

# **BUILDINGENERGY BOSTON**

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## **Planning for Carbon Neutrality: Preparing Affordable Housing for an Equitable Transition**

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**Curated by Shari Rauls (SWA) and Mark Schow (Elevated Design)**

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**Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA)**

**February 28, 2022**



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## Who We Are

As a mission-driven nonprofit, New Ecology works nationally to bring the benefits of sustainable development to the community level, with a concerted emphasis on underserved populations.

*We seek to make the built environment more efficient, healthy, durable, and resilient.*

**LLSC BOSTON**



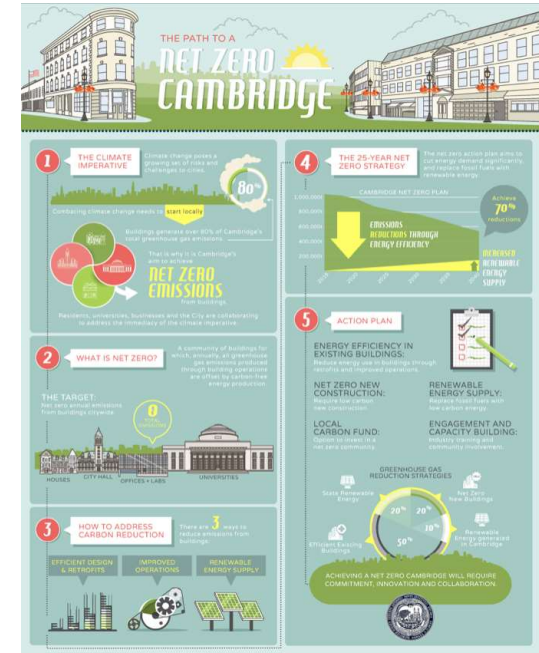
## **Comprehensive Energy Audit Matching Grant Application**

**Application Deadline: Rolling (likely available through December 2023)**



# A Rapidly Changing Landscape

## Senate Bill 9 - An Act Creating a Next Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy



# Nonantum Village Place and New Franklin Park

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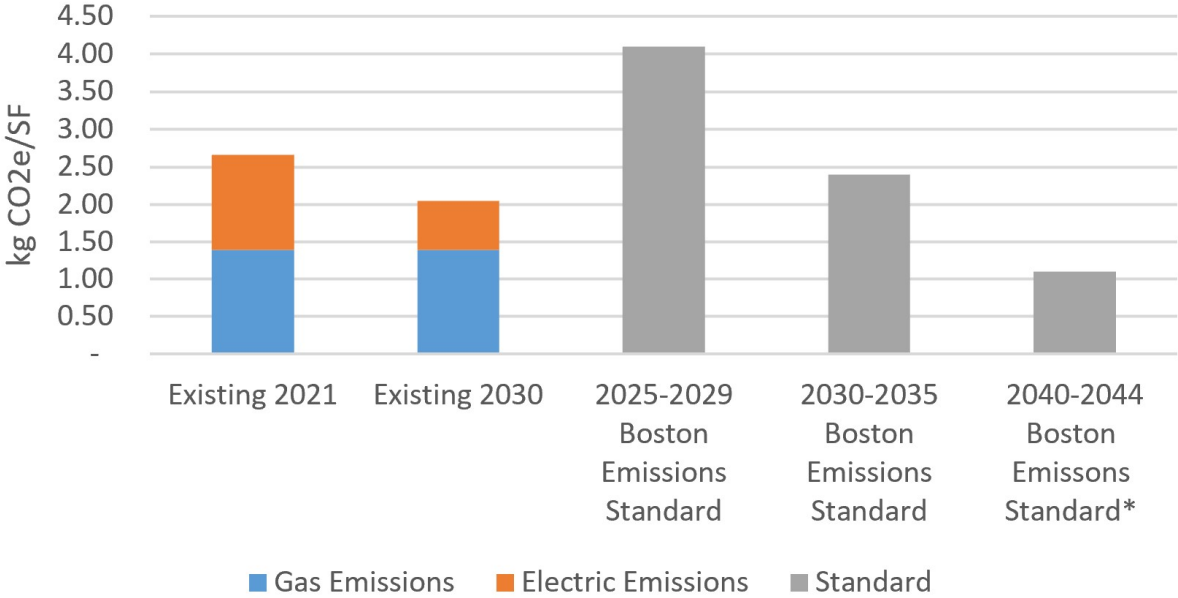
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# Nonantum Village Place



