Climate Action Dashboard

Tess Shotland, Boston University, Energy & Environment
City of Framingham, Shawn Luz
Contact: shotlandtess@gmail.com

Project Overview & Objectives

Framingham is currently in the process of finalizing a climate action plan. With the plan itself being largely static, Shawn wanted to create a data-driven, updateable resource where residents could dive deeper into the city's climate action work.

The Cap Dashboard contains:
- Helpful resources for residents looking to educate themselves on specifics such as:
  - Tree Canopies
  - Emergency Preparedness
  - The City Composting Program

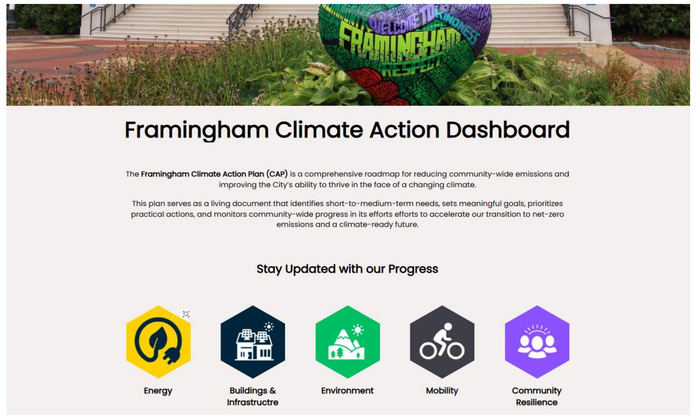
- An action progress tracker
- Graphs and visuals of the City's efforts that can be updated real time
- Deeper dives into the plans five key content areas

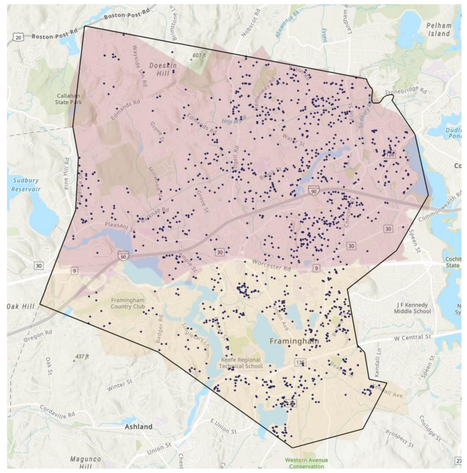
Approach and Methods

Describe your approach to the tasks you are given.

- The Dashboard itself is made on ArcGIS Online using the Experience Builder Format
- Maps were made both online and in ArcGIS Pro.
- I created a skeleton of the dashboard based off the key sections of the plan
  - Within each section I used waypoints to design the flow of the page
  - I referenced other dashboards such as the Resilient Lexington Dashboard for flow and formatting
  - I pulled data from Mass Mapper, the Framingham and MA open data portal, and other relevant sources.
- I created the action tracker by aligning all the goals with progress bars as a visual assistant to the goals.

Deliverables and Findings





Dashboard Map: Solar Sites in Framingham and the two solar survey zones.

Both areas have over 70% roof suitability.

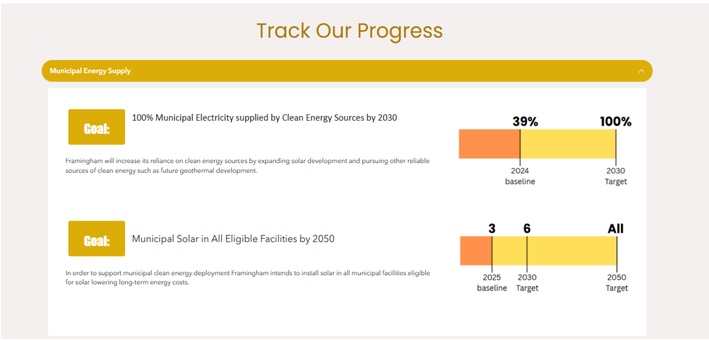
Clean Energy Waypoints:

Main Takeaways

- More development needs to go into Arc's interactive platform in order to make them more accessible to municipalities. The program is very tricky to work with and crashes often. Despite that with the proper utilization it's a powerful and clean communication tool. These ArcGIS experiences can be incredibly potent in their ability to communicate data to residents.
- Smaller Municipalities have the opportunity to collaborate (ex: Natick and Framingham) to better utilize resources and tackle challenges that apply to all of them.
- Framingham is in a unique position as the host city for the Eversource Geothermal project. With its success they set a new path for how smaller communities can engage in clean energy too.

Key Impact: Providing simple data-based communications can help engage residents in local climate action and increase transparency in the process.

Progress tracking of clean energy goals:



Acknowledgements

- Shawn Luz, my point of contact.
- The Rest of the Capital Projects office!