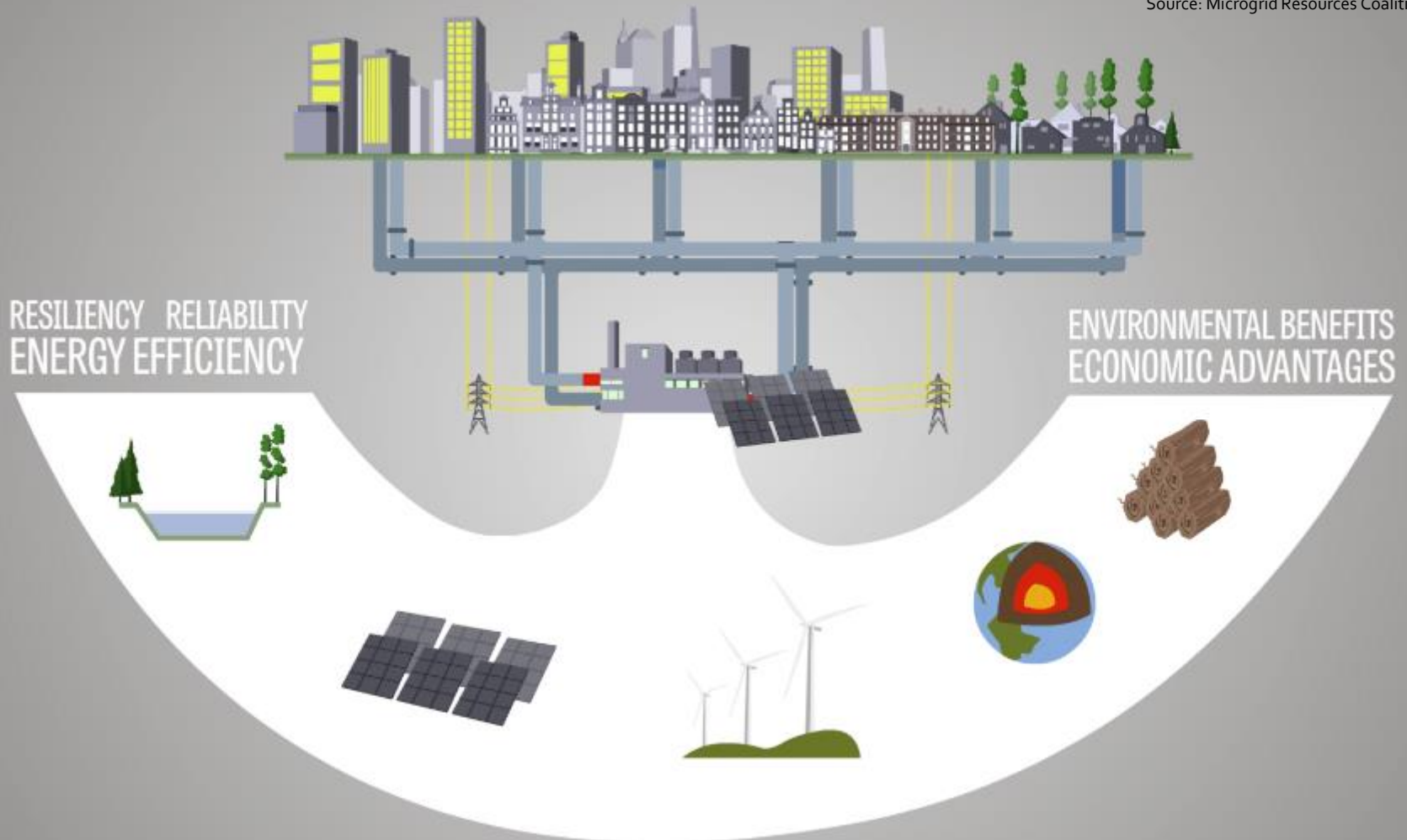




# RENEWABLE MICRO-GRIDS

Community Action

Source: Microgrid Resources Coalition





# VII. WATER RESTRICTION ADVISORY

Community Action

Drought Action Level Response signs are located around the Town of Harwich. These signs, as well as our website, are updated when an action level is active.

