

THIS IS ELM

We think systemically and plan for the future.

We are strategic and ambitious.

We prioritize equity, inclusion, and environmental justice.

Partnerships are at the heart of how we work.

Check out the
interactive digital
version of our
2022 Annual Report!



@EnviroLeagueMA

EnvironmentalLeague.org
ELMAAction.org

15 Court Square
Suite 1000
Boston, MA 02108



ELM
ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE
OF MASSACHUSETTS



ELM
ACTION FUND

ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2022

July 2021 - June 2022





The Environmental League of Massachusetts advocates for policy that meets the scale and urgency of our environmental challenges.



The ELM Action Fund builds political power that meets the scale and urgency of our environmental challenges.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 YEAR AT A GLANCE

Our Team
Success by the Numbers
President's Letter
New Look, Same ELM
Year in Review
In the News
Fellow & Intern Spotlight

16 ADVOCACY

Holding our Leaders Accountable
2022 Climate & Clean Energy Bill
Offshore Wind
Corporate Council

26 ELECTIONS

2021 Elections
Green Voter Guide
Municipal Light Plants
A Historic Win in Boston

32 EVENTS

Events
Earth Night

38 FINANCIALS

Our Supporters

OUR TEAM



STAFF

- Casey Bowers, *Action Fund Executive Director*
- Leigh Chandler, *Communications and Events Manager*
- Nancy Goodman, *Vice President for Policy*
- Miriam Posner Harris, *Executive Vice President*
- Susannah Hatch, *Director of Clean Energy Policy*
- Elizabeth Turnbull Henry, *President*
- Juan Pablo Jaramillo, *Political Director*
- Ellen Macaulay, *Director of Special Projects*
- David Melly, *Legislative Director*
- Randi Soltysiak, *Director of Finance and Operations*

We thank former staff members, Clare Kelly and Maliha Khan, for their contributions in fiscal year 2022.

ELM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Gordon Burnes, *Board Chair*
- Bethany Patten, *Treasurer & Clerk*
- Alicia Barton
- Hank Bell
- Alex Bok
- JocCole “JC” Burton
- William “Buzz” Constable
- Ben Downing
- Robert Fishman
- Isabel Grantham Rappoport
- Elizabeth Turnbull Henry
- Seth Jaffe
- Namrita Kapur
- Anne Kelly
- Ken Kimmell
- Ginger Lawrence
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- Rick Mattila
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- Sandhya Murali
- Pete Pedersen
- Emily Reichert
- Ann Roosevelt
- Gwen Ruta
- Tedd Saunders

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- Robert Fishman
- Douglas Foy
- Elizabeth Turnbull Henry
- Seth Jaffe
- Natalia Linos
- Nikko Mendoza
- Peter Nessen
- Asheen Phansey
- Tedd Saunders
- Warren Tolman

SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS

124

YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY

188

LEGISLATIVE CO-SPONSORS OF OUR TOP PRIORITY BILLS

29

CORPORATE COUNCIL MEMBERS

782

MESSAGES SENT BY ELM ACTION FUND MEMBERS TO LAWMAKERS

27

ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPIONS ENDORSED BY THE ELM ACTION FUND

67%

OF ENDORSED CANDIDATES ELECTED TO OFFICE

63K+

VISITORS TO THE NEW ELM WEBSITE

22K+

VISITORS TO THE NEW ELM ACTION FUND WEBSITE

68%

INCREASE IN ELM'S ANNUAL INCOME

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Friends,

This past year has made it clear why Massachusetts must lead the way to address our climate crisis.

Recent federal developments, such as the Inflation Reduction Act, hold great promise for our nation's response to our greatest environmental challenges, but we cannot stop there. Trailblazing states like our own can develop solutions that, when replicated, can secure a bright future for new generations. Massachusetts has what we need to set this course – a bustling innovation sector, top institutions and businesses, and financial resources.

ELM and the ELM Action Fund are dedicated to ensuring our Commonwealth meets the urgency of our times. We know that state leadership to curb greenhouse gas emissions matters now more than ever.

And yet, Massachusetts is not on track to reach our 2030 climate goals nor to achieve a net-zero economy by 2050. We need strong policies and political power to fully transition to a clean energy future.

Thank you for your support as ELM advocates for policy and the ELM Action Fund builds political power to meet the scale and urgency of our environmental challenges. Here is just a glance at what we have been able to accomplish this past year:

- In November 2021, sixteen municipal leaders across Massachusetts were elected to office with the support of the ELM Action Fund.
- ELM launched NetZeroMA.org to hold our elected and appointed officials accountable for reaching the mandated climate as set by the 2021 Next General Roadmap Act.
- The New England for Offshore Wind coalition, led by ELM, fostered regional collaboration
- on responsibly developed offshore wind, hosting educational tours of the Block Island Wind Farm and launching Businesses for Offshore Wind.
- ELM and the ELM Action Funds' lobbying efforts successfully set the Massachusetts State House on track to pass the robust 2022 climate and clean energy bill.

A new legislative session begins in January 2023, and the ELM team is preparing an ambitious, strategic agenda. Next spring, we will celebrate our 125th birthday, a milestone that catalyzes our commitment to paving the way for ambitious environmental policy in Massachusetts.

Please join this work any way you can – by following us on social media [@EnviroLeagueMA](#), by signing up for our political action alerts, and by donating.

Massachusetts is a barometer for what is possible. Other states are watching, meaning that failure to hit our climate goals would make it more likely that leaders elsewhere accept failure as an option. Failure cannot be an option. And with your continued support, it won't be.

With gratitude,

Elizabeth Henry
President

**Failure cannot be an option.
And with your continued
support, it won't be.**



REPRESENTING NATION-WIDE MOVEMENTS



ELM's efforts have catalyzed a green, just, and vibrant clean energy future across New England. NWF is grateful for the close collaboration with ELM, our Massachusetts state affiliate. By uniting a diverse set of stakeholders across the region, they are driving lasting change.

COLLIN O'MARA ”
President and CEO, National Wildlife Federation



LCV is proud to have the ELM Action Fund as our state affiliate in Massachusetts. Their team is passionate, strategic, and leaving a lasting impact. Their work electing climate leaders and passing some of the strongest environmental laws in the nation has modelled leadership for other states across the country.

GENE KARPINSKI ”
President, League of Conservation Voters

SAME ELM, NEW LOOK

In the fall of 2021, ELM and the ELM Action Fund debuted new logos, websites, and an overall visual identity that better represent our forward-looking, ambitious vision.

While ELM is 124 years old, we have never shied away from evolving to meet the needs of the environmental movement. Our updated branding represents our commitment to people-centric climate policy that will create a healthy, sustainable future for all.



Our new ELM and ELM Action Fund websites make it easy for visitors to learn about our work and take action to influence policy on issues that matter to them.



Our new colors convey the bright future we aspire to build for the Commonwealth, its residents, and the natural environment while also expressing a boldness in line with ELM's and the ELM Action Fund's ambitious plans for the future.

Thank you to intern Caroline Dailey for her invaluable contributions.

