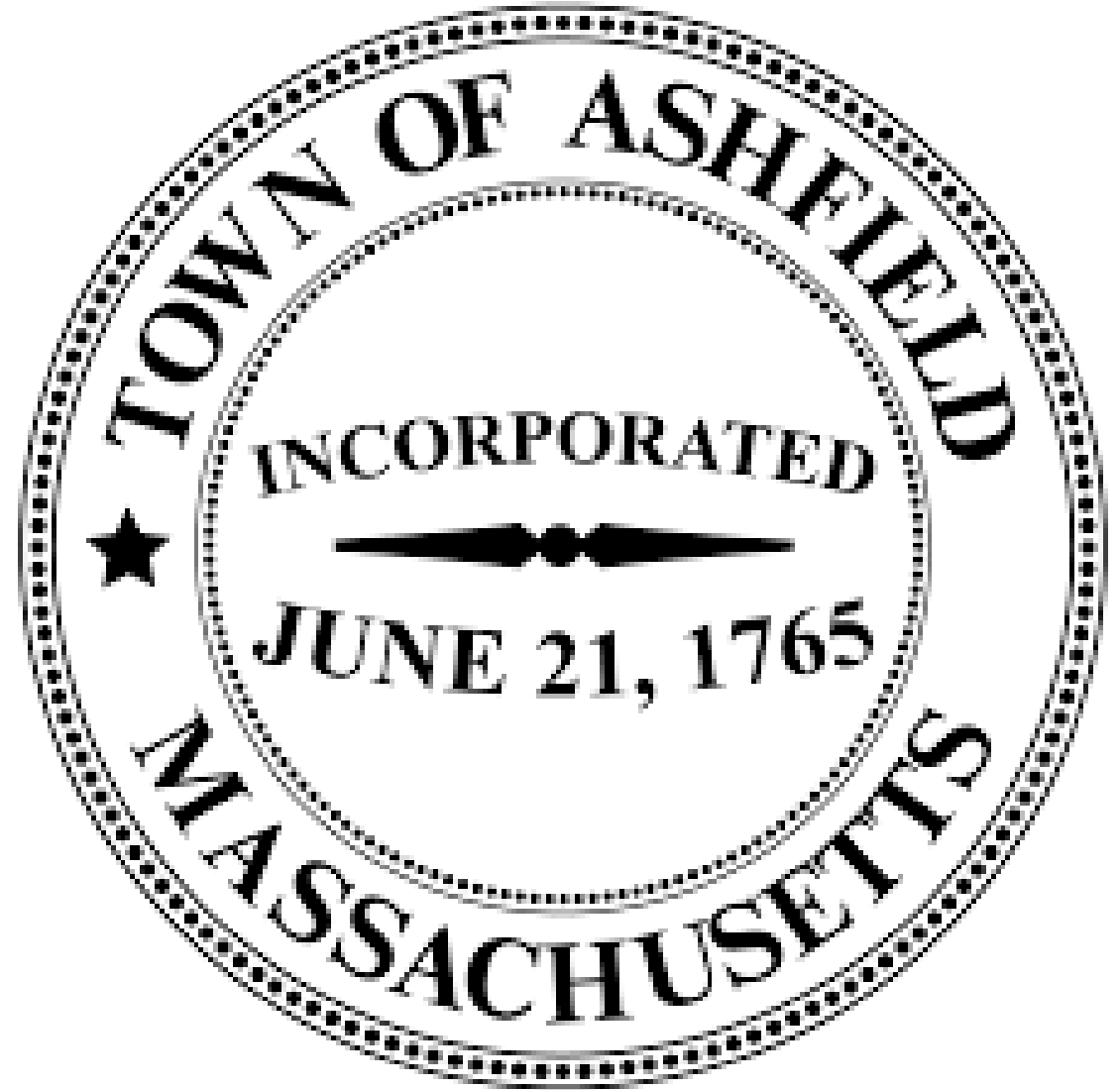


Teniel Rhiney,
UMASS Amherst
Ashfield Energy
Committee

- Population: 1,681
- Median Age: 61 years, indicating an older population.
- Rural community located in Western Massachusetts
- Known for long agriculture history and farmlands
- Green Community
- Climate Leader Communit





