# **SOLAR BOSTON**



#### Thinking BIG About Boston's Solar Energy Future Wilson Rickerson January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008





BOSTON GREEN BUILDING

The City of Boston's Solar City Partnership with the US Department of Energy Under the Solar America Initiative





#### Mayor Thomas M. Menino

#### James W. Hunt, III Chief of Environmental and Energy Services







BOSTON GREEN BUILDING Mayor Menino dedicates Boston Arts Academy PV system (2005)

#### Hosted by



Driving Business Advantage





#### **Climate Action Plan**

2000: Boston joins ICLEI—Cities for Climate Protection

2005: U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement *Kyoto Protocol targets* 

2007: Executive Order Relative to Climate Action:

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions reduction goals:
  - 7% below 1990 levels by 2012
  - 80% below 1990 levels by 2050

#### - Creation of Boston Energy Alliance

- Non Profit Corporation
- Citywide energy efficiency, renewable energy and demandresponse implementation

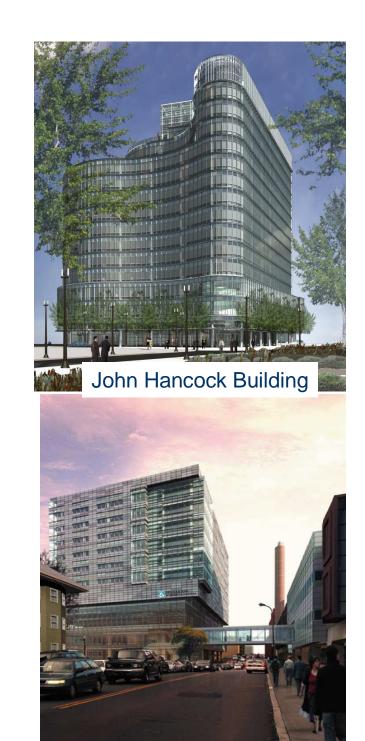


# **Green Building Action Plan**

- All private projects over 50,000 square feet must be LEED "Certifiable"
- All public projects must be LEED Silver certified
- 10 million square feet of LEED construction is currently in the pipeline.







Brigham & Women's Hospital

# **Solar City Partnership**

#### US DOE Objective:

Partner with cities of 100,000+ committed to:

- Achieving a sustainable solar infrastructure
- Using a comprehensive, city-wide approach
- Facilitating mainstream adoption of solar that serves
- as a model for other cities

#### Solar Boston – A \$500,000 program:

- \$150,000 from US Department of Energy
- \$200,000 in technical assistance from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and "Tiger Team" members
- \$50,000 from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, Renewable Energy Trust
- \$75,000 in kind and financial support from KeySpan Energy Delivery
- \$15,000 in in-kind services from NSTAR
- \$10,000 from an anonymous foundation





BOSTON GREEN BUILDING



#### **FY 2007 Solar America Cities**

The 13 Solar America Cities selected in 2007 are:

- Ann Arbor, MI
- Austin, TX
- Berkeley, CA
- Boston, MA
- Madison, WI
- New Orleans, LA
- New York, NY

- Pittsburgh, PA
- Portland, OR
- Salt Lake City, UT
- San Diego, CA
- San Francisco, CA
- Tucson, AZ

Eight are among the largest 50 cities in the U.S.

#### **Solar America Cities are located in 11 states.**

# **SOLAR BOSTON GOALS**

#### THINK BIG!

- Build Market Baseline and Map the City
  - Where are existing installations?
  - What is our technical potential given the area network
- Evaluate barriers to market growth
- Identify top sites and create marketing strategy
- Facilitate private sector project development
- Bulk procurement
- Integrate work of Solar Boston with Boston Energy Alliance
- Live up to the "Solar City" title





BOSTON GREEN BUILDING



Williams Building, 28 kW (NREL PIX 08466)



Fresh Hair, 144 sq. ft., Alternative Energy LLC



North Coast Seafood, 118 kW

#### Solar Cities... International Models

- New York City: 2 MW RFP for public buildings; 5% new renewable requirement in BPCA
- Ann Arbor, MI: 5,000 SDHW by 2015
- Berkeley, CA: Property Tax Assessment financing
- Zurich, Switzerland: 3.1 MW from voluntary program
- Mountain Valley, CA: 119 systems in 1 year
- Aachen, Germany: 1993 solar feed-in tariff
- Barcelona, Spain: solar water heating requirement





- Boston, MA: 1<sup>st</sup> Private sector green building standard
- Boston, MA: Solar power: what is thinking BIG?





