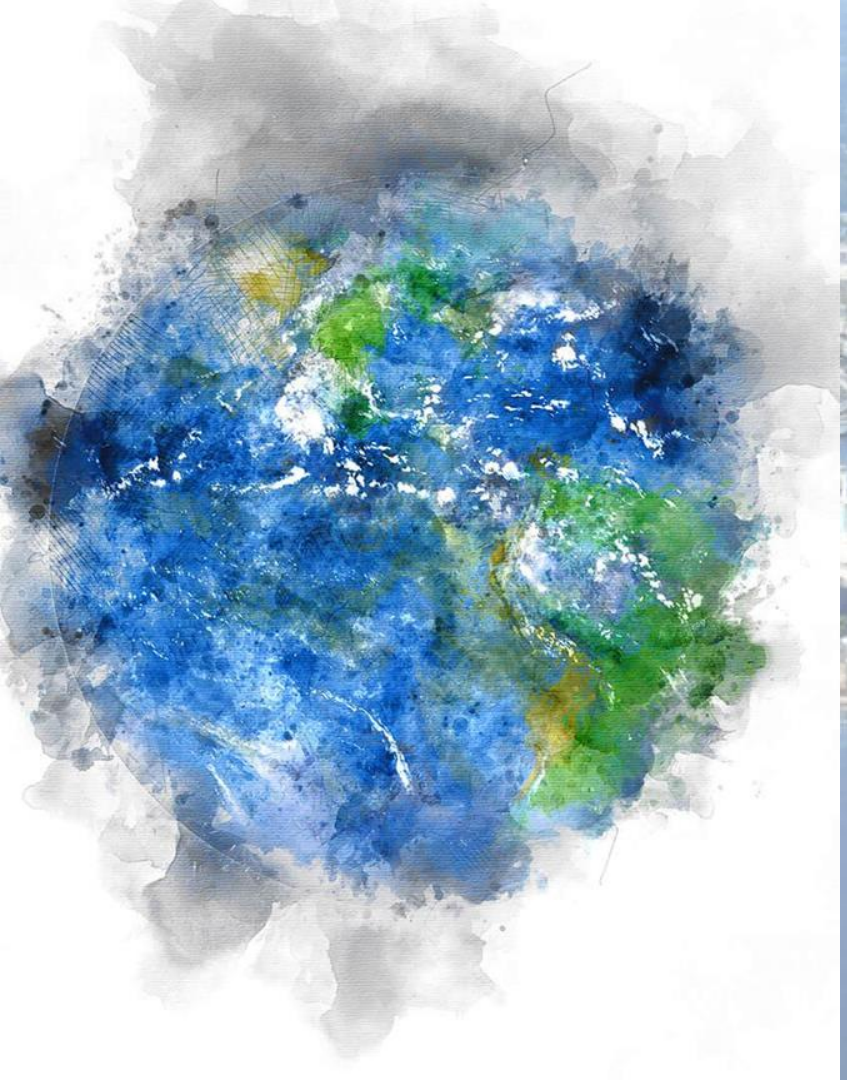


HVDC Learn Project

Sustainability Office
City of Bridgeport
7.11.2024

My Background

I am Chadwick Schroeder

Sustainability Manager

Sustainability Office

City of Bridgeport

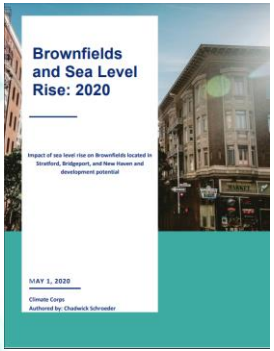
203-576-7520

My background

UConn-Undergraduate

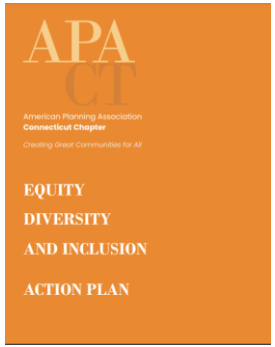
Graduated with degree in Political Science and Environmental Science