# Current Performance Overview

## Existing Green House Gas Projections

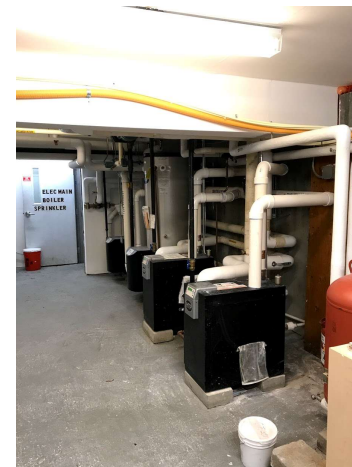


CO2e/kWh based on NREL and Cambium’s energy grid “Standard Scenarios” viewer for electric energy in Massachusetts:  
<https://cambium.nrel.gov/?project=c3fec8d8-6243-4a8a-9bff-66af71889958>

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## Proposed Capital Project

- Replace roof add R-50 insulation
- Replace apartment condensing units/ fan coils with hybrid system:
  - *heat pump/ hot water coil feeding new fan coils*
  - *controlled by 2-stage thermostat*
  - *switches to existing high efficiency gas boilers when temperature drops below 30F (~27% of heating)*
- Replace gas fired RTU's w/ heat pump RTU's





# Apartment Heating and Cooling Timeline



2021: Current System

- Central Gas-Fired Condensing Boiler
- Hot Water Coil in Fan Coil Unit
- 80% Efficient Heating, 11 SEER cooling



2022: Hybrid Heat Pump

- Central Gas-Fired Condensing Boiler (Below 30F)
- Apartment Heat Pumps (Above 30F)
- Hot Water Coil and Heat Pump in Fan Coil Unit
- 80% Efficient Gas HW, 3.1 COP Heat Pump, 20 SEER Cooling



2023: Full Electrification

- Apartment Heat Pumps (All Temperatures)
- Heat Pump in Fan Coil Unit
- Above 30F: 3.1 COP, Below 30F: 2.4 COP, 20 SEER Cooling

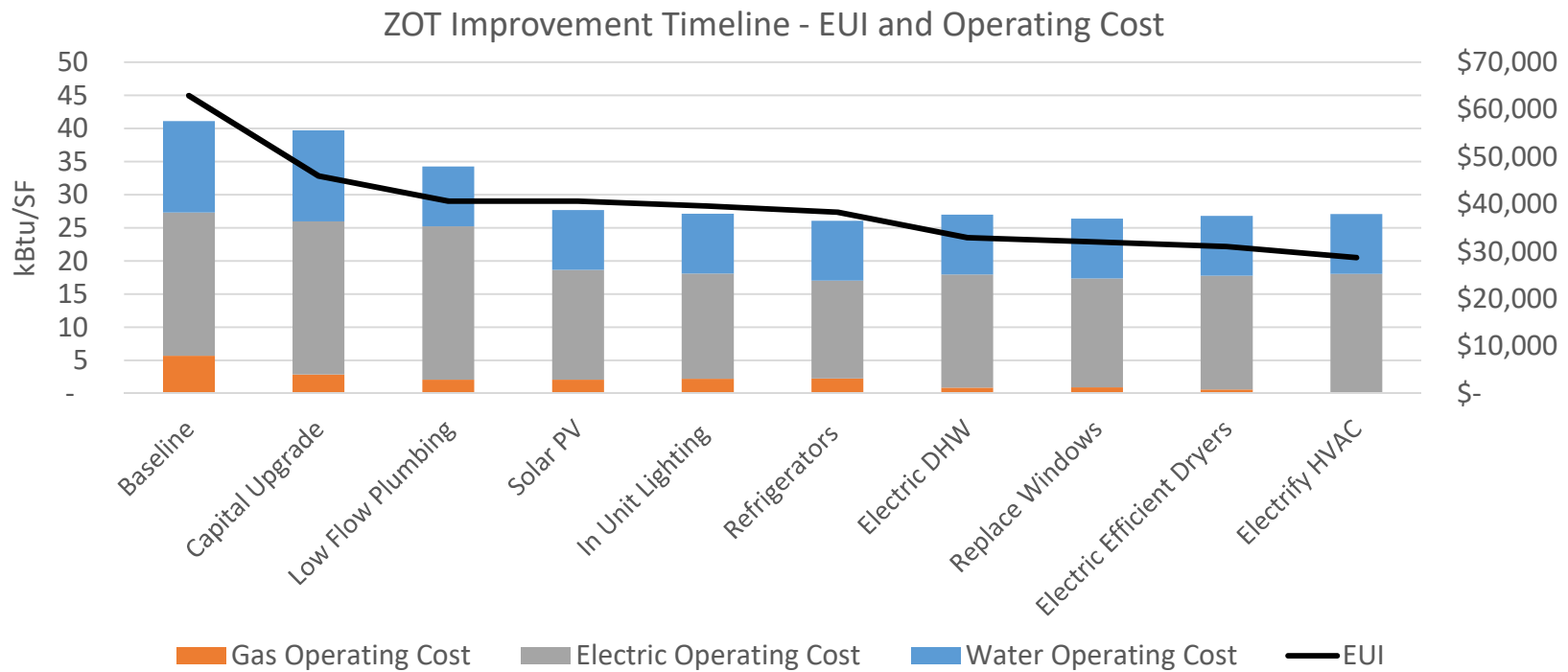
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## Over Time Measures