## **PV on Affordable Housing**

- Department of Neighborhood Development
  - All buildings LEED Silver
  - All buildings ENEGY STAR or equivalent
  - All buildings solar ready
- Boston Housing Authority
  - Maverick Landing (37 kW)
  - Franklin Hill (28 kW)
  - Exploring performance contract that includes 115-120 kW of PV
- Boston Community Capital
  - 1.5 MW on affordable housing
  - Third-party ownership





BOSTON GREEN BUILDING

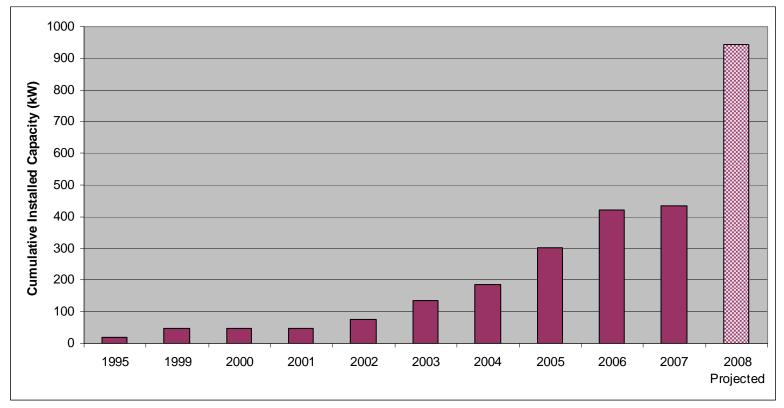


Maverick Landing PV System