Stormwater Corps, Brownfields Corps, Municipal Resilience and Adaptation Corps. Brownfields and Sea Level Rise



CT Chapter of the American Planning Association

Co-authored the CCAPA EDI Action Plan

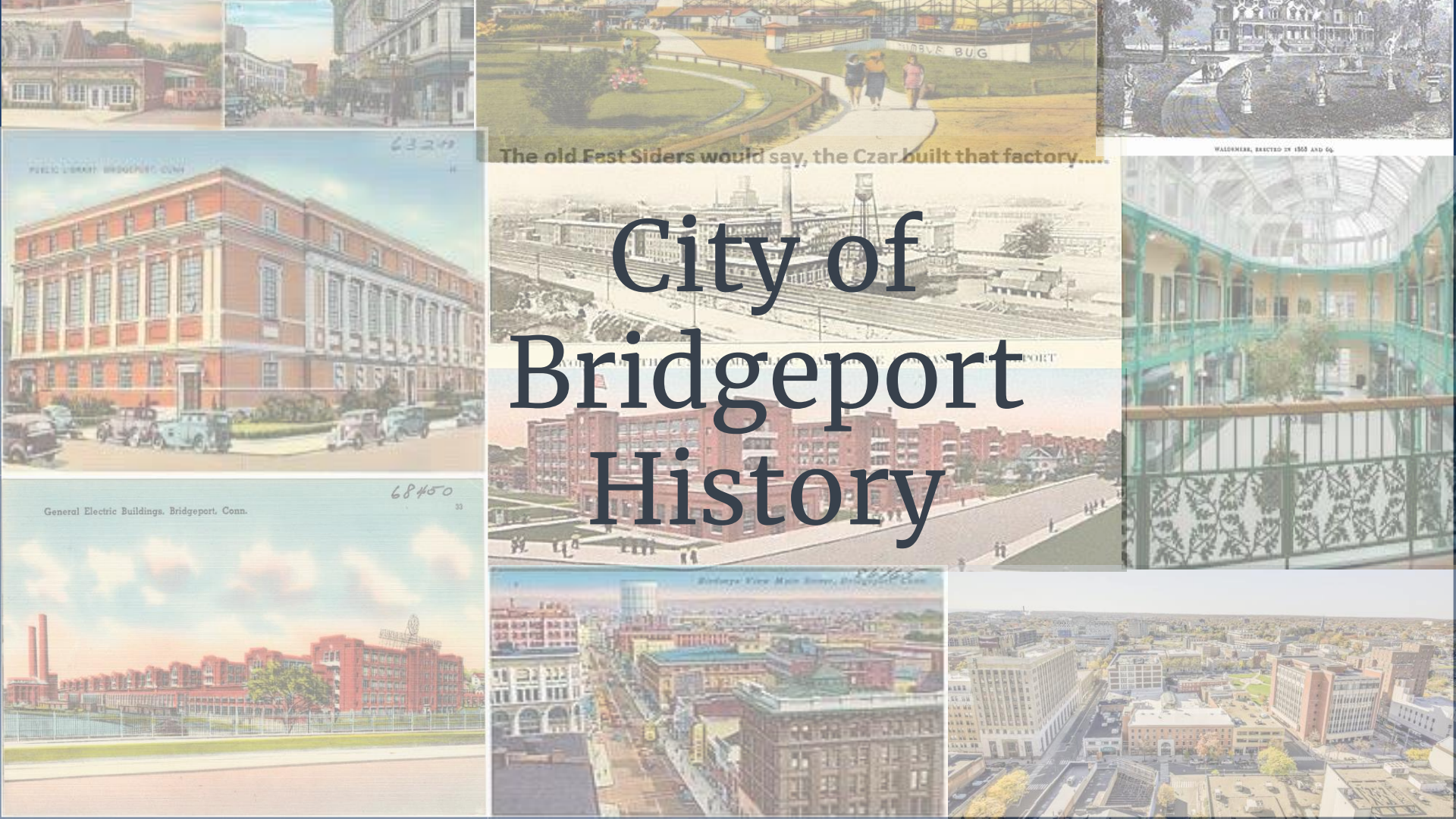


Sustainable CT-Sustainability Municipal Certification program

Two summers at a Fellow with the Western Council of Governments (WestCOG)

