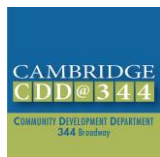


City of Cambridge

Net Zero Transportation Plan Community Meeting

March 6, 2024 - virtual

March 7, 2024 - in-person, Senior Center



What is the Net Zero Transportation Plan about?





Why do we care about greenhouse gas emissions?

- **Greenhouse gas** is pollution that goes into the air
 - It come from burning fossil fuels (like gas and diesel) which power most cars
- This pollution traps heat from the sun, which causes **climate change**
- **Climate change** will affect our health and daily life by causing:
 - **Extreme heat**
 - **Flooding**
 - **More destructive storms**

Why are we creating a Net Zero Transportation Plan?

- We need a plan to **remove greenhouse gases from transportation** in Cambridge (2nd largest source, after buildings)
- The City Council set a goal for Cambridge to **eliminate greenhouse gas emissions by 2050**
- Purpose: Eliminate emissions from transportation in Cambridge, while also creating a better, more equitable transportation system



* For this plan, "Net Zero" means that **no greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) will go into the atmosphere that come from transportation.**

What's the process to make
this plan?





How are we developing the Net Zero Transportation Plan?

1. Formed an **advisory group** to guide the Plan:
 - People who **share information with and receive information from their communities** that informs the plan
2. Reaching out to the broader community to hear **ideas, concerns, and opportunities** about transportation changes we could make:
 - **Community meetings**
 - **A survey**
 - **Small group conversations**
3. Working with **technical consultants** who bring knowledge about possible approaches



Net Zero Transportation Plan Advisory Group members

- **Farris Blount** (Cambridge Black Pastors Alliance, Junior Pastor)
- **Malene Council** (Department of Human Service Programs, Program Assistant/Outreach Worker)
- **Dosa Chidandali** (Cambridge Women's Center, Co-Director, Programs & Services)
- **Karim Elrazzaz** (Islamic Society of Boston Cambridge, Community Programs Director)
- **Guerlancia "Gigi" Laurent** (Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House, Community Liaison)
- **Ibrahim Omar** (Islamic Society of Boston Cambridge, Operations Integration Analyst)
- **James Pierre** (Adius Arts Initiative, Founder)
- **Nora Sears** (De Novo Center for Justice and Healing, Volunteer Coordinator)
- **Rachel Tanenhaus** (Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities, Executive Director)
- **Omriqui Thomas** (Cambridge Public Schools Student)
- **Angela Vierling-Claassen** (Cambridge Resident)
- **Lonnell Wells** (Cambridge Bike Give Back, Co-Founder)
- **Yao Wu** (Chinese American Association of Cambridge, Member)

Net Zero Transportation Plan Advisory Group members



Islamic Society of Boston
Cambridge | Roxbury



DE NOVO
CENTER FOR JUSTICE AND HEALING



Chinese American Association of Cambridge



Goals of the Net Zero Transportation Plan

The Advisory Group set 4 goals for the Net Zero Transportation Plan:

1. **Improve mobility** (make it easier for people to get around Cambridge)
2. **Remove greenhouse gas emissions from transportation**
3. **Facilitate a just transition** (create economic opportunity for everyone equitably as we shift away from fossil fuels)
4. **Strengthen community connection** (support a feeling of connection between and among people of different communities)



Centering equity in this process

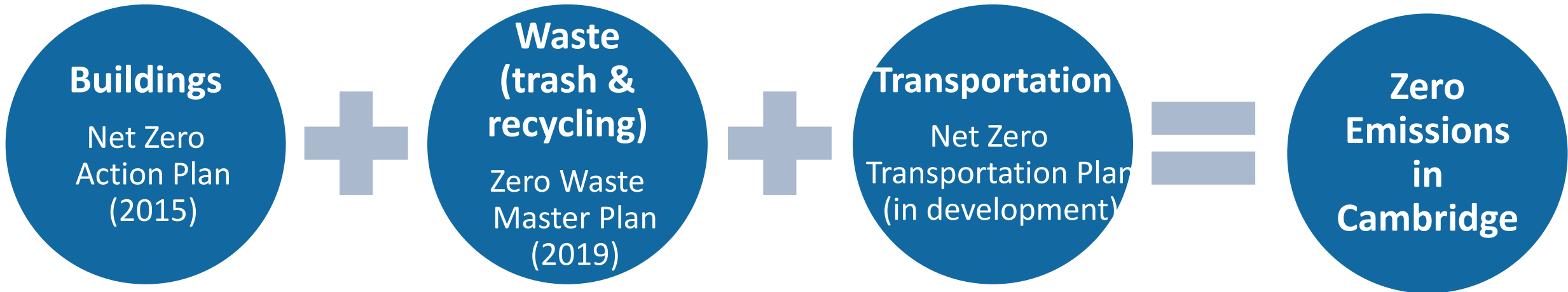
The Advisory Group recognizes that an equitable process for developing the Plan:

- 1. Is guided by community voices**
- 2. Is transparent**
- 3. Prioritizes underserved, underheard, and historically excluded groups of people**
- 4. Reduces harm**
- 5. Builds long-term relationships**
- 6. Is accessible**

How far do we have to go?

A solid yellow horizontal bar is positioned below the text "How far do we have to go?".

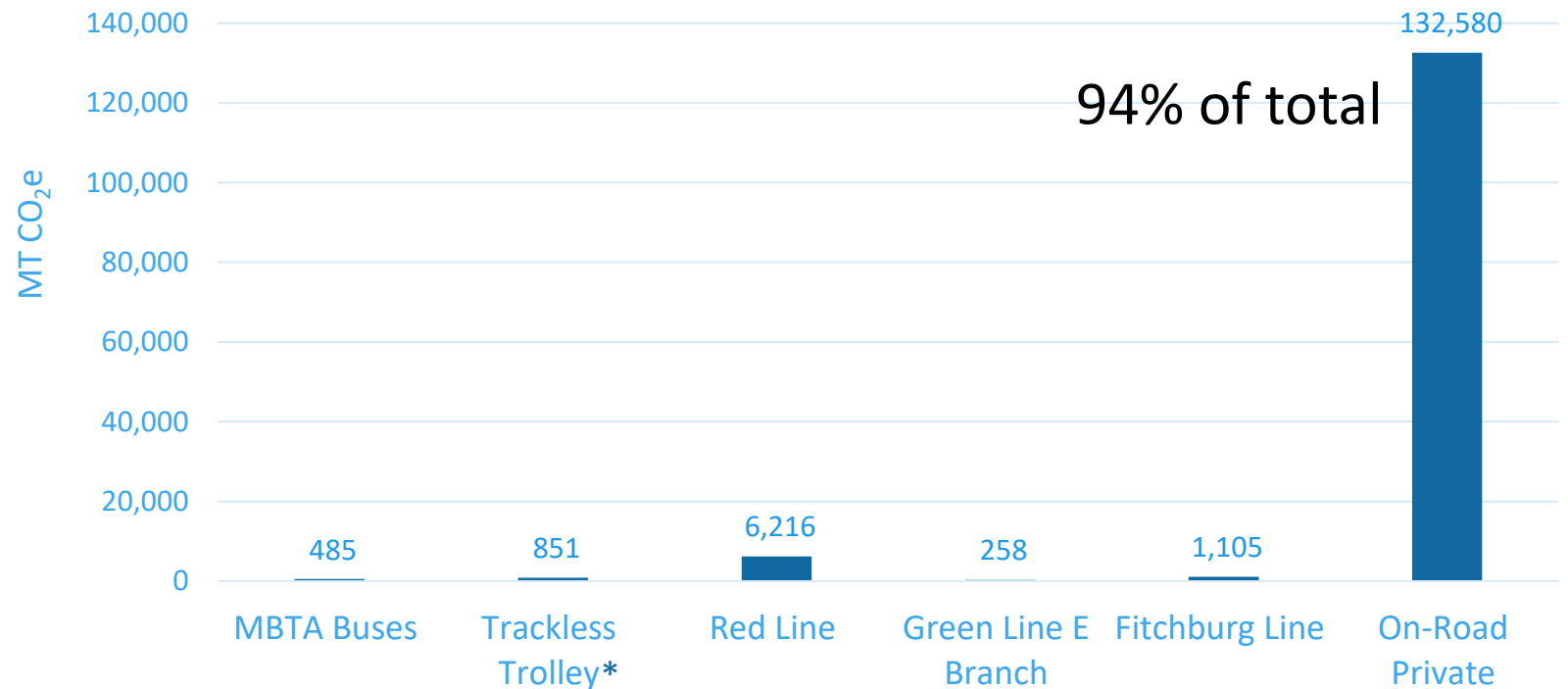
What is Cambridge doing to reduce emissions?