**Blessed Sacrament Re-Development** 

# **Projected Capacity (2008)**



Source: MTC, Solar Boston survey, 2007

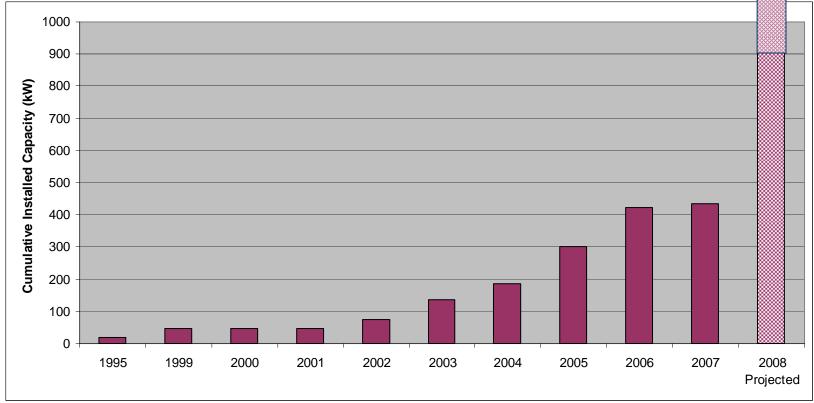
#### ~943 kilowatts



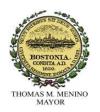


BUILDING

# **Re-Projected Capacity (2008)**



Source: MTC, Solar Boston survey, 2007

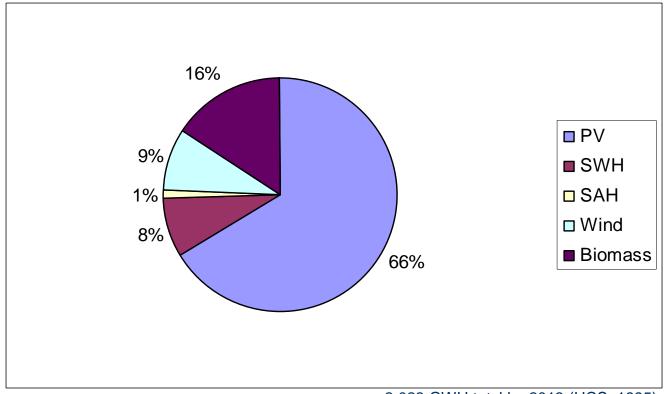




#### With Affordable Housing: 1,770 kilowatts

#### **NSTAR Service Area Technical Potential**

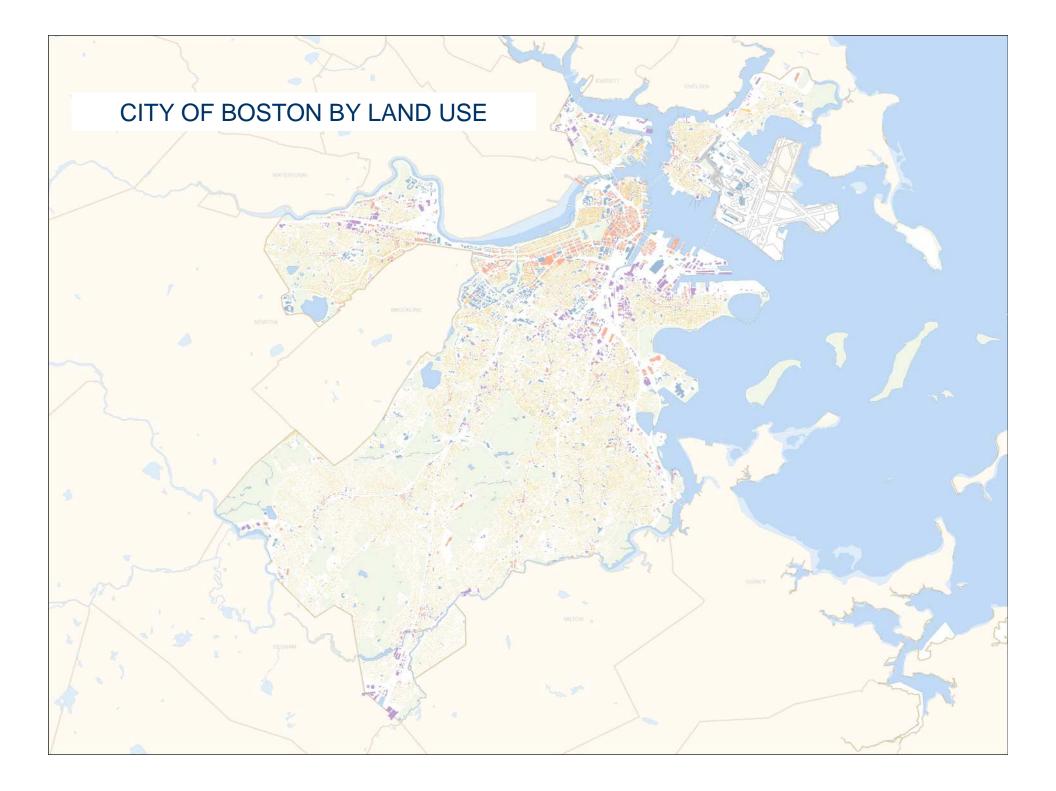
(Electricity Only)