## HARWICH WATER DEPARTMENT DROUGHT ACTION LEVEL RESPONSES

ACTION LEVEL	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY OF MONITORING
<b>NORMAL</b>	<b>NORMAL WATERING CONDITIONS</b>	
<b>ADVISORY</b>	<b>VOLUNTARY WATER RESTRICTIONS ODD/EVEN DAYS</b>	
<b>WATCH</b>	<b>MANDATORY: ODD/EVEN LAWN WATER &amp; OFF-PEAK HOURS</b>	
<b>WARNING</b>	<b>MANDATORY: 2 DAY PER WEEK OUTDOOR USE &amp; OFF-PEAK HOURS</b>	
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<b>MANDATORY: BAN ON ALL NON- ESSENTIAL OUTDOOR WATER USE</b>	

[Learn More ▶](#)

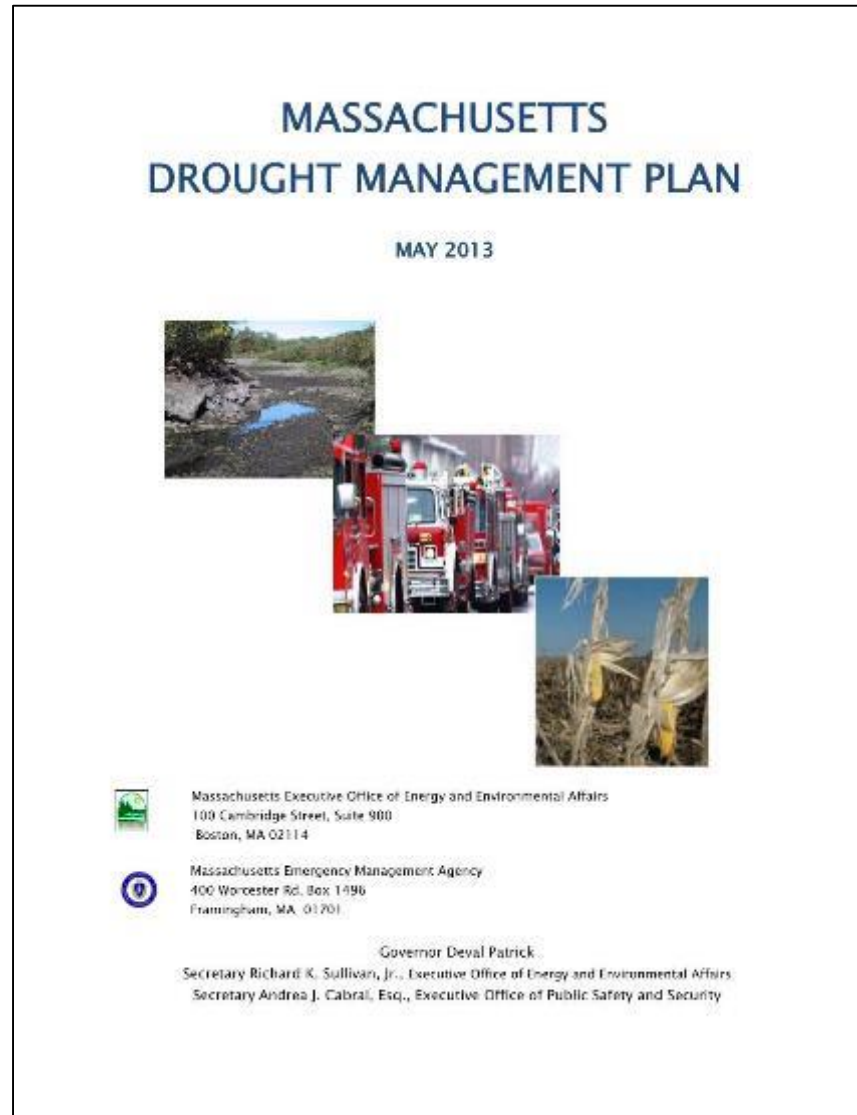
Source: Harwich Water Department





# VII. DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLANS

## Community Action



# VI. COMMUNITY ACTIONS

## Small Group Exercise

- What actions will reduce vulnerabilities or reinforce strengths?
- Do they address single or multiple hazards?
- Are there intermediate steps to implement the actions?
- Are there existing programs, plans, or projects that the actions could strengthen?

**Community Resilience Building Risk Matrix**  
www.communityresiliencebuilding.com

The Community Resilience Building Risk Matrix is a tool used to assess and manage risks to community resilience. It is organized into four main categories: Physical, Social, and Environmental. The matrix is a grid where rows represent different types of risks (Physical, Social, Environmental) and columns represent different types of hazards (Coastal Flooding SLR/Storm Surge, Inland Flooding and Rain Events, Ice and Snow, Wind). The matrix is currently empty, with a blue box highlighting the 'Physical' and 'Social' sections. An arrow points from this highlighted area to a detailed table of actions for 'Top 4 Hazards'.