A photograph of the Ashfield Town Hall, a white building with horizontal siding and multiple windows. In the foreground, out-of-focus autumn leaves in shades of red, orange, and yellow frame the left side of the image. A group of people is gathered outside the main entrance, which is flanked by two smaller doors. Yellow signs with the text "SIT Here" are placed on the ground near the entrance. The building's address, "1812", is visible above the main door.

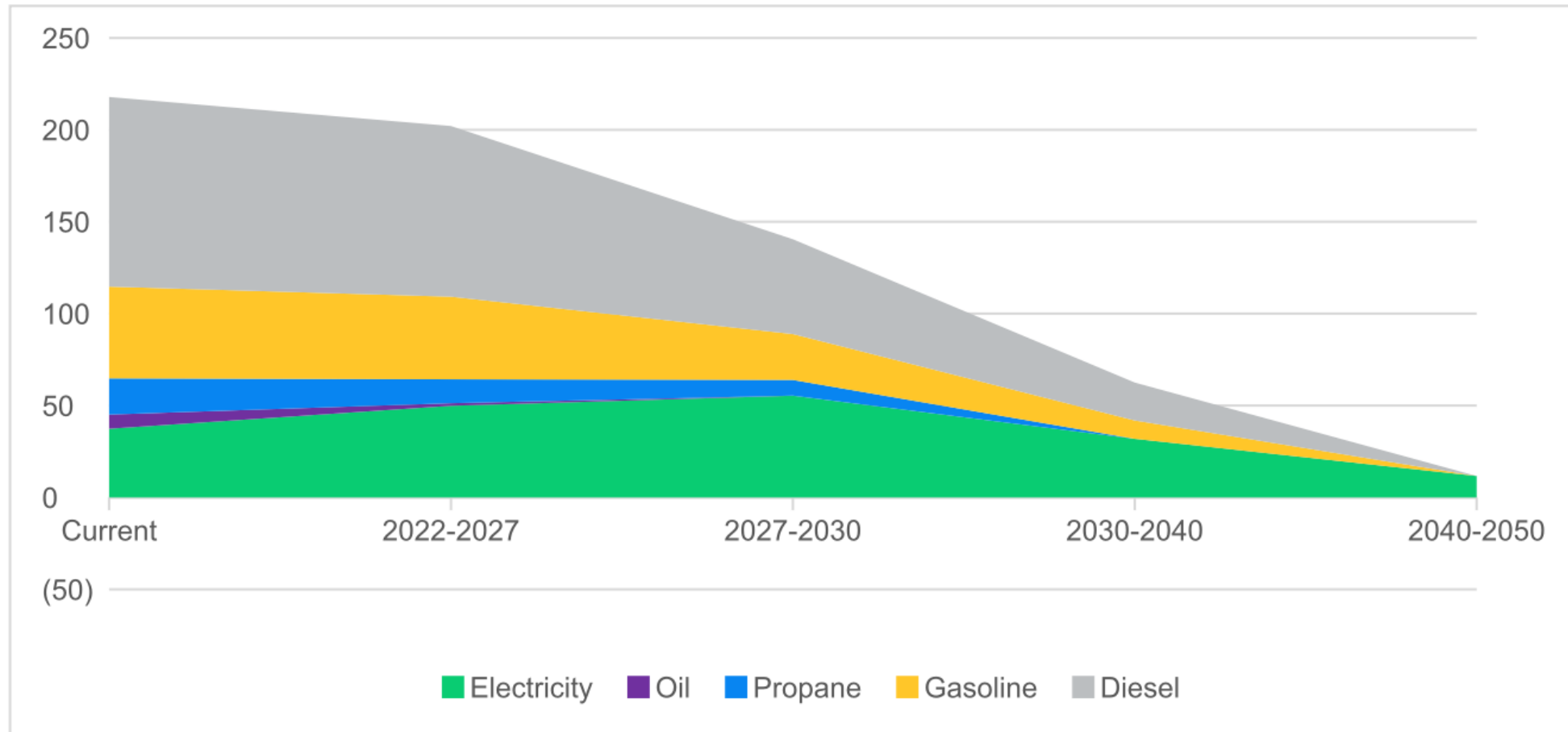
ASHFIELD TOWN HALL

1812

SIT
Here

SIT
Here

Ashfield Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap



Focus Areas

- Conduct In-Depth Research on the feasibility of potential renewable energy project in Ashfield
- Attending Monthly Energy Meetings, Webinars etc.
 - Project Updates
 - Share information
 - Delegate Tasks
- Network Building