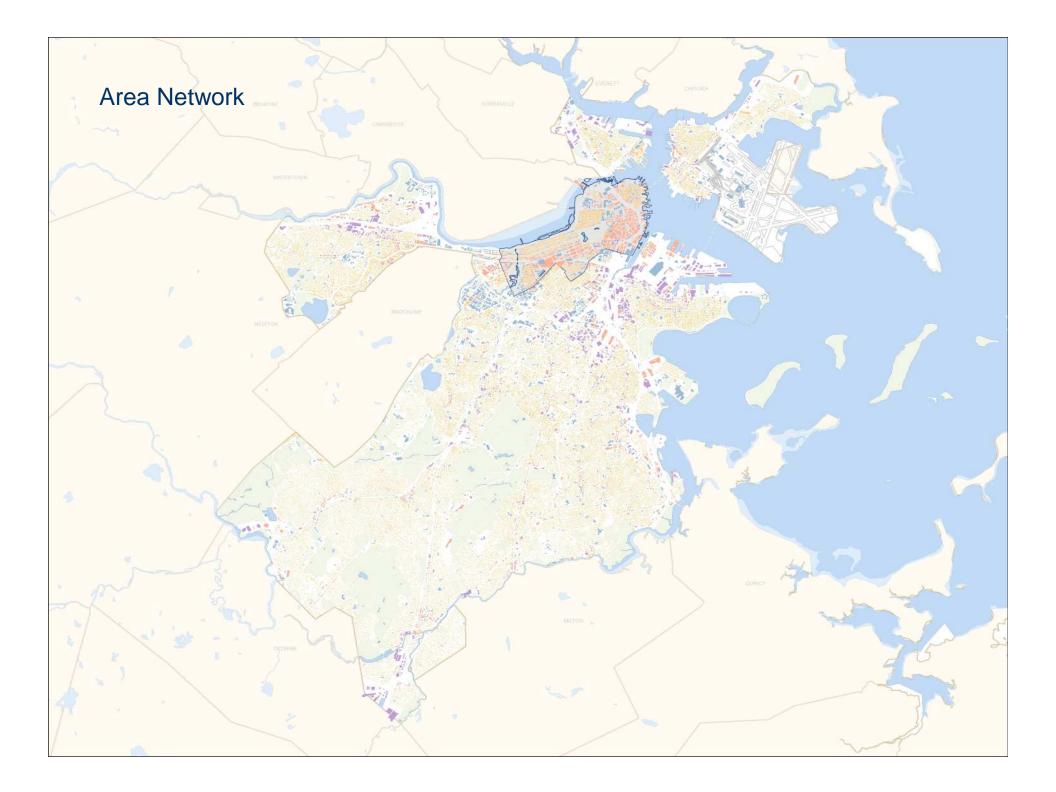


2,023 GWH total by 2013 (UCS, 1995)











4 Times Sq. (20 kW)



Millenium Towers (27 kW)



Verdesian (20.4 kW)



Solaire (33 kW)



Helena (17.1 kW)



TriBeCa Green (27.3 kW)





BOSTON GREEN BUILDING

SOLAR SKYSCRAPERS IN NYC



#### **The Answer? Solar Water Heating**

- No grid interaction
- Cheaper than PV
- Quicker payback than PV
- No-brainer for heated swimming pools