Top 4 Hazards (Tornado, flood, wildfire, hurricanes, snow/ice, drought, sea level rise, heat wave, etc.)			
Coastal Flooding SLR/Storm Surge	Inland Flooding and Rain Events	Ice and Snow	Wind
Verify risk from flooding events; Identify alternative locations during peak flooding; Verify maintenance plan annually			
Install highly visible signage for evacuation routes; Develop and implement communication program			
Within floodplain area, establish plan to address protection and long-term relocation of equipment		Upgrade transformers; Maintain power line protection zone (tree trimming)	
Prevent possibility of catastrophic dam failure; Identify and remove dams to minimize downstream flooding due to failure			
Improve communications between parties; Expand green/gray infrastructure and improve bridge structures; Assess vulnerability and prioritize infrastructure improvement list			
Coordinate with DOT, volunteers, public works to improve response; Road signage to warn of flooding risk in critical intersections			
Pursue comprehensive shoreline management plan; Establish community dialogues on retaining/relocating infrastructure			
Conduct alternative siting feasibility study; Relocate to low risk area within next 25 years			
Continue to support services in budget; Add additional staff and vehicle in next annual cycle			
Current building codes control development in risky areas; Consider additional zoning incentives (TDRs) to reduce risk to residential uses			

# VII. BREAK – 15 MINS

## WORCESTER COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING WORKSHOP





# VIII. PRIORITY ACTIONS

Factors to consider:

- Funding availability and terms
- Agreement on outstanding impacts from recent hazard events
- Necessity for advancing longer term outcomes
- Contribution towards meeting existing local and regional planning objectives

# VIII. PRIORITY ACTIONS

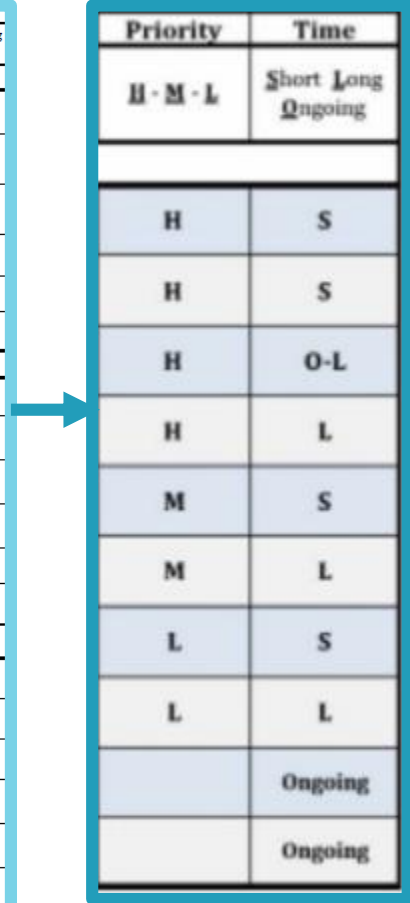
## Small Group Exercise

**Community Resilience Building Risk Matrix** [www.CommunityResilienceBuilding.org](http://www.CommunityResilienceBuilding.org)

**Top Priority Hazards** (tornado, floods, wildfire, hurricanes, earthquake, drought, sea level rise, heat wave, etc) **1**

H-M-L priority for action over the Short or Long term (and Ongoing)  
 V = Vulnerability S = Strength

Features	Location	Ownership	V or S	Hazard	Actions	Priority	Time
						H · M · L	Short Long Ongoing
<b>Infrastructural</b>							
<b>Societal</b>							
<b>Environmental</b>							
<b>Part 1</b>			<b>Part 2</b>			<b>Part 3</b>	



## VIII. PRIORITY ACTIONS – GROUP ACTIVITY

- Small group presentation of Top Infrastructural, Societal, and Environmental features



# RESULTS – GROUP 1

- Infrastructure
- Societal
- Environmental

# RESULTS – GROUP 2

- Infrastructure
- Societal
- Environmental

# RESULTS – GROUP 3

- Infrastructure
- Societal
- Environmental



# RESULTS – GROUP 4

- Infrastructure
- Societal
- Environmental

# RESULTS – GROUP 5

- Infrastructure
- Societal
- Environmental

# RESULTS – GROUP 6

- Infrastructure
- Societal
- Environmental



# IX. SUMMARY AND CLOSING

- Reflections
- Next Steps
- Ways to stay involved

# THANK YOU!!!!

## The Kleinfelder Team

Robin Seidel

Nathalie Beauvais

Indrani Ghosh

Jonnas Jacques

John Rahill

*(from Punchard Consulting)*

Darrin Punchard