How much of Cambridge's transportation emissions come from cars and other modes?

- Most transportation emissions come from private cars and trucks

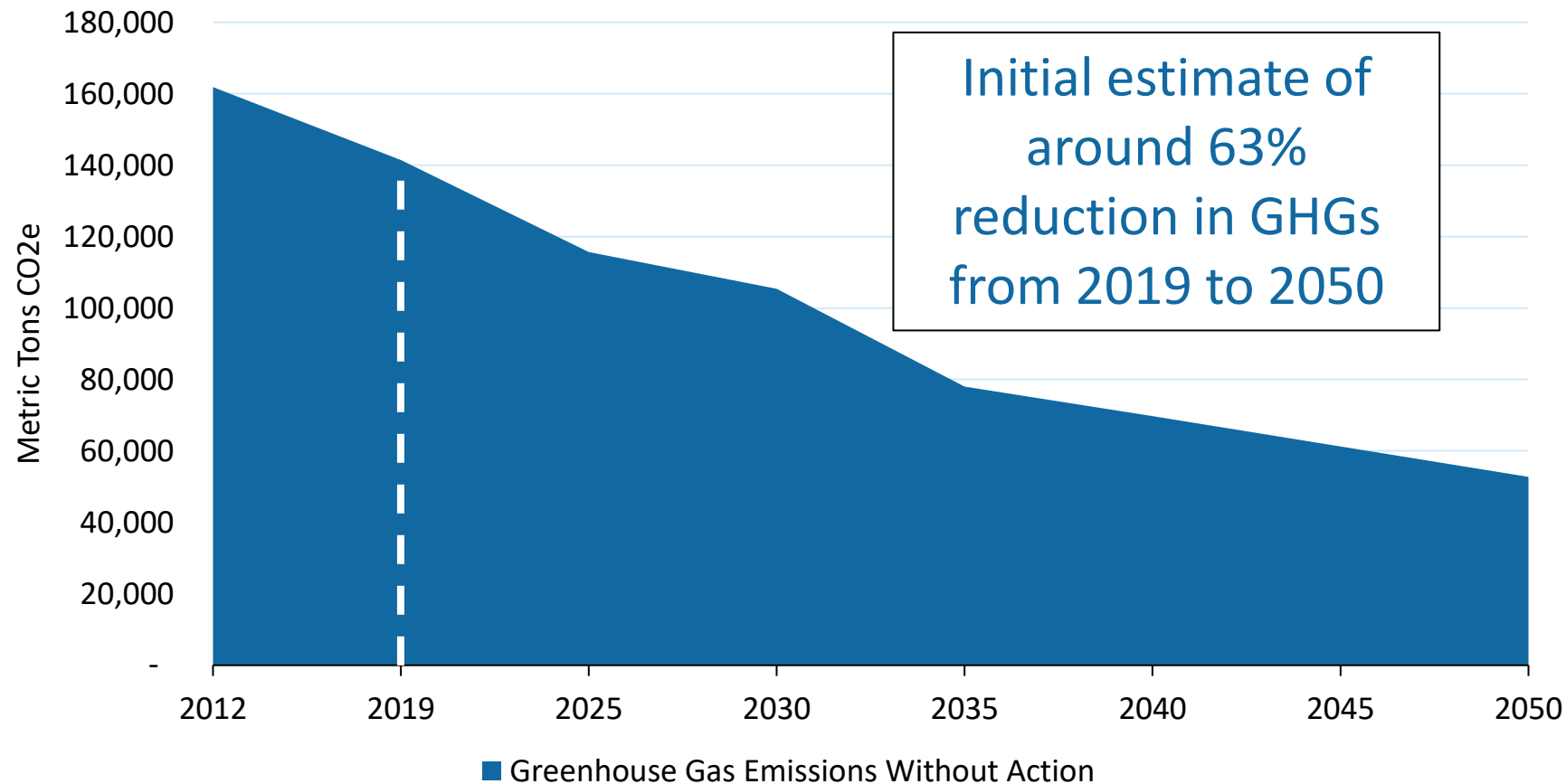
Total Community-Wide GHG Emissions in Transportation by Sub-Category (MT CO₂e), 2019



*Note: trackless trolleys have been replaced with hybrid diesel-electric buses, but in 2025 they will be replaced by 100% electric [when the new Trolley Sq facility has been rebuilt]