ELECT

Lydia Edwards

for 1ST SUFFOLK AND MIDDLESEX DISTRICT STATE SENATE

- Provide equitable access to clean energy and green jobs
- Ensure affordable water transit
- Preserve green spaces

ELECTION DATE: JAN 11

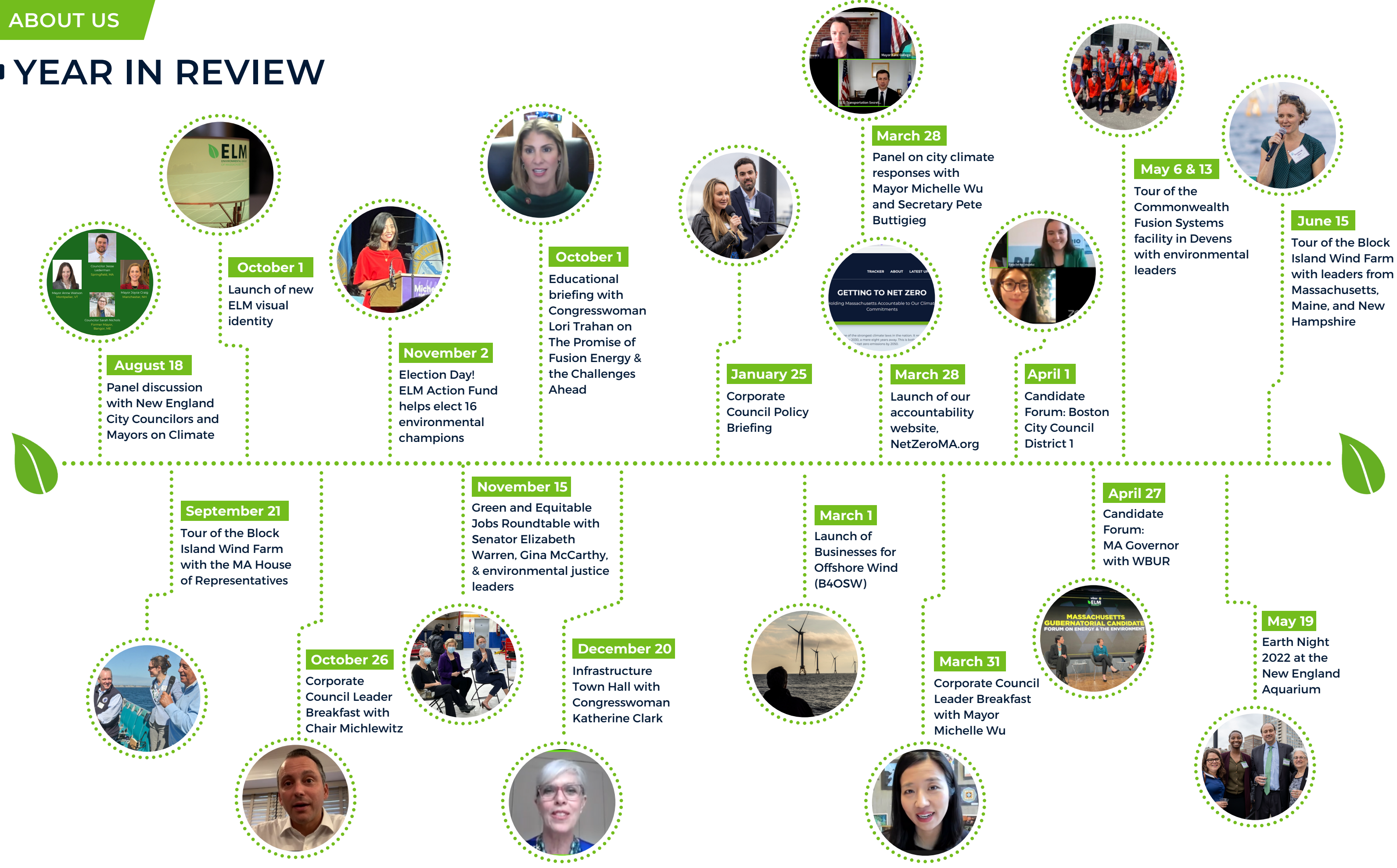
ENDORSED BY THE

ELM

ACTION FUND

The ELM Action Fund's redesigned endorsement graphics are becoming increasingly recognizable as our impact on local and state elections grows. We use our social media to clearly and concisely inform voters of our candidates' ambitious climate goals.

YEAR IN REVIEW



IN THE NEWS






CommonWealth

NONPROFIT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, IDEAS & CIVIC LIFE

Mass. must lead in combating climate crisis

What state does could be a blueprint for others to follow

GORDON M. BURNES Jul 22, 2021

SHARE     

SIX MONTHS into President Biden’s first year in office, we are witnessing a profound reversal of the anti-environment legacy that his predecessor left behind. Our federal government is poised to make meaningful progress toward combatting climate change. Indeed, the Biden administration recently committed to reducing US greenhouse emissions by 50 percent by 2030. With bold climate action from our federal leaders, it is tempting to overlook the role of state governments in this fight. Doing so fails to recognize that much of the federal government’s broad vision and funding to combat the climate crisis will be delegated to states, who will be tasked with devising and implementing innovative solutions.

BOSTON BUSINESS JOURNAL

ELM president on why Mass. is poised to solve climate challenges



Editor's note: This is a regular feature profiling [past winners of the Boston Business Journal's 40 Under 40](#)

Elizabeth Henry says more and more companies are waking up to the reality of climate change and taking action, but there's still a lot more work to do. Companies typically start small, replacing lightbulbs with energy-saving LEDs. Then they progress to installing electric car chargers for their employees and customers. Then they begin to look at their packaging, their vendors, the supply chain. Some time after that, they realize they can't be an effective part of a net-zero, circular economy until they get involved in policymaking. And that's where she comes in. She recently spoke with Business Journal

The Boston Globe

Massachusetts’ biggest climate wins and losses of 2021

By Sabrina Shankman, Janelle Ninos, David Abel and Dharna Noor Globe Staff. Updated January 2, 2022, 5:17 p.m.



Clockwise from top left: Senator Michael Barrett, Elizabeth Turnbull Henry, Samantha Montaño, and Gaurab Basu.

What's the one thing you'd recommend that climate-concerned people in Massachusetts do in 2022?

Turnbull Henry: People are always asking, should I fly less, or eat less meat? Well, yes. But we're not going to get where we need to go with just the sum of individual actions. The way that we meet our goals is by electing policy makers with the vision to lead and the skills to implement. The biggest thing you can do is educate yourself on where these candidates stand, push them to be specific, and then vote for them.

Basu: Find community. We're at this unique time of great despair and worry, and at a time in which solutions that didn't seem possible before are more possible to implement than ever. We have everything we need to turn course and mitigate the effects of climate change, which is the greatest public health challenge and health equity challenge we've ever faced. Find community, and know that every one of us is well positioned to make impact in our local communities.

7 NEWS BOSTON

New site tracks progress on climate law requirements

BY STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE MARCH 26, 2022

One year after the landmark emissions reduction roadmap law was signed and with eight years to go until its first major decennial checkpoint, the Environmental League of Massachusetts on Monday unveiled a new website that will track the state's progress toward the so-called climate law's commitments, including becoming net-zero by 2050.

Signed by Gov. Charlie Baker on **March 26**, 2021, the law was designed to commit Massachusetts to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, establish interim emissions goals between now and the middle of the century, adopt energy efficiency standards for appliances, authorize another 2,400 megawatts of offshore wind power and address needs in environmental justice communities.

To keep track of the law's deadlines and requirements while work on them takes place across multiple departments and on various timelines, ELM rolled out a new website, [www.NetZeroMA.org](#), with support from the Conservation Law Foundation, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council and Elders Climate Action.