1 year as a program assistant support program implementation and administration

Sustainable CT
Local Actions. Statewide Impact.®



City of Bridgeport History

P.T. Barnum and the Arsenal of Democracy

P.T. Barnum

- Mayor of Bridgeport in 1875
- Barnum and his family built four large houses in the City and many streets still bear family members names
- Barnum overwintered the circus in Bridgeport
- Heavily informed development of the city
- Donation of parkland for Beardsley and Seaside Park, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted

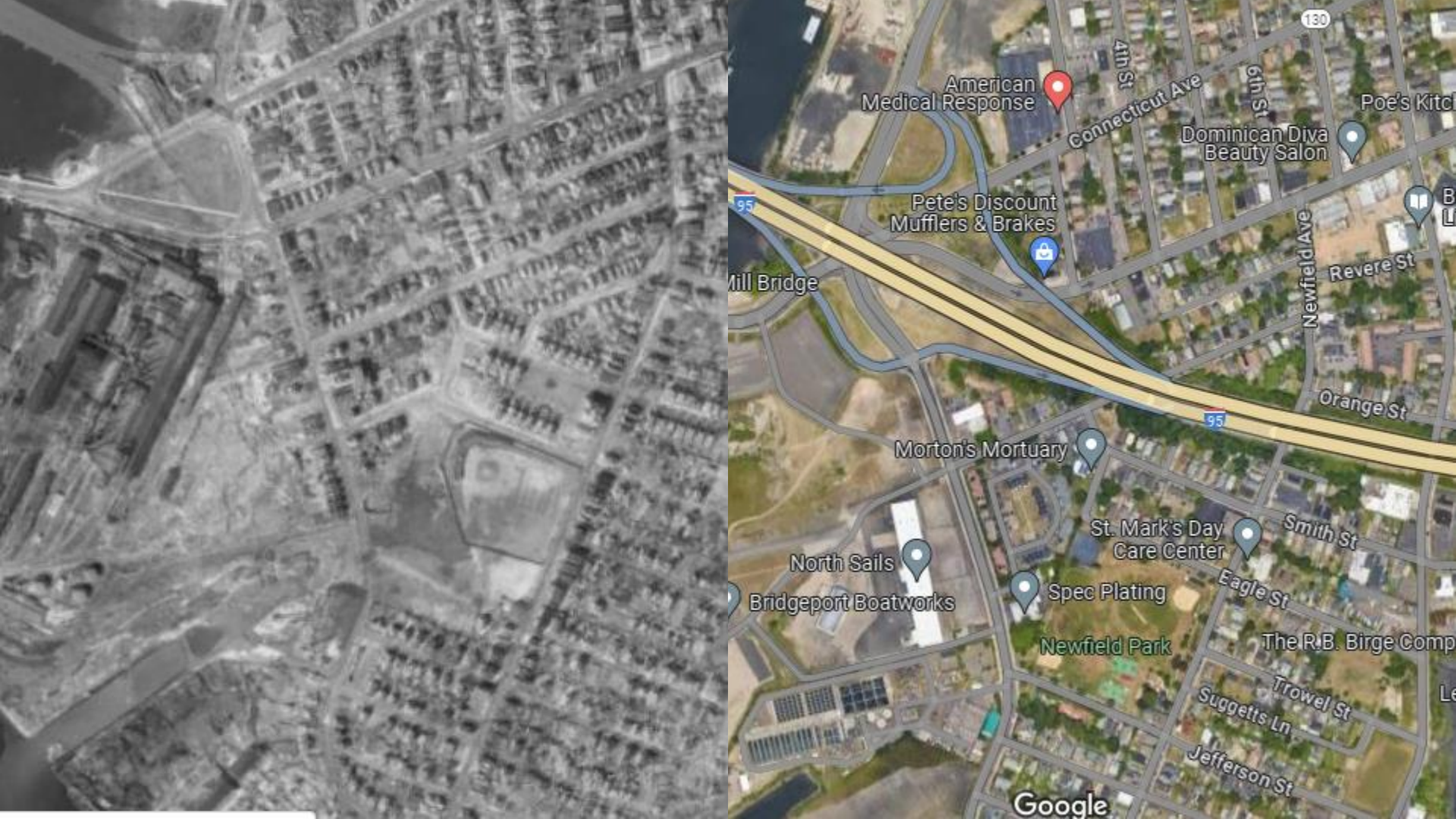
Industrial Center

- Port City
- Manufacturing: Singer Sewing, Remington Arms, steam fitting, brass good, typewriters, phonographs, milling machines
- Arsenal of Democracy: Largest factory in world during WWI, 8 hour work day strikes, on eve of Great Depression 500 factories in Bridgeport

Urban Renewal, Highways, and Pollution

- Left large amounts of the city contaminated and vacant
- Highways occupy large amount of land, restrict access, mobility and flow in city
- Block off neighborhoods from city
- Illegal dumping, proximity to pollution sources and highways going through

- Seaside Park Landfill, Water Pollution Control Authority, Trash Incinerator, Mount Trashmore, PSEG Coal Plant and Natural Gas, Remington Arms


American Medical Response
4th St
Connecticut Ave
6th St
130
Poe's Kitch
Dominican Diva Beauty Salon
95
Pete's Discount Mufflers & Brakes
Newfield Ave
Revere St
Orange St
95
Morton's Mortuary
St. Mark's Day Care Center
Smith St
North Sails
Bridgeport Boatworks
Spec Plating
Eagle St
Newfield Park
The R.B. Birge Comp
Trowel St
Suggetts Ln
Jefferson St
Google