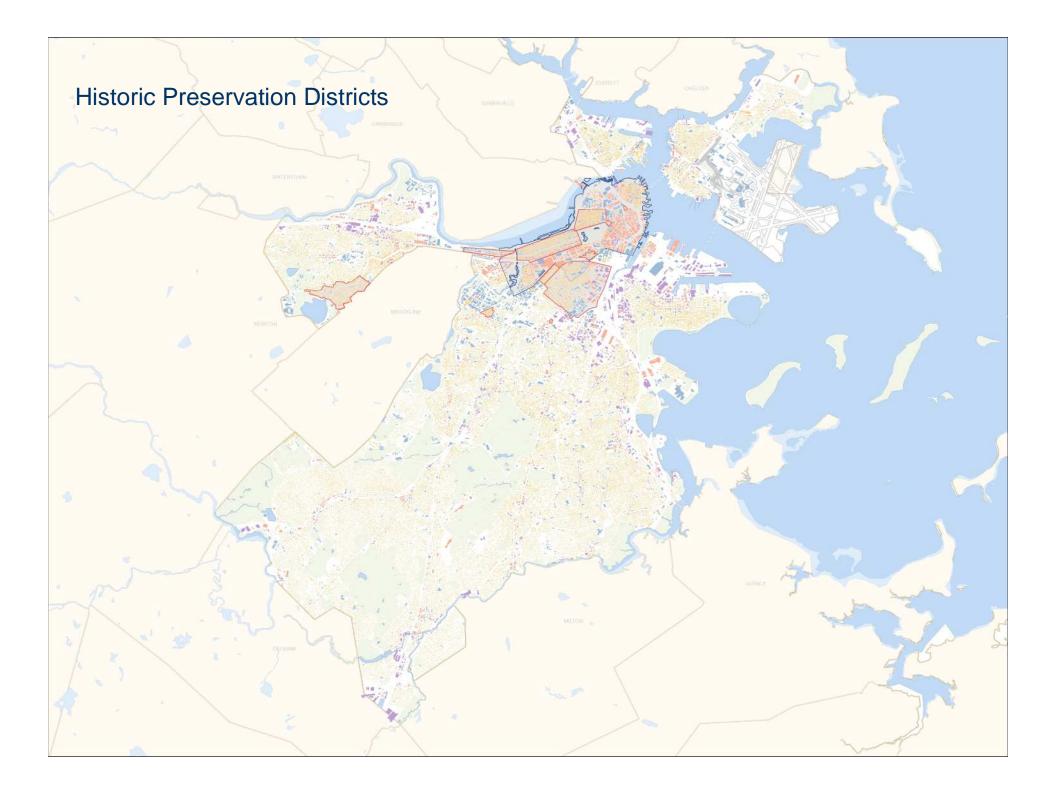


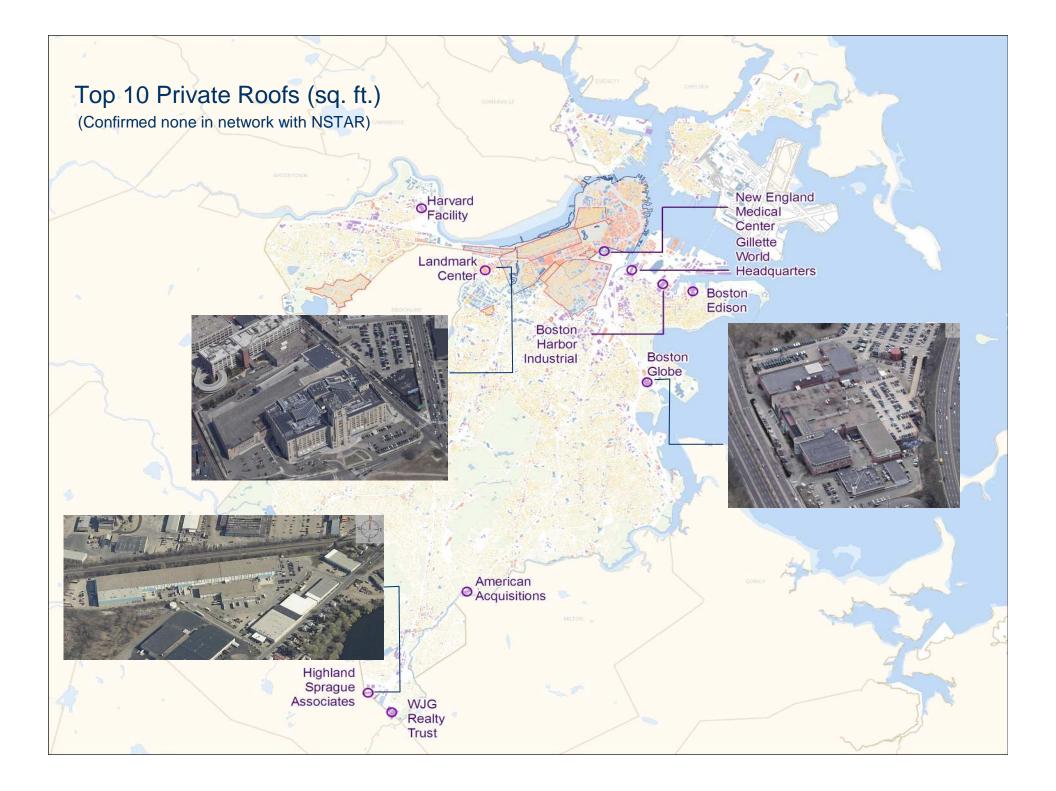


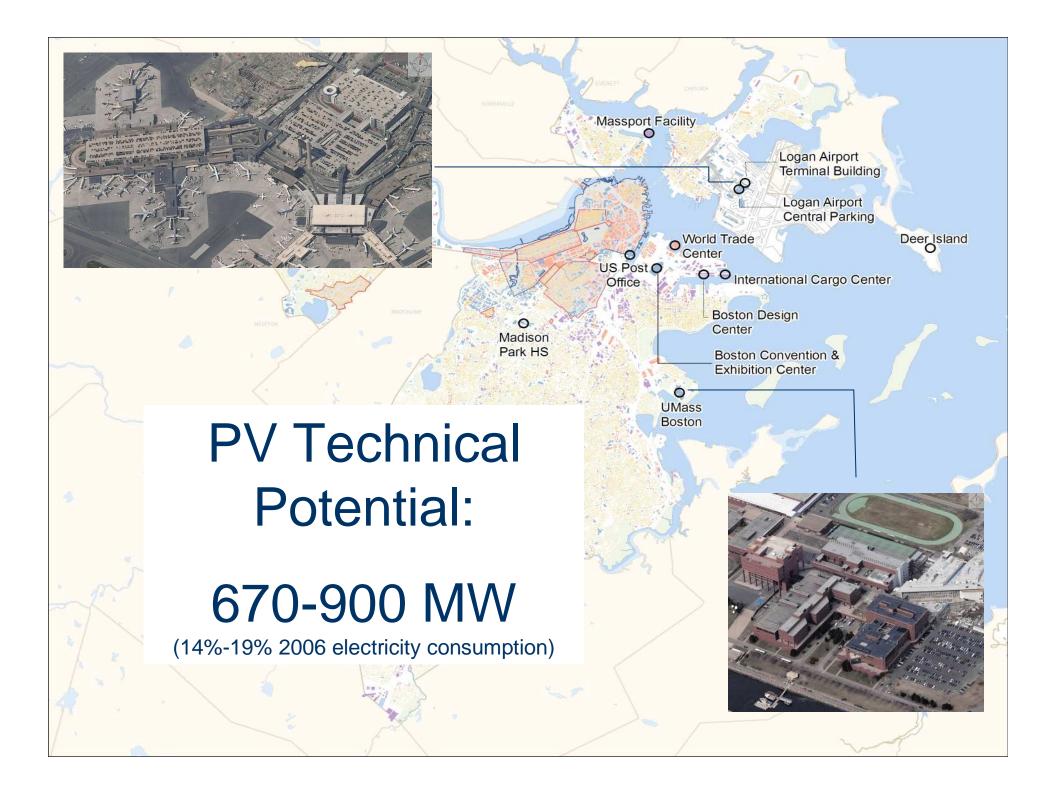
SWH in China



Credit: Paradigma

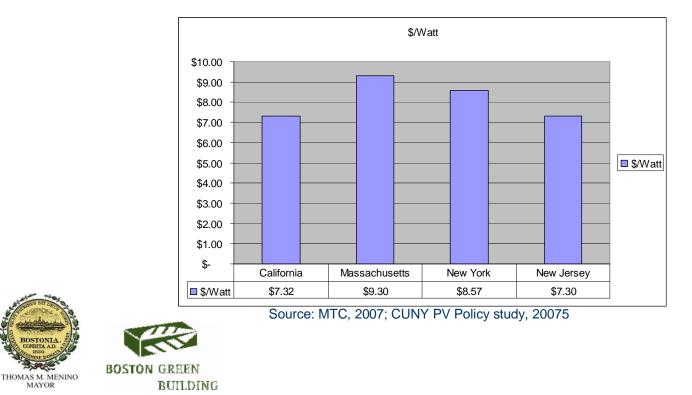






### **Boston PV Market Indicators**

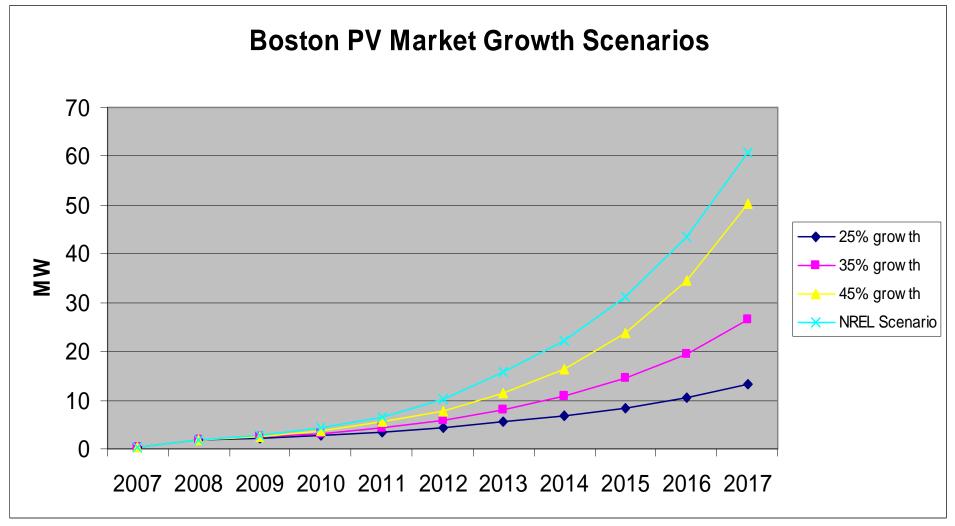
- Average 46% annual PV market growth in Boston since 2002
- Boston has 9% of MA population and 9% of MA PV capacity
- Share of annual MTC PV program funds declined steadily from 20% in 2003 to 1% in 2007\*
- \$9.30/watt average in MA and in Boston
- Boston peak load: 1440 MW; City of Boston 56 MW (4%)



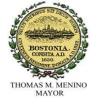
\*Program funds include LORI and SRI grants, but do not include funding for special programs such as the Green Affordable Housing Program

MAYOR