ELM Vice President for Policy Nancy Goodman said the website is meant to give advocates, legislators and state officials an easy way to track progress toward the state's climate commitments.

wbur

Home // Local Coverage // Environment

How Mass. climate goals align with the latest UN report

April 04, 2022 | By Miriam Wasser

A new [public tracking tool](#) from the Environmental League of Massachusetts shows that the state has missed some key deadlines in implementing parts of the climate law.

“It is clear that we are not on track,” said league President Elizabeth Henry. And “absent significant additional policy intervention, Massachusetts is poised to badly miss the mark.”

But there's some good news.

“If policymakers double-down on proven clean electricity solutions like [offshore wind](#) and solar with storage — and move aggressively to stop combusting fossil fuels for buildings and transportation, we can still get Massachusetts on pace to decarbonize at the rate the climate crisis requires,” Henry said.

The Boston Globe

CHESTO MEANS BUSINESS

First life sciences, now clean energy: Baker eyes next big industry for Mass.

Governor is asking the Legislature to set aside \$750M in federal recovery funds for clean-tech effort.

By Jon Chesto Globe Staff. Updated May 26, 2022, 7:51 a.m.

MassCEC did end up scaling back programming and staffing, albeit through attrition, to stay within its funding levels. Hard to argue with sound fiscal practices. But will the 55-person agency's current funding stream be enough to keep us competitive in the clean-energy field?

Elizabeth Turnbull Henry sure doesn't think so.

As president of the Environmental League of Massachusetts, Henry helped lead the push against bigger cuts at the clean energy center in early 2020. Her argument: moving society to a carbon-neutral future is the most important scientific challenge of our time, and solving it represents a tremendous economic opportunity. Replicating the success of the state's life sciences sector is possible, she said, and Baker's proposal would be a significant step forward.

Candidates in Mass. governor’s race are running on climate

By Dharna Noor Globe Staff. Updated January 6, 2022, 7:34 a.m.

Elizabeth Turnbull Henry, president of the Environmental League of Massachusetts, agreed. “How great that all of these candidates, in December, a full 11 months before the general election and nine months before the primary, [had] already laid out their climate plans,” she said.

WCVB 5 abc

BOSTON’S NEWS LEADER

Forecasting our Future: Massachusetts' homeowners chip at goal of 1 million electrical system conversions

Share    WCVB Updated: 10:45 AM EDT Jun 6, 2022



ELIZABETH TURNBULL HENRY THE ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE OF MASSACHUSETTS FORECASTING OUR FUTURE WCVB





CommonWealth

NONPROFIT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, IDEAS & CIVIC LIFE

Climate bill needed for environmental, equity reasons

The legislation would be game-changer for Black, Brown communities

SUSANNAH HATCH and DARIEN JOHNSON Aug 9, 2022

SHARE     10

THE CLEAN ENERGY legislation on Gov. Charlie Baker's desk opens the door for marginalized communities across the Commonwealth to share in the many benefits of the fight against climate change. The governor should sign this bill, which builds on the foundation of environmental justice already underway in the Commonwealth, to further codify equity and inclusion in our green economy for years to come.

FELLOW & INTERN SPOTLIGHT



ELM and the ELM Action Fund are proud of our robust, longstanding fellowship program which attracts students across Massachusetts interested in environmental policy and creating change through political campaigns. They expand our capacity while gaining valuable skills and experiences to advance their environmental careers.

This year, fourteen students joined our team. Already, a number of our FY2022 fellows have moved to exciting Congressional internships and have begun exciting careers at workplaces such as the Massachusetts Climate Action Network, the City of Boston, Small Planet Institute, and HyAxiom, Inc.

The ELM Action Fund's fellowship program has been eye-opening and humbling, with an incredibly compassionate team looking to leave a positive footprint in Massachusetts and New England.

CAROLYN LIU 
Former ELM Action Fund Fellow

14

FELLOWS AND
INTERNS
SUPPORTING
ELM IN FY22

135+

HOURS
CAMPAIGNING
FOR MUNICIPAL
CANDIDATES

CAMPAIGN AND ADVOCACY FELLOWS

WILHEMINA BLAKE

Skidmore College

CAROLYN LIU

Northeastern University

LARA CARDUSO

UMass Boston

FATIMA LOPEZ

UMass Amherst

BELYNDA CESAR

UMass Amherst

MAYA MUDGAL

UMass Boston

ROBERT HART

UMass Amherst

KAIYA PATEL

Northeastern University

JUSTIN HONG

Tufts University

ELIJAH RESTUCCIO

Northeastern University

INTERNS

CAROLINE DAILEY, Communications & Development Intern

Barnard College

CHARLOTTE FALL, Development Intern

Northeastern University

RACHEL MADISON, Offshore Wind Campaign Intern

Tufts University

KELLY TAM, Development Intern

Boston University

ADVOCACY



For the 2021-2022 legislative session, ELM and the ELM Action Fund strategically selected a set of priorities that built on the framework established by the Next Generation Roadmap Act. We focused on helping Massachusetts achieve our carbon neutrality goals, grow our clean energy economy, and empower historically overburdened and underserved communities.

Our legislative priorities focused on **offshore wind, electric vehicles, building decarbonization, waste reduction, environmental justice**, and the **Green Budget**. ELM is proud to have made progress on many of our priorities with the passage of the 2022 Climate and Clean Energy law. We look forward to expanding on this success in the 2023-2024 legislative session.

THE GREEN BUDGET

Environmental agencies play an essential role in protecting our environment, fighting climate change, and preserving our natural resources. Yet only 0.62% of the state's current operating budget is allocated toward these responsibilities. Our agency funding is insufficient to address the increased threat of climate change.

ELM and the ELM Action Fund championed robust increases for the FY23 Green Budget by lobbying the Legislature and encouraging a total of 194 Action Fund members to send letters to their legislators. Through our efforts, we secured a final budget that includes significant increases in funding for our priority line-items: **DCR's State Parks and Recreation, the Department of Environmental Protection, EEA Climate and Environmental Justice**, and the **Division of Ecological Restoration**. With these additional resources, Massachusetts will be able to move forward in sustaining our communities, protecting public health, and meeting our environmental challenges.

VOTES ACT

Voting justice is central to the environmental movement. The Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color that are most impacted by environmental threats are also the most likely to face voting roadblocks. When voting restrictions keep underrepresented and environmentally threatened communities from the ballot box, they lose a crucial way to contribute to decisions about air and water pollution, inadequate transportation, and where polluting facilities and infrastructure are sited.

The VOTES Act is one of the boldest electoral reforms in Massachusetts history, making vote-by-mail permanent, increasing early in-person voting options, expanding ballot access to incarcerated citizens, and more.

ELM and the ELM Action Fund fought for this legislation alongside a coalition of voter rights organizations lobbying the State House and encouraging Action Fund members to send a total of 281 letters to their legislators. We achieved victory in June 2022 when Governor Baker signed the bill into law. Thanks to this work, there is now statewide no-excuse mail-in-balloting, pre-trial voting, and enhanced automatic registration, all expanding voting access to environmental justice communities across Massachusetts.