With existing policies and trends, emissions will decrease by 2050

Expected Cambridge Emissions in the Future - Without Action



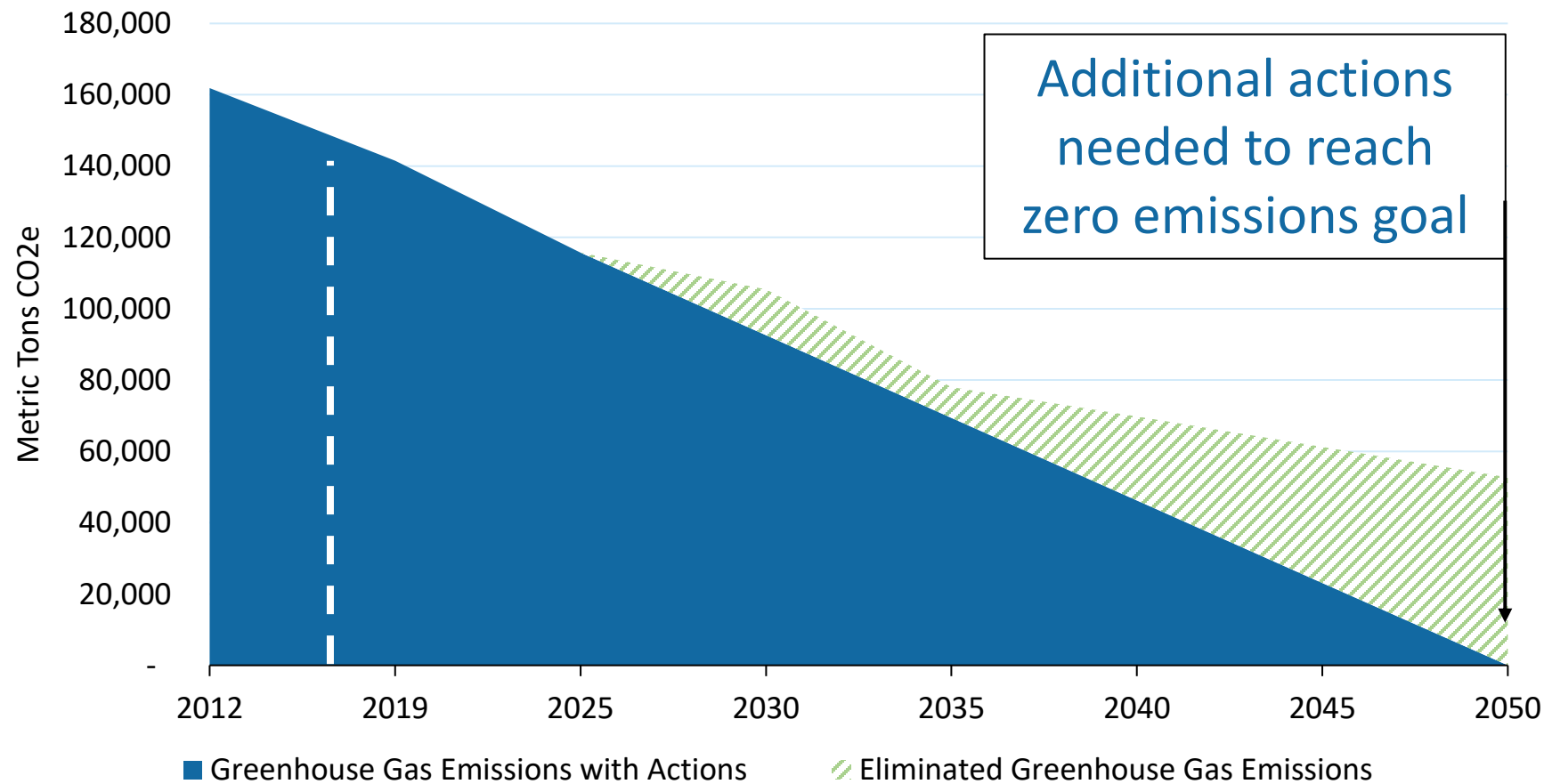
Emissions will decrease because of:

- Fuel efficiency improvements
- Electric vehicle adoption
- Shift to clean energy for vehicle charging
- Other actions being taken by the state

*This is a prediction based on assumptions—the actual change may be slower or faster

The Net Zero Transportation Plan needs to get us to zero emissions by 2050

Goal for Net Zero Emissions in 2050



Additional actions could:

- Encourage sustainable modes
- Increase shift to electric vehicles
- Reduce number of trips taken or distance of trips

What will help us get there?