## Where to from here?



35% annual growth rate by 2017 = 25 MW





## **Support for Market Growth**

- KeySpan water heating rebates
- NSTAR partnership with Evergreen
- New energy legislation (?)
- Leading by Example... in Boston
- Commonwealth Solar (27 MW in 4 years)
- Cost-breakthrough scenario
- State target (250 MW by 2017)





#### **More Rigorous Methodology**

- Commonwealth goal = 250 MW by 2017
- Boston = ~10% of state population
- 10% x 250 MW = 25 MW

# . Boston Goal = 25 MW by 2017





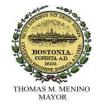


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## **Tiger Team Assistance**



- Analysis of innovative financing mechanisms for public buildings
- Project facilitation for a large third-party owned solar system
- Support for bulk procurement or RFP
- Solar for emergency preparedness planning
- Training for City officials on federal energy savings performance contracting best practices
- Training support and infrastructure development
- Insurance and indemnification assistance (?)





### **Questions for the Group**

- How can we work together?
- Who's working in the City already? Who's not and why not?
- Where are Boston's PV and SWH systems?
- What's in the pipeline?
- What are the barriers to market development?
- What are your job training and hiring needs?
- What can we do in the short-term with the tools we have? (codes, permitting, marketing, etc.)
- What do we need to do to prepare for the longer-term?
- What does thinking "big" mean anyway?





#### **Questions and Contacts**

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