HOLDING MASSACHUSETTS ACCOUNTABLE

Massachusetts' 2021 Next Generation Roadmap Act is one of the strongest climate laws in the nation. It requires the Commonwealth to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions at least 50% by 2030, a mere eight years away. This is both a monumental task and an imperative one. Reaching that target will set us on a trajectory to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

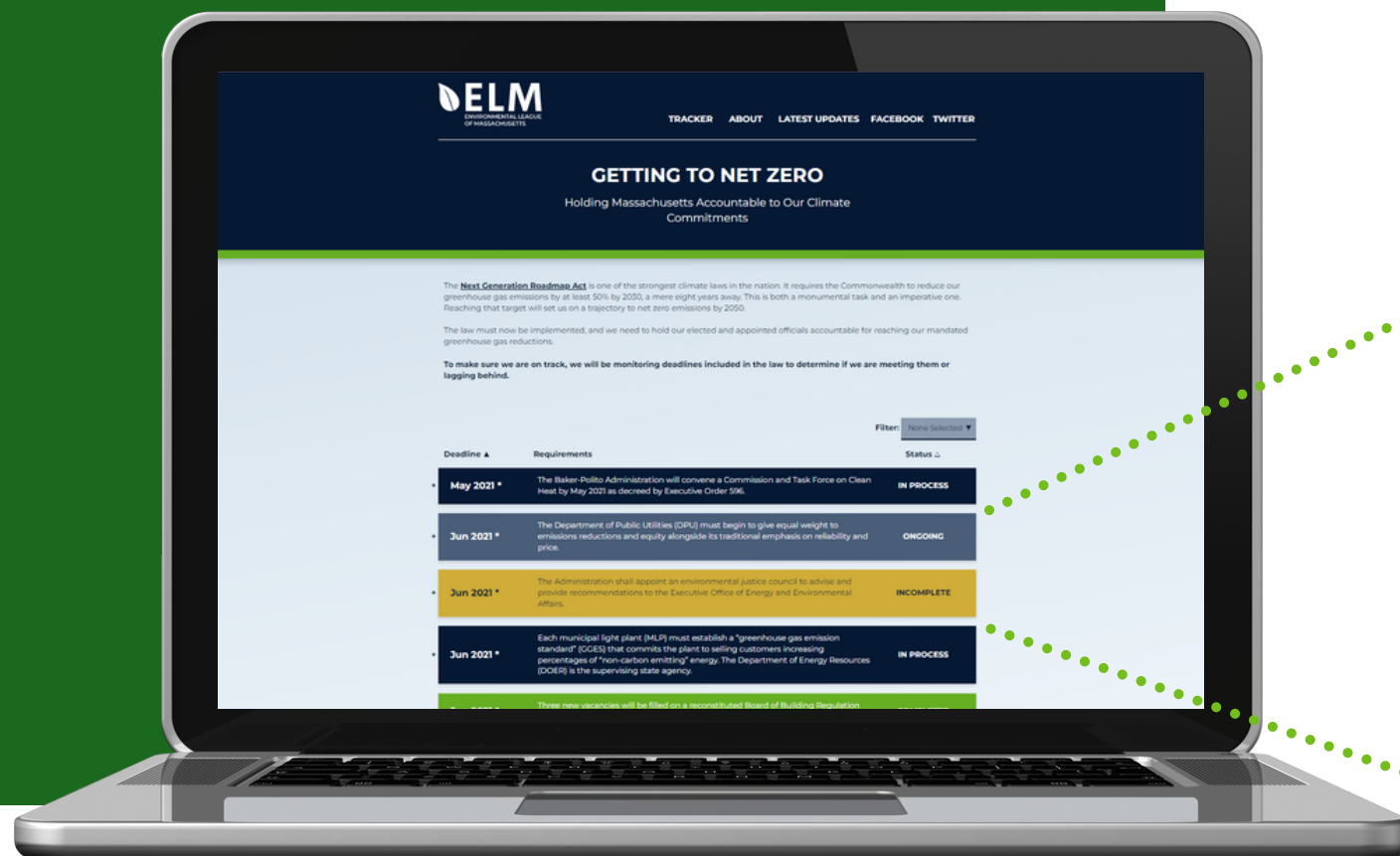
The law must now be implemented. ELM, with support from the Conservation Law Foundation, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, and Elders Climate Action, created [NetZeroMA.org](https://www.netzeroma.org), an online tool that tracks the Commonwealth's progress toward achieving mandates and deadlines set in the Next Generation Roadmap Act as well as other statutes and executive actions.

With the support of ELM, the Legislature passed robust mandates in 2021 to put Massachusetts on track to a net-zero economy. Now comes the challenge of execution. We need bold strategy, sustained implementation, continuous communication, and transparent accountability if we're to meet our goals. NetZeroMA.org is an invaluable way for residents and legislators to track progress toward meeting our climate commitments.

STATE SENATOR MICHAEL J. BARRETT
Serving the 3rd Middlesex District & Senate Chair of the
Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energys

The website details each provision and deadline, providing background information and updates about where we have met our commitments, what's in process, and where Massachusetts is falling short. The Next Generation Roadmap Act was a landmark piece of legislation, but it will require complementary policies to ensure Massachusetts meets our emissions reduction requirements.

The ELM team will continually update NetZeroMA.org to reflect deadlines and progress as additional laws, plans, and orders are put in place.



+	<p>Jun 2021 *</p> <p>The Department of Public Utilities (DPU) must begin to give equal weight to emissions reductions and equity alongside its traditional emphasis on reliability and price.</p>	<p>ONGOING</p>
-	<p>Jun 2021 *</p> <p>The Administration shall appoint an environmental justice council to advise and provide recommendations to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.</p>	<p>INCOMPLETE</p>

The Council will consist of 9-15 members appointed by the governor. The Roadmap Act requires that the Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary consult with the Council before making any substantial adoptions, revisions, or amendments to regulations related to the definition of environmental justice population as defined in the Act.

The MA Environmental Justice Table recommended two dozen members for the Council, but members have yet to be appointed.

Where is this in the law?

Section 62L

2022 CLIMATE AND CLEAN ENERGY BILL

ELM advocated tirelessly for the passage of **An Act Driving Clean Energy and Offshore Wind**, signed into law in August 2022. ELM's thoughtful, clear advocacy resulted in a robust bill that prioritized offshore wind, transportation electrification, building decarbonization, and economic inclusion.

In the final months of the session, legislative deadlines and concerns over the lack of alignment between the House's and Senate's priorities created uncertainty as to the viability of the legislation. ELM worked with coalition partners, grassroots supporters, and elected officials to underscore the urgency of action in the face of the climate crisis. Inaction on this bill was unacceptable.

ELM coordinated with Massachusetts' leading businesses and institutions, alongside other leading environmental organizations throughout the Commonwealth, to offer recommendations at every step in the legislative process. During the conference committee negotiation, ELM marshalled public support for a strong bill. Once the bill was finalized and sitting on Governor Baker's desk, ELM worked to urge him to sign the bill, in the face of a possible veto, which he ultimately did.