- In-Unit LED Lighting
- Low-Flow Plumbing Fixtures
- Energy Star Refrigerators and Dryers
- Window Replacement
- Solar PV
- Electrify HVAC (remove boilers)
- Heat Pump Domestic Hot Water Heater

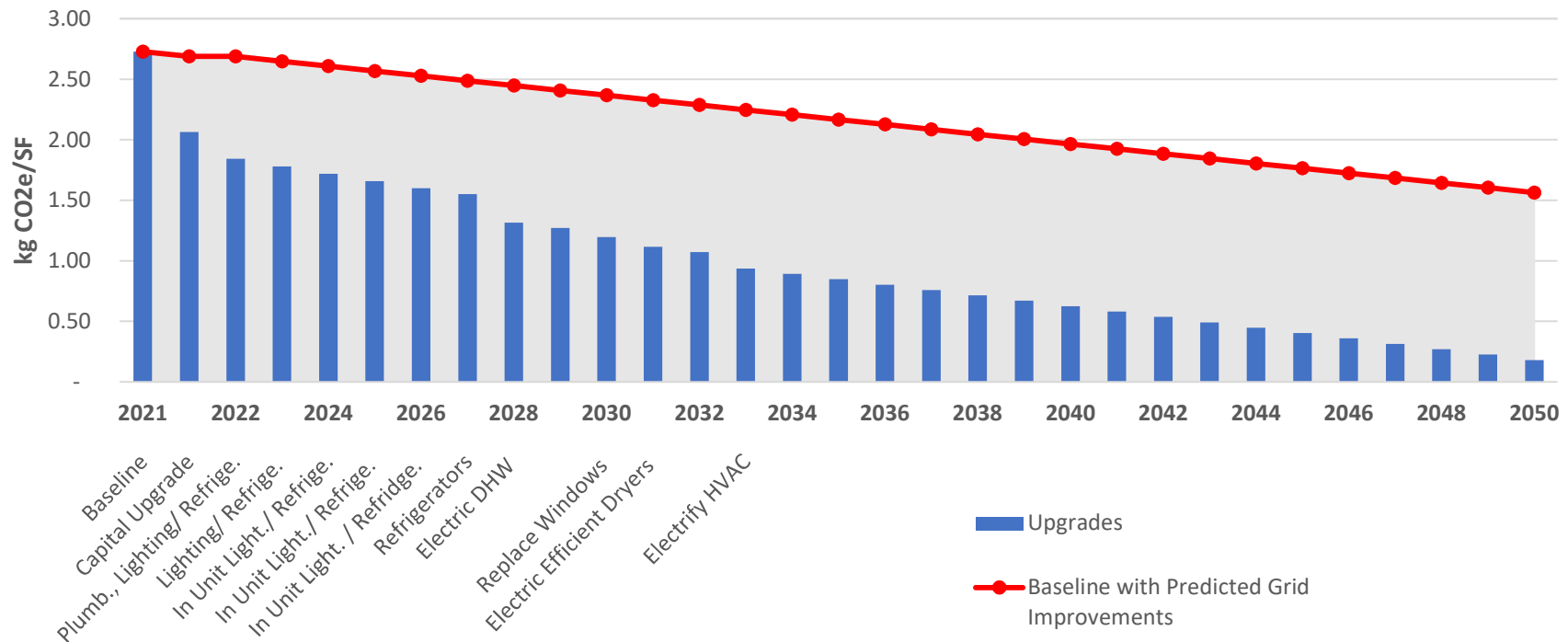


# Economic and Energy Overview



The graph above shows the cumulative impact on cost and Energy Use Index (EUI) impact with each progressive upgrade.

## Carbon Emissions for Baseline Model and Model with Upgrades Over Time



Using NREL's Massachusetts electric grid carbon emissions projections between now and 2050, the graph above shows the passive carbon savings from the greening of the energy grid if no upgrades are performed (red line) and the savings if the upgrades noted are performed in tandem with the greening of the electric grid (blue bars).

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## New Franklin Park



**Type 1 - Large Masonry**  
building with square footage  
above 35,000 sf.



**Type 2 - Small Masonry**  
building with square footage  
below 25,000 sf.



**Type 3 - Wood Frame**  
Wood Frame Building



# New Franklin Park

Heating Boilers



Water Heaters



Window AC units



Baths Exhaust fans



# Buildings reporting to BERDO

## BERDO's emission standards

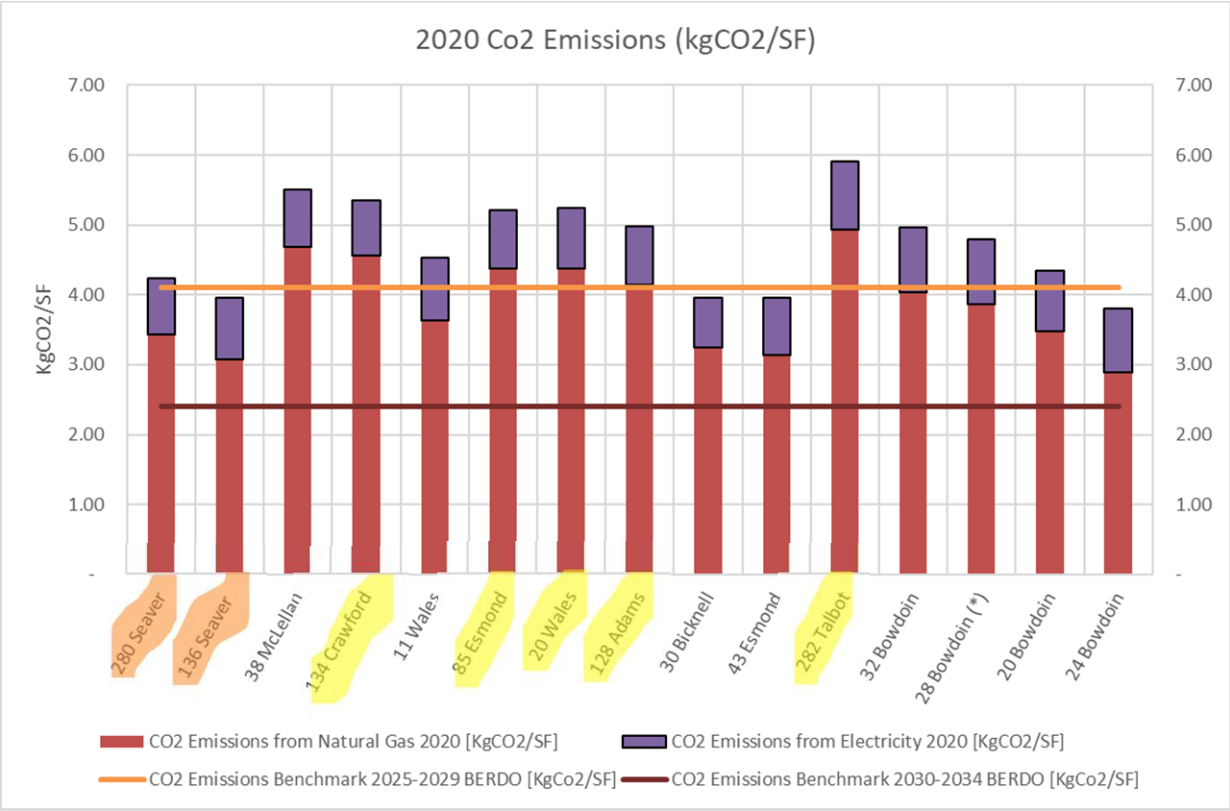
| Building use              | Emissions standards (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/SF/yr.) |           |           |           |           |       |