How do we get emissions out of transportation?

**If people take
shorter or fewer
trips**

**If people change
the way they take
trips – to use less or
no gas**



How do we get emissions out of transportation?

Remember our Plan goals:

Improve Mobility

**Remove GHG
Emissions from
Transportation**

**Facilitate a Just
Transition**

**Strengthen
Community
Connection**

We have developed 8 categories of possible actions

**Active
transportation**

Land use

**Buses and
trains**

**Driving alone
less**

**Vehicle
ownership**

**Electric
vehicles**

Parking

**Community
engagement**

Possible actions

Active transportation: Making it easier for people to walk and bike

- **Possible example:** Continue adding Bluebikes stations to meet the City goal of one station every 2.5-minute walk

Land use: Changing development patterns so people can get around more sustainably

- **Possible example:** Keep current zoning, which increases mixed-use development near transit stops and includes affordable housing

Improve Mobility

Remove climate pollution from transportation

Improve economic opportunity and address historic injustices

Create a stronger and more connected community

Possible actions

Buses and trains: Improving bus, subway, and paratransit options

- **Possible example:** Expand eligibility for the Door2Door transportation program

Driving alone less: Giving people more travel choices to reduce car trips

- **Possible example:** Make the Parking and Transportation Demand Management Ordinance apply to more people

Improve Mobility

Remove climate pollution from transportation

Improve economic opportunity and address historic injustices

Create a stronger and more connected community

Possible actions

Vehicle ownership: Reducing the number of cars people own

- **Possible example:** Provide an incentive to residents with no registered vehicles

Electric vehicles: Encouraging a shift to electric vehicles

- **Possible example:** Improve access to public electric vehicle charging

Improve Mobility

Remove climate pollution from transportation

Improve economic opportunity and address historic injustices

Create a stronger and more connected community

Possible actions

Parking: Changing parking rules to reduce how much people drive

- **Possible example:** Increase fees at parking meters

Community engagement: Engaging people equitably to improve their transportation experience

- **Possible example:** Improve communication about community travel information to educate people about available transportation options

Improve Mobility

Remove climate pollution from transportation

Improve economic opportunity and address historic injustices

Create a stronger and more connected community

Committee input and ideas



We want your input to help us reach the plan goals



- ❖ Do you have any **questions** about these goals?
- ❖ What are the **challenges** and **opportunities** we have as a community to achieve these goals?

Improve Mobility

Remove climate pollution from transportation

Improve economic opportunity and address historic injustices

Create a stronger and more connected community

What kinds of actions should the Plan include?



- ❖ What **questions** do you have about these types of actions?
- ❖ What kinds of actions are most **important or exciting to you**? Which are **less important**?
- ❖ What are we **missing**?
- ❖ What kinds actions might be **challenging**?
 - Do you have ideas about **how to make them better**?

Active
transportation

Land use

Buses and
trains

Driving alone
less

Vehicle
ownership

Electric
vehicles

Parking

Community
engagement



Breakout group discussions

- Join a breakout group to learn and share more about the categories
- Let your facilitator know if there's a category you are really interested in
 - If not, your group will go through the categories one by one
- Leave enough time for other participants to share their ideas and ask questions

Active
transportation

Land use

Buses and
trains

Driving alone
less

Vehicle
ownership

Electric
vehicles

Parking

Community
engagement



Breakout group discussions

- Go to stations to learn more and share your ideas:
 1. **Active transportation & Land use**
 2. **Buses and trains & Driving alone less**
 3. **Vehicle Ownership & Electric vehicles**
 4. **Parking & Community engagement**
- Feel free to join more than one group
- Leave enough time for other participants to share their ideas and ask questions



Upcoming engagement

1. Community meeting:
 - In-person meeting on **March 7 at 5:30-7:00 PM**, at the Cambridge Senior Center, 806 Massachusetts Avenue
2. Next Advisory Group meeting: **Wednesday, March 27 at 9-11:30 AM**
 - More info on the [Net Zero Transportation Plan website](#)

For more information

- Visit the **Net Zero Transportation Plan website** for more info: <https://www.cambridgema.gov/nztransportation>





Thank you!