PROVISIONS OF THE LAW

OFFSHORE WIND

- Expands investments into the offshore wind industry
- Adjusts renewable energy incentives
- Prioritizes new project plans that include equity and economic inclusion provisions

TRANSPORTATION

- Orders all MBTA buses to be electric by 2040
- Requires all vehicles sold to be zero-emission by 2035
- Increases incentives and rebates for purchasing electric vehicles (EVs)
- Builds more EV charging stations

BUILDING DECARBONIZATION

- Increases data collection of building-related emissions and supported efficiency efforts
- Creates a pilot program for 10 individual cities and towns to ban fossil-fuel hookups in new construction

ECONOMIC INCLUSION & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- Ensures protections for ratepayers adopting clean energy
- Empowers MassCEC to fund new clean energy research, build relevant infrastructure, support equitable growth, and expand its workforce development programs



ELM'S EFFORTS TO PASS THE BILL

- Worked with legislators to file an omnibus offshore wind bill at the start of the session, several pieces of which were in the final bill
- Joined 11 other leading environmental groups to offer comments on the legislation
- Facilitated a coalition of 31 leading businesses and institutions urging lawmakers to finalize a strong climate bill
- Co-published an op-ed with the Black Economic Council of Massachusetts highlighting the equity and economic inclusion aspects of the law
- Elevated the bill's urgency to the Boston Globe Editorial Board
- Led a sign-on effort of over 50 organizations supporting funding for the implementation of the climate bill in a related economic development package



ELM ACTION FUND MEMBERS TAKE ACTION

- 289 members urged their State Senator to boost offshore wind resources and decarbonization efforts
- 252 members wrote their State Senator urging the conference committee to resolve the bill
- 628 members, including 141 new supporters, sent a letter to Governor Baker urging him to sign the bill into law

NEW ENGLAND FOR OFFSHORE WIND

New England is uncommonly well positioned to harness offshore wind—a game-changer for our regional grid. That is why, in 2020, ELM founded the **New England for Offshore Wind (NE4OSW)** coalition to support the timely and responsible development of this powerful renewable energy resource.

Since then, New England for Offshore Wind has grown into a broad-based coalition of over 100 members representing a diverse array of organizations, institutions, and communities across all six states. NE4OSW is committed to combating climate change by increasing the supply of clean energy to our regional grid through more procurements of responsibly developed offshore wind. The coalition is driven by its core values of respect & responsibility, science-based decision making, equity, and economic justice.



A NEW VISION FOR TRANSMISSION

Seeing a need for a bold vision on offshore wind transmission, the full coalition spent the first half of 2022 building consensus on 6 core principles for transmission development for release in FY23. The principles represent the coalition’s goals for development, coordination, and transparency that include labor standards and environmental justice and protection. In June, 38 coalition members urged New England’s governors to seek coordinated, regional offshore wind transmission solutions to avoid high overall financial, environmental, and community impacts of facilities planned for the Northeast coast.



In March 2022, NE4OSW launched **Businesses for Offshore Wind (B4OSW)**, a strategic alliance of 28 New England businesses and institutions. Representing a cross-section of the regional economy, B4OSW amplifies business voices and perspectives in offshore wind advocacy and demonstrates corporate and institutional support for New England for Offshore Wind.

As part of B4OSW’s launch, members sent a letter to the six New England Governors calling for deeper collaboration between their administrations, highlighting offshore wind as a critical shared resource to address climate change, grow the economy, and control energy costs.

Offshore wind is a massive opportunity that will create new businesses and thousands of new jobs. Investments in this billion-dollar industry will reduce the Commonwealth’s carbon footprint, which limits the impact of climate change on vulnerable communities.

NICOLE OBI
President & CEO, Black Economic Council of Massachusetts (B4OSW Member)

CORPORATE COUNCIL

29

CORPORATE
COUNCIL
MEMBERS

3

EVENTS
EDUCATING
MEMBERS ON
ADVOCACY

31

INSTITUTIONS
CALLING FOR A
STRONG
CLIMATE BILL

The ELM Corporate Council launched in 2010 to create a deep working alliance between the private sector and environmental advocates. Growing to 29 members in 2022, the Corporate Council provides opportunities for businesses and institutions leading on sustainability to participate in the legislative process and encourage others in their sector to follow their example. These businesses use their power to help drive policy that promotes a clean, accessible, thriving, and equitable future for the Commonwealth.

This past year, we held two Leader Breakfasts with our members and senior government officials who have authority over our region's energy and environmental future. In October 2021, ELM and our members sat down with House Chair of Ways & Means Aaron Michlewitz and in March 2022, we met with Boston Mayor Michelle Wu. During these conversations, our Corporate Council members discussed how businesses can support the state's decarbonization efforts and the Mayor's plans for a Green New Deal city. At our annual Energy & Environmental Policy Briefing in February 2022, the ELM team made the business case for advocacy on the most pertinent policy issues facing Massachusetts, including environmental justice, electric vehicles, and offshore wind.

The ELM Corporate Council has been a valuable partnership for our company. The opportunities ELM have given us to use our voice on Beacon Hill has enabled us to advocate for policies to support a healthy economy, environment, and community.

BOB RIVERS ”
Chair & CEO, Eastern Bank



BUSINESS VOICES FOR THE 2022 CLIMATE BILL

Through the Corporate Council, ELM activates businesses on environmental policy advocacy to motivate our state lawmakers to address our greatest environmental and economic challenges. In June, we drafted, organized, and coordinated a sign-on letter calling on Massachusetts legislators to finalize an ambitious 2022 climate and clean energy bill. Collaborating with Ceres, Health Care Without Harm, and Second Nature, we recruited 31 leading businesses and institutions to sign the letter, demonstrating their leadership and urging lawmakers to adopt language to:

- Accelerate the clean energy economy
- Invest in green infrastructure
- Prioritize environmental equity and justice

ELECTIONS

27

ENVIRONMENTAL
CHAMPIONS
ENDORSED BY THE
ELM ACTION FUND

67%

ELECTED TO
MUNICIPAL
OFFICE

15K+

DOORS
KNOCKED FOR
CLIMATE
CHAMPIONS

18

WOMEN
CANDIDATES
ENDORSED

14

CANDIDATES
OF COLOR
ENDORSED

10K+

GET-OUT-THE-
VOTE PHONE
CALLS

During the 2021 election cycle, the ELM Action Fund team continued supporting candidates that are committed to policies that meet the scale and urgency of the climate crisis.

In 2021, the team largely focused on backing climate champions running for municipal offices throughout the state. Massachusetts voters proved that running on ambitious environmental plans wins elections. Leaders on clean energy, climate resilience, environmental justice, electrified transportation, and more sailed to victory in every corner of our state. Municipal officials have the ability to implement change at a local level, and we believe that local municipalities have a major role to play in advancing important climate policy.



In seven short years, more than a quarter of those serving in elected office in the State House have sought and earned our endorsement. By building relationships early and uplifting champions, we have worked with the Legislature to pass some of the strongest climate laws in the nation.

CASEY BOWERS

Executive Director, ELM Action Fund



RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE

Elected to Boston City Council

Boston's first Haitian-American City Councilor, she campaigned for fare-free MBTA and for all new buildings to meet net-zero emission standards.

KIM DRISCOLL

Re-elected Mayor of Salem

With her history of climate action in Salem, we were proud to support her re-election bid for Mayor.

JARED NICHOLSON

Elected Mayor of Lynn

After three terms on the Lynn School Committee, he ran on a campaign to improve Lynn's infrastructure against the impacts of climate change.

LYDIA EDWARDS

Elected to the State Senate in Special Election

We knew she would bring the same enthusiasm for environmental justice and clean energy that she exhibited on the Boston City Council.

SUPPORTING ETEL HAXHIAJ

Elected to Worcester City Council

The ELM Action Fund is proud of the support we provided Etel Haxhij throughout her second run for Worcester City Council. She is the first Muslim American to be elected to the body. A lifelong advocate, she is passionate about providing a safe and healthy environment for Worcester’s residents.