UCONN

TAB

MT. TRASHMORE TO MT. GROWMORE

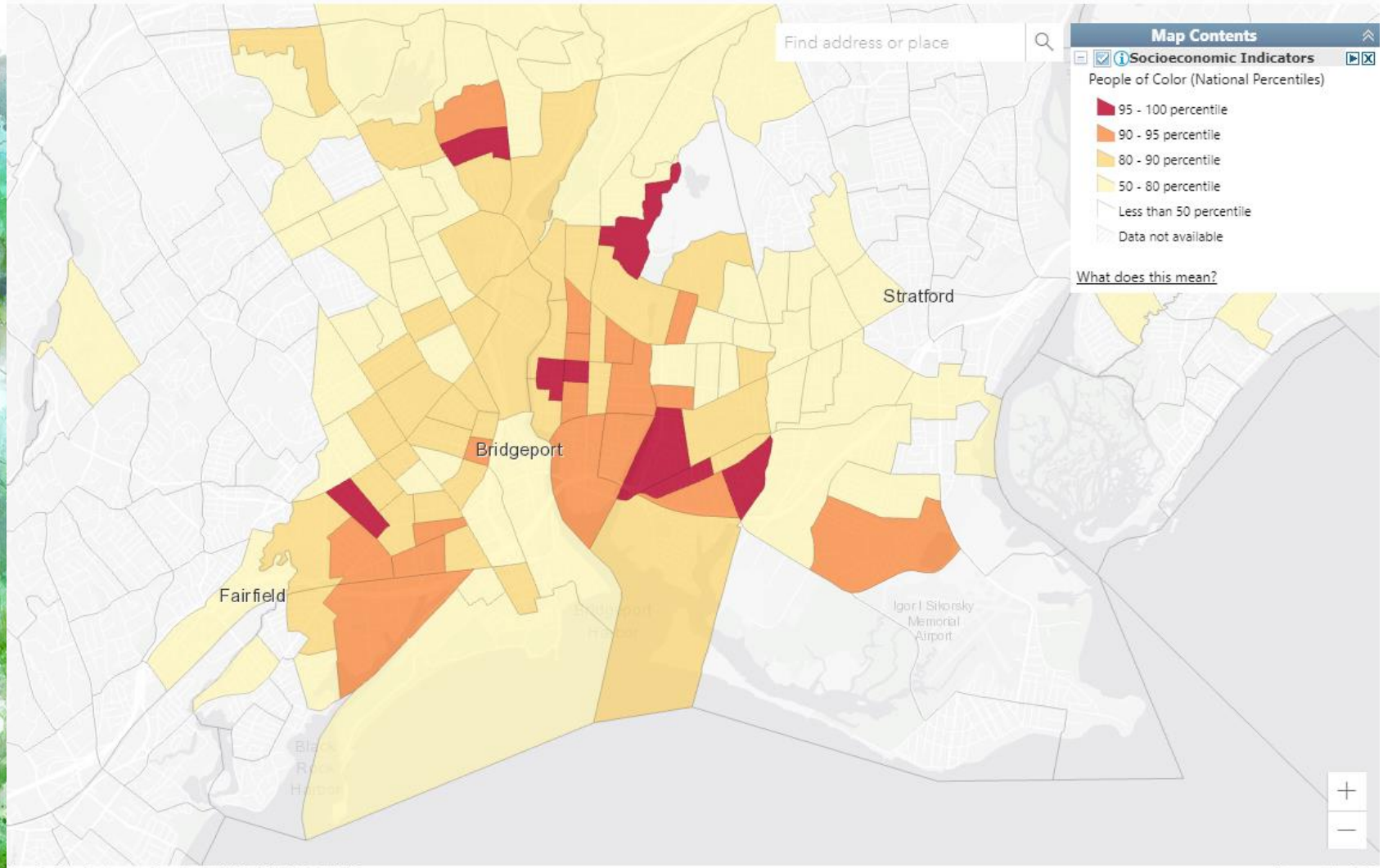
The Park City

- Bridgeport is known as the Park City
- Beardsley and Seaside Park
  - Donated by PT Barnum
- 54 Parks in City, 47 parks and 7 pocket parks

The community of Bridgpeort

13 Neighborhoods in City
9 NRZs in the City (Neighborhood Revitalization Zone)

- 148,000 people
- 32% White, 36% Hispanic or Latino, 21.7% Black, many people in the City have mixed identities
- 22.9% poverty rate, 45.5% home ownership
- Almost all census tracts above 90th percentile for energy cost


Find address or place
Map Contents
Socioeconomic Indicators
People of Color (National Percentiles)
95 - 100 percentile
90 - 95 percentile
80 - 90 percentile
50 - 80 percentile
Less than 50 percentile
Data not available
What does this mean?
Stratford
Bridgeport
Fairfield
Igor I Sikorsky Memorial Airport
Garmin, GeoTechnologies, Inc., USGS, EPA | Esri, HERE
Powered by Esri

LY NOW!
RADES 6 - 12
QUE AHORA!
TUITION FREE!
Photo Credit: Daniel Recinos, The Recinos Company

Challeneges in Bridgeport

Waterfront access

- Historically been a challenge, industrial users taking over public rights of way
- Industrial and commercial uses along waterfront
- Pristine waterfront in city has social challenges of access

Fairfield County

- Bridgeport and other cities support the housing needs for the regions workforce
- Host critical infrastructure

Challeneges in Bridgeport

Environmental Justice Community and Critical Infrastructure

- Hospitals, water pollution control authorities, trash incinerator, coal plant
- Communities are tired of bearing the burden of these facilities and their impacts

Pollution

- Legacy pollution, brownfields

Energy Burden

- Highest energy burden in parts of the country

Strengths and successes in Bridgeport

Assets

- Barnum Museum
- Mary and Eliza Freeman Center
- Beardsley Zoo

History

There is a strong and shared history in this city and across the state. Many people got their start in Bridgeport