 - Connect with various stakeholders across the clean energy sectors.
 - Organize field trip to Agrivoltaic Site
- Community Engagement
 - Table Farmers Market
 - Write energy related articles
 - Co-presented at the Youth Climate Summit

Project 1: Agrivoltaic Site Visit with The Energy Committee



Energy Committee from left; David Chandler, Teniel Rhiney, Brian Clark, Alexandra Osterman (Chair), Ellen Leue



Brian Clark – Energy Committee
Sam Perkins- Chair Agriculture Committee

Agrivoltaics Ashfield



The Czajkowski Farm in
Hadley, MA

- 445kW DC, 375kW AC
2.2 Acres
- Comprised of 832
modules

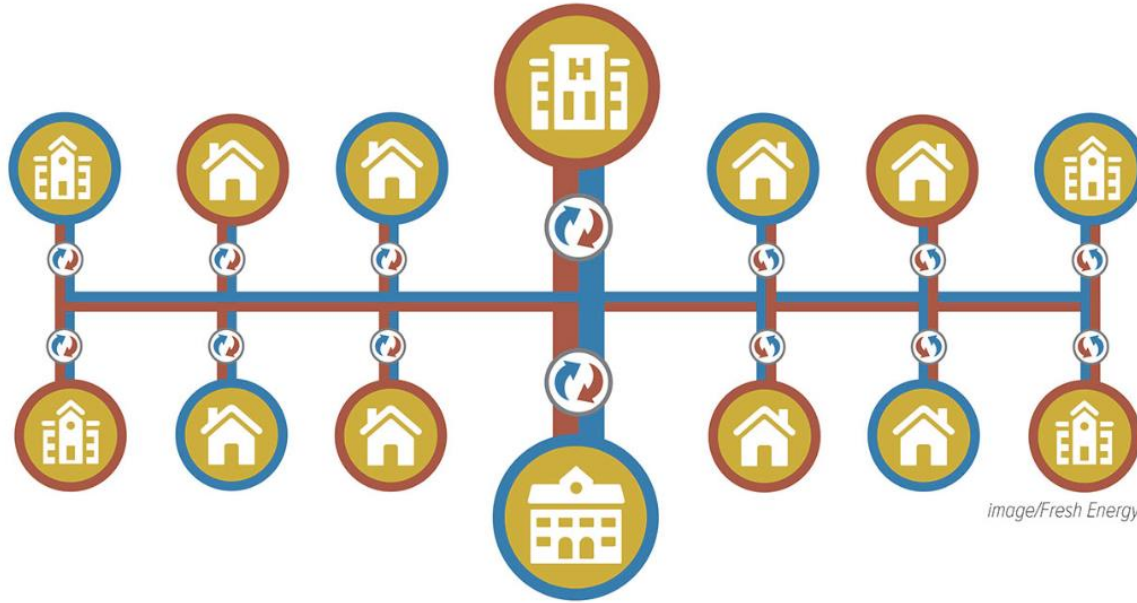
Use:
Broccoli, Spinach, and
Sweet Corn



Converter box under the solar array is a specialized combiner box used to gather and consolidate the electricity from multiple solar panels before sending it to an inverter.