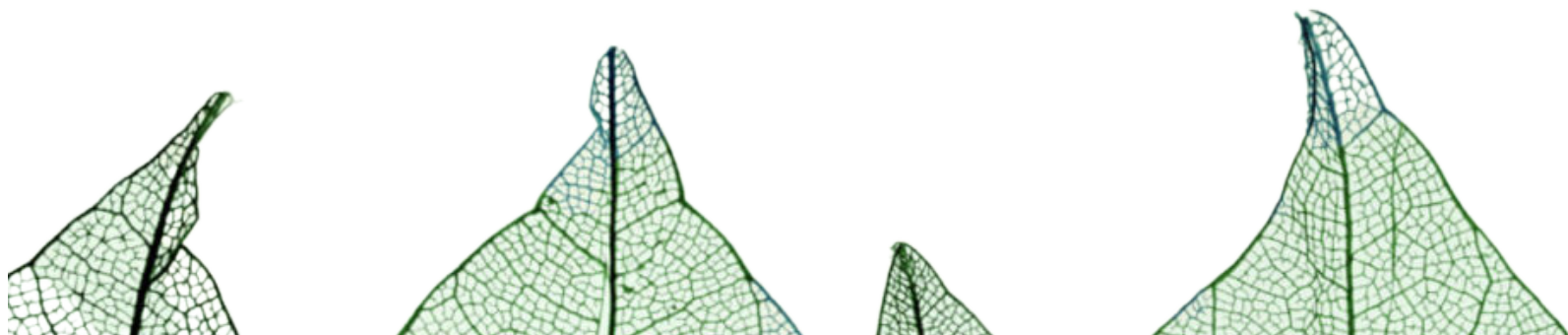
Councilor Haxhij earned our endorsement when she ran in 2019, a close race she ultimately lost. Her victory during her second run made it clear that increasingly voters seek candidates committed to climate action and environmental justice.



GREEN VOTER GUIDE

Since its launch in 2020, the Green Voter Guide continues to be an effective tool for Massachusetts voters who want to cast their vote for an environmental champion. The Green Voter Guide, developed by the ELM Action Fund, allows voters to enter their address and see which candidates on their ballot have earned the endorsement of any of the top five environmental organizations that make endorsements in Massachusetts races.

In the 2021 municipal elections, over 6,000 voters used the Green Voter Guide to find environmental leaders on their ballot.



MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANTS

We are proud to have continued our support of climate champions running to serve on Municipal Light Plant (MLP) Boards.

MLPs are municipality-owned power plants designed to provide power to the citizens of that city or town. Elected commissioners have influence over where the town’s energy comes from, implementing energy efficiency programs, setting energy rates, and increasing transparency in the light department. Electing climate champions to MLP Boards can lead to significant changes in a community’s clean energy plans.

Despite the importance of these elections, few voters know about MLPs or turn out to vote. ELM and the ELM Action Fund work to educate voters and drive turnout. On **February 22, 2022**, ELM co-hosted a webinar, “**What are Municipal Plants?**” which encouraged community members to get involved with their local MLPs and consider running for office.

In the spring of 2022, we saw an increase in interest from candidates seeking our endorsement. The ELM Action Fund supported eight MLP candidates across six municipalities, including Belmont, Groton, Harvard, Hingham, Hudson, and Reading. We provided support to their local campaigns by creating and sending mailers, hosting phone banks, and mobilizing the ELM Action Fund’s members to turn out to vote.

OUR 2022 WINNING MLP CANDIDATES



Michael Reive
Hingham



Steve Klionsky
Belmont



Michael Macrae
Belmont

A HISTORIC WIN IN BOSTON



When Michelle Wu launched her campaign for Mayor of Boston in 2020, she made her focus on climate clear. She ran on an environmental justice platform that included a Green New Deal for Boston, marking a major shift in how the city would respond to the growing threat of climate change.

Because of her environmental leadership on the Boston City Council, the ELM Action Fund knew Wu was the leader Boston needed to fight climate change. In addition to our phone banking and door knocking, we organized climate canvasses on her behalf, including a Canvass Kickoff with climate champion Senator Ed Markey.

We have been proud to work alongside Mayor Wu as she begins to put her Boston Green New Deal into action. Within a few months of her inauguration, she signed an ordinance requiring the City of Boston to divest from fossil fuels by 2025 and began to address transportation justice by expanding fare-free public transit to 3 bus lines.

The first organizations that came out to support my candidacy were clear this was going to be a climate campaign. The leadership of the ELM Action Fund in that space, really pulling together Sierra Club and Sunrise and the activist energy on the ground, to say 'we are teaming up.' That has already given me so much wind in the first seven months to make changes.

MICHELLE WU ”

Mayor of Boston, at an ELM Action Fund event in June 2022



MICHELLE WU: CLIMATE CHAMPION

To support Michelle Wu’s historic candidacy for Boston City Hall, the ELM Action Fund launched an independent expenditure (IE) in August 2021.

Through the IE, we:

- Raised and invested over \$250K to support her candidacy
- Earned over 2M views with our digital video ads
- Reached over 90K voters through targeted ads
- Targeted 15K high-propensity voters with our mail program
- Launched michellewuclimatechampion.com, earning over 8K visits
- Elevated her climate platform to boost proactive press coverage and to gain visibility for our IE PAC’s growing influence