|---------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
|                           | 2025-2029  | 2030-2034 | 2035-2039 | 2040-2044 | 2045-2049 | 2050- |
| Assembly                  | 7.8  | 4.6       | 3.3       | 2.1       | 1.1       | 0     |
| College/ University       | 10.2   | 5.3       | 3.8       | 2.5       | 1.2       | 0     |
| Education                 | 3.9  | 2.4       | 1.8       | 1.2       | 0.6       | 0     |
| Food Sales & Service      | 17.4   | 10.9      | 8.0       | 5.4       | 2.7       | 0     |
| Healthcare                | 15.4   | 10.0      | 7.4       | 4.9       | 2.4       | 0     |
| Lodging                   | 5.8  | 3.7       | 2.7       | 1.8       | 0.9       | 0     |
| Manufacturing/ Industrial | 23.9   | 15.3      | 10.9      | 6.7       | 3.2       | 0     |
| Multifamily housing       | 4.1  | 2.4       | 1.8       | 1.1       | 0.6       | 0     |
| Office                    | 5.3  | 3.2       | 2.4       | 1.6       | 0.8       | 0     |
| Retail                    | 7.1  | 3.4       | 2.4       | 1.5       | 0.7       | 0     |
| Services                  | 7.5  | 4.5       | 3.3       | 2.2       | 1.1       | 0     |
| Storage                   | 5.4  | 2.8       | 1.8       | 1.0       | 0.4       | 0     |
| Technology/Science        | 19.2   | 11.1      | 7.8       | 5.1       | 2.5       | 0     |