Networked Geothermal

(Image/Fresh Energy)



Project 2: Geothermal in Ashfield

What would a geothermal project look in Ashfield?

- There is interest in networked geothermal

Where would it be located?

- The Sanderson School --- The Highway Garage
- The center of the Town which would include municipality buildings:
Library, Fire Station and Town Hall



Youth Climate Summit



Community
Engagement:



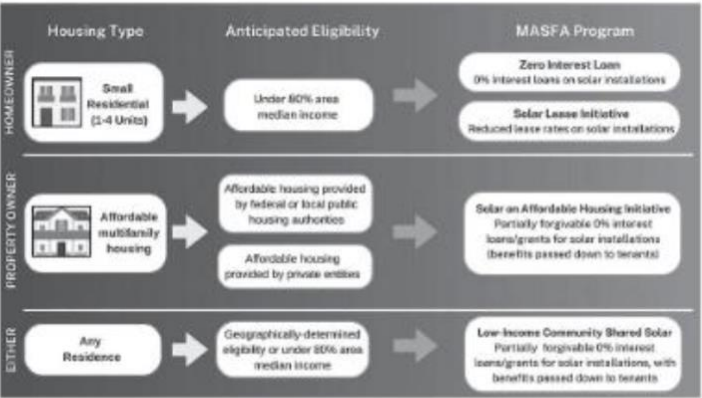
Statewide ‘Solar for All’ Program Offers Savings

Effort Offers No-Interest Loans to Qualifying Applicants

BY TENIEL RHINEY

Great news for residents of Ashfield: The transition to renewable energy is within reach for homeowners due to the Massachusetts Solar for All (MASFA) program, which is going live this summer.

Last year, the Energy Committee sponsored a residential solar campaign that led to a number of families adding solar to their homes. One of the families that installed solar panels last year expressed their satisfaction with adding solar energy and the savings that accrued from it. “We especially like that Ashfield Solarize was able to offer local choices of solar installers as well as the rebate incentive from PV2,” the family said in a statement. “Besides the obvious benefit of



Median Income (AMI). The categorical eligibility requires that individuals and households are approved for at least one of the federal assistance programs, for example the installing solar is having an alternative source of energy in the case of natural disasters or power outages. This increases resilience for households that do not rely solely on the

Funding for Clean Energy Projects

BY TENIEL RHINEY

The transition to renewable energy continues despite the recent termination of federal programs that were intended to fund clean energy projects.

Massachusetts remains committed to its climate goal to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Our June article featured the Solar for All program, which was intended to lower energy costs for qualifying households by financing solar installations in a variety of housing types. Unfortunately, the Solar for All program was terminated before it was fully launched. Although the cancellation was disappointing, there are still statewide

the Concierge Service Provider for more information.

The Mass Housing website also provides additional resources to homeowners to help guide decision making at masshousing.com/mass-community-climate-bank/energy-saver-home-loan.

Massachusetts Energy Savings Finder

The Massachusetts Energy Savings Finder is another resource that is helpful to navigate the clean energy programs and incentives that still exist. This tool helps to identify local, state and federal rebates.



Ashfield Newspaper Articles

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES?

Visit the

Energy Committee Table

WHERE: ASHFIELD TOWN COMMON
WHEN: JULY 19TH 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Ashfield Farmers Market

Ask an Expert

- There will be a representative from Clean Energy Lives Here
- Information on the Solar for All program
- Induction cooktop demo
- Fun, family-friendly giveaways

Ongoing Projects:

- Streetlight Conversion
- Green Communities Municipal Energy Technical Assistance (META)
 - Ashrae Level II Audit





Ashfield Secures \$ 870K Grant for Solar Project

Small Town Big Impact



Reflection

Mutual learning

Locality Matters

Decarbonization Roadmap

Questions?

Contact information: Teniel Rhiney

Trhiney@umass.edu

I would be happy to stay connected and collaborate on future projects.