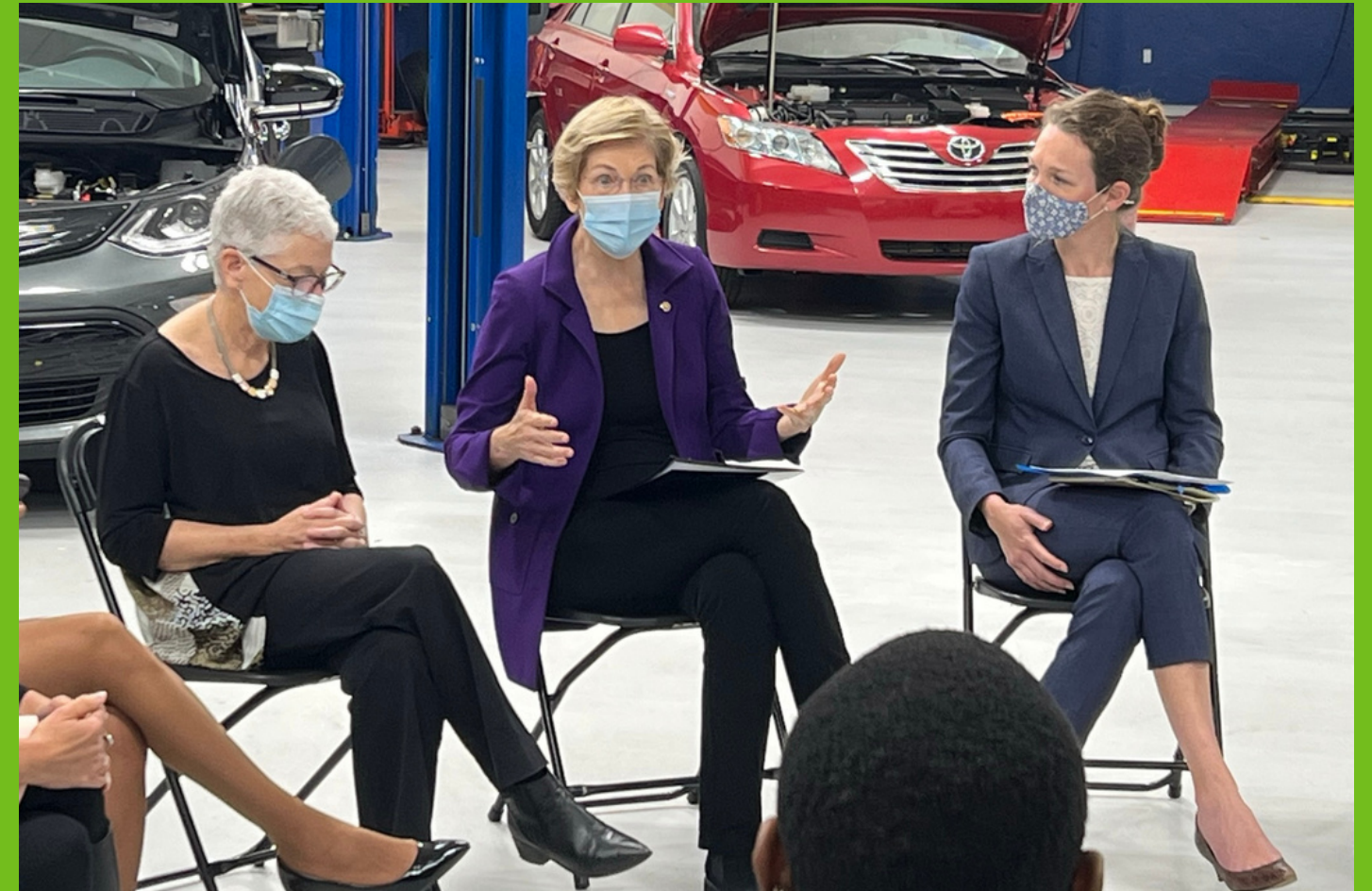
EVENTS

3.5K+

POST-EVENT
STREAMS OF
ELM'S VIRTUAL
EVENTS

1,620

PEOPLE
ENGAGED BY
CANDIDATE
FORUMS



GREEN AND EQUITABLE JOBS ROUNDTABLE

On November 15, 2021, ELM held a roundtable discussion at the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology (BFIT). U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, White House National Climate Advisor Gina McCarthy, and former Mayor Kim Janey, alongside a number of state legislators and environmental justice advocates, gathered in support of the Build Back Better Bill.

Attendees had the opportunity to join a class for heat pump demonstration and toured the HVAC and electric vehicles facilities where BFIT students train in the necessary skills to join the growing green economy. The event demonstrated BFIT's efforts to represent the diversity of the Commonwealth in the clean energy workforce and brought together public officials who are working to decrease emissions and build resilient communities.

■ EXPLORING THE PROMISE OF FUSION

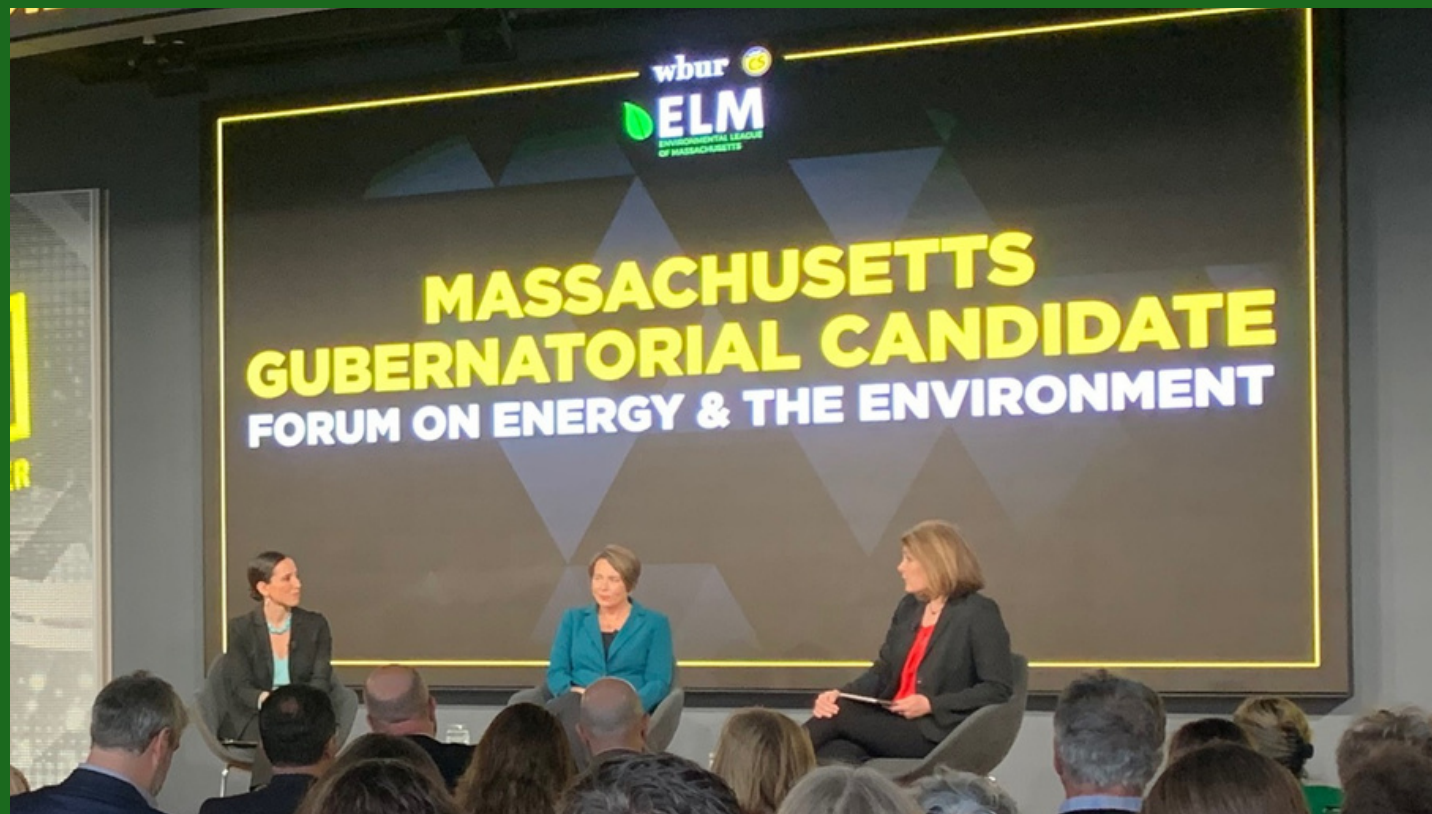


On December 8, 2021, ELM co-hosted the **Promise of Fusion Energy & the Challenges Ahead**, in which a group of advocates, businesses, and government officials met to discuss the potential of fusion energy as a source of carbon-free energy and listen to experts' briefings on its challenges and opportunities for Massachusetts and the world. With world-leading research and development here in Massachusetts, ELM has been educating ourselves and our stakeholders on the current technology, gaps, and risks in order to be better equipped to shape funding and regulatory decisions.