*Note: There is an Alternative Compliance Payment (\$234 per Metric Ton)*

| Building Type          | Building Address    | Gross Square Foot | Units |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Type 1 - Large Masonry | 280-296 Seaver St   | 40,618            | 29    |
|                        | 132-140 Seaver St   | 47,246            | 39    |
| Type 2 - Small Masonry | 38-40 McLellan St   | 14,112            | 10    |
|                        | 134-140 Crawford St | 23,384            | 16    |
|                        | 11-11A Wales Sf     | 15,656            | 11    |
|                        | 85 Esmond St        | 20,172            | 22    |
|                        | 20 Wales St         | 20,072            | 22    |
|                        | 128-136 Adams St    | 16,068            | 15    |
|                        | 30-32 Bicknell St   | 11,742            | 6     |
|                        | 41-43 Esmond St     | 13,632            | 10    |
| Type 3 - Wood Frame    | 282-292 Talbot Ave  | 19,992            | 20    |
|                        | 32 Bowdoin Ave      | 7,244             | 5     |
|                        | 28 Bowdoin Ave      | 7,284             | 5     |
|                        | 20 Bowdoin Ave      | 7,256             | 5     |
|                        | 24 Bowdoin Ave      | 7,404             | 5     |

*Note: Buildings highlighted have been or will be reporting to BERDO.*

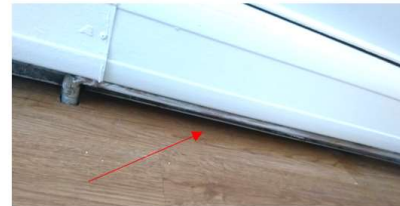
# CO2 Emissions in the Portfolio



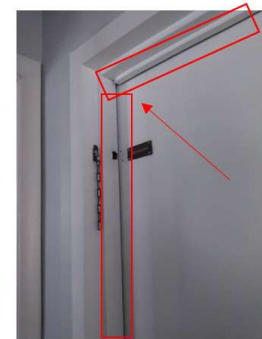


## Proposed Capital Project

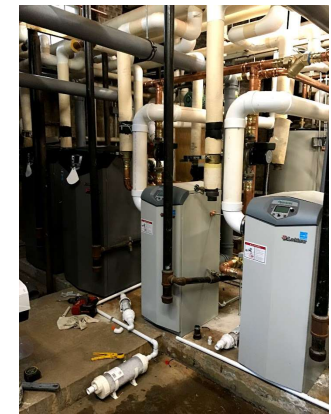
- New weather stripping in exterior doors
- In-Apartment air sealing
- New Exhaust fan in bathrooms with booster mode.
- New windows (in 1 building)
- Roof (in 1 building)
- Gas-fired Condensing boilers and water heaters (Funded by the LEAN program in 5 buildings).
- DHW electrification (in 5 Buildings)



An air gap between the flooring and wall sheetrock behind the Baseboards heaters in unit 20 at 28 Bowdoin Ave



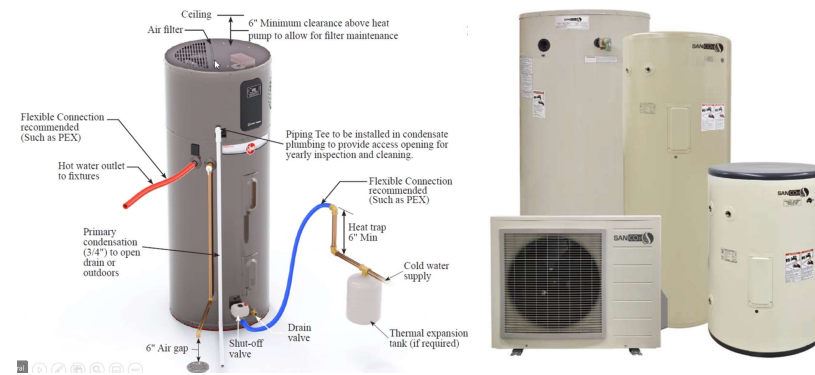
Air leakage in the Entry door of the apartments



# Proposed Capital Project– Pilot Projects

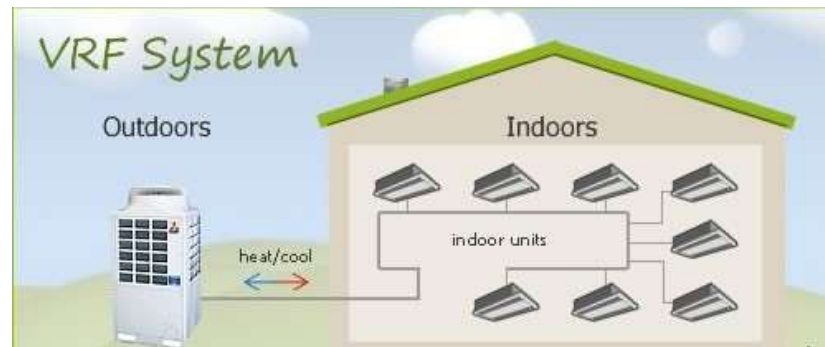
Full electrification of 2 buildings.

- Injected Cavity Insulation in Exterior walls
- VRF system (3.0 COP)
- Heat pump water heaters (2.5 COP)
- Solar PV system
- Electric Ranges and Dryers



Goals:

- \* Evaluate the economic and carbon emission impact of implementing all measures at once versus over time.