Community and Diversity

- Supportive and form backbone of the city
- Resilient

Energy Successes in Bridgeport

Fuel Cells

14.9 Megawatt installed, 440Kw at Cherry Street Lofts, McBride Electric, City Hall MicroGrid

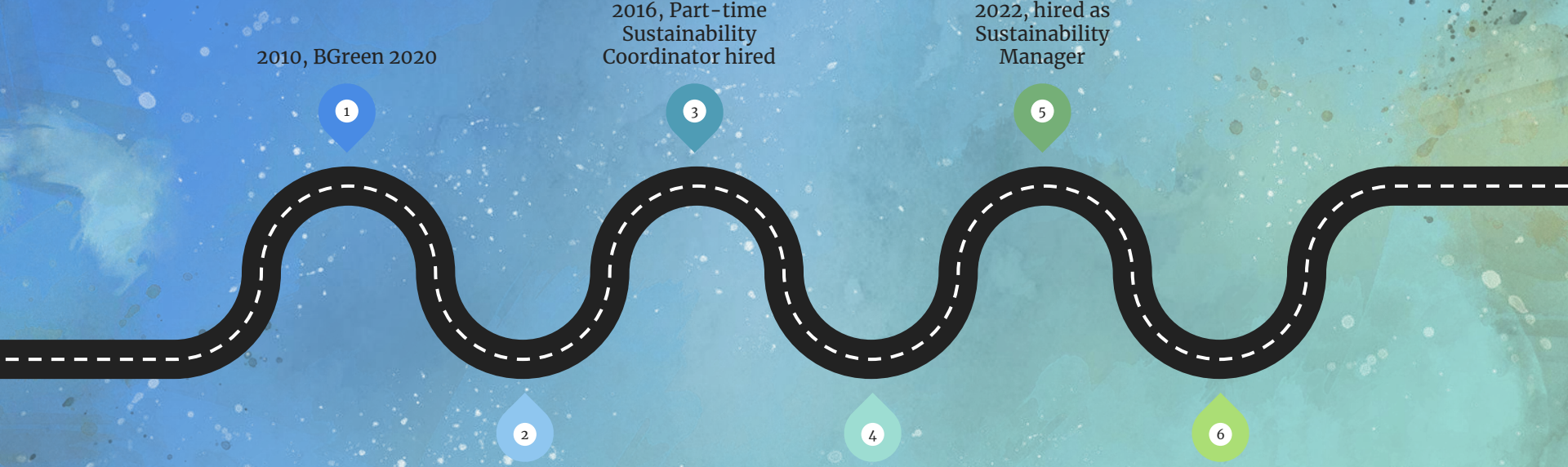
District Heating and Cooling Loop

Uses low temperature water instead of steam

Estimated carbon reductions from this project could reduce GHG by 80%, up to 13,000 tons a year. Uses our waste to energy plant, Wheelebrator's waste heat instead of a traditional heating source

City of Bridgpeort– Sustainability Office

Timeline


2010, BGreen 2020
1
2015, Administration transition
2
2016, Part-time Sustainability Coordinator hired
3
2021, Sustainability Manager position created
4
2022, hired as Sustainability Manager
5
2023, Sustainability Office created
6

Projects

Climate Vulnerability Assessment
Comprehensive assessment of existing and more severe environmental impacts, through equitable and intentional co-creation with community members

Greenhouse Gas Inventory
2021 inventory of greenhouse gas emissions occurring in the City of Bridgeport

City Fresh
Empowering local residents with healthy, culturally relevant fresh produce options

Native habitat restoration and Thin Layer Deposition Ash Creek
Installing native plants and habitat across City. Examining feasibility of putting clean fill on marshland and Sand Spit to address erosion and raise out of the floodplain

Resiliency Centers
Address community and neighborhood needs at the smallest level as they relate to emergency preparedness, sustainability, and resiliency

EmPowerED
Co-creating environmental and climate related educational resources with frontline community members and people in public housing to empower residents

Energy related projects and BREP

Nanoramic Battery Manufacturing Facility

EV battery component manufacturing facility, 200 jobs

Clean Energy Training Academy

Creation of statrwide clean energy training academy to address barriers to entry for frontline communities

EnergyWorks

Led by the WorkPlace, program is first of its kind in Bridgeport providing education, wrap around services, and certifications for clean energy careers

Hub for Clean Energy Innovation

Establish a clean energy innovation and incubator space in the City of Bridgeport

Cadenza Battery at Fire HQ

Pilot project, installation of BESS in Fire Headquarters

EnergyStar Benchmarking

Linking all city buildings to Energystar to begin tracking energy usage

Questions?