■ CANDIDATE FORUM: BOSTON CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1



On April 4, 2022, ELM held the **Boston City Council District 1 Candidate Forum** alongside GreenRoots and the PUEBLO coalition. **Gabriela Coletta** and **Tania Del Rio**, the two candidates who competed for the district seat that represents residents of East Boston, Charlestown, and the North End, joined ELM and responded to crucial questions related to environmental justice issues impacting the district. The residents of Boston's 1st District are overburdened by environmental challenges such as frequent flooding and air pollution, and ELM gave them a chance to hear the candidates explain their plans for addressing the impending climate crisis. By facilitating open discussions about environmental challenges and solutions, ELM encourages residents to vote for candidates that prioritize building a thriving, green, and equitable community.



■ CANDIDATE FORUM: MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR

On April 27, 2022, ELM held the **Candidate Forum on Energy & the Environment for the MA Governor's Race** at WBUR CitySpace and streamed it online. The forum included candidates **Sonia Chang-Diaz**, State Senator for MA 2nd Suffolk District, and **Maura Healey**, Massachusetts Attorney General. All candidates were invited to participate.

The candidates discussed their plans for renewable energy, clean transportation, environmental justice, resilient communities, and more, and provided voters insight into their environmental priorities. Massachusetts' next governor will be faced with crucial decisions on how we build a carbon-neutral, green, and equitable Commonwealth; by hosting this event, ELM gave voters a chance to educate themselves on how the candidates will address environmental challenges, and who will make Massachusetts a leader.

EARTH NIGHT IS BACK

On May 19 we held our 25th Earth Night celebration under a tent overlooking Boston Harbor at the New England Aquarium. We enjoyed hosting almost 300 guests for our first in-person Earth Night in three years.

We gathered friends from the business, government, and nonprofit sectors to honor this year’s theme – the intersection of climate, health, and equity. Our Commonwealth Environmental Leadership Awards recognized those who have worked at this nexus.

Thanks to our generous sponsors and donors, we raised over \$280,000 to support our mission, almost doubling our record!



I am honored to be awarded a Commonwealth Environmental Leadership Award. The ELM team has been an invaluable partner. The advocacy of their dedicated and knowledgeable staff has helped pass transformative legislation, including the Next Generation Climate Roadmap Act. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with ELM on policy that meets the moment and builds a resilient and equitable green economy.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOAN MESCHINO ”
Serving the 3rd Plymouth District



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIVE COMMONWEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARDEES

State Representative Joan Meschino, for leading the charge to pass one of the strongest climate laws in the nation.

María Belén Power and Andrea Nyamekye, for organizing and leading a movement to codify protections for the marginalized, overburdened, and vulnerable people across Massachusetts.

Mass General Brigham, for using their power, influence, and expertise to advocate for policy to build a healthier, more sustainable, more equitable Commonwealth.

Jeremy Grantham, CBE, for decades of transformational investments in advocacy, innovation, and technology to address the climate crisis.

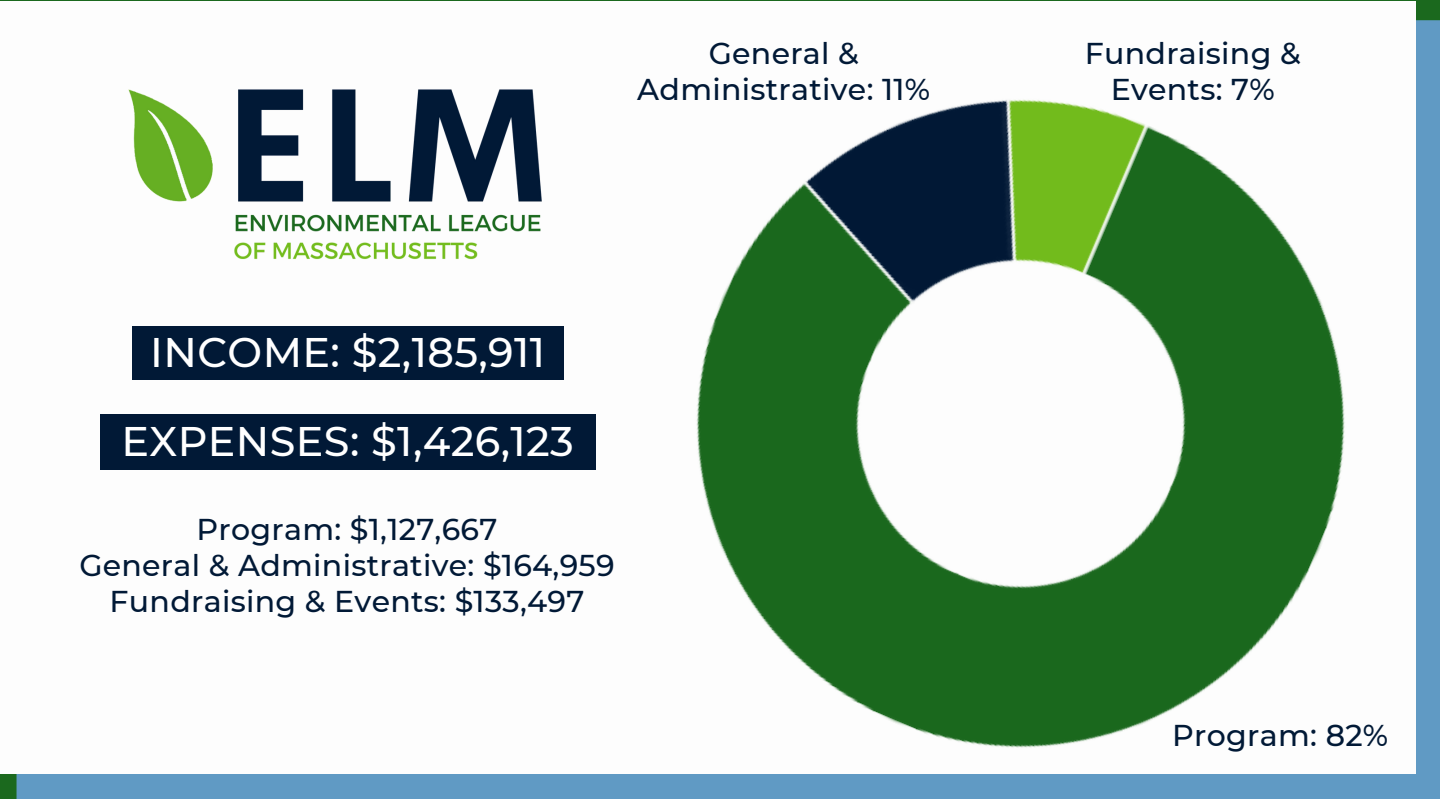
281

EARTH NIGHT ATTENDEES

66

EARTH NIGHT SPONSORS

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



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Thank you to all of our donors for supporting our purpose to secure the health and wellbeing of the environment and of future generations.

Massachusetts has long been a public policy leader, and now we have the opportunity to lead the nation in developing and implementing policies to create a more sustainable and healthy future for us all. Our priorities are grounded in science and scaled to match the challenges we face. We will advocate for policies that help the Commonwealth achieve our carbon neutrality goals, grow our clean energy economy, and empower historically overburdened and underserved communities.

GORDON BURNES ”

Board Chair, Environmental League of Massachusetts

Since its founding in 2015, the ELM Action Fund has been reshaping our Commonwealth for the better. Voters are increasingly calling for decisive, forward-looking climate action. Our work expands the realm of what is possible by educating and electing leaders across the state with the vision, ambition, and courage to fight for our future.

ALEX BOK ”
Board Chair, ELM Action Fund

SUPPORT OUR WORK

Together, we can work toward a world where government fully recognizes the challenges we face and moves swiftly and effectively to address them.



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