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# Over Time Measures

To be completed by 2050

- **Injected cavity insulation/Exterior Wall Insulation at all Exterior Walls**
- **Heat Pump water heaters (2.5 COP average)**
- **Solar PV System**
- **VRF System (3.0 COP average)**
- **Electric Ranges and Dryers**



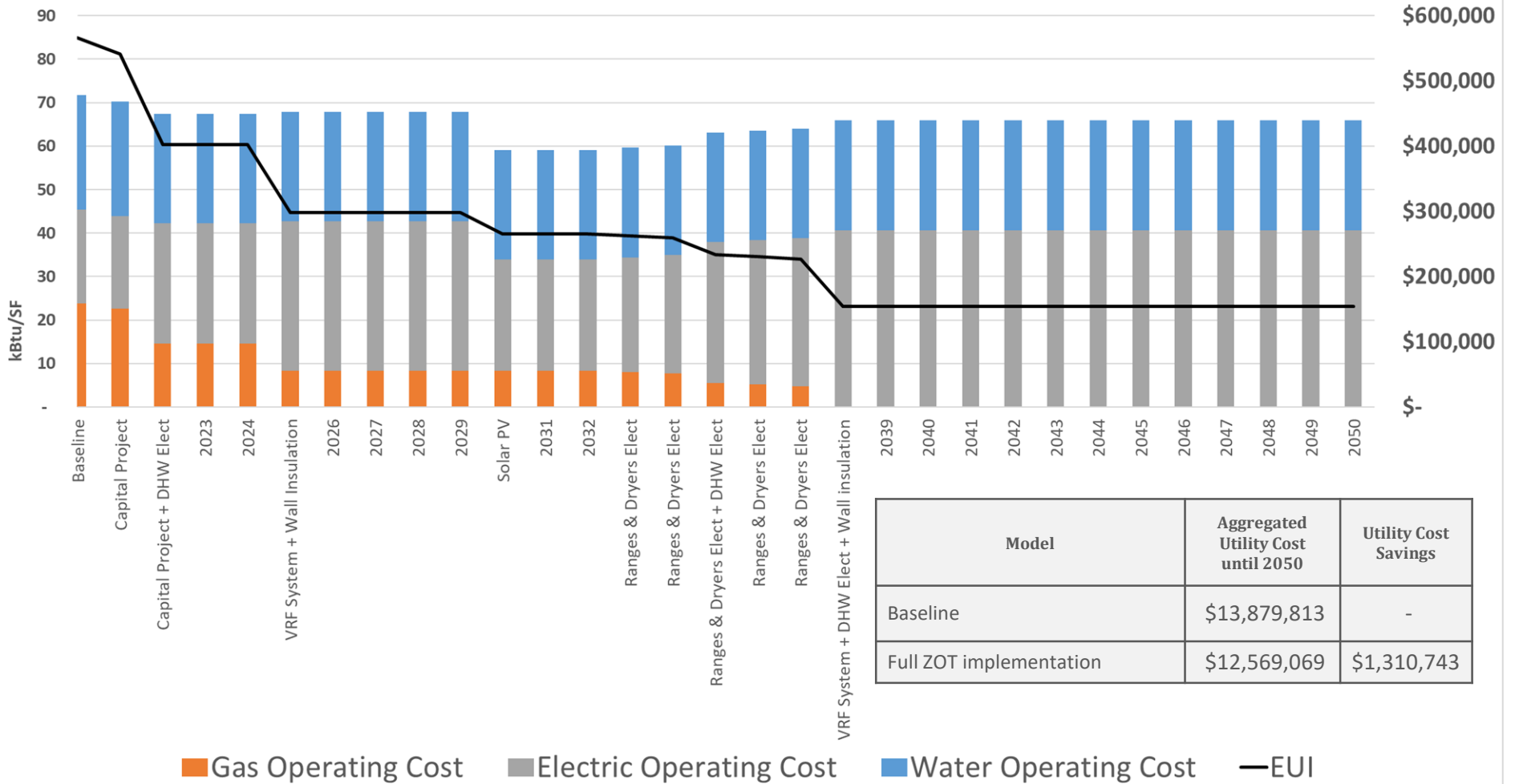
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## Over Time Measures - Thought Process

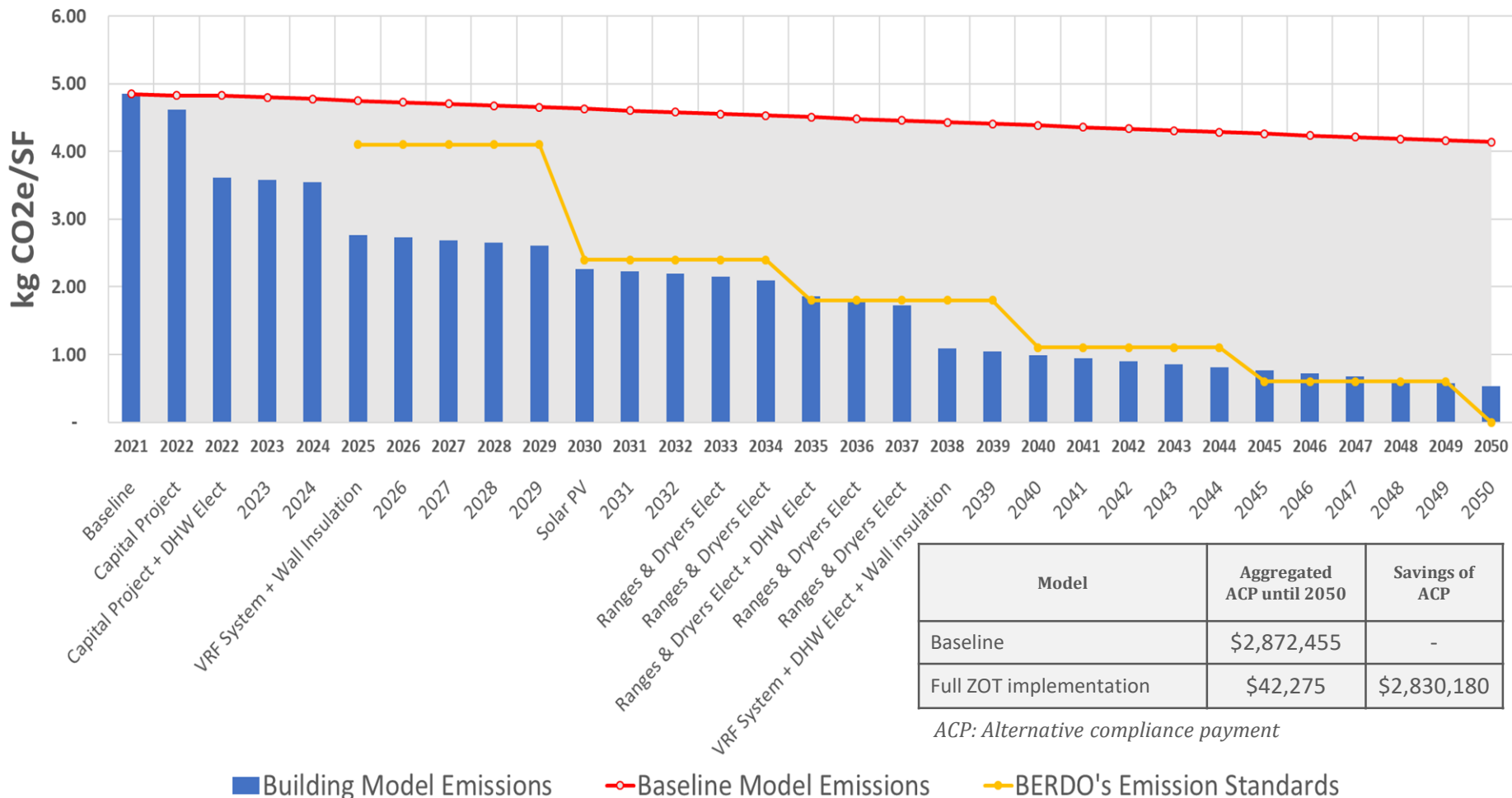
1. End of the useful life of equipment (3 groups of buildings with different timeframes)
2. Utility Cost.
3. BERDO - Emission requirements and alternative compliance payment.



## Energy and Utility Cost reduction of the ZOT improvements in BERDO Buildings



## Carbon Emissions reduction of the ZOT improvements in BERDO Buildings



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## Findings/Thoughts

- Financial Reorientation – From cost savings to cost increase mitigation
  - Spark Rate implications
  - Solar integration critical to cost and carbon mitigation
  - Green underwriting programs?
- Electrification – Typically at least 5 years out for projects that are not comprehensive rehabilitations.
  - Different technology and incentives likely at play
- Are the compliance payments enough to drive decarbonization at scale?
- “Living Plans” – Lots of assumptions made that will change, but provides a framework/road map that can be updated



Thank You!

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